1 Kings chapter 21 tells the story of Naboth's vineyard, highlighting the consequences of greed, injustice, and the abuse of power.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Naboth, a man who owns a vineyard near King Ahab's palace in Jezreel. Ahab desires to acquire Naboth's vineyard to turn it into a vegetable garden, but Naboth refuses to sell or trade it because it is his ancestral inheritance (1 Kings 21:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Frustrated and upset by Naboth's refusal, Ahab sulks in his palace and refuses to eat. His wife Jezebel notices his distress and devises a wicked plan to secure the vineyard for Ahab (1 Kings 21:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: Jezebel writes letters in Ahab's name, seals them with his seal, and sends them to the elders and nobles of Jezreel. The letters falsely accuse Naboth of cursing God and the king. She then organizes a false trial where two scoundrels testify against Naboth as witnesses (1 Kings 21:8-13).

4th Paragraph:The narrative depicts how Naboth is unjustly condemned for blasphemy against God and treason against the king. As a result, he is taken outside the city and stoned to death according to Mosaic law (1 Kings 21;14-16).

5th Paragraph:Ahab seizes possession of Naboth's vineyard after hearing about his death. However, God sends Elijah with a message condemning Ahab for his wickedness. Elijah prophesies that both Ahab and Jezebel will suffer severe consequences Ahab will die violently while dogs will devour Jezebel at Jezreel (1 Kings 21;17-24).

6th Paragraph:A final note acknowledges that when Ahab heard Elijah's prophecy, he humbled himself before God temporarily by fasting in sackcloth as an act of repentance. Consequently, God decides not to bring disaster upon him during his lifetime but rather during his son's reign (1 Kings 21;25-29).

In summary, Chapter twenty-one of 1 Kings depicts Ahab s desire for Naboth s vineyard, Jezebel orchestrates deceit, Naboth is falsely accused. He is executed unjustly, Ahab seizes the vineyard. Elijah prophesies judgment, A temporary repentance follows. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as corruption through abuse of power, the importance of justice and respect for property rights, and divine retribution against wickedness.

1 Kings 21:1 And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard, which was in Jezreel, hard by the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.

Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard near the palace of King Ahab of Samaria.

1. The Power of God's Provision - A lesson from Naboth's vineyard

2. The Sovereignty of God - How God blesses us in unexpected ways

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 their 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. 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 Kings 21:2 And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy vineyard, that I may have it for a garden of herbs, because it is near unto my house: and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it; or, if it seem good to thee, I will give thee the worth of it in money.

Ahab asks Naboth for his vineyard, offering either a better vineyard or money in exchange.

1. God's people should not be quick to envy what others have, but be content with their own blessings.

2. We should not let our desires for material possessions lead us to do what is wrong.

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. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

1 Kings 21:3 And Naboth said to Ahab, The LORD forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee.

Naboth refuses to give Ahab the inheritance of his fathers that Ahab asked for.

1: We should always put our trust in the Lord and fear his judgments.

2: It is important to remain true to what God has given us and not compromise on that.

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 6:5 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

1 Kings 21:4 And Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him: for he had said, I will not give thee the inheritance of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread.

Ahab was displeased when Naboth refused to give him the inheritance of his fathers, and he went home in a heavy mood and refused to eat.

1. "The Cruciality of Obedience to God: A Study of 1 Kings 21:4"

2. "The Power of Words: How Words Impact Our Lives in 1 Kings 21:4"

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. Proverbs 10:19 - In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.

1 Kings 21:5 But Jezebel his wife came to him, and said unto him, Why is thy spirit so sad, that thou eatest no bread?

Jezebel asked Ahab why he was so sad that he had not eaten any bread.

1. The Power of a Spouse's Love and Support - 1 Kings 21:5

2. Learning to Lean on Others in Difficult Times - 1 Kings 21:5

1. Proverbs 31:12 - "She does him good and not evil all the days of her life."

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

1 Kings 21:6 And he said unto her, Because I spake unto Naboth the Jezreelite, and said unto him, Give me thy vineyard for money; or else, if it please thee, I will give thee another vineyard for it: and he answered, I will not give thee my vineyard.

King Ahab asked Naboth for his vineyard in exchange for money or another vineyard, but Naboth refused.

1. When God's Provision is Refused: Lessons from Naboth and King Ahab

2. The Power of No: Standing Firm in Unwavering Faith

1. James 4:13-17 - 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.

1 Kings 21:7 And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

Jezebel encourages Ahab to take the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite for himself.

1. "Choosing Obedience Over Temptation"

2. "The Danger of Disobedience"

1. Matthew 6:13 - And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

2. 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.

1 Kings 21:8 So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, and sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters unto the elders and to the nobles that were in his city, dwelling with Naboth.

Queen Jezebel wrote letters in the name of King Ahab and sealed them with his seal before sending them to the elders and nobles in the city where Naboth lived.

1. God's Truth Will Prevail: A Study on the Power of Jezebel's Deception

2. Do Not be Deceived: Recognizing Falsehoods from True Promises

1. James 1:16-17 - Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers.

2. Proverbs 12:17 - Whoever speaks truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit.

1 Kings 21:9 And she wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people:

Queen Jezebel orders a proclamation of a fast and for Naboth to be set in a prominent place among the people.

1. The Power of Authority in Our Lives

2. Pride Comes Before a Fall

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

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.

1 Kings 21:10 And set two men, sons of Belial, before him, to bear witness against him, saying, Thou didst blaspheme God and the king. And then carry him out, and stone him, that he may die.

Passage Two men, sons of Belial, testify against a man for blaspheming God and the king, and the punishment for this crime is death by stoning.

1. The Danger of Blasphemy: A lesson in obeying God's Commandments

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Authority

1. Psalm 19:13-14: Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

2. Romans 3:10-12: As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

1 Kings 21:11 And the men of his city, even the elders and the nobles who were the inhabitants in his city, did as Jezebel had sent unto them, and as it was written in the letters which she had sent unto them.

Jezebel sent letters to the elders and nobles of a city asking them to do something and they followed her instructions.

1. We must remember that our obedience should always be to God, not to the requests of people who are not in God's will.

2. Even when we are asked to do something contrary to God's will, we must remain obedient to Him and refuse to listen and obey.

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 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 Kings 21:12 They proclaimed a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people.

The people of Jezreel proclaimed a fast and honored Naboth in a public ceremony.

1. "The Power of Community: Honoring One Another"

2. "The Importance of Fasting: Physical and Spiritual Benefits"

1. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give p to one another in honor.

2. Isaiah 58:3 - 'Why have we fasted,' they say, 'and you have not seen it? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you have not noticed?'

1 Kings 21:13 And there came in two men, children of Belial, and sat before him: and the men of Belial witnessed against him, even against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, Naboth did blaspheme God and the king. Then they carried him forth out of the city, and stoned him with stones, that he died.

Naboth was falsely accused by two men of Belial of blaspheming God and the king, and was stoned to death.

1. God's justice is never denied - 1 Kings 21:13

2. Do not be deceived by false witnesses - Psalm 35:11

1. 1 Kings 21:10-14

2. Psalm 35:11-12

1 Kings 21:14 Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, Naboth is stoned, and is dead.

Naboth has been killed by a group of people.

1. God's Justice is Perfect - Romans 12:19

2. Beware of Pride - Proverbs 16:18

1. Luke 18:7-8 - God will avenge his people

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul that sins shall die

1 Kings 21:15 And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give thee for money: for Naboth is not alive, but dead.

Jezebel encourages Ahab to take possession of Naboth's vineyard after hearing of his death.

1. The danger of pride and the consequences of evil deeds

2. The consequences of following the ways of the world rather than God's ways

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

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 Kings 21:16 And it came to pass, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

Passage Ahab hears of Naboth's death and goes to the vineyard of Naboth to take possession of it.

1. God's justice and mercy: How God's justice can be seen in the consequences of our actions.

2. The importance of humility: Understanding the consequences of pride and arrogance.

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

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 Kings 21:17 And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

The Lord spoke to Elijah the Tishbite.

1. The Lord Seeks to Communicate with Us

2. The Power of 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. 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.

1 Kings 21:18 Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, which is in Samaria: behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, whither he is gone down to possess it.

God tells Elijah to go meet Ahab who is in the vineyard of Naboth to possess it.

1. The importance of obeying God's commands

2. The consequences of disobeying God's commands

Cross-

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 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 21:19 And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Hast thou killed, and also taken possession? And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood, even thine.

God tells Ahab that he will receive the same punishment Naboth did for his sins of killing and taking possession of Naboth's property.

1. Our Actions Have Consequences - 1 Kings 21:19

2. The Justice of God - 1 Kings 21:19

1. Proverbs 11:21 - 'Be sure of this: The wicked will not go unpunished.'

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 21:20 And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine enemy? And he answered, I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the LORD.

Ahab asked Elijah if he had found him, to which Elijah answered that he had found him because Ahab had sold himself to do evil in the sight of the LORD.

1. The Dangers of Serving Evil Instead of God

2. The Consequences of Unrighteousness

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 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

1 Kings 21:21 Behold, I will bring evil upon thee, and will take away thy posterity, and will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel,

Ahab's disobedience will bring evil upon him and his family, leading to a complete destruction.

1. Obey God and Receive Blessings

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. 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.

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 21:22 And will make thine house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the provocation wherewith thou hast provoked me to anger, and made Israel to sin.

God warns Ahab that his house will be punished for the sin of provoking God and leading Israel astray.

1. The consequences of sin are real and can be dire.

2. God's love and mercy can penetrate even the darkness of our sin.

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 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 21:23 And of Jezebel also spake the LORD, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.

God spoke of Jezebel, saying that the dogs would eat her by the wall of Jezreel.

1. The Wrath of God: How God Punishes Those Who Disobey Him

2. Jezebel: A Warning of the Dangers of Idolatry

1. 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.

2. 1 Samuel 15:23 - For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

1 Kings 21:24 Him that dieth of Ahab in the city the dogs shall eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air eat.

Ahab's death will not be honored and will be left to be consumed by animals.

1. We must be careful of our actions, for our death may not be respected. 2. Knowing our own mortality will lead to a more meaningful life.

1. Ecclesiastes 7:1-4 - A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth. 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 21:25 But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up.

Ahab was a wicked king who was influenced by his wife Jezebel to do evil in the sight of the Lord.

1. The Danger of Unchecked Sin and its Influence

2. The Corrupting Power of Worldly Desires

1. Romans 6:12-13, "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God."

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

1 Kings 21:26 And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all things as did the Amorites, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

King Ahab of Israel followed false idols and committed abominable acts, similar to those of the Amorites before them who were cast out by God.

1. Following False Idols: Learning from the Mistakes of King Ahab

2. The Consequences of Idolatry: A Message from the Book of 1 Kings

1. Deuteronomy 7:1-6 - God's instructions on how to deal with the nations of Canaan

2. 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.

1 Kings 21:27 And it came to pass, when Ahab heard those words, that he rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly.

Ahab heard bad news and was so affected by it that he responded with sorrow and repentance.

1. The Power of Repentance: Learning From Ahab's Example

2. The Importance of Taking Bad News Seriously

1. Joel 2:12-13 - "Therefore also now, says the Lord, turn and keep on coming to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning. And rend your heart and not your garments, and turn to the Lord your God..."

2. Matthew 5:4 - "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted."

1 Kings 21:28 And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

Passage The word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite.

1. God's faithfulness in His Word.

2. The importance of listening to God's voice.

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. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

1 Kings 21:29 Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before me? because he humbleth himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days: but in his son's days will I bring the evil upon his house.

Ahab humbles himself before God and God promises not to bring the evil upon him during his lifetime, but rather on his son's.

1. The Power of Humility: God's Response to Humble Repentance

2. God's Promise of Mercy: Ahab's Repentance and God's Restraint

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

2. Luke 18:9-14 - The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

1 Kings chapter 22 recounts the events surrounding the alliance between King Ahab of Israel and King Jehoshaphat of Judah, their plan to retake Ramoth Gilead, and the prophetic warnings they receive.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting a time of peace between Israel and Aram (Syria). After three years, Ahab proposes to Jehoshaphat that they join forces to retake Ramoth Gilead from the Arameans. Jehoshaphat agrees but suggests seeking God's guidance before proceeding (1 Kings 22:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: Ahab gathers his prophets who all assure him of victory in battle. However, Jehoshaphat insists on hearing from a prophet of the Lord. Micaiah is summoned but initially gives a sarcastic response, predicting disaster for Ahab (1 Kings 22:6-18).

3rd Paragraph: Despite Micaiah's warning, Ahab disregards his words and proceeds with his plans for battle. He convinces Jehoshaphat to wear his royal robes while he disguises himself in ordinary attire (1 Kings 22:19-30).

4th Paragraph:The narrative describes how Micaiah further prophesies about a heavenly council where a lying spirit persuades Ahab's prophets into false prophecies that lead him astray. The prophecy concludes with Micaiah foretelling Ahab's death in battle (1 Kings 22;19-40).

5th Paragraph:Ahab ignores Micaiah's warning and leads Israel into battle against the Arameans at Ramoth Gilead. Despite disguising himself, an enemy archer shoots an arrow randomly into the air which strikes Ahab between his armor plates. He is mortally wounded but manages to remain propped up in his chariot until evening when he dies (1 Kings 22;41-49).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning how Ahaziah becomes king over Israel after his father's death and briefly mentions Jehoshaphat s reign over Judah (1 Kings 22;50-53).

In summary, Chapter twenty-two of 1 Kings depicts Ahab s plan to retake Ramoth Gilead, Prophets predict victory, Micaiah warns otherwise. A lying spirit deceives, Ahab dies as prophesied. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as false prophecy versus true prophecy, the consequences of ignoring divine warnings, and the sovereignty of God over human affairs.

1 Kings 22:1 And they continued three years without war between Syria and Israel.

After a three year period, the war between Syria and Israel had ended.

1. God can use peace to bring about harmony and understanding between warring nations.

2. Even in times of conflict, peace is possible when we turn to God.

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. 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.

1 Kings 22:2 And it came to pass in the third year, that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah came down to the king of Israel.

Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, visited the king of Israel in the third year.

1. Jehoshaphat's visit to the king of Israel demonstrates the importance of fellowship and relationships.

2. Jehoshaphat's journey to the king of Israel serves as an example of faithfulness to God.

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, and one man sharpens another.

1 Kings 22:3 And the king of Israel said unto his servants, Know ye that Ramoth in Gilead is ours, and we be still, and take it not out of the hand of the king of Syria?

The king of Israel asked his servants if they knew that Ramoth in Gilead belonged to them, and he asked if they should remain passive and not take it from the king of Syria.

1.The Power of Faith: How to trust God to fight our battles

2.The Call of Courage: Embracing the challenge of standing up for what is right

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 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

1 Kings 22:4 And he said unto Jehoshaphat, Wilt thou go with me to battle to Ramothgilead? And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, I am as thou art, my people as thy people, my horses as thy horses.

The King of Israel asked Jehoshaphat if he would join him in battle at Ramothgilead, and Jehoshaphat agreed.

1. The Power of Unity: Reflections on 1 Kings 22:4

2. Living a Life of Commitment: Lessons from Jehoshaphat in 1 Kings 22:4

1. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

1 Kings 22:5 And Jehoshaphat said unto the king of Israel, Enquire, I pray thee, at the word of the LORD to day.

Jehoshaphat asked the king of Israel to inquire the Lord's will for the day.

1. Trust in the Lord and wait for His guidance.

2. Seek the Lord's will in all decisions.

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 1:5-6 - 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.

1 Kings 22:6 Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said unto them, Shall I go against Ramothgilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up; for the LORD shall deliver it into the hand of the king.

Passage The King of Israel asked the prophets if he should go to battle against Ramothgilead and the prophets said he should because the Lord will deliver it to him.

1. God is in control - reminding ourselves of God's power and sovereignty in our lives and our decisions.

2. Trust in the Lord - putting faith in God's provision and direction, even when we may not understand it.

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.

1 Kings 22:7 And Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD besides, that we might enquire of him?

Jehoshaphat asked if there was a prophet of the LORD present so they could ask him for guidance.

1. The Importance of Seeking Godly Wisdom

2. Seeking God's Guidance in Difficult Situations

1. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near.

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 22:8 And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man, Micaiah the son of Imlah, by whom we may enquire of the LORD: but I hate him; for he doth not prophesy good concerning me, but evil. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the king say so.

King of Israel and Jehoshaphat discuss a man named Micaiah who could enquire of the Lord for them, but the king of Israel hates him because he only gives him bad news. Jehoshaphat disagrees with this sentiment.

1. God's truth is often difficult, but it is still truth.

2. We must be willing to accept God's message, even when it is hard to hear.

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. 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 22:9 Then the king of Israel called an officer, and said, Hasten hither Micaiah the son of Imlah.

Passage The King of Israel orders an officer to bring Micaiah the son of Imlah to him.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Commands

2. The Call of Leadership: Stepping Up in Times of Challenge

1. Luke 6:46 - Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and not do what I tell you?

2. 1 Samuel 15:22 - Obedience is better than sacrifice.

1 Kings 22:10 And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah sat each on his throne, having put on their robes, in a void place in the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them.

Passage The kings of Israel and Judah, Jehoshaphat and Ahab, are sitting together in robes in the entrance of the gate of Samaria and the prophets are prophesying before them.

1. God s Sovereignty: How the Kings of Israel and Judah Came Together

2. God's Foreknowledge: How the Prophets Prophesied Before Them

1. 1 Kings 22:10

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.

1 Kings 22:11 And Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah made him horns of iron: and he said, Thus saith the LORD, With these shalt thou push the Syrians, until thou have consumed them.

Zedekiah made horns of iron, believing that the Lord would use them to defeat the Syrians.

1. God s Strength: Clinging to God s Faithfulness in Times of Trouble

2. The Strength of Iron: How Our Faith Can Help Us Overcome Life s Difficulties

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.

1 Kings 22:12 And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, Go up to Ramothgilead, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the king's hand.

The prophets encouraged the king to go to Ramothgilead, assuring him that the LORD would give victory over his enemies.

1. God's faithful promises - how God's promises will never fail us

2. Obey God's word - trusting and following God's instructions for 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. 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 22:13 And the messenger that was gone to call Micaiah spake unto him, saying, Behold now, the words of the prophets declare good unto the king with one mouth: let thy word, I pray thee, be like the word of one of them, and speak that which is good.

A messenger was sent to call Micaiah and instructed him to agree with the words of the prophets and speak in favor of the king.

1. Speak Truth With Love - Using 1 Kings 22:13 as a guide, we can learn to speak truth with love, even when it's difficult.

2. Standing Strong Against Pressure - 1 Kings 22:13 teaches us about standing strong against pressure and being true to our beliefs.

1. Ephesians 4:15 - Speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

2. Proverbs 16:13 - Righteous lips are the delight of a king, and he loves him who speaks what is right.

1 Kings 22:14 And Micaiah said, As the LORD liveth, what the LORD saith unto me, that will I speak.

Micaiah affirms his commitment to speaking only what God commands him to speak.

1. The Power of God's Word: How our commitment to the Lord's word can lead us to speak truth and faithfully follow God's commands.

2. Keeping Our Word: The importance of staying true to our promises and remaining loyal to the Lord's word.

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."

1 Kings 22:15 So he came to the king. And the king said unto him, Micaiah, shall we go against Ramothgilead to battle, or shall we forbear? And he answered him, Go, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the hand of the king.

Micaiah was asked by the king if they should go to battle against Ramothgilead, to which Micaiah responded that they should go with God's blessing.

1. The Power of Faith: How Trusting in God Leads to Prosperity

2. Overcoming Fear: Finding Courage Through the Lord'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 20:7 - "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God."

1 Kings 22:16 And the king said unto him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou tell me nothing but that which is true in the name of the LORD?

The King of Israel asked the prophet Micaiah how many times he needed to swear by the Lord for the prophet to only tell the truth.

1. Honoring the Lord Through Truth-Telling

2. The Power of an Oath in the Name of the Lord

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. Proverbs 12:17 "Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit."

1 Kings 22:17 And he said, I saw all Israel scattered upon the hills, as sheep that have not a shepherd: and the LORD said, These have no master: let them return every man to his house in peace.

A vision of all the people of Israel scattered as sheep without a shepherd was seen, and God declared that they had no master and should return to their homes in peace.

1. The Good Shepherd: How God Provides Guidance and Protection for His People

2. The Power of Peace: How God Grants Us Rest and Restoration

1. 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.

2. Isaiah 11:6-9 - The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder s den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

1 Kings 22:18 And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, Did I not tell thee that he would prophesy no good concerning me, but evil?

The King of Israel expresses his suspicions that the prophet Micaiah will not prophesy good news concerning him.

1. "The Misfortune of Doubting God's Prophets"

2. "The Danger of Suspecting 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. 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 22:19 And he said, Hear thou therefore the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing by him on his right hand and on his left.

Micaiah, a prophet of the Lord, saw the Lord sitting on his throne with the host of heaven standing by Him on His right and left.

1. How to remain confident in the Lord's presence.

2. The importance of trusting in the Lord's guidance.

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. 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.

1 Kings 22:20 And the LORD said, Who shall persuade Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramothgilead? And one said on this manner, and another said on that manner.

God asked who would be able to persuade Ahab to go to Ramothgilead and fight.

1. Overcoming Fear Through Faith

2. Relying on God's Wisdom 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. 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 22:21 And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the LORD, and said, I will persuade him.

A spirit appeared before the Lord and offered to persuade someone.

1. God has plans for all of us, and can use even a simple spirit to carry out His will.

2. Never underestimate the power of persuasion; the Lord can use it to guide us in His path.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.

2. Matthew 4:1-11 - Jesus was tempted by the devil but remained obedient to the Lord's will.

1 Kings 22:22 And the LORD said unto him, Wherewith? And he said, I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, Thou shalt persuade him, and prevail also: go forth, and do so.

The Lord commands a lying spirit to go forth and influence the prophets of King Ahab.

1. God's Sovereignty over all - 1 Chronicles 29:11

2. The Danger of False Prophets - Jeremiah 23:16-17

1. Ezekiel 14:9 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

2. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are abomination to the Lord: but they that deal truly are his delight.

1 Kings 22:23 Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these thy prophets, and the LORD hath spoken evil concerning thee.

The Lord has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all the prophets of King Ahab, and has spoken evil against him.

1. The Danger of Listening to False Prophets

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God

1. Jeremiah 23:16-18 - This is what the Lord Almighty says: Do not listen to what the prophets are prophesying to you; they fill you with false hopes. They speak visions from their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

1 Kings 22:24 But Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah went near, and smote Micaiah on the cheek, and said, Which way went the Spirit of the LORD from me to speak unto thee?

Micaiah was struck on the cheek by Zedekiah, who asked him where the Lord had told him to speak.

1. The Importance of Trusting in the Lord

2. The Power of the Lord's Spirit

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 Kings 22:25 And Micaiah said, Behold, thou shalt see in that day, when thou shalt go into an inner chamber to hide thyself.

Micaiah prophesies that the King of Israel will be forced to hide himself in an inner chamber on a certain day.

1. God's Word is Always True - The prophecies of Micaiah in 1 Kings 22:25

2. Trusting in the Lord in Troubled Times - Finding safety in God's protection as seen in 1 Kings 22:25

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 91:1-2 - 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.

1 Kings 22:26 And the king of Israel said, Take Micaiah, and carry him back unto Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king's son;

Passage The king of Israel orders Micaiah to be taken back to Amon the governor of the city and Joash the king's son.

1. The importance of following orders from those in authority.

2. The consequences of disobeying authority.

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. Proverbs 24:21 - My son, fear the LORD and the king; Do not associate with those who are given to change.

1 Kings 22:27 And say, Thus saith the king, Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction, until I come in peace.

The king commanded to imprison a man and provide him with bread and water as punishment until the king returns.

1. God's justice is perfect and just.

2. The importance of following the laws of the land.

1. Proverbs 21:15 - When justice is done, it brings joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers.

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.

1 Kings 22:28 And Micaiah said, If thou return at all in peace, the LORD hath not spoken by me. And he said, Hearken, O people, every one of you.

Micaiah warns the people that the Lord has not spoken through him if they return in peace.

1. God's word is true and should be taken seriously.

2. We should all listen to the Lord's warnings.

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. Psalm 33:4 - For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.

1 Kings 22:29 So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramothgilead.

The kings of Israel and Judah, Jehoshaphat and Ahab, went to Ramothgilead.

1. The Importance of Unity: Lessons from Ahab and Jehoshaphat

2. The Power of Faith: Jehoshaphat's Example in 1 Kings 22

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

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 22:30 And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, I will disguise myself, and enter into the battle; but put thou on thy robes. And the king of Israel disguised himself, and went into the battle.

King Ahab of Israel asked King Jehoshaphat of Judah to put on his robes while Ahab disguised himself to enter into battle.

1. The courage of Ahab and the importance of relying on God in times of trouble.

2. The importance of unity between leaders to stand together in the face of adversity.

1. 2 Chronicles 20:6-12 - Jehoshaphat calls upon the people of Judah to cry out to God in prayer.

2. 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1 - Paul's reminder to the Corinthians to not be unequally yoked with unbelievers and be separate from them.

1 Kings 22:31 But the king of Syria commanded his thirty and two captains that had rule over his chariots, saying, Fight neither with small nor great, save only with the king of Israel.

The King of Syria commanded his chariot captains to only fight against the King of Israel.

1. We should strive to be leaders of peace and put our trust in God instead of relying on violence.

2. Even when facing a difficult situation, we should remember to take the high road and not engage in violence.

1. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God"

2. Psalm 37:39 - "But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength in time of trouble."

1 Kings 22:32 And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, Surely it is the king of Israel. And they turned aside to fight against him: and Jehoshaphat cried out.

Jehoshaphat, the king of Israel, was identified by captains of the chariots and they turned aside to fight against him, upon which he cried out.

1. The importance of having faith and courage in the face of adversity.

2. The power of God to protect and deliver us from danger.

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 91:14-16 - 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.

1 Kings 22:33 And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots perceived that it was not the king of Israel, that they turned back from pursuing him.

The captains of the chariots realized that the person they were chasing was not the king of Israel, so they turned back.

1. God will protect us in times of need.

2. We can trust in God to be our shield and defender.

1. Psalm 18:30 - "As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him."

2. Psalm 33:20 - "Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield."

1 Kings 22:34 And a certain man drew a bow at a venture, and smote the king of Israel between the joints of the harness: wherefore he said unto the driver of his chariot, Turn thine hand, and carry me out of the host; for I am wounded.

A man shot an arrow at random and it hit the king of Israel, causing him to be wounded and need to be taken away from the battle.

1. God's providence is in the little things.

2. No one is beyond the reach of God's sovereign hand.

1. Psalms 33:11 The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

2. Proverbs 16:33 The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the LORD.

1 Kings 22:35 And the battle increased that day: and the king was stayed up in his chariot against the Syrians, and died at even: and the blood ran out of the wound into the midst of the chariot.

King Ahab was killed in battle against the Syrians, and the blood from his wound filled the chariot.

1. God's discipline can be swift and severe - Proverbs 13:24

2. Even the mighty can fall - Ecclesiastes 8:8

1. Proverbs 13:24 - Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.

2. Ecclesiastes 8:8 - No man has power to retain the spirit, or power over the day of death.

1 Kings 22:36 And there went a proclamation throughout the host about the going down of the sun, saying, Every man to his city, and every man to his own country.

A proclamation was made throughout the army that each man should return to their respective cities and countries at sundown.

1. Our responsibilities never end, even when the sun sets.

2. The importance of fulfilling our obligations even when it's time to go home.

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; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted."

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."

1 Kings 22:37 So the king died, and was brought to Samaria; and they buried the king in Samaria.

King Ahab died and was buried in Samaria.

1. The importance of death and how it relates to life

2. The power of a legacy and how it lives on

1. Ecclesiastes 12:7 - then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.

2. Proverbs 10:7 - The memory of the righteous is a blessing, but the name of the wicked will rot.

1 Kings 22:38 And one washed the chariot in the pool of Samaria; and the dogs licked up his blood; and they washed his armour; according unto the word of the LORD which he spake.

A chariot was washed in the pool of Samaria and the dogs licked up the blood from it, following the word of the LORD.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Word

2. The Unexpected Ways God Works

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 15:7 - If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

1 Kings 22:39 Now the rest of the acts of Ahab, and all that he did, and the ivory house which he made, and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

Ahab is mentioned in the book of 1 Kings 22:39 and is known for his ivory house, cities built, and other acts.

1) True greatness is not found in material possessions, but in the legacy we leave behind. 2) We must be careful to live in a way that will be remembered for the right reasons.

1) 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." 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 22:40 So Ahab slept with his fathers; and Ahaziah his son reigned in his stead.

Ahab died and his son Ahaziah became the new king.

1. The importance of passing on a legacy of faith to the next generation.

2. The faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises despite our own shortcomings.

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. 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.

1 Kings 22:41 And Jehoshaphat the son of Asa began to reign over Judah in the fourth year of Ahab king of Israel.

Jehoshaphat began to reign as king over Judah in the fourth year of Ahab s reign over Israel.

1. The Importance of Trusting in God When We Are Called to Lead.

2. The Power of God's Sovereignty in Appointing Rulers.

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 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 22:42 Jehoshaphat was thirty and five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi.

Jehoshaphat was 35 when he began to reign in Jerusalem, and he reigned for 25 years. His mother's name was Azubah, the daughter of Shilhi.

1. The Power of a Godly Mother: Examining the Life of Azubah

2. God's Sovereignty: The Life and Reign of Jehoshaphat

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. 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.

1 Kings 22:43 And he walked in all the ways of Asa his father; he turned not aside from it, doing that which was right in the eyes of the LORD: nevertheless the high places were not taken away; for the people offered and burnt incense yet in the high places.

King Jehoshaphat followed in the ways of his father Asa, doing what was right in the eyes of the Lord, but the high places were not removed and the people continued to offer and burn incense on them.

1. The Necessity of Following in Godly Footsteps

2. The Danger of Idolatry in the High Places

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

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 22:44 And Jehoshaphat made peace with the king of Israel.

Jehoshaphat and the king of Israel made peace with each other.

1. God desires us to be peacemakers in our relationships.

2. Reconciliation and unity can be found in the midst of conflict.

1. Matthew 5:9 - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

2. Romans 12:18 - If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

1 Kings 22:45 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, and his might that he shewed, and how he warred, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

The acts and strength of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, are recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah.

1. The Power of Jehoshaphat: A Lesson on Faith and Strength

2. The Legacy of Jehoshaphat: Writing Your Story for Future Generations

1. Psalm 33:12 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

1 Kings 22:46 And the remnant of the sodomites, which remained in the days of his father Asa, he took out of the land.

King Josiah removed the remaining sodomites from the land during his reign, as his father Asa had done before him.

1. God's Word is Clear: We Must Remove Sin From Our Lives

2. Rejecting Sin and Embracing Holiness in Our Lives

1. Proverbs 14:34- "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

2. Ephesians 5:11- "Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them."

1 Kings 22:47 There was then no king in Edom: a deputy was king.

In Edom there was no king, instead a deputy was ruling in place of the king.

1. The importance of leadership and the impact it can have on a nation.

2. The sovereignty of God in appointing rulers.

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. Psalm 75:6-7 - For not from the east or from the west and not from the wilderness comes lifting up, but it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another.

1 Kings 22:48 Jehoshaphat made ships of Tharshish to go to Ophir for gold: but they went not; for the ships were broken at Eziongeber.

Jehoshaphat attempted to send ships to Ophir for gold, but they were destroyed at Eziongeber.

1. God's plan will not be thwarted by human failure.

2. The Lord has the final word on our plans and purposes.

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 14:24 - The Lord of hosts has sworn: As I have planned, so shall it be, and as I have purposed, so shall it stand.

1 Kings 22:49 Then said Ahaziah the son of Ahab unto Jehoshaphat, Let my servants go with thy servants in the ships. But Jehoshaphat would not.

Jehoshaphat refused Ahaziah's request for his servants to accompany his own in ships.

1. The importance of standing strong in our convictions even in the face of pressure.

2. The importance of prayerfully considering our decisions before acting.

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.

1 Kings 22:50 And Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father: and Jehoram his son reigned in his stead.

Jehoshaphat, King of Judah, died and was buried in the city of David with his fathers. His son Jehoram succeeded him as king.

1. The Faithfulness of God and the Legacy of Jehoshaphat

2. The Importance of Passing on a Legacy

1. 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.

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.

1 Kings 22:51 Ahaziah the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned two years over Israel.

Ahaziah, son of Ahab, became king of Israel in Samaria during the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat's reign over Judah and ruled for two years.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How God works through Kingdoms and Kings

2. The Power of Patience: Waiting for God's Timing in 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. Habakkuk 2:3 - For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.

1 Kings 22:52 And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of his father, and in the way of his mother, and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin:

Ahaziah followed in the footsteps of his father, mother, and Jeroboam, who had made Israel sin.

1. The Danger of Following in Sinful Footsteps 1 Kings 22:52

2. The Power of Following Righteous Examples - Proverbs 11:3

1. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright shall guide them, but the perverseness of the treacherous shall destroy them.

2. 1 Kings 22:52 - And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of his father, and in the way of his mother, and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin:

1 Kings 22:53 For he served Baal, and worshipped him, and provoked to anger the LORD God of Israel, according to all that his father had done.

King Ahaziah of Israel served and worshipped Baal, following the footsteps of his father and provoking the anger of the LORD God of Israel.

1. God's Wrath: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. Why We Must Obey God's Commands

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. Deut. 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 Kings chapter 1 recounts the events surrounding King Ahaziah's encounter with the prophet Elijah and the consequences of seeking help from false gods.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Ahaziah, the king of Israel, who falls through a lattice in his upper chamber and becomes seriously injured. He sends messengers to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron, whether he will recover from his injuries (2 Kings 1:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Meanwhile, God sends Elijah to intercept Ahaziah's messengers and deliver a message from Him. Elijah questions why they are seeking guidance from Baal-zebub instead of consulting God, declaring that because of this act, Ahaziah will not recover but die (2 Kings 1:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: The messengers return to Ahaziah and relay Elijah's message. When questioned about the appearance of the man who delivered the message, they describe him as a hairy man wearing a leather belt the description matches that of Elijah (2 Kings 1:9-13).

4th Paragraph:The narrative continues with Ahaziah sending a captain with fifty soldiers to apprehend Elijah. However, when they arrive at Elijah's location on top of a hill, he calls down fire from heaven upon them twice in response to their disrespectful demands (2 Kings 1;9-14).

5th Paragraph:A third captain with fifty soldiers is sent by Ahaziah to arrest Elijah. This time, however, they approach respectfully and plead for their lives. An angel instructs Elijah to go with them and deliver his message directly to Ahaziah in person (2 Kings 1;15-17).

6th Paragraph:Elijah confronts Ahaziah face-to-face and reiterates God's judgment upon him for seeking counsel from false gods instead of turning to God himself. As prophesied earlier by Elijah through his messengers' reportings, Ahaziah dies due to his actions (2 Kings 1;17-18).

In summary, Chapter one of 2 Kings depicts Ahaziah s injury and encounter with Elijah, Messengers seek Baal s counsel, Elijah delivers God s judgment. Soldiers dispatched thrice, fire consumes two groups. Elijah delivers final warning, Ahaziah dies as prophesied. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as faithfulness in seeking guidance from God alone, the consequences of idolatry and reliance on false gods, and the authority and power demonstrated through divine intervention.

2 Kings 1:1 Then Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab.

After the death of King Ahab, Moab rebelled against Israel.

1. The Consequences of Rebellion: A Lesson from 2 Kings 1:1

2. Facing Adversity: How to Respond to Unexpected Changes

1. Proverbs 17:11 - "An evil man seeks only rebellion; Therefore a cruel messenger will be sent against him."

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 Kings 1:2 And Ahaziah fell down through a lattice in his upper chamber that was in Samaria, and was sick: and he sent messengers, and said unto them, Go, enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron whether I shall recover of this disease.

Ahaziah became sick and he sent messengers to seek advice from Baalzebub, the god of Ekron, about his illness.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: A Study of 2 Kings 1:2

2. The Power of Faith: A Study of 2 Kings 1:2

1. Jeremiah 10:5-6 "Their idols are like scarecrows in a cucumber field, and they cannot speak; they have to 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.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14-15 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to wise men; judge for yourselves what I say.

2 Kings 1:3 But the angel of the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite, Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say unto them, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that ye go to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron?

Elijah the Tishbite is commanded by an angel of the Lord to confront messengers of the king of Samaria, telling them that they should not be seeking guidance from the god of Ekron, Baalzebub, because there is a God in Israel.

1. Seek God s Guidance - Elijah reminds us to seek God s guidance rather than idols.

2. Trust in God - Elijah s example teaches us to trust in God and His power.

1. Isaiah 45:5-7 - 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. I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, do all these things.

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.

2 Kings 1:4 Now therefore thus saith the LORD, Thou shalt not come down from that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die. And Elijah departed.

God commands King Ahaziah not to leave his bed and tells him he will die, and Elijah obeys God's command.

1. We must trust and obey God, no matter the cost.

2. We should always be prepared to accept God's will 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. Matthew 6:25-27 "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 Kings 1:5 And when the messengers turned back unto him, he said unto them, Why are ye now turned back?

The messengers sent by King Ahaziah to consult with Baalzebub were questioned by Elijah when they returned.

1. Heed the Word of God: The Danger of Disobedience.

2. Keeping Faith in Difficult Times: Relying on the Lord.

1. Isaiah 55:6-9 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 8:35-39 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 Kings 1:6 And they said unto him, There came a man up to meet us, and said unto us, Go, turn again unto the king that sent you, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that thou sendest to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron? therefore thou shalt not come down from that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die.

A group of messengers were sent to enquire of the god of Ekron, Baalzebub, to which the Lord replied that they should tell their king that he would not come down from the bed he was on and would die because there is a God in Israel.

1. The Lord is greater than any false god and knows all things.

2. Even when we are lost, God is still in control and will provide for us.

1. Isaiah 40:18-20 - "To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him? The workman melteth a graven image, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains. He that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, that shall not be moved.

2. Psalm 62:7-9 - "In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God. Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah. Surely men of low degree are vanity, and men of high degree are a lie: to be laid in the balance, they are altogether lighter than vanity."

2 Kings 1:7 And he said unto them, What manner of man was he which came up to meet you, and told you these words?

Two men asked the king what kind of man had given them a message.

1. God uses people to spread His Word.

2. Be ready to answer questions about your faith.

1. Acts 8:26-39 - Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch.

2. 1 Peter 3:15 - Answering questions about faith with gentleness and respect.

2 Kings 1:8 And they answered him, He was an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins. And he said, It is Elijah the Tishbite.

The people of Israel identified the mysterious figure as Elijah the Tishbite, who was known for his hairy appearance and wearing a leather girdle around his waist.

1. The Life of Elijah: A Study in Obedience and Faithfulness"

2. The Power of God Through His Faithful Servants"

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 37:5 - Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

2 Kings 1:9 Then the king sent unto him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him: and, behold, he sat on the top of an hill. And he spake unto him, Thou man of God, the king hath said, Come down.

The king sent a captain of fifty and his fifty to Elijah, who was sitting on top of an hill. The captain demanded Elijah to come down at the king's command.

1. Obeying God over Man

2. Discernment in Disobedience

1. Daniel 3:16-18

2. Acts 5:29-32

2 Kings 1:10 And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, If I be a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

Passage Elijah challenges the captain of fifty to prove his authority as a man of God by calling down fire from heaven, which he does, consuming the captain and his fifty.

1. The Power of Faith - demonstrating how Elijah was able to call down fire from heaven through his faith in God.

2. Obedience - highlighting the importance of obeying the word of God, no matter how hard it may seem.

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. Deuteronomy 5:32 - "You shall diligently observe all the commandments of the Lord your God, and His testimonies and His statutes which He has commanded you."

2 Kings 1:11 Again also he sent unto him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said unto him, O man of God, thus hath the king said, Come down quickly.

Elijah was sent to King Ahaziah twice, each time with a captain of fifty men. On both occasions the captain asked Elijah to come down quickly, as the king had commanded.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Quickly Respond to God's Commandments

2. Faithful Servants: Being Ready to Follow God's Calling

1. Matthew 8:5-13 - The Centurion's Faith

2. Hebrews 11:8 - Abraham's Faithful Obedience

2 Kings 1:12 And Elijah answered and said unto them, If I be a man of God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And the fire of God came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

Elijah proves himself to be a man of God by calling down fire from heaven to consume his enemies.

1. The Power of God: Demonstrating His Strength through Elijah

2. The Importance of Obedience to God: Learning from Elijah's Example

1. Luke 9:54-56 - Jesus demonstrating power over creation

2. Romans 8:14-17 - Believers led by the Spirit of God

2 Kings 1:13 And he sent again a captain of the third fifty with his fifty. And the third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees before Elijah, and besought him, and said unto him, O man of God, I pray thee, let my life, and the life of these fifty thy servants, be precious in thy sight.

Elijah was asked by a captain of fifty to spare his and the fifty servants' lives.

1. The Power of Prayer: Elijah's example of answered prayer.

2. The Power of Humility: The captain's example of humility before Elijah.

1. 2 Kings 1:13

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

2 Kings 1:14 Behold, there came fire down from heaven, and burnt up the two captains of the former fifties with their fifties: therefore let my life now be precious in thy sight.

Two captains of the former fifties were burned by fire from heaven, prompting the speaker to ask God to preserve his life.

1. God's Judgment in the Bible: A Study of 2 Kings 1:14

2. The Power of Prayer: Lessons from 2 Kings 1:14

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. Psalm 66:9 - "He preserved our lives and did not let our feet slip."

2 Kings 1:15 And the angel of the LORD said unto Elijah, Go down with him: be not afraid of him. And he arose, and went down with him unto the king.

The angel of the Lord instructs Elijah to go with the messenger sent by the king of Israel, assuring him he will not be harmed.

1. Fear not, for God is with you.

2. Have faith in God's protection.

1. Romans 8:31 - "What shall we then say to these things? If God be 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 thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

2 Kings 1:16 And he said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast sent messengers to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron, is it not because there is no God in Israel to enquire of his word? therefore thou shalt not come down off that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die.

The Lord rebuked Ahaziah for inquiring of Baalzebub the god of Ekron, asking him why he was not inquiring of the Lord, as there was a God in Israel to ask His word. Ahaziah was told he would not come down from the bed he was on and would die.

1. "God's Sovereignty: When We Go Astray"

2. "Seeking the Lord's Will: Obeying His Word"

1. Isaiah 45:5-7 "I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, 6 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. 7 I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the LORD, who does all these things.

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."

2 Kings 1:17 So he died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. And Jehoram reigned in his stead in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son.

Elijah predicted the death of Ahaziah, king of Israel, and when it came to pass, Jehoram succeeded him as king since he had no son.

1. Our lives are not our own, but in God's hands.

2. We should be prepared to accept God's will in every situation.

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.

2 Kings 1:18 Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah which he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

The rest of Ahaziah's actions are recorded in the book of chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1. Learning from the past: The importance of remembering history.

2. Change for the better: The power of transformation through repentance.

1. 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. Proverbs 11:14 - For lack of guidance a nation fails, but victory is won through many advisers.

2 Kings chapter 2 narrates the events surrounding the departure of the prophet Elijah and the passing of his mantle to Elisha, marking a significant transition in prophetic leadership.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Elijah and Elisha traveling from Gilgal. Elijah informs Elisha that God is sending him to Bethel, but Elisha insists on staying by his side. The sons of the prophets at Bethel inform Elisha that God will take away Elijah that day, but he remains steadfast in accompanying him (2 Kings 2:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: From Bethel, they journey to Jericho. Again, the sons of the prophets inform Elisha about God's plan to take away Elijah that day. However, Elisha remains determined to stay with him (2 Kings 2:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: Continuing their journey, they reach the Jordan River. Before crossing it, Elijah strikes the water with his cloak, causing it to part and allowing them both to pass through on dry ground (2 Kings 2:7-8).

4th Paragraph:The narrative describes how as they walk and talk together on the other side of Jordan River, a chariot of fire with horses appears and separates them. Elijah is taken up into heaven in a whirlwind while his mantle falls from him onto Elisha (2 Kings 2;9-12).

5th Paragraph:Elisha picks up Elijah's mantle as a symbol of receiving his prophetic authority and power. He returns to the bank of Jordan River and strikes it with the mantle just as Elijah did before miraculously parting it once again and proceeds on his own (2 Kings 2;13-14).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by describing how when the sons of prophets witness this event from Jericho afar off they acknowledge that God's spirit now rests upon Elisha and go out to meet him while bowing before him in reverence (Kings 22;15).

In summary, Chapter two of 2 Kings depicts Elijah s departure and passing of his mantle, Elijah journeys, Elisha remains steadfast. Jordan River parts, Elijah taken by whirlwind. Mantle falls upon Elisha, he receives prophetic authority. The sons acknowledge this change, and honor Elisha. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as succession in prophetic leadership, the transferal of spiritual authority, and divine intervention through miraculous signs.

2 Kings 2:1 And it came to pass, when the LORD would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.

Elijah and Elisha were departing from Gilgal when God took Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind.

1. The Power of God in Nature: Learning to Trust and Follow

2. The Faithfulness of God: Obedience and Endurance in Hard Times

1. Matthew 17:1-3 - The Transfiguration of Jesus

2. Hebrews 11:5-6 - Without Faith it is Impossible to Please God

2 Kings 2:2 And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Bethel. And Elisha said unto him, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Bethel.

Elijah and Elisha travel together to Bethel, where Elijah has been sent by the Lord. Elisha refuses to leave Elijah's side.

1. God's Will: Following the Lord's Calling - 2 Kings 2:2

2. The Power of Loyalty and Friendship - 2 Kings 2:2

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. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.

2 Kings 2:3 And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.

The sons of the prophets from Bethel came to Elisha and asked if he was aware that God was taking Elijah away from him. Elisha confirmed that he knew and told them to be quiet.

1. Embracing Change - It can be difficult to accept change, but ultimately it will be for the best.

2. Trusting in God's Plan - God has a plan and we must trust that it is the right one for us.

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

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 Kings 2:4 And Elijah said unto him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they came to Jericho.

Elijah and Elisha go to Jericho after the Lord has sent Elijah there, and Elisha declares his commitment to stay with Elijah.

1. The strength of loyalty: Elisha's commitment to Elijah.

2. The importance of faithfulness in following God's call.

1. 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.

2. Proverbs 18:24 - A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

2 Kings 2:5 And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he answered, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.

The sons of the prophets in Jericho asked Elisha if he was aware that the LORD was taking Elijah away that day, to which Elisha responded that he was aware.

1. The importance of faith in difficult times

2. Walking in obedience even when it is hard

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 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 Kings 2:6 And Elijah said unto him, Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the LORD hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And they two went on.

Elijah told his companion to stay here as God had sent him to the Jordan River. His companion replied that he would not leave Elijah as long as he and the Lord were alive. They then proceeded together.

1. The Power of Obedience: A Study in 2 Kings 2:6

2. The Strength of Friendship: How 2 Kings 2:6 Teaches Us to Stand Together

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. 1 John 4:18 - There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

2 Kings 2:7 And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by Jordan.

Elisha and Elijah were about to part ways and fifty men from the sons of the prophets came to witness it.

1. The Power of Witnesses: Recognizing the Value of Bearing Witness to Important Moments in Life

2. Standing Together: The Strength of Unity in Difficult Times

1. Acts 4:23-31 - The Apostles Bearing Witness to the Power of Jesus

2. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.

2 Kings 2:8 And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground.

Elijah used his mantle to part the waters of the Jordan River, allowing him and his companion to pass through on dry ground.

1. The Power of the Mantle: When you are clothed in faith, amazing things can be accomplished.

2. The Faith to Move Mountains: When you have faith, even the impossible can become possible.

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 11:29 - By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do the same, they were drowned.

2 Kings 2:9 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.

Elijah offered to grant Elisha a special request before he was taken away, and Elisha asked for a double portion of Elijah's spirit.

1. The Power of Asking: A Study on Elisha's Request

2. Living a Life of Faith: Examining the Life of Elisha

1. James 4:2-3 - "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. 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."

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."

2 Kings 2:10 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.

Elijah tells Elisha that he will be granted a special request if he sees him when he is taken away, but if Elisha does not see him, the request will not be granted.

1. The Power of a Witness - How our testimony of faith can open the door to God's special blessings

2. Unfailing Faith - How trusting in God can bring us success in the face of adversity

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

2. 2 Corinthians 5:7 - "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

2 Kings 2:11 And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

Passage: Elijah was taken up to Heaven in a chariot of fire.

1. God's miraculous power demonstrated in Elijah's ascension to Heaven.

2. The importance of faith and obedience in our lives.

1. Hebrews 11:5 - "By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, and was not found, because God had taken him; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God."

2. Luke 24:50-51 - "And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven."

2 Kings 2:12 And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces.

Elisha witnessed Elijah being taken up to heaven in a chariot of fire and was so overwhelmed that he tore his clothes in two.

1. The Unseen Hand of God: Trusting in the Sovereignty of God

2. Finding Strength in Grief: Resilience in Times of Loss

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 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2 Kings 2:13 He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan;

Elisha picked up Elijah's mantle after it had fallen and returned to the banks of the Jordan River.

1. The Power of a Mantle: What can we learn from Elisha's faithful example?

2. Standing at the River: What does it mean to wait upon the Lord?

1. 2 Chronicles 15:7 - "But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded."

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.

2 Kings 2:14 And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over.

Elisha took Elijah's mantle and smote the waters, asking where the Lord God of Elijah was. The waters then parted allowing Elisha to cross.

1. The Lord is Faithful - Reflection on Elisha's faith in the Lord and his willingness to trust in Him

2. The Power of God - Reflection on how the Lord parted the waters for Elisha

1. Deuteronomy 4:24 - For the LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2 Kings 2:15 And when the sons of the prophets which were to view at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.

Elisha is recognized by the sons of the prophets at Jericho as being the one with the spirit of Elijah. They bow down to him in reverence.

1. The power of faith and recognition of God's presence in our lives.

2. Acknowledging God's chosen vessels and honoring them out of respect.

1. Deuteronomy 10:20, "You shall fear the Lord your God. You shall serve Him and hold fast to Him, and by His name you shall swear."

2. 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 Kings 2:16 And they said unto him, Behold now, there be with thy servants fifty strong men; let them go, we pray thee, and seek thy master: lest peradventure the Spirit of the LORD hath taken him up, and cast him upon some mountain, or into some valley. And he said, Ye shall not send.

1: We must not give up on the promises of God and must seek Him instead of giving into our fears.

2: We must remain faithful to God's commands, no matter how difficult or challenging they may be.

1: Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

2: Matthew 7:7 - Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

2 Kings 2:17 And when they urged him till he was ashamed, he said, Send. They sent therefore fifty men; and they sought three days, but found him not.

Elisha's followers asked him to stay with them, but he refused. So they sent fifty men to search for him, but they could not find him.

1. God's will is greater than our own.

2. Miracles still happen today.

1. 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.

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.

2 Kings 2:18 And when they came again to him, (for he tarried at Jericho,) he said unto them, Did I not say unto you, Go not?

Elisha warned his disciples not to follow him to Jericho, but they did so anyway and he questioned them when they returned.

1. The Importance of Following Instructions

2. Listening to the Wisdom of Godly 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 1:19 - My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

2 Kings 2:19 And the men of the city said unto Elisha, Behold, I pray thee, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord seeth: but the water is naught, and the ground barren.

The people of the city of Jericho tell Elisha that their city is pleasant to look at, but the water is bad and the land is barren.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Finding Joy in Adversity

2. The Miracle of Transformation: Reclaiming Lost Hope

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 126:4 - Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

2 Kings 2:20 And he said, Bring me a new cruse, and put salt therein. And they brought it to him.

Elisha asked for a new cruse to be filled with salt.

1: Salt is a reminder of God's covenant with us, just as Elisha used it to remind the people of his authority.

2: God is always ready to provide us with what we need, just as Elisha asked for a new cruse and it was brought to him.

1: Matthew 5:13 - "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot."

2: Colossians 4:6 - "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."

2 Kings 2:21 And he went forth unto the spring of the waters, and cast the salt in there, and said, Thus saith the LORD, I have healed these waters; there shall not be from thence any more death or barren land.

Elisha healed a spring of water, proclaiming that this was the will of the Lord and that no longer would there be death or barren land from the water.

1. God's Healing Power: How To Receive It and Use It in Our Lives

2. Trusting in the Lord: How to Rely on God for Healing and Hope

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. Psalm 147:3 - He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

2 Kings 2:22 So the waters were healed unto this day, according to the saying of Elisha which he spake.

Elisha prophesied that the waters of Jericho would be healed, and his prophecy came true.

1. God's Word is Powerful and True

2. The Miraculous Nature of Faith

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. Mark 9:23 - Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

2 Kings 2:23 And he went up from thence unto Bethel: and as he was going up by the way, there came forth little children out of the city, and mocked him, and said unto him, Go up, thou bald head; go up, thou bald head.

Elisha was traveling to Bethel and was mocked by children for being bald.

1. Nothing is Too Big for God: We may face ridicule and mockery, but God is still sovereign and will always be with us.

2. Overcoming Adversity: No matter what we face in life, we can still find strength and courage 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. 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 Kings 2:24 And he turned back, and looked on them, and cursed them in the name of the LORD. And there came forth two she bears out of the wood, and tare forty and two children of them.

Elisha and his followers were mocked by some young boys, and in response he cursed them in the name of the LORD. As a result, two she bears came out of the woods and killed 42 of the children.

1. The Power of the Lord: How God's Word Can Have Unexpected Consequences

2. The Importance of Respect: Learning from Elisha's Example

1. 2 Timothy 1:7-8 - For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

2. Proverbs 15:1 - A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

2 Kings 2:25 And he went from thence to mount Carmel, and from thence he returned to Samaria.

Elisha left the Jordan River and traveled to Mount Carmel, before returning to Samaria.

1. The Journey of Faith: Finding Strength in Unexpected Places

2. The Power of a Renewed Perspective: Moving from Samaria to Mount Carmel

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.

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.

2 Kings chapter 3 describes the alliance between the kings of Israel, Judah, and Edom against Moab, and the miraculous intervention of Elisha in their campaign.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Jehoram, the king of Israel. He forms an alliance with Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, and the king of Edom to wage war against Moab due to their rebellion against Israel's tribute payments (2 Kings 3:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The allied forces embark on a roundabout march through the wilderness of Edom. After seven days without water for themselves or their animals, they become desperate and seek Elisha's counsel (2 Kings 3:8-10).

3rd Paragraph: Elisha agrees to inquire of God on behalf of the kings. He requests a musician to play music as he prophesies. Through this prophetic act, Elisha receives a message from God that He will provide water for them by causing a miraculous abundance of water in the valley (2 Kings 3:11-20).

4th Paragraph:The narrative describes how God fulfills His promise through an extraordinary event. Water miraculously flows into the valley from an unseen source and fills it completely providing both drinking water for humans and animals and enabling them to quench their thirst (2 Kings 3;20-22).

5th Paragraph:The following morning, when Moab sees what appears like blood reflecting off the water-filled valley a result of sunlight hitting red clay they mistakenly believe it is bloodshed among their enemies' armies. This misunderstanding leads them to attack recklessly but ultimately suffer defeat at the hands of Israel's forces (2 Kings 3;23-27).

In summary, Chapter three of 2 Kings depicts the alliance formed against rebellious Moab, Allied forces face thirst, seek counsel from Elisha. Elisha prophesies abundance, water miraculously fills valley. Moab mistakes reflection for blood, attacks but suffers defeat. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine intervention in times of desperation, the power and authority vested in prophets like Elisha, and how misunderstandings can lead to unexpected outcomes in conflicts.

2 Kings 3:1 Now Jehoram the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned twelve years.

Jehoram, the son of Ahab, began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the 18th year of Jehoshaphat's reign in Judah. He reigned for 12 years.

1. The Power of God's Kingship - How God's sovereignty is seen in the reigns of earthly kings.

2. The Legacy of Our Fathers - How the actions of our fathers can shape our lives.

1. Revelation 11:15 - And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

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.

2 Kings 3:2 And he wrought evil in the sight of the LORD; but not like his father, and like his mother: for he put away the image of Baal that his father had made.

King Mesha of Moab rebelled against the King of Israel, and he did evil in the sight of the Lord, but he did not follow the idolatry of his father and mother.

1. The Perils of Idolatry: A Warning from 2 Kings 3:2

2. Rejecting the Sins of Our Fathers: A Reflection on 2 Kings 3:2

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."

2. 1 Samuel 12:24 - "But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you."

2 Kings 3:3 Nevertheless he cleaved unto the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which made Israel to sin; he departed not therefrom.

King Joram of Israel followed the sinful ways of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and did not stop.

1. Turning Away from Our Sinful Ways

2. Choosing Righteousness Over 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. Romans 6:23, For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2 Kings 3:4 And Mesha king of Moab was a sheepmaster, and rendered unto the king of Israel an hundred thousand lambs, and an hundred thousand rams, with the wool.

Mesha, king of Moab, sheepmaster, paid the king of Israel 100,000 lambs and 100,000 rams with their wool.

1. The Importance of Our Obedience to Authority

2. Serving God through Generosity

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

2 Kings 3:5 But it came to pass, when Ahab was dead, that the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel.

After the death of King Ahab of Israel, the King of Moab rebelled against Israel.

1. How We Should Respond When We Encounter Rebellion

2. The Consequences of Rebellion

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 Kings 22:1-4 - For three years there was no war between Aram and Israel. But in the third year Jehoshaphat king of Judah came down to the king of Israel. The king of Israel said to his servants, Do you know that Ramoth-gilead belongs to us, and we are still doing nothing to take it out of the hand of the king of Aram? And he said to Jehoshaphat, Will you go with me to battle at Ramoth-gilead? And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses.

2 Kings 3:6 And king Jehoram went out of Samaria the same time, and numbered all Israel.

King Jehoram of Israel left Samaria to take a census of all the Israelites.

1. Living to Serve God: A Study of King Jehoram's Obedience

2. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Will Brings Blessings

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Isaiah 58:6-7 - Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

2 Kings 3:7 And he went and sent to Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, saying, The king of Moab hath rebelled against me: wilt thou go with me against Moab to battle? And he said, I will go up: I am as thou art, my people as thy people, and my horses as thy horses.

The King of Moab rebelled against the King of Israel, and the King of Israel asked the King of Judah to join him in a battle against Moab.

1. The Power of Unity: The Strength of Working Together

2. The Value of Friendship in Times of Need

1. Galatians 6:2 - Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

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.

2 Kings 3:8 And he said, Which way shall we go up? And he answered, The way through the wilderness of Edom.

The King of Israel asked which route they should take and was advised to go through the wilderness of Edom.

1. Living life with purpose and direction

2. Trusting God in uncertain times

1. Deuteronomy 1:2-3, When we are faced with uncertainty we can rely on God for direction.

2. Jeremiah 29:11, God has a plan for us and His plans will always prosper.

2 Kings 3:9 So the king of Israel went, and the king of Judah, and the king of Edom: and they fetched a compass of seven days' journey: and there was no water for the host, and for the cattle that followed them.

Three kings - Israel, Judah, and Edom - traveled for seven days without finding water for their armies or their livestock.

1. The Power of Obedience - Even when the outcome is uncertain, trusting God and obeying His commands will always be rewarded.

2. Finding Provision in Difficult Times - God is faithful to provide what we need even in the midst of difficult and seemingly impossible situations.

1. Matthew 8:5-13 - Jesus shows His power in healing a centurion s servant.

2. Hebrews 11:1-3 - Faith is confidence in what we hope for, assurance about what we do not see.

2 Kings 3:10 And the king of Israel said, Alas! that the LORD hath called these three kings together, to deliver them into the hand of Moab!

The King of Israel expresses his dismay at the LORD's decision to unite three kings in order to deliver them into the hands of Moab.

1. The Power of Unification: Understanding the Strength of Unity

2. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding His Power and Provisions

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

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 Kings 3:11 But Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD, that we may enquire of the LORD by him? And one of the king of Israel's servants answered and said, Here is Elisha the son of Shaphat, which poured water on the hands of Elijah.

Jehoshaphat asked if there was a prophet of the LORD present so they could enquire of the LORD. The king of Israel's servant revealed that Elisha the son of Shaphat, the one who poured water on the hands of Elijah, was present.

1. God's Guidance: Seeking and Following Divine Direction

2. Faithful Follower: Recognizing and Appreciating Obedience

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

2 Kings 3:12 And Jehoshaphat said, The word of the LORD is with him. So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom went down to him.

Three kings, Jehoshaphat, the king of Israel and the king of Edom, went to seek the counsel of the prophet of the Lord.

1. The Power of Unity: Working Together for God's Will

2. The Power of Faith: Trusting in God's Word

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

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 Kings 3:13 And Elisha said unto the king of Israel, What have I to do with thee? get thee to the prophets of thy father, and to the prophets of thy mother. And the king of Israel said unto him, Nay: for the LORD hath called these three kings together, to deliver them into the hand of Moab.

Elisha told the king of Israel that he had nothing to do with him, and he should go to the prophets of his father and mother. The king of Israel responded that the Lord had called the three kings together to be delivered into the hands of Moab.

1. The Power of God's Calling

2. Knowing Who to Follow

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 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 Kings 3:14 And Elisha said, As the LORD of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, surely, were it not that I regard the presence of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, I would not look toward thee, nor see thee.

Elisha refuses to answer the request of the King of Moab because of his loyalty to Jehoshaphat, the King of Judah.

1. The Importance of Loyalty in our Lives

2. The Strength of Honor and Respect for Others

1. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

2. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

2 Kings 3:15 But now bring me a minstrel. And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the LORD came upon him.

The prophet Elisha asked for a minstrel to be brought to him, and when the minstrel played, the hand of the Lord came upon him.

1. The Power of Music: How Music Can Bring God's Presence

2. The Hand of the Lord: Experiencing God's Touch in Our Lives

1. Exodus 15:20-21 - Miriam the prophetess led the women of Israel in song and dance to praise God for the great work He had done in delivering them from the Egyptians.

2. Psalm 98:4-5 - Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

2 Kings 3:16 And he said, Thus saith the LORD, Make this valley full of ditches.

The LORD commands the people to make the valley full of ditches.

1. God's Command to Fill the Valley with Ditches

2. Learning Obedience in the Midst of Difficulty

1. Isaiah 40:4 - Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.

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.

2 Kings 3:17 For thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink, both ye, and your cattle, and your beasts.

God promised to provide water for the people and their animals to drink in a dry valley.

1. God has the power to provide for our needs in unexpected ways.

2. The Lord can do the impossible for those who trust in Him.

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 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."

2 Kings 3:18 And this is but a light thing in the sight of the LORD: he will deliver the Moabites also into your hand.

The LORD promised to deliver the Moabites into the hand of the king of Israel.

1. God's faithfulness is a light thing in his sight - 2 Kings 3:18

2. God's power is greater than any enemy - 2 Kings 3:18

1. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved 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 Kings 3:19 And ye shall smite every fenced city, and every choice city, and shall fell every good tree, and stop all wells of water, and mar every good piece of land with stones.

The armies of King Jehoshaphat were instructed to destroy all fortified cities, cut down good trees, block water sources, and ruin the good land with stones.

1. The Need for Justice: 2 Kings 3:19 and How We Respond to Injustice

2. The Power of Destruction: The Consequences of War as Illustrated in 2 Kings 3:19

1. Deuteronomy 20:19-20 - 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:

2. Proverbs 11:30 - The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.

2 Kings 3:20 And it came to pass in the morning, when the meat offering was offered, that, behold, there came water by the way of Edom, and the country was filled with water.

The morning after a meat offering was made, water miraculously came from Edom, filling the land.

1. God is a provider of miracles and abundant blessings.

2. The power of prayer and sacrifice can lead to great transformation.

1. Job 22:28-29 "Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways. When men are cast down, then thou shalt say, There is lifting up;"

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 Kings 3:21 And when all the Moabites heard that the kings were come up to fight against them, they gathered all that were able to put on armour, and upward, and stood in the border.

The Moabites heard that the kings were coming to fight and all able-bodied people prepared for battle and stood at the border.

1. Standing Strong in the Face of Adversity - Drawing strength and courage from God during difficult times.

2. Preparing for Spiritual Battles - Understanding the importance of being spiritually ready for the battles in life.

1. Ephesians 6:11-13 - Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

2 Kings 3:22 And they rose up early in the morning, and the sun shone upon the water, and the Moabites saw the water on the other side as red as blood:

In the morning, the Moabites saw the water on the other side of the river appeared to be red like blood.

1. The Power of Perspective: How to Change Your Point of View

2. The Blood of Redemption: How God Seeks to Save Us

1. Exodus 17:3-6 The Israelites prevail in battle against Amalek after Moses raises his arms and God prevails.

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 God promises to redeem his people and will never forsake them.

2 Kings 3:23 And they said, This is blood: the kings are surely slain, and they have smitten one another: now therefore, Moab, to the spoil.

The kings of Israel, Judah, and Edom have been killed in battle and the people of Moab are now able to take the spoils.

1: God can use even the worst of circumstances to bring about His will and glory.

2: We should use our resources to bring about God's will in 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. Ephesians 5:15-16 - See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

2 Kings 3:24 And when they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and smote the Moabites, so that they fled before them: but they went forward smiting the Moabites, even in their country.

The Israelites attacked and defeated the Moabites, forcing them to flee and continuing to pursue them even into their own territory.

1. The Power of Faith: Drawing Strength from God to Overcome Challenges

2. Fighting the Good Fight: Standing Up for What is Right with Courage and Determination

1. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved 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 Kings 3:25 And they beat down the cities, and on every good piece of land cast every man his stone, and filled it; and they stopped all the wells of water, and felled all the good trees: only in Kirharaseth left they the stones thereof; howbeit the slingers went about it, and smote it.

The people of Israel destroyed cities and stopped wells of water in order to prevent their enemies from having access to them. They destroyed trees and cast stones on the good land, leaving only the stones of Kirharaseth untouched.

1. The Importance of Preparation and Planning for War

2. The Power of Unity in Overcoming Adversity

1. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.

2. Psalm 33:20 - Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

2 Kings 3:26 And when the king of Moab saw that the battle was too sore for him, he took with him seven hundred men that drew swords, to break through even unto the king of Edom: but they could not.

The King of Moab was overwhelmed by the battle with the King of Edom and attempted to escape by taking seven hundred men to fight against the King of Edom, but they were unsuccessful.

1. "The Strength of Our Faith in Times of Difficulty"

2. "The Power of Hope 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 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 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 Kings 3:27 Then he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his stead, and offered him for a burnt offering upon the wall. And there was great indignation against Israel: and they departed from him, and returned to their own land.

King Mesha of Moab sacrificed his eldest son on the wall of the Israelite city to anger the Israelites and force them to abandon the siege.

1. God's love is greater than our own - Romans 5:8

2. God's mercy is greater than our own - Psalm 103:8-14

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 merciful, slow to anger and 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.

2 Kings chapter 4 contains several accounts of miracles performed by Elisha, demonstrating God's power and provision through the prophet.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a story about a widow of one of the sons of the prophets who is in debt and facing the possibility of her two sons being taken as slaves. Elisha asks her what she has in her house, and she reveals that she only has a jar of oil. Elisha instructs her to gather empty vessels from her neighbors and pour the oil into them. Miraculously, the oil keeps flowing until all the vessels are filled, allowing her to sell it and pay off her debts (2 Kings 4:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative continues with another account where a Shunammite woman shows kindness to Elisha by providing him with food and lodging whenever he passes through their town. In gratitude, Elisha promises that she will have a son within a year. As foretold, she conceives and gives birth to a son (2 Kings 4:8-17).

3rd Paragraph: Some years later, when the child has grown up, he suddenly becomes ill and dies in his mother's arms. Distraught, the woman takes him to Elisha's room on Mount Carmel. Elisha prays earnestly to God on behalf of the child and stretches himself upon him multiple times until he is revived miraculously restoring his life (2 Kings 4:18-37).

4th Paragraph:The chapter proceeds with an account where there is a famine in Gilgal. While preparing food for prophets' sons under his care, someone unknowingly gathers wild gourds which are poisonous. When they eat it, they cry out for help as they experience severe symptoms of poisoning. In response, Elisha miraculously heals them by adding flour to the pot neutralizing its harmful effects (2 Kings 4;38-41).

5th Paragraph:The final story recounts how during another famine period when there is scarcity of food available for prophets' gathering at Gilgal again a man brings twenty barley loaves as an offering before God through Elisha's instruction despite its insufficiency for feeding everyone present. However, miraculously these loaves feed one hundred men with some leftovers remaining (2 Kings 4;42-44).

In summary, Chapter four of 2 Kings depicts Elisha s miracles demonstrating God s provision, Oil multiplies for debt relief, A barren woman bears a son. A dead child restored to life, Poisoned stew made safe. Twenty loaves feed many, God's power displayed aplenty. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as faithfulness rewarded, the compassion and intervention of God through His prophet, and how seemingly impossible situations can be overcome by divine intervention.

2 Kings 4:1 Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the LORD: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen.

A woman whose husband was a prophet of the Lord is in distress because her two sons are about to be taken by a creditor to be servants.

1. The Power of Faith in Times of Distress

2. The Value of Perseverance in Difficult Times

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 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 Kings 4:2 And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil.

A woman comes to Elisha, asking for help, and he inquires what she has in her home. She replies that she only has a pot of oil.

1. The Power of Faith: How God can use the smallest things to create something great.

2. Miracles in Disguise: How God can change our lives through the most unexpected sources.

1. Matthew 17:20 - 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. Mark 8:2-3 - He asked his disciples, How many loaves do you have? Seven, they replied. He told the crowd to sit down on the ground.

2 Kings 4:3 Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels; borrow not a few.

Elisha directs a woman to borrow many empty vessels from her neighbors in order to store oil.

1. The Power of Obedience - Obeying God's commands, even when they don't seem to make sense, leads to blessings.

2. The Blessing of Generosity - Giving freely of our resources allows us to experience God's blessing in our own 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. Romans 12:13 - Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

2 Kings 4:4 And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full.

A woman is instructed to fill vessels with oil from a small jar until they are all full.

1. God's abundance is greater than our circumstances.

2. The power of faithfulness is revealed in small acts.

1. 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.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - 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 Kings 4:5 So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured out.

A woman went to Elisha for help and he told her to pour oil from her vessels into other vessels.

1. God will provide for us in unexpected ways.

2. God blesses those who are obedient to his commands.

1. 2 Kings 4:5

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 Kings 4:6 And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed.

A woman was filling vessels with oil and when they were full, she asked her son to bring her another vessel, but he informed her that there were no more. The oil then stopped.

1. God will provide for our needs, even when it seems impossible.

2. The power of faith in the Lord can work wonders.

1. Matthew 14:13-21 - Jesus uses the faith of the disciples to feed the 5,000.

2. James 5:17 - Elijah's power of faith to bring rain after a long drought.

2 Kings 4:7 Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest.

A woman was in debt and she went to the man of God for help. He told her to sell her oil and use the money to pay her debt and live on the rest.

1. God's Provision: How God Provides for Our Needs

2. Debt: Living Within Our Means

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 22:7 - The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.

2 Kings 4:8 And it fell on a day, that Elisha passed to Shunem, where was a great woman; and she constrained him to eat bread. And so it was, that as oft as he passed by, he turned in thither to eat bread.

Elisha went to Shunem and was invited by a great woman to eat bread every time he passed through.

1. The Power of Hospitality: Elisha's Example

2. Abundance of Generosity: A Lesson from Elisha

1. Luke 10:38-42 - Jesus and Martha's example of hospitality

2. Romans 12:13 - Show hospitality to one another without grumbling

2 Kings 4:9 And she said unto her husband, Behold now, I perceive that this is an holy man of God, which passeth by us continually.

A woman living in the town of Shunem recognizes that the prophet Elisha is a holy man of God and passes by her town often.

1. The Power of Recognizing God's Presence in Our Lives

2. Honoring and Showcasing God's Work in Our Communities

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. Psalm 145:17 - The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.

2 Kings 4:10 Let us make a little chamber, I pray thee, on the wall; and let us set for him there a bed, and a table, and a stool, and a candlestick: and it shall be, when he cometh to us, that he shall turn in thither.

Elisha suggests to the woman that they construct a small room on the wall of her house for him to stay in when he visits.

1. The importance of hospitality and welcoming the stranger.

2. The power of prayer and the faithfulness of God.

1. Romans 12:13 - Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

2. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2 Kings 4:11 And it fell on a day, that he came thither, and he turned into the chamber, and lay there.

Elisha visited a Shunamite woman's home and she offered him a room to stay in.

1. God's Blessings come in many forms - 2 Kings 4:11

2. Accepting hospitality is a blessing - 2 Kings 4:11

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. Romans 12:13 - Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

2 Kings 4:12 And he said to Gehazi his servant, Call this Shunammite. And when he had called her, she stood before him.

Elisha commanded his servant Gehazi to call the Shunammite woman and when he did, she appeared before him.

1. God can do great things with small commands.

2. Be obedient to God's commands, no matter how small.

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. 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 Kings 4:13 And he said unto him, Say now unto her, Behold, thou hast been careful for us with all this care; what is to be done for thee? wouldest thou be spoken for to the king, or to the captain of the host? And she answered, I dwell among mine own people.

Elisha asked a woman what he could do for her in return for her hospitality. She replied that she was content to remain with her own people.

1. God's people are content with what they have and do not seek recognition or reward.

2. We should be content with our station in life and trust that God will provide.

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. 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 Kings 4:14 And he said, What then is to be done for her? And Gehazi answered, Verily she hath no child, and her husband is old.

A woman whose husband is old comes to Elisha for help and he inquires what can be done for her.

1. God Is Always Ready to Help - How God can help us even when things seem impossible.

2. The Power of Prayer - How prayer can bring us comfort and strength when we are in need.

1. 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."

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 Kings 4:15 And he said, Call her. And when he had called her, she stood in the door.

A man asked a woman to come to him, and when she did, she stood in the door.

1. The importance of respect for others in our interactions.

2. The power of invitation and how it can open doors.

1. Ephesians 5:21 - Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

2. Proverbs 25:17 - Let your foot rarely be in your neighbor's house, lest he have his fill of you and hate you.

2 Kings 4:16 And he said, About this season, according to the time of life, thou shalt embrace a son. And she said, Nay, my lord, thou man of God, do not lie unto thine handmaid.

The woman of Shunem is told by Elisha that she will have a son in the near future, but she is doubtful that it will be true.

1. God's Promises: Believe and Receive

2. Doubt: The Enemy of Faith

1. Romans 4:18-21 - Abraham s faith in God s promises

2. Hebrews 11:1-3 - The definition of faith and its importance in the Christian life

2 Kings 4:17 And the woman conceived, and bare a son at that season that Elisha had said unto her, according to the time of life.

The woman Elisha had prophesied to conceive, did so at the appointed time.

1. God's Perfect Timing - How God is Always on Time

2. God's Faithfulness - How God Always Fulfills His Promises

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: To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

2. Psalm 31:15 - My times are in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.

2 Kings 4:18 And when the child was grown, it fell on a day, that he went out to his father to the reapers.

A young boy grew up and one day joined his father in the fields to help with the harvest.

1. Serve God through Service to Others

2. The Joy of Working Alongside Family

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. Proverbs 15:17, "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith."

2 Kings 4:19 And he said unto his father, My head, my head. And he said to a lad, Carry him to his mother.

A boy complains of a headache to his father, who then tells a servant to take him to his mother.

1. The Power of a Parent's Comfort: How to Find Strength in Difficult Times

2. The Love of a Father: Offering Compassion and Care in Times of Need

1. Psalm 27:10 - When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up.

2. Proverbs 1:8 - Hear, my son, your father s instruction, and forsake not your mother s teaching.

2 Kings 4:20 And when he had taken him, and brought him to his mother, he sat on her knees till noon, and then died.

A young boy died suddenly after being taken to his mother and sitting on her knees until noon.

1. God's Ways are Unfathomable - 2 Corinthians 4:18

2. The Power of a Mother's Love - Luke 15:20-24

1. Psalm 116:15 - Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

2. Job 1:21 - The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

2 Kings 4:21 And she went up, and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and shut the door upon him, and went out.

A woman brought her son to the man of God's bed and shut the door behind her as she left.

1. The Power of a Mother's Faith: A Study of 2 Kings 4:21

2. The Unseen Hand of God: An Exploration of 2 Kings 4:21

1. 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.

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 Kings 4:22 And she called unto her husband, and said, Send me, I pray thee, one of the young men, and one of the asses, that I may run to the man of God, and come again.

A woman requested her husband to send her a young man and an ass so she can run to the man of God and come back.

1. The power of faith: learning to trust God's plan.

2. The importance of seeking God's guidance.

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. 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."

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 Kings 4:23 And he said, Wherefore wilt thou go to him to day? it is neither new moon, nor sabbath. And she said, It shall be well.

A woman asked Elisha a question about visiting someone, and he replied that it was neither a new moon nor a sabbath. The woman answered that it would be alright.

1. Making the Most of Opportunities: Not Every Day is a Sabboth

2. Knowing When to Pursue a Task: Understanding the New Moon and Sabboth

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 9:10 - "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might."

2 Kings 4:24 Then she saddled an ass, and said to her servant, Drive, and go forward; slack not thy riding for me, except I bid thee.

A woman told her servant to saddle an ass and ride without stopping until she said otherwise.

1. Do not hesitate when God calls you to action.

2. Be obedient to 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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

2. 2 Corinthians 6:2 - "For he says, In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you. Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

2 Kings 4:25 So she went and came unto the man of God to mount Carmel. And it came to pass, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to Gehazi his servant, Behold, yonder is that Shunammite:

The Shunammite woman went to the man of God at Mount Carmel and when he saw her from afar, he sent his servant Gehazi to greet her.

1. The Power of Faith: The Shunammite woman's demonstration of faith in going to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

2. The Power of Obedience: The Shunammite woman's obedience in going to the man of God despite her circumstances.

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. 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 Kings 4:26 Run now, I pray thee, to meet her, and say unto her, Is it well with thee? is it well with thy husband? is it well with the child? And she answered, It is well.

A woman is asked if everything is ok with her, her husband, and her child, and she answers that everything is well.

1. How God is Always Looking Out For Us

2. The Power of an Affirmative "It is Well"

1. Psalm 46:10, "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. 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 Kings 4:27 And when she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught him by the feet: but Gehazi came near to thrust her away. And the man of God said, Let her alone; for her soul is vexed within her: and the LORD hath hid it from me, and hath not told me.

A woman seeking help from the man of God was prevented from doing so by Gehazi, but the man of God allowed her to stay because her soul was vexed and God had not told him the reason.

1. A Heart Open to Helping Others: Learning to See Beyond Our Own Convenience

2. God's Will in Our Lives: How to Listen for His Voice

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. James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

2 Kings 4:28 Then she said, Did I desire a son of my lord? did I not say, Do not deceive me?

A woman asked a man to not deceive her about a son she would have.

1. Don't Deceive Others - 2 Kings 4:28

2. Trusting God's Promises - 2 Kings 4:28

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.

2 Kings 4:29 Then he said to Gehazi, Gird up thy loins, and take my staff in thine hand, and go thy way: if thou meet any man, salute him not; and if any salute thee, answer him not again: and lay my staff upon the face of the child.

Elisha instructed Gehazi to take his staff and go to lay it on the face of the child in order to heal him. He was not to reply to anyone who spoke to him, in order to keep his mission focused.

1. The Power of Faith: How even the slightest act of faith can make a difference.

2. The Mission of Focus: How disregarding distractions can help us to achieve our goals.

1. James 1:6 - 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. 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 Kings 4:30 And the mother of the child said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And he arose, and followed her.

A mother promised to stay with her son no matter what and he was encouraged to follow her.

1. God is always with us in our hardships and provides us with strength and courage to overcome them.

2. We must never forget to rely on God's faithful presence and to remain steadfast in following 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 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 Kings 4:31 And Gehazi passed on before them, and laid the staff upon the face of the child; but there was neither voice, nor hearing. Wherefore he went again to meet him, and told him, saying, The child is not awaked.

Gehazi passed before Elisha and his companions and placed the staff on the face of the child, but there was no response. He returned to Elisha to inform him that the child had not awoken.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - 2 Peter 3:8-9

2. Step Out in Faith - Hebrews 11:1-2

1. 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.

2. 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 Kings 4:32 And when Elisha was come into the house, behold, the child was dead, and laid upon his bed.

Elisha visited a house where a child was dead and lying on a bed.

1. Reaching Out: The Compassion of Elisha for the Family in Need

2. Facing Death with Faith: The Story of Elisha and the Child

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

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.

2 Kings 4:33 He went in therefore, and shut the door upon them twain, and prayed unto the LORD.

A man prayed to the Lord and shut the door upon two people.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Praying to the Lord Can Change Lives

2. Closing Our Doors to Fear: Relying on the Lord Instead

1. Matthew 7:7: "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to 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."

2 Kings 4:34 And he went up, and lay upon the child, and put his mouth upon his mouth, and his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands: and he stretched himself upon the child; and the flesh of the child waxed warm.

Elisha prayed for a dead child and stretched himself on top of the child, and the child was restored to life.

1. The Healing Power of Prayer

2. The Power of Faith

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.

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.

2 Kings 4:35 Then he returned, and walked in the house to and fro; and went up, and stretched himself upon him: and the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes.

Elisha prayed over a dead child, and the child was miraculously brought back to life when he sneezed seven times.

1. Trust God even in the most hopeless of situations.

2. Miracles still happen today.

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 5:35-42 - While he yet spake, there came from the ruler of the synagogue's house certain which said, Thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Master any further? As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe.

2 Kings 4:36 And he called Gehazi, and said, Call this Shunammite. So he called her. And when she was come in unto him, he said, Take up thy son.

A Shunammite woman was called by Elisha to take her son back after he had been resurrected.

1. The Power of Faith: How the Shunammite Woman Was Rewarded for Her Faith

2. The Miraculous Blessing of the Resurrection: How Elisha Brought a Miracle to the Shunammite Woman

1. Matthew 21:22 - And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.

2. Acts 17:30 - Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

2 Kings 4:37 Then she went in, and fell at his feet, and bowed herself to the ground, and took up her son, and went out.

A woman had a son who died, and she went to the prophet Elisha for help. She fell at his feet, and Elisha brought her son back to life.

1. The Power of Faith: How Elisha Demonstrated the Miraculous Power of Faith

2. Miracles Are All Around Us: The Story of Elisha and the Woman with the Dead Son

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. Mark 5:35-43 - Jesus healed the woman with a hemorrhage who had faith in him, and raised the daughter of Jairus from the dead.

2 Kings 4:38 And Elisha came again to Gilgal: and there was a dearth in the land; and the sons of the prophets were sitting before him: and he said unto his servant, Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the sons of the prophets.

Elisha returned to Gilgal during a time of famine, and instructed his servant to make a meal for the sons of the prophets.

1. The Famine of Life and the Compassion of God

2. God's Provision During Difficult Times

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. 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 Kings 4:39 And one went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a wild vine, and gathered thereof wild gourds his lap full, and came and shred them into the pot of pottage: for they knew them not.

A person went out to the field to gather herbs and found a wild vine with wild gourds in it. They put the gourds into a pot of pottage, not knowing what they were.

1. The Power of the Unknown: How Faithful Exploration Leads to Unexpected Blessings

2. The Value of Patience: Taking Time to Investigate the Unknown

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. 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 Kings 4:40 So they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O thou man of God, there is death in the pot. And they could not eat thereof.

Two men offered Elisha a meal, but upon tasting it, they discovered it was poisoned.

1. God's protection in the midst of danger

2. The importance of discernment

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.

2 Kings 4:41 But he said, Then bring meal. And he cast it into the pot; and he said, Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no harm in the pot.

A prophet of God tells a man to put meal into a pot and feed the people. After the meal is added, the pot is safe to consume.

1. God's provision will always be enough.

2. God will always protect us from harm.

1. Matthew 14:13-21 - Jesus feeds the 5,000.

2. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good.

2 Kings 4:42 And there came a man from Baalshalisha, and brought the man of God bread of the firstfruits, twenty loaves of barley, and full ears of corn in the husk thereof. And he said, Give unto the people, that they may eat.

A man from Baalshalisha brought the man of God bread of the firstfruits and grain to feed the people.

1. God's Provision - How God Provides for His People's Needs

2. Generosity - The Blessings of Generous Giving

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaching about the importance of trusting in God for one's needs.

2. 1 John 3:17-18 - We should demonstrate our love for God by caring for those in need.

2 Kings 4:43 And his servitor said, What, should I set this before an hundred men? He said again, Give the people, that they may eat: for thus saith the LORD, They shall eat, and shall leave thereof.

A servant asked his master how to provide food for a hundred people. The master replied that they should be given food, as the Lord commanded that they should eat and have some left over.

1. God's Provision: Trust in the Lord for All Your Needs

2. God's Abundance: Receive and Share in God's Generosity

1. Matthew 6:25-34: Do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on.

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.

2 Kings 4:44 So he set it before them, and they did eat, and left thereof, according to the word of the LORD.

Elisha provided a meal for the people and all of them ate until they were satisfied, as the Lord had commanded.

1. God's Provision: Trusting in the Lord's Abundance

2. Obedience Brings Blessing: Heeding the Lord's Commands

1. Isaiah 55:1-3 Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

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? 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. ...

2 Kings chapter 5 tells the story of Naaman, a commander in the army of Aram (Syria), who is healed of leprosy through God's intervention and the guidance of Elisha.

1st Paragraph: The chapter introduces Naaman, a highly respected and powerful commander in the Aramean army. Despite his military success, Naaman is afflicted with leprosy a severe skin disease (2 Kings 5:1).

2nd Paragraph: A young Israelite girl, who serves as a captive servant in Naaman's household, informs her mistress about Elisha, a prophet in Samaria, who could heal Naaman's leprosy. Upon hearing this news, Naaman seeks permission from his king to visit Israel (2 Kings 5:2-6).

3rd Paragraph: Naaman arrives at Elisha's house with horses and chariots but is met by Elisha's messenger instead. The messenger instructs him to wash himself seven times in the Jordan River to be cleansed from his leprosy. Initially offended by this simple command, Naaman eventually follows it upon persuasion from his servants (2 Kings 5:9-14).

4th Paragraph:The narrative describes how after immersing himself seven times in the Jordan River as instructed by Elisha's messenger Naaman is miraculously healed. His skin becomes clean and restored like that of a young child (2 Kings 5;14).

5th Paragraph:A grateful and transformed Naaman returns to Elisha's house to express his gratitude and offer gifts. However, Elisha refuses any reward or payment for God s healing power displayed through him (2 Kings 5;15-19).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with Gehazi Elisha s servant greedily pursuing personal gain by deceitfully acquiring gifts from Naaman behind Elisha s back. As a result of Gehazi s dishonesty and lack of integrity, he is struck with leprosy a divine punishment for his actions (2 Kings 5;20-27).

In summary, Chapter five of 2 Kings depicts Naaman s journey to seek healing for leprosy, A young girl offers hope, Elisha directs him to Jordan. Naaman hesitates but obeys, healed through immersion. Gratefulness expressed, Gehazi faces consequences. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as humility and obedience leading to restoration, the role of faith in receiving God's healing, and the dangers of greed and dishonesty.

2 Kings 5:1 Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, but he was a leper.

Naaman was a great and honorable captain of the Syrian king's army and was held in high esteem because of the help he provided to Syria. He was also a brave man, but he was also a leper.

1. The Power of Service: How God Works Through Us to Accomplish Great Things

2. The Unexpected Heroes: Looking Beyond Our Appearances and Expectations

1. Matthew 8:5-13 - Jesus heals a leper

2. 1 Samuel 16:7 - God looks at the heart, not the outward appearance

2 Kings 5:2 And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.

Naaman, a Syrian commander, had taken a young Israelite girl captive and she served as a maid in his household.

1. God's Providence in Captivity: How God Uses Difficult Situations for Good

2. God's Faithfulness in Painful Times: Finding Comfort in the Midst of Suffering

1. 2 Kings 5:2

2. 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 Kings 5:3 And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.

Naaman's wife's slave girl suggests he visits the prophet in Samaria to be healed from leprosy.

1. God's Healing Power - Naaman's story of faith and healing.

2. When We Pray - How prayer and faith in God can move mountains.

1. James 5:15 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. 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 Kings 5:4 And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel.

Naaman, a commander in the Syrian army, was afflicted with leprosy and sought healing from the prophet Elisha in Israel.

1. Trust in God's plan for healing and restoration.

2. Demonstrate faith through obedience and humility.

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 5:15 - "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 Kings 5:5 And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment.

Naaman, the Syrian commander, traveled to Israel to seek healing for his leprosy. He brought a large gift of silver, gold, and clothes to the King of Israel in order to be cured.

1. God can do the impossible - 2 Kings 5:5

2. The power of generosity - 2 Kings 5:5

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

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 Kings 5:6 And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have therewith sent Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy.

The King of Aram sends a letter to the King of Israel with Naaman, his servant, in order to cure him of his leprosy.

1) God's Love is Greater than Our Illnesses - 2 Corinthians 12:9

2) Healing Through Faith and Obedience - Matthew 8:5-13

1) Exodus 15:26 - "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."

2) Isaiah 53:5 - "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 Kings 5:7 And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy? wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me.

The King of Israel was shocked to receive a letter from a foreign king requesting that he heal a man of leprosy. The King of Israel questioned how this could be possible, as only God had the power of life and death.

1. God's Sovereignty - 2 Kings 5:7

2. The Role of Prayer - Philippians 4:6-7

1. Job 1:21 - "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

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."

2 Kings 5:8 And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.

The King of Israel had rent his clothes when he was told about Elisha the man of God, so Elisha sent a message to the King, inviting him to come and see for himself that there was a prophet in Israel.

1. The Power of Faith: Recognizing God's Presence in Our Lives

2. Stepping Out in Faith: When God Calls Us to Action

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. Acts 2:17-18 - And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

2 Kings 5:9 So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.

Naaman arrived at Elisha's house to be healed of leprosy.

Best

1. The Power of Humility: Learning from Naaman's Story

2. God's Love and Mercy: Elisha's Healing of Naaman

Best

1. Matthew 8:2-3 - Jesus heals a leper

2. James 5:14-16 - Prayer and faith for healing the sick

2 Kings 5:10 And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.

Elisha instructed Naaman to wash in the Jordan River seven times in order to be healed from his leprosy.

1. God's Healing Power: A Study of 2 Kings 5:10

2. The Power of Obedience: A Look at Naaman's Faith in 2 Kings 5:10

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. Leviticus 14:1-7 - And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, This shall be the law of the leper in the day of his cleansing: He shall be brought unto the priest: 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.

2 Kings 5:11 But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.

Naaman was angry when he realized Elisha would not perform a physical healing ritual for his leprosy.

1. God's power is greater than our expectations.

2. Faith in God's healing power is more important than physical rituals.

1. Luke 5:17-26 - Jesus heals a man of leprosy without performing a physical ritual.

2. James 5:14-15 - Prayer for healing of the sick to be offered in faith.

2 Kings 5:12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.

Naaman, the commander of the Syrian army, was angered when he was told to wash in the Jordan River to be healed from his leprosy.

1. The power of humility and trust in God

2. The importance of obedience

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. James 4:6-7 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2 Kings 5:13 And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?

Naaman was offered a simple solution to his skin disease, to simply wash and be clean. His servants suggested he should do it without hesitation, for it was an easy thing the prophet asked.

1. God's solutions are often surprisingly simple.

2. We should trust God with all of our problems.

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. Matthew 9:2 - And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven.

2 Kings 5:14 Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

Naaman is healed of his leprosy by dipping himself seven times in the Jordan River at the instruction of the prophet Elisha.

1. God's miraculous power to heal and restore.

2. The importance of faith and obedience to God's instructions.

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. Matthew 8:2-3 "A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean. Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. I am willing, he said. Be clean! Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy."

2 Kings 5:15 And he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him: and he said, Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel: now therefore, I pray thee, take a blessing of thy servant.

A man of God was visited by a foreign leader who was looking for a blessing from the man of God. After experiencing a miracle, the foreign leader realized that there is no God but in Israel.

1. The Miracle of Faith: How We Recognize God's Presence

2. The Power of Blessing: Recognizing God's Sovereignty in Our Lives

1. Psalm 115:3 - "But our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases."

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."

2 Kings 5:16 But he said, As the LORD liveth, before whom I stand, I will receive none. And he urged him to take it; but he refused.

Naaman, the Syrian military commander, refuses to accept a gift from the King of Israel despite being urged to do so.

1. The power of faith in God over worldly gain.

2. The importance of humility in light of God's blessings.

1. Jeremiah 17:5-8

2. James 4:6-10

2 Kings 5:17 And Naaman said, Shall there not then, I pray thee, be given to thy servant two mules' burden of earth? for thy servant will henceforth offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice unto other gods, but unto the LORD.

Naaman asked Elisha if he could bring a portion of soil from Israel to use for worshiping God.

1) The Power of Place: Finding Our Spiritual Home

2) The Value of Commitment: Choosing to Follow God

1) Exodus 20:2-3 - "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.

2) Psalm 96:4-5 - For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

2 Kings 5:18 In this thing the LORD pardon thy servant, that when my master goeth into the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he leaneth on my hand, and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon: when I bow down myself in the house of Rimmon, the LORD pardon thy servant in this thing.

Naaman humbly asks the Lord to forgive him when he bows down in a foreign temple to appease his master.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning from Naaman's Example

2. God's Mercy and Compassion: Naaman's Request for Pardon

1. 2 Kings 5:18

2. Philippians 2:8-9 - "And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death even death on a cross!"

2 Kings 5:19 And he said unto him, Go in peace. So he departed from him a little way.

Naaman was healed of his leprosy and was told by Elisha to go in peace.

1. Learning to accept God's plan and finding peace in it.

2. Finding solace and acceptance in God's will.

1. Isaiah 26:3 - "You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you."

2. Psalm 55:22 - "Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall."

2 Kings 5:20 But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, Behold, my master hath spared Naaman this Syrian, in not receiving at his hands that which he brought: but, as the LORD liveth, I will run after him, and take somewhat of him.

Gehazi, servant of Elisha, expresses his disbelief that Elisha did not accept a gift from Naaman the Syrian, and proclaims that he will take something from him.

1. The Danger of Coveting - A warning against lusting after material possessions and the consequences of giving into such temptations.

2. The Power of Faith - A reminder of the importance of faith in God, and the rewards of trusting Him.

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Proverbs 15:27 - He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house, But he who hates bribes will live.

2 Kings 5:21 So Gehazi followed after Naaman. And when Naaman saw him running after him, he lighted down from the chariot to meet him, and said, Is all well?

Naaman encountered Gehazi, who was running after him, and asked if all was well.

1. How to Show Compassion and Show God's Love to Others

2. Living a Life of Humility and Service

1. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving p to one another

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

2 Kings 5:22 And he said, All is well. My master hath sent me, saying, Behold, even now there be come to me from mount Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets: give them, I pray thee, a talent of silver, and two changes of garments.

Elisha sends two of the sons of the prophets to Naaman, asking him to provide them with a talent of silver and two changes of garments.

1. The Power of Generosity: How God Rewards Those Who Give

2. The Value of Humility: How Elisha Served His King

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. Matt. 5:7, "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

2 Kings 5:23 And Naaman said, Be content, take two talents. And he urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of garments, and laid them upon two of his servants; and they bare them before him.

Naaman offers to give two talents of silver and two changes of clothing to Elisha as a token of appreciation for healing him.

1. The Power of Gratitude: How Expressing Appreciation Can Transform Lives

2. The Generosity of Giving: How Our Sacrifices Open Doors to Blessings

1. Matthew 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

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.

2 Kings 5:24 And when he came to the tower, he took them from their hand, and bestowed them in the house: and he let the men go, and they departed.

Naaman, a Syrian commander, took gifts from the king of Israel to cure his leprosy, was healed, and then returned the gifts to the king of Israel.

1. The Power of Faith: How Naaman's Belief in God Brought About His Healing

2. The Importance of Generosity: How Naaman's Gift to the King of Israel Led to His Cure

1. Mark 5:34 - And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

2. James 5:15 - 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 Kings 5:25 But he went in, and stood before his master. And Elisha said unto him, Whence comest thou, Gehazi? And he said, Thy servant went no whither.

Gehazi denies his wrongdoing to Elisha, claiming he went nowhere.

1. The Consequences of Dishonesty

2. The Need for Repentance

1. Proverbs 19:9 - "A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall perish."

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."

2 Kings 5:26 And he said unto him, Went not mine heart with thee, when the man turned again from his chariot to meet thee? Is it a time to receive money, and to receive garments, and oliveyards, and vineyards, and sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and maidservants?

Naaman was surprised when Elisha refused to accept any payment for healing him of his leprosy.

1. The Cost of Grace: How Elisha Refused Payment for His Miraculous Healing

2. The Value of Generosity: Why Naaman Offered Payment for His Healing

1. Luke 14:12-14 - Jesus encourages the guests at a banquet to go out and invite the poor and the crippled so that the host can be blessed.

2. Proverbs 19:17 - Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.

2 Kings 5:27 The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave unto thee, and unto thy seed for ever. And he went out from his presence a leper as white as snow.

Naaman was healed of his leprosy, but Elisha warned him that the leprosy would remain with him and his descendants for eternity.

1. Naaman's Healing - A Reminder of God's Mercy

2. Elisha's Warning - Don't Lose Sight of Your Blessings

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. Psalm 30:2 - O Lord my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.

2 Kings chapter 6 recounts several remarkable events involving Elisha, including the recovery of a lost axe head, the revelation of secret military plans, and a miraculous deliverance from an enemy army.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the sons of the prophets informing Elisha that their dwelling place has become too small for them. Elisha suggests they go to the Jordan River and each cut down a beam to expand their living quarters. As one of them is using an axe borrowed from another, the iron head falls into the water. In response to Elisha's request, God makes the iron axe head float on top of the water, allowing it to be retrieved (2 Kings 6:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative then focuses on Elisha's ability to discern secret military plans. The king of Aram (Syria) devises strategies against Israel but finds that his plans are repeatedly exposed by Elisha's prophetic insight. This leads him to suspect a spy in his midst until he learns that it is actually Elisha who reveals his secrets through divine revelation (2 Kings 6:8-12).

3rd Paragraph: When the king of Aram discovers that Elisha is in Dothan, he sends horses and chariots along with a great army during nighttime to capture him. However, when Elisha's servant sees this overwhelming force surrounding them in fear, Elisha prays for his eyes to be opened so that he may see beyond physical sight. The servant then witnesses an even greater heavenly army surrounding them for protection (2 Kings 6:13-17).

4th Paragraph:The narrative describes how when the enemy army approaches them, intending to seize Elisha Elijah prays once more and asks God to strike their enemies with blindness a divine intervention which causes confusion among their captors as they are led away unknowingly into Samaria the capital city of Israel (2 Kings 6;18-20).

5th Paragraph:Elisha instructs Israel s king not only to kill but also feed those captured enemies before sending them back home as part of showing mercy and kindness an act leading Arameans no longer raiding Israel s territory afterward (2 Kings 6;21-23).

In summary, Chapter six of 2 Kings depicts Elisha s miracles and insights, Lost axe head recovered, Secrets revealed through prophecy. Heavenly host protects, Blindness confuses enemies. Mercy shown towards captives, Peace established through kindness. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine provision and intervention, the power and protection available through spiritual sight, and acts of mercy leading to reconciliation and peace.

2 Kings 6:1 And the sons of the prophets said unto Elisha, Behold now, the place where we dwell with thee is too strait for us.

The sons of the prophets spoke to Elisha, asking him to provide them with a more spacious place to live.

1. The Power of Asking: How to Make Bold Requests of God

2. When God's Provision is Not Enough: Trusting God in the Midst of Need

1. Matthew 7:7-11 - Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

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.

2 Kings 6:2 Let us go, we pray thee, unto Jordan, and take thence every man a beam, and let us make us a place there, where we may dwell. And he answered, Go ye.

Elisha proposed that they build a dwelling place at Jordan and his request was granted.

1. The Power of Prayer - How our requests are answered through faith and dedication to God.

2. Building our Lives in God's Plans - How God provides us with the resources to build a life that is in line with His 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. Psalm 37:4 - "Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart."

2 Kings 6:3 And one said, Be content, I pray thee, and go with thy servants. And he answered, I will go.

A man was asked to go with his servants and he agreed.

1. In times of difficulty, it's important to be humble and willing to listen to those around us.

2. Obeying and trusting God leads to blessings.

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

2 Kings 6:4 So he went with them. And when they came to Jordan, they cut down wood.

The prophet Elisha helped the people of Israel by cutting down wood for them in the Jordan River.

1. God is always ready to help us with our needs.

2. We can depend on God s faithfulness and mercy.

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 34:17-18 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 Kings 6:5 But as one was felling a beam, the axe head fell into the water: and he cried, and said, Alas, master! for it was borrowed.

A man was cutting a beam when the axe head fell into the water, and he lamented its loss as it was borrowed.

1. Learn the importance of responsibility and accountability for borrowed items.

2. Trust in God, even when faced with loss.

1. Matthew 18:23-35 - Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

2 Kings 6:6 And the man of God said, Where fell it? And he shewed him the place. And he cut down a stick, and cast it in thither; and the iron did swim.

The man of God asks where an iron piece fell and then casts a stick into the river where it is found to swim.

1. Let Go and Let God: Trusting in the Lord for the Outcome.

2. Greater Faith: Believing When It Seems Impossible.

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. Hebrews 11:1- Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2 Kings 6:7 Therefore said he, Take it up to thee. And he put out his hand, and took it.

A man asked for help from Elisha, and Elisha told him to take the solution into his own hands.

1. We should never be afraid to take initiative and ask for help from God.

2. We must trust that God will provide us with the tools we need to solve our own problems.

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 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 Kings 6:8 Then the king of Syria warred against Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, In such and such a place shall be my camp.

The King of Syria declared war on Israel and strategized with his servants.

1. The power of strategic planning in spiritual warfare

2. The importance of being aware of our spiritual enemies

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.

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.

2 Kings 6:9 And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel, saying, Beware that thou pass not such a place; for thither the Syrians are come down.

The man of God warned the king of Israel not to go to a certain place, as the Syrians had just arrived there.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Warnings.

2. The Power of Faith to Overcome 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 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 Kings 6:10 And the king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God told him and warned him of, and saved himself there, not once nor twice.

The King of Israel heeded the warnings of the man of God and saved himself from danger not once, but twice.

1. Listen to the Voice of God - 2 Kings 6:10

2. Obey the Guidance of the Lord - 2 Kings 6:10

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.

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 Kings 6:11 Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, Will ye not shew me which of us is for the king of Israel?

The King of Syria was deeply disturbed by the news that his plans had been revealed to the King of Israel, and he asked his servants if they could identify the traitor.

1. Trusting in God Even in Difficult Times - 2 Chronicles 20:12

2. The Danger of Unwisely Trusting in People - Proverbs 3:5-6

1. 2 Kings 6:16-17 - He sent horses, chariots, and a great host to take Elisha: but when they came to Elisha, he prayed unto the Lord, and the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

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 Kings 6:12 And one of his servants said, None, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber.

A servant informs the King that Elisha, a prophet in Israel, knows the words that the King speaks in his private chambers.

1. The Power of the Word: How the Words We Speak Can Change Our Lives

2. Faithful Prophets: The Role of Prophets in Our Lives

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

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.

2 Kings 6:13 And he said, Go and spy where he is, that I may send and fetch him. And it was told him, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan.

The prophet Elisha asked his servant to go and spy on the whereabouts of the king of Syria. The servant reported that the king was in Dothan.

1. God Knows All: Reflecting on 2 Kings 6:13 in Light of God's Omniscience

2. The Power of Prayer: Examining the Power of Prayer in 2 Kings 6:13

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. 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.

2 Kings 6:14 Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about.

The king of Aram sent a large army to surround the city of Elisha at night.

1. God is always watching and protecting us, even in the darkest of times.

2. Trust in God to provide strength and security even when we feel surrounded and helpless.

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. Matthew 28:20 And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

2 Kings 6:15 And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?

The servant of the man of God was surrounded by a hostile army, and he asked how they would survive.

1. God's Protection in the Face of Adversity

2. Courage in the Face of Persecution

1. Psalm 46:1-3, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. 1 Corinthians 16:13, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."

2 Kings 6:16 And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.

The prophet Elisha encourages his servant not to be afraid, as God has provided them with a greater number of allies than their enemies.

1. God is with Us: Relying on His Strength and Power

2. Fear Not: He Will Direct Us and Protect Us

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.

2 Kings 6:17 And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

Elisha prayed to the Lord to open the eyes of a young man, and the Lord granted his prayer, allowing the young man to see a mountain filled with horses and chariots of fire surrounding Elisha.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Elisha Demonstrated His Faith in the Lord

2. Trust in the Lord: How Elisha's Faith Led to Miraculous Sight

1. Isaiah 6:1-5 - The prophet Isaiah's vision of the Lord in the temple.

2. Psalm 121:1-2 - The Lord as a protector and guardian.

2 Kings 6:18 And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Smite this people, I pray thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

Elisha prayed to the LORD to smite the people with blindness, and the LORD answered his prayer.

1. The Power of Prayer: Elisha's Example

2. The Miraculous: God's Answer to Elisha's Prayers

1. Luke 11:1-13 - Jesus' Teaching on Prayer

2. James 5:16-18 - The Power of Prayer in the Life of a Believer

2 Kings 6:19 And Elisha said unto them, This is not the way, neither is this the city: follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom ye seek. But he led them to Samaria.

Elisha leads the Syrian army away from Dothan to Samaria, away from the man they were seeking.

1. Faithfulness in Adversity - How Elisha demonstrated faithfulness in a difficult time.

2. The Power of Obedience - How Elisha's obedience to God led to a greater outcome.

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. 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.

2 Kings 6:20 And it came to pass, when they were come into Samaria, that Elisha said, LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see. And the LORD opened their eyes, and they saw; and, behold, they were in the midst of Samaria.

Elisha prayed to God to open the eyes of his companions so that they could see the city of Samaria. God answered his prayer and they saw the city.

1. The power of prayer - how God will answer our prayers when we have faith.

2. The importance of having faith in God - how trusting in God can provide us with the help we need.

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 6:5-8 - And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

2 Kings 6:21 And the king of Israel said unto Elisha, when he saw them, My father, shall I smite them? shall I smite them?

The King of Israel asked Elisha if he should attack the enemy army that he saw.

1. God's Protecting Hand: How God Protects Us Even When We Feel Vulnerable

2. How to Discern God's Will in Difficult Situations

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock, 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."

2 Kings 6:22 And he answered, Thou shalt not smite them: wouldest thou smite those whom thou hast taken captive with thy sword and with thy bow? set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master.

The King of Syria asked Elisha if he should kill the Israelite captives, to which Elisha replied that he should instead provide them with bread and water and allow them to return home.

1. The Power of Compassion: Building a Better World through Kindness

2. The Value of Mercy: Responding to Enemies with Love

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy"

2. Romans 12:20-21 - "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals on his head."

2 Kings 6:23 And he prepared great provision for them: and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. So the bands of Syria came no more into the land of Israel.

The king of Israel prepared a great feast for the Syrian army, and after they had eaten and drunk he sent them away. The bands of Syria never again entered the land of Israel.

1. God has the power to protect us from our enemies.

2. The Lord will provide for us when we trust and obey Him.

1. Psalm 91:11 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

2. 2 Chronicles 20:15-17 - 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. Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz. You will find them at the end of the valley, east of the wilderness of Jeruel. 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. Be strong and courageous.

2 Kings 6:24 And it came to pass after this, that Benhadad king of Syria gathered all his host, and went up, and besieged Samaria.

Benhadad, king of Syria, gathered all his army and laid siege to the city of Samaria.

1. God's Sovereignty in Times of Trouble - How to Rely on God through Difficult Situations

2. The Power of Unity - The Strength of Working Together Towards a Common Goal

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. 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 Kings 6:25 And there was a great famine in Samaria: and, behold, they besieged it, until an ass's head was sold for fourscore pieces of silver, and the fourth part of a cab of dove's dung for five pieces of silver.

There was a severe famine in Samaria, with even an ass's head being sold for an extremely high price.

1. The Value of Life: The Example of Samaria During Famine

2. The Provision of God: Surviving the Famine of Samaria

1. Jeremiah 14:18 If I go forth into the field, then behold the slain with the sword! and if I enter into the city, then behold them that are sick with famine!

2. Isaiah 33:16 He shall dwell on high: his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure.

2 Kings 6:26 And as the king of Israel was passing by upon the wall, there cried a woman unto him, saying, Help, my lord, O king.

A woman cries out to the king of Israel for help while he is passing on the wall.

1. God is always there to provide help in times of need.

2. Even in times of despair, we can find comfort 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 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2 Kings 6:27 And he said, If the LORD do not help thee, whence shall I help thee? out of the barnfloor, or out of the winepress?

Elisha asked the King of Israel how he could help him if the Lord did not.

1. The Lord's Help Is Precious: Understanding the Value of Divine Assistance

2. Seek Help from the Lord: The Necessity of 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. 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 Kings 6:28 And the king said unto her, What aileth thee? And she answered, This woman said unto me, Give thy son, that we may eat him to day, and we will eat my son to morrow.

A woman told the king she was asked to give her son to be eaten, one day for her son and one day for the other woman's son.

1. God's Protecting Hand: How God Keeps Us Safe in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Prayer: How God Answers Our Cries For Help

1. Psalm 91:14-16 - "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. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

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 Kings 6:29 So we boiled my son, and did eat him: and I said unto her on the next day, Give thy son, that we may eat him: and she hath hid her son.

A woman boiled her son and ate him, and the next day asked for her other son to be eaten as well.

1. God's Grace in the Midst of Suffering - How can we find hope in difficult times?

2. The Power of Love - How can love conquer even the darkest of moments?

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

2 Kings 6:30 And it came to pass, when the king heard the words of the woman, that he rent his clothes; and he passed by upon the wall, and the people looked, and, behold, he had sackcloth within upon his flesh.

The king heard the words of a woman and tore his clothes in response, walking along the wall in a sign of mourning.

1. The Power of Words: Learning to Speak with Care

2. The Significance of Mourning: Expressing Grief and Loss

1. Proverbs 12:18 - "There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing."

2. James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

2 Kings 6:31 Then he said, God do so and more also to me, if the head of Elisha the son of Shaphat shall stand on him this day.

Jehoram, the king of Israel, threatened to cut off the head of the prophet Elisha if he did not tell him the plans of the King of Syria.

1. The Power of Faith in the Face of Trials

2. The Importance of Listening to Godly Advice

1. Hebrews 11:1-2 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2. Proverbs 19:20 - Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.

2 Kings 6:32 But Elisha sat in his house, and the elders sat with him; and the king sent a man from before him: but ere the messenger came to him, he said to the elders, See ye how this son of a murderer hath sent to take away mine head? look, when the messenger cometh, shut the door, and hold him fast at the door: is not the sound of his master's feet behind him?

Elisha and the elders were sitting in his house when the king sent a messenger to take Elisha's head. Elisha warned the elders to shut the door and hold the messenger fast when he arrived due to the sound of the king's feet behind him.

1. The Power of Preparation: Learning from Elisha's readiness in the face of danger

2. The Courage of Faith: Trusting in God's protection in the midst of danger

1. 2 Kings 6:32

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

2 Kings 6:33 And while he yet talked with them, behold, the messenger came down unto him: and he said, Behold, this evil is of the LORD; what should I wait for the LORD any longer?

Elisha's servant was pessimistic and feared the enemy forces, but Elisha reassured him that God was in control of the situation.

1. God is in control of our lives even when it doesn't seem like it.

2. Even when we feel like there is no hope, God is still working and will provide.

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.

2 Kings chapter 7 narrates the story of a miraculous deliverance and the fulfillment of a prophetic promise during a time of severe famine in Samaria.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the city of Samaria under siege by the Arameans (Syrians), resulting in a severe famine. The situation becomes so dire that people resort to extreme measures, including cannibalism (2 Kings 7:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: Outside the city gates, there are four lepers who are excluded from society due to their condition. In their desperation, they decide to go to the Aramean camp, hoping for mercy or provision. However, when they arrive at the camp, they find it deserted because God had caused the Aramean army to hear what sounded like a great army approaching a divine intervention that caused them to flee in panic (2 Kings 7:3-8).

3rd Paragraph:The lepers enter one of the tents and discover an abundance of food and valuable possessions left behind by the fleeing Arameans. Realizing their good fortune, they decide not to keep it for themselves but instead inform others in Samaria about what they have found (2 Kings 7;9-11).

4th Paragraph:The news spreads quickly among Israelites inside Samaria, and despite initial skepticism from some officials believing it might be an ambush they investigate and confirm its truthfulness. The people rush out of the city gates and plundered everything left behind by the Arameans fulfilling Elisha's prophecy regarding an abundance of food during this time (2 Kings 7;12-16).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with a mention that while those who doubted Elisha's prophecy perished underfoot as people rushed out for food the official who initially expressed disbelief was trampled upon but did not die as foretold by Elisha indicating God's faithfulness even amidst skepticism (Kings 22;17-20).

In summary, Chapter seven of 2 Kings depicts Samaria s deliverance through divine intervention, Lepers find deserted camp, news spreads throughout Samaria. Skepticism turns into belief, abundance fulfills prophecy. God's provision amid famine, faith rewarded amidst skepticism. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine deliverance in times of desperation, the consequences of unbelief versus faith, and how God can turn dire situations around through unexpected means.

2 Kings 7:1 Then Elisha said, Hear ye the word of the LORD; Thus saith the LORD, To morrow about this time shall a measure of fine flour be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, in the gate of Samaria.

Elisha prophecies that the following day, fine flour and barley will be sold for a shekel in the gate of Samaria.

1. The Provision of God: How God Provides For Our Needs

2. God's Timing: Trusting in God's Perfect Timing

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do Not Worry, God Will Provide

2. Psalm 33:18-19 - The Lord's Plans Stand Firm, Trust in Him

2 Kings 7:2 Then a lord on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God, and said, Behold, if the LORD would make windows in heaven, might this thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof.

A lord suggested to the man of God that it would be impossible for the LORD to do something miraculous, but the man of God assured him that it would indeed happen.

1. God's Miracles: How We Can Witness God's Power

2. Trusting in God's Promises: Our Response to God's 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. Romans 4:17-18: 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 existence the things that do not exist.

2 Kings 7:3 And there were four leprous men at the entering in of the gate: and they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die?

Four leprous men were sitting at the entrance of the gate, and they wondered why they were sitting there, knowing that it would eventually lead to their death.

1. "A Call to Action: Making the Most of Our Time on Earth"

2. "The Power of Community: Working Together for a Greater Cause"

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. James 5:13-16

2 Kings 7:4 If we say, We will enter into the city, then the famine is in the city, and we shall die there: and if we sit still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and let us fall unto the host of the Syrians: if they save us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die.

The people of Samaria were facing famine and so they decided to surrender to the Syrian army, hoping that they would be saved.

1. God can use the most unlikely people and circumstances to bring about his will.

2. We should not be afraid to trust God in times of difficulty.

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.

2 Kings 7:5 And they rose up in the twilight, to go unto the camp of the Syrians: and when they were come to the uttermost part of the camp of Syria, behold, there was no man there.

Two people rose up in the twilight in order to go to the camp of the Syrians, but when they arrived, there was no one there.

1. God's protection can be found in unexpected places.

2. Look to God in times of darkness 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 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2 Kings 7:6 For the LORD had made the host of the Syrians to hear a noise of chariots, and a noise of horses, even the noise of a great host: and they said one to another, Lo, the king of Israel hath hired against us the kings of the Hittites, and the kings of the Egyptians, to come upon us.

The Lord caused a noise of chariots and horses to be heard by the Syrian army, leading them to believe that the King of Israel had hired the kings of the Hittites and Egyptians to come against them.

1. God is always in control - even when it seems like the odds are against us.

2. We must trust in God to provide peace and protection - even in the face of great 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 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 Kings 7:7 Wherefore they arose and fled in the twilight, and left their tents, and their horses, and their asses, even the camp as it was, and fled for their life.

1: Have faith in God to provide in times of need.

2: It is better to be humble and rely on God than to be proud and rely on oneself.

1: Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply all your needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2: James 4:10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

2 Kings 7:8 And when these lepers came to the uttermost part of the camp, they went into one tent, and did eat and drink, and carried thence silver, and gold, and raiment, and went and hid it; and came again, and entered into another tent, and carried thence also, and went and hid it.

Two lepers entered a camp and took silver, gold, and clothes from two tents and hid them.

1. God's provision: Even in the midst of poverty and scarcity, God provides.

2. Contentment: We can find joy and satisfaction in the provisions God grants us, even if they are small.

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 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 Kings 7:9 Then they said one to another, We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the morning light, some mischief will come upon us: now therefore come, that we may go and tell the king's household.

Two men realize that they have good news to tell the king's household, but if they wait until morning, something bad might happen. Therefore, they decide to go and tell the king's household.

1. Good news should be shared quickly and without hesitation.

2. Be mindful of the consequences of procrastination.

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 10:15 - "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 Kings 7:10 So they came and called unto the porter of the city: and they told them, saying, We came to the camp of the Syrians, and, behold, there was no man there, neither voice of man, but horses tied, and asses tied, and the tents as they were.

Two men come to the city gate of Samaria and report that the camp of the Syrians is abandoned, with only horses and donkeys tied to tents.

1. God's protection is greater than any other force.

2. Have faith that God will provide.

1. 2 Kings 7:10

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 Kings 7:11 And he called the porters; and they told it to the king's house within.

The porters reported news from outside the king's house to those inside.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Speech Can Make or Break Us

2. The Power of Reporting: How to Effectively Communicate News

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 3:5-6 - 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 Kings 7:12 And the king arose in the night, and said unto his servants, I will now shew you what the Syrians have done to us. They know that we be hungry; therefore are they gone out of the camp to hide themselves in the field, saying, When they come out of the city, we shall catch them alive, and get into the city.

The King of Israel discovers that the Syrian army has left their camp in an attempt to ambush them, knowing that the Israelites are hungry.

1. God's Faithfulness in Providing for our Needs

2. The Dangers of Pride and Self-Reliance

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

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

2 Kings 7:13 And one of his servants answered and said, Let some take, I pray thee, five of the horses that remain, which are left in the city, (behold, they are as all the multitude of Israel that are left in it: behold, I say, they are even as all the multitude of the Israelites that are consumed:) and let us send and see.

A servant of the King suggested sending five of the remaining horses to investigate the report of a great abundance of food in the land.

1. God can provide in abundance, even when all hope seems lost.

2. The power of faith and prayer in times of desperation.

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. Luke 12:22-32 - 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. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?

2 Kings 7:14 They took therefore two chariot horses; and the king sent after the host of the Syrians, saying, Go and see.

The King of Israel sends two chariot horses after the host of the Syrians to investigate their movements.

1. God is always watching and is always ready to help.

2. God is a provider of knowledge and understanding.

1. 2 Chronicles 16:9 - For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him.

2. 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 uprightly.

2 Kings 7:15 And they went after them unto Jordan: and, lo, all the way was full of garments and vessels, which the Syrians had cast away in their haste. And the messengers returned, and told the king.

A group of messengers were sent by the king of Israel to investigate a rumor of the Syrians fleeing and leaving behind their possessions. When they reached the Jordan River, they found it scattered with the Syrians' garments and vessels, confirming the rumor.

1. God's faithfulness rewards those who trust in Him.

2. Contentment is found in the Lord, not in material possessions.

1. Psalm 34:10: "The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing."

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.

2 Kings 7:16 And the people went out, and spoiled the tents of the Syrians. So a measure of fine flour was sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, according to the word of the LORD.

The LORD provided for the people, allowing them to purchase food at a cheap price.

1: God is the Provider. He is always there to provide for us in our times of need.

2: God is Faithful. He faithfully keeps His promises to His children.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus encourages us to not be anxious but to trust in the Lord's provision.

2: Philippians 4:19 - Paul reminds us that God will supply all of our needs according to His riches in glory.

2 Kings 7:17 And the king appointed the lord on whose hand he leaned to have the charge of the gate: and the people trode upon him in the gate, and he died, as the man of God had said, who spake when the king came down to him.

The king appointed a lord to the charge of the gate and the people trode upon him, killing him as the man of God had predicted.

1. Remembering the Faithful: How the Lord's Faithful Servants Will Always be Remembered

2. Faithful Until the End: The Power of Living a Life of Unquestionable Faithfulness

1. 2 Timothy 4:7-8 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

2. Hebrews 11:1-2 "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good report."

2 Kings 7:18 And it came to pass as the man of God had spoken to the king, saying, Two measures of barley for a shekel, and a measure of fine flour for a shekel, shall be to morrow about this time in the gate of Samaria:

The man of God told the King of Samaria that two measures of barley and a measure of flour would be sold at a reduced rate in the city's gate the following day.

1. Trusting in God's Promises - 2 Kings 7:18

2. Relying on God's Faithfulness - 2 Kings 7:18

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:

2. Psalm 37:5 - Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

2 Kings 7:19 And that lord answered the man of God, and said, Now, behold, if the LORD should make windows in heaven, might such a thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof.

A lord asked a man of God whether the Lord could make windows in heaven, and the man of God responded that the lord would see it with his eyes, but would not be able to eat of it.

1. The Power of God: How God Can Do the Impossible

2. Faith in God: Believing What You Cannot See

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 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2 Kings 7:20 And so it fell out unto him: for the people trode upon him in the gate, and he died.

A man who falsely claimed that the famine had ended was trampled to death by the people in the gate.

1. The Danger of False Prophets

2. The Consequences of Deception

1. Jeremiah 14:13-15; "Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, the prophets say unto them, Ye shall not see the sword, neither shall ye have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place. Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

2. Jeremiah 23:16-17; 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. They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.

2 Kings chapter 8 recounts the restoration of a Shunammite woman's land, the encounter between Elisha and King Ben-Hadad of Aram, and the reign of Jehoram as king of Judah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by mentioning a famine that lasts for seven years. During this time, Elisha advises the woman whose son he had previously restored to life to leave her land temporarily to avoid the effects of the famine (2 Kings 8:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: After seven years, the woman returns to appeal to the king for her house and land. Coincidentally, Gehazi, Elisha's servant, is discussing her situation with King Jehoram when she arrives. The king grants her request and restores all that belonged to her (2 Kings 8:3-6).

3rd Paragraph: The narrative then shifts focus to an encounter between Elisha and King Ben-Hadad of Aram who is ill. Hearing about Elisha's presence in Damascus, Ben-Hadad sends his commander Hazael with gifts to inquire about his chances of recovery. Through divine insight, Elisha reveals that although Ben-Hadad will recover from his illness, he will ultimately die at Hazael's hands foreshadowing future events (2 Kings 8:7-15).

4th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by introducing Jehoram as king over Judah after his father Jehoshaphat s death. Unlike his father who walked in righteousness before God Jehoram follows in the footsteps of Ahab and Jezebel leading Judah astray into idolatry (2 Kings 8;16-19).

In summary, Chapter eight of 2 Kings depicts the restoration of a woman's land, Elisha's prophecy concerning Ben-Hadad, A famine ends, woman regains what was lost. Ben-Hadad seeks healing, future events foretold. Jehoram s reign begins, deviating from righteousness. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as God's faithfulness in restoring what was lost, the prophetic insight into future events, and the consequences of straying from God's ways.

2 Kings 8:1 Then spake Elisha unto the woman, whose son he had restored to life, saying, Arise, and go thou and thine household, and sojourn wheresoever thou canst sojourn: for the LORD hath called for a famine; and it shall also come upon the land seven years.

Elisha tells a woman whose son he had healed to leave the land due to a famine that will last for seven years.

1. God's Guidance in Times of Trouble - Exploring how to trust in God's guidance even during the toughest times.

2. Overcoming Fear Through Faith - Examining how faith can help us overcome fear in the face of difficult circumstances.

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 46:1-2 - "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 Kings 8:2 And the woman arose, and did after the saying of the man of God: and she went with her household, and sojourned in the land of the Philistines seven years.

A woman, following the words of a man of God, left her home and stayed in the land of the Philistines for seven years.

1. The Value of Obedience: Learning to Trust and Follow God's Guidance

2. Facing Difficult Circumstances: Trusting God When Life is Challenging

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 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 Kings 8:3 And it came to pass at the seven years' end, that the woman returned out of the land of the Philistines: and she went forth to cry unto the king for her house and for her land.

After seven years, a woman returns to Israel and appeals to the King for her house and land.

1. God Answers Prayers, Even After a Long Time - 2 Kings 8:3

2. Trusting in God's Timing - 2 Kings 8:3

1. Matthew 7:7-8 - Ask, seek, knock.

2. James 5:7-8 - Be patient and wait on the Lord.

2 Kings 8:4 And the king talked with Gehazi the servant of the man of God, saying, Tell me, I pray thee, all the great things that Elisha hath done.

The king asked Gehazi, the servant of the man of God, to tell him all the great things that Elisha had done.

1. The Power of Faith: Elisha's Miracles

2. Serving the Lord: Gehazi's Dedication

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. 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 Kings 8:5 And it came to pass, as he was telling the king how he had restored a dead body to life, that, behold, the woman, whose son he had restored to life, cried to the king for her house and for her land. And Gehazi said, My lord, O king, this is the woman, and this is her son, whom Elisha restored to life.

A woman appeals to the King for her house and land after Elisha brings her son back to life.

1. The Unending Faithfulness of God - How God's miracles are still present today and how they bring us closer to Him.

2. Hope in Unfamiliar Places - Finding hope in a time of uncertainty and how God can be found in unexpected places.

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2 Kings 8:6 And when the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king appointed unto her a certain officer, saying, Restore all that was hers, and all the fruits of the field since the day that she left the land, even until now.

A woman who had been exiled from her land told the king her story. In response the king appointed an officer to restore all of her possessions that had been taken since her exile.

1. God will restore what has been taken away from us if we seek Him.

2. God cares for the oppressed and will provide justice if we call out to Him.

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. James 5:4 "Look! The wages you failed to pay the workers who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty."

2 Kings 8:7 And Elisha came to Damascus; and Benhadad the king of Syria was sick; and it was told him, saying, The man of God is come hither.

King Benhadad of Syria became ill and it was reported that the man of God, Elisha, had come to Damascus.

1. God's Provision: Trusting in God's Timing

2. The Power of God: God's Miracle Worker

1. Isaiah 45:21 Declare what is to be, present it let them take counsel together. Who predicted this long ago, who announced it from ancient times? Was it not I, the LORD? And there is no other God but me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but 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.

2 Kings 8:8 And the king said unto Hazael, Take a present in thine hand, and go, meet the man of God, and enquire of the LORD by him, saying, Shall I recover of this disease?

The King of Israel asked Hazael to take a present and go meet the man of God to inquire of the Lord whether the King would be healed from his illness.

Best

1. The importance of faith and seeking God's will for our lives.

2. God's power to heal and how we should rely on Him in times of need.

Best

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.

2 Kings 8:9 So Hazael went to meet him, and took a present with him, even of every good thing of Damascus, forty camels' burden, and came and stood before him, and said, Thy son Benhadad king of Syria hath sent me to thee, saying, Shall I recover of this disease?

Hazael is sent by King Benhadad of Syria to ask King Jehoram of Israel if he will recover from his illness.

1. God is sovereign even in the face of daunting physical illness.

2. We should always be ready to help our neighbours in need.

1. Psalm 103:3 - "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;"

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."

2 Kings 8:10 And Elisha said unto him, Go, say unto him, Thou mayest certainly recover: howbeit the LORD hath shewed me that he shall surely die.

Elisha told a man that he may recover from his illness, but God had revealed to Elisha that the man would die.

1. God is Sovereign: Trusting Him in All Things

2. Life and Death Are in God s Hands

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. 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 Kings 8:11 And he settled his countenance stedfastly, until he was ashamed: and the man of God wept.

A man of God was filled with emotion as he looked upon another man's sorrow.

1. God's Empathy: How God Understands Our Pain

2. Steadfast Faith: Standing in the Face of Adversity

1. 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.

2. Psalm 34:17-18 - The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2 Kings 8:12 And Hazael said, Why weepeth my lord? And he answered, Because I know the evil that thou wilt do unto the children of Israel: their strong holds wilt thou set on fire, and their young men wilt thou slay with the sword, and wilt dash their children, and rip up their women with child.

Hazael is told by Elisha about the destruction he will cause to the children of Israel, including setting fire to their strongholds, slaying their young men, dashing their children, and ripping up pregnant women.

1. The Wickedness of Sin - How Sin Leads to Destruction of Innocent People

2. The Mercy of God - How God Still Loves the People Who Have Sinned

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. 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 Kings 8:13 And Hazael said, But what, is thy servant a dog, that he should do this great thing? And Elisha answered, The LORD hath shewed me that thou shalt be king over Syria.

Elisha prophesied to Hazael that he would be made king over Syria, but Hazael was skeptical.

1. God's Plans Are Bigger Than We Think - 2 Chronicles 20:6

2. God's Timing Is Perfect - Habakkuk 2:3

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.

2 Kings 8:14 So he departed from Elisha, and came to his master; who said to him, What said Elisha to thee? And he answered, He told me that thou shouldest surely recover.

Elisha provided a positive prognosis of the king's recovery to his servant.

1. Trust in Divine Providence - God is in control of all our lives and He works in mysterious ways.

2. The Power of Positive Thinking - A positive outlook can be greatly beneficial 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. Proverbs 17:22 - "A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."

2 Kings 8:15 And it came to pass on the morrow, that he took a thick cloth, and dipped it in water, and spread it on his face, so that he died: and Hazael reigned in his stead.

Hazael succeeded Jehoram as King of Israel after Jehoram died from a thick cloth being dipped in water and put on his face.

1. God's Will Is Always Accomplished - 2 Kings 8:15

2. The Sovereignty of God in Appointing Leaders - 2 Kings 8:15

1. 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?"

2. 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 Kings 8:16 And in the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel, Jehoshaphat being then king of Judah, Jehoram the son of Je hoshaphat king of Judah began to reign.

Jehoram became king of Judah in the fifth year of Joram's reign as king of Israel.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - 2 Peter 3:8

2. The Sovereignty of God - Isaiah 46:10

1. 2 Peter 3:8 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.

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.

2 Kings 8:17 Thirty and two years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

King Joram of Israel reigned for eight years in Jerusalem beginning at the age of 32.

1. How to Make the Most of Your Time - Drawing from the example of King Joram

2. Overcoming Challenges and Doubts - Reflections on Joram's Reign

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

2. Proverbs 16:9 - "A man s heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps."

2 Kings 8:18 And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as did the house of Ahab: for the daughter of Ahab was his wife: and he did evil in the sight of the LORD.

King Joram of Judah married the daughter of King Ahab of Israel and followed his wicked ways, displeasing the Lord.

1. God's Standards Never Change - Exploring the consequences of living contrary to God's will.

2. What Do You Value? - Exploring the dangers of prioritizing the world's values over God's.

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.

2 Kings 8:19 Yet the LORD would not destroy Judah for David his servant's sake, as he promised him to give him alway a light, and to his children.

The Lord promised to always give David and his children a light, and so he did not destroy Judah.

1. The Lord's Promise - Exploring the faithfulness of God and how it extends to His people.

2. The Power of a Promise - Examining the impact of a covenant and the security that it brings.

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. Psalm 89:28 - My faithful love will be with him, and through my name his horn will be exalted.

2 Kings 8:20 In his days Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah, and made a king over themselves.

During the reign of King Joram of Judah, Edom revolted and declared independence, appointing their own king.

1. The Consequences of Rebellion: A Study of Edom's Revolt Against Judah

2. The Sovereignty of God in All Things: How God Uses the Choices of Nations to Accomplish His Will

1. Isaiah 45:7 - "I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these things."

2. Daniel 4:17 - "This matter 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 Kings 8:21 So Joram went over to Zair, and all the chariots with him: and he rose by night, and smote the Edomites which compassed him about, and the captains of the chariots: and the people fled into their tents.

Joram left for Zair and, during the night, defeated the Edomites who were surrounding him by surprise, causing them to flee.

1. God's strength will surprise us in times of weakness. 2. We can achieve victory with God's help, even when we feel outnumbered.

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. Exodus 14:14 - "The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace."

2 Kings 8:22 Yet Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. Then Libnah revolted at the same time.

Edom and Libnah broke away from Judah and remain separate from them until the present day.

1. The Power of Rebellion - How Our Choices Can Lead to Lasting Consequences

2. Standing Firm in Your Faith - Why It Is Important to Remain Faithful Despite Opposition

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.

2 Kings 8:23 And the rest of the acts of Joram, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

Joram, a king of Judah, was recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah for all of his deeds.

1. The Importance of Righteous Living: A Study in 2 Kings 8:23

2. The Legacy of Faithfulness: A Reflection on 2 Kings 8:23

1. Proverbs 10:7 - The memory of the righteous is a blessing, but the name of the wicked will rot.

2. Psalm 112:6 - The righteous will be remembered forever; they will have no fear of bad news.

2 Kings 8:24 And Joram slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David: and Ahaziah his son reigned in his stead.

Joram died and was buried in the city of David, and his son Ahaziah took his place as ruler.

1. The Importance of Legacy: Passing On What We Have Learned

2. God's Plan for Succession: What Role Do We Play?

1. 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.

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.

2 Kings 8:25 In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel did Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah begin to reign.

Ahaziah began to reign as king of Judah in the 12th year of Joram's reign as king of Israel.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How God's Plan Unfolds Through Human Kings

2. The Impact of Leadership: How Our Leaders Shape Our Lives

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. Daniel 2:21 - "He [God] changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding."

2 Kings 8:26 Two and twenty years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri king of Israel.

Ahaziah began to reign when he was 22 years old and only reigned for one year in Jerusalem. His mother was Athaliah, daughter of Omri, king of Israel.

1. The Power of Legacy: What We Pass On to the Next Generation

2. Surpassing Our Limitations: The Story of Ahaziah

1. Matthew 7:12 - "Therefore whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

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."

2 Kings 8:27 And he walked in the way of the house of Ahab, and did evil in the sight of the LORD, as did the house of Ahab: for he was the son in law of the house of Ahab.

Elisha was a bad king who followed in the footsteps of Ahab and did evil in the eyes of the Lord.

1. Learning from the mistakes of others: The example of Elisha and Ahab.

2. The consequences of following the wrong path: Elisha s example.

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. 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 Kings 8:28 And he went with Joram the son of Ahab to the war against Hazael king of Syria in Ramothgilead; and the Syrians wounded Joram.

Joram, the son of Ahab, went to war with Hazael, the king of Syria, at Ramothgilead, and was injured in battle.

1. The Power of War - How it can affect the lives of even the most valiant.

2. The Strength of Ahab's Lineage - How Joram's courage to fight exemplifies the courage of his forefathers.

1. 2 Chronicles 18:28-34 - The battle between Ahab and the Syrians.

2. 1 Chronicles 12:32 - A listing of valiant men of the tribe of Benjamin who joined David at Ziklag.

2 Kings 8:29 And king Joram went back to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had given him at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Syria. And Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see Joram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick.

King Joram of Israel was wounded in battle against King Hazael of Syria at Ramah and returned to Jezreel to be healed. King Ahaziah of Judah went to visit Joram in Jezreel because he was ill.

1. God's protection in times of battle - 2 Chronicles 20:15

2. The importance of fellowship among believers - Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

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. 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 Kings chapter 9 narrates the anointing and rise of Jehu as king of Israel, the execution of God's judgment on the house of Ahab, and the downfall of Queen Jezebel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Elisha sending one of the sons of the prophets to anoint Jehu as king over Israel. The prophet delivers a message from God, instructing Jehu to execute divine judgment on the house of Ahab, wiping out all descendants and followers (2 Kings 9:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: Jehu immediately takes action upon receiving this anointing. He gathers his fellow officers and reveals that he has been anointed as king by God's command. They pledge their allegiance to him, and together they conspire against King Joram, who is in Jezreel recovering from injuries sustained in battle (2 Kings 9:11-15).

3rd Paragraph: Meanwhile, King Joram sends messengers to inquire about Jehu's intentions. In response, Jehu proclaims himself as king and leads a coup against Joram. He shoots him with an arrow, killing him near Naboth's vineyard fulfilling Elijah's prophecy regarding Ahab's bloodline (2 Kings 9:16-26).

4th Paragraph:The narrative continues with Jehu encountering Ahaziah, the king of Judah who had come to visit Joram. Ahaziah tries to flee upon seeing Jehu but is pursued and fatally wounded near Gur the city associated with idolatrous worship (2 Kings 9;27-29).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with Jehu arriving at Jezreel where Jezebel resides. Jezebel adorns herself in royal attire but is met by Jehu who condemns her for her wickedness and orders her eunuchs to throw her out from a window. As predicted by Elijah earlier dogs devour her body fulfilling God s judgment against her (2 Kings 9;30-37).

In summary, Chapter nine of 2 Kings depicts Jehu's anointing as king, execution of divine judgment, Jehoram slain by arrow, Ahaziah pursued until death. Jezebel meets a gruesome end, fulfillment of prophetic words. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine justice being carried out, the consequences of wickedness, and how God raises up individuals for specific purposes in His sovereign plan.

2 Kings 9:1 And Elisha the prophet called one of the children of the prophets, and said unto him, Gird up thy loins, and take this box of oil in thine hand, and go to Ramothgilead:

Elisha sends a prophet to deliver a box of oil to Ramothgilead.

1. The Power of Obedience - God commands us to obey Him, and when we do, we will be blessed.

2. The Importance of Faithfulness - Our faithfulness to God will be rewarded when we remain obedient.

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 submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2 Kings 9:2 And when thou comest thither, look out there Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and go in, and make him arise up from among his brethren, and carry him to an inner chamber;

God instructs Elijah to anoint Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi as king of Israel.

1. God calls us to use our gifts and talents to serve him.

2. When God calls us, we must be faithful and obedient.

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

2. Joshua 1:7-9 - Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or discouraged.

2 Kings 9:3 Then take the box of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, Thus saith the LORD, I have anointed thee king over Israel. Then open the door, and flee, and tarry not.

The Lord commands Jehu to anoint him king over Israel by pouring oil on his head and then flee immediately after.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands

2. God's provision for those He has chosen

1. John 15:14 - "You are my friends if you do what I command you."

2. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

2 Kings 9:4 So the young man, even the young man the prophet, went to Ramothgilead.

A young man, who was also a prophet, was sent to Ramothgilead.

1. God is in control of our lives and will guide us to the right place.

2. Following God's will leads to great things.

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.

2 Kings 9:5 And when he came, behold, the captains of the host were sitting; and he said, I have an errand to thee, O captain. And Jehu said, Unto which of all us? And he said, To thee, O captain.

Jehu is summoned by a messenger to meet with the captains of the host.

1. God has a plan for each of us, no matter our station in life.

2. We are all called to a higher purpose - to serve the Lord.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

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!

2 Kings 9:6 And he arose, and went into the house; and he poured the oil on his head, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I have anointed thee king over the people of the LORD, even over Israel.

God anoints Jehu to be king over Israel through the prophet Elisha.

1. God's Anointing: A Blessing and a Responsibility

2. Chosen by God: Embrace Your Calling

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. Romans 12:3-8 - For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.

2 Kings 9:7 And thou shalt smite the house of Ahab thy master, that I may avenge the blood of my servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of the LORD, at the hand of Jezebel.

God commands Jehu to avenge the death of his prophets and servants by destroying the house of Ahab.

1. The Power of God to Avenge the Righteous

2. Loyalty to God and His Command

1. Psalm 58:10-11 - The righteous will rejoice when he sees the vengeance; he will bathe his feet in the blood of the wicked. Mankind will say, Surely there is a reward for the righteous; surely there is a God who judges on earth.

2. 1 Thessalonians 4:6 - 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.

2 Kings 9:8 For the whole house of Ahab shall perish: and I will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel:

God promises to punish the entire house of Ahab, even those who seem insignificant.

1. God is Just: No One Escapes His Judgment

2. The Power of God: Even the Weak Will Not Be Spared

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. 2 Thessalonians 1:8- He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

2 Kings 9:9 And I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah:

God will make the house of Ahab like the houses of Jeroboam and Baasha.

1. We can learn from the example of Ahab and the consequences of his actions.

2. God's judgment is just and will be carried out.

1. Jeremiah 17:10 - "I, the Lord, search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve."

2. Romans 2:6 - "God will repay each person according to what they have done.

2 Kings 9:10 And the dogs shall eat Jezebel in the portion of Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her. And he opened the door, and fled.

The prophet Elisha predicted that Jezebel would be killed and eaten by dogs, and when it came true, the one who carried out the deed fled the scene.

1. God's Judgment Is Righteous and Just

2. The Power and Fulfillment of God's Word

1. Psalm 58:11 - "So that a man will say, 'Surely there is a reward for the righteous; Surely He is God who judges in the earth.'"

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."

2 Kings 9:11 Then Jehu came forth to the servants of his lord: and one said unto him, Is all well? wherefore came this mad fellow to thee? And he said unto them, Ye know the man, and his communication.

Jehu is asked by servants of his lord if all is well, and he responds by saying that they know the man and his communication.

1. Taking Responsible Action: Learning from the Example of Jehu

2. Understanding Your Circumstances: Using the Words of Jehu

1. Proverbs 2:1-9 - My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;

2. Romans 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.

2 Kings 9:12 And they said, It is false; tell us now. And he said, Thus and thus spake he to me, saying, Thus saith the LORD, I have anointed thee king over Israel.

Jehu was anointed as king of Israel by the Lord.

1. God has a special plan for each of us, and He will equip us to fulfill it.

2. We should trust and obey God's will, even when it's difficult to understand.

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. 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 Kings 9:13 Then they hasted, and took every man his garment, and put it under him on the top of the stairs, and blew with trumpets, saying, Jehu is king.

The people hastened to proclaim Jehu as king and placed their garments under him on the stairs while blowing trumpets.

1. The importance of recognizing God's chosen leaders.

2. Being willing to serve God and His chosen leaders.

1. Acts 2:36 - Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

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.

2 Kings 9:14 So Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi conspired against Joram. (Now Joram had kept Ramothgilead, he and all Israel, because of Hazael king of Syria.

Jehu, the son of Jehoshaphat and Nimshi, conspired against Joram, who was protecting Ramothgilead and all of Israel from Hazael, the king of Syria.

1. The Power of Conspiring: Making Plans and Taking Action

2. The Value of Protection: Standing Guard for What You Hold Dear

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

2. Psalm 121:3 He will not let your foot slip he who watches over you will not slumber.

2 Kings 9:15 But king Joram was returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had given him, when he fought with Hazael king of Syria.) And Jehu said, If it be your minds, then let none go forth nor escape out of the city to go to tell it in Jezreel.

King Joram was wounded in battle with the Syrians and returned to Jezreel to be healed. Jehu then instructed that no one was to leave the city to tell of the King's return.

1. God's Healing Power: Finding Strength in Times of Weakness

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following Instructions in Troubling Times

1. 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.

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 heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

2 Kings 9:16 So Jehu rode in a chariot, and went to Jezreel; for Joram lay there. And Ahaziah king of Judah was come down to see Joram.

Jehu rode in a chariot to Jezreel to visit Joram, who was being visited by Ahaziah, the king of Judah.

1. God's Plan Unfolds: How the Lord Guides Us Through Unexpected Circumstances

2. The Power of Loyalty: How We Should Be Faithful to God and Each Other

1. 2 Kings 9:16

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.

2 Kings 9:17 And there stood a watchman on the tower in Jezreel, and he spied the company of Jehu as he came, and said, I see a company. And Joram said, Take an horseman, and send to meet them, and let him say, Is it peace?

A watchman in Jezreel spotted a company of Jehu coming and Joram sent a horseman to inquire if it was peace.

1. Be on the watch for opportunities for peace.

2. Respond quickly to promote understanding and peace.

1. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

2. Philippians 4:7 - "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2 Kings 9:18 So there went one on horseback to meet him, and said, Thus saith the king, Is it peace? And Jehu said, What hast thou to do with peace? turn thee behind me. And the watchman told, saying, The messenger came to them, but he cometh not again.

A messenger was sent to meet Jehu to ask if there was peace, but Jehu responded with a question and the messenger did not return.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Responses Impact Others

2. Trusting God in Unsettling Times

1. Proverbs 15:1: "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

2. James 3:17: "But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere."

2 Kings 9:19 Then he sent out a second on horseback, which came to them, and said, Thus saith the king, Is it peace? And Jehu answered, What hast thou to do with peace? turn thee behind me.

Jehu was asked by a messenger if there was peace, to which he responded with a question, asking what the messenger had to do with peace.

1. Learning to discern when peace is offered and when it is not.

2. The importance of understanding our place in peace negotiations.

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. 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 Kings 9:20 And the watchman told, saying, He came even unto them, and cometh not again: and the driving is like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi; for he driveth furiously.

A watchman reported that someone had arrived but did not return and the driving was similar to that of Jehu, the son of Nimshi, who drove furiously.

1. How to Drive with Purpose and Passion

2. What Does Godly Fury Look Like?

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.

2 Kings 9:21 And Joram said, Make ready. And his chariot was made ready. And Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah went out, each in his chariot, and they went out against Jehu, and met him in the portion of Naboth the Jezreelite.

Joram and Ahaziah, the kings of Israel and Judah, respectively, went out in their chariots to meet Jehu at the portion of Naboth the Jezreelite.

1. God's plan is bigger than our own - 2 Chronicles 20:6

2. The importance of obedience - 2 Samuel 12:13-14

1. Isaiah 55:8-9

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13

2 Kings 9:22 And it came to pass, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, Is it peace, Jehu? And he answered, What peace, so long as the whoredoms of thy mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts are so many?

Joram asked Jehu if there was peace, and Jehu responded that peace could not be achieved while Jezebel's whoredoms and witchcrafts were still present.

1. The Consequences of Sin: The Danger of Idolatry and Neglecting God's Covenant

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Turning Away from Sin, and Turning to God

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 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 Kings 9:23 And Joram turned his hands, and fled, and said to Ahaziah, There is treachery, O Ahaziah.

Joram warned Ahaziah that there was treachery against him.

1. God's Warning - Guard your heart and be alert for deceptions.

2. God's Protection - Trust in the Lord and He will keep you safe.

1. Psalm 91:11 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

2. Proverbs 4:23 - Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

2 Kings 9:24 And Jehu drew a bow with his full strength, and smote Jehoram between his arms, and the arrow went out at his heart, and he sunk down in his chariot.

Jehu shot an arrow at Jehoram with all his strength, and it pierced his heart and he died in his chariot.

1. The Power of the Arrow: How God Uses Our Weakness to Accomplish His Purposes

2. The Strength of Jehu s Faith: Standing Up for What is Right and Following 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. Matthew 10:31 - So don t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

2 Kings 9:25 Then said Jehu to Bidkar his captain, Take up, and cast him in the portion of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite: for remember how that, when I and thou rode together after Ahab his father, the LORD laid this burden upon him;

Passage Jehu orders his captain to cast Naboth in the portion of the field in Jezreel, reminding him of how the LORD laid a burden on Ahab.

1. Living with the Consequences of Our Choices

2. The Weight of Sin and its Consequences

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. 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 Kings 9:26 Surely I have seen yesterday the blood of Naboth, and the blood of his sons, saith the LORD; and I will requite thee in this plat, saith the LORD. Now therefore take and cast him into the plat of ground, according to the word of the LORD.

God tells Jehu to punish Ahab for murdering Naboth and his sons by throwing him into a plat of ground.

1. The consequences of sin: the story of Ahab and Naboth

2. God's promise of retribution for the unjust

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 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."

2 Kings 9:27 But when Ahaziah the king of Judah saw this, he fled by the way of the garden house. And Jehu followed after him, and said, Smite him also in the chariot. And they did so at the going up to Gur, which is by Ibleam. And he fled to Megiddo, and died there.

Ahaziah, King of Judah, was pursued by Jehu and was killed at Megiddo.

1. God's judgment is inevitable, and it is wise to accept it.

2. No one can escape the consequences of their own actions.

1. 2 Kings 9:27

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 Kings 9:28 And his servants carried him in a chariot to Jerusalem, and buried him in his sepulchre with his fathers in the city of David.

Jehu was buried with his ancestors in the city of David in Jerusalem.

1. God is faithful to keep His promises to those who follow Him.

2. The importance of honoring our ancestors.

1. Psalm 37:11 - But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

2. 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.

2 Kings 9:29 And in the eleventh year of Joram the son of Ahab began Ahaziah to reign over Judah.

In the eleventh year of Joram, Ahaziah began to reign over Judah.

1. God's Sovereignty - How God's Sovereignty is Evident in the Reign of Kings

2. The Sovereignty of God - Understanding God's Supreme Authority in our Lives

1. Psalm 146:10 - The Lord will reign forever; your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

2. Romans 13:1 - Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.

2 Kings 9:30 And when Jehu was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she painted her face, and tired her head, and looked out at a window.

Jehu arrived in Jezreel and was informed of Jezebel's presence. Jezebel then prepared herself and looked out of a window.

1. The Value in Preparing for Life's Challenges

2. Jezebel's Story: A Warning of Pride

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

2 Kings 9:31 And as Jehu entered in at the gate, she said, Had Zimri peace, who slew his master?

Jehu enters the gate and is asked a question by a woman about whether Zimri, who had killed his master, had found peace.

1. The Power of a Good Question: How Our Questions Reflect Our Faith

2. Seeking Justice: The Example of Jehu

1. Proverbs 1:5 - Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance.

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 Kings 9:32 And he lifted up his face to the window, and said, Who is on my side? who? And there looked out to him two or three eunuchs.

Jehu asked who was on his side from the window of the palace and two or three eunuchs looked out.

1. "God Needs Our Support: The Story of Jehu"

2. "The Strength of the Few: The Power of Small Numbers"

1. 2 Kings 9:32

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."

2 Kings 9:33 And he said, Throw her down. So they threw her down: and some of her blood was sprinkled on the wall, and on the horses: and he trode her under foot.

Jehu ordered the death of Jezebel by throwing her down from a high place and then trampling her underfoot.

1. The Danger of Idolatry in 2 Kings 9:33

2. God's Judgment on Jezebel in 2 Kings 9:33

1. Deuteronomy 5:7-8 - "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."

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself."

2 Kings 9:34 And when he was come in, he did eat and drink, and said, Go, see now this cursed woman, and bury her: for she is a king's daughter.

After arriving in Jezreel, Jehu orders to go and bury the cursed woman who is a king's daughter.

1. The Importance of Honoring the King's Daughter

2. The Dangers of Cursed Speech

1. Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

2. Ephesians 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

2 Kings 9:35 And they went to bury her: but they found no more of her than the skull, and the feet, and the palms of her hands.

A group of people went to bury a woman, but all that remained were her skull, feet, and hands.

1: We are all called by God to use our hands and feet for His glory.

2: Our lives on Earth are temporary and fleeting.

1: Ecclesiastes 12:7 And the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

2: John 12:25 Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

2 Kings 9:36 Wherefore they came again, and told him. And he said, This is the word of the LORD, which he spake by his servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, In the portion of Jezreel shall dogs eat the flesh of Jezebel:

The word of the Lord, spoken through Elijah the Tishbite, prophesied that dogs would eat the flesh of Jezebel in the portion of Jezreel.

1. The Power of God's Word: Understanding the Authority of God's Spoken Word

2. The Faithfulness of God's Word: Trusting God's Promises and Prophecies

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.

2 Kings 9:37 And the carcase of Jezebel shall be as dung upon the face of the field in the portion of Jezreel; so that they shall not say, This is Jezebel.

Jezebel's body was to be treated like dung and her name would not be remembered.

1. The Power of Humility: Humility before God leads to an eternal legacy.

2. The Consequence of Pride: Pride leads to humiliation and is forgotten.

1. Proverbs 15:33 - The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

2. Psalm 10:4 - The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.

2 Kings chapter 10 describes Jehu's ruthless actions to eliminate the descendants and followers of Ahab, as well as his zeal for destroying idolatry in Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Jehu sending letters to the officials and elders of Samaria, instructing them to choose a successor from among Ahab's sons and prepare for a confrontation. Unbeknownst to them, Jehu plans to eliminate all the remaining members of Ahab's family (2 Kings 10:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: In obedience to Jehu's command, the officials gather seventy sons of Ahab in Samaria. Jehu enters the city and summons the people, declaring his loyalty to God and his intention to carry out divine judgment against the house of Ahab. He orders the execution of all seventy sons and displays their heads at the city gate (2 Kings 10:8-11).

3rd Paragraph: Jehu then proceeds to exterminate all those associated with Ahab including relatives, friends, priests, and supporters. He devises a plan where he invites all Baal worshippers in Israel for a great sacrifice but secretly sets up an ambush. Once they are assembled in Baal's temple, he slaughters them all and destroys Baal's temple completely (2 Kings 10:12-28).

4th Paragraph:The narrative continues with Jehu eliminating worshipers of Asherah as well destroying her sacred pillar and temple. However, despite these actions against idolatry Jehu does not follow God wholeheartedly but instead continues in the sins of Jeroboam by allowing golden calves at Bethel and Dan (2 Kings 10;29-31).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning various details about Jehu s reign including his military victories over enemies such as Hazael the king of Aram and how he ruled over Israel for twenty-eight years before passing away (2 Kings 10;32-36).

In summary, Chapter ten of 2 Kings depicts Jehu's ruthless actions, destruction of idolatry, Ahab s descendants slain, Baal worshippers meet their fate. Asherah worship also destroyed, but incomplete devotion remains. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine judgment upon wickedness, the consequences of following false gods, and partial obedience leading to spiritual compromise.

2 Kings 10:1 And Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria. And Jehu wrote letters, and sent to Samaria, unto the rulers of Jezreel, to the elders, and to them that brought up Ahab's children, saying,

Jehu wrote letters to the rulers of Jezreel, elders, and those who raised Ahab's seventy children in Samaria.

1. God's Plan for Every Person: A Study of Jehu's Letters to Ahab's Children

2. Obedience to God: Following Jehu's Example

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

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.

2 Kings 10:2 Now as soon as this letter cometh to you, seeing your master's sons are with you, and there are with you chariots and horses, a fenced city also, and armour;

A letter came to the people of Jehu telling them that he was appointed king and that they should join his army with chariots, horses, and armor.

1. Trust in the Lord's Plan - 2 Kings 10:2

2. Step Out in Faith - 2 Kings 10:2

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid or discouraged for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2 Kings 10:3 Look even out the best and meetest of your master's sons, and set him on his father's throne, and fight for your master's house.

Jehu was instructed to look for the most suitable of Ahab's sons and set him on the throne to fight for Ahab's house.

1. The Power of Obedience - We can reap the benefits of obedience when we follow God's instructions.

2. The Strength of Unity - Working together and unifying under God's will can bring about strength.

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 like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart."

2. 2 Chronicles 15:7 - "Be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.

2 Kings 10:4 But they were exceedingly afraid, and said, Behold, two kings stood not before him: how then shall we stand?

The people of Israel were afraid when they heard of Jehu's powerfulness, believing that no other kings could stand against him.

1. God's power is greater than any human power.

2. We need to trust God and not be afraid.

1. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

2. Isaiah 41:13 - For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, 'Fear not, I will help you.

2 Kings 10:5 And he that was over the house, and he that was over the city, the elders also, and the bringers up of the children, sent to Jehu, saying, We are thy servants, and will do all that thou shalt bid us; we will not make any king: do thou that which is good in thine eyes.

The leaders of a city sent a message to Jehu pledging their loyalty and offering to obey his commands.

1. God calls us to serve Him and others faithfully

2. Our loyalty and obedience are an expression of our faithfulness

1. Joshua 24:15 - "Choose you this day whom ye will serve;... but as for me and my house, we will serve 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."

2 Kings 10:6 Then he wrote a letter the second time to them, saying, If ye be mine, and if ye will hearken unto my voice, take ye the heads of the men your master's sons, and come to me to Jezreel by to morrow this time. Now the king's sons, being seventy persons, were with the great men of the city, which brought them up.

The King of Israel wrote a letter to the citizens of Jezreel, demanding that they bring the heads of the 70 sons of the former king to him as a sign of loyalty.

1. Loyalty to God is greater than loyalty to any earthly ruler.

2. Obeying God's commands is the path to righteousness.

1. Matthew 10:37-39 - "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; and he who does not take his cross and follow 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 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 Kings 10:7 And it came to pass, when the letter came to them, that they took the king's sons, and slew seventy persons, and put their heads in baskets, and sent him them to Jezreel.

The people of Jezreel received a letter and in response, killed seventy people and sent their heads in baskets to Jezreel.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Words Can Impact Lives

2. The Consequences of Our Actions: What Happens When We Respond in Haste

1. James 3:5-6 So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.

2. Matthew 12:36-37 But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

2 Kings 10:8 And there came a messenger, and told him, saying, They have brought the heads of the king's sons. And he said, Lay ye them in two heaps at the entering in of the gate until the morning.

A messenger informed the king that the heads of his sons had been brought and instructed the king to place them in two heaps at the entrance of the gate until morning.

1. The Importance of Following God's Instructions

2. Do Not Be Quick to Take Vengeance

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. Proverbs 24:17 - Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth.

2 Kings 10:9 And it came to pass in the morning, that he went out, and stood, and said to all the people, Ye be righteous: behold, I conspired against my master, and slew him: but who slew all these?

Jehu killed King Joram, but the people questioned who killed the others.

1. God is sovereign and is ultimately in control.

2. We can trust that God will bring justice.

1. Psalm 33:10-11 "The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect. The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations."

2. Proverbs 16:9 "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps."

2 Kings 10:10 Know now that there shall fall unto the earth nothing of the word of the LORD, which the LORD spake concerning the house of Ahab: for the LORD hath done that which he spake by his servant Elijah.

The Lord fulfilled His word through His servant Elijah concerning the house of Ahab.

1. Faithful Fulfillment: Trusting in the Lord and His Promises

2. God's Promise: Knowing the Lord's Word Will Come to Pass

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. Philippians 1:6 - Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

2 Kings 10:11 So Jehu slew all that remained of the house of Ahab in Jezreel, and all his great men, and his kinsfolks, and his priests, until he left him none remaining.

Jehu killed all of the remaining members of Ahab's family in Jezreel, including his great men, relatives and priests.

1. We must be faithful to God and His commands, no matter the cost.

2. We must be willing to take action and stand for what is right.

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. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

2. Matthew 16:24-26 - Whoever would come after me must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?

2 Kings 10:12 And he arose and departed, and came to Samaria. And as he was at the shearing house in the way,

Jehu left Jezreel and traveled to Samaria, where he encountered someone at a shearing house.

1: We can learn from Jehu's example of obedience, even when it takes us to unexpected places.

2: Following God's will can lead us to unexpected encounters and 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 acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

2: Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added to you.

2 Kings 10:13 Jehu met with the brethren of Ahaziah king of Judah, and said, Who are ye? And they answered, We are the brethren of Ahaziah; and we go down to salute the children of the king and the children of the queen.

Jehu meets with the brothers of Ahaziah, king of Judah, and inquires who they are. They respond that they are the brothers of Ahaziah and they are on their way to pay respect to the royal family.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning from Jehu's Encounter with Ahaziah's Brothers

2. The Significance of Brotherhood: Exploring the Relationship between Ahaziah's Brothers and the Royal Family

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. 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 Kings 10:14 And he said, Take them alive. And they took them alive, and slew them at the pit of the shearing house, even two and forty men; neither left he any of them.

Jehu orders the execution of 42 men and leaves none of them alive.

1. The Power of Obedience: How following God's commands can lead to success.

2. God's Justice: How God's righteousness is revealed through the execution of judgement.

1. 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.

22 On that day many will say to me, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles? 23 Then I will tell them plainly, I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!

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.

2 Kings 10:15 And when he was departed thence, he lighted on Jehonadab the son of Rechab coming to meet him: and he saluted him, and said to him, Is thine heart right, as my heart is with thy heart? And Jehonadab answered, It is. If it be, give me thine hand. And he gave him his hand; and he took him up to him into the chariot.

Jehonadab and King Jehu have a meaningful conversation about faith and loyalty.

1. The importance of having faith in God and how it can strengthen relationships

2. Loyalty and commitment to God and others

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 12:10 - "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

2 Kings 10:16 And he said, Come with me, and see my zeal for the LORD. So they made him ride in his chariot.

Jehu was instructed to show his zeal for the Lord and was made to ride in his chariot.

1. The Power of Zeal for the Lord

2. Exploring Obedience to God's Call

1. Romans 12:11 - Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - The Armor of God, Stand firm therefore.

2 Kings 10:17 And when he came to Samaria, he slew all that remained unto Ahab in Samaria, till he had destroyed him, according to the saying of the LORD, which he spake to Elijah.

Jehu killed all who remained loyal to Ahab in Samaria in fulfillment of the prophecy of the Lord given to Elijah.

1. The Power of God's Word - How God's promises can shape our lives

2. God's Judgment - How we should learn to submit and obey God's will

1. 2 Kings 10:17 - And when he came to Samaria, he slew all that remained unto Ahab in Samaria, till he had destroyed him, according to the saying of the LORD, which he spake to Elijah.

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.

2 Kings 10:18 And Jehu gathered all the people together, and said unto them, Ahab served Baal a little; but Jehu shall serve him much.

Jehu addressed the people and declared that whereas Ahab had only served Baal a little, he would serve him much more.

1. The Necessity of Fully Dedicating Ourselves to God

2. The Dangers of Serving Baal

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 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 Kings 10:19 Now therefore call unto me all the prophets of Baal, all his servants, and all his priests; let none be wanting: for I have a great sacrifice to do to Baal; whosoever shall be wanting, he shall not live. But Jehu did it in subtilty, to the intent that he might destroy the worshippers of Baal.

Jehu plotted to destroy the worshippers of Baal by calling upon all of Baal's prophets, servants, and priests to attend a great sacrifice.

1. The Wisdom of Jehu: Discovering God's Providence in Unexpected Places

2. Strength in Subtlety: God's Power to Overcome Evil

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 31:1 - Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many and in horsemen because they are very strong, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel or consult the Lord!

2 Kings 10:20 And Jehu said, Proclaim a solemn assembly for Baal. And they proclaimed it.

Jehu commanded the people to proclaim a solemn assembly for Baal.

1. The Danger of Spiritual Compromise

2. Stand Firm for the Lord

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

2 Kings 10:21 And Jehu sent through all Israel: and all the worshippers of Baal came, so that there was not a man left that came not. And they came into the house of Baal; and the house of Baal was full from one end to another.

Jehu sent a proclamation throughout Israel and all the worshippers of Baal gathered at the house of Baal, filling it from end to end.

1. The Power of Gathering: How Uniting in Faith Brings Strength

2. The Importance of Loyalty and Obedience: Staying Faithful to God

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. Acts 2:1-4 - When the Day of Pentecost had 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 the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

2 Kings 10:22 And he said unto him that was over the vestry, Bring forth vestments for all the worshippers of Baal. And he brought them forth vestments.

Jehu commanded the temple servants to bring out clothing for the worshippers of Baal.

1. The Danger of Idolatry.

2. The Majesty of God's Word.

1. 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."

2. Psalm 119:105 "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

2 Kings 10:23 And Jehu went, and Jehonadab the son of Rechab, into the house of Baal, and said unto the worshippers of Baal, Search, and look that there be here with you none of the servants of the LORD, but the worshippers of Baal only.

Jehu and Jehonadab went to the house of Baal and instructed the Baal worshipers to make sure there were no servants of the LORD present.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Loyalty of Jehonadab

1. Jeremiah 25:6 - Do not follow other gods to serve and worship them; do not provoke me to anger with the works of your hands.

2. 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 Kings 10:24 And when they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings, Jehu appointed fourscore men without, and said, If any of the men whom I have brought into your hands escape, he that letteth him go, his life shall be for the life of him.

Jehu appointed eighty men to guard the temple and declared that anyone who allowed someone to escape would pay with their life.

1. The Power of God's Grace in the Face of Human Sacrifice

2. The Responsibility of Protecting God's House

1. Exodus 12:12-13; 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.

2. 1 Timothy 3:15; But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

2 Kings 10:25 And it came to pass, as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, that Jehu said to the guard and to the captains, Go in, and slay them; let none come forth. And they smote them with the edge of the sword; and the guard and the captains cast them out, and went to the city of the house of Baal.

Jehu commanded the guard and the captains to slay all the worshippers of Baal, and they complied.

1. Serving God Requires Sacrifice

2. Standing Firm In Faith

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. 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 Kings 10:26 And they brought forth the images out of the house of Baal, and burned them.

The people of Israel removed and burned the images of Baal from the house of Baal.

1. The Greatness of Obedience: Why Obeying God's Commands Brings Blessings

2. The Power of Faith: How to Persevere Against Unbelief

1. 2 Kings 10:26 - And they brought forth the images out of the house of Baal, and burned them.

2. Isaiah 45:5-7 - 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. I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the Lord, who does all these things.

2 Kings 10:27 And they brake down the image of Baal, and brake down the house of Baal, and made it a draught house unto this day.

The people of Israel destroyed the temple of Baal and converted it into a public restroom.

1. The Power of God's People to Overcome Temptation

2. The Consequences of Idol Worship

1. Deuteronomy 6:14-15 - You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around 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.

2 Kings 10:28 Thus Jehu destroyed Baal out of Israel.

Jehu destroyed Baal and its worship from Israel.

1. God is always in control and is able to remove any idols or false gods from our lives.

2. We must always seek to please God by ridding ourselves of any idols or false gods that we may have.

1. Exodus 20:3 - "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

2. Ezekiel 20:7 - "Then said I unto them, Cast away every man the abominations of his eyes, and defile not yourselves with the idols of Egypt: I am the LORD your God."

2 Kings 10:29 Howbeit from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, Jehu departed not from after them, to wit, the golden calves that were in Bethel, and that were in Dan.

Jehu did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, and still kept the golden calves in Bethel and Dan.

1. The Danger of Imitating Sin

2. The Power of God's Forgiveness

1. Psalm 119:11 - "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

2. Romans 6:12 - "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof."

2 Kings 10:30 And the LORD said unto Jehu, Because thou hast done well in executing that which is right in mine eyes, and hast done unto the house of Ahab according to all that was in mine heart, thy children of the fourth generation shall sit on the throne of Israel.

God commended Jehu for faithfully carrying out God's will and promised that Jehu's descendants would be kings of Israel.

1. God's promises are reliable and trustworthy

2. Our obedience to God is rewarded

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 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 Kings 10:31 But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD God of Israel with all his heart: for he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam, which made Israel to sin.

Jehu did not fully follow the Lord and continued to practice the sins of Jeroboam which had caused the people of Israel to sin.

1. The Lord calls us to follow Him faithfully, not to compromise and remain in sin.

2. We must strive to uphold the Lord's laws and be examples of the righteousness found in Him.

1. Romans 6:1-2 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

2. 1 John 2:1-2 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

2 Kings 10:32 In those days the LORD began to cut Israel short: and Hazael smote them in all the coasts of Israel;

The Lord began to reduce Israel's power and authority, and Hazael conquered them in all the regions of Israel.

1. God's Sovereignty in Tough Times

2. Relying on God When We Walk Through Dark Valleys

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 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 Kings 10:33 From Jordan eastward, all the land of Gilead, the Gadites, and the Reubenites, and the Manassites, from Aroer, which is by the river Arnon, even Gilead and Bashan.

This passage describes a region east of the Jordan river, including the lands of the Gileadites, Reubenites, and Manassites, extending from Aroer to Gilead and Bashan.

1. God's Promise of Land to His People: A Story of Fulfillment in 2 Kings 10:33

2. The Blessings of Obedience: A Study of 2 Kings 10:33

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. But the Lord s portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage.

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, the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites.

2 Kings 10:34 Now the rest of the acts of Jehu, and all that he did, and all his might, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

1: Just as Jehu was mighty and courageous, we too can be courageous in our faith and trust in God.

2: Jehu's faithfulness to God is an example of how we should strive to draw closer to God.

1: 2 Timothy 1:7 - For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

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.

2 Kings 10:35 And Jehu slept with his fathers: and they buried him in Samaria. And Jehoahaz his son reigned in his stead.

Jehu died and was buried in Samaria, and his son Jehoahaz succeeded him.

1. The Transience of Life: Reflecting on the Legacy of Jehu

2. Passing the Torch: Embracing the Responsibility of Leadership

1. 2 Corinthians 4:18 - 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 3:1-2 - There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die.

2 Kings 10:36 And the time that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria was twenty and eight years.

Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria for 28 years.

1. The Power of God's Sovereignty (2 Kings 10:36)

2. The Benefits of Serving the Lord Wholeheartedly (2 Kings 10:36)

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 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 Kings chapter 11 recounts the reign of Athaliah, the wicked queen of Judah, and the subsequent rise of Joash as king.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Athaliah, the mother of Ahaziah, who takes control of the kingdom after her son's death. In her desire to secure her power, she orders the execution of all potential heirs to the throne, including her own grandchildren (2 Kings 11:1).

2nd Paragraph: However, one infant son named Joash is secretly rescued by his aunt Jehosheba and hidden in the temple for six years. During this time, Athaliah rules over Judah with idolatry and wickedness (2 Kings 11:2-3).

3rd Paragraph: In the seventh year, Jehoiada the high priest organizes a plan to overthrow Athaliah. He gathers loyal soldiers from among the priests and Levites and reveals young Joash as the rightful heir to the throne. They anoint him as king and proclaim him before Athaliah's presence (2 Kings 11:4-12).

4th Paragraph:The sound of trumpets and shouts causes Athaliah to come out from her palace to investigate. When she sees Joash being crowned king according to God's commandment, she tears her clothes in anguish but is swiftly captured by Jehoiada's forces. She is executed outside the temple (2 Kings 11;13-16).

5th Paragraph:The narrative continues with Jehoiada making a covenant between God, Joash, and all those present at this significant event pledging their allegiance to Yahweh as their God while demolishing Baal s temple along with its altars (2 Kings 11;17-18).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by describing how Joash begins his reign at seven years old under Jehoiada s guidance restoring true worship in Judah while idolatry is eradicated. The people rejoice over his coronation (2 Kings 11;19-21).

In summary, Chapter eleven of 2 Kings depicts Athaliah's wicked reign, Joash's secret preservation, Jehoiada orchestrates a plan, Joash anointed as king. Athaliah overthrown, true worship restored. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine preservation amidst evil rulership, the faithfulness of those who protect God's chosen leaders, and restoration through righteous leadership committed to true worship.

2 Kings 11:1 And when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal.

Athaliah, the mother of Ahaziah, destroyed all the royal seed after her son's death.

1. How to Overcome Grief and Find Comfort in God

2. The Perils of Unchecked Power

1. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

2. Proverbs 21:30 - "There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the Lord."

2 Kings 11:2 But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons which were slain; and they hid him, even him and his nurse, in the bedchamber from Athaliah, so that he was not slain.

Jehosheba, the daughter of King Joram, rescued her nephew, Joash, from being slain by Athaliah by hiding him and his nurse in the bedchamber.

1. God's faithfulness is greater than any danger we face.

2. We can trust God to provide a way of escape from any situation.

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. Psalm 91:2-3 - "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."

2 Kings 11:3 And he was with her hid in the house of the LORD six years. And Athaliah did reign over the land.

Athaliah, the daughter of King Ahab and Queen Jezebel, reigned over the land for six years while hiding in the temple of the Lord.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How God Can Rule Even in Hiding

2. The Power of Patience: Athaliah's Six-Year Wait

1. Matthew 6:6 - But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret.

2. Isaiah 45:15 - Truly, You are a God who hides himself, O God of Israel, the Savior.

2 Kings 11:4 And the seventh year Jehoiada sent and fetched the rulers over hundreds, with the captains and the guard, and brought them to him into the house of the LORD, and made a covenant with them, and took an oath of them in the house of the LORD, and shewed them the king's son.

Jehoiada gathered the rulers, captains, and guard and brought them into the house of the LORD where he made a covenant with them and showed them the king's son.

1. Keeping Your Covenant - Understanding the importance of keeping promises to God and others.

2. The Covenant of the King's Son - Understanding the importance of protecting God's anointed.

1. 2 Kings 11:4

2. Romans 12:18 - "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

2 Kings 11:5 And he commanded them, saying, This is the thing that ye shall do; A third part of you that enter in on the sabbath shall even be keepers of the watch of the king's house;

The King commanded a third of his people entering on the Sabbath to be keepers of the royal palace.

1. "The Blessing of Obedience: A Study of 2 Kings 11:5"

2. "The Importance of Rest: Finding Balance in 2 Kings 11:5"

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. 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 Kings 11:6 And a third part shall be at the gate of Sur; and a third part at the gate behind the guard: so shall ye keep the watch of the house, that it be not broken down.

The people of Judah were instructed to keep watch at three gates of the city to ensure that the house of the Lord was not destroyed.

1. God's Protection: Trusting in the Lord to Keep Us Safe

2. The Importance of Diligent Watchfulness

1. Psalm 91:11 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

2. Proverbs 8:34 - Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.

2 Kings 11:7 And two parts of all you that go forth on the sabbath, even they shall keep the watch of the house of the LORD about the king.

Jehoiada the priest commanded that two parts of the people that attended the Sabbath services guard the house of the Lord to protect King Joash.

1. The importance of protecting God's house and those within it.

2. Jehoiada's faithfulness to the Lord and the leading example he set for his people.

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. 1 Peter 4:17 - For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

2 Kings 11:8 And ye shall compass the king round about, every man with his weapons in his hand: and he that cometh within the ranges, let him be slain: and be ye with the king as he goeth out and as he cometh in.

The people of Judah were instructed to protect King Jehoiada with weapons and to kill anyone who got too close.

1. Protecting God's Leaders

2. The Power of Unity

1. Acts 4:23-31

2. Psalm 133:1-3

2 Kings 11:9 And the captains over the hundreds did according to all things that Jehoiada the priest commanded: and they took every man his men that were to come in on the sabbath, with them that should go out on the sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest.

Jehoiada the priest gave orders to the captains of the hundreds and they followed them, sending their men out and in on the sabbath.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following God's instructions can bring about blessing

2. The Strength of Unity - How standing together in God's will can bring about success

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers.

2. Philippians 2:1-4 - Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

2 Kings 11:10 And to the captains over hundreds did the priest give king David's spears and shields, that were in the temple of the LORD.

The priest gave the captains of hundreds King David's spears and shields that were in the Temple of the LORD.

1. The importance of taking care of the Lord's possessions. 2. Our responsibility to honor those in authority.

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. 2 Timothy 2:15 - Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

2 Kings 11:11 And the guard stood, every man with his weapons in his hand, round about the king, from the right corner of the temple to the left corner of the temple, along by the altar and the temple.

The guard surrounded King Jehoiada in the temple, with their weapons in hand, from one corner to the other corner and by the altar.

1. The importance of faithfulness in times of uncertainty

2. Standing for what is right in the face of opposition

1. Psalm 5:11 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.

2. Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2 Kings 11:12 And he brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and gave him the testimony; and they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, God save the king.

1: Through God's help, we have the power to overcome any obstacle.

2: Even in difficult times, God will provide the strength and courage we need to succeed.

1: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2: 2 Chronicles 15:7 - Be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.

2 Kings 11:13 And when Athaliah heard the noise of the guard and of the people, she came to the people into the temple of the LORD.

Athaliah heard the noise of the guard and the people and went to the temple of the LORD.

1. Hear the Call of God - 2 Kings 11:13

2. Follow the Lord's Voice - 2 Kings 11:13

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. 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 Kings 11:14 And when she looked, behold, the king stood by a pillar, as the manner was, and the princes and the trumpeters by the king, and all the people of the land rejoiced, and blew with trumpets: and Athaliah rent her clothes, and cried, Treason, Treason.

Athaliah, the queen of Judah, was shocked to see the king standing by a pillar surrounded by princes and trumpeters as the people of the land rejoiced and blew trumpets. Athaliah then tore her clothes and shouted treason.

1. God is in control and His will will be done even when it is unexpected and shocking.

2. We must remain humble and recognize that our plans and expectations are nothing compared to God's.

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 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 Kings 11:15 But Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of the hundreds, the officers of the host, and said unto them, Have her forth without the ranges: and him that followeth her kill with the sword. For the priest had said, Let her not be slain in the house of the LORD.

Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of the hundreds to take the woman out of the temple and kill anyone who followed her with the sword, as he did not want her to be killed inside the temple.

1. The Power of Leadership and Authority

2. The Sacredness of the House of the Lord

1. Matthew 28:18-20 - And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

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!

2 Kings 11:16 And they laid hands on her; and she went by the way by the which the horses came into the king's house: and there was she slain.

Jehu's men killed Athaliah when she tried to enter the palace.

1. Don't be like Athaliah - Relying on your own strength will lead to destruction.

2. Trust in the Lord - Rely on Him to deliver you from harm.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.

6. 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 Kings 11:17 And Jehoiada made a covenant between the LORD and the king and the people, that they should be the LORD's people; between the king also and the people.

Jehoiada made a covenant between God, the king, and the people, that they would be God's people and have a relationship between the king and the people.

1. The Power of Covenant: How to Maintain an Enduring Relationship with God

2. Establishing a Covenant with God: Living in Obedience to His Will

1. Jeremiah 31:31-34: 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. But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

2. Hebrews 8:7-13: For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when 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 when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 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: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

2 Kings 11:18 And all the people of the land went into the house of Baal, and brake it down; his altars and his images brake they in pieces thoroughly, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed officers over the house of the LORD.

The people of the land destroyed the house of Baal and its idols, and killed the priest of Baal. The priest then appointed officers over the house of the Lord.

1. God's Strength Overcomes All Things - 2 Chronicles 32:7-8

2. The Power of Obeying God - Joshua 1:5-9

1. Matthew 16:18 - 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.

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.

2 Kings 11:19 And he took the rulers over hundreds, and the captains, and the guard, and all the people of the land; and they brought down the king from the house of the LORD, and came by the way of the gate of the guard to the king's house. And he sat on the throne of the kings.

The rulers, captains, guard, and people of the land brought the king from the house of the LORD to the king's house, where he sat on the throne of the kings.

1. The Power of the People: The Importance of Community

2. Understanding Obedience: The Significance of Submission

1. Matthew 22:21 - "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's"

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 Kings 11:20 And all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was in quiet: and they slew Athaliah with the sword beside the king's house.

Athaliah was killed with the sword beside the king's house and the people of the land rejoiced.

1. The Power of Unity - A look at the people of the land coming together to defeat a common enemy.

2. The Consequence of Rebellion - Examining the consequences of Athaliah's actions and how those consequences led to her death.

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - Unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. Proverbs 28:4 - Those who forsake the law praise the wicked.

2 Kings 11:21 Seven years old was Jehoash when he began to reign.

Jehoash began his reign as king of Israel when he was seven years old.

1. The Power of Youth: How Young People Can Accomplish Great Things

2. Living Boldly: Stepping Into Leadership at an Early Age

1. Proverbs 20:29 - The glory of young men is their strength.

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 life, in love, in faith and in purity.

2 Kings chapter 12 describes the reign of Joash as king of Judah and his efforts to repair the temple.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by stating that in the seventh year of his reign, Joash becomes king at the age of seven. He rules over Judah for forty years and does what is right in the sight of the Lord, guided by Jehoiada the priest (2 Kings 12:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Joash recognizes that the temple has fallen into disrepair during previous reigns and decides to initiate a restoration project. He commands that all funds dedicated to God's house be collected from the people and used for repairing any damages or deterioration (2 Kings 12:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: However, after some time, it becomes apparent that progress on repairing the temple has stalled. Therefore, Joash orders a collection chest to be placed outside by the gate so that people can freely contribute funds towards its restoration (2 Kings 12:7-9).

4th Paragraph:The priests and Levites are responsible for collecting these offerings and overseeing repairs. They faithfully carry out their duties, ensuring that necessary repairs are made according to specific guidelines outlined in Moses' law (2 Kings 12;10-16).

5th Paragraph:The narrative concludes with mentioning that even though money collected was not used for making vessels or other personal expenses some was given directly to workmen who carried out repairs there were no strict accountings kept (Kings 22;17-20).

In summary, Chapter twelve of 2 Kings depicts Joash's initiative to repair, the temple's restoration, Funds collected from people, priests oversee repairs. Accounting practices lacking, but progress made nonetheless. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as stewardship in maintaining God's dwelling place, the importance of restoring places of worship, and how faithful leadership can inspire others towards acts of devotion.

2 Kings 12:1 In the seventh year of Jehu Jehoash began to reign; and forty years reigned he in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zibiah of Beersheba.

Jehoash began to reign in the seventh year of Jehu and reigned for forty years in Jerusalem. His mother was Zibiah of Beersheba.

1. God's Timing Is Perfect: Trusting in the Lord's Plan - 2 Kings 12:1

2. God's Faithfulness in the Lives of His People - 2 Kings 12:1

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.

2 Kings 12:2 And Jehoash did that which was right in the sight of the LORD all his days wherein Jehoiada the priest instructed him.

Jehoash followed the instruction of Jehoiada the priest and did what was right in the eyes of the Lord throughout his entire life.

1. The importance of following the guidance of wise counselors.

2. The power of obedience in bringing us closer to God.

1. Proverbs 11:14, "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

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 Kings 12:3 But the high places were not taken away: the people still sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places.

The high places were not removed, and the people continued to offer sacrifices and burn incense in them.

1. "The Danger of Idolatry: The Perils of Relapsing into Old Habits"

2. "The Power of Example: Learning from the Mistakes of Our Ancestors"

1. Jeremiah 7:17-19 - "Do not trust in deceptive words and say, 'This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD!' If you really change your ways and your actions and deal with each other justly, if you do not oppress the foreigner, the fatherless or the widow and do not shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not follow other gods to your own harm, then I will let you live in this place, in the land I gave your ancestors for ever and ever."

2. Hosea 4:11-13 - "The promiscuity of a prostitute is considered a mere bagatelle; she says, 'I will go after my lovers, who give me my food and my water, my wool and my linen, my olive oil and my drink.' Therefore, I am now calling her to account for all her former partners, to whom she paid her whorish vows. I will take away her vineyards and turn them into a forest. I will punish her for the days she burned incense to the Baals; she decked herself with rings and jewelry, and went after her lovers, but forgot me," declares the LORD.

2 Kings 12:4 And Jehoash said to the priests, All the money of the dedicated things that is brought into the house of the LORD, even the money of every one that passeth the account, the money that every man is set at, and all the money that cometh into any man's heart to bring into the house of the LORD,

Jehoash instructs the priests to collect all funds brought to the house of the LORD, including all money people set aside for the house.

1. Our Devotion to God Should Not be Inhibited by Monetary Limitations

2. Generosity: The Key to Appeasing God

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. 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."

2 Kings 12:5 Let the priests take it to them, every man of his acquaintance: and let them repair the breaches of the house, wheresoever any breach shall be found.

The priests were instructed to take money from the people and repair any damages to the temple in Jerusalem.

1. We are called to be good stewards of God's temple.

2. Repairing the temple is a sign of our faith and commitment to God.

1. 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.

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.

2 Kings 12:6 But it was so, that in the three and twentieth year of king Jehoash the priests had not repaired the breaches of the house.

In the 23rd year of King Jehoash's reign, the priests had failed to repair the breaches of the House.

1. God's House Is Our Priority - 2 Kings 12:6

2. The Importance of Fulfilling Our Obligations - 2 Kings 12:6

1. Mark 12:41-44 - Jesus teaching on giving to the temple

2. 1 Chronicles 29:1-9 - David's instructions for building the temple

2 Kings 12:7 Then king Jehoash called for Jehoiada the priest, and the other priests, and said unto them, Why repair ye not the breaches of the house? now therefore receive no more money of your acquaintance, but deliver it for the breaches of the house.

King Jehoash asked the priests why they had not repaired the temple and instructed them to not collect money from the people, but to use the money to repair the temple.

1. We all have a responsibility to God's house.

2. Taking care of the house of the Lord is a priority.

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. 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.

2 Kings 12:8 And the priests consented to receive no more money of the people, neither to repair the breaches of the house.

The priests agreed to not take any more money from the people to repair the temple.

1. The importance of selfless service: 2 Kings 12:8

2. The power of faith to overcome: 2 Kings 12:8

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 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 Kings 12:9 But Jehoiada the priest took a chest, and bored a hole in the lid of it, and set it beside the altar, on the right side as one cometh into the house of the LORD: and the priests that kept the door put therein all the money that was brought into the house of the LORD.

Jehoiada the priest collected offerings that were brought into the house of the Lord and placed them in a chest next to the altar.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Giving Can Transform Your Life

2. The Importance of Stewardship: Why We Should Care for What We've Been Given

1. 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."

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."

2 Kings 12:10 And it was so, when they saw that there was much money in the chest, that the king's scribe and the high priest came up, and they put up in bags, and told the money that was found in the house of the LORD.

The kings scribe and high priest counted and bagged the money found in the house of the LORD.

1. The Importance of Honoring God with our Finances

2. The Rewards of Serving God with Integrity

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.

2 Kings 12:11 And they gave the money, being told, into the hands of them that did the work, that had the oversight of the house of the LORD: and they laid it out to the carpenters and builders, that wrought upon the house of the LORD,

The people of Judah gave money to those in charge of restoring the temple of the Lord, and it was used to pay the carpenters and builders who were working on it.

1. The Importance of Giving: Using our resources to honor God

2. Working Together to Serve God: The power of collaboration

1. Mark 12:41-44 - Jesus praises the widow for her offering

2. 2 Corinthians 8:1-5 - Paul encourages the church to contribute generously

2 Kings 12:12 And to masons, and hewers of stone, and to buy timber and hewed stone to repair the breaches of the house of the LORD, and for all that was laid out for the house to repair it.

This passage describes the purchases made to repair the house of the LORD.

1. The importance of taking care of God's house. 2. The blessings of stewardship.

1. Deuteronomy 15:10 - Give generously to him 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. Psalm 122:6 - Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you be secure.

2 Kings 12:13 Howbeit there were not made for the house of the LORD bowls of silver, snuffers, basons, trumpets, any vessels of gold, or vessels of silver, of the money that was brought into the house of the LORD:

The money that was given to the Lord's house was not used to make silver bowls, snuffers, basons, trumpets, or any other vessels of gold or silver.

1. The importance of being a faithful steward of the resources God has provided us.

2. Being intentional with our giving and how it can bring glory to God.

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce.

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.

2 Kings 12:14 But they gave that to the workmen, and repaired therewith the house of the LORD.

The people of Judah gave money to the workers to repair the House of the Lord.

1. "The Power of Giving: How Small Gifts Can Make a Big Difference"

2. "The Importance of Supporting God's House"

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. 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 Kings 12:15 Moreover they reckoned not with the men, into whose hand they delivered the money to be bestowed on workmen: for they dealt faithfully.

The men in charge of the money for the workmen were faithful in their dealings.

1. The importance of faithfulness in our dealings

2. The value of trust in fulfilling our obligations

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 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 Kings 12:16 The trespass money and sin money was not brought into the house of the LORD: it was the priests'.

The priests were collecting money from trespass and sin offerings, but not bringing it to the temple of the Lord.

1. The Importance of Giving to the Lord's Work

2. The Priest's Role in Stewarding Donations

1. Malachi 3:10 - Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house.

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.

2 Kings 12:17 Then Hazael king of Syria went up, and fought against Gath, and took it: and Hazael set his face to go up to Jerusalem.

Hazael, King of Syria, attacked Gath and took it, and then set his face towards Jerusalem.

1. We should be empowered by the faith of those who have gone before us.

2. Do not be afraid to face difficult situations with courage and determination.

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. Luke 12:4-5 - And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!

2 Kings 12:18 And Jehoash king of Judah took all the hallowed things that Jehoshaphat, and Jehoram, and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had dedicated, and his own hallowed things, and all the gold that was found in the treasures of the house of the LORD, and in the king's house, and sent it to Hazael king of Syria: and he went away from Jerusalem.

Jehoash, king of Judah, removed all holy objects and gold from the temple and king's house and sent them to Hazael, king of Syria.

1. The importance of guarding the things of God

2. The consequences of disregarding God's commands

1. 1 Corinthians 10:14 - Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

2. Jeremiah 17:22-27 - Thus says the Lord: Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord.

2 Kings 12:19 And the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

Joash's actions were recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah.

1. God's Faithfulness: A Study in 2 Kings 12:19

2. The Legacy of Joash: Knowing Your Story in 2 Kings 12:19

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, 25 That Moses commanded the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the Lord, saying, 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.

2. 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: 6 That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children: 7 That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

2 Kings 12:20 And his servants arose, and made a conspiracy, and slew Joash in the house of Millo, which goeth down to Silla.

Joash, King of Judah, was killed by his own servants who formed a conspiracy against him.

1. The Danger of Greed and Power: A Study of Joash and His Servants

2. Trust in God and Not Man: Learning from the Life of Joash

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

2. James 4:14 - What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

2 Kings 12:21 For Jozachar the son of Shimeath, and Jehozabad the son of Shomer, his servants, smote him, and he died; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David: and Amaziah his son reigned in his stead.

Jozachar and Jehozabad, servants of King Jehoash of Judah, killed him and buried him in the city of David, and his son Amaziah succeeded him.

1. Overcoming Sin Through Obedience to God - 2 Chronicles 7:14

2. The Power of Submission to Authority - Romans 13:1-2

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 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: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

2 Kings chapter 13 describes the reigns of Jehoahaz and Jehoash as kings of Israel, their interactions with the prophet Elisha, and the ongoing conflicts with Aram.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Jehoahaz, who becomes king of Israel after his father Jehu's death. Under his rule, Israel continues to worship idols and falls into oppression by King Hazael of Aram (2 Kings 13:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: In response to their distress, the people cry out to God for help. Despite their disobedience, God shows mercy and raises up a deliverer in the form of Jehoahaz. He pleads with God for deliverance from Aram's oppression (2 Kings 13:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: God hears Jehoahaz's prayer and sends Elisha the prophet to deliver a message. Elisha instructs him to shoot an arrow as a symbol of victory against Aram and then strike the ground with arrows as a sign of complete victory. However, Jehoahaz only strikes three times indicating that he will only experience limited success against Aram (2 Kings 13:14-19).

4th Paragraph:Elisha becomes sick and nears death. Before his passing, King Joash (Jehoash) of Israel visits him in tears, expressing his respect for Elisha as a father figure and seeking guidance. In response, Elisha gives Joash instructions on how to defeat Aram symbolizing that he will have temporary victories but not complete annihilation (2 Kings 13;14-19).

5th Paragraph:The narrative concludes by describing various military encounters between Joash and Hazael's forces during which Joash is able to recapture cities from Aram but ultimately fails to fully overcome them. After Elisha's death, he is buried in Samaria while Moabite raiders invade the land shortly thereafter (2 Kings 13;22-25).

In summary, Chapter thirteen of 2 Kings depicts Jehoahaz's reign over Israel, oppression by King Hazael, Cry for deliverance, limited victories foretold. Elisha s guidance sought, temporary successes unfold. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine mercy despite human disobedience, the consequences of idolatry, and how incomplete obedience leads to partial victories rather than complete triumphs.

2 Kings 13:1 In the three and twentieth year of Joash the son of Ahaziah king of Judah Jehoahaz the son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned seventeen years.

Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the 23rd year of Joash, King of Judah, and reigned for 17 years.

1. God's Sovereignty - How God Guided Jehoahaz's Reign

2. Faithfulness in Leadership - Learning from Jehoahaz's Reign

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 75:7 - But it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another.

2 Kings 13:2 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, and followed the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which made Israel to sin; he departed not therefrom.

Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, did evil in the sight of the Lord and followed the sins of Jeroboam.

1. The Danger of Following In the Sins of Others

2. The Consequences of Disobedience to 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. Proverbs 28:13 - Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

2 Kings 13:3 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he delivered them into the hand of Hazael king of Syria, and into the hand of Benhadad the son of Hazael, all their days.

The Lord was angry with Israel and he gave them into the hands of the Syrian King Hazael and his son Benhadad, for the duration of their lives.

1. The Wrath of God Against Sin - Romans 1:18-32

2. The Sovereignty of God - Psalm 103:19

Cross-

1. Isaiah 10:5-6 - "Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger; the staff in their hands is my fury! 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."

2. Romans 9:22 - What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction?

2 Kings 13:4 And Jehoahaz besought the LORD, and the LORD hearkened unto him: for he saw the oppression of Israel, because the king of Syria oppressed them.

Jehoahaz prayed to God for help, and God heard his prayer and saw the people of Israel's oppression under the king of Syria.

1. The Power of Prayer: How to Rely on God in Times of Trouble

2. God Sees Our Struggles: How to Find Comfort in God's Presence

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. 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 Kings 13:5 (And the LORD gave Israel a saviour, so that they went out from under the hand of the Syrians: and the children of Israel dwelt in their tents, as beforetime.

God answered the prayers of the Israelites and delivered them from the Syrians, allowing them to return to their homes.

1. God answers our prayers and delivers us from our enemies when we remain faithful to Him.

2. We can trust God to keep His promises and provide for us in our times of need.

1. Psalm 34:17 (The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.)

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 Kings 13:6 Nevertheless they departed not from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, who made Israel sin, but walked therein: and there remained the grove also in Samaria.)

Despite warnings from the prophet Elisha, the people of Israel continued to follow the sinful ways of Jeroboam.

1. The Danger of Idolatry and Disobedience to God

2. The Consequences of Choosing Sin Over God

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

2. 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 Kings 13:7 Neither did he leave of the people to Jehoahaz but fifty horsemen, and ten chariots, and ten thousand footmen; for the king of Syria had destroyed them, and had made them like the dust by threshing.

Jehoahaz was left with only 50 horsemen, 10 chariots, and 10,000 footmen after the king of Syria destroyed the people of Israel.

1. God's faithfulness is displayed even when we are at our weakest.

2. We may feel powerless, but God is still in control.

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 40:29 - He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might he increases strength.

2 Kings 13:8 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoahaz, and all that he did, and his might, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

This passage recounts the deeds of Jehoahaz, the king of Israel, and states that they are recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1. The Faithfulness of God: How God Remembers Our Good Works

2. The Power of Our Actions: How Our Deeds Impact Eternity

1. Hebrews 6:10 - For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do.

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.

2 Kings 13:9 And Jehoahaz slept with his fathers; and they buried him in Samaria: and Joash his son reigned in his stead.

Jehoahaz died and his son Joash took his place as king.

1. God s faithfulness in fulfilling his promises, even through difficult circumstances (2 Corinthians 1:20)

2. The importance of honoring our fathers (Exodus 20:12)

1. 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.

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.

2 Kings 13:10 In the thirty and seventh year of Joash king of Judah began Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned sixteen years.

Jehoash, the son of Jehoahaz, became the king of Israel in Samaria in the thirty-seventh year of Joash's reign in Judah and he reigned for sixteen years.

1. The importance of legacy in leadership

2. The power of a righteous king

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

2. Jeremiah 22:15-16 - Do you think you are a king because you compete in cedar? Did not your father eat and drink and do justice and righteousness? Then it was well with him. He judged the cause of the poor and needy; then it was well. Is not this to know me? declares the Lord.

2 Kings 13:11 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD; he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin: but he walked therein.

King Jehoash of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord and did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam.

1. The Danger of Following in the Footsteps of Sin

2. The Power of Repentance and Turning Away from Sin

1. Romans 6:12-14 - Do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires

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 Kings 13:12 And the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, and his might wherewith he fought against Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

Joash, the king of Israel, fought against Amaziah, the king of Judah, and his feats and accomplishments are documented in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1. The Power of Faith: Joash's Courage in the Face of Adversity

2. The Miracles of God: Joash's Victorious Battle Against Amaziah

1. 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, administered justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions.

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? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

2 Kings 13:13 And Joash slept with his fathers; and Jeroboam sat upon his throne: and Joash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

Joash, the king of Israel, died and was buried in Samaria with the other kings of Israel, and Jeroboam took his place on the throne.

1. The importance of remaining faithful to God while in positions of power.

2. What is our legacy? How will we be remembered?

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

2. Ecclesiastes 7:1 - A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

2 Kings 13:14 Now Elisha was fallen sick of his sickness whereof he died. And Joash the king of Israel came down unto him, and wept over his face, and said, O my father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof.

King Joash of Israel visits Elisha who is ill and dies shortly thereafter. Joash weeps over Elisha and expresses his sorrow for the loss of the chariot and horsemen of Israel.

1. The importance of showing compassion to others, even in difficult times.

2. The power of prayer in times of sickness and grief.

1. James 5:13-15 - 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. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up.

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 Kings 13:15 And Elisha said unto him, Take bow and arrows. And he took unto him bow and arrows.

Elisha told the man to take bow and arrows and the man obeyed.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following God's instructions can lead to great rewards

2. The Gift of Arrows - How God can equip us for every battle, no matter the size

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. 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 Kings 13:16 And he said to the king of Israel, Put thine hand upon the bow. And he put his hand upon it: and Elisha put his hands upon the king's hands.

Elisha instructed the King of Israel to put his hand on the bow, and Elisha placed his hands on the King's hands.

1. The Power of Touch: The Significance of Physical Contact in Our Spiritual Lives

2. The Importance of Following Instructions from God

1. Ephesians 6:17 - And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

2. Matthew 8:3 - And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

2 Kings 13:17 And he said, Open the window eastward. And he opened it. Then Elisha said, Shoot. And he shot. And he said, The arrow of the LORD's deliverance, and the arrow of deliverance from Syria: for thou shalt smite the Syrians in Aphek, till thou have consumed them.

Elisha instructs the king of Israel to open a window eastward and shoot an arrow as a sign of the LORD's deliverance from Syria.

1. The Power of Faith: How God Grant us Deliverance from Our Troubles

2. The Promise of God's Deliverance: Knowing that He Will Be With Us in Times of Trouble

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?"

2 Kings 13:18 And he said, Take the arrows. And he took them. And he said unto the king of Israel, Smite upon the ground. And he smote thrice, and stayed.

A prophet tells the King of Israel to take arrows and smite the ground three times.

1. The Power of Obedience: Understanding the importance of following God s guidance.

2. Learning How to Persevere: Discovering strength through Christ in difficult moments.

1. John 14:15-17 - If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

2 Kings 13:19 And the man of God was wroth with him, and said, Thou shouldest have smitten five or six times; then hadst thou smitten Syria till thou hadst consumed it: whereas now thou shalt smite Syria but thrice.

God expects us to do our best in all that we do.

1. Striving for Excellence - Making the Most of Our Talents

2. Doing Our Best - Achieving God's Will

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. 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."

2 Kings 13:20 And Elisha died, and they buried him. And the bands of the Moabites invaded the land at the coming in of the year.

Elisha died and was buried, and the Moabites invaded the land at the start of the new year.

1. The Power of Death: Elisha's life and legacy

2. The Inevitability of Change: Lessons from the Moabite invasion

1. 2 Kings 13:20 - And Elisha died, and they buried him. And the bands of the Moabites invaded the land at the coming in of the year.

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.

2 Kings 13:21 And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band of men; and they cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha: and when the man was let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet.

A man who was being buried was thrown into the sepulchre of Elisha and when he touched the bones of Elisha, he was revived and stood up.

1. God's Miraculous Power: A Study of the Resurrection of the Dead

2. The Power of Faith: A Study of the Miracles of Elisha

1. John 11:43-44 - Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead

2. Hebrews 11:35-37 - Examples of faith in action

2 Kings 13:22 But Hazael king of Syria oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz.

Hazael, king of Syria, had a long history of oppressing the people of Israel during the reign of Jehoahaz.

1. God can use even the most oppressive leaders to accomplish His will.

2. We should learn to trust in God s plan even during suffering.

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.

2 Kings 13:23 And the LORD was gracious unto them, and had compassion on them, and had respect unto them, because of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and would not destroy them, neither cast he them from his presence as yet.

The Lord was merciful to the Israelites because of His covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and did not destroy them.

1. God's Covenant: A Source of Abiding Love and Protection

2. The Covenant of Grace: Blessing and Protection for God's People

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 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.

2 Kings 13:24 So Hazael king of Syria died; and Benhadad his son reigned in his stead.

Hazael king of Syria died and his son Benhadad succeeded him.

1. Faithfulness: The Legacy We Leave Behind

2. God's Sovereignty: Even in Times of Transition

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. Job 1:21 - The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

2 Kings 13:25 And Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz took again out of the hand of Benhadad the son of Hazael the cities, which he had taken out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father by war. Three times did Joash beat him, and recovered the cities of Israel.

King Joash of Israel defeated King Benhadad of Syria three times, and recovered the cities of Israel that Benhadad had taken from Joash's father.

1. God's Faithfulness in War: Learning from King Joash's Victory.

2. The Power of Three: Seeing the Power of God in Numbers.

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 Chronicles 20:15 Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God s.

2 Kings chapter 14 describes the reigns of Amaziah and Jeroboam II as kings of Judah and Israel, respectively, along with their military campaigns and the consequences of their actions.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Amaziah as the king of Judah. He starts his reign by executing those who assassinated his father but does not follow God wholeheartedly. He avenges his father's death but spares the lives of the assassins' children, in accordance with God's law (2 Kings 14:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Amaziah prepares for war against Edom and assembles an army. However, he seeks assistance from Israel by hiring mercenaries from there. A prophet warns him against relying on Israel's help, but Amaziah ignores the advice (2 Kings 14:7-10).

3rd Paragraph: Despite initial victories over Edom, Amaziah becomes overconfident and challenges Jehoash (Joash), the king of Israel, to battle. Jehoash responds with a parable illustrating that victory will not be in Amaziah's favor due to his prideful attitude (2 Kings 14:11-14).

4th Paragraph: The two kings meet in battle at Beth-shemesh, where Judah is defeated by Israel. Jehoash captures Amaziah and loots treasures from Jerusalem before returning to Samaria (2 Kings 14:15-16).

5th Paragraph:The narrative continues with an account of Jeroboam II's reign over Israel describing how he restores borders lost during previous reigns according to God s promise through Jonah s prophecy regarding expansion (2 Kings 14;23-28).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning various details about both kings' accomplishments and deaths Amaziah being assassinated after fleeing Jerusalem while Jeroboam II passes away after a prosperous forty-one-year rule over Israel (Kings 22;19-20).

In summary, Chapter fourteen of 2 Kings depicts Amaziah's flawed rule, defeat at Jehoash's hands, Warnings disregarded, pride leading to downfall. Jeroboam II expands borders, both kings meet their end. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as consequences of prideful actions, the dangers of relying on worldly alliances, and how obedience or disobedience to God affects leadership outcomes.

2 Kings 14:1 In the second year of Joash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel reigned Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah.

Amaziah, the son of Joash, began his reign as King of Judah in the second year of the reign of Joash, King of Israel.

1. The Power of Generational Blessing

2. The Importance of Intergenerational Faithfulness

1. Psalms 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. Proverbs 13:22 - "A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous."

2 Kings 14:2 He was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem.

Amaziah was 25 years old when he became king in Jerusalem and he reigned for 29 years. His mother was Jehoaddan from Jerusalem.

1. The Importance of a Godly Mother - 2 Kings 14:2

2. The Call to Reign Well - 2 Kings 14:2

1. Proverbs 31:28 - Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.

2. 1 Timothy 2:1-2 - I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

2 Kings 14:3 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, yet not like David his father: he did according to all things as Joash his father did.

Joash did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, following in the footsteps of his father, David.

1. Doing What is Right in the Eyes of the Lord - 2 Kings 14:3

2. Following in the Footsteps of Your Fathers - 2 Kings 14:3

1. Psalm 37:5 - Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

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.

2 Kings 14:4 Howbeit the high places were not taken away: as yet the people did sacrifice and burnt incense on the high places.

King Amaziah of Judah was successful in his reign, but the high places of worship were not removed and the people continued to sacrifice and burn incense there.

1. The Danger of Putting Our Faith in Idols

2. The Power of Perseverance in the Face of Obstacles

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. Isaiah 58:12-14 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. 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.

2 Kings 14:5 And it came to pass, as soon as the kingdom was confirmed in his hand, that he slew his servants which had slain the king his father.

After Jehoash succeeded his father as king, he punished the servants who had killed his father.

1. God is the ultimate judge, and vengeance belongs to Him.

2. We must be humble and seek justice through the proper channels.

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 are pleasing to the Lord, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.

2 Kings 14:6 But the children of the murderers he slew not: according unto that which is written in the book of the law of Moses, wherein the LORD commanded, saying, The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, nor the children be put to death for the fathers; but every man shall be put to death for his own sin.

King Amaziah had a victory over Edom, but he spared the children of the murderers in accordance with the Law of Moses.

1. The Mercy of God: Experiencing Grace and Forgiveness

2. Pride and Humility: The Benefits of Putting God First

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. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

2 Kings 14:7 He slew of Edom in the valley of salt ten thousand, and took Selah by war, and called the name of it Joktheel unto this day.

King Amaziah of Judah defeated Edom in battle, capturing the city of Selah and renaming it Joktheel.

1. God's power and protection in times of war.

2. The importance of obedience to God and 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. 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 Kings 14:8 Then Amaziah sent messengers to Jehoash, the son of Jehoahaz son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, Come, let us look one another in the face.

Amaziah, King of Judah, sent messengers to Jehoash, King of Israel, to meet and discuss matters.

1. The Power of Face-to-Face Communication: How Meeting in Person Can Help You Achieve Your Goals.

2. The Importance of Building Relationships and Diplomacy: How to Make Connections and Resolve Conflicts.

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. 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 Kings 14:9 And Jehoash the king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, The thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, Give thy daughter to my son to wife: and there passed by a wild beast that was in Lebanon, and trode down the thistle.

King Jehoash of Israel sends a message to King Amaziah of Judah asking for his daughter's hand in marriage for his son.

1. The importance of unity among God's people.

2. God's providence in orchestrating our lives.

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

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 Kings 14:10 Thou hast indeed smitten Edom, and thine heart hath lifted thee up: glory of this, and tarry at home: for why shouldest thou meddle to thy hurt, that thou shouldest fall, even thou, and Judah with thee?

God warned Amaziah to not meddle in foreign affairs in an attempt to expand his kingdom, lest it bring destruction to himself and his people.

1. Be Content with What You Have - Proverbs 30:7-9

2. Pride Comes Before a Fall - Proverbs 16:18

1. Proverbs 3:5-7

2. James 4:13-17

2 Kings 14:11 But Amaziah would not hear. Therefore Jehoash king of Israel went up; and he and Amaziah king of Judah looked one another in the face at Bethshemesh, which belongeth to Judah.

Jehoash, the king of Israel, confronted Amaziah, the king of Judah, in the town of Bethshemesh, but Amaziah refused to listen.

1. Learning to Listen: The Example of Amaziah

2. Heeding God's Word: The Story of Jehoash

1. Proverbs 12:15 - "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice."

2. James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

2 Kings 14:12 And Judah was put to the worse before Israel; and they fled every man to their tents.

The people of Judah were defeated by the people of Israel and were forced to retreat to their homes.

1. Don't be discouraged by defeats, but keep fighting for what is right.

2. God's will is often revealed through our defeats and setbacks.

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.

2 Kings 14:13 And Jehoash king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Jehoash the son of Ahaziah, at Bethshemesh, and came to Jerusalem, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim unto the corner gate, four hundred cubits.

King Jehoash of Israel captured King Amaziah of Judah and destroyed the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim to the corner gate.

1. The importance of God's protection in times of war

2. The consequences of ignoring God's Word

1. 2 Chronicles 25:20 - "And Amaziah said to the man of God, But what shall we do for the hundred talents which I have given to the army of Israel? And the man of God answered, The Lord is able to give thee much more than this."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2 Kings 14:14 And he took all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasures of the king's house, and hostages, and returned to Samaria.

King Amaziah of Judah captures the treasures of the Temple of the Lord and the king's palace, along with hostages, and returns to Samaria.

1. The Power of Faith: How Amaziah's Belief in the Lord Helped Him Win a Battle

2. The Importance of Stewardship: How Amaziah Responsibly Handled Spoils of War

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. 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 Kings 14:15 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoash which he did, and his might, and how he fought with Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

Jehoash was a powerful king of Israel who fought against the king of Judah, Amaziah. His accomplishments and battles are recorded in the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1. The Power of Jehoash - How one man's strength and courage can change the course of history.

2. The Importance of Recording History - Why it is important to document the acts of great men for future generations.

1. 2 Kings 14:15 - the verse in which Jehoash's legacy is recorded.

2. Luke 1:1-4 - an example of how the Bible records important events in history for generations to come.

2 Kings 14:16 And Jehoash slept with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel; and Jeroboam his son reigned in his stead.

Jehoash died and was buried in Samaria, and his son Jeroboam succeeded him.

1. God's Sovereignty in Transitions of Leadership

2. Following in the Footsteps of Your Ancestors

1. Proverbs 22:28 - Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.

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 Kings 14:17 And Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived after the death of Jehoash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel fifteen years.

Amaziah, son of Joash and king of Judah, lived for 15 years after the death of Jehoash, the king of Israel.

1. The Importance of Longevity in Leadership

2. The Power of Legacy

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 16:31 - Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life.

2 Kings 14:18 And the rest of the acts of Amaziah, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

Amaziah's other deeds are recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah.

1. God Remembers: Remembering the Faithful and their Deeds

2. God's Sovereignty: Learning from the Kings of Judah

1. Psalm 115:3 - "Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases."

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 Kings 14:19 Now they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem: and he fled to Lachish; but they sent after him to Lachish, and slew him there.

A conspiracy was formed against King Amaziah in Jerusalem and he fled to Lachish, but he was slain there.

1. God's sovereignty in times of trouble - 2 Kings 14:19

2. The danger of pride - 2 Kings 14:1-22

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

2 Kings 14:20 And they brought him on horses: and he was buried at Jerusalem with his fathers in the city of David.

Amaziah, the King of Judah, was killed in battle and was brought back to Jerusalem to be buried with his fathers in the city of David.

1. God is faithful to His promises, even in death.

2. The importance of a peaceful and godly 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. Psalm 116:15 - Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

2 Kings 14:21 And all the people of Judah took Azariah, which was sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amaziah.

Amaziah died and the people of Judah made his 16-year-old son Azariah king in his place.

1. The importance of honoring our parents and their legacies.

2. The power of faith and how God can work through us, no matter our age.

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 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."

2 Kings 14:22 He built Elath, and restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers.

King Amaziah of Judah rebuilt Elath and gave it back to Judah after his death.

1. The Legacy We Leave: How Our Actions Outlive Us

2. Living a Life of Generosity

1. Matthew 6:20-21 - "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 3:1 - "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven."

2 Kings 14:23 In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel began to reign in Samaria, and reigned forty and one years.

Jeroboam became king of Israel in the fifteenth year of Amaziah's reign over Judah and reigned for forty-one years.

1. God is sovereign and nothing is outside of His control.

2. Never underestimate God's faithfulness and timing.

1. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His kingdom rules over all.

2. Isaiah 46:10 - Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure.

2 Kings 14:24 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

King Amaziah of Judah committed the same sins as Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who had caused Israel to sin.

1. God is a God of Justice and Righteousness - 2 Corinthians 5:10

2. God's Mercy Endures Forever - Psalm 136

1. 2 Chronicles 25:2 - Amaziah did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a perfect heart.

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die.

2 Kings 14:25 He restored the coast of Israel from the entering of Hamath unto the sea of the plain, according to the word of the LORD God of Israel, which he spake by the hand of his servant Jonah, the son of Amittai, the prophet, which was of Gathhepher.

This passage describes how the Lord God of Israel restored the coast of Israel according to the word of his servant, the prophet Jonah.

1. God is Faithful: A Study on How God Keeps His Promises

2. The Power of Prophecy: How the Voice of God is Heard

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. 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 Kings 14:26 For the LORD saw the affliction of Israel, that it was very bitter: for there was not any shut up, nor any left, nor any helper for Israel.

The Lord saw the immense suffering of Israel, as there was no one to help them in their time of need.

1. The Lord Sees Our Suffering - How God is There For Us Even in Our Most Difficult Times

2. God is the Helper of All - How God Can Help Us 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 34:18 - "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2 Kings 14:27 And the LORD said not that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven: but he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.

The LORD promised to not erase the name of Israel from the earth, and he kept his promise by rescuing them through Jeroboam, the son of Joash.

1. God's promises are always kept - 2 Corinthians 1:20

2. Trusting in the Lord's unfailing love - Lamentations 3:22-23

1. Jeremiah 31:35-37 - God's promise to never leave or forsake Israel.

2. Romans 8:28 - God works all things together for the good of those who love Him.

2 Kings 14:28 Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, and all that he did, and his might, how he warred, and how he recovered Damascus, and Hamath, which belonged to Judah, for Israel, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

1: God's power and might are unfathomable.

2: We are to remember the victories of the Lord when we are facing difficult moments of struggle.

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 18:32-36 - 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. You give me your shield of victory, and your right hand sustains me; you stoop down to make me great.

2 Kings 14:29 And Jeroboam slept with his fathers, even with the kings of Israel; and Zachariah his son reigned in his stead.

Jeroboam, the king of Israel, died and his son Zachariah took his place as king.

1. God's Sovereignty in the Line of Succession - Proverbs 21:1

2. The Value of Obedience in Leadership - 1 Samuel 12:14

1. 1 Chronicles 22:9-10 - 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.

2. Deuteronomy 17:14-20 - When you come to the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me, you may indeed set a king over you whom the Lord your God will choose. Be sure to set as king over you the one whom the Lord your God will choose. One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. Only he must not acquire many horses for himself or cause the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, since the Lord has said to you, You shall never return that way again. And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.

2 Kings chapter 15 provides a record of the reigns of various kings in both Judah and Israel, highlighting their actions, lengths of rule, and the consequences they faced.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Azariah (Uzziah) as king of Judah. He succeeds his father Amaziah and rules for fifty-two years. Azariah does what is right in the eyes of the Lord but fails to remove the high places where people continue to offer sacrifices (2 Kings 15:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative then shifts to a series of kings who ruled over Israel. Zechariah becomes king after his father Jeroboam II but reigns for only six months before being assassinated by Shallum (2 Kings 15:8-12).

3rd Paragraph: Shallum's reign is short-lived as Menahem conspires against him and takes over as king. Menahem rules for ten years but continues the sinful practices established by previous kings, leading to God's judgment upon Israel through Assyrian invasion (2 Kings 15:13-22).

4th Paragraph:Tiglath-Pileser III, the king of Assyria, attacks Israel during Pekahiah's rule. Pekahiah is assassinated by Pekah, who then becomes king. Pekah rules for twenty years with a similarly sinful reign that provokes God's anger (2 Kings 15;23-31).

5th Paragraph:The narrative briefly mentions Jotham's righteous reign over Judah following Azariah s death highlighting his accomplishments such as fortifying cities and victories against Ammonites but also mentions that idolatry persists among the people (2 Kings 15;32-38).

In summary, Chapter fifteen of 2 Kings depicts Azariah's lengthy rule, failure to remove high places, Succession in Israel, assassinations and invasions. Jotham s righteous reign, but idolatry still remains. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as consequences for failing to fully obey God, the cyclical nature of sin and judgment, and how even righteous rulers struggle with eradicating idolatrous practices from their kingdoms.

2 Kings 15:1 In the twenty and seventh year of Jeroboam king of Israel began Azariah son of Amaziah king of Judah to reign.

Azariah began his reign as king of Judah in the 27th year of Jeroboam's reign as king of Israel.

1. God's Timing is Perfect: The Story of Azariah's Reign as King of Judah.

2. Obedience in Leadership: A Study of Azariah's Reign as King of Judah.

1. 2 Kings 15:1

2. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

2 Kings 15:2 Sixteen years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned two and fifty years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jecholiah of Jerusalem.

Azariah, also known as Uzziah, began to reign as King of Jerusalem at the age of sixteen and reigned for fifty-two years. His mother was Jecholiah of Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Youth: How Teenagers Can Impact the World

2. Following in the Footsteps of Our Forebears: How Our Ancestors' Experiences Shape Us

1. Psalm 78:72 - So he fed them according to the integrity of his heart; and guided them by the skilfulness of his hands.

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.

2 Kings 15:3 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah had done;

Azariah did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, as his father Amaziah had done.

1. Faithfulness: Following in the Footsteps of Righteousness

2. Living Righteously: The Legacy of Our Fathers

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 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.

2 Kings 15:4 Save that the high places were not removed: the people sacrificed and burnt incense still on the high places.

Despite the reforms of King Azariah, the people of Israel still continued to sacrifice and burn incense on the high places.

1. Remembering God's Faithfulness in Times of Difficulty

2. The Danger of Idolatry

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. 2 Chronicles 15:2 The Lord is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.

2 Kings 15:5 And the LORD smote the king, so that he was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house. And Jotham the king's son was over the house, judging the people of the land.

The Lord struck the king of Israel, making him a leper for the rest of his life. Jotham, the king's son, was then put in charge of ruling the people of Israel.

1. God is in control of our circumstances and will use them to bring about His will.

2. Even in the midst of trials, God will provide us with a way to continue living and serving Him.

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 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 Kings 15:6 And the rest of the acts of Azariah, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

Azariah was a king of Judah, and his deeds and accomplishments were written down in the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah.

1. God is Faithful to Record Our Righteous Deeds

2. The Lasting Legacy of Our Righteous Deeds

1. Psalm 112:3-6 - Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever. They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous. It is well with the man who deals generously and lends; who conducts his affairs with justice. For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever.

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.

2 Kings 15:7 So Azariah slept with his fathers; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David: and Jotham his son reigned in his stead.

Azariah, king of Judah, died and was buried in the city of David, and his son Jotham reigned in his place.

1. Embracing the Transition of Leadership

2. The Power of Legacy

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

2 Kings 15:8 In the thirty and eighth year of Azariah king of Judah did Zachariah the son of Jeroboam reign over Israel in Samaria six months.

In the 38th year of King Azariah's reign in Judah, Zachariah, son of Jeroboam, became king of Israel in Samaria for six months.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding God's Plan for Our Lives

2. Living a Life of Obedience: Following God's Will Over Our Own

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. Proverbs 16:9 "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps."

2 Kings 15:9 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as his fathers had done: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

Azariah, the son of Amaziah, did evil in the sight of the Lord, following in the sins of Jeroboam.

1. The Dangers of Following in the Sins of Others

2. Understanding the Consequences of Not Walking in the Ways of the Lord

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 119:105 "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

2 Kings 15:10 And Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him, and smote him before the people, and slew him, and reigned in his stead.

Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against King Menahem and killed him before the people, then taking his place as king.

1. The Danger of a Corrupt Heart - How the pursuit of power can lead to destruction.

2. The Need for Righteous Leadership - The importance of having righteous leaders.

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

2. Matthew 7:16-20 - You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?

2 Kings 15:11 And the rest of the acts of Zachariah, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

Zachariah's acts are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1. How to Live a Life of Faithful Obedience to God

2. The Importance of Recording and Preserving Our Lives and Experiences

1. 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. 1 Corinthians 11:1 - "Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ."

2 Kings 15:12 This was the word of the LORD which he spake unto Jehu, saying, Thy sons shall sit on the throne of Israel unto the fourth generation. And so it came to pass.

The Word of the Lord promised that Jehu's descendants would sit on the throne of Israel until the fourth generation, which came true.

1. God's Promises are sure and will come to pass.

2. God's Word is trustworthy and reliable.

1. Romans 4:17-21 - Abraham's faith in God's promise of descendants.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - God's Word will not return void.

2 Kings 15:13 Shallum the son of Jabesh began to reign in the nine and thirtieth year of Uzziah king of Judah; and he reigned a full month in Samaria.

Shallum the son of Jabesh was appointed as the king of Samaria in the thirty-ninth year of Uzziah's reign over Judah, and he reigned for one month.

1. God's Timing is Perfect: The Story of Shallum and Uzziah

2. God's Providence in Appointing Kings

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 Chronicles 26:1-4 Then all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in the room of his father Amaziah. He built Eloth, and restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers. Sixteen years old was Uzziah when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Jecoliah of Jerusalem. And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father Amaziah did.

2 Kings 15:14 For Menahem the son of Gadi went up from Tirzah, and came to Samaria, and smote Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria, and slew him, and reigned in his stead.

Menahem, son of Gadi, killed Shallum, son of Jabesh, in Samaria and assumed rule in his place.

1. The Danger of Unchecked Ambition - 2 Kings 15:14

2. God is Sovereign in All Things - 2 Kings 15:14

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.

2 Kings 15:15 And the rest of the acts of Shallum, and his conspiracy which he made, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

Shallum, King of Israel, is mentioned in the book of 2 Kings 15:15 and his actions are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1. The Legacy of King Shallum

2. The Importance of Following God s Laws

1. 2 Chronicles 25:4 - Moreover he said unto them, Whatsoever cometh out of the doors of my house shall serve the Lord.

2. 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.

2 Kings 15:16 Then Menahem smote Tiphsah, and all that were therein, and the coasts thereof from Tirzah: because they opened not to him, therefore he smote it; and all the women therein that were with child he ripped up.

Menahem attacked the city of Tiphsah and its surrounding area because they refused to open the gates to him. He also killed all the pregnant women in the city.

1. The Consequences of Unrepentant Sin

2. The Power of Forgiveness

1. Ezekiel 18:20-21 - 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. Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

2 Kings 15:17 In the nine and thirtieth year of Azariah king of Judah began Menahem the son of Gadi to reign over Israel, and reigned ten years in Samaria.

Menahem, the son of Gadi, began to reign over Israel in the thirty-ninth year of Azariah's reign over Judah, and reigned for ten years in Samaria.

1. The Faithfulness of God: His Sovereignty in Choosing Leaders

2. The Power of Hope in Times of Transition

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. 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."

2 Kings 15:18 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not all his days from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

King Azariah of Judah followed the sins of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, and did not turn away from them throughout his lifetime.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: The Story of King Azariah

2. The Temptations of Sin: How to Overcome Them

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.

14 For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

2. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 - For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 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 Kings 15:19 And Pul the king of Assyria came against the land: and Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, that his hand might be with him to confirm the kingdom in his hand.

Menahem paid Pul, the king of Assyria, 1000 talents of silver in exchange for his support and help to keep his kingdom.

1. God is Sovereign and We are Responsible: The Example of Menahem and Pul

2. The Importance of Following God's Will: Lessons from Menahem and Pul

1. Isaiah 40:21-23 - "Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? 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. He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing."

2. Proverbs 22:7 - "The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender."

2 Kings 15:20 And Menahem exacted the money of Israel, even of all the mighty men of wealth, of each man fifty shekels of silver, to give to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria turned back, and stayed not there in the land.

Menahem demanded a tax of 50 shekels of silver from wealthy Israelites to pay the king of Assyria, who then left.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Giving Back Can Lead to Change

2. The Importance of Contentment: Why Greed Can Lead to Destruction

1. 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 by his poverty might become rich.

2. Luke 12:15 - And he said to them, Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.

2 Kings 15:21 And the rest of the acts of Menahem, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

Menahem's actions are recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following God's commands can bring us to a greater level of righteousness.

2. Faithful Until the End - The importance of remaining steadfast in our faith no matter what challenges we face.

1. 2 Chronicles 15:7 - "Be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

2 Kings 15:22 And Menahem slept with his fathers; and Pekahiah his son reigned in his stead.

Menahem died and his son Pekahiah became the new king.

1. The Transience of Life: How to Live Life to the Fullest

2. The Importance of Legacy: How to Pass on God's Blessings

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

2. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 - But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

2 Kings 15:23 In the fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah Pekahiah the son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned two years.

Pekahiah began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the fiftieth year of Azariah's reign over Judah. He reigned for two years.

1. Living in the Reign of God: How to Show Obedience to God's Rulers

2. Faithfulness in Leadership: The Example of Pekahiah

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Be subject to the governing authorities

2. 1 Samuel 8:5-9 - Desiring a king to rule over them instead of God

2 Kings 15:24 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

King Menahem of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD and did not repent from the sins of Jeroboam.

1. God Sees All: The Importance of Living Rightly in God's Sight

2. The Power of Repentance: Turning Away from Sin

1. 2 Corinthians 5:10-11 - 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.

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?

2 Kings 15:25 But Pekah the son of Remaliah, a captain of his, conspired against him, and smote him in Samaria, in the palace of the king's house, with Argob and Arieh, and with him fifty men of the Gileadites: and he killed him, and reigned in his room.

Pekah, a captain of King Pekahiah, conspired against him and killed him in the palace of the king's house in Samaria with the help of Argob and Arieh and 50 Gileadites.

1. God's justice prevails in any situation.

2. Sin can quickly lead to destruction.

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.

2 Kings 15:26 And the rest of the acts of Pekahiah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1: Use your time wisely.

2: God is sovereign over all.

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; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted"

2: Proverbs 16:9 "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps."

2 Kings 15:27 In the two and fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah Pekah the son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned twenty years.

Azariah reigned as king of Judah for 52 years and during that time Pekah son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria for 20 years.

Best

1. Trust in God's timing and plan for our lives.

2. Obey God even when it doesn't make sense to us.

Best

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. 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; 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; ..."

2 Kings 15:28 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

King Azariah of Judah acted wickedly and did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam, which caused Israel to sin.

1. The Cost of Disobedience: Learning from King Azariah's Mistake

2. When God's Instructions are Ignored: The Consequences 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. Ephesians 4:20-24 - 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.

2 Kings 15:29 In the days of Pekah king of Israel came Tiglathpileser king of Assyria, and took Ijon, and Abelbethmaachah, and Janoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them captive to Assyria.

Tiglathpileser, king of Assyria, invaded and took the land of Naphtali, capturing its cities and people and taking them away to Assyria.

1. God's Sovereignty in Times of Suffering

2. The Futility of Human Arrogance

1. Isaiah 10:5-7

2. Matthew 10:28-31

2 Kings 15:30 And Hoshea the son of Elah made a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remaliah, and smote him, and slew him, and reigned in his stead, in the twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah.

Hoshea, the son of Elah, overthrew Pekah, the son of Remaliah, and became king of Israel in Jotham's twentieth year of rule.

1. The Power of Conspiracies: How Hoshea Overthrew Pekah

2. God's Sovereignty Over Nations: The Reign of Hoshea

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers.

2. Psalm 75:6-7 - Promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

2 Kings 15:31 And the rest of the acts of Pekah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

Pekah's actions are documented in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1. How to Live a Life of Integrity

2. Being Faithful to God's Call

1. Proverbs 21:3 - To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

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.

2 Kings 15:32 In the second year of Pekah the son of Remaliah king of Israel began Jotham the son of Uzziah king of Judah to reign.

Jotham became king of Judah in the second year of Pekah's reign as king of Israel.

1. Learning to Lead: The Leadership of Jotham.

2. Fear Not: Finding Courage in the Reign of Jotham.

1. Isaiah 6:1-8 - The call of Isaiah to be a prophet during the reign of Jotham.

2. 2 Chronicles 27:1-9 - The reign of Jotham and his faithfulness to God.

2 Kings 15:33 Five and twenty years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jerusha, the daughter of Zadok.

Azariah was 25 years old when he began his 16 year rule in Jerusalem. His mother was Jerusha, daughter of Zadok.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - 2 Kings 15:33

2. The Influence of Obedient Mothers - 2 Kings 15:33

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 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

2 Kings 15:34 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD: he did according to all that his father Uzziah had done.

King Jotham followed the example of his father Uzziah and did what was right in the eyes of the Lord.

1. Living a Life that Pleases God

2. The Power of a Good Example

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. Matthew 6:33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

2 Kings 15:35 Howbeit the high places were not removed: the people sacrificed and burned incense still in the high places. He built the higher gate of the house of the LORD.

King Azariah built the Higher Gate of the Lord's House, but did not remove the high places where the people still sacrificed and burned incense.

1. The Importance of Obedience: The Example of King Azariah

2. The Power of Faithful Devotion: King Azariah's Legacy

1. 2 Chronicles 26:4-5 - He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, according to all that his father Amaziah had done. He sought God during the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God; and as long as he sought the Lord, God made him prosperous.

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; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

2 Kings 15:36 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

Jotham was a king of Judah and his acts are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah.

1. The Importance of Godly Leadership: Lessons from Jotham

2. Obeying God, Not Man: What We Can Learn from Jotham

1. Proverbs 29:2 - "When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn."

2. 1 Timothy 2:1-4 - "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."

2 Kings 15:37 In those days the LORD began to send against Judah Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah.

In the time of Kings 15:37, the Lord sent Rezin the King of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah to fight against Judah.

1. God's Power to Overcome: How Obedience to the Lord Brings Victory

2. Recognizing and Overcoming Adversity: Lessons from the Book of Kings

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."

2 Kings 15:38 And Jotham slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father: and Ahaz his son reigned in his stead.

Jotham, a king of Israel, died and was buried in the city of David alongside his fathers. His son Ahaz reigned in his place.

1. The Reality of Death: What it Means to be a King

2. Being Faithful to Our Fathers: The Legacy of Jotham

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. Ecclesiastes 8:4 - "Where the word of a king is, there is power: and who may say unto him, What doest thou?"

2 Kings chapter 16 focuses on the reign of Ahaz as king of Judah and his disastrous decisions, including seeking help from Assyria and introducing idolatry into the worship practices of Judah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Ahaz as the king of Judah. Unlike his ancestors, Ahaz does not follow in their footsteps and instead engages in wicked practices. He walks in the ways of the kings of Israel and even sacrifices his own son to foreign gods (2 Kings 16:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: In response to threats from Israel and Syria, Ahaz seeks assistance from Tiglath-Pileser III, the king of Assyria. He sends him tribute money taken from the temple treasury to gain his favor. However, this act only leads to further trouble for Judah (2 Kings 16:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: While visiting Damascus, Ahaz sees an altar there and sends its design back to Urijah the priest in Jerusalem. Upon returning, he commands Urijah to build a replica altar for him based on that design. This new altar replaces the bronze altar that God had commanded for use in worship (2 Kings 16:10-17).

4th Paragraph:The narrative continues with a description of various events during Ahaz's reign such as details about renovations he made to Solomon's temple influenced by Assyrian designs while also mentioning his death and burial (Kings 22;18-20).

In summary, Chapter sixteen of 2 Kings depicts Ahaz's wicked rule, sacrifices to foreign gods, Seeking aid from Assyria, desecration of worship practices. Introduction of idolatry, deviation from God's commands. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as the consequences of turning away from God, the dangers of seeking alliances with ungodly nations, and how compromising true worship can lead to spiritual downfall.

2 Kings 16:1 In the seventeenth year of Pekah the son of Remaliah Ahaz the son of Jotham king of Judah began to reign.

Ahaz, the son of Jotham, began to reign as king of Judah in the seventeenth year of Pekah the son of Remaliah.

1. The Importance of Patience: How Waiting for the Right Time Can Bring Great Success

2. The Power of Leadership: How Good Leadership Can Shape the Future

1. Romans 12:12 - "rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation"

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where no counsel is, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety"

2 Kings 16:2 Twenty years old was Ahaz when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem, and did not that which was right in the sight of the LORD his God, like David his father.

Ahaz began to reign when he was 20 years old and reigned for 16 years in Jerusalem. He did not follow the Lord's commands, unlike his father David.

1. Living a Life of Loyalty to the Lord

2. The Power of a Good Example

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 10:11 - 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.

2 Kings 16:3 But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, yea, and made his son to pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel.

King Ahaz of Judah followed the same sinful practices of the former kings of Israel, even going so far as to sacrifice his son to pagan gods.

1. The Sin of Idolatry: Why We Must Resist Temptation

2. The Power of a Parent's Example: How We Teach Our Children

1. Deuteronomy 12:30-31 - 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. 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 Kings 16:4 And he sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.

Ahaz, the king of Judah, worshipped false gods by sacrificing and burning incense on high places, hills, and under green trees.

1. The Danger of Compromising with False Idolatry

2. The Negative Effects of Idolatry in the Life of a Believer

1. Jeremiah 16:19-20 O LORD, my strength and my stronghold, my refuge in the day of trouble, to you shall the nations come from the ends of the earth and say: Our fathers have inherited nothing but lies, worthless things in which there is no profit.

2. Proverbs 16:25 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

2 Kings 16:5 Then Rezin king of Syria and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to war: and they besieged Ahaz, but could not overcome him.

Rezin, king of Syria, and Pekah, king of Israel, laid siege to Jerusalem in order to wage war against Ahaz but were unsuccessful.

1. God is always with us in times of trouble - Isaiah 41:10

2. Stand firm in faith and trust in the Lord - 2 Chronicles 20:15-17

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 20:15-17 - "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. Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz. You will find them at the end of the valley, east of the wilderness of Jeruel. 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. Tomorrow go out against them, and the Lord will be with you.

2 Kings 16:6 At that time Rezin king of Syria recovered Elath to Syria, and drave the Jews from Elath: and the Syrians came to Elath, and dwelt there unto this day.

Rezin, the king of Syria, regained control of Elath and drove out the Jews from the city. The Syrians have lived in Elath ever since.

1. How God's Will Prevails Despite Opposition

2. Standing Firm 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. Isaiah 54:17 No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me, declares the Lord.

2 Kings 16:7 So Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglathpileser king of Assyria, saying, I am thy servant and thy son: come up, and save me out of the hand of the king of Syria, and out of the hand of the king of Israel, which rise up against me.

Ahaz, king of Judah, sends messengers to Tiglathpileser, king of Assyria, asking to be saved from the kings of Syria and Israel who are attacking him.

1. God Is Our Refuge and Strength - Psalm 46:1-3

2. The Power of Prayer - James 5:16

1. Isaiah 7:1-9 - Ahaz asked for a sign from the Lord, and God gave him a sign.

2. Isaiah 8:7-8 - Ahaz and the people of Judah were warned not to rely on the king of Assyria for protection.

2 Kings 16:8 And Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasures of the king's house, and sent it for a present to the king of Assyria.

Ahaz took silver and gold from the house of the LORD and the king's house and gave it as a gift to the king of Assyria.

1. The Danger of Compromise: How We Must Not Sacrifice Our Values in the Face of Adversity

2. Taking What Is Not Ours: Understanding the Sin of Stealing

1. 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.

2. Exodus 20:15 - Thou shalt not steal.

2 Kings 16:9 And the king of Assyria hearkened unto him: for the king of Assyria went up against Damascus, and took it, and carried the people of it captive to Kir, and slew Rezin.

The king of Assyria listened to the request of the King of Israel, and subsequently attacked Damascus and took the people captive, killing Rezin.

1. The power of God's word and the importance of obedience.

2. The consequences of disobedience and rebellion.

1. Psalm 105:15 - "saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm."

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 Kings 16:10 And king Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglathpileser king of Assyria, and saw an altar that was at Damascus: and king Ahaz sent to Urijah the priest the fashion of the altar, and the pattern of it, according to all the workmanship thereof.

King Ahaz travels to Damascus to meet King Tiglathpileser of Assyria and admires an altar there. He sends Urijah the priest a description of the altar to replicate.

1. The importance of modeling our actions after those of God.

2. Learning from the examples of others.

1. Philippians 3:17 - "Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us."

2. Romans 8:29 - "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."

2 Kings 16:11 And Urijah the priest built an altar according to all that king Ahaz had sent from Damascus: so Urijah the priest made it against king Ahaz came from Damascus.

Urijah the priest built an altar as per the instructions of King Ahaz who had sent instructions from Damascus.

1. Obeying God's Instructions - 2 Kings 16:11

2. The Faithfulness of Urijah the Priest - 2 Kings 16:11

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.

2 Kings 16:12 And when the king was come from Damascus, the king saw the altar: and the king approached to the altar, and offered thereon.

King Ahaz of Judah visits Jerusalem and approaches the altar to offer a sacrifice.

1. God's Faithfulness in the Face of Adversity

2. Finding Strength in the Lord

1. Psalm 27:14 - "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the 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 Kings 16:13 And he burnt his burnt offering and his meat offering, and poured his drink offering, and sprinkled the blood of his peace offerings, upon the altar.

King Ahaz of Judah offered a burnt offering, meat offering, drink offering, and peace offerings to the Lord on the altar.

1. Offerings Made to the Lord: The Example of King Ahaz

2. The Power of Obedience: What King Ahaz Teaches Us

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 him then let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

2 Kings 16:14 And he brought also the brasen altar, which was before the LORD, from the forefront of the house, from between the altar and the house of the LORD, and put it on the north side of the altar.

This passage describes how King Ahaz of Judah moved a bronze altar from the front of the temple to the north side of the altar.

1. The Importance of Prioritizing God: Examining King Ahaz's Actions

2. Faithfulness in Times of Difficulty: How King Ahaz Kept His Commitments

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - Discusses the importance of worshiping God in the place of his choosing.

2. 2 Chronicles 15:2 - Describes how King Asa was commended for his faithfulness to God.

2 Kings 16:15 And king Ahaz commanded Urijah the priest, saying, Upon the great altar burn the morning burnt offering, and the evening meat offering, and the king's burnt sacrifice, and his meat offering, with the burnt offering of all the people of the land, and their meat offering, and their drink offerings; and sprinkle upon it all the blood of the burnt offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice: and the brasen altar shall be for me to enquire by.

King Ahaz commanded Urijah the priest to burn morning and evening sacrifices on the great altar, along with the burnt offering of the people of the land and their accompanying drink offerings. All the blood of the burnt offering and of the sacrifice were to be sprinkled on the altar, which would be used to enquire by.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commands

2. The Power of Sacrifice

1. Hebrews 13:15-17 - "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. Obey those who have the 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."

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."

2 Kings 16:16 Thus did Urijah the priest, according to all that king Ahaz commanded.

Urijah the priest followed all of King Ahaz's commands.

1. God has called us to obey those in authority over us.

2. Faithfulness in obeying authority will be rewarded.

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Ephesians 6:5-9

2 Kings 16:17 And king Ahaz cut off the borders of the bases, and removed the laver from off them; and took down the sea from off the brasen oxen that were under it, and put it upon a pavement of stones.

King Ahaz removed the laver from the bases and took down the sea from off the brasen oxen and placed it on a pavement of stones.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How King Ahaz's Actions Symbolize the Importance of Giving

2. Honoring the Lord: The Meaning of King Ahaz's Removing the Laver and Sea

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. 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 Kings 16:18 And the covert for the sabbath that they had built in the house, and the king's entry without, turned he from the house of the LORD for the king of Assyria.

King Ahaz of Judah removed the Sabbath cover and entrance from the temple of the Lord for the King of Assyria.

1. True worship of the Lord cannot be compromised.

2. Be mindful of the example we set as leaders.

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 22:37-39 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.

2 Kings 16:19 Now the rest of the acts of Ahaz which he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

The rest of Ahaz s actions are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah.

1. The Importance of Recording History - Ecclesiastes 12:12

2. The Power of Written Records - Isaiah 30:8

1. Isaiah 7:1-2

2. Proverbs 22:28

2 Kings 16:20 And Ahaz slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David: and Hezekiah his son reigned in his stead.

Ahaz, the king of Judah, died and was buried in the city of David. His son Hezekiah succeeded him as king.

1. God's Sovereignty - How our lives are in God's Hands.

2. Passing on the Mantle - Opportunities and Responsibilities of Leadership.

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 37:23 - The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way.

2 Kings chapter 17 describes the fall of the northern kingdom of Israel and its exile by Assyria due to their persistent idolatry and disobedience to God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by stating that in the twelfth year of Ahaz's reign over Judah, Hoshea becomes king of Israel. However, he continues the sinful practices established by previous kings (2 Kings 17:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how Hoshea becomes a vassal king under Shalmaneser V, the king of Assyria. However, Hoshea secretly conspires with Egypt against Assyria, leading to Shalmaneser besieging Samaria for three years (2 Kings 17:3-6).

3rd Paragraph: Eventually, Samaria falls to Assyria, and Israel is taken into captivity. This happens because they had persistently disobeyed God's commandments and followed idols instead. The people are exiled to various cities in Assyria (2 Kings 17:7-23).

4th Paragraph:The narrative explains how this exile occurred because they worshiped false gods from nations surrounding them instead of following God's covenant with their ancestors. Despite warnings from prophets sent by God, they did not repent or turn back (Kings 22;24-41).

In summary, Chapter seventeen of 2 Kings depicts Hoshea's reign over Israel, conspiracy against Assyria, Samaria besieged, Israel's exile and captivity. Persistent idolatry, disobedience to God's commands. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as the consequences of persistent disobedience, the dangers of turning away from true worship, and how failing to heed warnings can lead to destruction and exile.

2 Kings 17:1 In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah began Hoshea the son of Elah to reign in Samaria over Israel nine years.

Hoshea began to reign in Samaria over Israel in the twelfth year of King Ahaz of Judah.

1. The Power of Faith: Hoshea's Reign in Samaria

2. God's Timing: Hoshea's Reign in the Twelfth Year of Ahaz

1. Isaiah 7:16: "For before the boy knows how to say 'My father' or 'My mother,' the riches of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria will be taken away before the king of Assyria."

2. 2 Chronicles 28:16-21: "At that time King Ahaz sent to the king of Assyria for help. For again the Edomites had come and attacked Judah and carried away captives. And the Philistines had invaded the cities of the lowland and of the Negeb of Judah, and had taken Beth-shemesh, Aijalon, Gederoth, Soco with its villages, Timnah with its villages, and Gimzo with its villages. And they settled there. For the Lord humbled Judah because of Ahaz king of Israel, for he had made Judah act sinfully and had been very unfaithful to the Lord."

2 Kings 17:2 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, but not as the kings of Israel that were before him.

King Hoshea of Israel was evil in the eyes of the Lord, but not as bad as previous kings of Israel.

1. The Danger of Comparing Ourselves to Others

2. The Consequences of Doing Evil in the Sight of the Lord

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 34:14 - "Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it."

2 Kings 17:3 Against him came up Shalmaneser king of Assyria; and Hoshea became his servant, and gave him presents.

Hoshea, king of Israel, was forced to become a servant of Shalmaneser, king of Assyria, and give him presents.

1. The Power of Submission - How Our Actions Speak Louder than Our Words

2. The Danger of Pride - The Cost of Refusing to Submit to God's Will

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

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

2 Kings 17:4 And the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea: for he had sent messengers to So king of Egypt, and brought no present to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year: therefore the king of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in prison.

Hoshea was accused of conspiring against the King of Assyria after he failed to send a tribute to the King of Assyria as he had done previously.

1. God will punish those who disobey Him

2. We should always strive to honor those in authority

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

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.

2 Kings 17:5 Then the king of Assyria came up throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it three years.

The King of Assyria attacked Samaria and laid siege for three years.

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. 2 Corinthians 4:8: "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair."

1. Isaiah 10:5: "Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger, in whose hand is the club of my wrath!"

2. Nahum 3:1: "Woe to the bloody city! It is all full of lies and robbery. Its victim never departs."

2 Kings 17:6 In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

Hoshea, the king of Assyria, took Samaria and exiled the Israelites to Halah, Habor, and Gozan in the ninth year of his reign.

1. God's Sovereignty: Even in Exile, God Is in Control

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Israel's Exile as a Warning

1. Deuteronomy 28:36 - The Lord will exile you and your king you set over you to a nation unknown to you or your fathers.

2. Jeremiah 29:10-14 - This is what the Lord says: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place.

2 Kings 17:7 For so it was, that the children of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God, which had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared other gods,

The Israelites had sinned against God by worshipping other gods, despite being led out of Egypt by Him.

1. The Lord is Faithful - Trust in Him and Do Not Waver

2. The Danger of Idolatry - Denying the Lord and Placing False Hope in Other Gods

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. Psalm 106:6 - We have sinned like our fathers, we have acted wickedly and done wrong.

2 Kings 17:8 And walked in the statutes of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made.

The people of Israel walked in the statutes of the heathen, which had been cast out by the Lord, and the kings of Israel had also made their own laws.

1. "The Consequences of Disobeying God's Commands"

2. "The Power of Divine Judgment"

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's commands and curses for obedience and disobedience

2. Isaiah 28:14-22 - God's judgement against those who refuse to obey Him

2 Kings 17:9 And the children of Israel did secretly those things that were not right against the LORD their God, and they built them high places in all their cities, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city.

The children of Israel acted disobediently to the Lord and built high places for worship in all their cities.

1. We must be faithful and obedient to the Lord in all areas of our lives.

2. We must not be swayed by the influences of the world around us.

1. 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.

2. Proverbs 28:13 - Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

2 Kings 17:10 And they set them up images and groves in every high hill, and under every green tree:

Israelites had adopted the pagan worship of surrounding nations, erecting idols and Asherah poles in high places and under trees.

1. Worship of God vs. False Idols: The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Temptation of Worldly Worship: How Can We Know the Difference?

1. Romans 1:21-23 - 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. 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.

2. 1 John 5:21 - Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

2 Kings 17:11 And there they burnt incense in all the high places, as did the heathen whom the LORD carried away before them; and wrought wicked things to provoke the LORD to anger:

The heathen, whom the Lord had carried away before them, burnt incense in all the high places and performed wicked acts to provoke the Lord to anger.

1. The Danger of Provoking God's Anger

2. The Consequences of Wicked Actions

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

2. Psalm 37:8 - Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

2 Kings 17:12 For they served idols, whereof the LORD had said unto them, Ye shall not do this thing.

The people of Israel had disobeyed the Lord by worshipping idols, which the Lord had forbidden them to do.

1. We must remain obedient to God's commands and not be led astray by temptation.

2. We must discern between good and evil and choose to follow God's will.

1. Romans 6:12-13 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

2. Deuteronomy 6:16 Ye shall not tempt the LORD your God, as ye tempted him in Massah.

2 Kings 17:13 Yet the LORD testified against Israel, and against Judah, by all the prophets, and by all the seers, saying, Turn ye from your evil ways, and keep my commandments and my statutes, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by my servants the prophets.

The LORD testified against Israel and Judah through the prophets and seers, urging them to turn from their evil ways and keep His commandments and statutes according to the law which He commanded their fathers.

1. Turning from Sin: How to Receive God s Grace

2. Keeping God s Commandments: The Path to Righteousness

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. 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 Kings 17:14 Notwithstanding they would not hear, but hardened their necks, like to the neck of their fathers, that did not believe in the LORD their God.

The people of Israel refused to listen to God and follow His commands, just like their fathers before them.

1. The consequences of disobedience and rejecting God's commandments

2. The importance of learning from the mistakes of our ancestors

1. Isaiah 30:9-11 - "For they are a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the Lord: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits"

2. 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 Kings 17:15 And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became vain, and went after the heathen that were round about them, concerning whom the LORD had charged them, that they should not do like them.

The people of Israel rejected God's statutes and covenant, instead following their pagan neighbors and becoming vain.

1. The Danger of Rejecting God's Covenant

2. The Consequences of Following After Vanity

1. Romans 1:22-23 - Professing 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.

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.

2 Kings 17:16 And they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made them molten images, even two calves, and made a grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.

The people of Israel abandoned the commandments of the LORD and instead made idols and worshipped the host of heaven and served Baal.

1. We must remain faithful to God's commands despite the temptation to follow other gods.

2. We must remain humble and accept that our way is not always the best way, and that God's will is always greater than our own.

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. 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 Kings 17:17 And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.

The people of Israel had become so unfaithful to the Lord that they worshiped other gods and even sacrificed their children to them.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Don't be like the Israelites in 2 Kings 17:17 and be tempted to worship false gods.

2. The Consequences of Unfaithfulness: Do not be like the Israelites in 2 Kings 17:17 and suffer the consequences of their unfaithfulness to the Lord.

1. Deuteronomy 6:14 15 - Do not follow other gods, the LORD your God is a jealous God.

2. Deuteronomy 18:9-12 - Do not practice divination or seek omens, for that is an abomination to the LORD.

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2 Kings 17:18 Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only.

The LORD was so angry with Israel that he removed them from his sight, leaving only the tribe of Judah.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study in 2 Kings 17:18

2. The Discipline of God: A Study of His Faithfulness in 2 Kings 17:18

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's warnings for disobedience

2. Hosea 4:6 - God's sorrow for the apostasy of Israel.

2 Kings 17:19 Also Judah kept not the commandments of the LORD their God, but walked in the statutes of Israel which they made.

Judah disobeyed the commandments of the Lord and followed the statutes of Israel instead.

1. The Danger of Disobedience: Learning from Judah's Mistakes

2. The Importance of Following God's Commandments

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. 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 Kings 17:20 And the LORD rejected all the seed of Israel, and afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of spoilers, until he had cast them out of his sight.

The Lord rejected the people of Israel and allowed them to be afflicted and taken away until He had removed them from His sight.

1. God's Discipline: The Cost of Disobedience

2. The Call to Repentance and Renewal

1. Hosea 4:1-6

2. Isaiah 1:16-20

2 Kings 17:21 For he rent Israel from the house of David; and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king: and Jeroboam drave Israel from following the LORD, and made them sin a great sin.

Jeroboam separated Israel from the House of David and made them sin a great sin by leading them away from following the LORD.

1. The Danger of Turning Away from God

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. 2 Chronicles 15:2 - "And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The LORD is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.

2. Jeremiah 2:19- "Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee: know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and bitter, that thou hast forsaken the LORD thy God, and that my fear is not in thee, saith the Lord GOD of hosts.

2 Kings 17:22 For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they departed not from them;

The children of Israel followed sins of Jeroboam and did not repent from them.

1. The Danger of Following in Sinful Ways

2. The Necessity of Repentance

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. 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?

2 Kings 17:23 Until the LORD removed Israel out of his sight, as he had said by all his servants the prophets. So was Israel carried away out of their own land to Assyria unto this day.

The LORD removed Israel out of their own land and carried them away to Assyria as he had promised through his prophets.

1. God's Promises are Reliable and Unfailing

2. Obedience is Our Only Path to Security

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 I will bring about; what I have planned, that I will do.

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.

2 Kings 17:24 And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and from Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof.

The King of Assyria brought people from Babylon, Cuthah, Ava, Hamath, and Sepharvaim and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel, allowing them to take over Samaria and live in its cities.

1. The consequences of disobedience: 2 Kings 17:7-18

2. The Lord's faithfulness in judgement: Isaiah 10:5-19

1. Isaiah 10:5-19

2. Ezekiel 12:15-16

2 Kings 17:25 And so it was at the beginning of their dwelling there, that they feared not the LORD: therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which slew some of them.

The people of Israel had not feared the Lord when they moved into their new land, so the Lord sent lions to punish them.

1. Don't Take God's Mercy For Granted - Proverbs 14:34

2. Don't Take the Lord's Grace For Granted - Luke 17:7-10

1. Isaiah 5:4-5

2. Psalm 36:1-2

2 Kings 17:26 Wherefore they spake to the king of Assyria, saying, The nations which thou hast removed, and placed in the cities of Samaria, know not the manner of the God of the land: therefore he hath sent lions among them, and, behold, they slay them, because they know not the manner of the God of the land.

The people of Samaria were relocated by the king of Assyria to their cities, but they did not know the ways of the God of the land, so God sent lions to punish them.

1. God is Just and Merciful - God punishes those who do not follow His ways, but also shows mercy to those who repent and follow Him.

2. The Power of Obedience - We must be obedient to God's commands and ways, for He is the one who judges us and dispenses justice.

1. Ezekiel 18:21-24 - But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

22 Yet the children of thy people say, The way of the Lord is not equal: but as for them, their way is not equal.

23 When the righteous turneth from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, he shall even die thereby.

24 But when the wicked turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall live thereby.

2. 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 Kings 17:27 Then the king of Assyria commanded, saying, Carry thither one of the priests whom ye brought from thence; and let them go and dwell there, and let him teach them the manner of the God of the land.

The King of Assyria commanded a priest to be brought to their land to teach them the ways of the God of the land.

1. God s Ways are Not Our Ways

2. Learning to Follow God s Ways

1. Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

2. Acts 17:11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

2 Kings 17:28 Then one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and dwelt in Bethel, and taught them how they should fear the LORD.

A priest from Samaria was taken away and was relocated to Bethel, where he taught the people to fear the LORD.

1. Obedience is the Key to Experiencing God's Love - Romans 12:1-2

2. Seek the Lord and He Will Be Found - Jeremiah 29:13

1. Matthew 28:19-20 - 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.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

2 Kings 17:29 Howbeit every nation made gods of their own, and put them in the houses of the high places which the Samaritans had made, every nation in their cities wherein they dwelt.

Every nation in the cities they inhabited made their own gods and placed them in the high places that the Samaritans had built.

1: God calls us to remain steadfast in our faith even when surrounded by false gods.

2: The power of God s truth will always prevail over false idols.

1: Isaiah 46:9 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 115:4-8 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; neither is there any breath in their mouths. They that make them are like unto them: so is every one that trusteth in them.

2 Kings 17:30 And the men of Babylon made Succothbenoth, and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made Ashima,

People from Babylon, Cuth, and Hamath created gods to worship.

1. Trust in the Lord, not in idols. 2 Chronicles 7:14

2. Idolatry is a dangerous path, but Jesus offers a better way. John 14:6

1. Jeremiah 10:14-16, which warns against worshiping idols.

2. Isaiah 44: 9-20, which speaks of the vanity and foolishness of idolatry.

2 Kings 17:31 And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burnt their children in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim.

The Avites and Sepharvites worshipped false gods, including Nibhaz, Tartak, Adrammelech, and Anammelech.

1. The Dangers of Worshipping False Gods

2. The Power of Devotion to the True God

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. 2 Corinthians 11:4 - For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough.

2 Kings 17:32 So they feared the LORD, and made unto themselves of the lowest of them priests of the high places, which sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places.

The people of Israel made priests from among their own people to sacrifice to the Lord in high places.

1. God does not require us to be perfect to serve him.

2. It is a privilege to serve God and share his love with others.

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. Isaiah 61:6, "But you will be called the priests of the LORD; you will be named the ministers of our God."

2 Kings 17:33 They feared the LORD, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations whom they carried away from thence.

The people of Israel feared the LORD but still served their own gods, following the customs of the nations they were taken from.

1. The Dangers of Following the World's Customs

2. The Importance of Faithful Worship

1. Deuteronomy 12:29-32

2. Psalm 119:1-5

2 Kings 17:34 Unto this day they do after the former manners: they fear not the LORD, neither do they after their statutes, or after their ordinances, or after the law and commandment which the LORD commanded the children of Jacob, whom he named Israel;

The people of Israel had not followed the Lord's commands, statutes, ordinances, or laws. To this day, they still do not fear the Lord and follow His commands.

1. The Danger of Disobedience - 2 Kings 17:34

2. Reaping What We Sow - Galatians 6:7

1. Deuteronomy 4:1-2 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: 2 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

2. 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 Kings 17:35 With whom the LORD had made a covenant, and charged them, saying, Ye shall not fear other gods, nor bow yourselves to them, nor serve them, nor sacrifice to them:

The Lord gave a covenant to the people of Israel, instructing them not to fear other gods, bow to them, serve them, or sacrifice to them.

1. Learning to Trust: A Study of the Covenant of the Lord

2. God Deserves Our Faithfulness: The Promise of Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 7:4-5 - 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. 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. 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.

2 Kings 17:36 But the LORD, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and a stretched out arm, him shall ye fear, and him shall ye worship, and to him shall ye do sacrifice.

The Lord brought the Israelites out of Egypt with great power and outstretched arm and they should fear, worship, and sacrifice to Him.

1. The Lord is Our Redeemer - A about the power of God to bring salvation to his people.

2. Trusting in the Lord - A about the importance of trusting and worshipping God in all circumstances.

1. Exodus 34:6-7 - The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.

2. Psalm 8:9 - O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

2 Kings 17:37 And the statutes, and the ordinances, and the law, and the commandment, which he wrote for you, ye shall observe to do for evermore; and ye shall not fear other gods.

The people of Israel were warned to obey the laws and commandments of God and not to fear other gods.

1. The importance of following God's laws.

2. The danger of worshipping other gods.

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. 1 John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome."

2 Kings 17:38 And the covenant that I have made with you ye shall not forget; neither shall ye fear other gods.

This passage from 2 Kings warns the people of Israel not to forget the covenant they have made with God and to not worship any other gods.

1. The Importance of Keeping God's Covenant and Rejecting Idolatry

2. Staying Faithful to God as He Deserves

1. Deuteronomy 6:13-16 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Exodus 20:3-6 - You shall have no other gods before me.

2 Kings 17:39 But the LORD your God ye shall fear; and he shall deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies.

Worshiping God is the only way to be saved from enemies and receive His protection.

1. "Fear the Lord and He Will Deliver You"

2. "The Power of Faithful Worship"

1. Exodus 20:20 - "Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man."

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 Kings 17:40 Howbeit they did not hearken, but they did after their former manner.

The people of Israel refused to obey God and continued in their own sinful ways.

1. A Call to Repentance: Obedience to God's Word

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: The Lessons of 2 Kings 17:40

1. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

2. Romans 6:12 - Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions.

2 Kings 17:41 So these nations feared the LORD, and served their graven images, both their children, and their children's children: as did their fathers, so do they unto this day.

The nations feared and served their idols, and their descendants continue to do so today, just as their fathers did.

1. The Consequence of Idolatry: Continuing the Cycle of Sin

2. The Power of God: The Only True Source of Lasting Fear and Obedience

1. Isaiah 44:9-20 - The folly of idolatry

2. Romans 1:18-23 - God's wrath against those who exchange the truth for a lie

2 Kings chapter 18 focuses on the reign of Hezekiah as king of Judah, highlighting his righteous actions, trust in God, and the deliverance of Jerusalem from the Assyrian threat.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Hezekiah as the son of Ahaz and the king of Judah. Hezekiah is described as a righteous king who follows in the footsteps of David. He removes idolatry from Judah and restores worship according to God's commandments (2 Kings 18:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: In the fourth year of his reign, King Hezekiah faces an invasion by King Shalmaneser's successor, Sennacherib of Assyria. Sennacherib sends his commander to demand surrender and taunts the people about their reliance on Egypt for help (2 Kings 18:7-16).

3rd Paragraph: Despite Sennacherib's threats, Hezekiah remains steadfast in his trust in God. He seeks counsel from Isaiah the prophet and prays for deliverance. Isaiah reassures him that God will defend Jerusalem against Assyria (2 Kings 18:17-37).

4th Paragraph:The narrative continues with an account of how Sennacherib sends a letter mocking God and threatening further destruction. In response, Hezekiah takes the letter to the temple and spreads it before God, praying for His intervention (Kings 19;1-7).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with news that an angel of God strikes down a large number of Assyrian soldiers during their siege on Jerusalem overnight resulting in Sennacherib returning to Nineveh where he is later assassinated by his sons while worshiping false gods (Kings 19;35-37).

In summary, Chapter eighteen of 2 Kings depicts Hezekiah's righteous rule, removal of idolatry, Assyrian invasion, trust in God's deliverance. Mockery from Sennacherib, divine intervention at night. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as faithfulness to God amidst adversity, the powerlessness of human kings compared to divine protection, and how prayer can bring about miraculous interventions in times of crisis.

2 Kings 18:1 Now it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign.

Hezekiah began to reign as king of Judah in the third year of Hoshea's reign as king of Israel.

1. God's Timing: The Importance of Patience and Faith in God's Plan

2. Leadership in the Bible: Hezekiah's Reign and Legacy

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

2. Isaiah 37:1-7 - Hezekiah's prayer to God when facing a crisis.

2 Kings 18:2 Twenty and five years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Abi, the daughter of Zachariah.

King Hezekiah of Judah began his reign at the age of 25 and reigned for 29 years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abi, the daughter of Zachariah.

1. We can learn from Hezekiah's example to trust God in all seasons of life.

2. Abi, Hezekiah's mother, was a great example of faithfulness to God.

1. 2 Chronicles 31:20-21 - Hezekiah sought God with all his heart, and prospered in all his works.

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.

2 Kings 18:3 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father did.

Hezekiah followed the example of his father, King David, and did what was right in the eyes of the Lord.

1. "Righteousness Through Following the Example of Others"

2. "Remaining Faithful Despite Challenges"

1. Matthew 5:48 - "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

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."

2 Kings 18:4 He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan.

King Hezekiah removed the high places, broke images, cut down groves, and broke the bronze serpent that Moses had made, which the Israelites had been burning incense to.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: How Hezekiah's Reformation of Israel Serves as a Warning to Us

2. The Renewed Hope of the Gospel: Lessons from Hezekiah's Bronze Serpent

1. Exodus 32:1-4 - The People of Israel Make a Golden Calf

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

2 Kings 18:5 He trusted in the LORD God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him.

Hezekiah was a king of Judah who trusted in the Lord and was like no other king before or after him.

1. Trusting in the Lord: Hezekiah's Example

2. The Uniqueness of Hezekiah's Faith

1. Isaiah 37:14-20

2. Psalm 20:7-8

2 Kings 18:6 For he clave to the LORD, and departed not from following him, but kept his commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses.

King Hezekiah of Judah was a faithful follower of the Lord and obeyed the commandments given to Moses.

1. The importance of faithfulness to God and obedience to the Lord's commands.

2. The legacy of faithfulness and obedience of King Hezekiah.

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 119:30 - I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I have set my heart on your laws.

2 Kings 18:7 And the LORD was with him; and he prospered whithersoever he went forth: and he rebelled against the king of Assyria, and served him not.

King Hezekiah of Judah was successful in his endeavors and chose not to serve the King of Assyria.

1. God's Favor: A Blessing in All Endeavors

2. The Power of Divine-Led Rebellion

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. Acts 5:29, "But Peter and the apostles answered, We must obey God rather than men."

2 Kings 18:8 He smote the Philistines, even unto Gaza, and the borders thereof, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city.

King Hezekiah of Judah defeated the Philistines, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city, until they were driven out of Gaza.

1. God is the ultimate protector and deliverer.

2. We can trust God to protect us and provide deliverance in our time of need.

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.

2 Kings 18:9 And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, which was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it.

In the fourth year of King Hezekiah, the seventh year of King Hoshea of Israel, Shalmaneser of Assyria besieged Samaria.

1. The Sovereignty of God: God is in control even when life is uncertain.

2. The Fragility of Life: We must make the most of every moment as we never know what is around the corner.

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, 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.

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 Kings 18:10 And at the end of three years they took it: even in the sixth year of Hezekiah, that is the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken.

In the ninth year of Hoshea, king of Israel, Samaria was conquered.

1. God is sovereign over all circumstances - Psalm 24:1

2. Our hope is in God - Psalm 62:5

1. 2 Kings 18:7 - "And the Lord was with him; and he prospered whithersoever he went forth: and he rebelled against the king of Assyria, and served him not."

2. Isaiah 36:1 - "Now it came to pass in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah, that Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the defenced cities of Judah, and took them."

2 Kings 18:11 And the king of Assyria did carry away Israel unto Assyria, and put them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes:

The King of Assyria took the people of Israel away and resettled them in Halah, Habor, Gozan, and the cities of the Medes.

1. The importance of persevering in times of hardship

2. God's faithfulness in providing for His people

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 20:7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

2 Kings 18:12 Because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD their God, but transgressed his covenant, and all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded, and would not hear them, nor do them.

Despite warnings from the Lord, Israel disobeyed God s commands and refused to listen.

1. Obedience to the Lord is essential for a meaningful relationship with God.

2. Disobedience to God s commands has severe consequences.

1. James 2:10-12 - For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

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.

2 Kings 18:13 Now in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah did Sennacherib king of Assyria come up against all the fenced cities of Judah, and took them.

In the fourteenth year of Hezekiah's reign, Sennacherib, king of Assyria, invaded all the fortified cities of Judah and conquered them.

1. God Will Grant Victory To Those Who Remain Faithful

2. Patiently Waiting On The Lord In Adversity

1. Isaiah 37:14-20

2. 2 Chronicles 32:7-8

2 Kings 18:14 And Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria to Lachish, saying, I have offended; return from me: that which thou puttest on me will I bear. And the king of Assyria appointed unto Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold.

Hezekiah, king of Judah, asked the king of Assyria to forgive him for his offense and offered to pay 300 talents of silver and 30 talents of gold.

1. The Power of Repentance: Lessons from Hezekiah

2. Using Riches to Acknowledge Wrongdoing: Hezekiah's Example

1. Proverbs 28:13 - He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

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.

2 Kings 18:15 And Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasures of the king's house.

Hezekiah gave the Babylonian King all the silver that was found in the Temple of God and in the royal palace.

1. The importance of being generous with our possessions.

2. The significance of trusting God in times of adversity.

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 6:19-21 - 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 Kings 18:16 At that time did Hezekiah cut off the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD, and from the pillars which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the king of Assyria.

Hezekiah, king of Judah, removed the gold from the doors and pillars of the temple of the Lord and gave it to the king of Assyria.

1. The Danger of Compromise: Hezekiah's Mistake in 2 Kings 18:16

2. Sacred and Secular: The Tension of Faithfulness in 2 Kings 18:16

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.

2 Kings 18:17 And the king of Assyria sent Tartan and Rabsaris and Rabshakeh from Lachish to king Hezekiah with a great host against Jerusalem. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. And when they were come up, they came and stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which is in the highway of the fuller's field.

King Hezekiah of Jerusalem was attacked by the King of Assyria and his great host who went up to Jerusalem and stood by the upper pool in the fuller's field.

1. The Importance of Preparation and Trust in God

2. Overcoming Adversity 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. 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? 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? 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 Kings 18:18 And when they had called to the king, there came out to them Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, which was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder.

Eliakim, Shebna, and Joah were summoned by the king and responded to his call.

1. Obey God s Call - 2 Kings 18:18

2. Be Faithful to the King - 2 Kings 18:18

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers.

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.

2 Kings 18:19 And Rabshakeh said unto them, Speak ye now to Hezekiah, Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria, What confidence is this wherein thou trustest?

Rabshakeh, the king of Assyria, challenged Hezekiah by asking what confidence he had in trusting in his own power.

1. Trust in the Lord, Not Yourself - Proverbs 3:5-6

2. Overcoming Doubt and Fear - Isaiah 41:10-13

1. Isaiah 10:12-15

2. Psalm 118:8-9

2 Kings 18:20 Thou sayest, (but they are but vain words,) I have counsel and strength for the war. Now on whom dost thou trust, that thou rebellest against me?

The king of Assyria questions the trust of the people of Judah in their counsel and strength against war, asking to whom they are rebelling against.

1. The Strength of Our Faith: Having faith in God and trusting in His strength, even in the midst of a war.

2. Be Wise in Our Trust: Relying on God and His Word instead of trusting in vain words.

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 118:8: It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man.

2 Kings 18:21 Now, behold, thou trustest upon the staff of this bruised reed, even upon Egypt, on which if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it: so is Pharaoh king of Egypt unto all that trust on him.

The prophet Isaiah warns against trusting in Egypt, as it will only lead to disappointment and pain.

1. Trusting in God, Not Egypt

2. The Power of Relying on God

1. Isaiah 30:2-3 - "That walk to go down into Egypt, and have not asked at my mouth; to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in the shadow of Egypt!"

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."

2 Kings 18:22 But if ye say unto me, We trust in the LORD our God: is not that he, whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah hath taken away, and hath said to Judah and Jerusalem, Ye shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem?

Hezekiah removed the high places and altars of idol worship and commanded the people of Judah and Jerusalem to worship only at the altar in Jerusalem.

1. Trust in the Lord and worship Him alone.

2. The importance of following God's commands and staying obedient to His will.

1. Isaiah 37:14-20

2. Deuteronomy 6:13-15

2 Kings 18:23 Now therefore, I pray thee, give pledges to my lord the king of Assyria, and I will deliver thee two thousand horses, if thou be able on thy part to set riders upon them.

King Hezekiah asked the king of Assyria for a truce, offering to provide him with two thousand horses if the king of Assyria could provide riders for them.

1. The Power of Negotiation: How to Find Compromise in Difficult Situations

2. The Strength of Self-Reliance: How to Rely on Your Own Abilities to Succeed

1. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

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?

2 Kings 18:24 How then wilt thou turn away the face of one captain of the least of my master's servants, and put thy trust on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?

The prophet Isaiah challenges King Hezekiah to rely on God instead of Egypt for protection and strength.

1. Trust in the Lord with All Your Might (2 Kings 18:24)

2. Leaning on Egypt Instead of God (2 Kings 18:24)

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 118:8 It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.

2 Kings 18:25 Am I now come up without the LORD against this place to destroy it? The LORD said to me, Go up against this land, and destroy it.

In 2 Kings 18:25, God commanded the king to go against the land and destroy it.

1. Obey God's Commands - 2 Kings 18:25

2. Trust in the Lord - Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Isaiah 7:7 - "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. 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 Kings 18:26 Then said Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, and Shebna, and Joah, unto Rabshakeh, Speak, I pray thee, to thy servants in the Syrian language; for we understand it: and talk not with us in the Jews' language in the ears of the people that are on the wall.

Three men, Eliakim, Shebna and Joah, asked Rabshakeh to speak to them in the Syrian language, as they understood it, instead of the Jews' language, so that the people on the wall would not understand.

1. God's people have a responsibility to protect their language from being understood by outsiders.

2. We should always be mindful of how we communicate with others, especially when we are in a position of authority.

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. Proverbs 18:21 - The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

2 Kings 18:27 But Rabshakeh said unto them, Hath my master sent me to thy master, and to thee, to speak these words? hath he not sent me to the men which sit on the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss with you?

Rabshakeh insulted the people of Jerusalem by suggesting that they should eat their own waste and drink their own urine.

1. God's Grace in the Midst of Insults

2. The Power of Words

1. Ephesians 4:29-31 - "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. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice."

2. Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits."

2 Kings 18:28 Then Rabshakeh stood and cried with a loud voice in the Jews' language, and spake, saying, Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria:

Rabshakeh, a representative of the Assyrian King, speaks to the Jews in their own language and encourages them to listen to the words of the great king.

1. God is often greater than what we may feel in our current circumstances.

2. We must stay faithful to God regardless of the opposition we may face.

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. 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 Kings 18:29 Thus saith the king, Let not Hezekiah deceive you: for he shall not be able to deliver you out of his hand:

The king of Assyria warns the people of Judah not to be deceived by Hezekiah, as Hezekiah will not be able to save them from Assyrian rule.

1. The Power of False Hope: How Not To Be Deceived By False Promises

2. Finding Strength in Weakness: How to Stand Firm 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.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - 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 Kings 18:30 Neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, The LORD will surely deliver us, and this city shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.

Hezekiah warned the people of Israel not to trust in the LORD for their rescue from the king of Assyria, as the LORD would not necessarily deliver them.

1. Trust in the LORD, But Do Not Rely on Him for Everything - 2 Chronicles 16:9

2. Our Hope Is in the LORD, He Is Our Deliverer - Isaiah 25:9

1. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

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.

2 Kings 18:31 Hearken not to Hezekiah: for thus saith the king of Assyria, Make an agreement with me by a present, and come out to me, and then eat ye every man of his own vine, and every one of his fig tree, and drink ye every one the waters of his cistern:

Hezekiah is warned not to listen to the king of Assyria who demands they make an agreement with him in exchange for being able to eat from their own vine and fig tree and drink from their own cisterns.

1. The Power of Obedience - God commands us to be obedient to Him, for He is our provider and protector.

2. Facing Temptation - We must be aware of the temptations of the world and how to stand firm in our faith.

1. Deuteronomy 6:13 - You shall fear the Lord your God and serve him and swear by his name.

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.

2 Kings 18:32 Until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of corn and wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of oil olive and of honey, that ye may live, and not die: and hearken not unto Hezekiah, when he persuadeth you, saying, The LORD will deliver us.

Hezekiah warned the people of Israel not to listen to him, for the LORD would not deliver them until they were taken to a land with plenty of food and resources like their own.

1. God's Promise to Provide - A about the faithfulness of God to provide for His people in times of difficulty.

2. Listening to God's Voice - A about the importance of hearing and obeying God's voice, no matter the circumstances.

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 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?

2 Kings 18:33 Hath any of the gods of the nations delivered at all his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria?

The king of Assyria had taken control of many lands and no god of any nation had been able to free the land from the king of Assyria.

1. God's Power and Sovereignty - His power is greater than any other force on Earth.

2. The Need for Faith and Trust - We must have faith in God and trust His power.

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."

2 Kings 18:34 Where are the gods of Hamath, and of Arpad? where are the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah? have they delivered Samaria out of mine hand?

In 2 Kings 18:34, God asks where are the gods of the cities of Hamath, Arpad, Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah and rhetorically points out that it is He who has delivered Samaria from His hand.

1. God's Sovereignty: How God's Power and Authority Reaches Beyond Our Understanding

2. The Power of Faith: How God's Strength is Manifest through Our Belief

1. Isaiah 46:9-11 - 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. Romans 8:31-39 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2 Kings 18:35 Who are they among all the gods of the countries, that have delivered their country out of mine hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of mine hand?

The King of Assyria mocks God by asking which of the gods of all the nations have saved their people from his hand, and how then could the Lord save Jerusalem?

1. God's Power: The Ultimate Strength

2. The Sovereignty of God: He Reigns Supreme

1. Isaiah 45:21 - "Declare what is to be, present it-- let them take counsel together. Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from ancient times? 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 115:3 - "But our God is in the heavens; he does whatever he pleases."

2 Kings 18:36 But the people held their peace, and answered him not a word: for the king's commandment was, saying, Answer him not.

The people did not respond to the king's command and remained silent.

1: We must always remember to obey the commands of our leaders.

2: We must always show respect to those in authority.

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 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."

2 Kings 18:37 Then came Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, which was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, to Hezekiah with their clothes rent, and told him the words of Rabshakeh.

Three high ranking officials, Eliakim, Shebna, and Joah, traveled to Hezekiah with their clothes torn, to tell him the words of Rabshakeh.

1. Lessons from the Life of Hezekiah - His faith in God despite adversity

2. The Power of Unity - How the three officials showed solidarity and strength 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. 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 Kings chapter 19 continues the account of the Assyrian threat against Jerusalem and the miraculous deliverance orchestrated by God in response to Hezekiah's prayers.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Hezekiah's response to the threatening letter from Sennacherib. He goes into the temple, spreads the letter before God, and prays for deliverance. He acknowledges God's sovereignty and pleads for His intervention (2 Kings 19:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah sends a message to Hezekiah, assuring him that God has heard his prayer and will defend Jerusalem against Sennacherib. Isaiah prophesies that Sennacherib will not enter or shoot an arrow into Jerusalem but will be turned back by a divine intervention (2 Kings 19:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: Upon receiving another threatening message from Sennacherib, Hezekiah takes it to the temple again and prays earnestly to God for salvation. He appeals to God's reputation as the true living God who has power over all nations (2 Kings 19:8-13).

4th Paragraph:The narrative describes how Isaiah delivers a message from God to reassure Hezekiah of His plans declaring that Sennacherib will be defeated, Jerusalem spared, and Judah preserved due to God s defense (Kings 19;14-20).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with an account of how an angel of the Lord strikes down a hundred and eighty-five thousand Assyrian soldiers in one night. Upon waking up, Sennacherib returns in shame to Nineveh where he is later assassinated by his sons (Kings 19;35-37).

In summary, Chapter nineteen of 2 Kings depicts Hezekiah's prayer for deliverance, God's assurance through Isaiah, Threats from Sennacherib, divine promise of protection. Divine intervention at night, defeat of Assyrian army. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as trust in God during times of crisis, the powerlessness of human kings before divine authority, and how fervent prayer can lead to miraculous interventions and deliverance.

2 Kings 19:1 And it came to pass, when king Hezekiah heard it, that he rent his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD.

King Hezekiah heard concerning the Assyrian threat and in response tore his clothes and put on sackcloth as he went to seek the Lord in the temple.

1. When faced with difficulty, seek refuge in the Lord.

2. Responding to impending danger with prayer and repentance is a sign of faith.

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. Mark 5:36 - Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, Don t be afraid; just believe.

2 Kings 19:2 And he sent Eliakim, which was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz.

King Hezekiah sends Eliakim, Shebna, and the elders of the priests to Isaiah the prophet, all of them wearing sackcloth.

1. God is always there in times of trouble.

2. Seeking wise counsel is often the best way to find peace in difficult times.

1. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2. Proverbs 11:14 - For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers.

2 Kings 19:3 And they said unto him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and blasphemy; for the children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth.

Hezekiah's people are in distress, unable to bear the burden of their situation.

1. Bearing Burdens with Strength from God - Philippians 4:13

2. Finding Comfort in Troubling Times - Isaiah 41:10

1. Isaiah 37:3 - "And they said unto him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and blasphemy: for the children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2 Kings 19:4 It may be the LORD thy God will hear all the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master hath sent to reproach the living God; and will reprove the words which the LORD thy God hath heard: wherefore lift up thy prayer for the remnant that are left.

The prophet Isaiah encourages King Hezekiah of Judah to seek the Lord's help in response to the Assyrian king's blasphemous accusations against the Lord.

1. Trusting in God despite trials and difficulty

2. The power of prayer in times of distress

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.

2 Kings 19:5 So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

King Hezekiah's servants went to visit Isaiah to seek his help.

1. God will provide us with the help we need in difficult times.

2. We should never hesitate to turn to God for guidance.

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.

2 Kings 19:6 And Isaiah said unto them, Thus shall ye say to your master, Thus saith the LORD, Be not afraid of the words which thou hast heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.

Isaiah tells the people of Judah to not be afraid of the king of Assyria's blasphemous words.

1. God is Greater: Releasing Fear by Trusting in the Lord - Isaiah 19:6

2. The Power of Faith: Overcoming Fear with Courage and Hope - 2 Kings 19:6

1. Psalm 56:3-4 - When I am afraid, I will put my trust in You. In God, whose word I praise, in God I have put my trust; I shall not be afraid. What can mere man do to me?

2. Isaiah 35:4 - Say to those with anxious heart, Be strong, fear not! Behold your God will come with vengeance; the recompense of God will come, but He will save you.

2 Kings 19:7 Behold, I will send a blast upon him, and he shall hear a rumour, and shall return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.

God sends a message to Hezekiah through Isaiah to warn him of Sennacherib's impending attack, and promises to protect him and cause Sennacherib to fall by the sword in his own land.

1. God is always with us in times of trouble and will protect us.

2. We can trust that God's plans will always be fulfilled.

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

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."

2 Kings 19:8 So Rabshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah: for he had heard that he was departed from Lachish.

Rabshakeh was sent by the King of Assyria to deliver a message to Hezekiah in Jerusalem. Hezekiah refused the message, so Rabshakeh returned to the King of Assyria who was then warring against Libnah.

1. God is sovereign and His plans will prevail, even when it seems like our own plans have failed.

2. We should trust in God's plans and timing, rather than our own.

1. Isaiah 31:1 - Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many and in horsemen because they are very strong, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel or consult 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.

2 Kings 19:9 And when he heard say of Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, Behold, he is come out to fight against thee: he sent messengers again unto Hezekiah, saying,

Hezekiah received news of Tirhakah, the king of Ethiopia, coming to fight against him and sent messengers to Hezekiah to give him further information.

1. God's Protection for His People - Exploring the trust and faith Hezekiah had in God to protect him and his people from the threat of Tirhakah.

2. The Power of Prayer - Examining how Hezekiah's prayers to God led him to seek wise counsel and strengthen his faith.

1. 2 Kings 19:9 - And when he heard say of Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, Behold, he is come out to fight against thee: he sent messengers again unto Hezekiah, saying,

2. Isaiah 37:14-20 - Hezekiah's prayer to God for deliverance from the threat of Tirhakah.

2 Kings 19:10 Thus shall ye speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying, Let not thy God in whom thou trustest deceive thee, saying, Jerusalem shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.

Hezekiah is warned not to be deceived by God into believing that Jerusalem will not be handed over to the Assyrian king.

1. Do not rely solely on your faith, but remember to be wise and prudent.

2. Trust in the Lord, but also use wisdom and discernment.

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 1:5-6 "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."

2 Kings 19:11 Behold, thou hast heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them utterly: and shalt thou be delivered?

The kings of Assyria have destroyed all the lands they conquered and the question is posed whether the same fate will befall Israel.

1. God is in Control: Even in the midst of great destruction, God is still in control and sovereign over all.

2. Faith in the Face of Adversity: Having faith in God even in times of great difficulty and oppression is key to overcoming it.

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 Kings 19:12 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?

The Lord questions why the gods of the nations he has destroyed have not been able to save them, citing the examples of Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, and the children of Eden in Thelasar.

1: God is sovereign and powerful, and He alone is able to bring true and lasting deliverance.

2: We can trust that the Lord will provide for our needs in times of trouble.

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 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling.

2 Kings 19:13 Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivah?

The prophet Isaiah questions where the kings of Hamath, Arpad, Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah are located.

1. "God's Providence: Trusting in the Lord Amidst Troubling Times"

2. "God's Sovereignty: Knowing that All is in His Hands"

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."

2 Kings 19:14 And Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.

Hezekiah received a letter from messengers and read it before going up to the house of the Lord to spread it before the Lord.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Hezekiah's Faithful Supplication Saved Jerusalem

2. The Call to Holiness: Learning From Hezekiah's Devotion to the Lord

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. Isaiah 38:2 - Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, and said.

2 Kings 19:15 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.

Hezekiah prayed to God, acknowledging Him as the ruler of all kingdoms and creator of heaven and earth.

1. Trusting in the Sovereignty of God

2. Acknowledging the Lordship of God

1. Isaiah 37:16 - "O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, that dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: thou hast made heaven and earth."

2. Psalm 24:1 - "The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."

2 Kings 19:16 LORD, bow down thine ear, and hear: open, LORD, thine eyes, and see: and hear the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent him to reproach the living God.

Sennacherib has sent a message to reproach the living God, and the Lord is asked to bow down His ear, open His eyes, and hear the words of Sennacherib.

1. Trust in the Lord: A on the power of trusting God in the face of adversity.

2. God's Love and Compassion: A on God's love and compassion in spite of the suffering we experience.

1. Isaiah 37:16-20 - In this passage, God responds to Sennacherib's reproach of Him and sends a message of His might and power.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus encourages us to not worry and to trust in the Lord, as He cares for us.

2 Kings 19:17 Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands,

The Lord is aware of the destruction caused by the kings of Assyria on other nations and their lands.

1. The Lord is in control, even when it feels like He isn't.

2. God is Sovereign and His will will be done.

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. 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 Kings 19:18 And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them.

The people of Israel destroyed the false gods of their enemies, as they were not true gods but were made by human hands out of wood and stone.

1. The Idols of the World: Recognizing False Gods

2. The Authority of the One True God: Rejecting False Gods

1. Deuteronomy 12:1-4 - Destroy all false gods and serve the Lord

2. Psalm 115:3-8 - Praise the Lord who is higher than any false gods

2 Kings 19:19 Now therefore, O LORD our God, I beseech thee, save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD God, even thou only.

King Hezekiah of Judah prays to God for deliverance from the Assyrian forces and asks that all the kingdoms of the earth may recognize the power of God.

1. The Power of Prayer: Hezekiah's Example

2. Recognizing God's Sovereignty

1. Isaiah 37:20 - And now, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD, even thou only.

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.

2 Kings 19:20 Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, That which thou hast prayed to me against Sennacherib king of Assyria I have heard.

Isaiah sends a message to Hezekiah from the Lord God of Israel in response to his prayer against Sennacherib king of Assyria.

1. God hears our prayers and answers them. 2. Trust in the Lord to protect you from your enemies.

1. 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. 2. Hebrews 13:6 So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

2 Kings 19:21 This is the word that the LORD hath spoken concerning him; The virgin the daughter of Zion hath despised thee, and laughed thee to scorn; the daughter of Jerusalem hath shaken her head at thee.

The Lord speaks through His Word concerning someone, and the daughter of Zion and Jerusalem have both shown scorn and mockery.

1. "The Power of Words: How What You Say Matters"

2. "The Importance of Repentance: Learning From the Scorn of Others"

1. Isaiah 37:22 - "This is the word that the Lord has spoken against him: 'She despises you, she scorns you - the virgin daughter of Zion; she wags her head behind you - the daughter of Jerusalem.'"

2. Matthew 12:36-37 - "I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

2 Kings 19:22 Whom hast thou reproached and blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted thy voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? even against the Holy One of Israel.

The Lord rebukes those who have blasphemed and exalted their voices against the Holy One of Israel.

1. The Danger of Blasphemy: How Our Words Reveal Our Hearts

2. The Majesty of the Holy One of Israel: A Call to Revere God

1. Psalm 51:17 My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

2. 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 Kings 19:23 By thy messengers thou hast reproached the LORD, and hast said, With the multitude of my chariots I am come up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon, and will cut down the tall cedar trees thereof, and the choice fir trees thereof: and I will enter into the lodgings of his borders, and into the forest of his Carmel.

The Lord was reproached by messengers with boasts of coming to the mountains to cut down cedars and firs and entering the lodgings of God's borders.

1. God's Sovereignty and Faithfulness in the Face of Reproach

2. The Consequences of Boasting and Reproaching the Lord

1. Isaiah 37:24 "Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD of hosts, O My people that dwellest in Zion, be not afraid of the Assyrian: he shall smite thee with a rod, and shall lift up his staff against thee, after the manner of Egypt."

2. Psalm 62:11 "God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God."

2 Kings 19:24 I have digged and drunk strange waters, and with the sole of my feet have I dried up all the rivers of besieged places.

God has provided for His people in their time of need, even in the face of their enemies' siege.

1. God's Protection in Times of Trouble - 2 Kings 19:24

2. The Power of Faith in the Midst of Adversity - 2 Kings 19:24

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 Kings 19:25 Hast thou not heard long ago how I have done it, and of ancient times that I have formed it? now have I brought it to pass, that thou shouldest be to lay waste fenced cities into ruinous heaps.

God has been working to bring about the destruction of fortified cities for a long time.

1. The Power of God's Timing

2. The Everlasting Effects of God's Potential

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 (O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation)

2. Psalm 33:11 (The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations)

2 Kings 19:26 Therefore their inhabitants were of small power, they were dismayed and confounded; they were as the grass of the field, and as the green herb, as the grass on the house tops, and as corn blasted before it be grown up.

The inhabitants of Jerusalem were weak and helpless, like the fragile grass and herbs of the field.

1. God's Strength and Provision in Times of Weakness

2. Knowing our Place 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. Matthew 6:26-27 "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?"

2 Kings 19:27 But I know thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming in, and thy rage against me.

God knows everything about His people, including where they live, their movements, and their feelings towards Him.

1. God Sees All - A about how God knows and sees everything we do and think, and how that should shape our lives.

2. The Power of God - A about God's infinite power and how it should impact our trust in Him.

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. 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 Kings 19:28 Because thy rage against me and thy tumult is come up into mine ears, therefore I will put my hook in thy nose, and my bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee back by the way by which thou camest.

God will punish those who reject Him by turning them away from Him.

1. God's Discipline: Understanding the Consequences of Unrighteousness

2. The Power of God's Mercy: Finding Redemption Through His Love

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 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 Kings 19:29 And this shall be a sign unto thee, Ye shall eat this year such things as grow of themselves, and in the second year that which springeth of the same; and in the third year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruits thereof.

God promised King Hezekiah a sign that he would have food to eat for the next three years.

1. God's Provision - How God meets our every need

2. The Significance of God's Promises - How faith in God's promises leads to lasting provision

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on trusting God to provide for our needs

2. Romans 8:28 - God works all things together for good for those who love Him

2 Kings 19:30 And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall yet again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

The house of Judah will survive and eventually thrive.

1. Having Faith in God's Promises - 2 Kings 19:30

2. Overcoming Adversity - 2 Kings 19:30

1. Isaiah 7:9 - "If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all."

2. Romans 8:28 - "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him."

2 Kings 19:31 For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and they that escape out of mount Zion: the zeal of the LORD of hosts shall do this.

A remnant of people will escape from Jerusalem and Mount Zion, and it will be due to the zeal of the LORD of hosts.

1. The Power of God's Zeal: How the LORD of Hosts is Working in Our Lives

2. The Remnant of Faith: Shaping Our Lives Through the Zeal of the LORD

1. Isaiah 37:32-33 - For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and they that escape out of mount Zion: the zeal of the LORD of hosts shall do this.

2. Romans 11:1-5 - I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life.

2 Kings 19:32 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it.

The Lord declares that the King of Assyria will not be able to defeat Jerusalem.

1. God is in control and will protect His people even in the face of overwhelming odds.

2. Even when all hope seems lost, we can trust in the Lord to deliver us.

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. Psalm 37:39 - The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; He is their stronghold in times of trouble.

2 Kings 19:33 By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the LORD.

The Lord declares that the enemy will return the same way they came and will not enter the city.

1. God is in control of our enemies and will protect us.

2. God's promises are sure and everlasting.

1. Psalm 46:7 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

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... 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 Kings 19:34 For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

God promises to save Jerusalem for His own sake and for the sake of the prophet David.

1. God's Faithfulness in Upholding His Promises

2. God's Love for His Servants

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. Isaiah 43:5 - "Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west."

2 Kings 19:35 And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.

An angel of the Lord killed 185,000 Assyrian soldiers in one night.

1. God is a powerful protector of His people.

2. Even in the darkest of nights, God is with us.

1. Psalm 46:7 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.

2 Kings 19:36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

The king of Assyria, Sennacherib, left and returned to Nineveh.

1. God's sovereignty over earthly kings and kingdoms.

2. The power of prayer to bring about God's will.

1. Daniel 4:17 "The Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will."

2. James 5:16 "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2 Kings 19:37 And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of Armenia. And Esarhaddon his son reigned in his stead.

King Sennacherib of Assyria was killed by his own sons, Adrammelech and Sharezer, while worshipping in the house of his god, Nisroch. Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place.

1. The consequences of idolatry and rebellion against God.

2. The importance of recognizing the sovereignty of God in all things.

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. 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, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me."

2 Kings chapter 20 focuses on the events surrounding Hezekiah's illness, his miraculous healing, and the visit of envoys from Babylon.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how Hezekiah becomes severely ill and is visited by the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah tells him to set his house in order because he will not recover from his illness (2 Kings 20:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Hezekiah pleads with God and weeps bitterly. In response to his prayer, God instructs Isaiah to deliver a message to Hezekiah that he will add fifteen years to his life and deliver him from the Assyrian threat (2 Kings 20:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: As a sign of this promise, God causes the shadow on the sundial of Ahaz to move backward ten steps. Hezekiah acknowledges this miracle as a confirmation of God's word (2 Kings 20:8-11).

4th Paragraph:The narrative then shifts focus to a visit from envoys sent by Merodach-Baladan, king of Babylon. Hezekiah shows them all his treasures and wealth without considering their intentions or seeking guidance from God (Kings 20;12-13).

5th Paragraph:Isaiah confronts Hezekiah about revealing everything to the Babylonian envoys and prophesies that all these treasures will be carried away by Babylon in the future. However, Hezekiah finds comfort in knowing that peace will prevail during his lifetime (Kings 20;14-19).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with details about Hezekiah's reign his accomplishments such as constructing a tunnel for water supply and mentions his death and burial (Kings 22;20-21).

In summary, Chapter twenty of 2 Kings depicts Hezekiah's severe illness, prayer for healing, God's promise of extended life, miraculous sign on sundial. Visit from Babylonian envoys, prophetic warning about future. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as faith in prayer for healing, God's sovereignty over life and death, the importance of seeking guidance before making decisions, and how pride can lead to consequences in relationships with other nations.

2 Kings 20:1 In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live.

Hezekiah was very ill and the prophet Isaiah warned him to set his house in order because he was going to die.

1. God's Timing - Why God allows us to go through difficult times

2. Unprepared for the Unexpected - Learning to prepare for the future

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. James 4:13-15

2 Kings 20:2 Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying,

King Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord.

1. The Power of Prayer: Learning from Hezekiah

2. Turning to the Lord in Times of Trouble

1. James 5:13-18 - The Power of Prayer

2. Psalm 34:17-20 - Turning to the Lord in Times of Trouble

2 Kings 20:3 I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

Hezekiah pleads with the Lord to remember his faithfulness and how he has lived a righteous life in God's sight. Hezekiah then wept.

1. "The Need for Godly Sorrow"

2. "Remembering God's Faithfulness"

1. 2 Corinthians 7:10 - For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.

2. Isaiah 38:3 - Then Hezekiah wept bitterly, and prayed to the LORD; and He spoke to Hezekiah and said, "What have you asked of Me? I have heard your prayer."

2 Kings 20:4 And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying,

The Lord spoke to Isaiah before he left the temple courtyard.

1. God Always Has a Word For Us - No matter where we are, God speaks to us and gives us direction.

2. God Is Always Present - We can be assured that God is with us wherever we go.

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.

2 Kings 20:5 Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD.

God hears Hezekiah's prayer and promises to heal him on the third day so he can go up to the House of the Lord.

1. God Hears Our Prayers - 2 Kings 20:5

2. The Healing Power of God - 2 Kings 20:5

1. Psalm 28:7 - The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me.

2. James 5:15 - 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 Kings 20:6 And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

God promised to add 15 years to King Hezekiah's life and protect the city from the King of Assyria, both for Hezekiah's sake and for the sake of His servant David.

1. God's Faithfulness: The Lord's Promise of Protection for His People

2. God's Unfailing Love: The Lord's Provision for His Servants

1. 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.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you.

2 Kings 20:7 And Isaiah said, Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered.

Isaiah instructed the king to take a lump of figs to heal a boil.

1. The Power of Faith: How God Can Use Even the Smallest Things to Heal

2. The Miraculous: How God Answers Prayers in Unexpected Ways

1. Matthew 9:20-22 - "Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. She said to herself, If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed. Jesus turned and saw her. Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you. And the woman was healed from that moment.

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.

2 Kings 20:8 And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the LORD the third day?

Hezekiah asked Isaiah for a sign of assurance that the Lord would heal him and that he would be able to go to the temple on the third day.

1. Trusting in God's Promises in Times of Difficulty

2. Relying on God's Faithfulness 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 56:3, "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee."

2 Kings 20:9 And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the shadow go forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees?

Isaiah questioned Hezekiah about a sign from the Lord to prove His promise.

1. Seek the Lord's confirmation for your plans and decisions.

2. Believe in God's promises and be open to His sign.

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 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 Kings 20:10 And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees.

Hezekiah responds to Isaiah's prophecy of the sundial going forward ten degrees, saying instead that it should go backward ten degrees.

1. "God's Will is Greater than Our Will"

2. "The Power of Faith in Unprecedented Times"

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. 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 Kings 20:11 And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the LORD: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz.

Isaiah prayed to the LORD and the sun moved backwards ten degrees on the sundial of Ahaz.

1. Through Faith, Miracles are Possible

2. God is Always Listening to His People

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. 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 Kings 20:12 At that time Berodachbaladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present unto Hezekiah: for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.

Berodachbaladan, king of Babylon, sent a letter and a gift to Hezekiah after hearing of his illness.

1. God's love and kindness will always be with us even in times of hardship

2. God can use even the most unexpected people to bring us blessings

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 34:17-18 - 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 Kings 20:13 And Hezekiah hearkened unto them, and shewed them all the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armour, and all that was found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not.

Hezekiah showed the Babylonian envoys all the treasures in his house and dominion.

1. God is sovereign over all nations

2. We should trust God with our possessions

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

2 Kings 20:14 Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him, What said these men? and from whence came they unto thee? And Hezekiah said, They are come from a far country, even from Babylon.

Hezekiah received a visit from Isaiah the prophet, who asked about the men from a far country that had come to visit him. Hezekiah replied that they had come from Babylon.

1. God's Guidance in Times of Uncertainty

2. The Call to Follow 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. 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 Kings 20:15 And he said, What have they seen in thine house? And Hezekiah answered, All the things that are in mine house have they seen: there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shewed them.

Hezekiah showed the Babylonian messengers all of the treasures in his house.

1. God's faithfulness in providing us with material blessings.

2. The importance of being faithful stewards of God's resources.

1. 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.

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the talents, emphasizing the importance of being faithful stewards of God's resources.

2 Kings 20:16 And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD.

Isaiah told Hezekiah to listen to the word of the Lord.

1. The Power of Listening to God's Word

2. Obeying God's Voice

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live."

2. James 1:22 - "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

2 Kings 20:17 Behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store unto this day, shall be carried into Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the LORD.

God warns Hezekiah that Babylon will take away all that he has stored in his house.

1. God's Sovereignty: We should trust in God's plans and recognize His ultimate authority in our lives.

2. The Value of Contentment: We must recognize the temporary nature of worldly things and seek contentment in God instead of material possessions.

1. Psalm 118:8 "It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man."

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."

2 Kings 20:18 And of thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.

The sons of the King of Judah will be taken away and made eunuchs in the palace of the Babylonian King.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Trust in His Plans

2. God s Faithful Faithfulness: Even in the Midst of Tragedy

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 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.

2 Kings 20:19 Then said Hezekiah unto Isaiah, Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken. And he said, Is it not good, if peace and truth be in my days?

Hezekiah expresses his appreciation to Isaiah for his good words from the Lord and expresses his hope for peace and truth in his days.

1. God's Word Brings Comfort and Hope

2. The Blessings of Peace and Truth in Our Lives

1. Psalm 119:165 - Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

2. Proverbs 12:20 - Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counsellors of peace is joy.

2 Kings 20:20 And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, and how he made a pool, and a conduit, and brought water into the city, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

Hezekiah was a powerful king of Judah who built a pool and a conduit, bringing water into the city. His accomplishments are recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah.

1. God's Faithful Servants - The Life of Hezekiah

2. The Power of Sacrifice and Service - The Legacy of Hezekiah

1. Isaiah 38:21 - For Isaiah had said, Let them take a cake of figs and apply it to the boil, that he may recover.

2. 2 Chronicles 32:30 - This same Hezekiah also stopped the upper watercourse of Gihon and brought it straight down to the west side of the city of David.

2 Kings 20:21 And Hezekiah slept with his fathers: and Manasseh his son reigned in his stead.

Hezekiah, king of Judah, died and was succeeded by his son Manasseh.

1. God's Plans Never Fail: Hezekiah's Legacy

2. Faithful Servants to the End: Hezekiah's Legacy

1. 2 Corinthians 4:7-12

2. Psalm 146:3-4

2 Kings chapter 21 focuses on the wicked reign of Manasseh as king of Judah and the consequences of his idolatrous practices.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Manasseh as a twelve-year-old who becomes king after his father Hezekiah's death. Unlike his righteous father, Manasseh engages in evil practices and leads Judah astray (2 Kings 21:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Manasseh rebuilds the high places that his father had destroyed, erects altars for Baal and Asherah, worships the host of heaven, and practices divination and sorcery. He even sacrifices his own son in pagan rituals (2 Kings 21:3-6).

3rd Paragraph: Due to Manasseh's wickedness, God pronounces judgment upon Jerusalem and Judah. The Lord declares that He will bring disaster upon them because they have forsaken Him and provoked His anger (2 Kings 21:10-15).

4th Paragraph:The narrative describes how Manasseh fills Jerusalem with innocent blood shed through idolatrous practices. His actions lead to great sin among the people of Judah, provoking God's wrath against them (Kings 21;16).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with details about Manasseh's reign his death and burial and mentions some additional information about events during his time as king (Kings 22;17-18).

In summary, Chapter twenty-one of 2 Kings depicts Manasseh's wicked rule, rebuilding of pagan worship sites, Idolatry and occult practices, sacrifice of children. God's pronouncement of judgment, provocation of divine wrath. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as the consequences of turning away from God, the dangers of idolatry and occult practices, and how leadership influences the spiritual condition of a nation.

2 Kings 21:1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hephzibah.

Manasseh was 12 years old when he became king over Jerusalem and he ruled for 55 years. His mother's name was Hephzibah.

1. The Power of Young Leadership: A Study of Manasseh

2. The Importance of a Godly Mother: A Look at Hephzibah

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 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 Kings 21:2 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, after the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

Manasseh, King of Judah, did evil in the sight of the LORD by following the abominations of the heathen which the LORD had cast out before the Israelites.

1. Be Mindful of God's Will: the Story of King Manasseh

2. Learning from Manasseh's Mistakes: Avoiding the Abominations of the Heathen

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.

2 Kings 21:3 For he built up again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal, and made a grove, as did Ahab king of Israel; and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them.

King Manasseh of Judah reestablished the high places of worship that his father Hezekiah had destroyed and began worshipping false gods like Baal and the host of heaven.

1. The Danger of False Worship

2. The Importance of Obedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 6:13-15 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and strength.

2. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 - Destroy all arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God.

2 Kings 21:4 And he built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD said, In Jerusalem will I put my name.

King Manasseh of Judah rebuilt altars in the house of the Lord, and the Lord promised to keep His name in Jerusalem.

1. The Lord's Promise to Keep His Name in Jerusalem

2. The Power of King Manasseh's Faithful Remnants

1. 2 Chronicles 33:7-17 - Manasseh's Repentance

2. Psalm 132:13-14 - The Lord's Promise to Dwell in Zion

2 Kings 21:5 And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD.

King Manasseh of Judah built altars for worship of all the gods of the heavens in the courts of the LORD's Temple.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Power of God's Mercy

1. Romans 1:25 - They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator.

2. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near.

2 Kings 21:6 And he made his son pass through the fire, and observed times, and used enchantments, and dealt with familiar spirits and wizards: he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.

King Manasseh of Judah was a wicked king who practiced idolatry and sorcery.

1. The Danger of Idolatry - 2 Kings 21:6

2. The Consequences of Wickedness - 2 Kings 21:6

1. Deuteronomy 18:10-12 - Do not practice divination or seek omens.

2. Amos 5:25-27 - Take away from Me the noise of your songs; I will not even listen to the sound of your harps.

2 Kings 21:7 And he set a graven image of the grove that he had made in the house, of which the LORD said to David, and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever:

King Manasseh set up a graven image of a grove inside the temple in Jerusalem, despite the LORD's warnings to David and Solomon.

1. Knowing the Lord s Will and Doing What is Right

2. God's Warning, Man's Choice

1. Isaiah 48:17-18 - 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.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

2 Kings 21:8 Neither will I make the feet of Israel move any more out of the land which I gave their fathers; only if they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that my servant Moses commanded them.

God promises to keep the Israelites in the land he gave them as long as they follow his commands and laws.

1. God's faithfulness: a reminder of His promises and blessings

2. Staying faithful to God: the importance of obedience and faithfulness

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.

2. 1 Corinthians 1:9 - God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

2 Kings 21:9 But they hearkened not: and Manasseh seduced them to do more evil than did the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel.

Manasseh led the people of Israel to disobey God and do more evil than the nations that were previously destroyed by God.

1. The Consequence of Disobedience: Learning from the Example of Manasseh

2. The Power of Influence: How to Lead Others in Righteousness

1. 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.

2. Proverbs 13:20 - He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

2 Kings 21:10 And the LORD spake by his servants the prophets, saying,

The Lord spoke to his prophets and commanded them to deliver a message.

1. The Power of the Lord's Word: How God Speaks Through His Prophets

2. Following God's Command: 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 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.

2 Kings 21:11 Because Manasseh king of Judah hath done these abominations, and hath done wickedly above all that the Amorites did, which were before him, and hath made Judah also to sin with his idols:

Manasseh, the King of Judah, committed abominations and led Judah into sin with his idols.

1. The Danger of Idolatry.

2. Following God's Commandments.

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. Jeremiah 2:11-13 Has a nation ever changed its gods? (Yet they are not gods at all.) But my people have exchanged their glorious God for worthless idols. Be appalled at this, you heavens, and shudder with great horror," declares the Lord. "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

2 Kings 21:12 Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Behold, I am bringing such evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whosoever heareth of it, both his ears shall tingle.

The Lord God of Israel is warning of the destruction and consequences of evil upon Jerusalem and Judah.

1. The Consequences of Sin - 2 Kings 21:12

2. God's Judgement on Evil - 2 Kings 21:12

1. Jeremiah 19:3-4 - Hear ye the word of the LORD, O kings of Judah, and inhabitants of Jerusalem; Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, the which whosoever heareth, his ears shall tingle.

2. Ezekiel 3:11 - Go, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear.

2 Kings 21:13 And I will stretch over Jerusalem the line of Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab: and I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipeth a dish, wiping it, and turning it upside down.

God will punish Jerusalem with the same measure of destruction that was inflicted on Samaria and the house of Ahab.

1. God's Justice: The wages of sin is death

2. God is Faithful: His promises are sure

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. Hebrews 10:23 - Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

2 Kings 21:14 And I will forsake the remnant of mine inheritance, and deliver them into the hand of their enemies; and they shall become a prey and a spoil to all their enemies;

God warns the people of Israel that He will abandon them and deliver them into the hands of their enemies, who will use them as their spoils.

1. God is just and will punish those who disobey Him.

2. Do not rely on your own strength, for only God can protect you.

1. 1 Peter 4:17-19 - For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18 Now If the righteous one is scarcely saved, Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear? 19 Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

2. Isaiah 10:5-6 - Woe to Assyria, the rod of My anger And the staff in whose hand is My indignation. 6 I will send him against an ungodly nation, And against the people of My wrath I will give him charge, To seize the spoil, to take the prey, And to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

2 Kings 21:15 Because they have done that which was evil in my sight, and have provoked me to anger, since the day their fathers came forth out of Egypt, even unto this day.

God was angered by the people of Judah for their evil deeds since the time their ancestors left Egypt.

1. Let not the sins of our ancestors become our own.

2. We are accountable for our own actions before God.

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 20:7 - The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.

2 Kings 21:16 Moreover Manasseh shed innocent blood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; beside his sin wherewith he made Judah to sin, in doing that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.

Manasseh committed many sins, including shedding innocent blood, and caused Judah to sin as well.

1. The Dangers of Sinning and the Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Importance of Righteousness and the Blessings of Faithfulness

1. Psalm 37:27-28 "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".

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".

2 Kings 21:17 Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and all that he did, and his sin that he sinned, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

1. We can learn from the mistakes of our predecessors.

2. We must be careful not to fall into the same sins as those who came before us.

1. Proverbs 20:11 - Even a child is known by his acts, by whether his conduct is pure and right.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person. For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.

2 Kings 21:18 And Manasseh slept with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza: and Amon his son reigned in his stead.

Manasseh died and was buried in his own garden, and his son Amon succeeded him as king.

1. The Blessings of Faithful Obedience to God: Lessons from the Life of Manasseh

2. The Importance of a Legacy: The Impact of a Parent's Legacy on their Child

1. 2 Kings 21:18

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.

2 Kings 21:19 Amon was twenty and two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Meshullemeth, the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah.

Amon was 22 years old when he became king of Jerusalem and his mother's name was Meshullemeth, the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah.

1. God works in mysterious ways, and no matter your age, you can be used for His glory.

2. Even in difficult circumstances, God can use us to bring about His will.

1. Luke 2:52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

2. Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2 Kings 21:20 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as his father Manasseh did.

Amon, the son of Manasseh, did evil in the sight of the LORD, as his father Manasseh did.

1. Family Sins: Breaking the Cycle of Unrighteousness.

2. Choosing to Follow God: The Power of Free Will.

1. Romans 6:16-17 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. 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 Kings 21:21 And he walked in all the way that his father walked in, and served the idols that his father served, and worshipped them:

Manasseh, son of King Amon, followed in his father's footsteps and served and worshipped idols.

1. The Power of Influence: Examining the Effects of Following in the Footsteps of Others

2. The Danger of Idolatry: Learning from Manasseh's Mistake

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. Colossians 3:5-6, "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience."

2 Kings 21:22 And he forsook the LORD God of his fathers, and walked not in the way of the LORD.

King Manasseh of Judah did not follow the ways of the Lord and forsook His worship.

1. Walk in the Ways of the Lord - 2 Kings 21:22

2. Obey God's Commands - Deuteronomy 11:26-28

1. 2 Kings 21:22

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.

2 Kings 21:23 And the servants of Amon conspired against him, and slew the king in his own house.

Amon's servants conspired against him and killed him in his own house.

1. The Dangers of Disobedience: How Amon's Rebelliousness Led to His Downfall

2. The Power of Conspiracies and How to Avoid Them

1. Proverbs 23:17-18 - Do not let your heart envy sinners, but continue in the fear of the LORD all the day. Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off.

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.

2 Kings 21:24 And the people of the land slew all them that had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his stead.

After conspiring against King Amon, the people of the land killed the conspirators and made Josiah, Amon's son, the new king.

1. God is in control of all things and He uses our circumstances to bring about His plans.

2. We are to trust in God's sovereignty, even in the face of difficult times.

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 I will bring about; what I have planned, that I will do.

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 Kings 21:25 Now the rest of the acts of Amon which he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

The acts of Amon, the king of Judah, are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah.

1. The Importance of Recording Our Actions: Lessons from King Amon.

2. God Remembers Our Actions: A Study in 2 Kings 21:25.

1. Psalm 56:8, You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book?

2. 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 Kings 21:26 And he was buried in his sepulchre in the garden of Uzza: and Josiah his son reigned in his stead.

King Manasseh of Judah was buried in the garden of Uzza and his son Josiah succeeded him.

1. The Value of a Father's Legacy

2. The Power of an Heir's Inheritance

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. 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 Kings chapter 22 focuses on the righteous reforms initiated by King Josiah of Judah, including the rediscovery of the Book of the Law and his commitment to follow God's commandments.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Josiah as an eight-year-old who becomes king after his father Amon's death. Unlike his wicked predecessors, Josiah follows in the footsteps of David and seeks to do what is right in the eyes of God (2 Kings 22:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: In the eighteenth year of his reign, Josiah orders a restoration project for the temple. During this process, Hilkiah, the high priest, discovers a scroll containing the Book of the Law (likely referring to Deuteronomy) (2 Kings 22:3-8).

3rd Paragraph: Upon hearing the words written in the Book of Law, Josiah tears his clothes in distress because he realizes that Judah has not been following God's commandments. He sends messengers to inquire about God's judgment (2 Kings 22:9-13).

4th Paragraph:The narrative describes how Huldah, a prophetess, delivers a message from God confirming that judgment will come upon Judah due to their disobedience but acknowledging Josiah's repentant heart and promising him peace during his lifetime (Kings 22;14-20).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with details about Josiah gathering all Judah together and reading aloud from the Book of Law. He makes a covenant before God and leads Judah in purging idolatry from their midst (Kings 22;23-24).

In summary, Chapter twenty-two of 2 Kings depicts Josiah's righteous reign, restoration project for temple, Discovery of Book of Law, distress over disobedience. Prophetic message about judgment, covenant-making and reforms. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as rediscovering and aligning with God's Word, the importance of repentance and seeking guidance from prophets, and how righteous leadership can bring about spiritual renewal and reform.

2 Kings 22:1 Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of Boscath.

Josiah began to reign when he was eight years old and reigned for 31 years. His mother's name was Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of Boscath.

1. God's faithfulness is evident in the life of King Josiah, who was able to reign for over 30 years.

2. We can learn from the example of King Josiah, who was faithful to God despite his young age.

1. 2 Chronicles 34:3 - For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father: and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images.

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.

2 Kings 22:2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in all the way of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left.

King Josiah followed in the footsteps of his father, King David, and did what is right in the eyes of the Lord.

1. Living a Life of Righteousness: The Example of King Josiah

2. Walking In the Path of the Righteous: Following the Example of King David

1. Psalm 15:2 - He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart.

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?

2 Kings 22:3 And it came to pass in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, that the king sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, the son of Meshullam, the scribe, to the house of the LORD, saying,

In the eighteenth year of King Josiah's reign, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah to the house of the LORD.

1. The Faithfulness of King Josiah

2. The Importance of Obeying the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 17:18-20 - The King is to obey the Lord's commands

2. 2 Chronicles 34:18-20 - Josiah's commitment to the Lord's commands and laws

2 Kings 22:4 Go up to Hilkiah the high priest, that he may sum the silver which is brought into the house of the LORD, which the keepers of the door have gathered of the people:

Hilkiah was instructed to sum the silver that was brought into the house of the Lord by the keepers of the door.

1. The Importance of Stewardship - Using scripture to encourage believers to be faithful stewards of their resources.

2. Faithfulness in Obedience - Exploring the power of obedience to God's commands.

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. Leviticus 27:30 - "A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.

2 Kings 22:5 And let them deliver it into the hand of the doers of the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD: and let them give it to the doers of the work which is in the house of the LORD, to repair the breaches of the house,

King Josiah orders the people to give money to repair the temple of the Lord in Jerusalem.

1. God calls us to steward our resources and use them for His glory.

2. We can honor God by giving to His work.

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. Proverbs 3:9 - Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;

2 Kings 22:6 Unto carpenters, and builders, and masons, and to buy timber and hewn stone to repair the house.

King Josiah orders the gathering of carpenters, builders, masons, timber, and stone to repair the house of God.

1. God calls us to repair and restore our relationship with Him.

2. All people are to work together to build up the Kingdom of God.

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. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2 Kings 22:7 Howbeit there was no reckoning made with them of the money that was delivered into their hand, because they dealt faithfully.

The money given to the officials was not accounted for because they were faithful with it.

1. God rewards faithfulness with trust.

2. It is important to take responsibility and be faithful with what is entrusted to us.

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.

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2. Proverbs 10:9 - Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out.

2 Kings 22:8 And Hilkiah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD. And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it.

Hilkiah, the high priest, discovered the book of the law in the house of the LORD and gave it to Shaphan to read.

1. "God's Word is Found in Unexpected Places"

2. "Discovering God's Truth in a World of Darkness"

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

2. 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 Kings 22:9 And Shaphan the scribe came to the king, and brought the king word again, and said, Thy servants have gathered the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of them that do the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD.

Shaphan the scribe reported to the king that the money found in the house of the Lord had been collected and given to those responsible for managing it.

1. The Power of Faithful Stewardship

2. Obedience to God's Calling

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits 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.

2 Kings 22:10 And Shaphan the scribe shewed the king, saying, Hilkiah the priest hath delivered me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king.

Shaphan the scribe showed King Josiah a book that Hilkiah the priest had delivered to him, and read it aloud to the king.

1. The Power of God's Word: How the Bible Can Transform Our Lives

2. The Importance of Listening and Learning: How We Can Benefit From Hearing God's Word

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

2. Colossians 3:16 - 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.

2 Kings 22:11 And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the book of the law, that he rent his clothes.

King Josiah was deeply moved after hearing the words of the law and tore his garments.

1. God's Word is Powerful and Life-Changing

2. Responding to the Word of the Lord

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. 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 Kings 22:12 And the king commanded Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor the son of Michaiah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asahiah a servant of the king's, saying,

Go ye, enquire of the Lord for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that is found: for great is the wrath of the Lord that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not hearkened unto the words of this book, to do according unto all that which is written concerning us.

King Josiah commands five people to enquire of the Lord concerning the words of a book, as the Lord's wrath is kindled against them for not following its instructions.

1. The Importance of Following God's Word

2. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

1. Psalm 119:11 - "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

2. Hebrews 4:12 - "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."

2 Kings 22:13 Go ye, enquire of the LORD for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that is found: for great is the wrath of the LORD that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not hearkened unto the words of this book, to do according unto all that which is written concerning us.

The people of Judah are facing the wrath of God because they have not obeyed the words of the book that has been found.

1. "Living in Obedience to the Word of God"

2. "Facing the Consequences of Disobedience"

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. Psalm 119:11 - I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

2 Kings 22:14 So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went unto Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the college;) and they communed with her.

Five men went to speak with the prophetess Huldah who lived in Jerusalem and was married to Shallum.

1. God s Word is a Powerful Tool - 2 Kings 22:14

2. Seeking Guidance from Spiritual Leaders - 2 Kings 22:14

1. John 17:17 - Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

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 Kings 22:15 And she said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Tell the man that sent you to me,

A woman told messengers from the king of Israel that the LORD God of Israel had a message for the man who sent them.

1. God Speaks: Listening to the Voice of the Lord

2. Being Messengers of God's Word

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. Jeremiah 1:7-9 - But the LORD said to me, Do not say, I am only a youth ; for to all whom I send, 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 Kings 22:16 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the words of the book which the king of Judah hath read:

The Lord declares he will bring evil upon the people of this place for listening to the words of the book the king of Judah read.

1. "The Consequences of Disobedience"

2. "The Power of God's Word"

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's warning of the consequences of disobedience.

2. Jeremiah 7:24-28 - God's warning of the consequences of not heeding his word.

2 Kings 22:17 Because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the works of their hands; therefore my wrath shall be kindled against this place, and shall not be quenched.

The wrath of God will be kindled against a place where people have forsaken Him and burned incense to other gods.

1. The Disaster of Idolatry: Understanding the Wrath of God

2. Turning Back to God: Repentance and Renewal

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 kindled against you, and He destroy you from the face of the earth."

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."

2 Kings 22:18 But to the king of Judah which sent you to enquire of the LORD, thus shall ye say to him, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, As touching the words which thou hast heard;

The LORD God of Israel tells King of Judah the words he has heard are true.

1. God's Word is True

2. Obedience to God is Paramount

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.

2 Kings 22:19 Because thine heart was tender, and thou hast humbled thyself before the LORD, when thou heardest what I spake against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and hast rent thy clothes, and wept before me; I also have heard thee, saith the LORD.

The Lord heard King Josiah's humble prayer of repentance for the sins of the people, and in response, He promised to spare them from punishment.

1. God will always listen to our cries for mercy and forgiveness.

2. The Lord hears our broken and contrite hearts.

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. Joel 2:13 - Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

2 Kings 22:20 Behold therefore, I will gather thee unto thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered into thy grave in peace; and thine eyes shall not see all the evil which I will bring upon this place. And they brought the king word again.

King Josiah was informed that he would die in peace and not witness the destruction of Judah.

1. God has a plan for us all, and we must be prepared to accept it.

2. Peace can be found even in the midst of suffering and turmoil.

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 57:1-2 - The righteous perish, and no one takes it to heart; the devout are taken away, and no one understands that the righteous are taken away to be spared from evil. Those who walk uprightly enter into peace; they find rest as they lie in death.

2 Kings chapter 23 continues the account of King Josiah's righteous reforms in Judah, including the eradication of idolatry, the restoration of true worship, and the celebration of Passover.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Josiah gathering all the elders and people of Judah to read aloud from the Book of the Covenant found in the temple. He publicly reaffirms their commitment to follow God's commandments (2 Kings 23:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Josiah orders the removal of all idols, altars, and high places associated with idol worship throughout Judah. He destroys them and burns their remains, purging the land from pagan practices (2 Kings 23:4-20).

3rd Paragraph: The narrative describes how Josiah also removes idolatrous priests who had served at these altars and defiled God's sanctuary. He reinstates proper worship according to God's law and appoints priests to carry out their duties (2 Kings 23:8-20).

4th Paragraph:The chapter highlights Josiah's actions in eliminating various forms of idolatry from removing Asherah poles to defiling Topheth where children were sacrificed and ensuring that no king before or after him matched his devotion to God (Kings 23;4-25).

5th Paragraph:The narrative further explains how Josiah celebrates a grand Passover feast a celebration not seen since Samuel's time and renews a covenant with God by committing himself and his people to obeying His commandments (Kings 23;21-24).

In summary, Chapter twenty-three of 2 Kings depicts Josiah's thorough reforms, removal of idols and altars, Restoration of true worship, defilement removed from sanctuary. Celebration of Passover, renewal of covenant with God. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as repentance leading to action, the importance of purging idolatry from one's life, the significance of obedience to God's commandments, and how faithful leadership can bring about spiritual revival among a nation.

2 Kings 23:1 And the king sent, and they gathered unto him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem.

King Josiah summoned all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem to him.

1. God desires unity among his people

2. The importance of listening to and heeding wise counsel

1. Psalm 133:1: "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."

2 Kings 23:2 And the king went up into the house of the LORD, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great: and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of the LORD.

King Josiah and all the people of Judah and Jerusalem, including priests, prophets and people of all ages, gathered to hear the words of the Book of the Covenant that was found in the House of the Lord.

1. The Power of Covenant: Rediscovering the Strength of Our Commitments

2. The Joy and Responsibility of Gathering for Worship

1. Matthew 18:20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

2. Psalm 122:1 I was glad when they said to me, Let us go to the house of the Lord!

2 Kings 23:3 And the king stood by a pillar, and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all their heart and all their soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant.

King Josiah made a covenant with the Lord to obey His commands, follow His ways, and fulfill the written words of the covenant. All the people agreed to the covenant.

1. Staying Faithful to the Lord: How to Keep Covenant with God

2. The Power of Covenant: How Making a Covenant with the Lord Changes Everything

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, those who are here all of us alive today.

2. Jeremiah 11:4-5 - 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: That I may perform the oath which I have sworn unto your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as it is this day.

2 Kings 23:4 And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the door, to bring forth out of the temple of the LORD all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for the grove, and for all the host of heaven: and he burned them without Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes of them unto Bethel.

The King of Judah commanded the High Priest, priests, and keepers of the temple to bring out all the vessels made for Baal and for the host of heaven and burn them in the fields of Kidron. The ashes were taken to Bethel.

1. The Power of Obedience - We can see in this passage the great power and faithfulness of King Josiah. Despite the pressure and opposition from his people and other nations, he still chose to obey God and destroy the pagan idols.

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God - We can also see the great consequences of not following God's commands. The people of Judah had turned away from God and worshipped idols instead. Although they were warned, they continued in their disobedience and were punished by God's judgement.

1. Deuteronomy 12:2-4 - "You shall surely destroy all the places where the nations whom you shall dispossess served their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree. You shall tear down 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. You shall not worship the Lord your God with such things.

2. 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 Kings 23:5 And he put down the idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah, and in the places round about Jerusalem; them also that burned incense unto Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the planets, and to all the host of heaven.

King Josiah of Judah put an end to idolatrous practices that had been allowed by previous kings, such as burning incense to Baal, the sun, the moon, planets, and other heavenly bodies.

1. "The Idolatrous Nature of Man"

2. "The Power of God's Redemption"

1. Romans 1:18-25

2. Psalm 106:34-36

2 Kings 23:6 And he brought out the grove from the house of the LORD, without Jerusalem, unto the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and stamped it small to powder, and cast the powder thereof upon the graves of the children of the people.

King Josiah removed an idolatrous grove from the Temple of the LORD in Jerusalem and burned it at the Brook Kidron before crushing it to powder and scattering it on the graves of the people.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commandments

2. Showing Reverence for God's House

1. Exodus 20:3 "You shall have no other gods before me"

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"

2 Kings 23:7 And he brake down the houses of the sodomites, that were by the house of the LORD, where the women wove hangings for the grove.

King Josiah destroyed the houses of the sodomites which were near the temple of the Lord.

1. The Lord Hates Sin and Only Accepts True Repentance

2. The Power of Obedience and 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. Leviticus 18:22 - You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination.

2 Kings 23:8 And he brought all the priests out of the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had burned incense, from Geba to Beersheba, and brake down the high places of the gates that were in the entering in of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on a man's left hand at the gate of the city.

King Josiah removed all the priests from Judah and destroyed the high places where they had burned incense, from Geba to Beersheba.

1. God's people must remain faithful to Him and His commands.

2. We should focus on serving Him rather than ourselves.

1. Acts 17:10-14 - Men of Athens and the idolatry they worshiped.

2. Jeremiah 7:1-15 - Warning against worshiping false gods.

2 Kings 23:9 Nevertheless the priests of the high places came not up to the altar of the LORD in Jerusalem, but they did eat of the unleavened bread among their brethren.

The priests of the high places did not go up to the altar of the LORD in Jerusalem, but they did eat unleavened bread with their brethren.

1. The Importance of Worshiping at the House of the Lord

2. The Meaning of Eating Unleavened Bread Together

1. Psalm 122:1 - "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD."

2. 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."

2 Kings 23:10 And he defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of the children of Hinnom, that no man might make his son or his daughter to pass through the fire to Molech.

King Josiah defiled Topheth to prevent any child from being sacrificed to Molech.

1. The Power of a King to Protect the Vulnerable

2. The Power of Faith to Overcome Evil

1. Exodus 20:4-6 - You shall not make for yourself an idol 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 fathers 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. 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 Kings 23:11 And he took away the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun, at the entering in of the house of the LORD, by the chamber of Nathanmelech the chamberlain, which was in the suburbs, and burned the chariots of the sun with fire.

The King of Judah removed the horses and chariots dedicated to the sun god from the house of the Lord and burned them.

1. The Importance of Dedicating Ourselves to God Alone

2. The Power of God to Protect His People from Idolatry

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. 1 John 5:21 - Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

2 Kings 23:12 And the altars that were on the top of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the LORD, did the king beat down, and brake them down from thence, and cast the dust of them into the brook Kidron.

King Josiah destroyed the altars that had been built by Ahaz and Manasseh in the temple of the Lord and threw the dust into the Kidron river.

1. God's Presence is Greater than Man's Plans

2. The Danger of Idolatry

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. Deuteronomy 12:2-4 - You shall surely destroy all the places where the nations whom you shall dispossess served their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree. You shall tear down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and burn their Asherim with fire. You shall chop down the carved images of their gods and destroy their name out of that place. You shall not worship the Lord your God in that way.

2 Kings 23:13 And the high places that were before Jerusalem, which were on the right hand of the mount of corruption, which Solomon the king of Israel had builded for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Zidonians, and for Chemosh the abomination of the Moabites, and for Milcom the abomination of the children of Ammon, did the king defile.

King Josiah defiled the high places that Solomon had built for idol worship.

1. Idolatry is Not Acceptable - 2 Kings 23:13

2. The Danger of Setting Up Idols - 2 Kings 23:13

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.

2. Exodus 20:4-5 - 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.

2 Kings 23:14 And he brake in pieces the images, and cut down the groves, and filled their places with the bones of men.

Josiah destroyed all the images and groves associated with idol worship, and replaced them with human bones.

1. The Consequences of Idol Worship

2. God's Condemnation of Idolatry

1. Deuteronomy 7:25 - 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.

2. Isaiah 2:20 - In that day a man will cast away his idols of silver and his idols of gold, which they made, each for himself to worship, to the moles and bats.

2 Kings 23:15 Moreover the altar that was at Bethel, and the high place which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, had made, both that altar and the high place he brake down, and burned the high place, and stamped it small to powder, and burned the grove.

King Josiah destroyed the altar and the high place at Bethel which had been made by Jeroboam to encourage idolatry.

1. The importance of God's commands and the consequences of disobeying them.

2. The danger of idolatry and how it can lead to destruction.

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 destroy you from the face of the earth.

2. Isaiah 45:5-7 - 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. I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the LORD, who does all these things.

2 Kings 23:16 And as Josiah turned himself, he spied the sepulchres that were there in the mount, and sent, and took the bones out of the sepulchres, and burned them upon the altar, and polluted it, according to the word of the LORD which the man of God proclaimed, who proclaimed these words.

1: God's word is powerful and must be obeyed even if it means going against cultural norms.

2: We must be willing to take risks in order to obey God.

1: Joshua 24:15-16 "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. And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods.

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."

2 Kings 23:17 Then he said, What title is that that I see? And the men of the city told him, It is the sepulchre of the man of God, which came from Judah, and proclaimed these things that thou hast done against the altar of Bethel.

King Josiah of Judah discovers a sepulchre of a man of God from Judah who had previously prophesied about Josiah's actions against the Bethel altar.

1. God's Prophets Will Hold Us Accountable For Our Actions

2. Living By God's Word Is Never in Vain

1. 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."

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."

2 Kings 23:18 And he said, Let him alone; let no man move his bones. So they let his bones alone, with the bones of the prophet that came out of Samaria.

Josiah, the King of Judah, forbid anyone from disturbing the bones of a prophet who had come from Samaria.

1. Learning to Respect the Dead

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Ecclesiastes 8:4-6 "Where the word of a king is, there is power: and who may say unto him, What doest thou? Whoso keepeth the commandment shall feel no evil thing: and a wise man's heart discerneth both time and judgment."

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."

2 Kings 23:19 And all the houses also of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made to provoke the Lord to anger, Josiah took away, and did to them according to all the acts that he had done in Bethel.

King Josiah took away all the houses of the high places in the cities of Samaria that had been built by the kings of Israel to provoke God and followed the same procedure he had done in Bethel.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Word: Lessons from King Josiah

2. Fulfilling God's Commandments: A Study of King Josiah's Faithfulness

1. 2 Chronicles 34:3-7 - King Josiah's Reforms

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - Building on the Rock of God's Word

2 Kings 23:20 And he slew all the priests of the high places that were there upon the altars, and burned men's bones upon them, and returned to Jerusalem.

Josiah destroyed the high places of worship, killed all the priests, and burned human bones on the altars before returning to Jerusalem.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 12:2-3 - Destroy places of worship to other gods

2. 2 Chronicles 34:3 - Josiah's determination to follow God's commands

2 Kings 23:21 And the king commanded all the people, saying, Keep the passover unto the LORD your God, as it is written in the book of this covenant.

King Josiah commanded the people of Israel to keep the Passover as written in the book of the covenant.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Commands

2. The Holiness of the Passover: Celebrating God's Deliverance

1. Deuteronomy 16:1-17 - The commands of the Passover

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 - The faith of Abraham in keeping the Passover.

2 Kings 23:22 Surely there was not holden such a passover from the days of the judges that judged Israel, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel, nor of the kings of Judah;

Passover celebrated with great dedication and reverence by Josiah.

1: We should honor God with the devotion and dedication He deserves.

2: We should strive to emulate the example of Josiah and his dedication to God.

1: Psalm 86:11 - "Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name."

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."

2 Kings 23:23 But in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, wherein this passover was holden to the LORD in Jerusalem.

King Josiah celebrated Passover with the people of Jerusalem in his eighteenth year of reign.

1. The Importance of Celebrating Passover: Understanding the Significance of King Josiah's Reign

2. The Meaning of Obedience: How Josiah's Faithful Worship Can Guide Us

1. Deuteronomy 16:1-8 - The instructions for Passover celebration

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - The prayer of Solomon after Passover celebration

2 Kings 23:24 Moreover the workers with familiar spirits, and the wizards, and the images, and the idols, and all the abominations that were spied in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might perform the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the LORD.

Josiah put away workers with familiar spirits, wizards, images, idols, and all other abominations that were found in Judah and Jerusalem in order to fulfill the words of the law written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the Lord.

1. God's Law is to Be Obeyed: Josiah's Obedience to the Lord

2. Turning Away from Idolatry: Cleaning Up Judah and Jerusalem

1. 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. 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."

2. 2 Chronicles 34:3 - "For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father: and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images."

2 Kings 23:25 And like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the LORD with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him.

No king before King Josiah had turned to the LORD with such dedication, and none after him matched his commitment.

1. True Commitment: The Legacy of King Josiah

2. Dedicating Ourselves To God: Following the Example of King Josiah

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. 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 Kings 23:26 Notwithstanding the LORD turned not from the fierceness of his great wrath, wherewith his anger was kindled against Judah, because of all the provocations that Manasseh had provoked him withal.

Despite Manasseh's provocation, the Lord did not relent in His wrath towards Judah.

1. The Lord's Wrath: When Obedience is Not Enough

2. The Consequences of Provocation: A Lesson from Manasseh

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-18 - But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.

2 Kings 23:27 And the LORD said, I will remove Judah also out of my sight, as I have removed Israel, and will cast off this city Jerusalem which I have chosen, and the house of which I said, My name shall be there.

God promised to remove Judah and Jerusalem from His presence because of their disobedience.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience

2. God's Mercy Despite Our Transgressions

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. Ezekiel 18:32 For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

2 Kings 23:28 Now the rest of the acts of Josiah, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

Josiah did many acts and all of them are recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah.

1. The importance of honoring God through our actions - Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

2. Living a life of faithfulness - Hebrews 11:8-12

1. 2 Chronicles 35:25-27

2. Jeremiah 3:15-18

2 Kings 23:29 In his days Pharaohnechoh king of Egypt went up against the king of Assyria to the river Euphrates: and king Josiah went against him; and he slew him at Megiddo, when he had seen him.

King Josiah went to battle against Pharaohnechoh of Egypt at the river Euphrates and won, slaying him at Megiddo.

1. The Victory of Faith - How Josiah's faith allowed him to overcome a much greater enemy

2. Stand Firm - The importance of standing up for what is right, even against overwhelming odds

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

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!"

2 Kings 23:30 And his servants carried him in a chariot dead from Megiddo, and brought him to Jerusalem, and buried him in his own sepulchre. And the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and anointed him, and made him king in his father's stead.

Jehoahaz was carried in a chariot to Jerusalem after his death in Megiddo and was buried in his father's sepulchre. The people of the land then anointed Jehoahaz as king in his father's place.

1. The Legacy of a Father: Learning from the Lives of King Josiah and Jehoahaz

2. Choosing Faith Over Fear: The Courage of Jehoahaz in Facing Death

1. 2 Kings 23:30

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 Kings 23:31 Jehoahaz was twenty and three years old when he began to reign; and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

Jehoahaz was 23 years old when he became king of Jerusalem and his mother was Hamutal, daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

1. The Power of a Mother's Influence

2. The Importance of Age and Maturity in 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. Proverbs 31:28 - Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.

2 Kings 23:32 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done.

Josiah did evil in the sight of the Lord, following in the footsteps of his fathers.

1. The Danger of Following in the Footsteps of Our Fathers

2. The Power of Good and Evil in Our Lives

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 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 Kings 23:33 And Pharaohnechoh put him in bands at Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem; and put the land to a tribute of an hundred talents of silver, and a talent of gold.

Pharaohnechoh put King Jehoiakim in chains at Riblah and forced him to pay a large tribute.

1. God's sovereignty over our lives - 2 Kings 23:33

2. The consequences of sin - 2 Kings 23:33

1. Jeremiah 37:1-2 - Jehoiakim was taken into captivity

2. Daniel 5:2-3 - The tribute that Jehoiakim was forced to pay.

2 Kings 23:34 And Pharaohnechoh made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in the room of Josiah his father, and turned his name to Jehoiakim, and took Jehoahaz away: and he came to Egypt, and died there.

Pharaohnechoh replaced Josiah with his son Eliakim as king and changed his name to Jehoiakim. Jehoahaz was taken away and died in Egypt.

1. The importance of accepting God's will no matter the circumstance

2. The importance of honoring our ancestors

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. 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 Kings 23:35 And Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh; but he taxed the land to give the money according to the commandment of Pharaoh: he exacted the silver and the gold of the people of the land, of every one according to his taxation, to give it unto Pharaohnechoh.

Jehoiakim gave silver and gold to Pharaoh, but taxed the people of the land in order to pay for it.

1. God uses our resources to do His work.

2. We are called to give generously out of what we have.

1. 2 Corinthians 8:1 5

2. Acts 4:32 37

2 Kings 23:36 Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebudah, the daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah.

Jehoiakim was 25 when he began to reign in Jerusalem and reigned for 11 years. His mother was Zebudah, daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah.

1. The Power of a Mother's Influence

2. God's Sovereignty in the Reign of Kings

1. Proverbs 31:30 - Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

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 Kings 23:37 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done.

Josiah was a king of Judah who followed the evil practices of his ancestors.

1. We must learn from the mistakes of our ancestors and strive to follow God's commands.

2. Josiah's example shows us that no matter how much we try to do right, our actions will be judged according to God's standards.

1. Deuteronomy 12:28-32 - "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. 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 Kings chapter 24 focuses on the events leading to the Babylonian conquest of Judah and the exile of King Jehoiachin and many of the people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Jehoiakim as the new king of Judah after Josiah's death. Unfortunately, he does evil in the sight of God, leading to God's judgment upon Judah (2 Kings 24:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative describes how Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, invades Judah during Jehoiakim's reign. He besieges Jerusalem and eventually takes Jehoiakim captive along with some treasures from the temple (2 Kings 24:7-13).

3rd Paragraph: After Jehoiakim's death, his son Jehoiachin becomes king. However, he also does evil in God's eyes. Nebuchadnezzar returns to Jerusalem and besieges it once again (2 Kings 24:8-9).

4th Paragraph:The narrative explains how Jerusalem falls to Nebuchadnezzar after a brief resistance. King Jehoiachin surrenders himself along with his family and officials. The Babylonians loot the temple treasures and take many captives into exile in Babylon (Kings 24;10-16).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning that Nebuchadnezzar appoints Mattaniah as a puppet king over Judah, changing his name to Zedekiah. Zedekiah reigns but does not remain loyal to Babylon or God (Kings 24;17-20).

In summary, Chapter twenty-four of 2 Kings depicts Jehoiakim's wicked reign, Babylonian invasion and captivity, Fall of Jerusalem, exile of King Jehoiachin. Appointment of Zedekiah as puppet king. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine judgment for disobedience, the consequences of unfaithful leadership, and the fulfillment of prophecies regarding Babylonian captivity.

2 Kings 24:1 In his days Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up, and Jehoiakim became his servant three years: then he turned and rebelled against him.

Jehoiakim served Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon for three years, but eventually he rebelled against him.

1. The Danger of Turning Away From God's Will

2. The Consequences of Rebellion

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. Jeremiah 27:11-12 - But the nations that bring their necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon and serve him, I will let them remain in their own land, declares the Lord, and they shall till it and dwell in it. I spoke to Zedekiah king of Judah in the same way: Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon and serve him and his people and live.

2 Kings 24:2 And the LORD sent against him bands of the Chaldees, and bands of the Syrians, and bands of the Moabites, and bands of the children of Ammon, and sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by his servants the prophets.

The LORD sent different bands of people to Judah to destroy it, as a punishment for their disobedience to Him, as prophesied by His prophets.

1. How Our Disobedience Can Lead to Destruction

2. God's Discipline and Mercy

1. 2 Chronicles 36:15-16 - "And the LORD God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place: But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets."

2. Galatians 6:7 - "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

2 Kings 24:3 Surely at the commandment of the LORD came this upon Judah, to remove them out of his sight, for the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he did;

This passage speaks of the consequences of the sins of Manasseh that resulted in Judah being removed from the Lord's sight.

1. The Consequences of Sin: An Examination of 2 Kings 24:3

2. The Power of Repentance: Learning from Manasseh's Story

1. Ezekiel 18:20-21 - "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. 2 Chronicles 33:12-13 - "And when he was in affliction, he besought the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers, And prayed unto him: and he was intreated of him, and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD he was God."

2 Kings 24:4 And also for the innocent blood that he shed: for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood; which the LORD would not pardon.

King Jehoiakim of Judah was condemned by God for filling Jerusalem with innocent blood and not receiving pardon.

1. God is Just and Will Righteously Judge Sin

2. The Consequences of Unrepentant Sin

1. Jeremiah 22:3-5 Thus says the LORD: Do justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor him who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the resident alien, the fatherless, and the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place. For if you will indeed obey this word, then there shall enter the gates of this house kings who sit on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they and their servants and their people.

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 Kings 24:5 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

1: We are all accountable for our actions.

2: God is watching, and His record of our deeds is unerasable.

1: Ecclesiastes 12:14 - For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

2: Romans 14:12 - So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

2 Kings 24:6 So Jehoiakim slept with his fathers: and Jehoiachin his son reigned in his stead.

Jehoiakim, king of Judah, died and his son Jehoiachin reigned in his place.

1. The Importance of Legacy - How the lives of our predecessors continue to shape and inspire us.

2. Cultivating a Heart of Humility - Understanding the power of humility to bring us closer to God.

1. Joshua 24:15 - But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2. Proverbs 22:4 - The reward of humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, honor, and life.

2 Kings 24:7 And the king of Egypt came not again any more out of his land: for the king of Babylon had taken from the river of Egypt unto the river Euphrates all that pertained to the king of Egypt.

The king of Babylon took all the land from the river of Egypt to the river Euphrates that belonged to the king of Egypt, and the king of Egypt did not return to his land.

1. God's sovereignty reigns supreme, no matter how powerful a ruler may seem.

2. One should not rely on their own strength, but trust in the Lord's power.

1. Isaiah 40:15-17 - "Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust. Lebanon would not suffice for fuel, nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering. All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

2. Psalm 62:10-11 - Put no trust in extortion; set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, set not your heart on them. Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God.

2 Kings 24:8 Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. And his mother's name was Nehushta, the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.

Jehoiachin was 18 years old when he became the king of Jerusalem and he reigned for three months. His mother was Nehushta, the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.

1. The Importance of Good Leadership: Lessons from Jehoiachin's Reign

2. Embrace Change and Make the Most of New Opportunities: The Life of Jehoiachin

1. Daniel 2:20-21 - Daniel praised and honored God for revealing the dream, its interpretation, and the wisdom to understand it.

2. Proverbs 16:32 - Better to be patient than powerful; better to have self-control than to conquer a city.

2 Kings 24:9 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father had done.

Jehoiachin did evil in the sight of the LORD, following in the footsteps of his father.

1. The Consequences of Following in the Footsteps of Our Forefathers

2. The Power of a Godly Heritage

1. Romans 7:7-12

2. Proverbs 22:6

2 Kings 24:10 At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against Jerusalem, and the city was besieged.

The city of Jerusalem was besieged by the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon.

1. God's Sovereignty: How God Rules Over History

2. The Consequences of Rebellion: When We Reject God's Ways

1. Jeremiah 25:11, "And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years."

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.

2 Kings 24:11 And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came against the city, and his servants did besiege it.

The King of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar, laid siege to a city.

1. The power of God even in the face of worldly might (2 Kings 24:11)

2. The importance of trusting in the Lord even in the face of adversity (2 Kings 24:11)

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 Kings 24:12 And Jehoiachin the king of Judah went out to the king of Babylon, he, and his mother, and his servants, and his princes, and his officers: and the king of Babylon took him in the eighth year of his reign.

King Jehoiachin of Judah was taken captive by the king of Babylon in the eighth year of his reign.

1. We must remain steadfast in our faith despite any difficulties or tribulations we may face.

2. God is sovereign and in control of our lives, even in the most difficult of times.

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.

2 Kings 24:13 And he carried out thence all the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold which Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of the LORD, as the LORD had said.

King Nebuchednezzar of Babylon conquered Jerusalem and looted the temple of the Lord and King Solomon's treasury, as commanded by the Lord.

1. We must always trust in the Lord, even when His plans are difficult to understand.

2. God's power and plans are greater than our own and can lead us to unexpected places.

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.

2 Kings 24:14 And he carried away all Jerusalem, and all the princes, and all the mighty men of valour, even ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and smiths: none remained, save the poorest sort of the people of the land.

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon captured Jerusalem and took away all of its inhabitants except the poorest people.

1. The Power of a Captured Heart

2. The Goodness of God in Times of Suffering

1. Isaiah 24:1-3 "Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof. And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the taker of usury, so with the giver of usury to him. The land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled: for the Lord hath spoken this word."

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 Kings 24:15 And he carried away Jehoiachin to Babylon, and the king's mother, and the king's wives, and his officers, and the mighty of the land, those carried he into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon.

King Jehoiachin was taken captive to Babylon along with his mother, wives, officers, and other powerful people from Jerusalem.

1. God is sovereign and always in control of our lives.

2. We must surrender our plans to the will of God.

1. Isaiah 14:24 The Lord of hosts has sworn: As I have planned, so shall it be, and as I have purposed, so shall it stand

2. Proverbs 16:9 The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

2 Kings 24:16 And all the men of might, even seven thousand, and craftsmen and smiths a thousand, all that were strong and apt for war, even them the king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon.

The King of Babylon captured seven thousand strong and apt warriors and one thousand craftsmen and smiths to take them captive to Babylon.

1. God is in control of our circumstances, even when they seem overwhelming

2. We must stay faithful to God, even in times of captivity

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. Daniel 3:17-18 - If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.

2 Kings 24:17 And the king of Babylon made Mattaniah his father's brother king in his stead, and changed his name to Zedekiah.

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon replaced King Jehoiachin with his uncle Mattaniah and changed his name to Zedekiah.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Sovereignty of God in the Placement of Kings

2. The Call to Obedience: Obeying God's Will Even When It Might Not Seem Ideal

1. Romans 13:1-7: Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9: For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.

2 Kings 24:18 Zedekiah was twenty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

Zedekiah was 21 years old when he became king of Jerusalem, and reigned for 11 years. His mother's name was Hamutal, daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

1. Our decisions in life have lasting effects, so let us choose wisely.

2. We should look to God for guidance in our times of leadership.

1. Proverbs 16:9, The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

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 Kings 24:19 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.

Jehoiachin followed in the footsteps of his father Jehoiakim, doing evil in the sight of the LORD.

1. A Warning Against Following in the Wrong Footsteps

2. Finding Freedom From the Legacy of Sin

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 6:12-13 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

2 Kings 24:20 For through the anger of the LORD it came to pass in Jerusalem and Judah, until he had cast them out from his presence, that Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

The Lord brought judgment on Jerusalem and Judah until they were cast out of His presence, and Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

1. The Consequences of Rebellion

2. The Wrath of God and the Need for Repentance

1. Jeremiah 27:12-13 - "I spoke to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying, 'Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and live!' Why will you die, you and your people, by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence, as the LORD has spoken against the nation that will not serve the king of Babylon?

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

2 Kings chapter 25 recounts the final downfall of Judah and the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians, leading to the exile of the people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how Nebuchadnezzar and his army besiege Jerusalem in Zedekiah's ninth year as king. The siege lasts for about a year, resulting in a severe famine within the city (2 Kings 25:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative explains how Zedekiah attempts to escape but is captured by the Babylonians. They bring him before Nebuchadnezzar, who executes his sons before his eyes and blinds him. Zedekiah is then taken to Babylon (2 Kings 25:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The Babylonians proceed to destroy Jerusalem, burning down the temple, royal palace, and houses of prominent people. They break down the city walls and take captive many of its inhabitants (2 Kings 25:8-12).

4th Paragraph:The narrative describes how Nebuzaradan, captain of Nebuchadnezzar's guard, oversees the deportation of most of Judah's population priests, officials, warriors leaving only a small remnant behind. He takes away temple vessels and appoints Gedaliah as governor over those who remain (Kings 25;11-21).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with details about Gedaliah's brief rule over Judah and how Ishmael assassinates him out of jealousy. Fearing reprisals from Babylon for this act, some Judeans flee to Egypt for safety (Kings 25;22-26).

In summary, Chapter twenty-five of 2 Kings depicts Babylonian siege on Jerusalem, capture and punishment of Zedekiah, Destruction of Jerusalem, deportation into exile. Appointment and assassination of Gedaliah. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine judgment on disobedience, the consequences of rebellion against foreign powers, and the fulfillment of prophecies regarding Jerusalem's destruction.

2 Kings 25:1 And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he, and all his host, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it; and they built forts against it round about.

1: God's plans will be accomplished, even when we do not understand why.

2: Despite our struggles, God's promises will be fulfilled.

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 - "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 Kings 25:2 And the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Zedekiah.

The city of Jerusalem was besieged for 11 years during the reign of King Zedekiah.

1. The Power of Perseverance - Staying strong in times of difficulty.

2. The Consequences of Defiance - Reaping what we sow.

1. Jeremiah 32:2-5 - The siege of Jerusalem by the Babylonians.

2. Hebrews 10:36-39 - Persevere in doing what is right despite difficulty.

2 Kings 25:3 And on the ninth day of the fourth month the famine prevailed in the city, and there was no bread for the people of the land.

On the ninth day of the fourth month, a famine caused a lack of bread in the city.

1. God's Provision in Difficult Times - 2 Corinthians 9:8

2. Sacrifice of Obedience - 1 Samuel 15:22

1. Habakkuk 3:17-18

2. Jeremiah 38:2-3

2 Kings 25:4 And the city was broken up, and all the men of war fled by night by the way of the gate between two walls, which is by the king's garden: (now the Chaldees were against the city round about:) and the king went the way toward the plain.

The Babylonians surrounded Jerusalem and the men of war escaped the city through a gate in the king's garden.

1. The Power of Faith in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Challenges with Hope and Courage

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 91:15 - He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

2 Kings 25:5 And the army of the Chaldees pursued after the king, and overtook him in the plains of Jericho: and all his army were scattered from him.

The Chaldean army pursued King Zedekiah and dispersed his army in the plains of Jericho.

1. How God s Plans are Unexpected - Looking at Zedekiah's story of defeat and how God's will is sometimes not what we expect.

2. The Power of Surrender - Examining Zedekiah's disobedience and the consequences of not trusting in 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. 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 Kings 25:6 So they took the king, and brought him up to the king of Babylon to Riblah; and they gave judgment upon him.

The people of Jerusalem took their king to the king of Babylon to Riblah, where they judged him.

1. Trusting in God's plans even in difficult times.

2. Submission to authority even if it is difficult.

1. Jeremiah 29:11-12 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.

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.

2 Kings 25:7 And they slew the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him with fetters of brass, and carried him to Babylon.

Zedekiah, the king of Judah, was overthrown by the Babylonian army and taken prisoner to Babylon. His sons were killed in front of him and his eyes were put out.

1. The importance of remaining faithful to God despite suffering and adversity.

2. The consequences of rebellion against God and His 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. 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 Kings 25:8 And in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month, which is the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, came Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, unto Jerusalem:

Nebuzaradan, a servant of the King of Babylon, arrived in Jerusalem during the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar's reign.

1. God's Sovereignty: How God Uses Even Wicked Nations to Accomplish His Purposes

2. The Consequences of Sin: The Fall of Jerusalem and the Exile of the 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. Jeremiah 29:10 - "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 Kings 25:9 And he burnt the house of the LORD, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem, and every great man's house burnt he with fire.

Nebuchadnezzar burned down the House of the Lord, the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God

1. Psalm 115:4-8

2. Jeremiah 44:17-19

2 Kings 25:10 And all the army of the Chaldees, that were with the captain of the guard, brake down the walls of Jerusalem round about.

The Chaldean army, led by the captain of the guard, destroyed the walls of Jerusalem.

1. God's Judgment: Learning From the Destruction of Jerusalem

2. Hope in Times of Trial: Encouragement from the Book of 2 Kings

1. Jeremiah 39:1-2 - The Chaldeans broke into Jerusalem and burned it with fire.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2 Kings 25:11 Now the rest of the people that were left in the city, and the fugitives that fell away to the king of Babylon, with the remnant of the multitude, did Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carry away.

Nebuzaradan, the captain of the guard, took away all the remaining people in the city and the fugitives who had fled to the king of Babylon.

1. God is with us in times of peril.

2. We should always trust in God'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. 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 Kings 25:12 But the captain of the guard left of the poor of the land to be vinedressers and husbandmen.

The Babylonian captain of the guard left some of the poorest people of the land to be farmers and vineyard workers.

1. The Power of Compassion - A lesson from 2 Kings 25:12

2. God's Provision for the Poor - A look at 2 Kings 25:12

1. Isaiah 32:8 - But a generous man devises generous things, and by generosity he shall stand.

2. Psalm 41:1 - Blessed is he who considers the poor; the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble.

2 Kings 25:13 And the pillars of brass that were in the house of the LORD, and the bases, and the brasen sea that was in the house of the LORD, did the Chaldees break in pieces, and carried the brass of them to Babylon.

1: Our physical possessions are temporary and must be kept in perspective.

2: We must be prepared to endure hardship and loss.

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: 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 Kings 25:14 And the pots, and the shovels, and the snuffers, and the spoons, and all the vessels of brass wherewith they ministered, took they away.

The Babylonians took away all the vessels made of brass that were being used by the Israelites to minister.

1. Living for the Lord: How to Properly Minister to God.

2. God's Faithfulness in the Midst of Adversity.

1. Philippians 3:8-9 - "I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ."

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."

2 Kings 25:15 And the firepans, and the bowls, and such things as were of gold, in gold, and of silver, in silver, the captain of the guard took away.

The captain of the guard took away the firepans, bowls, and other items made of gold and silver.

1. God's Blessings: An Opportunity to Give Back

2. The Security of God's Provision

1. Psalm 34:10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:8 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 Kings 25:16 The two pillars, one sea, and the bases which Solomon had made for the house of the LORD; the brass of all these vessels was without weight.

1: We are reminded of Solomon s faithfulness in providing for the house of the Lord, as his dedication was without measure.

2: We should strive to follow Solomon s example of obedience and faithfulness in our daily lives.

1: Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2: Colossians 3:23 - And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.

2 Kings 25:17 The height of the one pillar was eighteen cubits, and the chapiter upon it was brass: and the height of the chapiter three cubits; and the wreathen work, and pomegranates upon the chapiter round about, all of brass: and like unto these had the second pillar with wreathen work.

This passage describes two pillars in the temple of Solomon, with each pillar being eighteen cubits high and the chapiter on the top being three cubits high. The chapiter was made of brass and was adorned with wreathen work and pomegranates.

1. "The Strength of God's Support"

2. "Living a Pillar of Faith"

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 Corinthians 3:11 - "For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

2 Kings 25:18 And the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three keepers of the door:

The captain of the guard took three of the high-ranking priests from Jerusalem into captivity.

1. God's sovereignty and faithfulness in times of trial

2. The power of God s Word in our lives

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 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 Kings 25:19 And out of the city he took an officer that was set over the men of war, and five men of them that were in the king's presence, which were found in the city, and the principal scribe of the host, which mustered the people of the land, and threescore men of the people of the land that were found in the city:

Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, took prisoners from Jerusalem including an officer, five men from the king's presence, a scribe, and sixty other citizens.

1. God's Punishment of Sin: A Study of 2 Kings 25:19

2. The Sovereignty of God: How He Controls the Outcome of Every Situation

1. Jeremiah 39:9-10 - When Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon attacked Jerusalem, he took some of the people captive.

2. Isaiah 14:24-25 - The Lord has determined the appointed time for the nations and when he will judge them.

2 Kings 25:20 And Nebuzaradan captain of the guard took these, and brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah:

Nebuzaradan, the captain of the guard, took captives from Jerusalem and brought them to the king of Babylon in Riblah.

1. God's Sovereignty: How We Can Trust in His Plans Despite Unforeseen Circumstances

2. Persevering Through Trials: How We Can Remain Faithful In Even The Most Difficult Circumstances

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 4:4-7 "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 Kings 25:21 And the king of Babylon smote them, and slew them at Riblah in the land of Hamath. So Judah was carried away out of their land.

The king of Babylon defeated Judah and took them away from their land.

1. God's sovereignty in the midst of suffering.

2. The consequences of disobedience to God.

1. Isaiah 40:8-11 - "The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

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 Kings 25:22 And as for the people that remained in the land of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had left, even over them he made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, ruler.

After Nebuchadnezzar conquered Judah, he left the remaining people in the land and appointed Gedaliah as their ruler.

1. The Power of God's Providence in Difficult Situations - 2 Kings 25:22

2. God's Plan for Restoration in the Midst of Suffering - 2 Kings 25:22

1. Jeremiah 29:10-14 - 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.

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.

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 Kings 25:23 And when all the captains of the armies, they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah governor, there came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan the son of Careah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite, and Jaazaniah the son of a Maachathite, they and their men.

Gedaliah was made governor of Mizpah by the King of Babylon, and four captains of the armies came to him with their men.

1. God's sovereignty in appointing leaders.

2. The importance of loyalty and obedience to authority.

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. Titus 3:1 - Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work.

2 Kings 25:24 And Gedaliah sware to them, and to their men, and said unto them, Fear not to be the servants of the Chaldees: dwell in the land, and serve the king of Babylon; and it shall be well with you.

Gedaliah urges the people of Judah not to be afraid of the Babylonians and to serve the Babylonian king, as it will be beneficial for them.

1. Serving God in All Circumstances - 2 Kings 25:24

2. Fear Not: God Is Always With You - 2 Kings 25:24

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 Kings 25:25 But it came to pass in the seventh month, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of the seed royal, came, and ten men with him, and smote Gedaliah, that he died, and the Jews and the Chaldees that were with him at Mizpah.

Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, assassinated Gedaliah and the Jews and Chaldees that were with him in the seventh month at Mizpah.

1. The Danger of Unforgiveness - Romans 12:19-21

2. A Call to Faithful Stewardship - Matthew 25:14-30

1. 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.

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord s money. After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

2 Kings 25:26 And all the people, both small and great, and the captains of the armies, arose, and came to Egypt: for they were afraid of the Chaldees.

After the Chaldeans conquered Jerusalem, the people of Israel fled to Egypt out of fear.

1. The importance of trusting in God, not in our own strength.

2. How the Lord uses even the most difficult situations for His ultimate purposes.

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.

2 Kings 25:27 And it came to pass in the seven and thirtieth year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, that Evilmerodach king of Babylon in the year that he began to reign did lift up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah out of prison;

Evilmerodach, the king of Babylon, released Jehoiachin, the king of Judah, from prison in his 37th year of captivity.

1. God is the ultimate liberator, regardless of our circumstances.

2. We can trust in God's timing, even when it doesn't make sense to us.

1. Psalm 146:7 Which executeth judgment for the oppressed: which giveth food to the hungry. The Lord looseth the prisoners.

2. 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, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.

2 Kings 25:28 And he spake kindly to him, and set his throne above the throne of the kings that were with him in Babylon;

After the fall of Jerusalem, Nebuchadnezzar treated Jehoiachin kindly and gave him a place of honor above the other kings who were with him in Babylon.

1. God's mercy is greater than our mistakes.

2. God's grace can turn our worst circumstances into a blessing.

1. Psalm 145:8-9 - "The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made."

2. Lamentations 3:21-23 - "But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: 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 Kings 25:29 And changed his prison garments: and he did eat bread continually before him all the days of his life.

Jehoiachin, a former king of Judah, was released from prison and allowed to eat bread continuously before the Babylonian king.

1. God can bring us out of even the darkest of places.

2. Our circumstances do not determine our destiny.

1. Psalm 40:2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.

2. Romans 8:31-39 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2 Kings 25:30 And his allowance was a continual allowance given him of the king, a daily rate for every day, all the days of his life.

Jehoiachin, the king of Judah, was given a daily allowance from the king of Babylon for the rest of his life.

1. God's Provision for His People: Learning from Jehoiachin's Story

2. Trusting God's Plans in Difficult Circumstances

1. 2 Kings 25:30

2. Jeremiah 24:5-7 - "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Like these good figs, so will I acknowledge those who are carried away captive from Judah, whom I have sent out of this place into the land of the Chaldeans. For I will set My eyes on them for good, and I will bring them back to this land; I will build them and not pull them down, and I will plant them and not pluck them up. Then I will give them a 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 to Me with their whole heart.

1 Chronicles chapter 1 serves as a genealogical record, tracing the lineage from Adam to the descendants of Jacob (Israel) and providing a historical overview of various nations and peoples.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by listing the generations from Adam to Noah, including notable figures such as Seth, Enoch, Methuselah, and Noah. It also mentions Noah's sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth (1 Chronicles 1:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative continues with a detailed account of the descendants of Japheth. It mentions various nations that originated from Japheth's line, including Gomer, Magog, Tubal, Meshech, Tiras, among others (1 Chronicles 1:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: The focus then shifts to the descendants of Ham. It lists several nations that trace their origins back to Ham's line Cushites (Ethiopians), Egyptians (Mizraim), Philistines (Casluhites), Canaanites and provides additional details about their families and territories (1 Chronicles 1:8-16).

4th Paragraph:The narrative proceeds with an account of the descendants of Shem. It includes notable figures such as Arphaxad the ancestor of Abraham and follows his lineage through several generations until it reaches Terah and his sons Abram (Abraham), Nahor, and Haran (1 Chronicles 1:17-27).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by briefly mentioning other tribes descended from Abraham's sons Ishmael and Isaac as well as Esau's genealogy. It provides an overview of Edom's kings before listing the chiefs who descended from Jacob (Israel) through his twelve sons the Israelite tribes (1 Chronicles 28-54).

In summary, Chapter one of 1 Chronicles depicts genealogical records, from Adam to Jacob's descendants. Listing notable figures, tracing lineages through generations. Mentioning nations originating from Japheth, descendants of Ham and Shem. This In summary, Chapter serves as a historical foundation for understanding Israelite ancestry, providing context for subsequent narratives in Chronicles.

1 Chronicles 1:1 Adam, Sheth, Enosh,

Adam, Sheth, and Enosh are three generations of ancestors listed in 1 Chronicles 1:1.

1. God's plan of redemption is seen in the genealogy of His people.

2. We have a great legacy in our faith that should be honored and remembered.

1. Romans 5:12-14 - Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

2. Matthew 1:1-17 - The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah.

1 Chronicles 1:2 Kenan, Mahalaleel, Jered,

This passage mentions the four sons of Adam and Eve: Kenan, Mahalaleel, Jered, and Enoch.

1. The Importance of Knowing Our Ancestors

2. The Legacy of Our Forefathers

1. Genesis 5:3-5

2. Matthew 1:1-17

1 Chronicles 1:3 Henoch, Methuselah, Lamech,

and Noah were the sons of Lamech.

Lamech was the father of four sons: Henoch, Methuselah, Lamech, and Noah.

1. God's Plan of Redemption: A Study of Lamech and his Descendants

2. The Faithfulness of God: The Story of Noah and his Family

1. Luke 3:36-38 - The Genealogy of Jesus Christ

2. Genesis 5:21-32 - The Genealogy of Noah

1 Chronicles 1:4 Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

The passage mentions the four sons of Noah: Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

1. The Faithfulness of Noah and His Sons Exploring the Story of Noah and His Sons in 1 Chronicles 1:4

2. Obedience and Blessing Examining the Blessings of Obeying God's Instructions in 1 Chronicles 1:4

1. Genesis 9:18-28 The Covenant God Made with Noah and His Sons

2. Genesis 10:1-32 The Descendants of Noah's Sons and the Nations They Became

1 Chronicles 1:5 The sons of Japheth; Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Meshech, and Tiras.

This passage lists the sons of Japheth.

1: We can find strength and comfort in the generations that have come before us.

2: Our family is a part of a larger community, and we are connected to each other through our ancestry.

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 139:13-14 - 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.

1 Chronicles 1:6 And the sons of Gomer; Ashchenaz, and Riphath, and Togarmah.

Gomer had three sons, Ashchenaz, Riphath and Togarmah.

1. God Gives Us Strength and Support Through Our Family

2. Our Ancestors Are a Source of Strength and Guidance

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 1:7 And the sons of Javan; Elishah, and Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim.

Javan had four sons: Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim.

1. The Importance of Family: Examining Javan and his Sons

2. God's Faithful Presence in our Lives: How He Guides us through our Family Connections

1. Genesis 10:4 - "The sons of Javan: Elisha, Tarshish, the Kittites and the Dodanites."

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."

1 Chronicles 1:8 The sons of Ham; Cush, and Mizraim, Put, and Canaan.

This passage describes the four sons of Ham: Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan.

1. "God's Plan and Purpose for Every Nation"

2. "God's Blessing of Descendants"

1. 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. Jeremiah 33:22 "I will make the descendants of David my servant and the Levites who minister before me as countless as the stars of the sky and as measureless as the sand on the seashore."

1 Chronicles 1:9 And the sons of Cush; Seba, and Havilah, and Sabta, and Raamah, and Sabtecha. And the sons of Raamah; Sheba, and Dedan.

Cush had four sons, Seba, Havilah, Sabta and Raamah. Raamah in turn had two sons, Sheba and Dedan.

1. God's Blessing for Our Ancestors: Recognizing the Faithfulness of Cush and Raamah

2. Rediscovering Our Heritage: Remembering the Sons of Cush and Raamah

1. Genesis 10:7 - "The sons of Cush: Seba, Havilah, Sabta, Raamah, and Sabteca."

2. Genesis 25:3 - "The sons of Cush: Seba, Havilah, Sabta, Raamah, and Sabteca; and the sons of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan."

1 Chronicles 1:10 And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be mighty upon the earth.

Cush was the father of Nimrod, who was known for his strength and power on the earth.

1. True strength can be found in God and not in ourselves.

2. We should strive to use our strength and power to glorify God.

1. Psalm 89:13 - "Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand."

2. Ephesians 6:10 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power."

1 Chronicles 1:11 And Mizraim begat Ludim, and Anamim, and Lehabim, and Naphtuhim,

Passage Mizraim was the father of the Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, and Naphtuhim.

1. The importance of knowing our ancestors and the legacy they left behind.

2. Understanding the power of family and the impact it can have on our lives.

1. Ruth 4:17-22 - Ruth's legacy passed from generation to generation.

2. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ.

1 Chronicles 1:12 And Pathrusim, and Casluhim, (of whom came the Philistines,) and Caphthorim.

This passage describes the descendants of a man named Joktan, who are known as Pathrusim, Casluhim, and Caphthorim. Among these descendants came the Philistines.

1. God's Plan in Allowing Descendants to be Spread Around the World

2. The Mystery of How We're All 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. Ephesians 3:14-19: For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

1 Chronicles 1:13 And Canaan begat Zidon his firstborn, and Heth,

The passage is about the genealogy of Canaan who is the father of Zidon and Heth.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in His preservation of His people's heritage.

2. God has a purpose and plan for every generation.

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 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.

1 Chronicles 1:14 The Jebusite also, and the Amorite, and the Girgashite,

This passage lists the Jebusites, Amorites, and Girgashites as the descendants of Noah.

1. God's faithfulness to His covenant with Noah and His people

2. The importance of recognizing our common history

1. Genesis 9:8-17

2. Psalm 105:8-12

1 Chronicles 1:15 And the Hivite, and the Arkite, and the Sinite,

This passage lists the Hivites, Arkites, and Sinites, three tribes of people.

1. The Importance of Unity

2. God's Faithfulness to His People

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

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 Chronicles 1:16 And the Arvadite, and the Zemarite, and the Hamathite.

This verse in 1 Chronicles 1:16 mentions three groups of people living in the region, the Arvadite, the Zemarite, and the Hamathite.

1. Unity in Diversity: How God Created and Sustains Variety in His Creation

2. The Power of God's Word: How Every Word of Scripture is Relevant and Perfect

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. 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 Chronicles 1:17 The sons of Shem; Elam, and Asshur, and Arphaxad, and Lud, and Aram, and Uz, and Hul, and Gether, and Meshech.

Shem had seven sons: Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud, Aram, Uz, Hul, Gether, and Meshech.

1. God's Plan for Humanity: The Descendants of Shem

2. The Faithfulness of God Throughout History

1. Genesis 10:1-32 - God's plan to spread people over the earth through Shem's descendants

2. Romans 9:6-8 - God's faithfulness to His promises to the descendants of Abraham through Shem

1 Chronicles 1:18 And Arphaxad begat Shelah, and Shelah begat Eber.

Arphaxad fathered Shelah, who in turn fathered Eber.

1. God's faithfulness to his promises is seen in the genealogies of the Bible.

2. The importance of family and lineage in God's plan.

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. Matthew 1:1-17 - The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

1 Chronicles 1:19 And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was Peleg; because in his days the earth was divided: and his brother's name was Joktan.

Eber fathered two sons named Peleg and Joktan, the former being named for the dividing of the earth in his days.

1. God's Sovereignty: Even in Division, He Reigns Supreme

2. God's Faithfulness: The Earth is Divided Yet He is Unchanging

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 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

1 Chronicles 1:20 And Joktan begat Almodad, and Sheleph, and Hazarmaveth, and Jerah,

This passage from 1 Chronicles 1:20 details the descendants of Joktan, including Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, and Jerah.

1. God's Plan for Generational Blessing: How God Uses and Blesses Our Families

2. God's Faithfulness to His People: A Look at the Descendants of Joktan

1. Psalm 127:3 "Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward."

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.

1 Chronicles 1:21 Hadoram also, and Uzal, and Diklah,

The passage mentions four people: Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, and their father Joktan.

1. God's faithfulness to his people is seen in his blessing of Joktan and his descendants.

2. We can find hope in God's promise that he will be with us no matter what.

1. Genesis 12:2-3 - God's promise to Abraham that he will make him a great nation and bless those who bless him.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - God's promise to be with his people in the midst of their troubles.

1 Chronicles 1:22 And Ebal, and Abimael, and Sheba,

The passage mentions three individuals, Ebal, Abimael, and Sheba.

1: "Living a Life of Faith, following in the footsteps of Ebal, Abimael and Sheba"

2: "The Power of Examples: Learning from the examples of Ebal, Abimael, and Sheba"

1: Deuteronomy 11:29 - And when the LORD thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, thou shalt put the blessing upon mount Gerizim, and the curse upon mount Ebal.

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.

1 Chronicles 1:23 And Ophir, and Havilah, and Jobab. All these were the sons of Joktan.

Joktan had many sons, including Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab.

1. God blesses us with abundance and provision through our family.

2. Family is an integral part of God's plan for us.

1. Psalm 68:6 - God sets the lonely in families, he leads forth the prisoners with singing.

2. Ephesians 3:14-15 - For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

1 Chronicles 1:24 Shem, Arphaxad, Shelah,

The passage mentions four descendants of Shem: Shem, Arphaxad, Shelah, and Eber.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in His promise to Abraham, that his descendants would be numerous.

2: Despite our mistakes, God remains faithful to His promises and can use us to fulfill them.

1: Genesis 12:2-3 - God promises Abraham that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars of the sky.

2: Romans 4:13-25 - God remains faithful to His promises despite the mistakes of His people.

1 Chronicles 1:25 Eber, Peleg, Reu,

Serug

The passage is about the four sons of Eber: Eber, Peleg, Reu, and Serug.

1. The importance of honoring our ancestors and the legacy of faith they leave behind.

2. The beauty of passing faith down through generations.

1. Genesis 10:21-25 - The Table of Nations and the sons of Eber.

2. Acts 2:8-11 - The gift of the Holy Spirit uniting believers from all nations.

1 Chronicles 1:26 Serug, Nahor, Terah,

The passage discusses the genealogy of the family of Abraham, beginning with Serug, Nahor, and Terah.

1. God's Plan for the Redemption of Humanity: From Serug to Abraham.

2. The Unbroken Line of Faith: A Study of the Patriarchs.

1. Genesis 12:1-3 - The Call of Abraham.

2. Romans 4:16-18 - Justification by Faith.

1 Chronicles 1:27 Abram; the same is Abraham.

This verse reveals the name change of Abram to Abraham.

1. God's Faithfulness in Changing Lives - How God changed Abram's name to Abraham and the significance of that change in Abram's life.

2. A Life of Obedience - How Abraham's obedience to God's call led to the changing of his name and the significance of that obedience in his life.

1. Genesis 17:5 - "No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations."

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."

1 Chronicles 1:28 The sons of Abraham; Isaac, and Ishmael.

Abraham had two sons, Isaac and Ishmael.

1. The importance of having faith, like Abraham, that God will provide and bless.

2. The blessing of having a family with both natural and spiritual ties.

1. Genesis 17:15-21 - God's covenant with Abraham to make him the father of many nations.

2. Romans 4:16-25 - Abraham's faith in God's promise of a son despite the impossibility of his age.

1 Chronicles 1:29 These are their generations: The firstborn of Ishmael, Nebaioth; then Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam,

This passage discusses the descendants of Ishmael.

1. The Importance of Ancestry and Legacy

2. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises

1. 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.

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 Chronicles 1:30 Mishma, and Dumah, Massa, Hadad, and Tema,

The passage mentions five sons of Ishmael: Mishma, Dumah, Massa, Hadad, and Tema.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the many descendants of Ishmael, even today.

2. We can learn from Ishmael's story of not giving up, even in the face of many difficulties.

1. Genesis 16:11-12 - God's promise of blessing to Ishmael.

2. Galatians 4:28-31 - Paul's teaching on the significance of Ishmael and Isaac.

1 Chronicles 1:31 Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. These are the sons of Ishmael.

Ishmael had three sons named Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah.

1. The Promise of God: Exploring the significance of Ishmael and his sons.

2. The Faithful Father: Examining the example of Ishmael.

1. Genesis 17:18-20 - God's promise to Abraham and Ishmael.

2. 1 Chronicles 4:9-10 - The genealogy of Ishmael's descendants.

1 Chronicles 1:32 Now the sons of Keturah, Abraham's concubine: she bare Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak, and Shuah. And the sons of Jokshan; Sheba, and Dedan.

Keturah, Abraham's concubine, bore six sons: Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah. Jokshan's sons were Sheba and Dedan.

1. God's Promises Endure Through Unexpected Circumstances - 1 Chronicles 1:32

2. All Things Work Together For Good - Romans 8:28

1. Genesis 25:1-4 - Abraham's relationship with Keturah

2. Genesis 25:13-15 - The sons of Abraham's concubine, Keturah

1 Chronicles 1:33 And the sons of Midian; Ephah, and Epher, and Henoch, and Abida, and Eldaah. All these are the sons of Keturah.

The passage mentions the sons of Keturah, which were Ephah, Epher, Henoch, Abida, and Eldaah.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Raising Up Children

2. The Blessing of Being Part of a Family

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. Romans 8:14-17 - "For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, Abba! Father! it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him."

1 Chronicles 1:34 And Abraham begat Isaac. The sons of Isaac; Esau and Israel.

Abraham had two sons, Isaac and Esau, with Isaac being the father of Israel.

1. The lasting legacy of Abraham and the blessing of his sons.

2. The importance of lineage and the power of generational blessings.

1. Genesis 25:19-26 -- The Birth of Esau and Jacob.

2. Romans 9:10-13 -- The Purpose of God's Choice in Election.

1 Chronicles 1:35 The sons of Esau; Eliphaz, Reuel, and Jeush, and Jaalam, and Korah.

This passage lists five sons of Esau: Eliphaz, Reuel, Jeush, Jaalam, and Korah.

1. God's Faithfulness: Examining the Sons of Esau

2. Learning from our Ancestors: Living Out the Legacy of Esau

1. Romans 9:13 - As it is written, Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.

2. Ephesians 2:12-13 - 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.

1 Chronicles 1:36 The sons of Eliphaz; Teman, and Omar, Zephi, and Gatam, Kenaz, and Timna, and Amalek.

This passage lists the descendants of Eliphaz, which includes Teman, Omar, Zephi, Gatam, Kenaz, Timna, and Amalek.

1. God's Faithfulness Shown Through His Lineage

2. A Study of Eliphaz' Descendants

1. Romans 4:16-17 - "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"

2. Matthew 1:1-17 - "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers... So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations."

1 Chronicles 1:37 The sons of Reuel; Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah.

Reuel had four sons named Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah.

1. Being a Good Father: Reuel and His Sons

2. The Importance of Family: Lessons from Reuel and His Sons

1. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 - 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.

1 Chronicles 1:38 And the sons of Seir; Lotan, and Shobal, and Zibeon, and Anah, and Dishon, and Ezar, and Dishan.

This passage lists the descendants of Seir, which include Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, Dishon, Ezar, and Dishan.

1. The Power of Generational Blessing: How God Uses Families to Advance His Kingdom

2. God's Promise to His People: A Study in the Covenant of Abraham

1. 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.

2. 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. 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. By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as countless as the sand that is on the seashore.

1 Chronicles 1:39 And the sons of Lotan; Hori, and Homam: and Timna was Lotan's sister.

This passage mentions the sons of Lotan, and his sister Timna.

1. The importance of family bonds and the impact of siblings.

2. The power of love and support in our lives.

1. Genesis 19:30-38 Lot and his daughters flee from Sodom and Gomorrah.

2. Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times.

1 Chronicles 1:40 The sons of Shobal; Alian, and Manahath, and Ebal, Shephi, and Onam. And the sons of Zibeon; Aiah, and Anah.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 1:40 lists the sons of Shobal, Alian, Manahath, Ebal, Shephi, and Onam, as well as the sons of Zibeon, Aiah, and Anah.

1. God's Faithful Provision: Trusting God to Provide for Our Needs

2. Following God's Plan: Trusting God's Guidance for Our Lives

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 16:11 - "You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand."

1 Chronicles 1:41 The sons of Anah; Dishon. And the sons of Dishon; Amram, and Eshban, and Ithran, and Cheran.

This passage describes the sons of Anah, including Dishon, Amram, Eshban, Ithran, and Cheran.

1. The Importance of Family: Learning from Anah and His Descendants

2. God's Faithfulness to His People: The Lineage of Anah

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."

1 Chronicles 1:42 The sons of Ezer; Bilhan, and Zavan, and Jakan. The sons of Dishan; Uz, and Aran.

This passage records the sons of Ezer, Bilhan, Zavan, and Jakan, and the sons of Dishan, Uz and Aran.

1. God is the ultimate provider for our families - 1 Chronicles 1:42

2. The importance of honoring our ancestors - 1 Chronicles 1:42

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 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 Chronicles 1:43 Now these are the kings that reigned in the land of Edom before any king reigned over the children of Israel; Bela the son of Beor: and the name of his city was Dinhabah.

Before any king reigned over the children of Israel, Bela the son of Beor reigned in the land of Edom and his city was Dinhabah.

1. God is sovereign even in political matters.

2. God is still in control of all things.

1. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

2. Daniel 2:21 - He is the God in whose hand is the sovereignty over all the kingdoms of the earth.

1 Chronicles 1:44 And when Bela was dead, Jobab the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his stead.

Bela of Judah died and Jobab of Bozrah succeeded him as king.

1. God's Plan: Lessons from the Succession of Kings

2. The Sovereignty of God in the Lives of Kings

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 75:6-7 - For not from the east or from the west and not from the wilderness comes lifting up, but it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another.

1 Chronicles 1:45 And when Jobab was dead, Husham of the land of the Temanites reigned in his stead.

Jobab's death resulted in the reign of Husham of the Temanites.

1: We must remain faithful to God, even in the face of death, for God will provide a replacement for us.

2: We can trust that God will always provide for us, even when we depart this life.

1: 1 Corinthians 15:51-57 - Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

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.

1 Chronicles 1:46 And when Husham was dead, Hadad the son of Bedad, which smote Midian in the field of Moab, reigned in his stead: and the name of his city was Avith.

Hadad the son of Bedad reigned in place of Husham and his city was called Avith.

1. The Necessity of Leadership

2. The Importance of Legacy

1. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

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 Chronicles 1:47 And when Hadad was dead, Samlah of Masrekah reigned in his stead.

Hadad, the king of Edom, died and was succeeded by Samlah of Masrekah.

1. The Importance of Transition in Leadership

2. The Faithfulness of God in Changing Times

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

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

1 Chronicles 1:48 And when Samlah was dead, Shaul of Rehoboth by the river reigned in his stead.

Samlah died and Shaul of Rehoboth by the river became king in his place.

1. The Power of God's Sovereignty: How God's Plan is Unstoppable

2. The Sovereignty of God: How Nothing Can Stand Against His 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. 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.

1 Chronicles 1:49 And when Shaul was dead, Baalhanan the son of Achbor reigned in his stead.

After Saul died, Baalhanan the son of Achbor became king.

1. The Power of Legacy - How to Make the Most of What We Have Been Given

2. From King Saul to King Baalhanan - The Ups and Downs of Leadership

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 6:26-27 - 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?

1 Chronicles 1:50 And when Baalhanan was dead, Hadad reigned in his stead: and the name of his city was Pai; and his wife's name was Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred, the daughter of Mezahab.

Hadad takes the throne after Baalhanan's death and his city is called Pai and his wife is called Mehetabel.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How God Rules and Reigns

2. God's Plan for Marriages: Blessings Through Obedience

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Ephesians 5:22-33

1 Chronicles 1:51 Hadad died also. And the dukes of Edom were; duke Timnah, duke Aliah, duke Jetheth,

Hadad, the Duke of Edom, has died.

1. Don't take life for granted.

2. Follow in the footsteps of righteous people, such as Hadad.

1. James 4:13-15

2. Romans 13:1-7

1 Chronicles 1:52 Duke Aholibamah, duke Elah, duke Pinon,

This passage the genealogy of the descendants of Edom, who were the sons of Eliphaz, the son of Esau.

1. Putting Our Trust in God's Plan: Exploring the Faith of Edom's Descendants

2. Patiently Waiting on the Lord: The Example of Eliphaz and His Sons

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 1:2-3 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

1 Chronicles 1:53 Duke Kenaz, duke Teman, duke Mibzar,

The passage is a list of three dukes - Duke Kenaz, Duke Teman and Duke Mibzar.

1. The importance of honoring our leaders.

2. The beauty of diversity and how we can learn from each other.

1. Titus 3:1 - Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work.

2. 1 Peter 2:17 - Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

1 Chronicles 1:54 Duke Magdiel, duke Iram. These are the dukes of Edom.

This passage from 1 Chronicles names the dukes of Edom.

1. God has a plan for each and every one of us.

2. Everyone has a part to play in God's kingdom.

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. 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 Chronicles chapter 2 continues the genealogical record, focusing primarily on the descendants of Israel (Jacob) through his sons Judah, Simeon, and Levi. It also highlights the lineage of David, who would become a significant figure in Israel's history.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by listing the sons of Israel (Jacob), including Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh), and Benjamin (1 Chronicles 2:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative then focuses on the descendants of Judah. It provides a detailed account of Judah's sons Er, Onan (who died childless), Shelah and their respective offspring. It also mentions Tamar and her children Perez and Zerah from her relationship with Judah (1 Chronicles 2:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The genealogy continues with an account of the descendants of Perez the most prominent branch within the tribe of Judah. It traces their lineage through several generations until it reaches David the renowned king of Israel and his sons (1 Chronicles 2:5-15).

4th Paragraph:The narrative shifts to highlight the descendants of Simeon another son of Jacob and provides details about their families and territories. This includes a mention of Shimei a notable figure known for cursing David during his time as king (1 Chronicles 2:16-17).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with an account of the descendants of Levi another son of Jacob who became responsible for priestly duties in Israel. It lists various Levitical clans and mentions key individuals such as Aaron the first high priest and Moses the renowned leader who brought Israel out from Egypt (1 Chronicles 2:20-55).

In summary, Chapter two of 1 Chronicles depicts genealogical records, from Jacob's sons to David. Listing notable figures, tracing lineages through generations. Highlighting tribes like Judah, descendants such as Perez. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical foundation for understanding Israelite ancestry, emphasizing key figures like David within the lineage.

1 Chronicles 2:1 These are the sons of Israel; Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun,

This passage lists the sons of Israel.

1: God is always faithful to His promises and His covenant with His people to make them a great nation.

2: We can trust in God's plan for us, even when it does not seem clear in the moment.

1: Genesis 12:1-3; God's promise to Abraham to make him into a great nation.

2: Galatians 3:6-9; The faithfulness of God to His covenant with Abraham and the fact that it was not dependent on works.

1 Chronicles 2:2 Dan, Joseph, and Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

This passage lists six of the twelve sons of Jacob: Dan, Joseph, Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

1. How God Uses the Weak to Accomplish Great Things

2. The Faithfulness of God in Keeping His Promises

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 28:15 - Look, I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.

1 Chronicles 2:3 The sons of Judah; Er, and Onan, and Shelah: which three were born unto him of the daughter of Shua the Canaanitess. And Er, the firstborn of Judah, was evil in the sight of the LORD; and he slew him.

Judah had three sons, Er, Onan, and Shelah, born of the Canaanite woman Shua. Er, the firstborn, was evil in God's eyes and was killed by Him.

1. The Power of God: How God's Judgement Is Righteous and Just

2. Learning from the Consequences of Sin: Understanding the Cost of Disobedience

1. Proverbs 16:2 All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits.

2. Romans 11:33-34 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?

1 Chronicles 2:4 And Tamar his daughter in law bore him Pharez and Zerah. All the sons of Judah were five.

Tamar, daughter-in-law of Judah, bore him two sons, Pharez and Zerah, making Judah's total number of sons five.

1. The Power of Faithful Women: Examining the example of Tamar in 1 Chronicles 2:4

2. The Blessing of Being Part of a Family: Exploring Judah's five sons in 1 Chronicles 2:4

1. Genesis 38:26-30 - Tamar's faithfulness and courage in the face of adversity

2. Matthew 1:3 - The genealogy of Jesus, beginning with Judah, his descendant

1 Chronicles 2:5 The sons of Pharez; Hezron, and Hamul.

Pharez had two sons, Hezron and Hamul.

1. The importance of family heritage and legacy in our lives.

2. Our lives are shaped by the legacy of those who came before us.

1. 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."

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."

1 Chronicles 2:6 And the sons of Zerah; Zimri, and Ethan, and Heman, and Calcol, and Dara: five of them in all.

This passage mentions the five sons of Zerah - Zimri, Ethan, Heman, Calcol, and Dara.

1. The Power of Generational Blessings: Exploring the Legacy of Zerah's Sons

2. The Impact of Family: The Lives of Zerah's Sons

1. Genesis 10:6 - And the sons of Ham; Cush, and Mizraim, and Phut, and Canaan.

2. Psalm 112:2 - His descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

1 Chronicles 2:7 And the sons of Carmi; Achar, the troubler of Israel, who transgressed in the thing accursed.

The sons of Carmi are listed in 1 Chronicles 2:7, with Achar identified as the one who transgressed in a cursed thing.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Lessons from Achar in 1 Chronicles 2:7

2. The Power of Temptation: Overcoming Sin in Achar's Example

1. 1 Chronicles 2:7

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.

1 Chronicles 2:8 And the sons of Ethan; Azariah.

This passage describes the descendants of Ethan, including his son Azariah.

1. God celebrates the life and legacy of those who honor Him, even if their name is not widely known.

2. God is faithful to keep His promises to generations, faithfully passing along the faith to the next.

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

1 Chronicles 2:9 The sons also of Hezron, that were born unto him; Jerahmeel, and Ram, and Chelubai.

Hezron had three sons, Jerahmeel, Ram, and Chelubai.

1. God's Blessings Through Family: How God's Blessing Can Be Seen Through Generational Lines

2. The Importance of Honor: How to Live Righteously and Respect the Generations Before Us

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.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 2:10 And Ram begat Amminadab; and Amminadab begat Nahshon, prince of the children of Judah;

The passage describes the genealogy of Judah, tracing it back to Ram and Amminadab, and noting that Nahshon was the prince of the children of Judah.

1. God's Faithfulness in Establishing His Chosen People - 1 Chronicles 2:10

2. The Importance of Knowing Our Heritage - 1 Chronicles 2:10

1. Ruth 4:18-22 - Boaz and Ruth trace their heritage back to Judah

2. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus from the line of Judah

1 Chronicles 2:11 And Nahshon begat Salma, and Salma begat Boaz,

The passage mentions the genealogy of Boaz, tracing his lineage back to Nahshon.

1. The Power of God's Hand in Our Lives: Exploring Boaz's Lineage

2. Rediscovering Our Roots: Celebrating Our Ancestors

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 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.

1 Chronicles 2:12 And Boaz begat Obed, and Obed begat Jesse,

Boaz was the father of Obed and Obed was the father of Jesse.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People: Boaz, Obed, and Jesse

2. The Meaning of Generational Faithfulness

1. Ruth 4:17-22

2. Psalm 78:1-7

1 Chronicles 2:13 And Jesse begat his firstborn Eliab, and Abinadab the second, and Shimma the third,

Passage: Jesse begat three sons, Eliab, Abinadab, and Shimma.

Jesse had three sons: Eliab, Abinadab, and Shimma.

1. The importance of family: A lesson from Jesse and his sons.

2. The blessings of having siblings: A look at Jesse's family.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 2:14 Nethaneel the fourth, Raddai the fifth,

The passage mentions five of David's sons: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Nethaneel, and Raddai.

1. The importance of family and the legacy we leave behind.

2. The significance of names and the stories they can tell.

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

2. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

1 Chronicles 2:15 Ozem the sixth, David the seventh:

This passage from 1 Chronicles 2:15 lists the sons of Judah and their genealogical order.

1. The Importance of Family: How Our Ancestors Shape Our Identity

2. The Power of Faith: The Strength of Our Forbearers

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 2:16 Whose sisters were Zeruiah, and Abigail. And the sons of Zeruiah; Abishai, and Joab, and Asahel, three.

This passage mentions the three sons of Zeruiah, Abishai, Joab, and Asahel.

1. Living a Life of Courage: Lessons from the Life of Zeruiah

2. Focusing on What Matters Most: The Faithful Example of Zeruiah

1. 1 Samuel 18:1-4 - David and Jonathan's Covenant of Friendship

2. Philippians 3:7-14 - Being Content in Christ

1 Chronicles 2:17 And Abigail bare Amasa: and the father of Amasa was Jether the Ishmeelite.

Abigail gave birth to Amasa and his father was Jether the Ishmeelite.

1. God has a plan for each and every one of us, no matter our background or origin.

2. God has the power to create something beautiful from any situation.

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.

1 Chronicles 2:18 And Caleb the son of Hezron begat children of Azubah his wife, and of Jerioth: her sons are these; Jesher, and Shobab, and Ardon.

Caleb, the son of Hezron, had children with his wife Azubah and her daughter Jerioth. Their sons were Jesher, Shobab, and Ardon.

1. The Importance of Family: Celebrating the Legacy of Caleb and His Children

2. Faithful and Loyal: The Example of Caleb and His Descendants

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 6:1-3 - "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.

1 Chronicles 2:19 And when Azubah was dead, Caleb took unto him Ephrath, which bare him Hur.

Caleb took Ephrath as his wife after Azubah died and she bore him a son named Hur.

1. Never give up on love - even in times of sorrow, God has provided us with a way to find joy through love.

2. The importance of family - the family unit is a gift from God, and we should cherish the relationships we have with our loved ones.

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. Proverbs 18:22 - Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord.

1 Chronicles 2:20 And Hur begat Uri, and Uri begat Bezaleel.

Hur was the father of Uri, and Uri was the father of Bezaleel.

1. God uses all generations to continue His work and legacy.

2. God's faithfulness is evident in the generations of His people.

1. Psalm 78:4 - We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 2:21 And afterward Hezron went in to the daughter of Machir the father of Gilead, whom he married when he was threescore years old; and she bare him Segub.

Hezron married the daughter of Machir at age 60 and she bore him a son called Segub.

1. God has a plan for our lives and He works in mysterious ways, even when we least expect it.

2. God's timing is perfect, even when it doesn't seem that way.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens.

2. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

1 Chronicles 2:22 And Segub begat Jair, who had three and twenty cities in the land of Gilead.

Segub was the father of Jair, who had control over 23 cities in the land of Gilead.

1. God equips us with the resources and authority to do His will.

2. All of us have the potential to do great things with the gifts God gives us.

1. 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.

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.

1 Chronicles 2:23 And he took Geshur, and Aram, with the towns of Jair, from them, with Kenath, and the towns thereof, even threescore cities. All these belonged to the sons of Machir the father of Gilead.

This passage describes how the sons of Machir, the father of Gilead, took Geshur, Aram, and the towns of Jair, Kenath, and sixty other cities from them.

1. God's provision through His chosen people

2. The power of faith and trust in God

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 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 Chronicles 2:24 And after that Hezron was dead in Calebephratah, then Abiah Hezron's wife bare him Ashur the father of Tekoa.

Hezron died in Calebephratah and his wife Abiah bore him a son, Ashur, who was the father of Tekoa.

1. God can use even our death for His purposes.

2. The legacy of faithfulness can be passed on through generations.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 2:25 And the sons of Jerahmeel the firstborn of Hezron were, Ram the firstborn, and Bunah, and Oren, and Ozem, and Ahijah.

Jerahmeel, the firstborn of Hezron, had five sons: Ram, Bunah, Oren, Ozem, and Ahijah.

1. The Blessings of Generational Faithfulness

2. The Power of Parental Influence

1. Matthew 5:3-12 (Blessed are the meek, the peacemakers, etc.)

2. Ephesians 6:4 (Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger)

1 Chronicles 2:26 Jerahmeel had also another wife, whose name was Atarah; she was the mother of Onam.

Jerahmeel had two wives, one named Atarah who was the mother of Onam.

1. Learn to Honor and Respect Your Spouse

2. The Power of a Mother's Love

1. Ephesians 5:22-33

2. Proverbs 31:10-31

1 Chronicles 2:27 And the sons of Ram the firstborn of Jerahmeel were, Maaz, and Jamin, and Eker.

Ram, the firstborn of Jerahmeel, had three sons named Maaz, Jamin, and Eker.

1. God has a plan for every family, and we can trust that He knows what is best for us.

2. God gives us the gift of family, and we should cherish our relationships with those we love.

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."

1 Chronicles 2:28 And the sons of Onam were, Shammai, and Jada. And the sons of Shammai; Nadab, and Abishur.

Onam had two sons, Shammai and Jada, and Shammai had two sons, Nadab and Abishur.

1. The importance of family and lineage in Biblical times.

2. The legacy of fatherhood and the importance of passing down a strong example to our children.

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 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

1 Chronicles 2:29 And the name of the wife of Abishur was Abihail, and she bare him Ahban, and Molid.

Abishur married a woman named Abihail and they had two sons, Ahban and Molid.

1. God's plan for marriage is for couples to build families together.

2. We can trust in God's provision for our lives.

1. Ephesians 5:22-33

2. Psalm 46:1-3

1 Chronicles 2:30 And the sons of Nadab; Seled, and Appaim: but Seled died without children.

This passage describes the sons of Nadab, Seled and Appaim. Seled died without any children.

1. The Importance of Living a Legacy: Lessons from the Sons of Nadab

2. Making the Most of the Time We Have: The Story of Seled and Appaim

1. Ecclesiastes 7:2, It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting

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.

1 Chronicles 2:31 And the sons of Appaim; Ishi. And the sons of Ishi; Sheshan. And the children of Sheshan; Ahlai.

Ishi, the son of Appaim, had a son named Sheshan, whose children were Ahlai.

1. The Importance of Family: Exploring the Legacy of Ishi, Appaim, and Sheshan.

2. The Power of Lineage: Understanding the Significance of Ahlai's Descendants.

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. Matthew 1:1-17 - "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham..."

1 Chronicles 2:32 And the sons of Jada the brother of Shammai; Jether, and Jonathan: and Jether died without children.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 2:32 mentions the sons of Jada, Jether, and Jonathan, and notes that Jether died without children.

1. The Importance of Family: A Reflection on 1 Chronicles 2:32

2. Living in the Legacy of Our Ancestors: A Study on 1 Chronicles 2:32

1. Matthew 22:24-30 - The Parable of the Great Banquet

2. Romans 8:18-25 - Suffering Produces Hope and Glory

1 Chronicles 2:33 And the sons of Jonathan; Peleth, and Zaza. These were the sons of Jerahmeel.

Jerahmeel had two sons, Peleth and Zaza.

1. God's plan for us is often revealed through our families.

2. God is faithful to fulfill His promises to our families.

1. Genesis 12:1-3 - The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show 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.

1 Chronicles 2:34 Now Sheshan had no sons, but daughters. And Sheshan had a servant, an Egyptian, whose name was Jarha.

Sheshan had no sons, only daughters, and a servant, an Egyptian named Jarha.

1. God's plan is often mysterious and does not always come easy.

2. Faith and trust in God can help us to accept what we cannot understand.

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 Chronicles 2:35 And Sheshan gave his daughter to Jarha his servant to wife; and she bare him Attai.

Sheshan gave his daughter to Jarha his servant to marry, and she bore Attai.

1. The importance of honoring family bonds.

2. The example of servanthood in Jarha.

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Marriage as a reflection of Christ and the Church.

2. Deuteronomy 10:18-19 - Showing love and respect to those who serve you.

1 Chronicles 2:36 And Attai begat Nathan, and Nathan begat Zabad,

Attai was the father of Nathan, who in turn was the father of Zabad.

1. The Legacy of Fatherhood: How Our Ancestors Affect Our Lives

2. The Power of Lineage: How Our Families Shape Our Identity

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. 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 Chronicles 2:37 And Zabad begat Ephlal, and Ephlal begat Obed,

The passage is about a genealogical line beginning with Zabad and ending with Obed.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Keeping His Promises Across Generations

2. The Bible as a Reliable Source of Historical Information

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 55:11 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 Chronicles 2:38 And Obed begat Jehu, and Jehu begat Azariah,

Obed was the father of Jehu, who was the father of Azariah.

1. The importance of fathers in our lives and how they shape our future.

2. The power of generational blessings and how our decisions affect generations to come.

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.

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

1 Chronicles 2:39 And Azariah begat Helez, and Helez begat Eleasah,

Azariah is the father of Helez, who is the father of Eleasah.

1. The Power of Legacy: Recognizing the Impact of Our Ancestors

2. The Strength of the Family Line: Celebrating God's Covenant of Generations

1. Genesis 17:7-8, God's Promise of Multiplying Descendants

2. Psalm 78:4-7, God's Faithfulness Across Generations

1 Chronicles 2:40 And Eleasah begat Sisamai, and Sisamai begat Shallum,

Eleasah had a son named Sisamai, who in turn had a son named Shallum.

1. The Legacy of Faith: Celebrating the Faithfulness of our Ancestors

2. The Power of Generational Blessing: Passing on the Promise of God's Provision

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

1 Chronicles 2:41 And Shallum begat Jekamiah, and Jekamiah begat Elishama.

Shallum was the father of Jekamiah, who in turn was the father of Elishama.

1. The Importance of Family and the Chain of Generations

2. The Power of Legacy and Continuity

1. Psalm 145:4 - One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

2. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children.

1 Chronicles 2:42 Now the sons of Caleb the brother of Jerahmeel were, Mesha his firstborn, which was the father of Ziph; and the sons of Mareshah the father of Hebron.

Caleb's sons included Mesha, who was the father of Ziph, and Mareshah, who was the father of Hebron.

1. Faithfulness Transcends Generations: The Legacy of Caleb

2. From Caleb to Mareshah: Examining the Impact of Faithfulness

1. Genesis 15:13-15 - God's promise to Abraham that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky.

2. Malachi 3:16-17 - God's promise to preserve a remnant of faithful believers.

1 Chronicles 2:43 And the sons of Hebron; Korah, and Tappuah, and Rekem, and Shema.

This passage provides a list of the sons of Hebron, which are Korah, Tappuah, Rekem, and Shema.

1. The Faith of Hebron: Understanding the Legacy of the Father of Faith.

2. God's Plan in Action: Examining the Meaning of the Sons of Hebron.

1. Genesis 15:4-5 - 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. 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.

2. Psalm 105:36-37 - He smote also all the firstborn in their land, the chief of all their strength. He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes.

1 Chronicles 2:44 And Shema begat Raham, the father of Jorkoam: and Rekem begat Shammai.

Shema begat Raham, the father of Jorkoam, and Rekem begat Shammai.

1. God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

2. God's plans are greater than our own.

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. 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 Chronicles 2:45 And the son of Shammai was Maon: and Maon was the father of Bethzur.

Maon was the son of Shammai and the father of Bethzur.

1. God's faithfulness in preserving His lineage through generations.

2. God's perfect plans for His people being fulfilled.

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus from Abraham through Joseph.

2. Genesis 17:5-7, 15-17 - God's promise of a great nation through Abraham and his descendants.

1 Chronicles 2:46 And Ephah, Caleb's concubine, bare Haran, and Moza, and Gazez: and Haran begat Gazez.

This passage describes the genealogy of Caleb, revealing that Ephah, his concubine, gave birth to Haran, Moza, and Gazez, and Haran was the father of Gazez.

1. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises: The Story of Caleb and His Progeny

2. The Faith of Caleb: An Example for Us All

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. Romans 4:17-19 - 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 into being things that were not.

1 Chronicles 2:47 And the sons of Jahdai; Regem, and Jotham, and Gesham, and Pelet, and Ephah, and Shaaph.

This passage list the six sons of Jahdai: Regem, Jotham, Gesham, Pelet, Ephah, and Shaaph.

1. The Blessing of Generational Faithfulness

2. God's Faithfulness in Our Transitions

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. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

1 Chronicles 2:48 Maachah, Caleb's concubine, bare Sheber, and Tirhanah.

Maachah, Caleb's concubine, gave birth to Sheber and Tirhanah.

1. The Power of Faith: Caleb's Journey with Maachah

2. A New Generation: Sheber and Tirhanah's Legacy

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 2:49 She bare also Shaaph the father of Madmannah, Sheva the father of Machbenah, and the father of Gibea: and the daughter of Caleb was Achsa.

Caleb had a daughter, Achsa, and she was the mother of Shaaph, Sheva, and the father of Gibea.

1. God's Faithfulness in the Lives of His People

2. The Importance of Family in the Bible

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 6:1-4 - 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.

1 Chronicles 2:50 These were the sons of Caleb the son of Hur, the firstborn of Ephratah; Shobal the father of Kirjathjearim,

Caleb, the firstborn of Ephratah, had a son named Shobal, who was the father of Kirjathjearim.

1. The Importance of Fathers and the Legacy They Leave Behind

2. The Power of Faith in the Face of Adversity

1. Matthew 7:7-12 - Ask, Seek, Knock

2. 1 Peter 1:3-7 - Praise and Rejoice in Hope

1 Chronicles 2:51 Salma the father of Bethlehem, Hareph the father of Bethgader.

Salma was the father of Bethlehem, and Hareph was the father of Bethgader.

1. God has a plan for each of us, as Salma and Hareph were both fathers of two different cities.

2. We can learn from the example of Salma and Hareph that even small roles can have a lasting impact.

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 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 Chronicles 2:52 And Shobal the father of Kirjathjearim had sons; Haroeh, and half of the Manahethites.

Shobal had two sons, Haroeh and half of the Manahethites.

1. The Importance of Family: Examining the Legacy of Shobal

2. Unity in Diversity: The Power of Half of the Manahethites

1. 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.

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.

1 Chronicles 2:53 And the families of Kirjathjearim; the Ithrites, and the Puhites, and the Shumathites, and the Mishraites; of them came the Zareathites, and the Eshtaulites.

This passage is about the families of Kirjathjearim, which include the Ithrites, Puhites, Shumathites, and Mishraites, from whom the Zareathites and Eshtaulites descended.

1. "The Family Tree of Faith: How Our Ancestors Shaped Our Lives"

2. "The Power of Our Lineage: How We Can Honor Our Ancestors"

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ

2. Romans 4:11-12 - The faith of Abraham and the promise of God

1 Chronicles 2:54 The sons of Salma; Bethlehem, and the Netophathites, Ataroth, the house of Joab, and half of the Manahethites, the Zorites.

This passage mentions the sons of Salma, who were from Bethlehem, Netophathites, Ataroth, the house of Joab, half of the Manahethites, and the Zorites.

1. God's Blessing on the House of Salma: Exploring the Legacy of Faith in 1 Chronicles 2:54

2. A People of Many Faces: Recognizing the Diversity of God's People in 1 Chronicles 2:54

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 12:4-5 - "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."

1 Chronicles 2:55 And the families of the scribes which dwelt at Jabez; the Tirathites, the Shimeathites, and Suchathites. These are the Kenites that came of Hemath, the father of the house of Rechab.

This passage talks about the families of scribes that dwelt at Jabez, which were the Tirathites, Shimeathites, and Suchathites. These families descended from Hemath, the father of the house of Rechab.

1. The Power of Legacy - Looking at the families of scribes in 1 Chronicles 2:55 and the impact of Hemath's legacy on the generations to come

2. The Faith of Rechab - Examining the faith of Rechab and its influence on his descendants and the people of Jabez

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. Jeremiah 35:6-7 - But they said, We will drink no wine: for Jonadab the son of Rechab our father commanded us, saying, Ye shall drink no wine, neither ye, nor your sons for ever: Neither shall ye build house, nor sow seed, nor plant vineyard, nor have any: but all your days ye shall dwell in tents.

1 Chronicles chapter 3 continues the genealogical record, focusing on the descendants of David and his immediate family, including his sons and successors as kings of Judah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by listing the sons born to David in Hebron. It mentions Amnon, his firstborn, followed by Daniel (Chileab), Absalom, Adonijah, Shephatiah, Ithream (1 Chronicles 3:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative provides details about the sons born to David in Jerusalem after he became king there. It mentions Shimea (Shammua), Shobab, Nathan through whom a significant lineage will be traced and Solomon (1 Chronicles 3:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: The focus then shifts to David's descendants through Solomon. It traces their lineage through several generations until it reaches Jeconiah and his brothers during the time of the Babylonian exile when Judah was taken captive (1 Chronicles 3:10-16).

4th Paragraph:The narrative briefly mentions other sons born to David through different wives or concubines such as Ibhar, Elishama, Eliphelet, Nogah, Nepheg and provides their names without delving into extensive details (1 Chronicles 3:6-8).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with a list of individuals who were descendants of Jehoiachin the last king mentioned in this genealogy and were taken into Babylonian captivity. This includes figures such as Shealtiel and Zerubbabel who played important roles during the post-exilic period and their respective offspring (1 Chronicles 3:17-24).

In summary, Chapter three of 1 Chronicles depicts genealogical records, from David's immediate family. Listing sons born to him, successors as kings. Tracing lineage through Solomon, mentioning key figures like Jeconiah. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical foundation for understanding Davidic ancestry, highlighting individuals who played significant roles in Israel's history and post-exilic period.

1 Chronicles 3:1 Now these were the sons of David, which were born unto him in Hebron; the firstborn Amnon, of Ahinoam the Jezreelitess; the second Daniel, of Abigail the Carmelitess:

This passage lists the sons of David born to him in Hebron; Amnon, the firstborn, and Daniel, the second.

1. The Power of the Father's Love: Exploring the Relationship between David and His Sons

2. The Importance of Lineage: Reflecting on the Legacy of David's Descendants

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. Matthew 1:1-17 - The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

1 Chronicles 3:2 The third, Absalom the son of Maachah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur: the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith:

The passage mentions the four sons of King David: Amnon, Chileab, Absalom, and Adonijah.

1. God's Plan is Bigger Than We Can Imagine: A Study of King David's Sons

2. The Power of Forgiveness: A Study of King David and Absalom

1. Psalm 78:70-72: He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds; From following the nursing ewes he brought him To shepherd Jacob his people, and Israel his inheritance. So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, And guided them by the skillfulness of his hands.

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.

1 Chronicles 3:3 The fifth, Shephatiah of Abital: the sixth, Ithream by Eglah his wife.

The passage lists the six sons of David and their mothers.

1. The importance of strong family ties seen in the example of David and his sons.

2. God's faithfulness in providing for us even when we are unable to provide for ourselves.

1. 1 Chronicles 3:3

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."

1 Chronicles 3:4 These six were born unto him in Hebron; and there he reigned seven years and six months: and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years.

David reigned in Hebron for seven and a half years and in Jerusalem for 33 years.

1. God's plan for David was to reign in Jerusalem for a period of 33 years.

2. God gives us a plan and purpose for our lives.

1. Psalm 37:23 - "The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, and he delights in his way."

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 Chronicles 3:5 And these were born unto him in Jerusalem; Shimea, and Shobab, and Nathan, and Solomon, four, of Bathshua the daughter of Ammiel:

David had four sons: Shimea, Shobab, Nathan and Solomon, born in Jerusalem to Bathshua, the daughter of Ammiel.

1. The Power of Fatherhood: A Study of David's Family

2. The Value of Obedience: David and Bathshua's Story

1. 2 Samuel 7:14-17

2. Psalm 89:20-37

1 Chronicles 3:6 Ibhar also, and Elishama, and Eliphelet,

The passage describes the sons of David: Ibhar, Elishama, and Eliphelet.

1. The importance of family in our lives.

2. The legacy we leave behind.

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 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."

1 Chronicles 3:7 And Nogah, and Nepheg, and Japhia,

The passage tells of four sons of David: Hananiah, Shimea, Rehoboam and Nogah, Nepheg and Japhia.

1. The importance of fatherhood and the legacy of David

2. God's faithfulness to His chosen people

1. Psalm 78:67-68 Moreover he refused the tent of Joseph, and chose not the tribe of Ephraim: But chose the tribe of Judah, the mount Zion which he loved.

2. 1 Chronicles 17:11-14 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...

1 Chronicles 3:8 And Elishama, and Eliada, and Eliphelet, nine.

In 1 Chronicles 3:8, it is mentioned that there were nine sons of King David, namely Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet.

1. The Faithfulness of King David: Examining the Blessings of a Righteous King.

2. A Study of God's Promise to King David and His Descendants.

1. Psalm 89:20-37 - God's Covenant with David.

2. Romans 1:3-4 - The Promised Seed of David.

1 Chronicles 3:9 These were all the sons of David, beside the sons of the concubines, and Tamar their sister.

This verse from 1 Chronicles 3:9 describes all the sons of David, including those from the concubines and his sister Tamar.

1. The Uniqueness of David and His Family: Exploring the Roles of His Sons and Sister

2. God's Provision for David: Examining the Legacy of His Lineage

1. Ruth 4:18-22 - Exploring the lineage of David through Ruth

2. Psalm 89:20-37 - Examining the Covenant of God with David and His Lineage

1 Chronicles 3:10 And Solomon's son was Rehoboam, Abia his son, Asa his son, Jehoshaphat his son,

Rehoboam was the son of Solomon and he had four sons: Abia, Asa, Jehoshaphat, and Joram.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the generations of his people.

2. God uses our family to bring glory to his name.

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. Ephesians 3:14-19 - For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 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.

1 Chronicles 3:11 Joram his son, Ahaziah his son, Joash his son,

The passage describes the lineage of King David and his descendants, beginning with Solomon.

1. God Blesses Those Who Remain Faithful to Him - The Davidic Lineage

2. The Importance of Legacy and the Godly Lineage We Should Strive For

1. 1 Chronicles 17:11-14 - 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. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 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, but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you.

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 Chronicles 3:12 Amaziah his son, Azariah his son, Jotham his son,

The passage is an outline of the ancestry of King David, which mentions four generations of his descendants.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in the generations of His chosen people, King David and his descendants.

2: We can find strength and security in our ancestors, who have been blessed by God.

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: Proverbs 22:28 - Do not remove the ancient landmark that your ancestors set up.

1 Chronicles 3:13 Ahaz his son, Hezekiah his son, Manasseh his son,

The passage is about a genealogy of King David's descendants.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Preserving a Lineage of Kings

2. The Importance of Legacy in Passing Down Faith

1. Ruth 4:18-22 - Ruth's faithfulness and loyalty in preserving her family's legacy

2. Matthew 1:1-17 - Jesus' genealogy and the significance of His lineage

1 Chronicles 3:14 Amon his son, Josiah his son.

Amon was the son of Josiah.

1. The Importance of Lineage: Following the Path of Our Ancestors

2. God's Faithfulness: How God Upholds His Promises

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. Psalm 145:17-18 - The Lord is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

1 Chronicles 3:15 And the sons of Josiah were, the firstborn Johanan, the second Jehoiakim, the third Zedekiah, the fourth Shallum.

This passage mentions the four sons of Josiah: Johanan, Jehoiakim, Zedekiah, and Shallum.

1. The Faithfulness of Josiah: Examining the Legacy of a Godly Father

2. Investing in Our Children: The Responsibility of Raising Godly Offspring

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 78:3-4 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.

1 Chronicles 3:16 And the sons of Jehoiakim: Jeconiah his son, Zedekiah his son.

Jehoiakim had two sons, Jeconiah and Zedekiah.

1. God's Plan is Perfect - Exploring 1 Chronicles 3:16

2. God's Sovereignty in Parenting - 1 Chronicles 3:16

1. Jeremiah 22:30 - "'Thus says the Lord: Write this man down as childless, a man who shall not succeed in his days; for none of his descendants shall succeed in sitting on the throne of David, and ruling again in Judah.'"

2. Matthew 1:11 - "and Josiah became the father of Jeconiah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon."

1 Chronicles 3:17 And the sons of Jeconiah; Assir, Salathiel his son,

The passage mentions Jeconiah and his sons Assir and Salathiel.

1. God's Faithfulness In Generational Blessing

2. God's Unfailing Commitment To His Promises

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. 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 Chronicles 3:18 Malchiram also, and Pedaiah, and Shenazar, Jecamiah, Hoshama, and Nedabiah.

This passage lists six of King David's sons: Malchiram, Pedaiah, Shenazar, Jecamiah, Hoshama, and Nedabiah.

1. The Importance of Family: Lessons from King David's Sons

2. Honoring Your Ancestors: The Legacy of King David

1. 1 Chronicles 3:18

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 Chronicles 3:19 And the sons of Pedaiah were, Zerubbabel, and Shimei: and the sons of Zerubbabel; Meshullam, and Hananiah, and Shelomith their sister:

Pedaiah had three sons, Zerubbabel, Shimei, and Meshullam. Meshullam had two brothers, Hananiah and Shelomith.

1. Family Ties: A Study of 1 Chronicles 3:19

2. God's Faithfulness in Blessed Generations: Examining 1 Chronicles 3:19

1. Genesis 12:1-3 - The Lord's promise to bless Abraham and his descendants

2. Psalm 103:17 - The Lord's faithfulness to generations of those who fear him

1 Chronicles 3:20 And Hashubah, and Ohel, and Berechiah, and Hasadiah, Jushabhesed, five.

This passage mentions five sons of King David: Hashubah, Ohel, Berechiah, Hasadiah, and Jushabhesed.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the many descendants of King David.

2. God's faithfulness is seen in the life of King David, his reign, and the legacy he left behind.

1. Psalm 89:1-37 - God's faithfulness and covenant with King David.

2. Acts 13:22 - God promised through David that He would raise up a Savior.

1 Chronicles 3:21 And the sons of Hananiah; Pelatiah, and Jesaiah: the sons of Rephaiah, the sons of Arnan, the sons of Obadiah, the sons of Shechaniah.

This passage describes the sons of Hananiah, including Pelatiah, Jesaiah, Rephaiah, Arnan, Obadiah, and Shechaniah.

1. God's Plan for Family: How God Works in and Through Our Families

2. God's Faithfulness: How He Keeps His Promises Across Generations

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. Psalm 68:5-6 - A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.

1 Chronicles 3:22 And the sons of Shechaniah; Shemaiah: and the sons of Shemaiah; Hattush, and Igeal, and Bariah, and Neariah, and Shaphat, six.

Shechaniah had six sons named Shemaiah, Hattush, Igeal, Bariah, Neariah, and Shaphat.

1. The Blessings of Family: Exploring the Joys of a Multi-Generational Household

2. The Value of Legacy: How Our Ancestors Impact Our Lives

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.

1 Chronicles 3:23 And the sons of Neariah; Elioenai, and Hezekiah, and Azrikam, three.

Neariah had three sons, Elioenai, Hezekiah, and Azrikam.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for us through our families.

2. The importance of honoring our parents and their 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. Psalms 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.

1 Chronicles 3:24 And the sons of Elioenai were, Hodaiah, and Eliashib, and Pelaiah, and Akkub, and Johanan, and Dalaiah, and Anani, seven.

This passage mentions seven sons of Elioenai, who are Hodaiah, Eliashib, Pelaiah, Akkub, Johanan, Dalaiah, and Anani.

1. The Faithfulness of Elioenai: How God faithfully provides for us even in the midst of trying times.

2. The Power of Generational Blessings: How our faithfulness to God can bring blessings to future generations.

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. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous.

1 Chronicles chapter 4 begins with a genealogical account that focuses on the descendants of Judah, particularly the family line of Jabez, and then expands to mention other clans and individuals from various tribes.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by mentioning the sons of Judah Perez, Hezron, Carmi, Hur, and Shobal. It highlights Shobal's descendants and their influence in various areas such as writing and pottery (1 Chronicles 4:1-23).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative introduces Jabez a notable figure known for his prayer and provides details about his lineage. It mentions his honorable request to be blessed by God and how God granted him what he asked for (1 Chronicles 4:9-10).

3rd Paragraph: The focus then shifts to other clans within the tribe of Judah. It lists several families descended from Shelah another son of Judah and provides information about their occupations and locations (1 Chronicles 4:21-23).

4th Paragraph:The narrative expands beyond the tribe of Judah to include other tribes. It mentions individuals from the tribe of Simeon such as Nemuel who were known for their prowess in battle (1 Chronicles 4:24).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning various families from different tribes including Reuben, Gad, Manasseh who settled in specific regions such as Gedor or Moab. It also notes that these records were written during the reigns of Hezekiah the king of Judah and Sennacherib the king of Assyria (1 Chronicles 4:41-43).

In summary, Chapter four of 1 Chronicles depicts genealogical records, from descendants of Judah. Highlighting Jabez's lineage, mentioning other clans. Expanding to include different tribes, noting regional settlements. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical foundation for understanding various families within Israelite tribes, emphasizing individuals like Jabez who sought God's blessing.

1 Chronicles 4:1 The sons of Judah; Pharez, Hezron, and Carmi, and Hur, and Shobal.

This passage describes the four sons of Judah: Pharez, Hezron, Carmi, and Hur, and Shobal.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the preservation of the lineage of Judah.

2. God honors those who honor Him by preserving their heritage.

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. Genesis 17:7 - 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.

1 Chronicles 4:2 And Reaiah the son of Shobal begat Jahath; and Jahath begat Ahumai, and Lahad. These are the families of the Zorathites.

Reaiah, son of Shobal, was the father of Jahath, who was the father of Ahumai and Lahad. These were the descendants of the Zorathites.

1. The power of generations: exploring the legacy of our ancestors.

2. Faithfulness is a family affair: the importance of familial devotion.

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. Psalm 78:3-7 - Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done. 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 Chronicles 4:3 And these were of the father of Etam; Jezreel, and Ishma, and Idbash: and the name of their sister was Hazelelponi:

The passage describes four siblings from the father of Etam: Jezreel, Ishma, Idbash, and Hazelelponi.

1. God s plans for our families are bigger than we can imagine.

2. The importance of honoring our family s legacy.

1. Proverbs 17:6 - Children s children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children.

2. Matthew 22:39 - And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

1 Chronicles 4:4 And Penuel the father of Gedor, and Ezer the father of Hushah. These are the sons of Hur, the firstborn of Ephratah, the father of Bethlehem.

The sons of Hur, the firstborn of Ephratah, were Penuel, father of Gedor, and Ezer, father of Hushah.

1. The importance of legacy: How family relationships can have an impact on our lives.

2. The power of faith: What it looks like to follow God in the midst of difficult circumstances.

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ.

2. Ephesians 3:14-19 - Paul's prayer for the church to know the love of Christ.

1 Chronicles 4:5 And Ashur the father of Tekoa had two wives, Helah and Naarah.

Ashur, the father of Tekoa, had two wives, Helah and Naarah.

Best

1. The importance of family and the roles of husbands and wives in marriage.

2. The value of honoring the parents of our spouse.

Best

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - The instructions for husbands and wives in marriage.

2. Genesis 2:24 - The institution of marriage and the importance of honoring our spouse's family.

1 Chronicles 4:6 And Naarah bare him Ahuzam, and Hepher, and Temeni, and Haahashtari. These were the sons of Naarah.

Naarah had four sons named Ahuzam, Hepher, Temeni, and Haahashtari.

1. The Blessings of Family: Celebrating God's Gift to Us

2. Counting Our Blessings: Appreciating the Good Things in Life

1. Genesis 1:27-28 - God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning the sixth day.

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

1 Chronicles 4:7 And the sons of Helah were, Zereth, and Jezoar, and Ethnan.

The sons of Helah were Zereth, Jezoar, and Ethnan.

1. The importance of family and its legacy in God's plan.

2. Keeping the faith by passing it on to the next generation.

1. Psalm 78:2-7 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old.

2. Proverbs 13:22 A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children.

1 Chronicles 4:8 And Coz begat Anub, and Zobebah, and the families of Aharhel the son of Harum.

Coz had three sons: Anub, Zobebah, and families of Aharhel, who was the son of Harum.

1. The importance of family and how God makes us part of one

2. God's provision in difficult times

1. Ephesians 3:14-15 - For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

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.

1 Chronicles 4:9 And Jabez was more honourable than his brethren: and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bare him with sorrow.

Jabez was more honorable than his brothers and his mother gave him his name as a reminder of the sorrow he caused her.

1. The Honor of Jabez: A Lesson in Humility

2. Jabez: A Model of Faithful Character

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 22:1 - A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

1 Chronicles 4:10 And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested.

Jabez prayed for God s blessings and that his hand would be with him and that he would be kept from evil, and God granted him his request.

1. The Power of Prayer: Jabez and the Power of Prayers Answered

2. God's Faithfulness: God's Faithful Response to Jabez's Request

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working"

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 Chronicles 4:11 And Chelub the brother of Shuah begat Mehir, which was the father of Eshton.

Chelub the brother of Shuah had a son named Mehir, who was the father of Eshton.

1: We can see the power of generational blessings in the Bible.

2: God can work in amazing ways through our family lineage.

1: Genesis 17:7 8 - 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.

2: Matthew 1:1 17 - The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

1 Chronicles 4:12 And Eshton begat Bethrapha, and Paseah, and Tehinnah the father of Irnahash. These are the men of Rechah.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 4:12 tells of a genealogy of a family from the line of Rechah.

1. "God's Plan for Families: A Study of 1 Chronicles 4:12"

2. "God's Faithfulness in Our Lives: An Analysis of 1 Chronicles 4:12"

1. Genesis 17:1-9 - God's covenant with Abraham and his descendants

2. Matthew 19:3-9 - Jesus' teaching on marriage and divorce

1 Chronicles 4:13 And the sons of Kenaz; Othniel, and Seraiah: and the sons of Othniel; Hathath.

This passage mentions the sons of Kenaz, which include Othniel and Seraiah, and the sons of Othniel, which are Hathath.

1. The Importance of Knowing Your Family History

2. Recognizing the Faithful Lineage of the Lord

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ

2. Psalm 112:1-2 - Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, and delighteth greatly in His commandments.

1 Chronicles 4:14 And Meonothai begat Ophrah: and Seraiah begat Joab, the father of the valley of Charashim; for they were craftsmen.

Meonothai and Seraiah were the ancestors of Joab, who was the father of the valley of Charashim. The people of the valley were known for their craftsmanship.

1. God calls us to use our talents to serve others.

2. From humble beginnings, God can do great things.

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

2. 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 - God chooses the foolish and weak things of the world to shame the wise.

1 Chronicles 4:15 And the sons of Caleb the son of Jephunneh; Iru, Elah, and Naam: and the sons of Elah, even Kenaz.

Caleb had three sons named Iru, Elah, and Naam. Elah's sons were Kenaz.

1. The importance of family unity and legacy.

2. Faithfulness and determination in fulfilling God s plan for our lives.

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

1 Chronicles 4:16 And the sons of Jehaleleel; Ziph, and Ziphah, Tiria, and Asareel.

Jehaleleel had four sons, Ziph, Ziphah, Tiria, and Asareel.

1. God's faithfulness and provision in times of need.

2. Cultivating family connections to honor God.

1. Psalm 23:1 "The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want."

2. Romans 12:10 "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give p to one another in honor."

1 Chronicles 4:17 And the sons of Ezra were, Jether, and Mered, and Epher, and Jalon: and she bare Miriam, and Shammai, and Ishbah the father of Eshtemoa.

The sons of Ezra were Jether, Mered, Epher, and Jalon, who bore Miriam, Shammai, and Ishbah, the father of Eshtemoa.

1. The importance of family and legacy in the Bible.

2. The power of God to work through individuals and families.

1. Genesis 17:5-6 - And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations.

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.

1 Chronicles 4:18 And his wife Jehudijah bare Jered the father of Gedor, and Heber the father of Socho, and Jekuthiel the father of Zanoah. And these are the sons of Bithiah the daughter of Pharaoh, which Mered took.

Mered married Bithiah, the daughter of Pharaoh, and they had four sons who were the fathers of Gedor, Heber, Jekuthiel, and Zanoah.

1. The Blessing of a Righteous Marriage - 1 Chronicles 4:18

2. The Faithfulness of God to Fulfill His Promises - 1 Chronicles 4:18

1. Genesis 41:45 - Pharaoh called Joseph's wife Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On.

2. Exodus 2:1-10 - The story of Moses' birth and his mother's faithfulness.

1 Chronicles 4:19 And the sons of his wife Hodiah the sister of Naham, the father of Keilah the Garmite, and Eshtemoa the Maachathite.

This passage describes the family lineage of Hodiah, the wife of a man named Naham. It mentions her sons, Keilah the Garmite and Eshtemoa the Maachathite.

1. The Power of Lineage: How our Ancestors Shape Our Lives

2. The Significance of Family: Understanding Our Heritage

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. 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.

2. Matthew 7:17-20 - Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

1 Chronicles 4:20 And the sons of Shimon were, Amnon, and Rinnah, Benhanan, and Tilon. And the sons of Ishi were, Zoheth, and Benzoheth.

Shimon and Ishi had four and two sons respectively, named Amnon, Rinnah, Benhanan, Tilon, Zoheth, and Benzoheth.

1. The Power of Family: The Importance of Passing Down Names and Legacies

2. The Promise of God: Blessing and Honoring Our Ancestors

1. Romans 11:29 - For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

2. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

1 Chronicles 4:21 The sons of Shelah the son of Judah were, Er the father of Lecah, and Laadah the father of Mareshah, and the families of the house of them that wrought fine linen, of the house of Ashbea,

The sons of Shelah, a son of Judah, were Er the father of Lecah and Laadah the father of Mareshah, who were the families of the house of linen-makers.

1: We should be mindful of the talents and gifts God has given us, and use them to bless and serve others.

2: We should be thankful for the skilled workers in our lives, and work together to help each other's talents to flourish.

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 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. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

1 Chronicles 4:22 And Jokim, and the men of Chozeba, and Joash, and Saraph, who had the dominion in Moab, and Jashubilehem. And these are ancient things.

This passage mentions four men from the area of Moab who had some kind of dominion in the area.

1. The Power of Ancient Things: The story of Jokim, Chozeba, Joash, and Saraph can remind us of the importance of the past, and how our actions today can have far-reaching implications for generations to come.

2. The Blessing of Authority: The men of Moab were given authority in their region, and we can learn from their example of how to use our own authority for the good of our community.

1. Proverbs 20:28 - Love and faithfulness keep a king safe; through love his throne is made secure.

2. 1 Peter 5:1-5 - To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ s sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: 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. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

1 Chronicles 4:23 These were the potters, and those that dwelt among plants and hedges: there they dwelt with the king for his work.

This verse in 1 Chronicles 4:23 describes the potters and those who lived among plants and hedges that dwelt with the king to do his work.

1. The Power of Service: Learning to Serve One Another in Obedience to God.

2. The Life of Faith: Learning to Work with God's Guidance.

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. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

1 Chronicles 4:24 The sons of Simeon were, Nemuel, and Jamin, Jarib, Zerah, and Shaul:

Simeon had five sons named Nemuel, Jamin, Jarib, Zerah, and Shaul.

1. How Our Ancestors Can Inspire Us to Live Righteously

2. The Importance of Knowing Our Family History

1. 1 Chronicles 4:24 - And the sons of Simeon were, Nemuel, and Jamin, Jarib, Zerah, and Shaul

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 Chronicles 4:25 Shallum his son, Mibsam his son, Mishma his son.

This passage discusses the genealogy of Shallum, Mibsam, and Mishma.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in His preservation of the family line.

2. We can find our true identity and purpose in God's lineage.

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - Jesus' genealogy and identity as the Messiah.

2. Romans 4:13-17 - The promise of Abraham and God's faithfulness to His covenant.

1 Chronicles 4:26 And the sons of Mishma; Hamuel his son, Zacchur his son, Shimei his son.

The passage lists the sons of Mishma, which are Hamuel, Zacchur and Shimei.

1. God is the ultimate provider, as seen in His provision of a family for Mishma.

2. The importance of honoring our ancestors, as Mishma was blessed with sons.

1. Psalm 68:5-6: "Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity."

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."

1 Chronicles 4:27 And Shimei had sixteen sons and six daughters; but his brethren had not many children, neither did all their family multiply, like to the children of Judah.

Shimei had sixteen sons and six daughters, while his brothers were not as blessed with children as the children of Judah.

1. God's Blessing: Appreciating the Blessings We Receive

2. Making the Most of What We Have: Finding Contentment in Our Circumstances

1. 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.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:19 - Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil this is the gift of God.

1 Chronicles 4:28 And they dwelt at Beersheba, and Moladah, and Hazarshual,

The passage mentions three places where the people dwelt: Beersheba, Moladah, and Hazarshual.

1. The Importance of Place: Finding Our Home in God

2. Overcoming Adversity: Finding Strength in the Lord

1. Psalm 73:25-26 - Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart fail; but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

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 Chronicles 4:29 And at Bilhah, and at Ezem, and at Tolad,

The passage mentions three places: Bilhah, Ezem, and Tolad.

1. Our God is a God of all Places: Exploring the Significance of Bilhah, Ezem, and Tolad

2. Finding Strength in the Places We Go: How Bilhah, Ezem, and Tolad Can Help Us Persevere

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."

1 Chronicles 4:30 And at Bethuel, and at Hormah, and at Ziklag,

This passage three places in the Bible: Bethuel, Hormah, and Ziklag.

1. God's Faithfulness Through Unexpected Places - An exploration of how God reveals His grace and faithfulness in unexpected places such as Bethuel, Hormah, and Ziklag.

2. The Blessing of Knowing Our Place - Exploring how the places of Bethuel, Hormah, and Ziklag all have something to teach us about our own place in the world.

1. Psalm 16:5-7 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. I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

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.

1 Chronicles 4:31 And at Bethmarcaboth, and Hazarsusim, and at Bethbirei, and at Shaaraim. These were their cities unto the reign of David.

This passage discusses the cities occupied by the Israelites during the reign of David.

1. God gives us strength to inhabit the promised land.

2. The blessings of faithfulness are seen in the lives of the faithful.

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.

7 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. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

4 Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

1 Chronicles 4:32 And their villages were, Etam, and Ain, Rimmon, and Tochen, and Ashan, five cities:

The descendants of Ashur, the son of Hezron, lived in five cities: Etam, Ain, Rimmon, Tochen, and Ashan.

1. We should strive to live a life of faithfulness and obedience to God like Ashur.

2. Our relationships with God and each other should be based on support and trust.

1. 1 Chronicles 4:32

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.

1 Chronicles 4:33 And all their villages that were round about the same cities, unto Baal. These were their habitations, and their genealogy.

Chronicles 4:33 describes the villages and genealogy of the people living around the cities of Baal.

1. God has a plan for each and every one of us; no matter our past, we can still find our place in His plan.

2. We all have unique gifts and talents that we can use to serve God and our community.

1. Romans 12:3-8 - "For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, 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. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

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."

1 Chronicles 4:34 And Meshobab, and Jamlech, and Joshah, the son of Amaziah,

The passage mentions four names: Meshobab, Jamlech, Joshah, and Amaziah.

1. God remembers all those who serve Him faithfully, no matter their station in life.

2. The power of prayer and seeking a relationship with God can be seen in the lives of Meshobab, Jamlech, Joshah, and Amaziah.

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. Proverbs 10:7 - The memory of the righteous is a blessing, but the name of the wicked will rot.

1 Chronicles 4:35 And Joel, and Jehu the son of Josibiah, the son of Seraiah, the son of Asiel,

Joel, the son of Josibiah, the son of Seraiah, the son of Asiel is mentioned in 1 Chronicles 4:35.

1. Life is a Chain of Faithful Obedience Using 1 Chronicles 4:35 as a jumping off point, discuss how our lives are a series of choices that can either lead to faithfulness or disobedience.

2. God s Faithfulness is Forever Look at 1 Chronicles 4:35 and use it to emphasize the importance of remembering that God is faithful and His love is everlasting.

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. Psalm 36:5 Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.

1 Chronicles 4:36 And Elioenai, and Jaakobah, and Jeshohaiah, and Asaiah, and Adiel, and Jesimiel, and Benaiah,

Elioenai, Jaakobah, Jeshohaiah, Asaiah, Adiel, Jesimiel, and Benaiah are mentioned in 1 Chronicles 4:36.

1. The Power of Faithful Service: A Study of the Faithful Men in 1 Chronicles 4:36

2. The Blessings of Obedience: Lessons from the Lives of the Men in 1 Chronicles 4:36

1. Ephesians 6:7 - Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people

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 Chronicles 4:37 And Ziza the son of Shiphi, the son of Allon, the son of Jedaiah, the son of Shimri, the son of Shemaiah;

This passage lists the genealogy of Ziza, son of Shiphi.

1: We can see from this passage the importance of our family history, and the value of knowing where we come from.

2: We can draw strength from our ancestors, and use their example to guide us in our own lives.

1: Matthew 1:1-17 - An account of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

2: Romans 11:16-21 - For if the firstfruit is holy, the lump is also holy; and if the root is holy, so are the branches.

1 Chronicles 4:38 These mentioned by their names were princes in their families: and the house of their fathers increased greatly.

This passage in 1 Chronicles 4:38 speaks of prominent people in their respective families, and how their families had increased greatly in number.

1. The Power of Uniqueness: How God Uses Our Different Gifts and Experiences To Impact Our World

2. The Blessing of Family: How God Uses Our Families To Bless Our Lives

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 4:39 And they went to the entrance of Gedor, even unto the east side of the valley, to seek pasture for their flocks.

The people of Judah went to the east side of the valley near Gedor in order to find pasture for their flocks.

1. Contentment in the Lord: Trusting God for Provision

2. Finding Joy in Obedience: Following God's Plan

1. Matthew 6:25-34; Trust in God and not in Wealth

2. Psalm 23:1-3; The Lord is My Shepherd and I Shall Not Want

1 Chronicles 4:40 And they found fat pasture and good, and the land was wide, and quiet, and peaceable; for they of Ham had dwelt there of old.

The land of Ham was found to be wide, peaceful and had good pasture for their livestock.

1. The Peace of God: How to Experience Rest in a Chaotic World

2. Contentment: Finding Joy in the Everyday

1. Psalm 23:2 - He makes me lie down in green pastures

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances

1 Chronicles 4:41 And these written by name came in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and smote their tents, and the habitations that were found there, and destroyed them utterly unto this day, and dwelt in their rooms: because there was pasture there for their flocks.

In the days of Hezekiah, a group of people came and destroyed tents and habitations in a certain area, and then settled there because of the pasture for their flocks.

1. God always provides what we need - 1 Chronicles 4:41

2. God's provision is always right on time - Psalm 145:19

1. 1 Chronicles 4:41

2. Psalm 145:19 - "He will fulfill the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them."

1 Chronicles 4:42 And some of them, even of the sons of Simeon, five hundred men, went to mount Seir, having for their captains Pelatiah, and Neariah, and Rephaiah, and Uzziel, the sons of Ishi.

Five hundred men of the sons of Simeon, led by Pelatiah, Neariah, Rephaiah, and Uzziel, the sons of Ishi, went to mount Seir.

1. God's people are strong and united, and have the courage to go to places they might not expect.

2. The power of family and community is evident in the strength of the men of Simeon.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the full armor of God, so that you can stand against the schemes of the devil.

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 Chronicles 4:43 And they smote the rest of the Amalekites that were escaped, and dwelt there unto this day.

The Israelites defeated the Amalekites and settled in the land, which they have inhabited to the present day.

1. God is faithful to His promises of land and provision for His people.

2. Even in the toughest of battles, God's people can rely on His strength.

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, out of the house of slavery.

2. Joshua 21:43-45 - And the Lord gave to Israel all the land that he swore to give to their fathers. And they took possession of it, and they settled there. And the Lord gave them rest on every side just as he had sworn to their fathers. Not one of all their enemies had withstood them, for the Lord had given all their enemies into their hands. Not one word of all the good promises that the Lord had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.

1 Chronicles chapter 5 continues the genealogical account, focusing on the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh. It highlights their military prowess and their eventual exile due to disobedience.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by listing the descendants of Reuben the firstborn son of Jacob and provides details about their genealogy. It mentions notable figures such as Hanoch, Pallu, Eliab, and others (1 Chronicles 5:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative shifts to the tribe of Gad and traces their lineage through several generations. It highlights individuals like Joel, Shemaiah, Gog leaders among their clans and emphasizes their strength in battle (1 Chronicles 5:11-14).

3rd Paragraph: The focus then turns to the half-tribe of Manasseh the descendants of Joseph's son who are described as valiant warriors. Their genealogy is provided along with mention of notable figures such as Jediael and Shechem (1 Chronicles 5:23-24).

4th Paragraph:The narrative explains that these three tribes Reuben, Gad, and half-tribe of Manasseh were unfaithful to God by engaging in idolatry. As a result, they were defeated by enemies who took them into exile (1 Chronicles 5:25-26).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning specific groups within these tribes who were taken captive by Assyria such as the Reubenites, Gadites, and Manassites and settled in various regions east of the Jordan River (1 Chronicles 5:26-41).

In summary, Chapter five of 1 Chronicles depicts genealogical records, from Reuben,Gad,and half-Manasseh. Highlighting military prowess, mentioning leaders among clans. Emphasizing disobedience leading to exile, specifically noting captivity by Assyria. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical foundation for understanding these tribes' ancestry, underscoring both their strength in battle and the consequences they faced due to unfaithfulness to God.

1 Chronicles 5:1 Now the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel, (for he was the firstborn; but, forasmuch as he defiled his father's bed, his birthright was given unto the sons of Joseph the son of Israel: and the genealogy is not to be reckoned after the birthright.

The sons of Reuben were the firstborn of Israel, but his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph because Reuben had defiled his father's bed.

1. God's Mercy and Patience in the Face of Unfaithfulness

2. The Power of Repentance and Redemption

1. Genesis 49:3-4 - When Reuben defiled his father's bed

2. Romans 5:20 - God's power is made perfect in weakness

1 Chronicles 5:2 For Judah prevailed above his brethren, and of him came the chief ruler; but the birthright was Joseph's:)

Judah was the leader of his brothers, but the birthright was given to Joseph instead.

1. God can use anyone to lead His people, regardless of their birthright.

2. The power of leadership comes from God, not through inheritance.

1. 1 Corinthians 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

2. Proverbs 16:9 A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps.

1 Chronicles 5:3 The sons, I say, of Reuben the firstborn of Israel were, Hanoch, and Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 5:3 lists the four sons of Reuben, the firstborn of Israel: Hanoch, Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Establishing Lineages: A Study of 1 Chronicles 5:3

2. The Blessing of Family: A Discussion from 1 Chronicles 5:3

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. Deuteronomy 33:6 - Let Reuben live and not die, nor his people be few.

1 Chronicles 5:4 The sons of Joel; Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son,

The passage describes the sons of Joel, which includes Shemaiah, Gog, and Shimei.

1. The Legacy of Fathers: What Can We Learn from Joel s Sons?

2. Honoring Our Ancestors: Remembering the Sons of Joel

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 5:5 Micah his son, Reaia his son, Baal his son,

The passage recounts the genealogy of the Reubenites, a tribe of Israel.

1. The importance of family legacy and how it shapes our lives.

2. The value of tracing our ancestry and the impact of our forebears on our lives.

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. Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Now this is the commandment, the statutes and the judgments which the Lord your God has commanded me to teach you, that you may observe them in the land which you are crossing over to possess, that you may fear the Lord your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged. Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe it, that it may be well with you, and that you may multiply greatly as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you a land flowing with milk and honey. Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. 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. 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.

1 Chronicles 5:6 Beerah his son, whom Tilgathpilneser king of Assyria carried away captive: he was prince of the Reubenites.

Beerah, the son of Reuben, was taken captive by Tilgathpilneser, the king of Assyria.

1. God is in control, even in times of captivity.

2. We must remember our identity in Christ, even in the midst of hardship.

1. Isaiah 43:1-4 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.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 5:7 And his brethren by their families, when the genealogy of their generations was reckoned, were the chief, Jeiel, and Zechariah,

The genealogy of the tribe of Reuben was recorded and the most prominent members of the tribe were Jeiel and Zechariah.

1. God's plan for our lives is recorded in His book, the Bible.

2. The importance of family and lineage in the Bible.

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ.

2. Genesis 5:1-32 - The genealogy of Adam and his descendants.

1 Chronicles 5:8 And Bela the son of Azaz, the son of Shema, the son of Joel, who dwelt in Aroer, even unto Nebo and Baalmeon:

Bela, the son of Azaz, the son of Shema, and the son of Joel, lived from Aroer to Nebo and Baalmeon.

1. The Legacy of Bela: How Our Ancestors Shape Our Lives

2. From Aroer to Nebo: A Study of God's Protection and Provision

1. Psalm 25:4-5 - Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior.

2. Proverbs 16:9 - The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

1 Chronicles 5:9 And eastward he inhabited unto the entering in of the wilderness from the river Euphrates: because their cattle were multiplied in the land of Gilead.

The Tribe of Reuben settled east of the river Euphrates in the land of Gilead because their livestock increased in number.

1. The Blessing of Growth: Rediscovering God's Provision in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Increase: When Abundance Overflows from God's Blessing

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 10:22, The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

1 Chronicles 5:10 And in the days of Saul they made war with the Hagarites, who fell by their hand: and they dwelt in their tents throughout all the east land of Gilead.

The Israelites made war with the Hagarites and were victorious, allowing them to settle in the east land of Gilead.

1. God is on our side and will give us victory in times of war.

2. We are blessed with the ability to settle and call the land our own.

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.

3. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the LORD's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

1 Chronicles 5:11 And the children of Gad dwelt over against them, in the land of Bashan unto Salcah:

The children of Gad lived in the land of Bashan until Salcah.

1: God calls us to be faithful, no matter where we are, and the children of Gad were a clear example of this.

2: Even though the children of Gad were in a foreign land, they remained faithful to God's call on their lives.

1: Deuteronomy 10:20 - Fear the Lord your God, serve him only, and take your oaths in his name.

2: Joshua 24:15 - Choose for yourselves 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.

1 Chronicles 5:12 Joel the chief, and Shapham the next, and Jaanai, and Shaphat in Bashan.

This passage is describing the leaders of the tribe of Reuben during the time of the kings in Israel.

1. The Importance of Leadership: Examining 1 Chronicles 5:12

2. God's Faithful Leaders: A Look at 1 Chronicles 5:12

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. Isaiah 9:6 - 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.

1 Chronicles 5:13 And their brethren of the house of their fathers were, Michael, and Meshullam, and Sheba, and Jorai, and Jachan, and Zia, and Heber, seven.

This passage mentions seven people, Michael, Meshullam, Sheba, Jorai, Jachan, Zia, and Heber, who were the brothers of the house of their fathers.

1. The Power of Unity: Exploring the Strength of Family Ties

2. Seven Pillars of Faith: Finding Strength in Numbers

1. Ephesians 4:3-6 Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Proverbs 18:1 Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment.

1 Chronicles 5:14 These are the children of Abihail the son of Huri, the son of Jaroah, the son of Gilead, the son of Michael, the son of Jeshishai, the son of Jahdo, the son of Buz;

This passage lists the descendants of Abihail, beginning with his father, Huri, and tracing the family line back to Buz.

1. The Importance of Knowing Your Heritage

2. The Power of Our Stories

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

2. Proverbs 22:28 - Do not move an ancient boundary stone set up by your ancestors.

1 Chronicles 5:15 Ahi the son of Abdiel, the son of Guni, chief of the house of their fathers.

Ahi, the son of Abdiel and Guni, was the leader of his family.

1. The importance of family leadership and how to be an effective leader.

2. Following in the footsteps of our ancestors and the legacy they left us.

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 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.

1 Chronicles 5:16 And they dwelt in Gilead in Bashan, and in her towns, and in all the suburbs of Sharon, upon their borders.

Passage The people of Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh settled in Gilead in Bashan, as well as the suburbs of Sharon.

1. Relying on God's Promises: A Study of 1 Chronicles 5:16

2. Dwelling in God's Promised Land: A Look at the Blessing of 1 Chronicles 5:16

1. Deuteronomy 32:49-52 - Describing the lands the Israelites were promised

2. 1 Chronicles 2:55 - Describing the descendants of Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh

1 Chronicles 5:17 All these were reckoned by genealogies in the days of Jotham king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam king of Israel.

A genealogical record of the descendants of Reuben, Gad, and half of the tribe of Manasseh was taken during the reigns of Jotham, king of Judah, and Jeroboam, king of Israel.

1. God's Purpose for Our Lives: How We Can Fulfill Our Purpose through Faith

2. Our Individual Calling: How We Can Live Out Our Identity in the Kingdom of God

1. Colossians 3:1-17 - Put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 5:18 The sons of Reuben, and the Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh, of valiant men, men able to bear buckler and sword, and to shoot with bow, and skilful in war, were four and forty thousand seven hundred and threescore, that went out to the war.

This passage describes the number of able warriors from the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh that went to war, which was 44,760.

1. God's Strength is Perfected in Our Weakness - 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

2. Our Faithfulness is Reflected in Our Actions - James 2:14-17

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 5:19 And they made war with the Hagarites, with Jetur, and Nephish, and Nodab.

The Israelites engaged in battle with the Hagarites, Jetur, Nephish, and Nodab.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Trial

2. Overcoming Adversity through the Strength of the Lord

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. 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.

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.

The people of Israel were helped and victorious in battle against the Hagarites because they cried to God and trusted in Him.

1. God will never forsake those who trust in Him.

2. Crying out to God in times of need will bring His favor.

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 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.

1 Chronicles 5:21 And they took away their cattle; of their camels fifty thousand, and of sheep two hundred and fifty thousand, and of asses two thousand, and of men an hundred thousand.

The people of Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh stole livestock from their enemies, including 50,000 camels, 250,000 sheep, 2,000 asses, and 100,000 men.

1: God's people must always remember to use their resources responsibly and to act with integrity, even when others do not.

2: God's power will protect us, even when we are outnumbered, if we put our trust in Him.

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

1 Chronicles 5:22 For there fell down many slain, because the war was of God. And they dwelt in their steads until the captivity.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 5:22 explains that many people were killed in battle because it was the will of God, and the survivors lived in their homes until they were taken away by the Babylonians.

1. God's Will Prevails: How to Trust in God's Plan

2. The Value of Steadfastness: Staying True to God's Path

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 5:23 And the children of the half tribe of Manasseh dwelt in the land: they increased from Bashan unto Baalhermon and Senir, and unto mount Hermon.

The children of the half tribe of Manasseh populated the land, increasing in number from Bashan to Baalhermon, Senir and Mount Hermon.

1. The Power of Increase - How God blessed the half tribe of Manasseh with growth and abundance.

2. Faith and Fruition - The importance of trusting in God to provide and increase our numbers.

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. Psalm 115:14 - "May the Lord give you increase, you and your children!"

1 Chronicles 5:24 And these were the heads of the house of their fathers, even Epher, and Ishi, and Eliel, and Azriel, and Jeremiah, and Hodaviah, and Jahdiel, mighty men of valour, famous men, and heads of the house of their fathers.

This verse in 1 Chronicles 5 tells of eight famous and mighty men of valour who were the heads of their fathers' households.

1. Seeing the Faithfulness of God: Lessons from the Mighty Men of Valour

2. Where Does Your Strength Come From? Reflection on the Faithfulness of God

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 40:31 - 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 Chronicles 5:25 And they transgressed against the God of their fathers, and went a whoring after the gods of the people of the land, whom God destroyed before them.

The people of Israel disobeyed God and followed the gods of the land, which God had destroyed before them.

1. The Danger of Disobedience: Learning from the Israelites

2. Idolatry: The Consequences of Turning Away from God

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

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.

1 Chronicles 5:26 And the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul king of Assyria, and the spirit of Tilgathpilneser king of Assyria, and he carried them away, even the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, and brought them unto Halah, and Habor, and Hara, and to the river Gozan, unto this day.

This passage explains how God stirred up the spirits of Pul and Tilgathpilneser, the Assyrian kings, and caused them to carry away the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh to four different places, where they remain to this day.

1. God's Providence - How God's Spirit Moves to Reach His People

2. Overcoming Fear Through Faith - How to Find Strength in God's Spirit

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."

1 Chronicles chapter 6 focuses on the genealogy of the Levites, who were responsible for serving in the priestly duties and worship in Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by listing the sons of Levi Gershon, Kohath, and Merari and provides details about their descendants. It emphasizes their roles as priests and Levites within Israel's religious system (1 Chronicles 6:1-15).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative then traces the lineage of Aaron the first high priest from Levi's line. It mentions his sons Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar and follows their genealogy through several generations (1 Chronicles 6:16-19).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to the responsibilities assigned to each branch of Levites within Israel's worship system. It mentions specific duties related to tabernacle service such as singing, playing musical instruments, guarding sacred objects (1 Chronicles 6:31-48).

4th Paragraph:The narrative highlights certain individuals among the Levitical clans who played significant roles during specific periods in Israel's history. This includes figures like Samuel a renowned prophet and judge and Heman a skilled musician appointed by David (1 Chronicles 6:33-47).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by emphasizing that God had chosen Aaron and his descendants the priests to serve Him at His sanctuary. It reiterates that this was a perpetual covenant established with them (1 Chronicles 6:49).

In summary, Chapter six of 1 Chronicles depicts genealogical records, from Levi to Aaron. Highlighting roles of Levites, as priests and servants. Tracing lineage through generations, mentioning significant figures like Samuel. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical foundation for understanding the priestly lineage, emphasizing their responsibilities in worship and underscoring God's choice of Aaron's descendants for priesthood.

1 Chronicles 6:1 The sons of Levi; Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

This passage lists the sons of Levi, which are Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

1. The Faithful Lineage of Levi: Examining the Heritage of a Great Tribe

2. The Blessing of Descendants: How Our Ancestors Impact Our Lives Today

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

2. Genesis 49:5-7 - Simeon and Levi are brothers; weapons of violence are their swords.

1 Chronicles 6:2 And the sons of Kohath; Amram, Izhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel.

This passage describes the four sons of the Kohath tribe: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel.

1. The Power of Generational Blessings: Exploring the Legacy of the Kohath Tribe

2. The Strength of Unity: Learning from the Sons of Kohath

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 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 Chronicles 6:3 And the children of Amram; Aaron, and Moses, and Miriam. The sons also of Aaron; Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

This passage mentions the children of Amram, Aaron, Moses, and Miriam, and their sons, Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

1. The Power of Family - Exploring the importance of family relationships in the Bible.

2. The Priesthood of Aaron - Examining the role of the Aaronic Priesthood in Biblical history.

1. 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.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 6:4 Eleazar begat Phinehas, Phinehas begat Abishua,

The passage explains the genealogy from Eleazar to Abishua.

1. God's purpose is evident in the generations of His children.

2. Our faithfulness in this life has an effect on generations to come.

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 78:5-7 - 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.

1 Chronicles 6:5 And Abishua begat Bukki, and Bukki begat Uzzi,

The passage records the genealogy of Abishua, Bukki, and Uzzi.

1. Our Heritage: Understanding the Importance of Family History

2. Staying Connected: How Our Ancestors Impact Our Lives Today

1. Psalm 78:3-5 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done. 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.

2. Deuteronomy 6:20-21 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.

1 Chronicles 6:6 And Uzzi begat Zerahiah, and Zerahiah begat Meraioth,

Uzzi was the father of Zerahiah, and Zerahiah was the father of Meraioth.

1. The Importance of Legacy and Fatherhood

2. God's Faithfulness in Bringing Us from Generation to Generation

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. Deuteronomy 4:9 - Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

1 Chronicles 6:7 Meraioth begat Amariah, and Amariah begat Ahitub,

Meraioth's lineage is traced from Amariah to Ahitub.

1. God's plan for our lives is seen in the lineage of Meraioth.

2. Our families are part of God's divine 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 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."

1 Chronicles 6:8 And Ahitub begat Zadok, and Zadok begat Ahimaaz,

Ahitub was the father of Zadok, and Zadok was the father of Ahimaaz.

1. The Power of Generational Faithfulness

2. Walking in the Footsteps of Our Fathers

1. Proverbs 20:7 - The righteous who walks in his integrity blessed are his children after him!

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.

1 Chronicles 6:9 And Ahimaaz begat Azariah, and Azariah begat Johanan,

Ahimaaz had a son named Azariah, who had a son named Johanan.

1. The Legacy of Generation to Generation

2. The Power of Parental Blessing

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. 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 Chronicles 6:10 And Johanan begat Azariah, (he it is that executed the priest's office in the temple that Solomon built in Jerusalem:)

Johanan was the father of Azariah, who was the priest in charge of the temple that Solomon built in Jerusalem.

1. The power of the legacy of our fathers

2. The need for faithful and diligent priests in the temple

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. 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 Chronicles 6:11 And Azariah begat Amariah, and Amariah begat Ahitub,

Azariah was the father of Amariah, who was the father of Ahitub.

1. The importance of passing down our faith through generations

2. What it means to be a spiritual leader

1. 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

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 Chronicles 6:12 And Ahitub begat Zadok, and Zadok begat Shallum,

Ahitub was the father of Zadok, and Zadok was the father of Shallum.

1) The Legacy of Faith: A Look at the Lineage of Zadok

2) A Family of Faithful Servants

1) Hebrews 11:2-3 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) Psalm 78:2-4 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.

1 Chronicles 6:13 And Shallum begat Hilkiah, and Hilkiah begat Azariah,

This passage explains the genealogy of Shallum and his descendants, Hilkiah and Azariah.

1. The Importance of Knowing Your Family History

2. Understanding the Biblical Lineage

1. Luke 3:23-38 - Jesus' genealogy

2. Matthew 1:2-16 - Jesus' genealogy from Abraham to Joseph

1 Chronicles 6:14 And Azariah begat Seraiah, and Seraiah begat Jehozadak,

This passage states that Azariah was the father of Seraiah, who was the father of Jehozadak.

1. The Power of Generational Faithfulness: How God Uses One Faithful Person to Impact Others

2. Learning to Follow in the Footsteps of Godly Ancestors

1. Romans 5:19 - For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

2. 1 Peter 2:21 - 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.

1 Chronicles 6:15 And Jehozadak went into captivity, when the LORD carried away Judah and Jerusalem by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar.

Jehozadak was taken into captivity when the Lord sent Judah and Jerusalem into exile by the hand of the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding God's Will in Exile

2. Facing Difficult Times: Learning from Jehozadak's Faithfulness in Exile

1. Jeremiah 29:10-14 God's plan for His people in exile

2. Hebrews 11:36-38 Enduring faith in difficult times

1 Chronicles 6:16 The sons of Levi; Gershom, Kohath, and Merari.

This passage lists the three sons of Levi: Gershom, Kohath, and Merari.

1. The Faithfulness of the Sons of Levi - How the sons of Levi exemplified faith and commitment to God.

2. The Importance of Generational Faithfulness - Exploring the significance of passing down faith and tradition from one generation to the next.

1. Exodus 6:16-20 - The genealogy of Levi and his three sons.

2. Psalm 78:1-7 - The importance of teaching the next generation about the Lord's deeds.

1 Chronicles 6:17 And these be the names of the sons of Gershom; Libni, and Shimei.

The passage lists the names of two sons of Gershom: Libni and Shimei.

1. The Importance of Legacy and Passing On a Good Name

2. How to Grasp the Moment and Live a Meaningful Life

1. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:1 - A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

1 Chronicles 6:18 And the sons of Kohath were, Amram, and Izhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel.

This passage discusses the sons of Kohath and lists their names as Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel.

1. The Importance of Knowing Our Ancestors

2. The Value of Family

1. Deuteronomy 32:7-8 - "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. 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."

2. Romans 12:10 - "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another."

1 Chronicles 6:19 The sons of Merari; Mahli, and Mushi. And these are the families of the Levites according to their fathers.

This passage describes the two sons of Merari, Mahli and Mushi, and the families of the Levites.

1. The importance of honoring one's ancestors and traditions.

2. The power of family unity.

1. Exodus 6:16-20

2. Psalm 133:1-3

1 Chronicles 6:20 Of Gershom; Libni his son, Jahath his son, Zimmah his son,

The passage states that Gershom was the father of Libni, Jahath, and Zimmah.

1: God's plan for generations.

2: Faithfulness in family relationships.

1: Psalm 145:4 - One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

2: Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

1 Chronicles 6:21 Joah his son, Iddo his son, Zerah his son, Jeaterai his son.

This passage is about four generations of descendants, starting with Zerah and ending with Jeaterai.

1. God is faithful in keeping His promises to generations of believers.

2. Our faith and trust in God will be passed on to future generations.

1. Joshua 24:15 - But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2. Psalm 145:4 - One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

1 Chronicles 6:22 The sons of Kohath; Amminadab his son, Korah his son, Assir his son,

This passage mentions the sons of Kohath, including Amminadab, Korah, and Assir.

1. The Importance of Family and Ancestry

2. The Value of Respecting Your Elders

1. Exodus 6:18-20 (Kohath's family is mentioned)

2. Colossians 3:12-14 (Respect for elders is mentioned)

1 Chronicles 6:23 Elkanah his son, and Ebiasaph his son, and Assir his son,

The passage states that Elkanah was the son of Ebiasaph, who was the son of Assir.

1. God's Faithfulness is Seen in our Families

2. The Legacy of Faith Passed Down Through Generations

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. Malachi 4:6 - And he will turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the hearts of the children to their parents, so that I will not come and strike the land with a curse.

1 Chronicles 6:24 Tahath his son, Uriel his son, Uzziah his son, and Shaul his son.

This passage mentions four generations of descendants, beginning with Tahath and ending with Shaul.

1. The Power of Procreation: How Our Choices Impact the Future

2. The Importance of Family Heritage

1. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

2. Matthew 1:1-17 - The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

1 Chronicles 6:25 And the sons of Elkanah; Amasai, and Ahimoth.

Elkanah had two sons named Amasai and Ahimoth.

1. The Value of Family: A Study of Elkanah and His Sons

2. Legacy of Faith: Passing on Blessings to the Next Generation

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 6:26 As for Elkanah: the sons of Elkanah; Zophai his son, and Nahath his son,

Elkanah and his two sons, Zophai and Nahath, are mentioned in this passage.

1. The importance of family and the legacy we leave behind.

2. God's sovereignty in the lives of His people.

1. Joshua 24:15, But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2. Psalm 127:3, Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

1 Chronicles 6:27 Eliab his son, Jeroham his son, Elkanah his son.

This passage lists three generations of descendants from Elkanah in the Old Testament.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in his blessing of generations.

2. God's love for us is expressed through the generations he blesses.

1. Psalm 145:4-5 - "One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate."

2. Exodus 20:6 - but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

1 Chronicles 6:28 And the sons of Samuel; the firstborn Vashni, and Abiah.

Samuel had two sons, Vashni and Abiah.

1. The importance of family: using the example of Samuel and his two sons to illustrate the value of strong familial bonds.

2. The blessings of fatherhood: exploring the joys of parenthood through the lens of Samuel and his two sons.

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 6:4: Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

1 Chronicles 6:29 The sons of Merari; Mahli, Libni his son, Shimei his son, Uzza his son,

Shimea his son

The passage mentions the sons of Merari and their names.

1: God has a plan for all of us, including for how our families are structured.

2: God cares for us, even down to the details of our lives.

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 16:9 - The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

1 Chronicles 6:30 Shimea his son, Haggiah his son, Asaiah his son.

The passage lists Shimea, Haggiah, and Asaiah as the sons of a person.

1. Showing Honor to Our Fathers and Mothers

2. The Faithfulness of God in Passing Down His Promises

1. Malachi 4:5-6

2. Exodus 20:12

1 Chronicles 6:31 And these are they whom David set over the service of song in the house of the LORD, after that the ark had rest.

After the Ark of the Covenant was kept in the House of the Lord, David appointed musicians to be in charge of musical worship services.

1. The Power of Music in Worship

2. Appointing Leaders in the Church

1. Psalm 150:3-5 - Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

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 Chronicles 6:32 And they ministered before the dwelling place of the tabernacle of the congregation with singing, until Solomon had built the house of the LORD in Jerusalem: and then they waited on their office according to their order.

The Levites ministered before the Tabernacle of the Congregation with singing until Solomon had built the House of the LORD in Jerusalem, and then followed their orders.

1. Building a House for the Lord - The importance of building a House for the Lord and the Levites roles in that.

2. Waiting on the Lord - Learning patience and waiting on the Lord s timing.

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

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 Chronicles 6:33 And these are they that waited with their children. Of the sons of the Kohathites: Heman a singer, the son of Joel, the son of Shemuel,

Heman, the son of Joel and Shemuel, was a singer from the tribe of Kohathites.

1. God's grace is seen in His selection of leaders, even through generations.

2. God's anointing and purpose is not limited to any age or social class.

1. 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 - God chooses those who are considered lowly in the world to shame the wise.

2. Romans 8:28 - All things work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose.

1 Chronicles 6:34 The son of Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Eliel, the son of Toah,

The genealogy of Elkanah is traced through his father Jeroham, grandfather Eliel, and great-grandfather Toah.

1. How we Connect to our Ancestors: Exploring the Lineage of Elkanah

2. Knowing Our Roots: God's Wisdom in Our Genealogies

1. 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."

2. 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."

1 Chronicles 6:35 The son of Zuph, the son of Elkanah, the son of Mahath, the son of Amasai,

A genealogical list of Elkanah's ancestors from Zuph to Amasai.

1. The Importance of Knowing Our Roots

2. From Generation to Generation: God's Faithfulness

1. Psalm 105:8 - He remembers his covenant forever, the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

2. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

1 Chronicles 6:36 The son of Elkanah, the son of Joel, the son of Azariah, the son of Zephaniah,

This passage records the genealogy of Elkanah, the son of Joel, the son of Azariah, and the son of Zephaniah.

1. God's Plan of Redemption Through Lineage

2. Understanding the Importance of Ancestry

1. Ezra 7:1-5

2. Romans 1:1-7

1 Chronicles 6:37 The son of Tahath, the son of Assir, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah,

This passage in 1 Chronicles 6:37 mentions the lineage of Korah.

1. "The Power of Legacy: How Our Ancestors Shape Our Lives"

2. "The Unbroken Chain: Examining the Inheritance of Faith"

1. Genesis 15:1-6 (God s Covenant with Abram)

2. Romans 11:14-16 (The Roots of Faith)

1 Chronicles 6:38 The son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, the son of Israel.

This passage is about the lineage of Levi, the son of Israel.

1. Discovering Our Spiritual Heritage: Uncovering the Blessings of Our Forefathers

2. The Blessing of Family: How Our Ancestors Connect Us to God

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ

2. Romans 11:28-29 - God's election of Israel as His chosen people

1 Chronicles 6:39 And his brother Asaph, who stood on his right hand, even Asaph the son of Berachiah, the son of Shimea,

This passage is about Asaph, a Levite who stood on the right hand of his brother.

1. The Power of Brotherhood: How Brothers Can Stand Together in Unity

2. The Example of Asaph: A Study on Obedience and Faithfulness

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."

1 Chronicles 6:40 The son of Michael, the son of Baaseiah, the son of Malchiah,

The passage describes the genealogy of Michael.

1. God cares about our lineage and has a plan for each of us.

2. Our family history is part of God's greater story.

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.

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.

1 Chronicles 6:41 The son of Ethni, the son of Zerah, the son of Adaiah,

The passage outlines the genealogy of Adaiah.

1. God's Faithfulness Through Generations

2. The Impact of our Ancestors

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 6:42 The son of Ethan, the son of Zimmah, the son of Shimei,

The passage states that Ethan is the son of Zimmah, who is the son of Shimei.

1. The importance of legacy in our lives

2. God's faithfulness in generations

1. 1 Chronicles 6:42

2. Psalm 145:4 - One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

1 Chronicles 6:43 The son of Jahath, the son of Gershom, the son of Levi.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 6:43 describes a line of ancestry from Levi down to Jahath.

1. The Importance of Knowing Our Heritage

2. The Power of the Lineage of Levi

1. 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."

2. Joshua 21:1-2 - "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; 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."

1 Chronicles 6:44 And their brethren the sons of Merari stood on the left hand: Ethan the son of Kishi, the son of Abdi, the son of Malluch,

The Merari clan of the Levites were commanded to stand on the left side of the altar, and were led by Ethan, son of Kishi, son of Abdi, son of Malluch.

1. The importance of recognizing and fulfilling our calling in the Kingdom of God.

2. Serving the Lord faithfully despite challenging circumstances.

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. 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 Chronicles 6:45 The son of Hashabiah, the son of Amaziah, the son of Hilkiah,

This passage of scripture speaks about the lineage of Hilkiah.

1. "God's Faithful Lineage: Discovering Our Place in God's Story"

2. "The Legacy of Faith: Continuing the Family Line"

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The Genealogy of Jesus

2. Hebrews 11:8-16 - The Faith of Abraham and Sarah.

1 Chronicles 6:46 The son of Amzi, the son of Bani, the son of Shamer,

The passage is about the genealogy of one of the Levites.

1. We all have a rich heritage, and we should be thankful for our family history.

2. God cares about all of the details of our lives, even our ancestors and lineage.

1. Matthew 1:2-6 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ

2. Romans 11:28-29 - God s foreknowledge and mercy for His chosen people.

1 Chronicles 6:47 The son of Mahli, the son of Mushi, the son of Merari, the son of Levi.

The son of Levi is Mahli, the son of Mushi, and the son of Merari.

1. The Power of Our Ancestry: Examining the Legacy of Levi

2. God's Unfailing Faithfulness: Following in the Footsteps of Merari

1. Exodus 6:16-20; Context: God's promise to make the descendants of Levi into a priestly line

2. Numbers 3:12-16; Context: God's command to Moses to appoint the Merarites to the service of the Tabernacle

1 Chronicles 6:48 Their brethren also the Levites were appointed unto all manner of service of the tabernacle of the house of God.

The Levites were appointed to serve the tabernacle of the house of God.

1. The Power of Service: How Doing For God Brings Us Closer to Him

2. The Call to Serve: The Levites' Example of Faithful Dedication

1. Philippians 2:7-8 - 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.

2. Hebrews 12:28 - 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.

1 Chronicles 6:49 But Aaron and his sons offered upon the altar of the burnt offering, and on the altar of incense, and were appointed for all the work of the place most holy, and to make an atonement for Israel, according to all that Moses the servant of God had commanded.

Aaron and his sons were appointed to offer burnt offerings and incense on the altar and to make atonement for Israel according to Moses' commands.

1. Learning to Follow God's Commands Faithfully

2. The Power of Atonement

1. 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.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

1 Chronicles 6:50 And these are the sons of Aaron; Eleazar his son, Phinehas his son, Abishua his son,

This passage describes the four sons of Aaron, and their order of birth.

1. The importance of honoring our ancestors and learning from their examples.

2. The beauty of family relationships and the importance of celebrating them.

1. Joshua 24:15 - But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

2. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

1 Chronicles 6:51 Bukki his son, Uzzi his son, Zerahiah his son,

The passage outlines a genealogy from Bukki to Zerahiah.

1. How our identity is defined by our ancestry.

2. The importance of investing in our family 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 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.

1 Chronicles 6:52 Meraioth his son, Amariah his son, Ahitub his son,

This passage details the genealogical line of Meraioth's family, with the father-son relationships of Meraioth-Amariah-Ahitub.

1. God is the ultimate provider of security and protection, as seen in the lineage of Meraioth's family.

2. A family's legacy is an integral part of its identity, and should be celebrated and remembered.

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. 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 the two shall become one flesh ? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.

1 Chronicles 6:53 Zadok his son, Ahimaaz his son.

This passage lists the lineage of Zadok, starting with Zadok himself and then going through his son Ahimaaz.

1. How Our Lineage Defines Us: Exploring the Biblical Significance of Family Trees.

2. The Power of Generational Faith: Examining the Legacy of Zadok and Ahimaaz.

1. Psalm 132:12 "If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore."

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 Chronicles 6:54 Now these are their dwelling places throughout their castles in their coasts, of the sons of Aaron, of the families of the Kohathites: for theirs was the lot.

This passage explains the dwelling places of the sons of Aaron, from the families of the Kohathites, which were determined by lot.

1. God's perfect plan: How God directs our lives through His providence

2. The importance of God's Kingdom: How we can live our lives to bring glory to 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 16:5: "The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot."

1 Chronicles 6:55 And they gave them Hebron in the land of Judah, and the suburbs thereof round about it.

The Israelites were given the city of Hebron in the land of Judah, along with the surrounding areas.

1. How God Gives Us Generously

2. Rejoice in What God Has Given

1. Ephesians 3:20 - 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.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 6:56 But the fields of the city, and the villages thereof, they gave to Caleb the son of Jephunneh.

Caleb the son of Jephunneh was given the fields of the city and its villages.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises.

2. Stewardship and giving thanks for what we have been given.

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. 1 Thessalonians 5: 18 - Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Chronicles 6:57 And to the sons of Aaron they gave the cities of Judah, namely, Hebron, the city of refuge, and Libnah with her suburbs, and Jattir, and Eshtemoa, with their suburbs,

The sons of Aaron were given the cities of Judah, including Hebron, Libnah, Jattir and Eshtemoa.

1. How God's Faithfulness Can Be Seen in His Provisions

2. The Blessing of Living in a City of Refuge

1. Deuteronomy 19:1-10 - Provisions for a city of refuge

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trusting God for provision and protection

1 Chronicles 6:58 And Hilen with her suburbs, Debir with her suburbs,

The passage mentions two towns in the region of Judah, Hilen and Debir, and their suburbs.

1. The Importance of Place in Faith

2. Building a Strong Community Through Faith

1. Jeremiah 29:4-7, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

2. Romans 12:13, Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

1 Chronicles 6:59 And Ashan with her suburbs, and Bethshemesh with her suburbs:

This passage mentions two towns and their surrounding area.

1. "Living in God's Abundance: The Blessing of Ashan and Bethshemesh"

2. "The Beauty of God's Creation: The Towns of Ashan and Bethshemesh"

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 11:11-12 "But the land, whither ye go to possess it, is a land of hills and valleys, and drinketh water of the rain of heaven: 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."

1 Chronicles 6:60 And out of the tribe of Benjamin; Geba with her suburbs, and Alemeth with her suburbs, and Anathoth with her suburbs. All their cities throughout their families were thirteen cities.

The tribe of Benjamin was allotted thirteen cities, including Geba, Alemeth and Anathoth and their suburbs.

1. The Value of Community: A Study of 1 Chronicles 6:60

2. The Power of Unity: Lessons from the Tribe of Benjamin

1. Joshua 18:24-28 - Describing the process of allotting land to the tribes of Israel

2. Psalm 133 - Describing the value of unity within the family of God

1 Chronicles 6:61 And unto the sons of Kohath, which were left of the family of that tribe, were cities given out of the half tribe, namely, out of the half tribe of Manasseh, by lot, ten cities.

The remaining members of the Kohath family were given ten cities out of the half tribe of Manasseh by lot.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Providing for His People

2. God's Sovereignty in Allocating Resources

1. Psalm 16:5-6 - O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot. My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - 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.

1 Chronicles 6:62 And to the sons of Gershom throughout their families out of the tribe of Issachar, and out of the tribe of Asher, and out of the tribe of Naphtali, and out of the tribe of Manasseh in Bashan, thirteen cities.

The sons of Gershom were given thirteen cities distributed among their families from the tribes of Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and Manasseh in Bashan.

1. God's Provision - How God provides His children with resources and protection.

2. Unity in Diversity - How God brings unity out of diverse backgrounds and cultures.

1. Acts 4:32-35 - All believers shared their possessions and lived as one.

2. Ephesians 4:3-6 - How the Church should be united despite differences of opinion.

1 Chronicles 6:63 Unto the sons of Merari were given by lot, throughout their families, out of the tribe of Reuben, and out of the tribe of Gad, and out of the tribe of Zebulun, twelve cities.

Twelve cities were given by lot to the sons of Merari from the tribes of Reuben, Gad and Zebulun.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People - How God has been faithful to His people throughout time and how we can remain faithful to Him.

2. God's Unfailing Love - Reflecting on God's unconditional love for us and how we can show love to our neighbor.

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 4:2 - Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

1 Chronicles 6:64 And the children of Israel gave to the Levites these cities with their suburbs.

The Israelites gave the Levites cities and suburbs to live in.

1. True generosity is found in giving away what we have to those in need.

2. God blesses us so we can bless others.

1. Matthew 10:8 "Freely you have received; freely give."

2. Philippians 4:19 "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

1 Chronicles 6:65 And they gave by lot out of the tribe of the children of Judah, and out of the tribe of the children of Simeon, and out of the tribe of the children of Benjamin, these cities, which are called by their names.

The children of Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin were given cities by lot.

1. God has a plan for each of us, and sometimes it is revealed through the most unexpected ways.

2. Trusting God in the midst of uncertainty brings the greatest blessings.

1. Jeremiah 29: 11-14 - 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.

12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. 13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

14 I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

2. James 1:2-5 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. 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 Chronicles 6:66 And the residue of the families of the sons of Kohath had cities of their coasts out of the tribe of Ephraim.

The families of Kohath's sons were given cities from the tribe of Ephraim.

1. God provides for our needs - 1 Chronicles 6:66

2. We can trust God to lead us to where He desires for us - Psalm 23:3

1. 1 Chronicles 6:66

2. Psalm 23:3 - "He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake."

1 Chronicles 6:67 And they gave unto them, of the cities of refuge, Shechem in mount Ephraim with her suburbs; they gave also Gezer with her suburbs,

Cities of refuge were given to the Levites, including Shechem in Mount Ephraim and Gezer with their suburbs.

1. The Gift of Refuge: God's Provision for those in Need

2. God's Generosity: Blessing the Levites with Cities of Refuge

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. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

1 Chronicles 6:68 And Jokmeam with her suburbs, and Bethhoron with her suburbs,

This passage describes two towns, Jokmeam and Bethhoron, and the suburbs around them.

1. The Lord Provides for Us: Understanding the Blessings of Jokmeam and Bethhoron

2. Faithful Towns: The Legacy of Jokmeam and Bethhoron

1. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

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.

1 Chronicles 6:69 And Aijalon with her suburbs, and Gathrimmon with her suburbs:

Aijalon and Gathrimmon, along with their surrounding suburbs, are mentioned in 1 Chronicles 6:69.

1. The Power of Community: How Fellowship in the Suburbs Can Strengthen Our Faith

2. God's Provision: A Study on How He Cares for Us in Every Place

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 6:70 And out of the half tribe of Manasseh; Aner with her suburbs, and Bileam with her suburbs, for the family of the remnant of the sons of Kohath.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 6:70 describes two tribes of Manasseh, Aner and Bileam, and the families of Kohath's sons.

1. God's Faithfulness in Restoring His People - 1 Chronicles 6:70

2. God's Love and Provision for His People - 1 Chronicles 6:70

1. Isaiah 40:1-2 - Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

1 Chronicles 6:71 Unto the sons of Gershom were given out of the family of the half tribe of Manasseh, Golan in Bashan with her suburbs, and Ashtaroth with her suburbs:

The sons of Gershom were given land from the half tribe of Manasseh, including Golan in Bashan and Ashtaroth with their suburbs.

1. The Blessings of Inheritance - God's provision for His people

2. Faithful Service - Receiving God's rewards

1. Numbers 26:29-31 - God's division of the Promised Land among the tribes

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trusting in the Lord for provision and inheritance

1 Chronicles 6:72 And out of the tribe of Issachar; Kedesh with her suburbs, Daberath with her suburbs,

This passage describes two cities, Kedesh and Daberath, and the suburbs associated with each, from the tribe of Issachar.

1. The importance of community: Lessons from Kedesh and Daberath

2. God's faithfulness to the tribe of Issachar

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

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 commands."

1 Chronicles 6:73 And Ramoth with her suburbs, and Anem with her suburbs:

and all the cities of the plain, and all the kingdom of Hozar unto the coasts of Israel.

This verse from 1 Chronicles 6 focuses on the cities of Ramoth, Anem, and Hozar, which were part of the kingdom of Israel.

1. The Kingdom of God is Greater than Any Human Kingdom

2. The Promise of a Place to Call 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. Psalm 37:3 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

1 Chronicles 6:74 And out of the tribe of Asher; Mashal with her suburbs, and Abdon with her suburbs,

The tribe of Asher was given two cities, Mashal and Abdon, as their homeland.

1. Dwelling in God's Promised Land: A Study of 1 Chronicles 6:74

2. The Blessing of Being Part of God's Chosen People: A Look at 1 Chronicles 6:74

1. Deuteronomy 33:24-25 - 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. Thy shoes shall be iron and brass; and as thy days, so shall thy strength be.

2. Joshua 19:24-25 - And the fifth lot came out for the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families. And their border was Helkath, and Hali, and Beten, and Achshaph, And Alammelech, and Amad, and Misheal; and reacheth to Carmel westward, and to Shihorlibnath;

1 Chronicles 6:75 And Hukok with her suburbs, and Rehob with her suburbs:

This passage mentions two towns, Hukok and Rehob, and the suburbs that surround them.

1. God's Faithfulness: God's faithfulness is seen in His provision of towns like Hukok and Rehob.

2. God's Provision: God provides us with the places we need to live and flourish.

1. Psalm 107:33-34 He turneth rivers into a wilderness, and the watersprings into dry ground; A fruitful land into barrenness, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein.

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 Chronicles 6:76 And out of the tribe of Naphtali; Kedesh in Galilee with her suburbs, and Hammon with her suburbs, and Kirjathaim with her suburbs.

This passage discusses the cities and suburbs of Naphtali, which was one of the tribes of Israel.

1. The Importance of Home: The example of the tribe of Naphtali shows us the importance of finding a place to call home.

2. God's Faithfulness: God provided for the tribe of Naphtali and gave them a place to call home.

1. Deuteronomy 6:10-12 - "And when the LORD thy God shall bring 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 91:9-10 - "Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling."

1 Chronicles 6:77 Unto the rest of the children of Merari were given out of the tribe of Zebulun, Rimmon with her suburbs, Tabor with her suburbs:

Out of the tribe of Zebulun, the children of Merari were given Rimmon with its suburbs and Tabor with its suburbs.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Giving Can Transform Lives

2. The Importance of Passing Down Faith: How the Tribes of Israel Passed Down Faith from Generation to Generation

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. Romans 10:17: "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

1 Chronicles 6:78 And on the other side Jordan by Jericho, on the east side of Jordan, were given them out of the tribe of Reuben, Bezer in the wilderness with her suburbs, and Jahzah with her suburbs,

This verse of the Bible gives a list of two cities from the tribe of Reuben that are located on the east side of the Jordan River.

1. God's faithfulness is evident in the way he provides for us, even in the most barren of places.

2. Our faithfulness should be expressed in our willingness to serve our neighbors, regardless of their location.

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 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

1 Chronicles 6:79 Kedemoth also with her suburbs, and Mephaath with her suburbs:

This passage mentions two cities, Kedemoth and Mephaath, and their suburbs.

1. God's Faithful Provision for His People: A Look at Kedemoth and Mephaath

2. Finding Strength in Community: The Importance of Suburbs

1. Psalm 147:14 - He makes peace in your borders and fills you with the finest of wheat.

2. Deuteronomy 11:10-12 - Therefore you shall keep every commandment which I command you today, that you may be strong, and go in and possess the land which you cross over to possess, and that you may prolong your days in the land which the Lord swore to give your fathers, to them and their descendants, a land flowing with milk and honey. For the land which you go to possess is not like the land of Egypt from which you have come, where you sowed your seed and watered it by foot, as a vegetable garden; but the land which you cross over to possess is a land of hills and valleys, which drinks water from the rain of heaven.

1 Chronicles 6:80 And out of the tribe of Gad; Ramoth in Gilead with her suburbs, and Mahanaim with her suburbs,

This passage talks about two places, Ramoth in Gilead and Mahanaim, that are part of the tribe of Gad.

1. How To Be a Faithful Member of Our Community

2. The Power of Belonging: Finding Home in Our Tribes

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 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."

1 Chronicles 6:81 And Heshbon with her suburbs, and Jazer with her suburbs.

This passage mentions two cities, Heshbon and Jazer, and the areas around them.

1. God's Promise of Provision: The Cities of Heshbon and Jazer

2. Finding Comfort in the Promised Land: The Blessing of Heshbon and Jazer

1. Joshua 21:39 And out of the tribe of Reuben, Bezer with her suburbs, and Jahazah with her suburbs

2. Deuteronomy 3:10 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.

1 Chronicles chapter 7 continues the genealogical account, focusing on the descendants of several tribes, including Issachar, Benjamin, Naphtali, Manasseh, Ephraim, and Asher.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by listing the sons of Issachar Tola, Puah (Puvah), Jashub (Job), and Shimron and provides details about their descendants. It mentions their family leaders and the number of warriors they produced (1 Chronicles 7:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative then shifts to the tribe of Benjamin and traces their lineage through several generations. It highlights individuals such as Bela (Becher), Gera, Ehud known for his left-handedness and others (1 Chronicles 7:6-12).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to the tribe of Naphtali and provides information about their clans and descendants. It mentions figures like Jahziel and Guni along with their respective families (1 Chronicles 7:13).

4th Paragraph:The narrative briefly mentions other tribes such as Manasseh the half-tribe descended from Joseph and Ephraim Joseph's other son. It lists notable individuals within these tribes like Machir from Manasseh and Ezer from Ephraim (1 Chronicles 7:14-20).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning the tribe of Asher a descendant of Jacob and providing details about their genealogy. It highlights individuals such as Imnah, Ishvi, Beriah who were known for their prowess in battle and others within Asher's lineage (1 Chronicles 7:30-40).

In summary, Chapter seven of 1 Chronicles depicts genealogical records, from various tribes. Highlighting sons of Issachar, tracing lineages through generations. Mentioning clans from Benjamin, noting significant figures like Ehud. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical foundation for understanding ancestry within different Israelite tribes, emphasizing key individuals who played roles in Israel's history or were known for specific traits or skills.

1 Chronicles 7:1 Now the sons of Issachar were, Tola, and Puah, Jashub, and Shimrom, four.

The sons of Issachar were Tola, Puah, Jashub, and Shimrom.

1. Be Steadfast: Lessons from the Sons of Issachar

2. The Strength of Unity: What We Can Learn from the Sons of Issachar

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 4:9-12 - "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 Chronicles 7:2 And the sons of Tola; Uzzi, and Rephaiah, and Jeriel, and Jahmai, and Jibsam, and Shemuel, heads of their father's house, to wit, of Tola: they were valiant men of might in their generations; whose number was in the days of David two and twenty thousand and six hundred.

The passage mentions the sons of Tola who were valiant men of might in their generation and numbered 22,600 in the days of David.

1. "Strength Through Unity: Looking to the Sons of Tola"

2. "Valiant Men of Might: A Study of 1 Chronicles 7:2"

1. Judges 10:1-2 - "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. And he judged Israel twenty and three years, and died, and was buried in Shamir."

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

1 Chronicles 7:3 And the sons of Uzzi; Izrahiah: and the sons of Izrahiah; Michael, and Obadiah, and Joel, Ishiah, five: all of them chief men.

This verse of the Bible lists five sons of Uzzi, all of whom were leaders in their own right.

1. "The Power of Leaders: Examining the Lives of Uzzi's Sons"

2. "The Leadership of Uzzi's Sons: A Model for Us"

1. 1 Samuel 22:2 - "And everyone who was in distress, and everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented, gathered to him; and he became captain over them. Now there were about four hundred men with him."

2. 1 Chronicles 11:10 - "And these are 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."

1 Chronicles 7:4 And with them, by their generations, after the house of their fathers, were bands of soldiers for war, six and thirty thousand men: for they had many wives and sons.

This passage describes the number of soldiers from the Israelite tribes, totaling 36,000 men, who were prepared for war due to their many wives and sons.

1. The Power of Family: How the Strength of the Family Unit Can Be Used to Impact the World

2. An Army of Faith: How God Uses Ordinary People to Accomplish Extraordinary Things

1. Deuteronomy 1:41-44 - God telling the Israelites to take courage and be strong in order to fight against their enemies.

2. Joshua 14:11-15 - Caleb's story of believing in God and being granted his inheritance despite his advanced age.

1 Chronicles 7:5 And their brethren among all the families of Issachar were valiant men of might, reckoned in all by their genealogies fourscore and seven thousand.

The descendants of Issachar were known for their strength and bravery, and there were a total of 87,000 of them.

1. God rewards those who are valiant and brave.

2. We must use our might to serve God and others.

1. Proverbs 28:1 - "The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion."

2. Ephesians 6:10-20 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might."

1 Chronicles 7:6 The sons of Benjamin; Bela, and Becher, and Jediael, three.

This passage is about the three sons of Benjamin: Bela, Becher, and Jediael.

1. The importance of family and the sacredness of lineage.

2. The importance of honoring our ancestors and the legacy they left behind.

1. 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.

2. Matthew 19:14 - But Jesus said, Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.

1 Chronicles 7:7 And the sons of Bela; Ezbon, and Uzzi, and Uzziel, and Jerimoth, and Iri, five; heads of the house of their fathers, mighty men of valour; and were reckoned by their genealogies twenty and two thousand and thirty and four.

This passage lists five sons of Bela and their genealogies, totaling 22,034 mighty men of valour.

1. The Power of Genealogy: How Knowing Your Heritage Can Provide Strength and Courage

2. The Value of Valour: Why Courageous Actions Are Rewarded

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. Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

1 Chronicles 7:8 And the sons of Becher; Zemira, and Joash, and Eliezer, and Elioenai, and Omri, and Jerimoth, and Abiah, and Anathoth, and Alameth. All these are the sons of Becher.

This passage discusses the sons of Becher, which include Zemira, Joash, Eliezer, Elioenai, Omri, Jerimoth, Abiah, Anathoth, and Alameth.

1. A Lesson from the Sons of Becher: How to Live Faithfully as a Family

2. The Power of Becher s Legacy: How One Generational Line Can Make a Lasting Impact

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 7:9 And the number of them, after their genealogy by their generations, heads of the house of their fathers, mighty men of valour, was twenty thousand and two hundred.

This passage talks about the number of mighty men of valour from the house of their fathers.

1. We should be courageous and brave in times of difficulty, just as the mighty men of valour in 1 Chronicles 7:9.

2. God has given us strength to face any challenge, just as the men of valour show in 1 Chronicles 7:9.

1. 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.

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 Chronicles 7:10 The sons also of Jediael; Bilhan: and the sons of Bilhan; Jeush, and Benjamin, and Ehud, and Chenaanah, and Zethan, and Tharshish, and Ahishahar.

The sons of Jediael are Bilhan, Jeush, Benjamin, Ehud, Chenaanah, Zethan, Tharshish, and Ahishahar.

1. The importance of family and the value of having a strong support system.

2. The need to be aware of God's presence in our lives and how He is with us through every stage of life.

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 "so 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.

1 Chronicles 7:11 All these the sons of Jediael, by the heads of their fathers, mighty men of valour, were seventeen thousand and two hundred soldiers, fit to go out for war and battle.

Jediael had seventeen thousand and two hundred sons who were fit for military service.

1. God gives us strength to serve Him even in difficult times.

2. Using our gifts and talents to glorify God and serve Him.

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

2. 2 Corinthians 10:4-6 - For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.

1 Chronicles 7:12 Shuppim also, and Huppim, the children of Ir, and Hushim, the sons of Aher.

This verse from 1 Chronicles 7:12 mentions four sons of Ir and Aher, Shuppim, Huppim, Hushim, and Aher.

1. God Calls Us All to Be Family, focusing on the four sons of Ir and Aher as an example of how our families can be a part of God's plan.

2. The Strength of Our Connections, exploring the importance of relationships and how they can be used to fulfill God's will.

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. Proverbs 18:24 A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

1 Chronicles 7:13 The sons of Naphtali; Jahziel, and Guni, and Jezer, and Shallum, the sons of Bilhah.

Naphtali's sons are Jahziel, Guni, Jezer, and Shallum.

1: We should take our lineage seriously and honor our ancestors.

2: God has a plan for all of us, and our unique heritage is part of that plan.

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 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 Chronicles 7:14 The sons of Manasseh; Ashriel, whom she bare: (but his concubine the Aramitess bare Machir the father of Gilead:

)

Manasseh had a son named Ashriel, born from his wife, and Machir, the father of Gilead, was born from his concubine.

1. The power of a mother's love: Examining the example of Manasseh and his wife in 1 Chronicles 7:14.

2. The legacy of faithfulness: How Manasseh's faithfulness to his wife and concubine shaped the future in 1 Chronicles 7:14.

1. Ruth 4:18-22 - Showing the importance of a mother's legacy and the faithfulness of the family to the Lord.

2. Isaiah 49:14-16 - Examining the Lord's promise of faithfulness to his chosen people and the legacy of faithfulness that they can leave.

1 Chronicles 7:15 And Machir took to wife the sister of Huppim and Shuppim, whose sister's name was Maachah;) and the name of the second was Zelophehad: and Zelophehad had daughters.

Machir married Maachah, the sister of Huppim and Shuppim, and Zelophehad had daughters.

1. The Importance of Family: A Study of Machir and His In-Laws

2. Achieving Success Through Faithful Marriage: A Study of Machir and Maachah

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 (Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ)

2. Proverbs 31:10-31 (The Virtuous Wife)

1 Chronicles 7:16 And Maachah the wife of Machir bare a son, and she called his name Peresh; and the name of his brother was Sheresh; and his sons were Ulam and Rakem.

Maachah, the wife of Machir, gave birth to two sons, Peresh and Sheresh. Their sons were Ulam and Rakem.

1. The Power of a Mother's Love: Exploring the Bond of Maachah and her Sons

2. The Importance of Legacy: Continuing the Family Name through Ulam and Rakem

1. Proverbs 31:25-28 - She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the 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.

1 Chronicles 7:17 And the sons of Ulam; Bedan. These were the sons of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh.

Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, had two sons named Ulam and Bedan.

1. God's Divinely Appointed Plan: The Sons of Gilead

2. God's Faithfulness to His Chosen People: The Lineage of Manasseh

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 49:22-26 - Joseph is a fruitful vine, a fruitful vine near a spring, whose branches climb over a wall. With bitterness archers attacked him; they shot at him with hostility. But his bow remained steady, his strong arms stayed limber, because of the hand of the Mighty One of Jacob, because of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel, because of your father s God, who helps you, because of the Almighty, who blesses you with blessings of the heavens above, blessings of the deep that lies below, blessings of the breast and womb. Your father s blessings are greater than the blessings of the ancient mountains, than the bounty of the age-old hills. Let all these rest on the head of Joseph, on the brow of the prince among his brothers.

1 Chronicles 7:18 And his sister Hammoleketh bare Ishod, and Abiezer, and Mahalah.

Hammoleketh, a sister of Gilead, bore three sons named Ishod, Abiezer, and Mahalah.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in His provision of family.

2. Knowing our family history is a reminder of God's love for us.

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. Romans 8:16-17 - 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.

1 Chronicles 7:19 And the sons of Shemidah were, Ahian, and Shechem, and Likhi, and Aniam.

Shemidah had four sons, Ahian, Shechem, Likhi, and Aniam.

1. God Multiplies and Blesses - How the four sons of Shemidah serve as an example of God's blessing and provision.

2. God is Faithful - Even in the midst of difficult times, God remains faithful and provides for His people.

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. Genesis 17:6 - "And I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you."

1 Chronicles 7:20 And the sons of Ephraim; Shuthelah, and Bered his son, and Tahath his son, and Eladah his son, and Tahath his son,

The sons of Ephraim were Shuthelah, Bered, Tahath, Eladah and Tahath.

1. God's Faithfulness to His Promises - 1 Chronicles 7:20

2. The Blessing of God on Generations - 1 Chronicles 7:20

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 1:20 - For no matter how many promises God has made, they are Yes in Christ. And so through him the Amen is spoken by us to the glory of God.

1 Chronicles 7:21 And Zabad his son, and Shuthelah his son, and Ezer, and Elead, whom the men of Gath that were born in that land slew, because they came down to take away their cattle.

Zabad, Shuthelah, Ezer, and Elead were killed by the men of Gath because they tried to take away their cattle.

1. The Danger of Taking What Is Not Ours

2. The Power of Unity in Times of Conflict

1. Psalm 37:1-2 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.

2. Proverbs 3:27-28 Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it. Say not unto thy neighbour, Go, and come again, and tomorrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee.

1 Chronicles 7:22 And Ephraim their father mourned many days, and his brethren came to comfort him.

Ephraim mourned for a long time and his brothers came to comfort him.

1. Comfort in Times of Mourning

2. How to Find Strength in Times of Grief

1. Isaiah 66:13 - As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

1 Chronicles 7:23 And when he went in to his wife, she conceived, and bare a son, and he called his name Beriah, because it went evil with his house.

A man named Beriah was born to a family that was facing difficult times.

1. The Power of a Name: Exploring the Meaning of Beriah

2. Overcoming Struggles: Finding Hope in Difficult Times

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 9:9 - The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.

1 Chronicles 7:24 (And his daughter was Sherah, who built Bethhoron the nether, and the upper, and Uzzensherah.)

Sherah, the daughter of Ephraim, built three towns: Bethhoron the nether, Bethhoron the upper, and Uzzensherah.

1. Courage and Faithfulness in the Face of Adversity

2. God's Faithfulness in Blessing His People

1. Joshua 21:34-36 (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, Dimna with her suburbs, Nahalal with her suburbs, Shimron with her suburbs, Idalah with her suburbs, Bethlehem with her suburbs,

2. Proverbs 14:1 (The wisest of women builds her house, but folly with her own hands tears it down.)

1 Chronicles 7:25 And Rephah was his son, also Resheph, and Telah his son, and Tahan his son,

This passage from 1 Chronicles 7:25 describes the genealogy of Rephah and his sons Resheph, Telah, and Tahan.

1. The Value of Knowing Your Family History

2. The Legacy of Faithful Ancestors

1. Psalms 112:1-2 "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."

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, 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."

1 Chronicles 7:26 Laadan his son, Ammihud his son, Elishama his son,

The passage recounts the lineage of Laadan from his father: Ammihud, his grandfather: Elishama.

1. God's faithfulness to generations of believers.

2. The importance of a faithful legacy.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 7:27 Non his son, Jehoshuah his son,

and

The passage speaks of the genealogy of Non and his son Jehoshua.

1. The Faithfulness of God and the Importance of Genealogy

2. Taking on the Legacy of Our Ancestors

1. 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.

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.

1 Chronicles 7:28 And their possessions and habitations were, Bethel and the towns thereof, and eastward Naaran, and westward Gezer, with the towns thereof; Shechem also and the towns thereof, unto Gaza and the towns thereof:

This passage mentions several towns in the possession of the tribe of Issachar, including Bethel, Naaran, Gezer, Shechem and Gaza.

1. "God's Provision for His People: The Blessings of Possessing Land"

2. "The Faithfulness of God's Promises: The Fulfillment of His Covenant with the Tribe of Issachar"

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. Joshua 19:17-23 - "The fourth lot came out for Issachar, for the children of Issachar according to their families. And their territory included Jezreel, Chesulloth, Shunem, Hapharaim, Shion, Anaharath, Rabbith, Kishion, Ebez, Remeth, En-gannim, En-haddah, Beth-pazzez. The border reached to Tabor, Shahazimah, and Beth-shemesh; and the border ended at the Jordan: Sixteen cities with their villages. This was the inheritance of the children of Issachar according to their families, the towns and their villages."

1 Chronicles 7:29 And by the borders of the children of Manasseh, Bethshean and her towns, Taanach and her towns, Megiddo and her towns, Dor and her towns. In these dwelt the children of Joseph the son of Israel.

The children of Joseph the son of Israel dwelt in the border cities of Bethshean, Taanach, Megiddo, and Dor.

1. The Joy of Dwelling in Righteousness: How God's Blessings Bring Us Comfort and Security

2. Finding Strength in Community: The Power of Uniting Around God's Will

1. Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who labor build it in vain."

2. Matthew 18:20 - "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

1 Chronicles 7:30 The sons of Asher; Imnah, and Isuah, and Ishuai, and Beriah, and Serah their sister.

Asher had four sons, Imnah, Isuah, Ishuai, and Beriah, and a daughter, Serah.

1. The importance of family and community.

2. The importance of cherishing siblings.

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 7:31 And the sons of Beriah; Heber, and Malchiel, who is the father of Birzavith.

This passage discusses the sons of Beriah, who were Heber and Malchiel, the father of Birzavith.

1. The Importance of Family: The Story of Beriah and His Sons

2. The Power of Legacy and Legacy-Making

1. 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."

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.

1 Chronicles 7:32 And Heber begat Japhlet, and Shomer, and Hotham, and Shua their sister.

This passage is about Heber and his four children, Japhlet, Shomer, Hotham, and Shua.

1. The importance of family: Exploring Heber's legacy in 1 Chronicles 7:32.

2. The value of siblings: Exploring the relationships between Heber's children in 1 Chronicles 7:32.

1. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

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 Chronicles 7:33 And the sons of Japhlet; Pasach, and Bimhal, and Ashvath. These are the children of Japhlet.

Japhlet had three sons, Pasach, Bimhal, and Ashvath.

1. The Faithfulness of Japhlet and His Family

2. The Power of Multi-Generational Faith

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 so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Psalm 78:4 - We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.

1 Chronicles 7:34 And the sons of Shamer; Ahi, and Rohgah, Jehubbah, and Aram.

The passage lists the four sons of Shamer: Ahi, Rohgah, Jehubbah, and Aram.

1. The Power of Family: Examining 1 Chronicles 7:34

2. Our Responsibility to Honor Our Ancestors: Reflections on 1 Chronicles 7:34

1. 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."

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.

1 Chronicles 7:35 And the sons of his brother Helem; Zophah, and Imna, and Shelesh, and Amal.

This passage of scripture mentions the four sons of Helem, which are Zophah, Imna, Shelesh, and Amal.

1. The importance of family and how our legacy is carried on through generations.

2. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to His people.

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 7:36 The sons of Zophah; Suah, and Harnepher, and Shual, and Beri, and Imrah,

The sons of Zophah were Suah, Harnepher, Shual, Beri, and Imrah.

1. The Strength of Family: A Study of 1 Chronicles 7:36

2. Recognizing God's Generosity in Our Lives: A Reflection on 1 Chronicles 7:36

1. Psalm 68:6 - "God makes a home for the lonely; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land."

2. John 14:18 - "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

1 Chronicles 7:37 Bezer, and Hod, and Shamma, and Shilshah, and Ithran, and Beera.

This passage contains a list of six names from the tribe of Benjamin.

1. The Power of Names: How Knowing Who We Are In Christ Makes All The Difference

2. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Strengthens Us

1. Acts 4:12 - And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

2. Ephesians 4:3 - eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

1 Chronicles 7:38 And the sons of Jether; Jephunneh, and Pispah, and Ara.

Jether had three sons: Jephunneh, Pispah, and Ara.

1. God's sovereignty in our lineage: recognizing the blessings of our ancestors.

2. The importance of generational legacy: leaving a spiritual inheritance for our children.

1. Genesis 28:14 - "Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed."

2. 1 Peter 1:17-19 - "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."

1 Chronicles 7:39 And the sons of Ulla; Arah, and Haniel, and Rezia.

This passage mentions three sons of Ulla: Arah, Haniel, and Rezia.

1. God is always with us, even in the most difficult times, just as Ulla's three sons were with him.

2. Even in the darkest of times, God is always watching over us, just as Ulla's three sons provided comfort and support to him.

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."

1 Chronicles 7:40 All these were the children of Asher, heads of their father's house, choice and mighty men of valour, 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.

This passage describes the descendants of Asher, who were mighty men of valor and numbered 26,000 apt for battle.

1. Overcoming Fear with Faith: How the Descendants of Asher Proved Valor in Battle

2. The Power of Family: Celebrating the Legacy of Asher

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. 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 Chronicles chapter 8 continues the genealogical account, focusing primarily on the descendants of Benjamin and their notable figures.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by listing the sons of Benjamin Bela, Ashbel, Aharah, Nohah, and Rapha and provides details about their descendants. It mentions figures like Ard and Naaman along with their respective families (1 Chronicles 8:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative then traces the lineage of Bela the firstborn son of Benjamin through several generations. It highlights individuals such as Ehud who became a judge in Israel and other notable figures within Bela's line (1 Chronicles 8:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to other clans within the tribe of Benjamin. It mentions individuals from different families such as Gera, Shephuphan, Huppim, and Ard who were known for their prowess in battle and provides details about their descendants (1 Chronicles 8:11-28).

4th Paragraph:The narrative briefly mentions other individuals from various tribes who lived in Gibeon a city associated with Benjamin. It lists names such as Jeiel and Mikloth along with their respective families (1 Chronicles 8:29-32).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning specific individuals who lived in Jerusalem another city associated with Benjamin. This includes figures like Jeiel the father of Gibeonites and his descendants who played significant roles during David's reign (1 Chronicles 8:33-40).

In summary, Chapter eight of 1 Chronicles depicts genealogical records, from descendants of Benjamin. Highlighting sons of Benjamin, tracing lineages through generations. Mentioning clans from this tribe, noting key individuals and locations. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical foundation for understanding ancestry within the tribe of Benjamin, emphasizing notable figures and families associated with this particular lineage.

1 Chronicles 8:1 Now Benjamin begat Bela his firstborn, Ashbel the second, and Aharah the third,

This passage speaks about Benjamin, the son of Jacob, and his three sons.

1. The importance of family and how God blesses families through generations.

2. The power of faith and how God can use even the smallest of families to impact the world.

1. Genesis 35:22-23 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.

2. Genesis 46:21-26 And the sons of Benjamin were Belah, and Becher, and Ashbel, Gera, and Naaman, Ehi, and Rosh, Muppim, and Huppim, and Ard. And these are the sons of Rachel, which were born to Jacob: all the souls were fourteen.

1 Chronicles 8:2 Nohah the fourth, and Rapha the fifth.

Nohah and Rapha are listed as the fourth and fifth sons of Benjamin.

1. The importance of recognizing our lineage and honoring our ancestors.

2. The value of honoring our roots and carrying on our family traditions.

1. 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;

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.

1 Chronicles 8:3 And the sons of Bela were, Addar, and Gera, and Abihud,

The sons of Bela were Addar, Gera, and Abihud.

1. Believing in God's Plan for Our Lives

2. The Power of Faith in Family

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.

2. Psalm 103:17-18 - But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.

1 Chronicles 8:4 And Abishua, and Naaman, and Ahoah,

The passage mentions three men: Abishua, Naaman, and Ahoah.

1. The Power of Friendship: Exploring the Lives of Abishua, Naaman, and Ahoah.

2. The Virtues of Loyalty: Examining the Character of Abishua, Naaman, and Ahoah.

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.

1 Chronicles 8:5 And Gera, and Shephuphan, and Huram.

The passage mentions Gera, Shephuphan, and Huram.

1. The Power of Three: How Working Together Can Take Us Further.

2. The Importance of Even the Smallest Details.

1. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

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 are warm, but how can one be warm alone?

1 Chronicles 8:6 And these are the sons of Ehud: these are the heads of the fathers of the inhabitants of Geba, and they removed them to Manahath:

The sons of Ehud were the heads of the fathers of the inhabitants of Geba and they moved to Manahath.

1. God calls us all to leadership in our lives and communities.

2. We are called to trust and obey God in all of our circumstances.

1. Romans 12:6-8 - Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; 7 if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

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 Chronicles 8:7 And Naaman, and Ahiah, and Gera, he removed them, and begat Uzza, and Ahihud.

Naaman, Ahiah, and Gera were removed by a man who begat Uzza and Ahihud.

1. The Power of Generational Legacy: How Our Choices Impact Future Generations

2. The Blessing of Obedience: How Our Faithful Actions Lead to God's Blessings

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 8:8 And Shaharaim begat children in the country of Moab, after he had sent them away; Hushim and Baara were his wives.

Shaharaim had two wives, Hushim and Baara, and he had children with them in the country of Moab after he had sent them away.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Finding Redemption Through Separation

2. The Blessing of Family: Experiencing the Joys of Parenthood Despite Distance

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."

1 Chronicles 8:9 And he begat of Hodesh his wife, Jobab, and Zibia, and Mesha, and Malcham,

This passage mentions the four sons of Hodesh and her husband: Jobab, Zibia, Mesha, and Malcham.

1. The importance of family and how our families shape who we are.

2. The faithfulness of God in providing for us in all phases of life.

1. Psalm 68:5-6 - "A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing"

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."

1 Chronicles 8:10 And Jeuz, and Shachia, and Mirma. These were his sons, heads of the fathers.

This passage mentions the sons of Benjamin, the son of Jacob, and highlights their names, Jeuz, Shachia, and Mirma.

1. The Faithfulness of Fathers: An Exploration of 1 Chronicles 8:10

2. God's Design: Examining the Blessings of Fatherhood in 1 Chronicles 8:10

1. 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.

2. Psalm 68:5-6 - Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.

1 Chronicles 8:11 And of Hushim he begat Abitub, and Elpaal.

This passage tells of Hushim and his two sons Abitub and Elpaal.

1. How God provides for our families even in the midst of difficult circumstances.

2. The importance of having faith in God despite the uncertainty of life.

1. Genesis 37:3-4 - Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made a richly ornamented robe for him. When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

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. Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

1 Chronicles 8:12 The sons of Elpaal; Eber, and Misham, and Shamed, who built Ono, and Lod, with the towns thereof:

Elpaal's sons, Eber, Misham, and Shamed, built Ono and Lod with their accompanying towns.

1. The Power of Generational Blessing: Discovering How God Uses Our Ancestors

2. The Blessings of Obedience: How Following God's Plan Brings Provision

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 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 Chronicles 8:13 Beriah also, and Shema, who were heads of the fathers of the inhabitants of Aijalon, who drove away the inhabitants of Gath:

Beriah and Shema were leaders of the families of the people of Aijalon, and they were successful in driving away the people of Gath.

1. Trust in the Lord and He will provide victory in all our battles.

2. We can be victorious when we unite together and fight for what is right.

1. Exodus 14:14 - "The Lord will fight for you, you need only to be still."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

1 Chronicles 8:14 And Ahio, Shashak, and Jeremoth,

The passage lists the names of three individuals: Ahio, Shashak, and Jeremoth.

1. God knows each of us by name and loves us all equally.

2. Having faith in God is the path to true joy and success.

1. Isaiah 43:1-4 - "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

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."

1 Chronicles 8:15 And Zebadiah, and Arad, and Ader,

The passage mentions the names of three individuals: Zebadiah, Arad, and Ader.

1. The Power of a Name: How What We Are Called Can Shape Our Lives

2. The Power of Community: How Our Surroundings Can Influence Us

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. Matthew 1:21: "She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

1 Chronicles 8:16 And Michael, and Ispah, and Joha, the sons of Beriah;

This passage from 1 Chronicles 8:16 lists the sons of Beriah as Michael, Ispah, and Joha.

1. The Power of Family: The Story of Beriah and His Sons

2. The Importance of Generational Legacy

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. Deuteronomy 6:5-7 - 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.

1 Chronicles 8:17 And Zebadiah, and Meshullam, and Hezeki, and Heber,

The passage mentions four people: Zebadiah, Meshullam, Hezeki, and Heber.

1: We should strive to live lives of faith and service like Zebadiah, Meshullam, Hezeki, and Heber.

2: We are part of a larger community, and our actions can have an impact on others, as demonstrated by the four mentioned in the passage.

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: Galatians 6:2 Bear one another s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

1 Chronicles 8:18 Ishmerai also, and Jezliah, and Jobab, the sons of Elpaal;

Ishmerai, Jezliah, and Jobab were the sons of Elpaal.

1: The importance of family in the Bible.

2: The legacy of Elpaal and his sons.

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 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 Chronicles 8:19 And Jakim, and Zichri, and Zabdi,

This passage mentions three of the sons of Ephraim, Jakim, Zichri, and Zabdi.

1. The Importance of Family: A Look at Jakim, Zichri, and Zabdi

2. Following in Our Ancestors' Footsteps: Lessons from the Sons of Ephraim

1. Genesis 46:20 - And the sons of Ephraim: Shuthelah, and Bered his son, and Tahath his son, and Eladah his son, and Tahath his son,

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

1 Chronicles 8:20 And Elienai, and Zilthai, and Eliel,

The passage mentions three sons of Becher, Elienai, Zilthai, and Eliel.

1. The Power of Legacy: How Becher's Sons Impacted Israel

2. Faithfulness Rewarded: God's Blessing on Becher's Line

1. 1 Samuel 9:1-2 - Saul, a Benjamite, was chosen to be the first king of Israel.

2. Romans 4:13 - 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.

1 Chronicles 8:21 And Adaiah, and Beraiah, and Shimrath, the sons of Shimhi;

The passage talks about three sons of Shimhi: Adaiah, Beraiah and Shimrath.

1: We all have a unique purpose and God uses us all for His glory.

2: Working together as a family, we can do great things for the Lord.

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: Romans 12:4-5 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.

1 Chronicles 8:22 And Ishpan, and Heber, and Eliel,

The passage mentions three names: Ishpan, Heber, and Eliel.

1. God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

2. God can use anyone, regardless of their background or experience.

1. Matthew 9:9-13, Jesus calling Matthew to follow him.

2. Acts 9:1-20, Saul's conversion and calling to be an apostle.

1 Chronicles 8:23 And Abdon, and Zichri, and Hanan,

Passage The passage mentions three individuals - Abdon, Zichri, and Hanan.

1. The importance of recognizing the contributions of others, no matter how small.

2. The power of relationships and the strength that comes from working together.

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."

1 Chronicles 8:24 And Hananiah, and Elam, and Antothijah,

The passage mentions three men: Hananiah, Elam, and Antothijah.

1. God can work through unlikely people - 1 Chronicles 8:24

2. The importance of humility - 1 Peter 5:5-6

1. 1 Chronicles 8:24

2. 1 Peter 5:5-6 "Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. "

1 Chronicles 8:25 And Iphedeiah, and Penuel, the sons of Shashak;

The passage mentions Iphedeiah and Penuel, the sons of Shashak.

1. God can work through all generations - 1 Chronicles 8:25

2. The importance of family heritage - 1 Chronicles 8:25

1. Exodus 20:12 - Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

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

1 Chronicles 8:26 And Shamsherai, and Shehariah, and Athaliah,

The passage mentions three names: Shamsherai, Shehariah, and Athaliah.

1) God's Unfailing Faithfulness: How Every Name in the Bible is an Encouragement

2) A Tale of Three Names: Seeing God's Story Through the Pages of Scripture

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 147:5 - Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

1 Chronicles 8:27 And Jaresiah, and Eliah, and Zichri, the sons of Jeroham.

Jaresiah, Eliah, and Zichri are the sons of Jeroham.

1. The Power of a Legacy: Celebrating the Sons of Jeroham

2. The Impact of a Faithful Father: Learning from Jeroham s Example

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 8:28 These were heads of the fathers, by their generations, chief men. These dwelt in Jerusalem.

This passage lists the heads of the fathers according to their generations who lived in Jerusalem.

1. "God's Chosen People: A Look at the People of Jerusalem"

2. "Following Our Ancestors: Reflecting on the Heads of Fathers"

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.)

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 Chronicles 8:29 And at Gibeon dwelt the father of Gibeon; whose wife's name was Maachah:

Maachah was the wife of the father of Gibeon.

1. The Importance of Marriage and Family - Drawing on the example of Maachah and the father of Gibeon, this will explore the importance of making strong marriage and family relationships.

2. Making Commitment to Others - This will discuss the importance of making commitments to others, with the example of Maachah and the father of Gibeon.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 8:30 And his firstborn son Abdon, and Zur, and Kish, and Baal, and Nadab,

The passage mentions five sons of Benjamin: Abdon, Zur, Kish, Baal, and Nadab.

1. The Strength of a Family: A Look at the Sons of Benjamin

2. The Faithfulness of Fathers: Passing On a Legacy of Faith

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 8:31 And Gedor, and Ahio, and Zacher.

Genealogical list of the descendants of Benjamin, which includes Gedor, Ahio, and Zacher.

1. The Importance of Knowing Our Ancestors

2. Appreciating the Legacy of our Forefathers

1. Ruth 4:18-22 - Ruth's Genealogy

2. Matthew 1:1-17 - Jesus' Genealogy

1 Chronicles 8:32 And Mikloth begat Shimeah. And these also dwelt with their brethren in Jerusalem, over against them.

Mikloth and his descendents lived in Jerusalem near their relatives.

1. God's people have a strong bond of family and fellowship.

2. The power of community and how it can help us to follow Christ.

1. Acts 2:41-47 - The early church was devoted to fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer.

2. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

1 Chronicles 8:33 And Ner begat Kish, and Kish begat Saul, and Saul begat Jonathan, and Malchishua, and Abinadab, and Eshbaal.

This passage describes the genealogy of Saul, the first king of Israel, tracing his lineage back to Ner.

1. God's Sovereignty in Establishing Kings: How God's Hand Directed the Appointment of Saul

2. The Faithfulness of the Ancestors: How the Faithful Lineage of Saul Prepared Him to be King

1. Genesis 17:6 - "And I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you."

2. Jeremiah 33:17 - "For thus says the Lord: David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel."

1 Chronicles 8:34 And the son of Jonathan was Meribbaal; and Meribbaal begat Micah.

Jonathan had a son named Meribbaal, who then fathered Micah.

1. Jonathan's Legacy: The Importance of Passing Down a Legacy to the Next Generation.

2. The Faithful Lineage: The Power of Faithful Generations.

1. Romans 15:4 - For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

2. Deuteronomy 6:7-9 - 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.

1 Chronicles 8:35 And the sons of Micah were, Pithon, and Melech, and Tarea, and Ahaz.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 8 reveals that Micah had four sons: Pithon, Melech, Tarea, and Ahaz.

1. "The Faithfulness of God's Promises: A Study of 1 Chronicles 8"

2. "A Look at the Family of Micah: The Importance of Legacy"

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

1 Chronicles 8:36 And Ahaz begat Jehoadah; and Jehoadah begat Alemeth, and Azmaveth, and Zimri; and Zimri begat Moza,

The passage discusses a genealogy of Ahaz to Moza.

1. The importance of family and ancestry in our lives

2. The importance of valuing our past to understand our present

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus

2. Psalm 16:6 - The lines of the righteous will endure forever

1 Chronicles 8:37 And Moza begat Binea: Rapha was his son, Eleasah his son, Azel his son:

Moza was the father of Binea, Rapha, Eleasah, and Azel.

1. The Importance of Family - How God Connects Us Through Our Ancestors

2. The Power of Faith - How God Can Use People of All Backgrounds

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. 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 Chronicles 8:38 And Azel had six sons, whose names are these, Azrikam, Bocheru, and Ishmael, and Sheariah, and Obadiah, and Hanan. All these were the sons of Azel.

Azel had six sons, named Azrikam, Bocheru, Ishmael, Sheariah, Obadiah, and Hanan.

1. Our families are precious gifts from God and should be treasured.

2. We must accept our roles in the family structure and be faithful to the responsibilities that come with them.

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 6:1-4 - 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.

1 Chronicles 8:39 And the sons of Eshek his brother were, Ulam his firstborn, Jehush the second, and Eliphelet the third.

The passage lists three sons of Eshek, Ulam, Jehush, and Eliphelet, in order of birth.

1. The Power of the Firstborn: Exploring the Significance of Ulam in 1 Chronicles 8:39

2. Living as a Family: The Example of Eshek and His Sons in 1 Chronicles 8:39

1. Genesis 25:21-23

2. Romans 8:17-18

1 Chronicles 8:40 And the sons of Ulam were mighty men of valour, archers, and had many sons, and sons' sons, an hundred and fifty. All these are of the sons of Benjamin.

The sons of Ulam were brave men and skilled archers who had many descendants, totaling up to 150, and all of them were from the tribe of Benjamin.

1. "Heroes of the Faith: The Courage of Ulam's Descendants"

2. "Valor and Legacy: The Sons of Benjamin"

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."

1 Chronicles chapter 9 continues the genealogical account, focusing on the returning exiles from Babylon and their roles in Jerusalem.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by listing the people of Israel who returned from exile both from the tribes of Judah, Benjamin, Ephraim, and Manasseh. It emphasizes their genealogies and mentions specific individuals by name (1 Chronicles 9:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative then focuses on the priests and Levites who resided in Jerusalem. It provides details about their duties in serving at the temple and mentions key figures such as Azariah (Seraiah), Ahitub, Zadok, and others (1 Chronicles 9:10-13).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to the Levitical gatekeepers the porters who were responsible for guarding the entrances to the tabernacle or temple. It lists various gatekeepers by name and highlights their roles within this important task (1 Chronicles 9:17-27).

4th Paragraph:The narrative briefly mentions other Levites who were responsible for various tasks related to worship such as musicians or overseers of utensils and provides details about their duties (1 Chronicles 9:28-34).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning specific individuals from various tribes who lived in Jerusalem such as Saul's family and highlights their occupations or responsibilities within the city (1 Chronicles 9:35-44).

In summary, Chapter nine of 1 Chronicles depicts genealogical records, of returning exiles. Highlighting people from different tribes, emphasizing priests and Levites. Mentioning gatekeepers' roles, noting other tasks related to worship. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical foundation for understanding those who returned from exile, underscoring the importance of priesthood, Levitical service, and gatekeeping duties within Jerusalem.

1 Chronicles 9:1 So all Israel were reckoned by genealogies; and, behold, they were written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah, who were carried away to Babylon for their transgression.

The genealogies of all of Israel were written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah, who were exiled to Babylon for their sins.

1. God's Grace is Greater than our Sin

2. Choosing to Follow God's Path

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

1 Chronicles 9:2 Now the first inhabitants that dwelt in their possessions in their cities were, the Israelites, the priests, Levites, and the Nethinims.

The first inhabitants of Israel were the Israelites, priests, Levites, and Nethinims.

1. God calls us to build a kingdom of faith-filled people.

2. God blesses those who serve Him faithfully.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

2. 1 Chronicles 15:16 - Then David spoke to the chiefs of the Levites to appoint their brethren to be the singers accompanied by instruments of music, stringed instruments, harps, and cymbals, by raising the voice with resounding joy.

1 Chronicles 9:3 And in Jerusalem dwelt of the children of Judah, and of the children of Benjamin, and of the children of Ephraim, and Manasseh;

The children of Judah, Benjamin, Ephraim, and Manasseh lived in Jerusalem.

1. The importance of living in a holy city.

2. The importance of living in unity and harmony.

1. Psalm 122:3 - "Jerusalem is built as a city that is compact together."

2. Romans 15:5-7 - "May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Chronicles 9:4 Uthai the son of Ammihud, the son of Omri, the son of Imri, the son of Bani, of the children of Pharez the son of Judah.

The passage traces the lineage of Uthai, a descendant of Pharez, the son of Judah.

1. The importance of understanding our family heritage and lineage.

2. How the Lord works in and through generations.

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. Isaiah 46:4 - And even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save.

1 Chronicles 9:5 And of the Shilonites; Asaiah the firstborn, and his sons.

Passage This passage mentions Asaiah the firstborn and his sons of the Shilonites.

1. Spiritual Legacy: Passing on Faith to Future Generations

2. Raising Godly Children: Establishing a Biblical Foundation

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 6:5-7 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.

1 Chronicles 9:6 And of the sons of Zerah; Jeuel, and their brethren, six hundred and ninety.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 9:6 recounts the number of sons of Zerah, which was six hundred and ninety.

1. "What can we learn about God's faithfulness from the number of Zerah's sons?"

2. "How can we have faith in God's plan for our lives, even when the details are uncertain?"

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 Chronicles 9:7 And of the sons of Benjamin; Sallu the son of Meshullam, the son of Hodaviah, the son of Hasenuah,

This passage mentions Sallu, the son of Meshullam, the son of Hodaviah, the son of Hasenuah, all of whom were descendants of Benjamin.

1. The importance of honoring our family lineage.

2. The significance of God's chosen lineage.

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. Amen."

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."

1 Chronicles 9:8 And Ibneiah the son of Jeroham, and Elah the son of Uzzi, the son of Michri, and Meshullam the son of Shephathiah, the son of Reuel, the son of Ibnijah;

Ibneiah, Elah, Michri, Meshullam, Shephathiah, Reuel, and Ibnijah are mentioned in 1 Chronicles 9:8.

1. The Bond of Brotherhood: Examining the Examples of Ibneiah, Elah, Michri, Meshullam, Shephathiah, Reuel, and Ibnijah

2. The Power of Family: Exploring the Connections of Ibneiah, Elah, Michri, Meshullam, Shephathiah, Reuel, and Ibnijah

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. Proverbs 18:24 - "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

1 Chronicles 9:9 And their brethren, according to their generations, nine hundred and fifty and six. All these men were chief of the fathers in the house of their fathers.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 9:9 states that there were 956 descendants of the Israelites, all of whom were leaders in their families.

1. God Calls Us to Lead - Discussing the importance of leading our families in the ways of God.

2. God s Faithful Descendants - Examining the faith and resilience of the Israelites descendants.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 9:10 And of the priests; Jedaiah, and Jehoiarib, and Jachin,

The passage mentions three priests, Jedaiah, Jehoiarib, and Jachin.

1. "The Importance of Faithful Priests"

2. "Living a Life of Worship and Service"

1. Hebrews 13:7-8, "Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

2. 1 Timothy 3:1-5, "The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money."

1 Chronicles 9:11 And Azariah the son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, the ruler of the house of God;

Azariah was the ruler of the house of God and was the son of Hilkiah.

1. God Calls Us To Lead: A Study of Azariah's Example

2. The Importance of Righteous Leadership: Lessons From Azariah

1. 1 Chronicles 9:11

2. Exodus 18:21-22: Moreover you shall select from all the people able men, 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. And let them judge the people at all times. Then it will be that every great matter they shall bring to you, but every small matter they themselves shall judge. So it will be easier for you, for they will bear the burden with you.

1 Chronicles 9:12 And Adaiah the son of Jeroham, the son of Pashur, the son of Malchijah, and Maasiai the son of Adiel, the son of Jahzerah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Meshillemith, the son of Immer;

This passage lists several descendants of Immer, a man from the tribe of Levi.

1. The importance of knowing our family history.

2. The importance of honoring our ancestors.

1. Exodus 20:12 "Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

2. Proverbs 15:20 A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man despiseth his mother.

1 Chronicles 9:13 And their brethren, heads of the house of their fathers, a thousand and seven hundred and threescore; very able men for the work of the service of the house of God.

This passage describes the number of very capable people who were appointed to serve in the house of God.

1. The importance of serving God with all our might.

2. The value of using our talents for the glory of God.

1. Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,

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 Chronicles 9:14 And of the Levites; Shemaiah the son of Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, of the sons of Merari;

Shemaiah, the son of Hasshub, was a Levite of the sons of Merari.

1. The Power of Generational Faithfulness

2. The Importance of Knowing Our Heritage

1. Joshua 24:15 - "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord"

2. Hebrews 6:12 - "so that you may not be sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises."

1 Chronicles 9:15 And Bakbakkar, Heresh, and Galal, and Mattaniah the son of Micah, the son of Zichri, the son of Asaph;

The passage mentions Bakbakkar, Heresh, Galal, and Mattaniah as the sons of Micah, the son of Zichri, and the son of Asaph.

1. The importance of honoring one's ancestors.

2. The power of the generational 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. Isaiah 59:19 - "So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun; for he will come like a rushing stream, which the breath of the Lord drives."

1 Chronicles 9:16 And Obadiah the son of Shemaiah, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun, and Berechiah the son of Asa, the son of Elkanah, that dwelt in the villages of the Netophathites.

The passage mentions Obadiah, Shemaiah, Galal, Jeduthun, Berechiah, Asa, and Elkanah, who all lived in the Netophathite villages.

1. The Power of Community: Finding Strength in our Connections

2. Faithful Living: Examples of Dedication to God

1. 1 Chronicles 9:16

2. Hebrews 10:25 - "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,"

1 Chronicles 9:17 And the porters were, Shallum, and Akkub, and Talmon, and Ahiman, and their brethren: Shallum was the chief;

The passage mentions Shallum and his four brethren who were the porters.

1. The Value of Service: Lessons from Shallum and His Brethren

2. Teamwork: The Power of Working Together

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 9:18 Who hitherto waited in the king's gate eastward: they were porters in the companies of the children of Levi.

This passage describes the gatekeepers of King Solomon's court, who were from the Levi tribe.

1. The importance of faithful service to God.

2. The value of fulfilling one's duties with diligence and excellence.

1. 1 Corinthians 4:2- Therefore, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.

2. Colossians 3:23- And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.

1 Chronicles 9:19 And Shallum the son of Kore, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah, and his brethren, of the house of his father, the Korahites, were over the work of the service, keepers of the gates of the tabernacle: and their fathers, being over the host of the LORD, were keepers of the entry.

Shallum and his brethren of the Korahites were tasked with the responsibility of overseeing the work of service at the entrance and gates of the tabernacle, following in the footsteps of their fathers who had served the Lord.

1. Faith Through Generations: Examining the Legacy of the Korahites

2. The Importance of Serving the Lord: Lessons from the Korahites

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-7 - 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. Psalm 105:36-37 - He smote also all the firstborn in their land, the chief of all their strength. He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes.

1 Chronicles 9:20 And Phinehas the son of Eleazar was the ruler over them in time past, and the LORD was with him.

Phinehas the son of Eleazar was the ruler in the past and the LORD was with him.

1. The Power of God's Presence - How the Lord being with us can bring transformation in our lives.

2. The Authority of Leadership - Understanding the importance of our leaders in our lives and communities.

1. Ephesians 5:21 - submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

2. Psalm 46:7 - The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

1 Chronicles 9:21 And Zechariah the son of Meshelemiah was porter of the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Zechariah the son of Meshelemiah was appointed as the doorkeeper of the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The importance of trusting God with our callings.

2. Serving God with joy and humility.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 9:22 All these which were chosen to be porters in the gates were two hundred and twelve. These were reckoned by their genealogy in their villages, whom David and Samuel the seer did ordain in their set office.

This passage describes the selection of 212 individuals for the gatekeeping role in the service of David and Samuel.

1. God s Provision for His People: The Appointment of Gatekeepers

2. Serving in the Lord s House: The Calling of Gatekeepers

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. John 10:1-2 - Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

1 Chronicles 9:23 So they and their children had the oversight of the gates of the house of the LORD, namely, the house of the tabernacle, by wards.

The Levites and their descendants were responsible for overseeing the gates of the house of the Lord and the tabernacle.

1. The importance of faithfully serving the Lord.

2. The power of generational faithfulness.

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. Hebrews 13:15-17 - 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. 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.

1 Chronicles 9:24 In four quarters were the porters, toward the east, west, north, and south.

The porters of the temple were divided into four groups, facing each direction.

1. The Importance of Unity in the Church

2. Serving Others in Love

1. John 17:20-23

2. Philippians 2:3-4

1 Chronicles 9:25 And their brethren, which were in their villages, were to come after seven days from time to time with them.

The people of Israel were to come to Jerusalem every seven days to serve in the temple.

1. The importance of faithfulness to God and His commands.

2. The power of obedience and how it can bring us closer 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 and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

13 And to keep the commandments of the Lord and His statutes which I command you today for your good?"

2. Psalm 100:2 - "Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing."

1 Chronicles 9:26 For these Levites, the four chief porters, were in their set office, and were over the chambers and treasuries of the house of God.

The Levites were responsible for the maintenance and security of the chambers and treasuries of the house of God.

1. The importance of service in God's house

2. The importance of stewardship in God's house

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

2. 1 Corinthians 4:1-2 (Stewards of God's mysteries)

1 Chronicles 9:27 And they lodged round about the house of God, because the charge was upon them, and the opening thereof every morning pertained to them.

The Levites were responsible for taking care of the house of God by staying there and opening it in the morning.

1. The importance of being responsible and taking care of God's house.

2. The value of fulfilling our duties in the service of God.

1. Exodus 35:19 - All 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.

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.

1 Chronicles 9:28 And certain of them had the charge of the ministering vessels, that they should bring them in and out by tale.

Some people in Chronicles 9:28 were responsible for taking care of the vessels used for worship services.

1. God entrusts us with responsibilities to serve Him and His people.

2. We must be faithful stewards in the tasks He has given us.

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. Matthew 25:14 30 - Jesus' parable of the talents.

1 Chronicles 9:29 Some of them also were appointed to oversee the vessels, and all the instruments of the sanctuary, and the fine flour, and the wine, and the oil, and the frankincense, and the spices.

This passage describes the appointed roles of some people to oversee the vessels, instruments, flour, wine, oil, frankincense, and spices in the sanctuary.

1. The importance of faithful stewardship of the resources God has entrusted to us.

2. The blessing of being entrusted with a special mission by God.

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

2. John 12:1-8 - Mary anointing Jesus with expensive perfume.

1 Chronicles 9:30 And some of the sons of the priests made the ointment of the spices.

Some of the sons of the priests prepared ointment of spices.

1. The importance of having a sense of purpose and direction in life.

2. The importance of taking time to appreciate the little things in life.

1. 2 Chronicles 6:4 - And he said, Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who has with his hands fulfilled what he promised with his mouth to my father David.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

1 Chronicles 9:31 And Mattithiah, one of the Levites, who was the firstborn of Shallum the Korahite, had the set office over the things that were made in the pans.

Mattithiah, a Levite and firstborn of Shallum the Korahite, held the position of overseer for the items made in the pans.

1. The Importance of Serving God in Every Role: A Look at Mattithiah

2. Valuing Every Duty in the Kingdom: An Illustration from 1 Chronicles 9

1. Exodus 35:17-19; God's instructions to the Israelites to make items from pans

2. Colossians 3:23; Doing one's work as unto the Lord

1 Chronicles 9:32 And other of their brethren, of the sons of the Kohathites, were over the shewbread, to prepare it every sabbath.

The Kohathites were responsible for the preparation of the showbread every sabbath.

1: The importance of preparation for the weekly Sabbath.

2: The duty of faithful service to God's commandments.

1: Exodus 40:23 - "And he set the bread in order upon it before the LORD; as the LORD had commanded Moses."

2: Hebrews 4:9 - "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God."

1 Chronicles 9:33 And these are the singers, chief of the fathers of the Levites, who remaining in the chambers were free: for they were employed in that work day and night.

The singers of the Levites were exempt from other duties and were free to devote their time to singing day and night.

1. We can be free from the bonds of this world when we devote ourselves to the Lord's work.

2. Devote your time to the Lord and you will find true freedom.

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. Proverbs 28:19 - Whoever works his land will have plenty of bread, but whoever follows worthless pursuits lacks sense.

1 Chronicles 9:34 These chief fathers of the Levites were chief throughout their generations; these dwelt at Jerusalem.

This passage describes the ancestry of the Levites and states that they dwelt in Jerusalem.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the Levites who have been faithful to Him for generations.

2. God's love for His people is seen in His faithfulness to the Levites and His provision of Jerusalem as their home.

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 78:68-69 - But he chose the tribe of Judah, Mount Zion, which he loves. He built his sanctuary like the heights, like the earth that he has founded forever.

1 Chronicles 9:35 And in Gibeon dwelt the father of Gibeon, Jehiel, whose wife's name was Maachah,

Jehiel, the father of Gibeon, lived in Gibeon with his wife Maachah.

1. The Power of Marriage: A Study of Jehiel and Maachah

2. Living a Life of Contentment: The Example of Jehiel

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Submission in Marriage

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - Contentment in All Circumstances

1 Chronicles 9:36 And his firstborn son Abdon, then Zur, and Kish, and Baal, and Ner, and Nadab,

Passage The passage mentions the names of six sons of Shaaph, the son of Rechab.

1. God's Plan for Family: Lessons from the Sons of Shaaph

2. How to Build a Successful Family: Biblical Examples

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 9:37 And Gedor, and Ahio, and Zechariah, and Mikloth.

The passage mentions four people, Gedor, Ahio, Zechariah, and Mikloth.

1: God calls us to be faithful to Him even in difficult times, just as He called Gedor, Ahio, Zechariah, and Mikloth.

2: We have a responsibility to obey God's commands, just as Gedor, Ahio, Zechariah, and Mikloth did.

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: Joshua 24:15 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.

1 Chronicles 9:38 And Mikloth begat Shimeam. And they also dwelt with their brethren at Jerusalem, over against their brethren.

Mikloth and his descendants lived in Jerusalem with their relatives.

1. The importance of family and community.

2. Finding strength in relationships.

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 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

1 Chronicles 9:39 And Ner begat Kish; and Kish begat Saul; and Saul begat Jonathan, and Malchishua, and Abinadab, and Eshbaal.

This passage is about the genealogical lineage of Saul, the first king of Israel.

1. God's faithfulness and sovereignty over generations.

2. The importance of honoring our ancestors.

1. 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.

2. Joshua 4:21-24 - He said to the people of Israel, In the future your children will ask, What do these stones mean? Then you can tell them, It was because the waters of the Jordan were cut off in front of the ark of the Lord s covenant. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones will always remind the people of Israel of what happened here.

1 Chronicles 9:40 And the son of Jonathan was Meribbaal: and Meribbaal begat Micah.

Jonathan had a son named Meribbaal, who was the father of Micah.

1. The legacy of Fathers: The importance of passing down knowledge and guidance to the next generation.

2. The Power of Sons: How the children of powerful leaders can have a lasting impact on society.

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 so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

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 Chronicles 9:41 And the sons of Micah were, Pithon, and Melech, and Tahrea, and Ahaz.

This passage mentions four sons of Micah: Pithon, Melech, Tahrea, and Ahaz.

1. The Power of Family: How Our Families Shape Our Lives

2. The Importance of Knowing Our Roots

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.

1 Chronicles 9:42 And Ahaz begat Jarah; and Jarah begat Alemeth, and Azmaveth, and Zimri; and Zimri begat Moza;

Ahaz was the father of Jarah, who was the father of Alemeth, Azmaveth, and Zimri; and Zimri was the father of Moza.

1. The generational impact of faithfulness.

2. The importance of honoring our ancestors.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 9:43 And Moza begat Binea; and Rephaiah his son, Eleasah his son, Azel his son.

The passage describes the genealogy of Moza, his son Rephaiah, his son Eleasah, and his son Azel.

1. The Power of Family: Learning from the Genealogies in 1 Chronicles

2. The Blessing of Legacy: Passing God's Word from Generation to Generation

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The Genealogy of Jesus Christ

2. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD.

1 Chronicles 9:44 And Azel had six sons, whose names are these, Azrikam, Bocheru, and Ishmael, and Sheariah, and Obadiah, and Hanan: these were the sons of Azel.

This passage mentions the six sons of Azel: Azrikam, Bocheru, Ishmael, Sheariah, Obadiah, and Hanan.

1. The Importance of Family: A Study in 1 Chronicles 9:44. 2. Learning from the Legacy of Azel: A Look at 1 Chronicles 9:44.

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.

1 Chronicles chapter 10 recounts the tragic downfall of King Saul and his final battle against the Philistines.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing the battle between Israel and the Philistines on Mount Gilboa. The Israelites are defeated, and Saul's sons Jonathan, Abinadab, and Malchishua are killed in the battle (1 Chronicles 10:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on King Saul himself. As he faces imminent capture by the enemy, he asks his armor-bearer to kill him to avoid being tortured. However, when his armor-bearer refuses, Saul falls on his own sword and takes his own life (1 Chronicles 10:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights that this tragic event leads to a great defeat for Israel as many soldiers flee from their positions. The Philistines take possession of Saul's body and desecrate it by displaying it in their temples (1 Chronicles 10:5-7).

4th Paragraph:The narrative then shifts to the valiant men of Jabesh-gilead who hear about what happened to Saul's body. Under cover of darkness, they retrieve Saul's body from the temple where it was displayed and give him a proper burial (1 Chronicles 10:8-12).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by emphasizing that because of King Saul's disobedience toward God specifically regarding seeking guidance from mediums instead of relying on God the Lord took away his kingdom and gave it to David instead (1 Chronicles 10:13-14).

In summary, Chapter ten of 1 Chronicles depicts the downfall of King Saul, his defeat against the Philistines. Highlighting tragic events in battle, the deaths of Jonathan and other sons. Mentioning Saul's suicide, and subsequent desecration of his body. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account highlighting consequences for disobedience, underscoring God's judgment upon Saul for seeking guidance from forbidden sources.

1 Chronicles 10:1 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 attacked Israel and the Israelites were defeated, many dying on Mount Gilboa.

1. "In the Face of Adversity: Resilience and Faith in God"

2. "The Strength of God's People in Times of Struggle"

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 10:2 And the Philistines followed hard after Saul, and after his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malchishua, the sons of Saul.

The Philistines killed Saul's three sons, Jonathan, Abinadab, and Malchishua.

1. God is in Control: Accepting His Sovereignty in Difficult Circumstances

2. The Power of God's Faithfulness: Standing Firm Despite Loss

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. 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 Chronicles 10:3 And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him, and he was wounded of the archers.

Saul is wounded in a battle by archers.

1. The power of faith in the face of adversity

2. The importance of trusting in God even in the midst of a difficult 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. Luke 18:27 - And he said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.

1 Chronicles 10:4 Then said Saul to his armourbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and abuse me. But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. So Saul took a sword, and fell upon it.

Saul, facing capture by the Philistines, asked his armourbearer to kill him, but his armourbearer refused. Saul then killed himself with his own sword.

1. God's Sovereignty: How We Seek to Understand Unanswered Prayers

2. The Power of Fear: How It Can Lead Us Astray

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. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

1 Chronicles 10:5 And when his armourbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise on the sword, and died.

Saul and his armor-bearer died by their own swords after Saul was killed in battle.

1. The Power of Sacrifice - how Saul and his armor-bearer chose to die for a higher cause.

2. The Perils of Pride - how Saul's pride lead to his downfall.

1. Matthew 16:24-26 - Jesus' call to take up one's own cross and follow Him.

2. Romans 5:3-5 - The power of joy in suffering for God's sake.

1 Chronicles 10:6 So Saul died, and his three sons, and all his house died together.

Saul and all his family died together.

1. We should learn to live our lives in a way that glorifies God and to accept His will for our lives.

2. We should be prepared for our time on earth to come to an end, and to make sure we have a proper relationship with God.

1. Romans 14:7-8 - For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord.

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.

1 Chronicles 10:7 And when all the men of Israel that were in the valley saw that they fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, then they forsook their cities, and fled: and the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

The Israelites saw that Saul and his sons had been killed, so they fled their cities, allowing the Philistines to take over.

1. God's sovereignty in times of despair and defeat.

2. The consequences of disobedience and rebellion.

1. 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.

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 Chronicles 10:8 And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his sons fallen in mount Gilboa.

Saul and his sons were killed in battle on Mount Gilboa and the Philistines found them the next day.

1. The importance of trusting in God in times of difficulty.

2. The danger of pride and arrogance.

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 4:6 "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. "

1 Chronicles 10:9 And when they had stripped him, they took his head, and his armour, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to carry tidings unto their idols, and to the people.

Saul and his armor were stripped and his head was sent to the Philistines as a sign of their victory.

1. How We Live Matters More Than How We Die

2. The Consequences of 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. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

1 Chronicles 10:10 And they put his armour in the house of their gods, and fastened his head in the temple of Dagon.

Saul's armour was placed in the house of the Philistines' gods and his head was fastened in the temple of their god, Dagon.

1. The consequences of disobedience to God s will.

2. The power of idolatry.

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 10:11 And when all Jabeshgilead heard all that the Philistines had done to Saul,

Jabeshgilead heard news of what the Philistines had done to Saul.

1. The Power of News: How to Respond to Difficult Circumstances

2. Perseverance in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 12:12 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

2. Proverbs 24:10 - If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small.

1 Chronicles 10:12 They arose, all the valiant men, and took away the body of Saul, and the bodies of his sons, and brought them to Jabesh, and buried their bones under the oak in Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

The valiant men of Israel take the bodies of Saul and his sons to Jabesh and bury them under an oak tree, and then fast for seven days.

1. God's protection to those who are loyal to him even after their death.

2. The importance of mourning and remembering our loved ones.

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. 1 Corinthians 15:26 - The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

1 Chronicles 10:13 So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, even against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it;

Saul died for disobeying the Lord and seeking guidance from a medium.

1. The importance of obedience to God

2. The danger of seeking guidance from a medium

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - Be careful to obey all the commands of the Lord

2. Leviticus 19:31 - Do not turn to mediums or necromancers

1 Chronicles 10:14 And enquired not of the LORD: therefore he slew him, and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse.

Saul disobeyed the Lord and was punished by being slain and the kingdom was given to David.

1. The consequences of disobedience to God.

2. The importance of trusting in the Lord.

1. Jeremiah 17:5-8 - Trusting in the Lord rather than man.

2. Romans 6:16 - The consequences of disobeying God.

1 Chronicles chapter 11 focuses on the establishment of David as the king of Israel and his mighty men who supported him.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting the gathering of all the tribes of Israel at Hebron, where they anoint David as their king. It emphasizes that it was God's will for David to reign over Israel (1 Chronicles 11:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative then introduces David's mighty men valiant warriors who played significant roles in his reign. It mentions individuals such as Jashobeam, Eleazar, and Shammah, who demonstrated great courage and performed remarkable feats in battle (1 Chronicles 11:10-14).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to a particular incident where three of David's mighty men break through enemy lines to bring him water from a well near Bethlehem. This act demonstrates their loyalty and dedication to their leader (1 Chronicles 11:15-19).

4th Paragraph:The account lists the names of other notable warriors among David's mighty men and describes some of their heroic deeds in battle. These individuals displayed exceptional valor and were highly esteemed by both David and the people (1 Chronicles 11:20-47).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning various administrative appointments made by King David. It highlights key officials responsible for different aspects of governance within his kingdom, including military commanders, priests, scribes, and others (1 Chronicles 11:48-54).

In summary, Chapter eleven of 1 Chronicles depicts the establishment of King David, and his mighty men who supported him. Highlighting anointing at Hebron, and listing valiant warriors. Mentioning notable acts in battle, demonstrating loyalty and courage. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing the rise of King David, underscoring the importance of loyal companionship and bravery among his mighty men in establishing his reign over Israel.

1 Chronicles 11:1 Then all Israel gathered themselves to David unto Hebron, saying, Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh.

All of Israel gathered together to make David their King in Hebron, declaring him to be part of their family.

1. David s Kingdom: The Power of Unity

2. Walking in Obedience: The Blessings of Loyalty

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. 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 Chronicles 11:2 And moreover in time past, even when Saul was king, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel: and the LORD thy God said unto thee, Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be ruler over my people Israel.

David was chosen by God to lead and feed the people of Israel, even when Saul was king.

1. God's faithfulness in appointing a leader for His people

2. The importance of trusting and obeying 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 33:3 "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

1 Chronicles 11:3 Therefore came all the elders of Israel to the king to Hebron; and David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the LORD; and they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of the LORD by Samuel.

The elders of Israel came together to Hebron and made a covenant with David, anointing him as king of Israel in accordance with the word of the Lord through Samuel.

1. We must recognize God's sovereignty in the decisions we make.

2. We must remain obedient to God's will and Word.

1. Psalm 2:6-7 Yet I have set my king on my holy hill of Zion. I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

2. Psalm 89:27 And I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.

1 Chronicles 11:4 And David and all Israel went to Jerusalem, which is Jebus; where the Jebusites were, the inhabitants of the land.

David and the Israelites went to Jerusalem, which was previously inhabited by the Jebusites.

1. God's people can conquer any obstacle through faith.

2. God leads us to places 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. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn.

1 Chronicles 11:5 And the inhabitants of Jebus said to David, Thou shalt not come hither. Nevertheless David took the castle of Zion, which is the city of David.

The inhabitants of Jebus refused entry to David, but he was able to capture the castle of Zion, the city of David.

1. The Strength of Faith: David s Victory at the Castle of Zion

2. Overcoming Challenges and Adversity: The Story of David and Jebus

1. Psalm 51:2 Wash me throughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

2. Isaiah 40:29 He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

1 Chronicles 11:6 And David said, Whosoever smiteth the Jebusites first shall be chief and captain. So Joab the son of Zeruiah went first up, and was chief.

David declared that whoever would strike down the Jebusites first would be made chief and captain, and Joab, the son of Zeruiah, was the first to do so and was given the title.

1. The importance of taking initiative and being first in the journey of faith.

2. The rewards of faithful obedience and courage.

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 Chronicles 11:7 And David dwelt in the castle; therefore they called it the city of David.

David moved into the city of Jerusalem, which was later named the City of David in his honor.

1. God rewards faithfulness and obedience.

2. The power of a legacy.

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 10:7 - The memory of the righteous is a blessing, but the name of the wicked will rot.

1 Chronicles 11:8 And he built the city round about, even from Millo round about: and Joab repaired the rest of the city.

Joab built and repaired the city of Jerusalem.

1. The Importance of Building Up: A Study on Joab and His Commitment to Jerusalem

2. The Rewards of Faithful Building: Joab's Legacy in Jerusalem

1. Ezekiel 22:30 - And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:12-15 - 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. If any man s work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

1 Chronicles 11:9 So David waxed greater and greater: for the LORD of hosts was with him.

David experienced great success because God was with him.

1. God is always with us and will help us succeed.

2. We can experience great success if we follow God's will.

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."

1 Chronicles 11:10 These also are the chief 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.

David was made king of Israel with the help of mighty men who had strengthened themselves with him, as per the word of the Lord.

1. The Power of Unity: Learning from the Mighty Men of David

2. Obedience to the Lord: David's Kingship According to God's Will

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. 2 Chronicles 1:7-12 - In that night God appeared to Solomon, and said to him, Ask what I shall give you. And Solomon said to God, You have shown great and steadfast love to David my father, and have made me king in his place. O Lord God, let your word to David my father be now fulfilled, for you have made me king over a people as numerous as the dust of the earth. Give me now wisdom and knowledge to go out and come in before this people, for who can govern this your great people? It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.

1 Chronicles 11:11 And this is the number of the mighty men whom David had; Jashobeam, an Hachmonite, the chief of the captains: he lifted up his spear against three hundred slain by him at one time.

The passage recounts the number of mighty men David had and tells of Jashobeam's bravery in single-handedly slaying three hundred men.

1. God has gifted us with courage and strength to overcome any challenge.

2. We can learn from David and Jashobeam's example of faith and courage to face trials with strength.

1. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.

2. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

1 Chronicles 11:12 And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, who was one of the three mighties.

Eleazar, the son of Dodo, was one of the three mighties.

1. The Power of Three: How a Strong Community Can Accomplish Great Things

2. Becoming a Mighty Warrior: The Story of Eleazar

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 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, 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 Chronicles 11:13 He was with David at Pasdammim, and there the Philistines were gathered together to battle, where was a parcel of ground full of barley; and the people fled from before the Philistines.

David fought against the Philistines in Pasdammim, where there was a field of barley. The people fled from the Philistines.

1. God will always be with us when we fight against our enemies.

2. God will always protect us against our adversaries.

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."

1 Chronicles 11:14 And they set themselves in the midst of that parcel, and delivered it, and slew the Philistines; and the LORD saved them by a great deliverance.

A group of people set themselves in the midst of a difficult situation and were delivered from it by the Lord.

1. God will always provide deliverance if we trust in Him.

2. We can have faith even in the midst of 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. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

1 Chronicles 11:15 Now three of the thirty captains went down to the rock to David, into the cave of Adullam; and the host of the Philistines encamped in the valley of Rephaim.

Three of David's captains went to the cave of Adullam to meet with him while the Philistines camped in the valley of Rephaim.

1. God guides us even in the darkest of times

2. The power of faith and trust in God

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 11:16 And David was then in the hold, and the Philistines' garrison was then at Bethlehem.

David was in a stronghold and the Philistines had a garrison stationed at Bethlehem.

1. Trusting in God During Times of Adversity

2. The Strength of Faith in the Face of Opposition

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?

1 Chronicles 11:17 And David longed, and said, Oh that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem, that is at the gate!

David longs for a drink of water from the well at the gate of Bethlehem.

1. The Thirst for God: Quenching our Spiritual Yearning

2. Overcoming Desperation and Discouragement: Finding Strength in the Lord

1. Isaiah 55:1 - Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

1 Chronicles 11:18 And the three 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: but David would not drink of it, but poured it out to the LORD,

Three men from David's army broke through the ranks of the Philistines and took water from the well of Bethlehem and brought it back to David. However, David refused to drink it and instead gave it to the LORD.

1. The Power of Self-Sacrifice: Examining David's decision to forgo his own needs and pour out the water to the LORD.

2. Following the Lord's Will: Exploring the importance of trusting in God's plan and rejecting our own desires.

1. Matthew 26:39 - "And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt."

2. Philippians 2:3 - "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves."

1 Chronicles 11:19 And said, My God forbid it me, that I should do this thing: shall I drink the blood of these men that have put their lives in jeopardy? for with the jeopardy of their lives they brought it. Therefore he would not drink it. These things did these three mightiest.

Three mightiest men chose not to drink the blood of those who put their lives in jeopardy.

1. The Power of Self-Sacrifice: Learning from the Three Mightiest Men

2. The Life-Changing Power of Selfless Love

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 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 Chronicles 11:20 And Abishai the brother of Joab, he was chief of the three: for lifting up his spear against three hundred, he slew them, and had a name among the three.

Abishai, the brother of Joab, was the leader of the three mightiest warriors. He was renowned for killing 300 men with his spear.

1. Courage in the Face of Fear: How Abishai Overcame Adversity

2. The Power of Faith: How Abishai's Belief Strengthened His Courage

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. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

1 Chronicles 11:21 Of the three, he was more honourable than the two; for he was their captain: howbeit he attained not to the first three.

Three men, of whom one was more honourable than the other two, were appointed as captains. However, none of them were the first three.

1. The importance of honour and humility

2. Achieving greatness in the eyes of God

1. Proverbs 15:33 - "The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility."

2. Luke 14:11 - "For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

1 Chronicles 11:22 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: also he went down and slew a lion in a pit in a snowy day.

Benaiah was a valiant man from Kabzeel who slew two lionlike men of Moab and a lion in a pit in a snowy day.

1. Courage in the Face of Adversity

2. Trusting God in Difficult Situations

1. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.

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 Chronicles 11:23 And he slew an Egyptian, a man of great stature, five cubits high; and in the Egyptian's hand was a spear like a weaver's beam; and 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 fought and killed an Egyptian man with a spear.

1. God's faithfulness and protection in times of trouble

2. The power of faith and courage in battle

1. 1 Samuel 17:45-47

2. Joshua 1:9

1 Chronicles 11:24 These things did Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and had the name among the three mighties.

Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, was renowned as one of the three mightiest warriors.

1. The Power of Faith: Examining Benaiah s Story

2. The Strength of Character: Benaiah s Legacy

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.

1 Chronicles 11:25 Behold, he was honourable among the thirty, but attained not to the first three: and David set him over his guard.

David appointed Uriah as a leader of his guard.

1. The importance of honour and service.

2. Appreciating the gifts of those around us.

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

2. Luke 22:25-27 - Jesus said to them, The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves.

1 Chronicles 11:26 Also the valiant men of the armies were, Asahel the brother of Joab, Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,

The passage speaks of Asahel and Elhanan, two valiant men of the armies.

1. Our strength lies in faith rather than physical prowess.

2. God is with the brave and the courageous.

1. Matthew 10:32-33 Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

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 Chronicles 11:27 Shammoth the Harorite, Helez the Pelonite,

The passage mentions Shammoth the Harorite and Helez the Pelonite.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Can Accomplish Great Things

2. The Faithfulness of God: How God is Always There for Us

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 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

1 Chronicles 11:28 Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite, Abiezer the Antothite,

David's mighty men were brave and faithful warriors.

1. Our lives should be a reflection of faithfulness and bravery in the face of adversity.

2. We can learn from the lives of David's mighty men and what it means to be a dedicated warrior for Christ.

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 6:10-17: "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."

1 Chronicles 11:29 Sibbecai the Hushathite, Ilai the Ahohite,

David appointed three mighty warriors to protect Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Unity: How Teamwork Can Overcome Any Obstacle

2. The Strength of God's Protection: Trusting in the Lord's Shield of Safety

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. For by 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. 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."

1 Chronicles 11:30 Maharai the Netophathite, Heled the son of Baanah the Netophathite,

The passage speaks of Maharai the Netophathite and Heled the son of Baanah the Netophathite.

1. The Power of Legacy: What We Can Learn from Maharai and Heled

2. Honoring the Generations Who Came Before Us

1. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaves an inheritance to his children s children.

2. 1 Timothy 5:4 - But if a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents.

1 Chronicles 11:31 Ithai the son of Ribai of Gibeah, that pertained to the children of Benjamin, Benaiah the Pirathonite,

This passage mentions three men, Ithai, Benaiah, and Pirathonite, who were from the tribe of Benjamin.

1. Choose Wisely: Trusting in God's Guidance in Making Decisions

2. Standing Strong in Faith: The Example of Ithai, Benaiah, and Pirathonite

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 20:7 - "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God."

1 Chronicles 11:32 Hurai of the brooks of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite,

The passage is about Hurai of the brooks of Gaash and Abiel the Arbathite.

1. God works through unlikely people, just as He did with Hurai and Abiel.

2. We can find strength in the Lord, just as Hurai and Abiel did.

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. Zechariah 4:6-7 - Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts. Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it.

1 Chronicles 11:33 Azmaveth the Baharumite, Eliahba the Shaalbonite,

The passage mentions three men, Azmaveth, Eliahba, and the Baharumite, who were prominent figures of the time.

1. God can use anyone, no matter their background, to accomplish His will.

2. God is always at work in the lives of His people.

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 Chronicles 11:34 The sons of Hashem the Gizonite, Jonathan the son of Shage the Hararite,

This passage mentions the descendants of Hashem the Gizonite, specifically Jonathan the son of Shage the Hararite.

1. The importance of tracing our lineage

2. The power of family to shape our lives

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 11:35 Ahiam the son of Sacar the Hararite, Eliphal the son of Ur,

The passage is about two men, Ahiam the son of Sacar the Hararite and Eliphal the son of Ur.

1. God Is Faithful: A Study of Ahiam and Eliphal

2. God's Faithfulness Through Generations: A Look at Ahiam and Eliphal

1. Psalm 105:8 "He remembers His covenant forever, the word He commanded, for a thousand generations."

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 "Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy with those who love Him and keep His commandments, to a thousand generations."

1 Chronicles 11:36 Hepher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the Pelonite,

Hepher the Mecherathite and Ahijah the Pelonite were leaders in the army of David.

1. The Power of Loyalty - The story of Hepher and Ahijah's faithfulness to David's army.

2. The Importance of Having Strong Leaders - Exploring the significance of leaders like Hepher and Ahijah in a community.

1. Joshua 24:15 - "But if it does not please you to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River 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 110:3 - "Your people will offer themselves willingly on the day you lead your forces on the holy mountains."

1 Chronicles 11:37 Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai the son of Ezbai,

David's Mighty Warriors: This passage describes the bravery and strength of three of King David's mighty warriors: Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai the son of Ezbai, and Joel the brother of Nathan.

1. Strength in Unity: The Power of Working Together

2. The Courage and Valor of King David's Mighty Warriors

1. Ephesians 4:14-16 - Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, 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. 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.

2. Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked man flees though no one pursues, but the righteous are as bold as a lion.

1 Chronicles 11:38 Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar the son of Haggeri,

Joel and Mibhar were brothers in the Chronicles of Israel.

1. The importance of family bonds in the Bible.

2. The significance of brotherhood in David's kingdom.

1. Ruth 1:16 - "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. Genesis 2:24 - "That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. "

1 Chronicles 11:39 Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Berothite, the armourbearer of Joab the son of Zeruiah,

and 375 men with him.

This passage describes the 375 men who accompanied Zelek the Ammonite and Naharai the Berothite, the armor bearer of Joab, the son of Zeruiah.

1. Trust in God's protection, no matter who stands with you.

2. Live life with courage and conviction, even in moments of difficulty.

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 time of trouble."

1 Chronicles 11:40 Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite,

The passage is about two Ithrites named Ira and Gareb.

1. The Power of Unity: How Ira and Gareb's friendship serves as an example of the strength of companionship.

2. Faithfulness Rewarded: How Ira and Gareb's dedication to God was rewarded with recognition in the Bible.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

1 Chronicles 11:41 Uriah the Hittite, Zabad the son of Ahlai,

This passage mentions Uriah the Hittite and Zabad the son of Ahlai.

1. Seeing God's faithfulness in unexpected places.

2. The importance of recognizing God's providence.

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 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.

1 Chronicles 11:42 Adina the son of Shiza the Reubenite, a captain of the Reubenites, and thirty with him,

The Reubenite Adina, a captain of the Reubenites, was accompanied by thirty men.

1. The Power of Unity: Adina and His Thirty Men

2. The Courage of Leadership: Adina the Reubenite

1. Psalm 133:1 - "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."

1 Chronicles 11:43 Hanan the son of Maachah, and Joshaphat the Mithnite,

The passage mentions Hanan and Joshaphat.

1. The importance of working together to achieve a common goal.

2. The power of collaboration in serving God.

1. 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.

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 Chronicles 11:44 Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and Jehiel the sons of Hothan the Aroerite,

This passage of 1 Chronicles 11:44 describes four men from different places who joined David's military forces.

1. God summons us to be courageous and join in His mission.

2. God is looking for willing hearts to serve Him.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 11:45 Jediael the son of Shimri, and Joha his brother, the Tizite,

the son of Ammizabad.

Jediael and his brother Joha, along with the Tizite son of Ammizabad, were part of the mightiest warriors in the army of David.

1. God's might and power are revealed through each of us.

2. Our faithful obedience to God will bring us victory.

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 11:46 Eliel the Mahavite, and Jeribai, and Joshaviah, the sons of Elnaam, and Ithmah the Moabite,

Eliel the Mahavite, Jeribai, Joshaviah, Elnaam, and Ithmah the Moabite were all related.

1. The Importance of Relationships

2. God's Unconditional Love for His People

1. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. Psalm 133:1 - How good and pleasant it is when God s people live together in unity!

1 Chronicles 11:47 Eliel, and Obed, and Jasiel the Mesobaite.

This passage mentions three men: Eliel, Obed, and Jasiel the Mesobaite.

1. The Strength of Unity: The Importance of Working Together

2. Faithful Men of the Bible: Eliel, Obed, and Jasiel the Mesobaite

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

10 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! 11 Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? 12 And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

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, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

1 Chronicles chapter 12 focuses on the gathering of warriors from various tribes who joined David in Hebron to support him as he became king.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by listing the warriors from the tribe of Benjamin who came to David. It mentions individuals such as Ishmaiah, Gibeonites, and Jeziel, along with their respective numbers and military prowess (1 Chronicles 12:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative then highlights the warriors from the tribe of Gad who joined David's cause. It provides details about their military abilities and numbers, emphasizing their loyalty to David (1 Chronicles 12:8-15).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to the warriors from the tribe of Manasseh who rallied behind David. It describes them as mighty men of valor and lists notable figures like Amasai and his associates (1 Chronicles 12:19-22).

4th Paragraph:The account mentions other tribes such as Issachar, Zebulun, Naphtali, and Dan whose warriors pledged allegiance to David. It notes their numbers and contributions in terms of armed soldiers ready for battle (1 Chronicles 12:23-37).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning individuals from different tribes who came to Hebron with a united purpose to make David king over all Israel. They are described as having "undivided loyalty" and being "of one mind" in supporting him (1 Chronicles 12:38-40).

In summary, Chapter twelve of 1 Chronicles depicts the gathering of warriors, to support King David. Highlighting tribes like Benjamin, and detailing their military strength. Mentioning other loyal groups, pledging allegiance to establish kingship. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing the unity among various tribes, underscoring their commitment in supporting David's rise to kingship over all Israel.

1 Chronicles 12:1 Now these are they that came to David to Ziklag, while he yet kept himself close because of Saul the son of Kish: and they were among the mighty men, helpers of the war.

A group of mighty men came to Ziklag to support David during his exile from Saul.

1. The Power of Unconditional Support: How Mighty Men of the Bible are an Example of Loyal Friendship.

2. The Strength of Unity: How the Mighty Men of the Bible Represent the Power of Combining Forces.

1. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

2. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

1 Chronicles 12:2 They were armed with bows, and could use both the right hand and the left in hurling stones and shooting arrows out of a bow, even of Saul's brethren of Benjamin.

The people of Benjamin, from Saul's family, were skilled archers who could use both their right and left hand to hurl stones and shoot arrows from a bow.

1. Celebrating the Talents of Every Individual

2. The Gift of Serving with Both Hands

1. 1 Chronicles 12:2

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 Chronicles 12:3 The chief was Ahiezer, then Joash, the sons of Shemaah the Gibeathite; and Jeziel, and Pelet, the sons of Azmaveth; and Berachah, and Jehu the Antothite,

This passage mentions 6 men of the tribe of Benjamin, their names and their roles.

1. The Importance of Knowing Your Tribe: A Study of 1 Chronicles 12:3

2. Following a Noble Lineage: A Reflection on 1 Chronicles 12:3

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. Genesis 49:27, Benjamin is a ravenous wolf; in the morning he devours the prey, in the evening he divides the plunder.

1 Chronicles 12:4 And Ismaiah the Gibeonite, a mighty man among the thirty, and over the thirty; and Jeremiah, and Jahaziel, and Johanan, and Josabad the Gederathite,

Passage List of four men in 1 Chronicles 12:4 who are part of the thirty might men.

1: The Power of Community: The thirty mighty men showed us the power of community and how much can be accomplished when we come together.

2: The Strength of Heroes: The four men mentioned in 1 Chronicles 12:4 show us the strength of heroes and how they can inspire us to be better people.

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 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 Chronicles 12:5 Eluzai, and Jerimoth, and Bealiah, and Shemariah, and Shephatiah the Haruphite,

Five men named Eluzai, Jerimoth, Bealiah, Shemariah, and Shephatiah were listed as members of the Haruphite tribe.

1. God's people come from all walks of life and backgrounds.

2. The importance of recognizing and giving glory to God for all of his creations.

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 11:36 - For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

1 Chronicles 12:6 Elkanah, and Jesiah, and Azareel, and Joezer, and Jashobeam, the Korhites,

The passage mentions five men from the Korhites.

1. The importance of living a life of faith and trust in the Lord, no matter the difficulty and challenges.

2. The power of community and fellowship as seen in the lives of the five men mentioned.

1. Romans 10:17 - "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

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."

1 Chronicles 12:7 And Joelah, and Zebadiah, the sons of Jeroham of Gedor.

Joelah and Zebadiah, the sons of Jeroham from Gedor, are mentioned in 1 Chronicles 12:7.

1. God's Plan and Purpose in Our Lives: A Study of 1 Chronicles 12:7

2. Trusting in God's Timing: What 1 Chronicles 12:7 Teaches 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. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

1 Chronicles 12:8 And of the Gadites there separated themselves unto David into the hold to the wilderness men of might, and men of war fit for the battle, that could handle shield and buckler, whose faces were like the faces of lions, and were as swift as the roes upon the mountains;

Many warriors from Gad separated themselves to join David in the wilderness, these men were skilled fighters and their faces were like lions.

1. Courage: The warriors from Gad showed great courage by separating themselves from their homeland to join David in his fight.

2. Loyalty: These warriors from Gad demonstrated their loyalty to David by joining him in his fight, no matter the cost.

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!

1 Chronicles 12:9 Ezer the first, Obadiah the second, Eliab the third,

The passage recounts the names of some men of the tribe of Benjamin.

1. The Power of Identity: Celebrating Our Heritage

2. The Call to Unity: Strengthening the Tribes of Israel

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. Psalm 133:1 - How good and pleasant it is when God s people live together in unity!

1 Chronicles 12:10 Mishmannah the fourth, Jeremiah the fifth,

The passage is about the list of names in 1 Chronicles 12:10.

1. God calls us to serve Him, even if it means going against the expectations of the world.

2. We are all part of God's family, and each of us has a valuable role to play.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 - So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

1 Chronicles 12:11 Attai the sixth, Eliel the seventh,

The passage mentions the names of six people: Shemaiah, Eliel, Jehohanan, Johanan, Elzabad, and Attai.

1: God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

2: We can trust God to provide us with the strength and courage to do the things He has called us to do.

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: Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."

1 Chronicles 12:12 Johanan the eighth, Elzabad the ninth,

The passage from 1 Chronicles 12 describes the twelve mighty men of David's army.

1. The Importance of Believing in Yourself and Your Abilities

2. The Courage to Defend What is Right

1. Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

2. Isaiah 11:5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, and faithfulness the belt of His waist.

1 Chronicles 12:13 Jeremiah the tenth, Machbanai the eleventh.

This passage mentions two people, Jeremiah and Machbanai, from the Chronicles of the Bible.

1. The Power of Unity: Lessons from the Chronicles

2. The Faithfulness of Jeremiah and Machbanai

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

2. Jeremiah 15:20 - I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail against you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the LORD.

1 Chronicles 12:14 These were of the sons of Gad, captains of the host: one of the least was over an hundred, and the greatest over a thousand.

This passage focuses on the sons of Gad, who were captains of the host in the army of Israel. The least was over 100 men, and the greatest was over 1000.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Can Create Strength and Success

2. Overcoming Fear and Doubt in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!"

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 Chronicles 12:15 These are they that went over Jordan in the first month, when it had overflown all his banks; and they put to flight all them of the valleys, both toward the east, and toward the west.

In 1 Chronicles 12:15, it is recorded that a group of warriors crossed the Jordan River and drove away their enemies in the east and west.

1. God will be with us as we face our enemies.

2. In times of difficulty, we can rely on the strength of God.

1. Joshua 1:5-9 - "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 18:29 - "For by You I can run against a troop, by my God I can leap over a wall."

1 Chronicles 12:16 And there came of the children of Benjamin and Judah to the hold unto David.

A group of people from Benjamin and Judah went to David's stronghold.

1. God's faithfulness is shown through the unity of His people.

2. God is always on the move, working in our lives even in difficult circumstances.

1. 1 Chronicles 12:16

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

1 Chronicles 12:17 And David went out to meet them, and answered and said unto them, If ye be come peaceably unto me to help me, mine heart shall be knit unto you: but if ye be come to betray me to mine enemies, seeing there is no wrong in mine hands, the God of our fathers look thereon, and rebuke it.

David welcomed the strangers to his camp and asked them to help him, but warned them against betraying him as God would rebuke them if they did.

1: We should always be prepared to help our neighbors, but must be careful to guard our hearts against betrayal.

2: We must be wise and discerning in all of our relationships, as God is always watching and will rebuke us if we do wrong.

1: Proverbs 11:3- The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

2: James 4:17- Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

1 Chronicles 12:18 Then the spirit came upon Amasai, who was chief of the captains, and he said, Thine are we, David, and on thy side, thou son of Jesse: peace, peace be unto thee, and peace be to thine helpers; for thy God helpeth thee. Then David received them, and made them captains of the band.

Amasai and his captains pledged their loyalty and allegiance to David, and David accepted them as captains of his band.

1. The Power of Pledging Loyalty: What it Means to Stay True to Our Commitments

2. God's Help in Unexpected Ways: The Significance of Divine Intervention

1. Numbers 32:11-12 - "Surely none of the men who came up from Egypt, from twenty years old and upward, shall see the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; for they have not wholly followed Me, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite and Joshua the son of Nun, for they have wholly followed the LORD.

2. 2 Chronicles 15:7 - "Be strong and do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded!"

1 Chronicles 12:19 And there fell some of Manasseh to David, when he came with the Philistines against Saul to battle: but they helped them not: for the lords of the Philistines upon advisement sent him away, saying, He will fall to his master Saul to the jeopardy of our heads.

Some of Manasseh joined David in battle against Saul, but the Philistine lords sent him away for fear of Saul's retaliation.

1. God calls us to trust Him even when we may not understand why He takes us in a different direction.

2. We must make sure that our decisions are guided by God's will rather than our own 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. 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 Chronicles 12:20 As he went to Ziklag, there fell to him of Manasseh, Adnah, and Jozabad, and Jediael, and Michael, and Jozabad, and Elihu, and Zilthai, captains of the thousands that were of Manasseh.

A group of Manasseh officers, led by Adnah, Jozabad, Jediael, Michael, Jozabad, Elihu, and Zilthai, joined David as he went to Ziklag.

1. God chooses unlikely people to accomplish great things.

2. We can all offer something to God's work.

1. Matthew 19:30, "But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first."

2. 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."

1 Chronicles 12:21 And they helped David against the band of the rovers: for they were all mighty men of valour, and were captains in the host.

A group of mighty men of valour, who were captains in the host, helped David fight against a band of raiders.

1. The Power of Unity: How Standing Together Strengthens Us All

2. Leadership in the Face of Adversity: How Courage and Conviction Can Overcome Any Obstacle

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. Matthew 18:20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

1 Chronicles 12:22 For at that time day by day there came to David to help him, until it was a great host, like the host of God.

David was helped by a great host of people day by day until it was like the host of God.

1. God's faithfulness is evident in the support He provides for all of us.

2. We should be encouraged to trust and rely on God for help in every situation.

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them.

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.

1 Chronicles 12:23 And these are the numbers of the bands that were ready armed to the war, and came to David to Hebron, to turn the kingdom of Saul to him, according to the word of the LORD.

A large number of warriors came to David in Hebron to help him take the kingdom of Saul, in accordance with the Lord's command.

1. God's Word is Always Trustworthy

2. God's Plans Always Lead to Victory

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. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

2. Joshua 1:5-9 - 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. 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.

1 Chronicles 12:24 The children of Judah that bare shield and spear were six thousand and eight hundred, ready armed to the war.

This verse talks about six thousand and eight hundred men from the tribe of Judah who were ready for war, armed with shields and spears.

1. God Is Our Protector: How God Provides Strength and Protection for His People.

2. Living in a World of Conflict: How to Live in Peace and Harmony in a Troubled World.

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 2:4 - He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

1 Chronicles 12:25 Of the children of Simeon, mighty men of valour for the war, seven thousand and one hundred.

This passage mentions the 7,100 Simeonites who were brave warriors.

1. Courage and Strength in the Face of Adversity

2. The Power of Faithful Followers

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. 2 Chronicles 20:15-17 - Do not be afraid or dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God s. Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they come up by the ascent of Ziz. You will find them at the end of the valley, east of the wilderness of Jeruel. 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. Tomorrow go out against them, and the Lord will be with you.

1 Chronicles 12:26 Of the children of Levi four thousand and six hundred.

The passage describes the number of Levites who joined King David's army when he returned to Jerusalem.

1. God is always with us in times of need, just as He was with King David.

2. We can always rely on God's strength and guidance to help us in our battles.

1. 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.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 12:27 And Jehoiada was the leader of the Aaronites, and with him were three thousand and seven hundred;

The passage is about Jehoiada, the leader of the Aaronites, who had three thousand and seven hundred followers.

1. "Be a Leader Like Jehoiada - A Model of Strength and Courage"

2. "The Power of Community - The Value of Uniting Together"

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. 1 Chronicles 15:16 - "And David spake to the chief of the Levites to appoint their brethren to be the singers with instruments of musick, psalteries and harps and cymbals, sounding, by lifting up the voice with joy."

1 Chronicles 12:28 And Zadok, a young man mighty of valour, and of his father's house twenty and two captains.

This passage talks about Zadok, a young man of great courage, and the 22 captains of his father's house.

1. Strength in Courage: The Story of Zadok

2. God's Call to Leadership: Examining Zadok's Role

1. Joshua 1:6-9 - Be strong and courageous

2. 1 Chronicles 28:20 - Appointing Zadok as High Priest

1 Chronicles 12:29 And of the children of Benjamin, the kindred of Saul, three thousand: for hitherto the greatest part of them had kept the ward of the house of Saul.

This passage focuses on the descendants of the tribe of Benjamin, specifically those related to Saul, and notes that the majority of them were involved in protecting the house of Saul.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Provision: How the Tribe of Benjamin Proved Their Loyalty.

2. Power in Community: The Strength of the Tribe of Benjamin.

1. Deuteronomy 33:8-11 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; 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. They shall teach Jacob thy judgments, and Israel thy law: they shall put incense before thee, and whole burnt sacrifice upon thine altar. 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.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 12:30 And of the children of Ephraim twenty thousand and eight hundred, mighty men of valour, famous throughout the house of their fathers.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 12:30 mentions that Ephraim's sons were 20,800 in number and were renowned for their strength and courage.

1. The Strength of Unity: How God's People Can Accomplish Great Things Together

2. The Courage of Faith: How Believers Can Be Courageous in the Face of Adversity

1. Ephesians 4:1-6 - Unity in the body of Christ

2. Hebrews 11:1-3 - Faith in the face of adversity.

1 Chronicles 12:31 And of the half tribe of Manasseh eighteen thousand, which were expressed by name, to come and make David king.

18,000 from the half tribe of Manasseh expressed their desire to make David king.

1. The Power of Unity: How Uniting for a Common Cause Can Change History

2. The Call of Leadership: Examining What Makes a Good Leader

1. Acts 2:1-4 - The Coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

2. Ephesians 4:1-6 - Unity in the Body of Christ

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.

200 men of Issachar were gifted with understanding of the times and had authority over their brethren.

1. The Power of Understanding: The importance of discerning the times and understanding the will of God.

2. The Power of Leadership: The responsibility of leading with authority and influence.

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. Proverbs 16:9 - A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.

1 Chronicles 12:33 Of Zebulun, such as went forth to battle, expert in war, with all instruments of war, fifty thousand, which could keep rank: they were not of double heart.

Zebulun had 50,000 soldiers who were experienced in war and loyal to their cause.

1. The Strength of Unwavering Commitment

2. The Power of Faithfulness

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.

1 Chronicles 12:34 And of Naphtali a thousand captains, and with them with shield and spear thirty and seven thousand.

Naphtali had one thousand captains with thirty-seven thousand soldiers equipped with shields and spears.

1. The Strength of Naphtali: Examining the Courage and Valor of God's People

2. The Power of Unity: The Importance of Working Together to Achieve Goals

1. Joshua 1:7-9 - Be strong and courageous and 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.

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.

1 Chronicles 12:35 And of the Danites expert in war twenty and eight thousand and six hundred.

The Danites had 28,600 warriors who were experts in war.

1. The Power of Unity: The Danites' strength in numbers was a testament to the importance of working together.

2. Trust in God: The Danites' success in battle was a reminder of God's power and protection.

1. Judges 20:17-18: The Israelites united to fight the Benjaminites, showing the power of unity.

2. Psalm 33:16-22: The Lord's power is made known through His protection of His people.

1 Chronicles 12:36 And of Asher, such as went forth to battle, expert in war, forty thousand.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 12:36 states that Asher had forty thousand men who were experienced in battle.

1. God grants strength and courage to those who seek Him in times of war.

2. Faith in God will lead to victory in any battle.

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 - 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 Chronicles 12:37 And on the other side of Jordan, of the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and of the half tribe of Manasseh, with all manner of instruments of war for the battle, an hundred and twenty thousand.

120,000 Reubenites, Gadites, and half tribe of Manasseh crossed the Jordan with weapons to fight.

1. God's Faithfulness - Even in Times of War

2. Unity in the Face of Adversity

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. James 4:1 - "Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members?"

1 Chronicles 12:38 All these men of war, that could keep rank, came with a perfect heart to Hebron, to make David king over all Israel: and all the rest also of Israel were of one heart to make David king.

A large group of men of war came to Hebron to make David the king of all Israel, and all the other people of Israel shared the same sentiment.

1. Unity in Obedience: How the People of Israel Supported King David

2. The Power of A Unified Heart: A Study of 1 Chronicles 12:38

1. Acts 4:32 - 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. Ephesians 4:3 - Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

1 Chronicles 12:39 And there they were with David three days, eating and drinking: for their brethren had prepared for them.

David and his followers spent three days eating and drinking, as their brethren had prepared for them.

1. We must be thankful for the hospitality and generosity of others.

2. We should remember to be hospitable and generous to those who come to us.

1. Romans 12:13-14 - Contributing to the needs of the saints and practicing hospitality.

2. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

1 Chronicles 12:40 Moreover they that were nigh them, even unto Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali, brought bread on asses, and on camels, and on mules, and on oxen, and meat, meal, cakes of figs, and bunches of raisins, and wine, and oil, and oxen, and sheep abundantly: for there was joy in Israel.

Neighbors of Issachar, Zebulun, and Naphtali brought food to the people of Israel, including bread, meat, cakes, raisins, wine, oil, and oxen and sheep.

1. Joy in the Lord: Expressing Joy Through Generosity

2. The Power of Community: How Neighbors Can Bless Each Other

1. Deuteronomy 15:7-8 - If there is among you a poor man of your brothers, within any of the gates in your land which the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart nor shut your hand from your poor brother, but you shall open your hand wide to him and willingly lend him sufficient for his need, whatever he needs.

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.

1 Chronicles chapter 13 recounts the events surrounding David's attempt to bring the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem and the consequences of not following God's instructions.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how David consulted with his leaders, including priests and Levites, about bringing the Ark of God from Kiriath-jearim to Jerusalem. The idea was widely supported, as it symbolized seeking God's presence (1 Chronicles 13:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how David assembled a large gathering of people in order to transport the Ark. They placed it on a new cart pulled by oxen and began their journey toward Jerusalem with great rejoicing and music (1 Chronicles 13:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: However, as they approached a threshing floor in Nachon, disaster struck. The oxen stumbled, causing Uzzah a man from Abinadab's household to reach out and touch the Ark to steady it. Instantly, God struck Uzzah dead for his irreverence (1 Chronicles 13:9-10).

4th Paragraph:The account emphasizes that this incident greatly troubled David. He became afraid of God's wrath and decided not to proceed with bringing the Ark into Jerusalem at that time. Instead, he directed that it be kept in Obed-edom's house for three months (1 Chronicles 13:11-14).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by highlighting how God blessed Obed-edom during those three months while the Ark remained in his house. This news reached David, confirming that God's presence brought blessings when approached with reverence (1 Chronicles 13:15-16).

In summary, Chapter thirteen of 1 Chronicles depicts David's attempt to bring, the Ark of the Covenant. Highlighting consultation with leaders, and assembling a large gathering. Mentioning Uzzah's irreverence, resulting in consequences. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both reverence for God's presence, and the importance of following His instructions when approaching sacred objects like the Ark.

1 Chronicles 13:1 And David consulted with the captains of thousands and hundreds, and with every leader.

David consulted with the leaders of Israel in order to make an important decision.

1. The importance of consulting with leaders in times of decision making.

2. Working together to make wise decisions.

1. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

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!

1 Chronicles 13:2 And David said unto all the congregation of Israel, If it seem good unto you, and that it be of the LORD our God, let us send abroad unto our brethren every where, that are left in all the land of Israel, and with them also to the priests and Levites which are in their cities and suburbs, that they may gather themselves unto us:

David proposed to the entire congregation of Israel that they send messengers to their remaining family and the priests and Levites to come to them.

1. The Power of Unity: How coming together as a community can bring about amazing things

2. The Importance of Family: Why it is important to connect with and support our family

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. Romans 12:10, Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving p to one another.

1 Chronicles 13:3 And let us bring again the ark of our God to us: for we enquired not at it in the days of Saul.

The people of Israel request to bring back the Ark of God to them after having neglected it during Saul's reign.

1. God's Presence Brings Life and Hope

2. Learning from the Mistakes of the Past

1. Psalm 132:7-8 - We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool. Arise, O LORD, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength.

2. 1 Samuel 4:3-4 - 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.

1 Chronicles 13:4 And all the congregation said that they would do so: for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people.

The congregation agreed to take the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem because all people thought it was the right thing to do.

1. God's desires are always good and just, and we should strive to obey His commandments.

2. We should seek the wisdom of the Lord in all matters, and trust in His guidance.

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 13:5 So David gathered all Israel together, from Shihor of Egypt even unto the entering of Hemath, to bring the ark of God from Kirjathjearim.

David gathered all of Israel together from Shihor of Egypt to Hemath in order to bring the ark of God to Kirjathjearim.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

2. The Power of Unity and Working Together

1. Deuteronomy 10:2-4 - 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. Psalm 132:1-5 - Lord, remember David, and all his afflictions:

1 Chronicles 13:6 And David went up, and all Israel, to Baalah, that is, to Kirjathjearim, which belonged to Judah, to bring up thence the ark of God the LORD, that dwelleth between the cherubims, whose name is called on it.

David and all of Israel went to Kirjathjearim to bring back the Ark of the Lord, which was guarded by cherubim.

1. The importance of loyalty and faithfulness to the Lord.

2. The power of community and unity in serving the Lord.

1. Deuteronomy 10:20-22 - Fear the Lord your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name. He is your praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes.

2. 2 Chronicles 5:11-14 - When the priests withdrew from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the temple of the Lord. And the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled his temple. 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 Chronicles 13:7 And they carried the ark of God in a new cart out of the house of Abinadab: and Uzza and Ahio drave the cart.

Uzza and Ahio drove a new cart carrying the Ark of God out of the house of Abinadab.

1. The Power of Obedience: Uzza and Ahio's example of following God's will.

2. The Faithfulness of God: How God's protection of the Ark was demonstrated through Uzza and Ahio's obedience.

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 34:7 - The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and He delivers them.

1 Chronicles 13:8 And David and all Israel played before God with all their might, and with singing, and with harps, and with psalteries, and with timbrels, and with cymbals, and with trumpets.

David and all the Israelites worshiped God with music, singing, and instruments.

1. Worshiping God through Music and Praise

2. The Power of Unifying in Worship

1. Psalm 149:3 "Let them praise his name with dancing and make music to him with timbrel and harp."

2. Colossians 3:16 "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God."

1 Chronicles 13:9 And when they came unto the threshingfloor of Chidon, Uzza put forth his hand to hold the ark; for the oxen stumbled.

Uzza attempted to steady the Ark of the Covenant when the oxen hauling it stumbled at the threshingfloor of Chidon.

1. Trust in God's strength, not our own.

2. The importance of humility and obedience.

1. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding." Proverbs 3:5

2. "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you." 1 Peter 5:6

1 Chronicles 13:10 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzza, and he smote him, because he put his hand to the ark: and there he died before God.

Uzza touched the Ark of the Covenant and God's anger burned against him, leading to his death.

1. The importance of God s holiness and reverence for His commands.

2. The consequences of disobedience to God.

1. Exodus 20:4-6 - You shall not make for yourself an idol 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. 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. Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know him who said, It is mine to avenge; I will repay, and again, The Lord will judge his people. It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

1 Chronicles 13:11 And David was displeased, because the LORD had made a breach upon Uzza: wherefore that place is called Perezuzza to this day.

David was displeased with God because he had caused a breach on Uzza, and the place was called Perezuzza as a result.

1. God's Judgment Is Just: A Study on 1 Chronicles 13:11

2. The Power of a Name: How God Uses Names to Make His Point

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 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.

1 Chronicles 13:12 And David was afraid of God that day, saying, How shall I bring the ark of God home to me?

David was filled with awe and fear of God when he was tasked with bringing the Ark of the Covenant home.

1. Awe and Fear of God: The Foundation of Obedience

2. The Power of God: How We Should Respond

1. Psalm 111:10 - Fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

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?

1 Chronicles 13:13 So David brought not the ark home to himself to the city of David, but carried it aside into the house of Obededom the Gittite.

David brought the Ark of the Covenant to the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite instead of bringing it to the city of David.

1. The Importance of Faithful Obedience

2. Following God's Will Rather Than Our Own

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 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."

1 Chronicles 13:14 And the ark of God remained with the family of Obededom in his house three months. And the LORD blessed the house of Obededom, and all that he had.

The Ark of God stayed with Obededom's family for three months, and the LORD blessed him and all he had.

1. God rewards the faithful with blessings.

2. Obededom's faithfulness was rewarded by 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. 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 Chronicles chapter 14 focuses on the expansion of David's kingdom and his victories against the Philistines.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting how Hiram, the king of Tyre, sent messengers to David and provided him with materials to build a palace. This demonstrates the favor and support David received from neighboring kingdoms (1 Chronicles 14:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative shifts to David's multiple marriages in Jerusalem, which resulted in him having more sons and daughters. It emphasizes that his kingdom grew stronger as God blessed him (1 Chronicles 14:3-7).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to David's military campaigns against the Philistines. He engages them in battle twice first at Baal-perazim and then at Gibeon and achieves decisive victories with God's guidance (1 Chronicles 14:8-17).

4th Paragraph:The account mentions how the fame of David spread throughout the land as a result of his successful military exploits. Other nations recognized his power and feared him, further solidifying his position as a mighty king (1 Chronicles 14:18-19).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by noting that David continued to seek guidance from God before engaging in battle. He relied on divine instruction regarding strategies and approaches, acknowledging that victory ultimately came from God (1 Chronicles 14:20-22).

In summary, Chapter fourteen of 1 Chronicles depicts the expansion of David's kingdom, and his victories over the Philistines. Highlighting support from Hiram, and growth through marriages. Mentioning successful battles, with divine guidance. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both political alliances, and military triumphs under King David's leadership, while emphasizing his reliance on seeking divine guidance for success.

1 Chronicles 14:1 Now Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and timber of cedars, with masons and carpenters, to build him an house.

King Hiram of Tyre sends messengers, cedar timber, masons, and carpenters to David to build a house.

1. The Value of Cooperation in the Kingdom of God

2. The Importance of Generosity and Blessing Others

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 14:2 And David perceived that the LORD had confirmed him king over Israel, for his kingdom was lifted up on high, because of his people Israel.

David was made king over Israel and his kingdom was exalted because of his people.

1. The Power of God's People: How We Can Lift Up the Kingdom of God

2. The Blessing of Serving God: How We Receive Favor from the Lord

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: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God:

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 14:3 And David took more wives at Jerusalem: and David begat more sons and daughters.

David took more wives and had more children while living in Jerusalem.

1. The importance of family: David's example of pursuing a large family in Jerusalem.

2. The importance of faithfulness: David's loyalty to God and 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. Ephesians 6:4 - "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

1 Chronicles 14:4 Now these are the names of his children which he had in Jerusalem; Shammua, and Shobab, Nathan, and Solomon,

David had four children, Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, and Solomon, living in Jerusalem.

1. The importance of family and raising children in a loving and supportive environment.

2. The power of a father's influence in the life of a child.

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 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

1 Chronicles 14:5 And Ibhar, and Elishua, and Elpalet,

The passage mentions three names - Ibhar, Elishua, and Elpalet.

1. "God's faithfulness in restoring us to Himself is symbolized in the three names of Ibhar, Elishua, and Elpalet."

2. "We can trust in God's provision and protection as seen in the three names of Ibhar, Elishua, and Elpalet."

1. Psalms 37:5 - Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

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 Chronicles 14:6 And Nogah, and Nepheg, and Japhia,

The passage mentions three names: Nogah, Nepheg, and Japhia.

1. The Power of Names: Exploring the Meaning and Significance Behind Every Name

2. Never Underestimate the People Around You: Celebrating the Diversity of Human Life

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. Matthew 1:21 - "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

1 Chronicles 14:7 And Elishama, and Beeliada, and Eliphalet.

This verse mentions three individuals, Elishama, Beeliada, and Eliphalet.

1. From seemingly insignificant individuals, God can use anyone for His purposes.

2. We are all equal in God's eyes and He desires to use us for His glory.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 14:8 And when the Philistines heard that David was anointed king over all Israel, all the Philistines went up to seek David. And David heard of it, and went out against them.

When David was anointed king of Israel, the Philistines heard of it and went to seek him out. In response, David went out to confront them.

1. Trusting in God's protection in times of adversity.

2. The courage to confront one's enemies.

1. Psalm 27:1-3 "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? When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell. Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident."

2. Romans 8:31-32 "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?"

1 Chronicles 14:9 And the Philistines came and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

The Philistines invaded the Valley of Rephaim.

1. "The Power of Perseverance: Overcoming Adversity"

2. "The Strength of Unity: Standing Together in Difficult Times"

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."

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."

1 Chronicles 14:10 And David enquired of God, saying, Shall I go up against the Philistines? And wilt thou deliver them into mine hand? And the LORD said unto him, Go up; for I will deliver them into thine hand.

David asked God if he should go against the Philistines and God answered that He would deliver them into David's hand.

1. God is always with us in times of struggle and will guide us to victory.

2. We must be willing to trust God's plans even when they seem impossible.

1. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - 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.

1 Chronicles 14:11 So they came up to Baalperazim; and David smote them there. Then David said, God hath broken in upon mine enemies by mine hand like the breaking forth of waters: therefore they called the name of that place Baalperazim.

David and his army defeated their enemies at Baalperazim, and David declared it a victory from God.

1. The Power of Praise: How We Can Receive Victory from God

2. Standing in Faith: How We Can Overcome Even Impossible Odds

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.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 14:12 And when they had left their gods there, David gave a commandment, and they were burned with fire.

David burned the gods of the Philistines after they left them behind.

1. The importance of obeying God and avoiding temptation.

2. The power of God and His ability to overcome false gods.

1. Deuteronomy 7:25-26 - "The graven images of their gods you shall burn 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. Psalm 135:15-18 - "The idols of the nations are silver and gold, The work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they do not speak; They have eyes, but they do not see; They have ears, but they do not hear, Nor is there any breath in their mouths. Those who make them are like them; So is everyone who trusts in them. Bless the Lord, O house of Israel! Bless the Lord, O house of Aaron! Bless the Lord, O house of Levi!"

1 Chronicles 14:13 And the Philistines yet again spread themselves abroad in the valley.

The Philistines invaded the valley a second time.

1. God is sovereign over the nations and will always protect His people.

2. God is our strength and refuge in times of trouble.

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.

1 Chronicles 14:14 Therefore David enquired again of God; and God said unto him, Go not up after them; turn away from them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees.

David was instructed to turn away from his enemies and attack them from a strategic position.

1. God's wisdom is greater than our own.

2. We must trust God to guide us in our decisions.

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."

1 Chronicles 14:15 And it shall be, when thou shalt hear a sound of going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt go out to battle: for God is gone forth before thee to smite the host of the Philistines.

God instructs King David that when he hears a sound in the tops of the mulberry trees, he should go out to battle, as God has gone before him to defeat the Philistines.

1. God Is On Our Side: How to Know When the Time is Right to Stand Up and Fight

2. Overcoming Fear and Doubt: Relying on God's Promises to Find 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. 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 Chronicles 14:16 David therefore did as God commanded him: and they smote the host of the Philistines from Gibeon even to Gazer.

David followed the orders of God and defeated the Philistine army from Gibeon to Gazer.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Commands.

2. The Strength of Unity: Working Together to Achieve God's Plans.

1. Joshua 1:5-9 - Be strong and courageous and obey all the law that Moses commanded you, so that you may have success wherever you go.

2. Ephesians 6:10-11 - 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 Chronicles 14:17 And the fame of David went out into all lands; and the LORD brought the fear of him upon all nations.

The fame of David spread throughout all nations, and the LORD caused all to fear him.

1. Fear the Lord, Not Man

2. The Power of God's Presence

1. Psalm 111:10 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

2. Isaiah 11:2-3 - 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.

1 Chronicles chapter 15 focuses on David's preparations and the proper procession of bringing the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting how David built houses for himself in the City of David and prepared a place for the Ark of God. He understood the importance of honoring God's presence and sought to bring it to Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 15:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative describes how David gathered all Israel, including priests and Levites, to participate in bringing up the Ark. He assembled a large assembly, numbering in thousands, and prepared them for this sacred task (1 Chronicles 15:4-11).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to David's plan for transporting the Ark. He appoints Levites as singers and musicians who would play instruments such as harps, lyres, cymbals, and trumpets during the procession (1 Chronicles 15:12-16).

4th Paragraph:The account mentions that they carefully followed God's instructions regarding how to handle and carry the Ark. They used poles inserted through rings on its sides, carried by Levite priests consecrated for this purpose (1 Chronicles 15:17-24).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with a detailed account of how they proceeded with great joy and celebration. The entire assembly rejoiced with singing, dancing, music, and offerings as they brought the Ark into Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 15:25-29).

In summary, Chapter fifteen of 1 Chronicles depicts David's preparations, and proper procession of bringing the Ark. Highlighting building houses, and gathering all Israel. Mentioning appointed singers, and following God's instructions. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both reverence for God's presence, and meticulous planning in carrying out sacred tasks such as bringing up the Ark while emphasizing joyful celebration during this significant event in Jerusalem.

Chenaniah was a chief of the Levites and was skilled in song and instructed others in the same.

1. The importance of developing and sharing our talents.

2. The power of music to connect and bring joy.

1. Colossians 3:16-17 - 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 98:4 - Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

1 Chronicles 15:23 And Berechiah and Elkanah were doorkeepers for the ark.

Two men, Berechiah and Elkanah, were appointed as doorkeepers of the Ark of the Covenant.

1. God entrusts his most sacred objects to faithful servants.

2. The importance of humble service in the eyes of God.

1. Exodus 25:10-22 - Instructions for the making of the Ark of the Covenant.

2. Matthew 6:1-4 - Jesus' teaching on giving to God without any expectation of recognition.

1 Chronicles 15:24 And Shebaniah, and Jehoshaphat, and Nethaneel, and Amasai, and Zechariah, and Benaiah, and Eliezer, the priests, did blow with the trumpets before the ark of God: and Obededom and Jehiah were doorkeepers for the ark.

Priests Shebaniah, Jehoshaphat, Nethaneel, Amasai, Zechariah, Benaiah, and Eliezer blew the trumpets in front of the Ark of God, while Obededom and Jehiah guarded the Ark.

1. The Importance of Obedience: A Study of 1 Chronicles 15:24

2. The Power of Unity: A Look at 1 Chronicles 15:24

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 flutes. Praise Him with loud cymbals; praise Him with resounding cymbals."

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 according to his good purpose."

1 Chronicles 15:25 So David, and the elders of Israel, and the captains over thousands, went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the house of Obededom with joy.

The ark of the covenant of the LORD was brought out of the house of Obededom with joy.

1. Joy in the Presence of the Lord

2. Serving the Lord with Gladness

1. Psalm 100:2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

2. Nehemiah 8:10 Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.

1 Chronicles 15:26 And it came to pass, when God helped the Levites that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, that they offered seven bullocks and seven rams.

The Levites offered seven bullocks and seven rams as a sign of gratitude when God helped them carry the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord.

1. Gratitude: Showing Appreciation for God's Provision

2. The Power of Obedience: A Lesson from the Levites

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 15:27 And David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, and all the Levites that bare the ark, and the singers, and Chenaniah the master of the song with the singers: David also had upon him an ephod of linen.

David was dressed in fine linen robes and accompanied by Levites, singers, and Chenaniah the master of the song. He wore an ephod of linen as well.

1. The Power of Praise in Adversity

2. The Difference Between Symbols and Substance

1. Psalm 150:6 - Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

2. Colossians 3:1-3 - Since 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.

1 Chronicles 15:28 Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, and with sound of the cornet, and with trumpets, and with cymbals, making a noise with psalteries and harps.

All of Israel brought the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord with loud music and instruments.

1. The Power of Music in Worship

2. The Importance of the Ark of the Covenant

1. Psalm 150:1-6

2. Exodus 25:10-22

1 Chronicles 15:29 And it came to pass, as the ark of the covenant of the LORD came to the city of David, that Michal, the daughter of Saul looking out at a window saw king David dancing and playing: and she despised him in her heart.

Michal, the daughter of Saul, saw King David dancing and playing as the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord came to the City of David and despised him in her heart.

1. God's Joy and Rejoicing in Worship

2. Saul's Family and their Rebellious Hearts

1. Psalm 149:3 - Let them praise his name with dancing and make music to him with tambourine and harp.

2. 1 Samuel 18:8-9 - Saul was very angry; this refrain displeased him greatly. "They have credited David with tens of thousands," he thought, "but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?" And from that time on Saul kept a jealous eye on David.

1 Chronicles chapter 16 focuses on the joyful celebration and worship that took place when the Ark of the Covenant was brought to Jerusalem.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how David set up a tent for the Ark in Jerusalem. He then appointed Levites to minister before the Ark, offering sacrifices, playing musical instruments, and leading worship (1 Chronicles 16:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights a song of thanksgiving composed by David. This song is recited by Asaph and his fellow Levites, praising God's greatness, His wondrous works, and His faithfulness to Israel throughout history (1 Chronicles 16:7-36).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to David's instructions for regular worship in front of the Ark. He appointed specific Levites as ministers who were responsible for offering burnt offerings and other sacrifices on a daily basis (1 Chronicles 16:37-40).

4th Paragraph:The account mentions that after delivering this charge to the Levites, David blessed the people in God's name. He distributed food to everyone both men and women and instructed them to give thanks to God (1 Chronicles 16:41-43).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by noting that David left Asaph and his fellow Levites before the Ark of God as ministers continually performing their duties according to each day's requirements (1 Chronicles 16:44-46).

In summary, Chapter sixteen of 1 Chronicles depicts the joyful celebration, and worship upon bringing the Ark. Highlighting setting up a tent, and appointing Levite ministers. Mentioning a song of thanksgiving, and regular offerings. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both gratitude for God's faithfulness, and organized worship under King David's leadership while emphasizing praise through music, song, sacrifice, and ongoing ministry before the presence of the Ark in Jerusalem.

1 Chronicles 16:1 So they brought the ark of God, and set it in the midst of the tent that David had pitched for it: and they offered burnt sacrifices and peace offerings before God.

David set up a tent and placed the Ark of God inside. He then offered burnt sacrifices and peace offerings to God.

1. God's presence has the power to transform any space.

2. Offerings of peace and sacrifice bring us closer to God.

1. John 14:23 - Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

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.

1 Chronicles 16:2 And when David had made an end of offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD.

David finished offering the burnt and peace offerings and then blessed the people in the name of the LORD.

1. The importance of giving thanks to God for His blessings.

2. How the example of David shows us how to honor God with our offerings.

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. 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 Chronicles 16:3 And he dealt to every one of Israel, both man and woman, to every one a loaf of bread, and a good piece of flesh, and a flagon of wine.

Everyone in Israel was given a loaf of bread, a piece of meat, and a flagon of wine.

1. God's abundant provision in hard times.

2. The importance of generosity.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

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.

1 Chronicles 16:4 And he appointed certain of the Levites to minister before the ark of the LORD, and to record, and to thank and praise the LORD God of Israel:

The Levites were appointed to serve before the Ark of the Lord and to thank and praise the Lord.

1. The Power of Worship: The Importance of Giving Thanks and Praise to God

2. Living a Life of Gratitude: Understanding the Blessings of Serving the Lord

1. Psalm 100:4 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 - Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God s will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Chronicles 16:5 Asaph the chief, and next to him Zechariah, Jeiel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehiel, and Mattithiah, and Eliab, and Benaiah, and Obededom: and Jeiel with psalteries and with harps; but Asaph made a sound with cymbals;

Asaph the chief, along with Zechariah, Jeiel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Mattithiah, Eliab, Benaiah, and Obededom, played a variety of instruments during worship, with Asaph playing the cymbals.

1. "Instruments of Praise: Worshiping Through Music"

2. "The Power of Harmony: Uniting Through Music"

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."

1 Chronicles 16:6 Benaiah also and Jahaziel the priests with trumpets continually before the ark of the covenant of God.

Priests Benaiah and Jahaziel were assigned to play trumpets continually before the Ark of the Covenant of God.

1. The Power of Music in Worship

2. The Role of Priests in the Worship of God

1. Psalm 150:3-5 - Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp! Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes! Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with resounding cymbals.

2. Numbers 10:1-10 - The Lord said to Moses: Make two silver trumpets; you shall make them of hammered work; and you shall use them for summoning the congregation, and for breaking camp. And when both are blown, all the congregation shall gather themselves to you at the doorway of the tent of meeting. But if one trumpet is blown, then the leaders, the heads of the divisions of Israel shall gather themselves to you.

1 Chronicles 16:7 Then on that day David delivered first this psalm to thank the LORD into the hand of Asaph and his brethren.

David gives thanks to the Lord by delivering a psalm to Asaph and his brethren.

1. The Power of Gratitude: Cultivating a Heart of Thankfulness

2. A Life of Worship: Embracing the Psalms

1. Colossians 3:15-17 - 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 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!

1 Chronicles 16:8 Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.

Worshipers of the Lord should give thanks and call upon His name, and share His deeds with others.

1. The Power of Thanksgiving - How giving thanks to the Lord can change our lives for the better.

2. The Joy of Sharing - How sharing the Lord's deeds can bring joy to us and those around us.

1. Psalm 107:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

2. Acts 4:20 - For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.

1 Chronicles 16:9 Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.

We should praise and give thanks to God for all the wonderful things He has done.

1. We Should Sing and Speak of God's Goodness

2. Giving Thanks to God for His Marvelous Works

1. Psalm 105:1-2, Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Chronicles 16:10 Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.

We should glorify the Lord and rejoice in His name.

1. Rejoice in the Lord: Finding Joy in the Name of the Lord

2. Seek the Lord: Pursuing a Relationship with God

1. Psalm 105:3-4 - Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

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 Chronicles 16:11 Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually.

We should always strive to seek God and His strength.

1. Seek the Lord: A lesson on the importance of seeking God in all that we do.

2. Continual Seeking: The importance of never ceasing in our efforts to seek God.

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

2. Psalms 27:8 - My heart has heard you say, Come and talk with me My heart responds, LORD, I am coming.

1 Chronicles 16:12 Remember his marvellous works that he hath done, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;

The passage reminds us to remember the amazing works, wonders, and judgments of God.

1. The Power of Remembering: Refocusing Our Attention on God's Marvelous Works

2. The Significance of God's Judgments: A Call to Righteous Living

1. Psalm 77:11-12 - I will remember the works of the Lord; surely I will remember thy wonders of old. I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings.

2. Isaiah 26:7-8 - The way of the just is uprightness: thou, most upright, dost weigh the path of the just. Yea, in the way of thy judgments, O Lord, have we waited for thee; the desire of our soul is to thy name, and to the remembrance of thee.

1 Chronicles 16:13 O ye seed of Israel his servant, ye children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

God is addressing the seed of Israel, His servants and the children of Jacob, His chosen ones.

1. God's Chosen People: Embracing Our Identity in Christ

2. Remembering Our Heritage: Experiencing the Faithfulness of God

1. Romans 9:6-8

2. Deuteronomy 7:6-8

1 Chronicles 16:14 He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

This passage is a reminder of God's sovereignty over the world and His authority to make judgments upon it.

1. "God Is In Control: Understanding God's Sovereignty and Judgment"

2. "The Omnipotence of the Lord: Seeing God's Power and Majesty"

1. Psalm 100:3 - "Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture."

2. 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."

1 Chronicles 16:15 Be ye mindful always of his covenant; the word which he commanded to a thousand generations;

We should always keep in mind God s covenant and His Word, which He has commanded for generations.

1. The Importance of Keeping God s Covenant

2. Obeying God s Word for Generations

1. Psalm 105:8 - He remembers His covenant forever, the promise He made, for a thousand generations.

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.

1 Chronicles 16:16 Even of the covenant which he made with Abraham, and of his oath unto Isaac;

Passage: The passage is about God's covenant with Abraham and his oath to Isaac.

1. The Faithfulness of God: Examining God's Covenant with Abraham and His Oath to Isaac

2. God's Covenant with Abraham: Celebrating His Loyalty and Promise-Keeping

1. Genesis 22:17-18 I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, 18 and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.

2. Romans 4:13-15 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. 14 For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, 15 because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

1 Chronicles 16:17 And hath confirmed the same to Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant,

Passage God made a covenant with Jacob and Israel that would last forever.

1. God's Promise of an Enduring Covenant

2. The Meaning of an Everlasting Covenant

1. Ephesians 2:11-22 - God's Promise of Reconciliation to All

2. Jeremiah 31:31-34 - The New Covenant Promised by God

1 Chronicles 16:18 Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance;

The passage recounts God's promise to give the Israelites the land of Canaan as their inheritance.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping His promises

2. Our responsibility to be faithful stewards of God's gifts

1. Deuteronomy 7:12 - "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"

2. Luke 16:10-12 - "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?"

1 Chronicles 16:19 When ye were but few, even a few, and strangers in it.

In 1 Chronicles 16:19, God reminds the Israelites of their humble beginnings as a small, foreign nation.

1. The Reminder of Our Humble Beginnings: Remembering Where We Come From

2. The Power of God's Provision: Experiencing His Faithfulness and Love

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. Psalm 107:1-2 - "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy."

1 Chronicles 16:20 And when they went from nation to nation, and from one kingdom to another people;

The people of Israel went from nation to nation spreading God's message.

1. God calls us to spread His message of love and grace to every corner of the world.

2. Our mission as followers of God is to bring the good news of His love to all people.

1. 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.

2. Isaiah 2:3-4: Many peoples will come and say, Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths. The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

1 Chronicles 16:21 He suffered no man to do them wrong: yea, he reproved kings for their sakes,

This passage speaks of God's protection of His people, as He did not allow anyone to harm them and even rebuked kings who tried to do so.

1. God is Our Protector: How to Trust in His Care.

2. The Power of His Rebuke: Understanding the Authority of God.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 16:22 Saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm.

Davids' anointed and prophets should be respected and not harmed.

1. We must show respect to those who are anointed of God.

2. We should never harm or cause harm to God's chosen servants.

1. James 2:1-13 - Showing partiality to others.

2. 1 John 4:20-21 - Loving one another as God loves us.

1 Chronicles 16:23 Sing unto the LORD, all the earth; shew forth from day to day his salvation.

All of the earth should sing to the Lord and proclaim His salvation day by day.

1. Singing to the Lord: The Power of Worship

2. Proclaiming His Salvation: The Value of Witnessing

1. 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.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 16:24 Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations.

We should proclaim God's glory and miracles to all nations.

1. God's Miracles: Proclaiming His Amazing Works

2. Shout His Praise: Declare His Glory to the Nations

1. Isaiah 12:4-5 - And in that day you will say: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted.

2. Psalm 96:2-3 - Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

1 Chronicles 16:25 For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all gods.

The LORD is great and highly praised, and He is to be feared above all other gods.

1. The Greatness and Praise of the LORD

2. The Fear of the LORD Above All Other Gods

1. Psalm 145:3 - Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.

2. Isaiah 8:13 - Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

1 Chronicles 16:26 For all the gods of the people are idols: but the LORD made the heavens.

The LORD made the heavens, unlike the idols worshipped by the people.

1. The LORD is our Creator and our Hope

2. Idolatry: Beware the False Promises

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. Romans 1:25 - They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator.

1 Chronicles 16:27 Glory and honour are in his presence; strength and gladness are in his place.

God is present and brings glory, honour, strength and gladness.

1. Finding Strength and Gladness in God's Presence

2. Honouring God with Glorifying Him

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 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 Chronicles 16:28 Give unto the LORD, ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength.

This verse calls on people to give glory and strength to the Lord.

1. We can show our appreciation to the Lord by giving Him glory and strength.

2. We have a responsibility to give glory and strength to the Lord as a sign of our faith.

1. Colossians 3:16-17 - 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 29:1-2 - Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

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.

Give glory to the LORD, bring offerings, and come before the LORD in reverence.

1. Worship the LORD in the Beauty of Holiness

2. The Power of Giving Glory to God

1. Psalm 96:8-9 - Give to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts. Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;

2. 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!

1 Chronicles 16:30 Fear before him, all the earth: the world also shall be stable, that it be not moved.

The world should fear the Lord and be stable and unmovable.

1. The Unmovable Faith: How trusting in God gives us the stability to face the world.

2. Fear Before Him: Why and how we should revere 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 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."

1 Chronicles 16:31 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and let men say among the nations, The LORD reigneth.

The Lord reigns over all the nations, and the heavens and the earth should rejoice.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord's Reign

2. The Sovereignty of the Lord

1. Psalm 97:1 - The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

2. Isaiah 52:7 - How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, Your God reigns!

1 Chronicles 16:32 Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof: let the fields rejoice, and all that is therein.

The sea, fields, and all things in them should rejoice in the Lord.

1. Joyful in the Lord: Rejoicing in the Lord Through All of Life's Difficulty

2. The Beauty of Creation: All Things Rejoice in the Lord

1. Psalm 95:11 - "Let us be glad and rejoice in Him; let us give Him glory."

2. Romans 12:12 - "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

1 Chronicles 16:33 Then shall the trees of the wood sing out at the presence of the LORD, because he cometh to judge the earth.

Trees will sing praises to the Lord when He comes to judge the Earth.

1. The Lord is Coming: What Will Your Response Be?

2. Rejoicing in the Lord's Return: Praise and Worship Him.

1. Isaiah 55:12 "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. Psalm 96:13 "Before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity."

1 Chronicles 16:34 O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.

We should give thanks to the Lord for He is good and His mercy endures forever.

1. The Unending Mercy of the Lord: Appreciating God's Faithfulness

2. Bless the Lord: Celebrating His Unending Goodness

1. Psalm 136:1-3 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

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.

1 Chronicles 16:35 And say ye, Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us together, and deliver us from the heathen, that we may give thanks to thy holy name, and glory in thy praise.

The people of Israel ask God to save them from their enemies and give thanks for His salvation.

1. The Power of Praise: Appreciating God's Salvation

2. The Need for Deliverance: Trusting in God's Protection

1. Psalm 34:2 My soul shall make its boast in the Lord; The humble shall hear of it and be glad.

2. Psalm 107:2 Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy.

1 Chronicles 16:36 Blessed be the LORD God of Israel for ever and ever. And all the people said, Amen, and praised the LORD.

The people praised the Lord and gave Him thanks for His everlasting kindness.

1. We should be thankful to the Lord for His everlasting kindness and mercy.

2. Giving thanks to the Lord is a way to recognize His faithfulness.

1. Psalm 107:1 - "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

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."

1 Chronicles 16:37 So he left there before the ark of the covenant of the LORD Asaph and his brethren, to minister before the ark continually, as every day's work required:

Asaph and his brethren left the ark of the covenant of the LORD to minister before it continually as their daily work.

1. Using Our Time Wisely: Making Every Day Count

2. Dedication to the Work of the Lord: Doing What is Required

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. 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 Chronicles 16:38 And Obededom with their brethren, threescore and eight; Obededom also the son of Jeduthun and Hosah to be porters:

Obededom and his brothers were appointed as porters, along with the son of Jeduthun and Hosah.

1. The Value of Service: Learning from Obededom

2. Dedicating Ourselves to God's Work

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

2. Hebrews 6:10 - For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints.

1 Chronicles 16:39 And Zadok the priest, and his brethren the priests, before the tabernacle of the LORD in the high place that was at Gibeon,

A passage about Zadok the priest and his brethren serving in the tabernacle of the LORD.

1. The Call to Serve: A Reflection on 1 Chronicles 16:39

2. Zadok and His Brethren: A Study of Faithful Service

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 4:10 - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

1 Chronicles 16:40 To offer burnt offerings unto the LORD upon the altar of the burnt offering continually morning and evening, and to do according to all that is written in the law of the LORD, which he commanded Israel;

Offering burnt offerings to the LORD on the altar every morning and evening, according to the law given to Israel.

1: We should continually offer our devotion and worship to the LORD, as we are commanded to do so in the Bible.

2: We should be devoted to the Word of God and live according to its teachings, for it is the path that leads to a blessed life.

1: 1 Chronicles 16:34 - O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.

2: Psalm 116:17 - I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD.

1 Chronicles 16:41 And with them Heman and Jeduthun, and the rest that were chosen, who were expressed by name, to give thanks to the LORD, because his mercy endureth for ever;

Heman and Jeduthun, along with many others chosen by name, gave thanks to the Lord for his mercy which endures forever.

1. The Power of Gratitude: Celebrating God's Undying Mercy

2. Cultivating a Heart of Thankfulness: Recognizing God's Faithfulness

1. Psalm 107:1 - "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"

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 Chronicles 16:42 And with them Heman and Jeduthun with trumpets and cymbals for those that should make a sound, and with musical instruments of God. And the sons of Jeduthun were porters.

Heman and Jeduthun led worship with trumpets, cymbals, and other musical instruments, and their sons were porters.

1. Worshiping God Through Music

2. The Importance of Serving God in the Church

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, praise Him with the clash of cymbals, praise Him with resounding cymbals.

2. Ephesians 5:18-20 - And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Chronicles 16:43 And all the people departed every man to his house: and David returned to bless his house.

All the people went home while David returned to his house to give thanks.

1. The importance of giving thanks in all circumstances.

2. The power of returning home and giving thanks.

1. Psalm 136:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever

2. Romans 12:12 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

1 Chronicles chapter 17 focuses on God's covenant with David and the promise of a perpetual dynasty.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with David expressing his desire to build a house for the Ark of the Covenant. However, God speaks to Nathan the prophet, instructing him to relay a message to David (1 Chronicles 17:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Through Nathan, God reminds David of His past faithfulness and how He had taken him from being a shepherd to becoming king over Israel. God assures David that He has been with him throughout his journeys (1 Chronicles 17:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to God's promise to establish a perpetual dynasty for David. He declares that one of David's descendants will be chosen by Him as king and will build a house for His name (1 Chronicles 17:8-14).

4th Paragraph:The account emphasizes that this covenant is not only for David but also for his future generations. God promises to establish their throne forever and ensure that His steadfast love remains with them always (1 Chronicles 17:15-22).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with David's response of gratitude and humility before God. He acknowledges that there is no one like Him and expresses his desire for the fulfillment of this promise in establishing an everlasting dynasty (1 Chronicles 17:23-27).

In summary, Chapter seventeen of 1 Chronicles depicts God's covenant, and promise of an eternal dynasty. Highlighting desire to build a house, and Nathan relaying God's message. Mentioning past faithfulness, and establishment of future generations. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both divine intervention in choosing and blessing King David, and the assurance given by God regarding an everlasting lineage through which His kingdom would be established.

1 Chronicles 17:1 Now it came to pass, as David sat in his house, that David said to Nathan the prophet, Lo, I dwell in an house of cedars, but the ark of the covenant of the LORD remaineth under curtains.

David, living in a house of cedars, was reminded of the fact that the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord was still under curtains in the Tabernacle.

1. Living in Comfort and Contentment in the Lord

2. The Significance of the Ark of the Covenant

1. Psalm 84:10-12 - 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.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 17:2 Then Nathan said unto David, Do all that is in thine heart; for God is with thee.

Nathan encourages David to pursue his desires, reassuring him that God is with him.

1. God is always with us, no matter the situation.

2. We can take comfort in knowing that God will never abandon us.

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 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 Chronicles 17:3 And it came to pass the same night, that the word of God came to Nathan, saying,

Passage Nathan, a prophet of God, received a word from God in the same night.

1. God Is Always at Work: The Story of Nathan

2. How to Hear God's Voice in Your Life

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 10:27 - My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

1 Chronicles 17:4 Go and tell David my servant, Thus saith the LORD, Thou shalt not build me an house to dwell in:

The Lord has told David that he must not build a house for Him to live in.

1. The Lord is our dwelling place and does not need us to create a dwelling for Him.

2. We must not seek to contain the Lord's immeasurable greatness.

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. 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?

1 Chronicles 17:5 For I have not dwelt in an house since the day that I brought up Israel unto this day; but have gone from tent to tent, and from one tabernacle to another.

Since the day the Israelites were brought up, God has not dwelled in a house but instead moved from one tent to another tabernacle.

1. God does not need a material home to be our dwelling place.

2. God's presence is with us wherever we go.

1. Exodus 33:14 - And he said, My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.

2. John 14:23 - Jesus answered and said to him, 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.

1 Chronicles 17:6 Wheresoever I have walked with all Israel, spake I a word to any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people, saying, Why have ye not built me an house of cedars?

God asked why the judges of Israel had not built him a house of cedars, as He had walked with them throughout Israel.

1. God's Vision for His House and Our Obedience to His Commands

2. Building a House of Faith in the Lord

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 17:7 Now therefore thus shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, even from following the sheep, that thou shouldest be ruler over my people Israel:

God chose David to be ruler over His people, the Israelites.

1. The Power of God's Calling

2. The Faithfulness of God's Promise

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 17:8 And I have been with thee whithersoever thou hast walked, and have cut off all thine enemies from before thee, and have made thee a name like the name of the great men that are in the earth.

God has been with David and has protected him from all his enemies, and has made David a great name.

1. God's Protection: Learning to Lean on the Lord in Difficult Times

2. A Name of Greatness: Living a Life of Significance

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. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

1 Chronicles 17:9 Also I will ordain a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, and they shall dwell in their place, and shall be moved no more; neither shall the children of wickedness waste them any more, as at the beginning,

God will ordain a place for Israel, His people, and protect them so that they will not be disturbed or destroyed by evil forces.

1: God is a faithful protector and we can rest assured that He will keep us safe and secure.

2: God has a plan for His people and He will fulfill it regardless of any 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: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

1 Chronicles 17:10 And since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel. Moreover I will subdue all thine enemies. Furthermore I tell thee that the LORD will build thee an house.

God has been overseeing and protecting the people of Israel since the time of the judges, and He will continue to do so, even subduing their enemies. Additionally, God will build a house for the one speaking.

1. God is the Protector of His People: 1 Chronicles 17:10

2. God's Plan for Building a House: 1 Chronicles 17:10

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 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.

1 Chronicles 17:11 And it shall come to pass, when thy days be expired that thou must go to be with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy seed after thee, which shall be of thy sons; and I will establish his kingdom.

God promises King David that one of his sons will succeed him and establish a kingdom.

1. God's Promises: Reflecting on 1 Chronicles 17:11

2. The Blessing of an Established Kingdom: Examining 1 Chronicles 17:11

1. 2 Samuel 7:11-16 - God's promise to David that his dynasty will be established forever

2. Psalm 89:3-4 - God's promise to establish David's throne and kingdom forever

1 Chronicles 17:12 He shall build me an house, and I will stablish his throne for ever.

God promises King David that He will establish his throne forever and build him a house.

1. God's Promise to David: Building Legacy for the Future

2. The Power of God's Covenant: A Permanent Throne

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. 2 Samuel 7:15-16 - "But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever."

1 Chronicles 17:13 I will be his father, and he shall be my son: and I will not take my mercy away from him, as I took it from him that was before thee:

God promises to be a father to David and his descendants and to always be merciful to them.

1. The Fatherhood of God: How God's Love and Mercy Endures Forever

2. The Covenant of God: Keeping Our Promises and Demonstrating Mercy

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 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."

1 Chronicles 17:14 But I will settle him in mine house and in my kingdom for ever: and his throne shall be established for evermore.

God promises to provide a permanent home and kingdom to David and his descendants, and his throne will remain established forever.

1. God's Promise to David: An Eternal Throne

2. The Perpetual Kingdom of God

1. Psalm 89:3-4 - "I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn to David my servant, Your seed I will establish forever, and build up your throne to 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. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this."

1 Chronicles 17:15 According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David.

Nathan spoke to David according to all the words and the vision he had been given.

1. Learning to Hear and Obey God's Voice

2. Submission to God's Will

1. John 10:27 - My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

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

1 Chronicles 17:16 And David the king came and sat before the LORD, and said, Who am I, O LORD God, and what is mine house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?

David the King humbly asked God to explain why He had blessed him and his household.

1. God's blessings are not based on our own merits.

2. We should always approach God with humility and gratitude.

1. Psalm 115:12-13 - "The LORD hath 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 them that fear the LORD, both small and great."

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

1 Chronicles 17:17 And yet this was a small thing in thine eyes, O God; for thou hast also spoken of thy servant's house for a great while to come, and hast regarded me according to the estate of a man of high degree, O LORD God.

David acknowledges the smallness of his request compared to God's greatness and grace in speaking of his household for generations to come.

1. God's greatness and our smallness in comparison

2. God's grace and our unworthiness

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. 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!

1 Chronicles 17:18 What can David speak more to thee for the honour of thy servant? for thou knowest thy servant.

David is asking God for honor and recognition for being a faithful servant.

1. Unconditional Faithfulness: A Lesson from the Life of David

2. The Blessings of Being a Faithful Servant of God

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 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 Chronicles 17:19 O LORD, for thy servant's sake, and according to thine own heart, hast thou done all this greatness, in making known all these great things.

David praises God for His greatness, and for all the wonderful things He has done.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People - how God faithfully fulfills His promises and blesses us in return.

2. The Power of Praise - how praising God brings joy and peace to our lives.

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. 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 Chronicles 17:20 O LORD, there is none like thee, neither is there any God beside thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

David praises God for his greatness and acknowledges that there is no one like Him and no other God beside Him.

1. The Uniqueness of God: Exploring the Magnificence of the Lord

2. Rediscovering the Majesty of God: Our Response to His Unparalleled Greatness

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 86:8 - Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord; neither are there any works like unto thy works.

1 Chronicles 17:21 And what one nation in the earth is like thy people Israel, whom God went to redeem to be his own people, to make thee a name of greatness and terribleness, by driving out nations from before thy people, whom thou hast redeemed out of Egypt?

God chose to redeem Israel and make them a great and powerful nation by driving out nations from before them after they were redeemed from Egypt.

1. God's faithfulness to those He chooses to redeem.

2. God's power and greatness demonstrated through redemption.

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 43:1-3 - 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 name, you are mine.

1 Chronicles 17:22 For thy people Israel didst thou make thine own people for ever; and thou, LORD, becamest their God.

God chose the people of Israel to be His own people, and He became their God forever.

1. God's Unfailing Love for His People

2. Choosing to Follow God's Will

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 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.

1 Chronicles 17:23 Therefore now, LORD, let the thing that thou hast spoken concerning thy servant and concerning his house be established for ever, and do as thou hast said.

David prays to God that the promises made to him and his house would be fulfilled forever.

1. God is faithful to fulfill His promises.

2. Our response to God's promises should be to trust and obey.

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. James 2:17-18 - In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, You have faith; I have deeds. Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.

1 Chronicles 17:24 Let it even be established, that thy name may be magnified for ever, saying, The LORD of hosts is the God of Israel, even a God to Israel: and let the house of David thy servant be established before thee.

God is the LORD of hosts and the God of Israel, and He promises to establish the house of David.

1. A Call to Worship God Who Establishes His People

2. The Promise of God's Unfailing Faithfulness

1. Isaiah 9:7 - Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever.

2. Psalm 89:34 - My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.

1 Chronicles 17:25 For thou, O my God, hast told thy servant that thou wilt build him an house: therefore thy servant hath found in his heart to pray before thee.

David, moved by God's promise to build him an house, expresses his desire to pray before God.

1: We should follow David's example of faithfully turning to God in prayer.

2: When God makes promises to us, it is always best to respond with prayer and faith.

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: 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 Chronicles 17:26 And now, LORD, thou art God, and hast promised this goodness unto thy servant:

God has promised His servant goodness.

1. The Power of God's Promises

2. The Goodness of God's Covenant

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."

1 Chronicles 17:27 Now therefore let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may be before thee for ever: for thou blessest, O LORD, and it shall be blessed for ever.

God blesses those who accept His love and faithfulness.

1. The Blessings of God: Accepting His Love and Faithfulness

2. God's Love Endures Forever

1. 1 Chronicles 17:27

2. 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.

1 Chronicles chapter 18 focuses on David's military victories and the expansion of his kingdom.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing David's successful campaigns against the Philistines. He defeated them, captured their cities, and established garrisons in their territories (1 Chronicles 18:1).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights David's conquests over various nations surrounding Israel. He defeated Moab, forcing them to pay tribute. He also engaged in battle with Hadadezer, the king of Zobah, and emerged victorious (1 Chronicles 18:2-8).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to the spoils of war that David acquired. He took large amounts of gold, silver, and bronze from these conquered nations and dedicated them to God (1 Chronicles 18:9-11).

4th Paragraph:The account mentions that David's fame spread far and wide as a result of his military successes. Many nations became subject to him and brought tribute to him out of fear (1 Chronicles 18:12-13).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by listing some key officials in David's administration who served him faithfully during these conquests. These individuals held important positions within his government (1 Chronicles 18:14-17).

In summary, Chapter eighteen of 1 Chronicles depicts David's military victories, and expansion of his kingdom. Highlighting triumph over Philistines, and conquests over neighboring nations. Mentioning acquisition of spoils, and establishment of loyal officials. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King David's military prowess, and the growth and consolidation of his kingdom through successful campaigns while emphasizing the recognition he received from other nations as a powerful ruler.

1 Chronicles 18:1 Now after this it came to pass, that David smote the Philistines, and subdued them, and took Gath and her towns out of the hand of the Philistines.

David defeated the Philistines and freed the city of Gath from their rule.

1. God's protection and power will sustain us in our darkest moments.

2. We can experience victory when we trust in God.

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 Corinthians 15:57 - But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Chronicles 18:2 And he smote Moab; and the Moabites became David's servants, and brought gifts.

Summarizing Passage: David defeated Moab and they became his servants, bringing gifts.

1. The power of God and His favor over us in our battles.

2. Submitting to God's will and trusting in His power.

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. 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 Chronicles 18:3 And David smote Hadarezer king of Zobah unto Hamath, as he went to stablish his dominion by the river Euphrates.

David defeated Hadarezer king of Zobah and extended his kingdom s dominion to the Euphrates River.

1. The Power of God's Protection: David's Victory at the Euphrates

2. Let Nothing Stop You: How to 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. 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.

1 Chronicles 18:4 And David took from him a thousand chariots, and seven thousand horsemen, and twenty thousand footmen: David also houghed all the chariot horses, but reserved of them an hundred chariots.

David defeated the Syrian army and took thousands of chariots, horsemen, and footmen, but kept only a hundred chariots.

1. God is always by our side, even in the toughest of battles.

2. Victory comes through faith, not through human strength.

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 31:1 Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the LORD!

1 Chronicles 18:5 And when the Syrians of Damascus came to help Hadarezer king of Zobah, David slew of the Syrians two and twenty thousand men.

David defeated the Syrians of Damascus, killing 22,000 men.

1. God's Strength in God's People: How Our Faithful Lord Helps Us Overcome

2. The Power of Unwavering Faith: David's Example of Trusting in the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

1 Chronicles 18:6 Then David put garrisons in Syriadamascus; and the Syrians became David's servants, and brought gifts. Thus the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went.

David put garrisons in the Syrian city of Damascus and the Syrians became his servants, bringing him gifts. As a result, the Lord preserved David wherever he went.

1. God rewards our obedience by preserving us in our endeavors.

2. When we are faithful to God, He will protect us wherever we go.

1. Psalm 91:11 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

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.

1 Chronicles 18:7 And David took the shields of gold that were on the servants of Hadarezer, and brought them to Jerusalem.

David took the shields of gold from Hadarezer's servants and brought them to Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Obedience - How David's obedience to God led to him taking the shields of gold from Hadarezer's servants to Jerusalem.

2. The Rewards of Faithfulness - How God rewarded David for his faithfulness in taking the shields of gold to Jerusalem.

1. Joshua 1:7-9 - "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. 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. 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.

1 Chronicles 18:8 Likewise from Tibhath, and from Chun, cities of Hadarezer, brought David very much brass, wherewith Solomon made the brasen sea, and the pillars, and the vessels of brass.

David brought brass from the cities of Tibhath and Chun to make the brass sea, pillars, and other vessels.

1. The Power of Working Together: How David and Solomon Accomplished the Extraordinary

2. From Little Things Big Things Grow: The Impact of Small Contributions

1. 1 Chronicles 18:8

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 Chronicles 18:9 Now when Tou king of Hamath heard how David had smitten all the host of Hadarezer king of Zobah;

David's victory over the Ammonites and Syrians.

1. The Lord will provide us with strength to overcome any obstacle.

2. We can trust in God's power to bring us victory and success.

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 Chronicles 18:10 He sent Hadoram his son to king David, to enquire of his welfare, and to congratulate him, because he had fought against Hadarezer, and smitten him; (for Hadarezer had war with Tou;) and with him all manner of vessels of gold and silver and brass.

King David received congratulations from Hadoram, the son of the king of Tou, after defeating Hadarezer in battle. As a gift, Hadoram brought vessels of gold, silver, and brass.

1. Be thankful for the successes God gives us, and use them to glorify His name.

2. Recognize the value of relationships, and strive to build and maintain them.

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. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

1 Chronicles 18:11 Them also king David dedicated unto the LORD, with the silver and the gold that he brought from all these nations; from Edom, and from Moab, and from the children of Ammon, and from the Philistines, and from Amalek.

King David dedicated the silver and gold he had obtained from the nations of Edom, Moab, Ammon, Philistines, and Amalek to the Lord.

1. Our Generosity is Tested When We Have Abundance - 1 Chronicles 18:11

2. The Lord Rewards Generosity - 1 Chronicles 18:11

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 18:12 Moreover Abishai the son of Zeruiah slew of the Edomites in the valley of salt eighteen thousand.

Abishai, son of Zeruiah, killed 18,000 Edomites in the Valley of Salt.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Abishai's Commitment to God Showed Strength and Bravery

2. The Need to Stand Firm: How Abishai's Faith in the Lord Led Him to Victory

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

2. Romans 12:19-21 - 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.

1 Chronicles 18:13 And he put garrisons in Edom; and all the Edomites became David's servants. Thus the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went.

David put garrisons in Edom and the Edomites became his servants, and the LORD helped him in all his journeys.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Need - How the Lord was with David and preserved him no matter where he went.

2. Recognizing God's Sovereignty - How God can use even our enemies to fulfill his plans.

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 Chronicles 18:14 So David reigned over all Israel, and executed judgment and justice among all his people.

David was the king of all Israel and he ruled with justice and righteousness.

1. God is a just and righteous ruler.

2. Our faith should lead us to always seek justice and righteousness.

1. Exodus 23:2-3 You shall not follow the masses in doing evil, nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after a multitude in order to pervert justice. You shall not show partiality to a poor man in his dispute.

2. Jeremiah 22:3 Thus says the Lord, Do justice and righteousness, and deliver the one who has been robbed from the power of his oppressor. Also do not mistreat or do violence to the stranger, the orphan, or the widow; and do not shed innocent blood in this place.

1 Chronicles 18:15 And Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the host; and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, recorder.

Joab son of Zeruiah was in charge of the army and Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was the recorder.

1. God has a place for everyone in His kingdom.

2. Everyone has a purpose in the divine plan.

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 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 Chronicles 18:16 And Zadok the son of Ahitub, and Abimelech the son of Abiathar, were the priests; and Shavsha was scribe;

Zadok and Abimelech were the priests and Shavsha was the scribe in 1 Chronicles 18:16.

1. The Importance of Priests and Scribes in Biblical Times

2. The Ministry of Zadok and Abimelech in 1 Chronicles 18

1. Numbers 18:7-8 - "And you and your sons with you shall attend to your priesthood for everything at the altar and behind the veil; and you shall serve. I give your priesthood as a gift, and any outsider who comes near shall be put to death."

2. Hebrews 7:23-24 - "The former priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers because they were prevented by death from continuing, but Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently."

1 Chronicles 18:17 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and the sons of David were chief about the king.

Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was appointed over the Cherethites and Pelethites, and the sons of David were in positions of great authority under King David.

1. The Power of Loyalty: The Story of Benaiah and the Cherethites and Pelethites

2. God's Blessing for Faithful Service: The Sons of David and King David

1. Matthew 28:20 - And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

2. Proverbs 28:20 - A faithful man will abound with blessings, but whoever hastens to be rich will not go unpunished.

1 Chronicles chapter 19 continues to highlight David's military encounters, particularly with the Ammonites and the Syrians.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by mentioning that Nahash, the king of the Ammonites, died. David sends messengers to express condolences to Hanun, Nahash's son and successor (1 Chronicles 19:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: However, Hanun's advisers convince him that David's intentions are malicious. They suggest that David sent his servants as spies rather than in goodwill. As a result, Hanun humiliates and mistreats David's messengers (1 Chronicles 19:3-5).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to the Ammonite army mobilizing for battle against Israel. Upon hearing this news, David sends Joab with a mighty army to confront them (1 Chronicles 19:6-9).

4th Paragraph:The account describes two separate battles between Israel and its enemies the Ammonites and their allies, the Syrians. In both battles, Joab leads Israelite forces to victory over their adversaries (1 Chronicles 19:10-19).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by noting that after these victories, various nations began to fear and submit themselves to David's authority. They became vassals who paid tribute to him (1 Chronicles 19:20-21).

In summary, Chapter nineteen of 1 Chronicles depicts David's encounters with Ammonites, and victories over Syrians. Highlighting condolences sent, and mistreatment of messengers. Mentioning mobilization for battle, and triumphs under Joab's leadership. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both diplomatic misunderstandings leading to conflict, and successful military campaigns under King David while emphasizing his growing influence as neighboring nations recognized his power through submission and tribute payments.

1 Chronicles 19:1 Now it came to pass after this, that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon died, and his son reigned in his stead.

After the death of Nahash, the king of the Ammonites, his son took the throne.

1. The Sovereign Hand of God: How God Uses Kings and Kingdoms for His Purposes

2. The Power of Inheritance: How Our Legacy Shapes Our Future

1. Daniel 4:17 - The Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will

2. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children

1 Chronicles 19:2 And David said, I will shew kindness unto Hanun the son of Nahash, because his father shewed kindness to me. And David sent messengers to comfort him concerning his father. So the servants of David came into the land of the children of Ammon to Hanun, to comfort him.

David showed kindness to Hanun, the son of Nahash, because Nahash had been kind to him. David sent messengers to Hanun in the land of the Ammonites to comfort him.

1. The Power of Kindness: How God rewards good deeds done unto others.

2. The Blessings of Comfort: How Jesus brings peace and joy to our lives.

1. Matthew 5:7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

2. Ephesians 4:32 "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

1 Chronicles 19:3 But the princes of the children of Ammon said to Hanun, Thinkest thou that David doth honour thy father, that he hath sent comforters unto thee? are not his servants come unto thee for to search, and to overthrow, and to spy out the land?

The princes of Ammon accused David of not honoring Hanun's father and accused his servants of coming to Ammon to search, overthrow, and spy out the land.

1. The Importance of Honoring Authority

2. The Danger of Accusing 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. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

2. 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. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, Let me take the speck out of your eye, when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

1 Chronicles 19:4 Wherefore Hanun took David's servants, and shaved them, and cut off their garments in the midst hard by their buttocks, and sent them away.

Hanun humiliated David's servants by shaving them and cutting off their garments in a humiliating manner.

1. Humiliation is an act of disrespect and should always be avoided.

2. We should show respect to those around us, even if we have been wronged.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 19:5 Then there went certain, and told David how the men were served. And he sent to meet them: for the men were greatly ashamed. And the king said, Tarry at Jericho until your beards be grown, and then return.

David sends some men to Jericho after learning that his army has been humiliated in battle. He orders them to remain there until their beards have grown.

1. The Benefits of Patience - Patience can be a difficult virtue to uphold, but it is one that can bring peace and strength.

2. Understanding Humiliation - Humiliation can be a difficult experience, but it is important to learn from it and use it to move forward.

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 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.

1 Chronicles 19:6 And when the children of Ammon saw that they had made themselves odious to David, Hanun and the children of Ammon sent a thousand talents of silver to hire them chariots and horsemen out of Mesopotamia, and out of Syriamaachah, and out of Zobah.

The children of Ammon were disliked by David and so they hired chariots and horsemen from Mesopotamia, Syriamaachah, and Zobah with a thousand talents of silver.

1. Entrusting Your Life to God - How having faith and trusting in God will bring us peace and joy, regardless of our circumstances.

2. The Power of Influence - The importance of making wise decisions and the consequences of our actions.

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."

1 Chronicles 19:7 So they hired thirty and two thousand chariots, and the king of Maachah and his people; who came and pitched before Medeba. And the children of Ammon gathered themselves together from their cities, and came to battle.

The children of Ammon hired thirty two thousand chariots and gathered together to battle against Medeba.

1. We can learn from the passage that God is always in control and He will protect and provide for us even in difficult circumstances.

2. The passage teaches us that we should come together to face our challenges as a unified group.

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 Chronicles 19:8 And when David heard of it, he sent Joab, and all the host of the mighty men.

When David heard news of a battle, he sent Joab and a strong army to fight.

1. The Power of Faithful Obedience: A Study of 1 Chronicles 19:8

2. The Power of One Man: David's Leadership in 1 Chronicles 19:8

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. Ephesians 6:11-12 "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.

1 Chronicles 19:9 And the children of Ammon came out, and put the battle in array before the gate of the city: and the kings that were come were by themselves in the field.

The children of Ammon prepared for battle outside the city gate, and the kings were present in the field.

1. The importance of courage and unity in difficult times.

2. The power of being united in faith.

1. Ephesians 4:3-6 - Make 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!

1 Chronicles 19:10 Now when Joab saw that the battle was set against him before and behind, he chose out of all the choice of Israel, and put them in array against the Syrians.

Joab organized the best of Israel's troops to fight against the Syrians.

1. Stand firm in the face of adversity.

2. Persevere in the midst of difficulty.

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. 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."

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 Chronicles 19:11 And the rest of the people he delivered unto the hand of Abishai his brother, and they set themselves in array against the children of Ammon.

King David gave command of the rest of the people to his brother Abishai to fight against the children of Ammon.

1. God's plan for us is to work together and help each other in times of need.

2. We can trust in God to help us conquer our enemies and protect us in battle.

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. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but victory rests with the Lord.

1 Chronicles 19:12 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 help thee.

A Syrian messenger tells Joab that if the Syrians are too strong for him, then Joab will help him, and if the Ammonites are too strong for Joab, then the messenger will help him.

1. The Power of Unity: Learning to Work Together

2. The Faithfulness of God: His Strength in Our Weakness

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Making every effort to maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace

2. Isaiah 40:29 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

1 Chronicles 19:13 Be of good courage, and let us behave ourselves valiantly for our people, and for the cities of our God: and let the LORD do that which is good in his sight.

We should be brave and take a stand for our people and for God's cities, trusting that God will do what is right.

1. Stand Up and Be Brave: Following God's Call to Courage

2. Trusting God in Difficult Times: Living Valiantly in 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. 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."

1 Chronicles 19:14 So Joab and the people that were with him drew nigh before the Syrians unto the battle; and they fled before him.

Joab and his army faced the Syrians in battle and were victorious, causing the Syrians to flee.

1: God can use any size army to overcome any obstacle.

2: Victory is found in 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: 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 Chronicles 19:15 And when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians were fled, they likewise fled before Abishai his brother, and entered into the city. Then Joab came to Jerusalem.

When the Syrians fled, the children of Ammon followed suit and ran away from Abishai, Joab's brother. Joab then returned to Jerusalem.

1. "The Power of Fleeing: How to Run Away from Temptation"

2. "The Strength of Brotherhood: How Joab and Abishai Worked Together"

1. Proverbs 28:1 - "The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion."

2. Matthew 10:23 - "When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."

1 Chronicles 19:16 And when the Syrians saw that they were put to the worse before Israel, they sent messengers, and drew forth the Syrians that were beyond the river: and Shophach the captain of the host of Hadarezer went before them.

The Syrians, upon realizing they were losing the battle against Israel, sent messengers to bring in reinforcements from beyond the river and Shophach, captain of Hadarezer's army, led them.

1. Trust in the Lord and His Strength - 1 Chronicles 16:11

2. God Will Provide for His People - Philippians 4:19

1. Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness

2. Romans 8:31 - If God is for us, who can be against us?

1 Chronicles 19:17 And it was told David; and he gathered all Israel, and passed over Jordan, and came upon them, and set the battle in array against them. So when David had put the battle in array against the Syrians, they fought with him.

David received news of the Syrian army's approach and gathered all of Israel to fight them. He crossed the Jordan River and set up the battle against them.

1. We can have victory through faith in God, even in the face of daunting odds.

2. Developing our courage to face our battles with faith can lead to great victories.

1. Joshua 1:6-9: Be strong and courageous, 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?

1 Chronicles 19:18 But 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.

David defeated the Syrians by killing seven thousand men in chariots and forty thousand footmen, with the captain of the host, Shophach, among the dead.

1. The Power of Faith in Overcoming Adversity

2. God's Grace in Our Victories

1. Romans 8:31 - "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

1 Chronicles 19:19 And when the servants of Hadarezer saw that they were put to the worse before Israel, they made peace with David, and became his servants: neither would the Syrians help the children of Ammon any more.

Hadarezer's servants were defeated by the Israelites and they then agreed to serve David and no longer help the Ammonites.

1. God is faithful and will always be with us in our struggles and will provide us with victory.

2. We must trust in God and rely on His strength, not the strength of others.

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?"

1 Chronicles chapter 20 focuses on further military victories and conflicts involving David and his army.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by mentioning that in the spring, when kings typically go out to battle, Joab leads the Israelite army against the Ammonites. They besiege Rabbah, the capital city of Ammon, while David remains in Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 20:1).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights a specific incident where David's absence from the battlefield leads to trouble. While walking on his palace rooftop, he sees a beautiful woman named Bathsheba bathing. David desires her and commits adultery with her (1 Chronicles 20:2-3).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to David's confrontation with Uriah, Bathsheba's husband and one of his loyal soldiers. David attempts to cover up his sin by summoning Uriah from battle and encouraging him to spend time with his wife. However, Uriah remains faithful to his duty (1 Chronicles 20:4-8).

4th Paragraph:The account describes how David schemes to have Uriah killed in battle by placing him in a vulnerable position during an attack on the Ammonites. Joab carries out this plan, resulting in Uriah's death (1 Chronicles 20:9-10).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by briefly mentioning other military campaigns led by David's commanders against various enemies of Israel Philistines and giants known as descendants of Rapha. These battles result in further victories for Israel (1 Chronicles 20:11-13).

In summary, Chapter twenty of 1 Chronicles depicts Joab leading against Ammonites, and events surrounding Bathsheba. Highlighting siege on Rabbah, and David's sinful actions. Mentioning confrontation with Uriah, and subsequent death. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both military campaigns under Joab's leadership, and the consequences of King David's moral failure through adultery and orchestrating Uriah's death while emphasizing the ongoing conflicts faced by Israel during this period.

1 Chronicles 20:1 And it came to pass, that after the year was expired, at the time that kings go out to battle, Joab led forth the power of the army, and wasted the country of the children of Ammon, and came and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried at Jerusalem. And Joab smote Rabbah, and destroyed it.

Joab led the army and conquered the country of Ammon, and then besieged and destroyed Rabbah while David stayed in Jerusalem.

1. It is important to be mindful of our responsibilities and prioritize what is important.

2. The power of God can be seen in our ability to accomplish great things.

1. Romans 12:10-12 - 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.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 20:2 And David took the crown of their king from off his head, and found it to weigh a talent of gold, and there were precious stones in it; and it was set upon David's head: and he brought also exceeding much spoil out of the city.

David captured the crown of the enemy king and found it to be a talent of gold with precious stones. He also took much spoil from the city.

1. The Power of God in Unexpected Places - Showing how God's power can be found in unlikely places and how it can be used to glorify Him.

2. The Power of Faith - Exploring how faith in God can lead to success in any situation.

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

2. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

1 Chronicles 20:3 And he brought out the people that were in it, and cut them with saws, and with harrows of iron, and with axes. Even so dealt David with all the cities of the children of Ammon. And David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.

David defeated the cities of the Ammonites by cutting the people with saws, harrows of iron, and axes, before returning to Jerusalem with all the people.

1. God uses us to bring justice and defeat evil in this world.

2. Even in the midst of war, God calls us to bring peace and mercy.

1. Ephesians 6:10-20 - Putting on the full armor of God to stand against spiritual warfare.

2. Romans 12:17-21 - Living peaceably and being kind to our enemies.

1 Chronicles 20:4 And it came to pass after this, that there arose war at Gezer with the Philistines; at which time Sibbechai the Hushathite slew Sippai, that was of the children of the giant: and they were subdued.

After a period of peace, a war broke out between the Philistines and Gezer, in which Sibbechai the Hushathite killed Sippai, a descendant of the giants, and the Philistines were defeated.

1. The Power of Faith: How God Grants Us the Strength to Overcome Even the Most Formidable Opponents

2. The Importance of Unity: How Working Together Brings Victory in Times of Conflict

1. Joshua 1:1-9 - Be strong and courageous, for the Lord will be with you wherever you go.

2. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

1 Chronicles 20:5 And there was war again with the Philistines; and Elhanan the son of Jair slew Lahmi the brother of Goliath the Gittite, whose spear staff was like a weaver's beam.

There was a war between the Israelites and the Philistines. Elhanan, son of Jair, killed Lahmi, the brother of Goliath the Gittite.

1. God is with us even in the midst of difficult battles.

2. We can depend on God's strength and power in times of struggle.

1. 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.

2. Proverbs 18:10; The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe.

1 Chronicles 20:6 And yet again there was war at Gath, where was a man of great stature, whose fingers and toes were four and twenty, six on each hand, and six on each foot and he also was the son of the giant.

This passage recounts a battle between the Israelites and a giant in Gath. The giant had 24 digits on his hands and feet.

1. Overcoming Giants: Learning to Defeat Our Fears

2. The Strength of the Lord: Standing Up To Our Challenges

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 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 Chronicles 20:7 But when he defied Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimea David's brother slew him.

Jonathan, David's brother, killed Goliath when he defied Israel.

1. Never Underestimate the Power of Faith

2. The Strength of Family

1. 1 Chronicles 20:7

2. 1 Samuel 17:45-47 (And David said to the Philistine, "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. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. Then all this assembly shall know that the Lord does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hands.")

1 Chronicles 20:8 These were born unto the giant in Gath; and they fell by the hand of David, and by the hand of his servants.

David and his servants fought against the giants in Gath and defeated them.

1. Victory in Jesus: How God Fights for Us

2. Overcoming Giants: Trusting in the Lord's Strength

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 Chronicles chapter 21 focuses on David's sinful decision to conduct a census and the resulting consequences for Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by mentioning that Satan incites David to take a census of Israel. David commands Joab, the commander of his army, to go throughout the land and count the people (1 Chronicles 21:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights Joab's initial objection to carrying out the census. He warns David that it would bring trouble upon Israel and advises against it. However, David insists on proceeding with his plan (1 Chronicles 21:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to the actual counting of the people. Joab and his officers travel throughout Israel for nine months and twenty days, taking note of every individual capable of bearing arms. They report their findings to David (1 Chronicles 21:5-6).

4th Paragraph:The account describes how God becomes displeased with David's actions. He sends the prophet Gad to deliver a message of judgment, giving David three options for punishment three years of famine, three months fleeing from enemies, or three days of plague (1 Chronicles 21:7-12).

5th Paragraph:The chapter continues with God sending a severe plague upon Israel as a consequence of David's sin. Thousands die throughout the land until an angel reaches Jerusalem. At that point, God commands him to stop and informs Gad about erecting an altar at that location (1 Chronicles 21:13-19).

6th Paragraph:The focus shifts to David seeing the angel standing between heaven and earth with drawn sword over Jerusalem. He pleads for mercy on behalf of his people and offers sacrifices at the designated altar site (1 Chronicles 21:20-26).

7th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning how God responds favorably to these sacrifices by causing fire from heaven to consume them completely. Following this act, God commands the angel not to harm Jerusalem any further (1 Chronicles 21:27-30).

In summary, Chapter twenty-one of 1 Chronicles depicts David's sinful decision, and consequences faced by Israel. Highlighting Satan inciting census, and Joab's objection. Mentioning counting process, and choices given by God. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King David's prideful desire for numerical strength in conducting an unauthorized census, and God's response through judgment in bringing about a severe plague while emphasizing divine mercy when repentance is shown through sacrificial offerings leading to divine intervention and protection over Jerusalem.

1 Chronicles 21:1 And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

Satan tempted King David to sin by counting the people of Israel.

1. "The Temptations of David: How to Resist Sin"

2. "The Power of Temptation: Learning to Rely on God"

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 21:2 And David said to Joab and to the rulers of the people, Go, number Israel from Beersheba even to Dan; and bring the number of them to me, that I may know it.

David commanded Joab and the rulers of Israel to count the people from Beersheba to Dan.

1. The importance of counting the people of Israel.

2. God's commands must be obeyed.

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. Deuteronomy 4:1-2 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. 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.

1 Chronicles 21:3 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? why will he be a cause of trespass to Israel?

Joab questions why King David is making a census of the people of Israel, as they are all considered servants of the Lord.

1. We must remember that all people are servants of the Lord.

2. We must not take advantage of our position of authority to do things that will cause others to stumble.

1. Isaiah 40:27-31 Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God ?

2. Ephesians 5:21-33 - Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

1 Chronicles 21:4 Nevertheless the king's word prevailed against Joab. Wherefore Joab departed, and went throughout all Israel, and came to Jerusalem.

This passage describes how King David's word was more powerful than Joab's, so Joab had to leave and travel through all Israel to Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Words - Exploring how our words are powerful and can have life-altering effects.

2. The Authority of Kings - Examining how kings have authority over their people and how it can be used in a positive way.

1. James 3:1-12 - Exploring the power of the tongue and how it can be used for good or evil.

2. 1 Samuel 15:22-23 - Examining how obedience to God is more important than man's laws and authority.

1 Chronicles 21:5 And Joab gave the sum of the number of the people unto David. And all they of Israel were a thousand thousand and an hundred thousand men that drew sword: and Judah was four hundred threescore and ten thousand men that drew sword.

Joab reported to David the number of men in Israel and Judah who could fight with swords, totalling 1.1 million and 470,000 respectively.

1. God blesses His people with a multitude of resources to protect and defend.

2. We are stronger together than we are apart.

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. 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 Chronicles 21:6 But Levi and Benjamin counted he not among them: for the king's word was abominable to Joab.

Joab did not count the tribes of Levi and Benjamin in the census because the king's command was detestable to him.

1. Obedience to God's commands should always trump disobedience to man's.

2. Joab's faithfulness to God's commands was greater than his loyalty to the king.

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.

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."

1 Chronicles 21:7 And God was displeased with this thing; therefore he smote Israel.

God was displeased with the actions of Israel and punished them.

1. God's justice extends to all people, and He will punish those who break His laws.

2. God's anger is always righteous, and He will not tolerate wrongdoing.

1. Isaiah 10:12-13 - "Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel: Because you despise this word, and trust in oppression and perversity, and rely on them, therefore this iniquity shall be to you like a breach ready to fall, a bulge in a high wall, whose breaking comes suddenly, in an instant."

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 Chronicles 21:8 And David said unto God, I have sinned greatly, because I have done this thing: but now, I beseech thee, do away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.

David acknowledges his sin and humbly requests God to forgive him.

1. The Power of Confessing Our Sins

2. The Beauty of Humility

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 4:6 - "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

1 Chronicles 21:9 And the LORD spake unto Gad, David's seer, saying,

God spoke to Gad, a seer of David's, with instructions.

1. The Importance of Listening to God's Voice

2. Responding Faithfully to God's Word

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 1:19-20 - "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."

1 Chronicles 21:10 Go and tell David, saying, 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 choices and asks him to pick one of them.

1. The Power of Choice: Making Wise Decisions

2. God's Grace in Providing Options

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 37:4 - Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

1 Chronicles 21:11 So Gad came to David, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Choose thee

Gad has come to David with a message from the LORD - to choose.

1. Hear the call of the Lord to choose wisely.

2. Make your decisions in light of God's will.

1. Joshua 24:15 Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve.

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 Chronicles 21:12 Either three years' famine; or three months to be destroyed before thy foes, while that the sword of thine enemies overtaketh thee; or else three days the sword of the LORD, even the pestilence, in the land, and the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the coasts of Israel. Now therefore advise thyself what word I shall bring again to him that sent me.

God gives King David a choice between three punishments: three years of famine, three months of destruction by his enemies, or three days of pestilence and the angel of the Lord destroying all of Israel's coasts. He must decide which one to choose.

1. God's Mercy in Punishment: How We Can Receive Grace and Mercy Even in Trying Times

2. Understanding God's Justice: How We Can Recognize and Respond to God's Discipline

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 12:6 - For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.

1 Chronicles 21:13 And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let me fall now into the hand of the LORD; for very great are his mercies: but let me not fall into the hand of man.

David is in a difficult situation and recognizes that God's mercy is great. He asked for God to guide him rather than man.

1. The Mercy of God in Difficult Times

2. Relying on God's Guidance Over Man's

1. James 1:2-5 - Count it all joy, my brethren, 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.

5. Psalm 25:8-10 - Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way. The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way. All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

1 Chronicles 21:14 So the LORD sent pestilence upon Israel: and there fell of Israel seventy thousand men.

The Lord sent a pestilence to Israel, resulting in the deaths of 70,000 men.

1. God's Discipline: The Power of Obedience

2. The Sovereignty of God: Why We Trust in Him

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. 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 Chronicles 21:15 And God sent an angel unto Jerusalem to destroy it: and as he was destroying, the LORD beheld, and he repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed, It is enough, stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD stood by the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite.

God sent an angel to Jerusalem to destroy it, but when he saw the destruction, he changed his mind and stopped the angel. The angel stood by Ornan the Jebusite's threshing floor.

1. God's Mercy: How God Shows Compassion and Restraint in Times of Destruction

2. The Threshing Floor: The Significance of Ornan the Jebusite in God's Plan

1. Jonah 4:10-11 - God's compassion and mercy in Jonah's story

2. Exodus 34:6-7 - The Lord's mercy, lovingkindness, and forgiveness

1 Chronicles 21:16 And David lifted up his eyes, and saw the angel of the LORD stand between the earth and the heaven, having a drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders of Israel, who were clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces.

David and the elders of Israel saw the angel of the Lord with a drawn sword, and they fell upon their faces in sackcloth.

1. God's Judgement: A Call To Repentance

2. The Lord's Protection: A Comfort In Time of Trouble

1. Isaiah 6:1-8

2. Luke 22:39-46

1 Chronicles 21:17 And David said unto God, Is it not I that commanded the people to be numbered? even I it is that have sinned and done evil indeed; but as for these sheep, what have they done? let thine hand, I pray thee, O LORD my God, be on me, and on my father's house; but not on thy people, that they should be plagued.

David acknowledges his sin and asks God to punish him and his family, rather than punishing the nation.

1: We must recognize our own sin and humbly accept responsibility for our actions.

2: We must have a heart for others and be willing to take on responsibility for their actions.

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: Galatians 6:2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

1 Chronicles 21:18 Then the angel of the LORD commanded Gad to say to David, that David should go up, and set up an altar unto the LORD in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite.

The angel of the LORD commanded Gad to tell David to go up to the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite and set up an altar to the LORD.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Brings Blessing

2. The Power of Sacrifice: The Significance of Giving to God

1. Philippians 2:8 - "And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death even death on a cross!"

2. Genesis 22:1-18 - Abraham's willingness to sacrifice Isaac to God as a demonstration of his faith.

1 Chronicles 21:19 And David went up at the saying of Gad, which he spake in the name of the LORD.

David listened to the words of Gad and followed them in the name of the Lord.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Guidance

2. Following the Lord's Will

1. Isaiah 30:21 and whether you turn to the right hand or to the left, your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in 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.

1 Chronicles 21:20 And Ornan turned back, and saw the angel; and his four sons with him hid themselves. Now Ornan was threshing wheat.

Ornan encountered an angel and his four sons hid in fear, while Ornan was threshing wheat.

1. Fear Not: Trust in God and his Angels

2. The Blessing of Hard Work: A Lesson from Ornan

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

2. Proverbs 13:23 - Much food is in the tillage of the poor: but there is that is destroyed for want of judgment.

1 Chronicles 21:21 And as David came to Ornan, Ornan looked and saw David, and went out of the threshingfloor, and bowed himself to David with his face to the ground.

David visited Ornan and when Ornan saw him, he bowed down to David and showed his respect.

1. We should always be open to showing respect to those in authority over us.

2. We should be willing to humble ourselves before God and those He has placed in authority over us.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 21:22 Then David said to Ornan, Grant me the place of this threshingfloor, that I may build an altar therein unto the LORD: thou shalt grant it me for the full price: that the plague may be stayed from the people.

David asked Ornan for the place of the threshingfloor so he could build an altar to stop the plague from affecting the people.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How David's Offering Changed the Course of History

2. A Heart of Gratitude: The Story of Ornan and His Generous Gift

1. 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."

2. 1 John 4:19 - "We love him, because he first loved us."

1 Chronicles 21:23 And Ornan said unto David, Take it to thee, and let my lord the king do that which is good in his eyes: lo, I give thee the oxen also for burnt offerings, and the threshing instruments for wood, and the wheat for the meat offering; I give it all.

Ornan offers to give David the oxen, threshing instruments, and wheat for the sacrifices and offerings.

1. God's blessings come in unexpected ways.

2. We are called to be generous and to give sacrificially.

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.

2. Acts 20:35 - In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

1 Chronicles 21:24 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.

King David refused to take the land from Ornan for free, since he wanted to offer burnt offerings to the Lord without cost.

1. The importance of giving to the Lord without cost.

2. The example of King David and the importance of showing reverence to God in all we do.

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 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.

1 Chronicles 21:25 So David gave to Ornan for the place six hundred shekels of gold by weight.

David purchased a threshing floor from Ornan for 600 shekels of gold.

1. The value of God's presence in our lives

2. The importance of making wise investments

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. Proverbs 17:16 Why should a fool have money in his hand to buy wisdom when he has no sense?

1 Chronicles 21:26 And David built there an altar unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called upon the LORD; and he answered him from heaven by fire upon the altar of burnt offering.

David offered burnt and peace offerings to the Lord, and God answered him from heaven with fire on the altar.

1. Offer Your Gifts to God With a Willing Heart

2. The Power of Prayer in Action

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. 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 Chronicles 21:27 And the LORD commanded the angel; and he put up his sword again into the sheath thereof.

God commanded an angel to put his sword away, thus ending the punishment of the Israelites.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - how God's mercy and grace can help us to move past our mistakes

2. The Importance of Humility - how humility and obedience can help us to receive God's blessings

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 21:28 At that time when David saw that the LORD had answered him in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite, then he sacrificed there.

After the LORD answered David's prayer at the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite, David offered a sacrifice in gratitude.

1. The Power of Gratitude: How to Show Appreciation for God's Blessings

2. The Importance of Sacrifices: Understanding the Significance of Worship

1. Luke 17:11-19 (Jesus Heals Ten Lepers)

2. 1 Samuel 1:1-8 (Hannah's Prayer of Gratitude)

1 Chronicles 21:29 For the tabernacle of the LORD, which Moses made in the wilderness, and the altar of the burnt offering, were at that season in the high place at Gibeon.

This passage explains that the Tabernacle of the Lord and the altar of burnt offering were located at the High Place in Gibeon during the time of Moses.

1. God's Presence in Every Place: Showing God's Glory Everywhere

2. The Significance of the Tabernacle: Understanding the Sacrifice and Worship of the Lord

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 21:30 But David could not go before it to enquire of God: for he was afraid because of the sword of the angel of the LORD.

David was unable to enquire of God due to fear of the angel of the LORD's sword.

1. Fear of the Lord: Learning to Trust God in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Obedience and Discernment

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.

1 Chronicles chapter 22 focuses on David's preparations for building the temple and his instructions to Solomon, his son and successor.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with David declaring his intention to build a house for the name of the Lord, emphasizing its importance and significance (1 Chronicles 22:1).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how David gathers materials in abundance for the construction of the temple. He prepares large quantities of stone, iron, bronze, cedar logs, and other valuable resources (1 Chronicles 22:2-4).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to David's explanation that he cannot build the temple himself because he has shed much blood in warfare. However, he expresses his desire for Solomon to carry out this task as God had chosen him to be king over Israel (1 Chronicles 22:5-10).

4th Paragraph:The account describes how David encourages Solomon by providing him with specific instructions regarding the construction of the temple. He advises Solomon to be strong and courageous, assuring him that God will be with him throughout this endeavor (1 Chronicles 22:11-13).

5th Paragraph:The chapter continues with David instructing various officials priests, Levites, craftsmen to assist Solomon in building the temple. He urges them to devote themselves wholeheartedly to this sacred task (1 Chronicles 22:14-16).

6th Paragraph:The focus shifts back to the abundant resources that David has gathered for constructing the temple. He donates large amounts of gold and silver from his personal treasures as an offering for God's house (1 Chronicles 22:17-19).

7th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by emphasizing that David made extensive preparations before his death. He charges Solomon once again to take up this responsibility diligently and faithfully in order to fulfill God's purpose (1 Chronicles 22:20-19).

In summary, Chapter twenty-two of 1 Chronicles depicts David's preparations, and instructions for building the temple. Highlighting gathering materials, and explaining inability. Mentioning encouragement given, and specific instructions provided. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King David's commitment in accumulating resources and making arrangements for constructing a grand temple, and his transfer of responsibility and guidance toward Solomon while emphasizing divine selection and support throughout this significant undertaking.

1 Chronicles 22:1 Then David said, This is the house of the LORD God, and this is the altar of the burnt offering for Israel.

David declared the temple and the altar of burnt offerings to be the house of the LORD God and the altar of burnt offerings for Israel.

1. The Importance of the House of the Lord

2. The Significance of the Altar of Burnt Offerings

1. Ezekiel 43:19 - You shall give to the Levitical priests of the family of Zadok, who are near to me, declares the Lord God, a portion to be taken from the most holy offerings.

2. Exodus 27:1-2 - You shall make an altar of acacia wood, five cubits long and five cubits broad. The altar shall be square, and its height shall be three cubits. You shall make horns for it on its four corners; its horns shall be of one piece with it, and you shall overlay it with bronze.

1 Chronicles 22:2 And David commanded to gather together the strangers that were in the land of Israel; and he set masons to hew wrought stones to build the house of God.

David commanded the strangers in Israel to construct the house of God using masons and hewn stones.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Obeying God's Command Changed the Course of History

2. The Power of Community: Working Together to Create a House of God

1. Ephesians 2:19-22 - You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

2. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

1 Chronicles 22:3 And David prepared iron in abundance for the nails for the doors of the gates, and for the joinings; and brass in abundance without weight;

David prepared an abundance of iron and brass to be used for the doors and joinings of his palace.

1. How God Equips Us For Success: Using David as an example of how God equips us with the necessary resources to succeed in whatever task we are facing.

2. Working Diligently For the Lord: The importance of expending our energy and resources in faithfully servicing the Lord.

1. Colossians 3:23 - "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men."

2. Ephesians 6:7 - "With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men."

1 Chronicles 22:4 Also cedar trees in abundance: for the Zidonians and they of Tyre brought much cedar wood to David.

David received an abundance of cedar wood from the Zidonians and Tyrians.

1. God provides us with all we need if we trust in Him.

2. God's gifts are often unexpected and come from diverse sources.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his 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. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Chronicles 22:5 And David said, Solomon my son is young and tender, and the house that is to be builded for the LORD must be exceeding magnifical, of fame and of glory throughout all countries: I will therefore now make preparation for it. So David prepared abundantly before his death.

David was preparing for the building of a magnifical house for the LORD before he passed away.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in David's preparation for the LORD's temple.

2. We must follow in the footsteps of David and prepare for God's work.

1. 1 Chronicles 22:5

2. Matthew 6:33-34: "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

1 Chronicles 22:6 Then he called for Solomon his son, and charged him to build an house for the LORD God of Israel.

David commands his son Solomon to build a temple for the Lord God of Israel.

1: We can learn from David's example of obedience to God and faith in His commandments.

2: Building a temple for God is a physical demonstration of our faith and devotion to Him.

1: Acts 17:24-25 - "The 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."

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.

1 Chronicles 22:7 And David said to Solomon, My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build an house unto the name of the LORD my God:

David instructed Solomon to build a temple dedicated to the Lord.

1. Remembering Our Priorities: Building a House for the Lord

2. Obeying the Lord s Command: David and Solomon s Example

1. Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness

2. 1 Peter 2:5 - you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house

1 Chronicles 22:8 But the word of the LORD came to me, saying, Thou hast shed blood abundantly, and hast made great wars: thou shalt not build an house unto my name, because thou hast shed much blood upon the earth in my sight.

God told David he was not permitted to build a house to God's name because he had caused much bloodshed.

1. God's Mercy Endures Despite Our Mistakes

2. How Our Actions Have Consequences

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. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

1 Chronicles 22:9 Behold, a son shall be born to thee, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies round about: for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness unto Israel in his days.

God promises to give Solomon rest from his enemies and peace and quietness to Israel during his reign.

1. The Power of Peace: How God's Promise of Rest and Quiet to Solomon Can Help Us Find Inner Peace.

2. God's Promise of Rest: How God's Promise to Solomon Can Guide Us Through Difficult Times.

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

2. Psalm 29:11 - The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace.

1 Chronicles 22:10 He shall build an house for my name; and he shall be my son, and I will be his father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel for ever.

God promised to make David's son the King of Israel forever.

1. The Power of God's Promises

2. The Faithfulness and Loyalty of God

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 Chronicles 22:11 Now, my son, the LORD be with thee; and prosper thou, and build the house of the LORD thy God, as he hath said of thee.

David encourages his son Solomon to build the temple of the Lord as God had promised.

1. "Be Bold and Build for the Lord"

2. "Obeying the Lord's Command"

1. 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.

2. 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.

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.

Solomon is encouraged to trust in the Lord for wisdom and understanding to lead Israel in keeping God's law.

1. "Trusting in the Lord for Guidance"

2. "Wisdom and Understanding for God's Law"

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."

1 Chronicles 22:13 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.

Be strong and courageous, take heed to obey God's commands, and you will be blessed.

1: Take Courage and Obey God's Commands

2: Overcome Fear and Follow the Lord

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: 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 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.

King David had prepared a large amount of resources to build the temple of the Lord, such as gold, silver, brass, iron, timber, and stone.

1. God's Provision: Understanding God's Abundance

2. The Power of Generosity: A Message from King David

1. 1 Chronicles 29:14-17; For all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.

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.

1 Chronicles 22:15 Moreover there are workmen with thee in abundance, hewers and workers of stone and timber, and all manner of cunning men for every manner of work.

This passage speaks of the abundance of skilled workers David had available to him in order to construct the Temple.

1. "God Provides: Abundance of Skilled Workers for David's Temple"

2. "God's Faithfulness: Answering David's Prayers for Skilled Workers"

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. Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

1 Chronicles 22:16 Of the gold, the silver, and the brass, and the iron, there is no number. Arise therefore, and be doing, and the LORD be with thee.

David commands Solomon to start building the temple and promises that the Lord will be with him.

1. God's Guidance: Leveraging God's Presence for Success

2. The Call to Action: Doing the Will of God

1. Matthew 28:20 - And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

2. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

1 Chronicles 22:17 David also commanded all the princes of Israel to help Solomon his son, saying,

David commanded the leaders of Israel to help his son Solomon.

1. The Power of Obedience: David's Faithful Follow Through

2. The Power of Legacy: David's Commitment to His Descendants

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 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 Chronicles 22:18 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.

God has given rest to His people on every side and has subdued the land before them.

1. God Provides for His People - how God has provided rest and protection for His people.

2. Taking Possession of Our Inheritance - how God has given us the land as an inheritance and how we can take possession of it.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 22:19 Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God; arise therefore, and build ye the sanctuary of the LORD God, to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and the holy vessels of God, into the house that is to be built to the name of the LORD.

David encourages the Israelites to seek God and build the sanctuary of the Lord to place the Ark of the Covenant and holy vessels in the House of the Lord.

1. The Power of Seeking God

2. Building God's House of Worship

1. James 4:8 Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you

2. 1 Kings 8:27-30 "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built"

1 Chronicles chapter 23 focuses on the organization and responsibilities of the Levites in serving at the tabernacle and later at the temple.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with David being old and appointing his son Solomon as king over Israel. David gathers all the leaders of Israel, including priests and Levites, to announce his plan for building the temple (1 Chronicles 23:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how David counts and organizes the Levites according to their various duties. He separates them into three main divisions: Gershonites, Kohathites, and Merarites (1 Chronicles 23:3-6).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to David's assignment of specific tasks to each division of Levites. The Gershonites are responsible for caring for the tabernacle's curtains and coverings. The Kohathites are entrusted with handling sacred objects such as the ark, table, lampstand, altars, etc. The Merarites are assigned to handle heavier tasks related to transporting structural components (1 Chronicles 23:7-11).

4th Paragraph:The account describes how David further divides the Levitical duties among their families by appointing leaders known as chiefs or heads of households. These leaders oversee their respective clans' responsibilities within each division (1 Chronicles 23:12-24).

5th Paragraph:The chapter continues with a mention of Aaron's descendants the priests who have specific roles in offering sacrifices before God. They receive special instructions from Moses regarding their service (1 Chronicles 23:27-32).

6th Paragraph:The focus shifts back to David's final words before his death. He encourages Solomon and all Israel to follow God's commandments faithfully so that they may prosper in all they do (1 Chronicles 23:25-26).

7th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by noting that when Solomon becomes king, he puts these organizational plans into action by appointing Levitical divisions according to David's instructions (1 Chronicles 23:27-32).

In summary, Chapter twenty-three of 1 Chronicles depicts David organizing duties, and responsibilities for Levites. Highlighting appointment of Solomon, and counting of Levite divisions. Mentioning specific tasks assigned, and designation of leaders. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King David's careful planning in organizing various roles within the tribe of Levi for efficient service at the tabernacle and future temple, and his transferal of these arrangements toward Solomon while emphasizing adherence to God's commandments as a key factor for success in their worship practices.

1 Chronicles 23:1 So when David was old and full of days, he made Solomon his son king over Israel.

David, when he was old and full of days, crowned his son Solomon as the king of Israel.

1. The importance of passing on legacy to the younger generation.

2. The power of faith in a leader's life.

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. Proverbs 20:29 The glory of young men is their strength, and the splendor of old men is their gray hair.

1 Chronicles 23:2 And he gathered together all the princes of Israel, with the priests and the Levites.

King David gathered together all the leaders of Israel, including the priests and Levites.

1. The importance of unity and community in the church.

2. Leaders in the church should work together for the common good.

1. Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. Romans 12:4-5 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.

1 Chronicles 23:3 Now the Levites were numbered from the age of thirty years and upward: and their number by their polls, man by man, was thirty and eight thousand.

The Levites were numbered and found to be 38,000 in total, aged 30 and above.

1. God's faithfulness in providing a faithful and dedicated people to serve Him.

2. Investing in God's kingdom when we are young.

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 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 Chronicles 23:4 Of which, twenty and four thousand were to set forward the work of the house of the LORD; and six thousand were officers and judges:

24,000 people were appointed to work on the Lord's House and 6,000 were appointed as officers and judges.

1. The blessings of being part of the Lord's work.

2. The importance of having good leadership.

1. 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.

2. Proverbs 12:15 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

1 Chronicles 23:5 Moreover four thousand were porters; and four thousand praised the LORD with the instruments which I made, said David, to praise therewith.

David appointed 4,000 porters and 4,000 musicians to praise the Lord with instruments he had made.

1. Worship the Lord through Service and Praise

2. The Instruments of Praise

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

2. Psalm 150:3-5 - Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp; Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes; Praise Him with loud cymbals.

1 Chronicles 23:6 And David divided them into courses among the sons of Levi, namely, Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

David divided the sons of Levi into three courses: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

1. The importance of working together as a team.

2. Appreciating the unique gifts and talents of each individual.

1. Psalms 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.

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.

1 Chronicles 23:7 Of the Gershonites were, Laadan, and Shimei.

The Gershonites were led by Laadan and Shimei.

1: God chose two faithful leaders to lead the Gershonites.

2: We can trust in God's guidance when He appoints leaders.

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: Hebrews 13:17 - Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.

1 Chronicles 23:8 The sons of Laadan; the chief was Jehiel, and Zetham, and Joel, three.

This passage describes the three sons of Laadan, Jehiel, Zetham, and Joel.

1. The Power of Community: How Working Together Strengthens and Unites Us

2. Remembering Our Ancestors: How to Honor Our Family Lineage

1. Philippians 2:1-4 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.

2. Proverbs 18:1 Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment.

1 Chronicles 23:9 The sons of Shimei; Shelomith, and Haziel, and Haran, three. These were the chief of the fathers of Laadan.

Shimei had three sons: Shelomith, Haziel, and Haran. They were the leaders of the Laadan clan.

1. The importance of leading by example and setting a good example for our children.

2. Following God's commands and examples leads to a blessed life.

1. Proverbs 22:6 - "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."

2. Proverbs 13:24 - "Whoever spares the rod hates their children, but the one who loves their children is careful to discipline them."

1 Chronicles 23:10 And the sons of Shimei were, Jahath, Zina, and Jeush, and Beriah. These four were the sons of Shimei.

Shimei had four sons, Jahath, Zina, Jeush, and Beriah.

1. Our families are a gift from God, no matter their size.

2. God is always with us and our families, even in difficult times.

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."

1 Chronicles 23:11 And Jahath was the chief, and Zizah the second: but Jeush and Beriah had not many sons; therefore they were in one reckoning, according to their father's house.

Jahath was the leader of the family of Jeush and Beriah, who did not have many sons.

1. God's Provision in Unexpected Places

2. Trusting in God's Plan

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.

1 Chronicles 23:12 The sons of Kohath; Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel, four.

This passage lists the four sons of Kohath - Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel.

1. The Strength of Family: How the Extended Family of Kohath Can Inspire Us

2. The Importance of Faith: Lessons We Can Learn from the Sons of Kohath

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 23:13 The sons of Amram; Aaron and Moses: and Aaron was separated, that he should sanctify the most holy things, he and his sons for ever, to burn incense before the LORD, to minister unto him, and to bless in his name for ever.

Amram's sons, Aaron and Moses, were chosen to serve the LORD as priests for ever. Aaron was appointed to dedicate the most holy things to the LORD and to offer incense, serve and bless in his name.

1. Serving the LORD as a Priest: The example of Aaron and Moses

2. Dedicating Our Lives to God: Taking Steps Towards Holiness

1. Exodus 28:1-3 - 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. 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. Hebrews 7:24-25 - but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. 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.

1 Chronicles 23:14 Now concerning Moses the man of God, his sons were named of the tribe of Levi.

The sons of Moses the man of God were from the tribe of Levi.

1. God's Chosen People: The Tribe of Levi

2. The Legacy of Moses: A Man of God

1. Numbers 3:5-10 - God's instructions to Moses concerning the tribe of Levi

2. Deuteronomy 34:9 - Moses as the man of God

1 Chronicles 23:15 The sons of Moses were, Gershom, and Eliezer.

Moses had two sons, Gershom and Eliezer.

1. The importance of being a good father, as seen in Moses.

2. The faithfulness of the Lord in providing for the family of Moses.

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. Exodus 18:3-4 - Moses father-in-law Jethro said to him, The thing that you are doing is not good. You will surely wear yourself out, both you and these people who are with you, for the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone.

1 Chronicles 23:16 Of the sons of Gershom, Shebuel was the chief.

Shebuel, a son of Gershom, was the leader.

1. God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

2. The importance of leadership in the church.

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. Acts 20:28 - Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

1 Chronicles 23:17 And the sons of Eliezer were, Rehabiah the chief. And Eliezer had none other sons; but the sons of Rehabiah were very many.

Eliezer had only one son, Rehabiah, who had many sons.

1. God can take what appears to be a small beginning and multiply it greatly.

2. The power of legacy and heritage, and how we can use it to continue God's work.

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 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

1 Chronicles 23:18 Of the sons of Izhar; Shelomith the chief.

Shelomith is the chief of the sons of Izhar.

1. How to Be a Chief Figure in Your Community

2. The Power of Leadership

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

2. 1 Peter 5:3 - Do not be arrogant, but be humble. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

1 Chronicles 23:19 Of the sons of Hebron; Jeriah the first, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the fourth.

This passage mentions four sons of Hebron: Jeriah, Amariah, Jahaziel, and Jekameam.

1. The Blessings of the Sons of Hebron

2. The Gift of Family

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. Ephesians 6:4 - And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

1 Chronicles 23:20 Of the sons of Uzziel; Micah the first, and Jesiah the second.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 23:20 lists two sons of Uzziel, Micah and Jesiah.

1. Let us remember that God is a God of order, even when it comes to establishing families.

2. Even in the midst of chaos, God brings peace and order.

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 so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Proverbs 1:8-9 - Listen, my son, to your father s instruction and do not forsake your mother s teaching. They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.

1 Chronicles 23:21 The sons of Merari; Mahli, and Mushi. The sons of Mahli; Eleazar, and Kish.

This passage discusses the sons of Merari and Mahli, and their respective sons, Eleazar and Kish.

1. The importance of family and lineage.

2. God's continuing faithfulness to His people, generation after generation.

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. Deuteronomy 29:29 - The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may follow all the words of this law.

1 Chronicles 23:22 And Eleazar died, and had no sons, but daughters: and their brethren the sons of Kish took them.

Eleazar died without any sons, but he had daughters. His brothers from the tribe of Kish took them in.

1. God has a plan for all of us, even when the path is not clear.

2. The importance of family, even in times of sorrow and uncertainty.

1. Genesis 50:20 - "You meant it for evil, but God meant it for good.

2. Ruth 4:14-15 - Then the women said to Naomi, Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel! He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age.

1 Chronicles 23:23 The sons of Mushi; Mahli, and Eder, and Jeremoth, three.

This passage is about the sons of Mushi, which are Mahli, Eder, and Jeremoth.

1. The Power of Family: How our children are the source of our strength and legacy.

2. No Matter the Size, We are All Connected: Understanding our place in the larger world.

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 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

1 Chronicles 23:24 These were the sons of Levi after the house of their fathers; even the chief of the fathers, as they were counted by number of names by their polls, that did the work for the service of the house of the LORD, from the age of twenty years and upward.

This passage tells of the sons of Levi who were counted by their polls and did work for the service of the Lord from the age of twenty years and upward.

1. The Importance of Service to the Lord: Learning from the Sons of Levi

2. Reaching Our Potential in the Lord: The Example of the Sons of Levi

1. Matthew 20:25-28 - Jesus teaches about service to the Lord

2. 1 Corinthians 15:58 - Being steadfast and immovable in the Lord's service

1 Chronicles 23:25 For David said, The LORD God of Israel hath given rest unto his people, that they may dwell in Jerusalem for ever:

God has granted his people with rest so that they may live in Jerusalem forever.

1. The Lord's Promise of Rest and Provision.

2. The Blessing of Dwelling in Jerusalem.

1. Isaiah 66:12 - "For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees."

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."

1 Chronicles 23:26 And also unto the Levites; they shall no more carry the tabernacle, nor any vessels of it for the service thereof.

The Levites were no longer required to carry the tabernacle and its vessels for service.

1. God's Word is Our Guide: How Following God's Plan Leads to Fulfillment

2. Serving the Lord: The Joy of Dedicating Our Lives to God

1.Acts 13:2-3 (And the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.)

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 Chronicles 23:27 For by the last words of David the Levites were numbered from twenty years old and above:

David ordered the Levites to be numbered from the age of twenty and above.

1. The Value of Every Generation: David's example of counting and valuing the Levites of every age.

2. Serving God with Our Whole Heart: The importance of serving God with complete dedication, no matter what age.

1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, "For just as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many."

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. These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons 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 up."

1 Chronicles 23:28 Because their office was to wait on the sons of Aaron for the service of the house of the LORD, in the courts, and in the chambers, and in the purifying of all holy things, and the work of the service of the house of God;

The sons of Aaron were responsible for performing the service of the LORD in the courts, chambers, and in purifying all holy things.

1. The Service of the Lord: A Call to Obedience

2. What Does It Mean to Serve the Lord?

1. 1 Peter 4:10 - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace

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.

1 Chronicles 23:29 Both for the shewbread, and for the fine flour for meat offering, and for the unleavened cakes, and for that which is baked in the pan, and for that which is fried, and for all manner of measure and size;

This passage describes the various foods and measurements used in the showbread and meat offerings of the Israelites.

1. All things are done according to the Lord's Measurement

2. The Lord's Provision for His People

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.

2. Psalm 78:19 - Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?

1 Chronicles 23:30 And to stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD, and likewise at even;

This passage from 1 Chronicles 23:30 encourages us to give thanks and praise to the Lord morning and night.

1. "A Grateful Heart: The Blessing of Giving Thanks to God Morning and Night"

2. "Living a Life of Gratitude: An Invitation to a Life of Blessing"

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. 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 118:24 - "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

1 Chronicles 23:31 And to offer all burnt sacrifices unto the LORD in the sabbaths, in the new moons, and on the set feasts, by number, according to the order commanded unto them, continually before the LORD:

This passage refers to the Israelites offering burnt sacrifices to the LORD on the Sabbath, New Moon, and other appointed feast days, as commanded.

Best

1. Understanding the Importance of Worship: A Study of 1 Chronicles 23:31

2. The Significance of the Sabbath, New Moon, and Set Feasts in 1 Chronicles 23:31

Best

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - Explains how the Israelites were to sacrifice burnt offerings and peace offerings as the LORD commanded.

2. Leviticus 23:2-4 - Describes the appointed feasts that the Israelites were to observe.

1 Chronicles 23:32 And that they should keep the charge of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the charge of the holy place, and the charge of the sons of Aaron their brethren, in the service of the house of the LORD.

This passage describes the duties of the Levites, who are responsible for taking care of the tabernacle of the Lord and the holy place.

1. The Importance of Keeping God's Charge - How we can serve the Lord faithfully in our lives.

2. The Blessing of Serving the Lord - How we can experience joy in fulfilling our calling.

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

2. Titus 3:8 - A Call to Good Works

1 Chronicles chapter 24 focuses on the division of the priests into their respective courses for serving in the temple.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by mentioning that Aaron's descendants, the priests, are divided into twenty-four divisions. These divisions are determined by casting lots before the Lord, with each course having specific duties and responsibilities (1 Chronicles 24:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons, have been appointed to oversee these divisions. Eleazar has more leaders assigned to him because he is from the line of Phinehas, while Ithamar has fewer leaders assigned to him (1 Chronicles 24:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to listing the names of each division and its appointed leader. Each division is named after its respective chief priest (1 Chronicles 24:5-19).

4th Paragraph:The account describes how these divisions serve in rotation throughout the year. Each course serves for one week at a time, according to their order as determined by lot (1 Chronicles 24:20-31).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by noting that these arrangements were made during David's reign and under his guidance with input from Samuel the prophet and other Levitical leaders (1 Chronicles 24:31).

In summary, Chapter twenty-four of 1 Chronicles depicts the division of priests, into courses for temple service. Highlighting casting lots, and oversight by Eleazar and Ithamar. Mentioning listing of divisions, and rotation in serving. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King David's establishment of an organized system for priestly service within the temple through dividing them into twenty-four courses, and his collaboration with religious authorities like Samuel in implementing this structure while emphasizing fairness in distribution and adherence to divine guidance in determining priestly assignments.

1 Chronicles 24:1 Now these are the divisions of the sons of Aaron. The sons of Aaron; Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

This passage describes the four sons of Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

1. The Impact of Family: Exploring the legacy of Aaron and his four sons

2. The Power of Unity: Celebrating the bond between Aaron and his sons

1. Psalm 133:1-2 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Hebrews 7:11-14 - "Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be called according to the order of Aaron?"

1 Chronicles 24:2 But Nadab and Abihu died before their father, and had no children: therefore Eleazar and Ithamar executed the priest's office.

Nadab and Abihu died without having children, so their priestly duties were carried out by their brothers Eleazar and Ithamar.

1. The Importance of Family: Lessons from Nadab and Abihu

2. Legacy and Priesthood: A Look at 1 Chronicles 24:2

1. Numbers 3:4-10 - Instructions on the Priestly Duties of Aaron's Sons

2. Romans 8:28 - God's Work in All Things for Good

1 Chronicles 24:3 And David distributed them, both Zadok of the sons of Eleazar, and Ahimelech of the sons of Ithamar, according to their offices in their service.

David distributed the sons of Eleazar and Ithamar to their respective offices.

1. The importance of service in the eyes of God.

2. The significance of delegating duties.

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. Romans 12:6-8 - Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

1 Chronicles 24:4 And there were more chief men found of the sons of Eleazar than of the sons of Ithamar; and thus were they divided. Among the sons of Eleazar there were sixteen chief men of the house of their fathers, and eight among the sons of Ithamar according to the house of their fathers.

There were more chief men of Eleazar's sons than Ithamar's sons, and they were divided into two groups. The sons of Eleazar had sixteen chief men, and the sons of Ithamar had eight.

1. The importance of division and order in the kingdom of God.

2. The power of leadership within families.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2. 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 - 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.

1 Chronicles 24:5 Thus were they divided by lot, one sort with another; for the governors of the sanctuary, and governors of the house of God, were of the sons of Eleazar, and of the sons of Ithamar.

The sons of Eleazar and Ithamar were divided by lot and appointed as governors of the sanctuary and house of God.

1. The Sovereignty of God in Choosing Leaders

2. God's Providence in Division of Labor

1. Acts 1:21-26 - The selection of Matthias as an apostle

2. 1 Samuel 10:17-27 - The anointing of Saul as King of Israel

1 Chronicles 24:6 And Shemaiah the son of Nethaneel the scribe, one of the Levites, wrote them before the king, and the princes, and Zadok the priest, and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, and before the chief of the fathers of the priests and Levites: one principal household being taken for Eleazar, and one taken for Ithamar.

The Levite Shemaiah wrote down a list of the priestly families before the king, princes, and other leaders.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the ways He has provided for His people throughout time.

2. We must be faithful to our commitments, both to God and to others.

1. 1 Chronicles 24:6 - And Shemaiah the son of Nethaneel the scribe, one of the Levites, wrote them before the king, and the princes, and Zadok the priest, and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, and before the chief of the fathers of the priests and Levites: one principal household being taken for Eleazar, and one taken for Ithamar.

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 Chronicles 24:7 Now the first lot came forth to Jehoiarib, the second to Jedaiah,

The passage describes the division of priestly duties among two men, Jehoiarib and Jedaiah.

1. God's Plan for Ministry: The Power of Division

2. Dedication to the Call of God: The Example of Jehoiarib and Jedaiah

1. 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.

14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

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, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

1 Chronicles 24:8 The third to Harim, the fourth to Seorim,

The passage mentions four divisions of the Levites who are sons of Eliezer.

1: Like the four divisions of the Levites, we should be divided in service to God according to our strengths and abilities.

2: We can learn from the example of the Levites that when we come together as a unified body, we can do great things in service to the Lord.

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 4:11-12 - 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.

1 Chronicles 24:9 The fifth to Malchijah, the sixth to Mijamin,

The passage describes the division of priestly duties among the sons of Aaron.

1. The Power of Division: How God Uses Us To Accomplish His Work

2. The Beauty of Unity: Working Together To Serve God

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 24:10 The seventh to Hakkoz, the eighth to Abijah,

The passage describes the duties of the eighth priest of the time, Abijah.

1. God has a purpose for each of us, no matter how small the role.

2. We are all called to serve in God's kingdom according to His will.

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. Romans 12:4-8 - 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 who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

1 Chronicles 24:11 The ninth to Jeshuah, the tenth to Shecaniah,

The passage describes the division of priestly responsibilities among the sons of Aaron in the time of King David.

1: Appreciating the Value of Collaboration

2: Celebrating the Contributions of Each Member

1: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

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.

1 Chronicles 24:12 The eleventh to Eliashib, the twelfth to Jakim,

Passage This passage lists twelve divisions of priests in the order of Eliashib, Jakim, and so on.

1. The Power of Unity: Working Together to Further God's Kingdom

2. God's Careful Calculation: The Significance of Every Detail

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 24:13 The thirteenth to Huppah, the fourteenth to Jeshebeab,

The passage describes the order of priests in service to the Lord.

1. The importance of being in service to the Lord.

2. The importance of order in serving 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. 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 Chronicles 24:14 The fifteenth to Bilgah, the sixteenth to Immer,

The passage describes the arrangement of the divisions of the priests according to their families.

1: God has called us to serve Him in unique and specific ways.

2: We are all connected to and dependent on each other's gifts.

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. 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: 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.

1 Chronicles 24:15 The seventeenth to Hezir, the eighteenth to Aphses,

Passage This passage lists the different divisions of the priests in the time of David.

1. The Power of Order: How God Uses Structure in His Kingdom

2. The Value of Service: Appreciating the Role of Priests in the Bible

1. Psalm 134:2 - "Lift up your hands to the holy place and bless the Lord!"

2. 1 Corinthians 12:28 - "And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues."

1 Chronicles 24:16 The nineteenth to Pethahiah, the twentieth to Jehezekel,

The passage mentions two names, Pethahiah and Jehezekel.

1. The importance of knowing God's names.

2. The power of faith and obedience to God's will.

1. Isaiah 42:8 - "I am the Lord; that is my name! I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols."

2. 1 Peter 1:13-16 - 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. 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."

1 Chronicles 24:17 The one and twentieth to Jachin, the two and twentieth to Gamul,

The divisions of the priests according to the order of their courses were assigned, with the twenty-first division belonging to Jachin and the twenty-second division belonging to Gamul.

1. The Order of Service: How God Provides for His People

2. The Power of Obedience: Walking in the Ways of the Lord

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. Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

1 Chronicles 24:18 The three and twentieth to Delaiah, the four and twentieth to Maaziah.

This verse mentions two of the 24 divisions of priests that were appointed by David in the book of 1 Chronicles.

1. "God's Plan of Order: The Appointment of Priests in 1 Chronicles 24:18"

2. "God's Faithfulness to His People: Appointing Priests in 1 Chronicles 24:18"

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

2. Ephesians 4:11-16 - Appointment of the Fivefold Ministry

1 Chronicles 24:19 These were the orderings of them in their service to come into the house of the LORD, according to their manner, under Aaron their father, as the LORD God of Israel had commanded him.

The descendants of Aaron were organized according to their duties to serve in the Lord's temple, as commanded by the Lord God of Israel.

1. The Importance of Following God's Commandments

2. Serving God with Diligence and Obedience

1. Exodus 28:1-4 - God commands Aaron and his sons to serve as priests in the Tabernacle

2. 1 Peter 2:13-17 - Serving God with reverence and fear in obedience to Him

1 Chronicles 24:20 And the rest of the sons of Levi were these: Of the sons of Amram; Shubael: of the sons of Shubael; Jehdeiah.

The sons of Levi were Amram, Shubael, and Jehdeiah.

1. The importance of honoring our ancestors and remembering our family legacy.

2. The importance of understanding our roots and taking pride in our lineage.

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 78:5-7 - 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

1 Chronicles 24:21 Concerning Rehabiah: of the sons of Rehabiah, the first was Isshiah.

The first son of Rehabiah was Isshiah.

1. The Power of the First: Exploring the Significance of the First Son of Rehabiah

2. The Blessing of Legacy: Celebrating the Continuation of Family Lines

1. Gen. 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.

2. Matt. 1:1-17, 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;

1 Chronicles 24:22 Of the Izharites; Shelomoth: of the sons of Shelomoth; Jahath.

This passage lists the descendants of Izhar, which include Shelomoth and his son Jahath.

1. The Power of Legacy: How Our Ancestors Shape Our Lives

2. The Blessings of Family: How Our Kin Bring Joy to Our Lives

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. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

1 Chronicles 24:23 And the sons of Hebron; Jeriah the first, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, Jekameam the fourth.

This passage describes the sons of Hebron, listing them in order of birth.

1. The Power of Family: Honoring Our Ancestors

2. The Value of Legacy: Recognizing Our Inheritance

1. Genesis 46:8-11 - The Blessings of Our Forefathers

2. Psalm 103:17-18 - Remembering the Lord's Faithfulness to Our Fathers

1 Chronicles 24:24 Of the sons of Uzziel; Michah: of the sons of Michah; Shamir.

This passage lists the descendants of Uzziel, with Michah and Shamir being among them.

1. The Significance of Family and Ancestry

2. God's Faithfulness in Keeping His Promises

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. 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.

2. Psalm 25:6-7, Remember, O Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you are good, O Lord.

1 Chronicles 24:25 The brother of Michah was Isshiah: of the sons of Isshiah; Zechariah.

Michah's brother Isshiah had a son named Zechariah.

1. Our families are a part of who we are.

2. God can use our family to bring glory to his name.

1. 1 Chronicles 24:25

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 24:26 The sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi: the sons of Jaaziah; Beno.

The sons of Merari were Mahli, Mushi, and Jaaziah, with Beno as the son of Jaaziah.

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

2. Investing in the next generation and leaving a spiritual legacy.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 24:27 The sons of Merari by Jaaziah; Beno, and Shoham, and Zaccur, and Ibri.

This passage mentions four sons of Merari by the name of Beno, Shoham, Zaccur, and Ibri.

1. The Gift of Family: We can learn from the sons of Merari that family is a great gift from God.

2. The Blessing of Unity: Just as the sons of Merari had unity, we too can find unity in our families.

1. Psalm 133:1: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Ephesians 4:3: "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace."

1 Chronicles 24:28 Of Mahli came Eleazar, who had no sons.

Eleazar, a descendant of Mahli, had no sons.

1. God's plans are greater than our own.

2. We can still be faithful to God even in the absence of children.

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

1 Chronicles 24:29 Concerning Kish: the son of Kish was Jerahmeel.

Kish was the father of Jerahmeel.

1. The importance of honoring our ancestors and their legacy.

2. The power of a father's influence in the life of his children.

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

1 Chronicles 24:30 The sons also of Mushi; Mahli, and Eder, and Jerimoth. These were the sons of the Levites after the house of their fathers.

This passage describes the sons of Mushi, a Levite, and their descendants.

1. The importance of honoring our heritage and our ancestors.

2. Serving God faithfully throughout generations.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 24:31 These likewise cast lots over against their brethren the sons of Aaron in the presence of David the king, and Zadok, and Ahimelech, and the chief of the fathers of the priests and Levites, even the principal fathers over against their younger brethren.

The sons of Aaron cast lots in the presence of King David and the chief priests and Levites to determine their duties.

1. God's Providence in Unexpected Places - How God's hand is seen in the mundane, everyday activities of life

2. Revering the Office of Priesthood - How we can honor the work of priests and Levites

1. 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."

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 Chronicles chapter 25 focuses on the organization and responsibilities of the Levitical musicians who were appointed to serve in the temple.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by mentioning that David, along with the commanders of the army, sets apart certain individuals from the sons of Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun for prophesying with musical instruments. These individuals are specifically chosen to minister before the ark of God (1 Chronicles 25:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how David assigns specific roles and responsibilities to each group of musicians. There are a total of twenty-four divisions, corresponding to the twenty-four courses of priests established in the previous chapter. Each division has its own leader who serves under their father's authority (1 Chronicles 25:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to listing the names of these skilled musicians along with their respective fathers or families. The names mentioned include Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman prominent figures among those chosen for service (1 Chronicles 25:6-31).

4th Paragraph:The account describes how these Levitical musicians were trained and instructed in singing praises to God using various musical instruments such as harps, lyres, and cymbals. They were skillful in their craft and served alongside their relatives under David's supervision (1 Chronicles 25:7-8).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by noting that they cast lots for their duties just as their fellow Levites did for priestly service. This was done in front of King David, his officials, Zadok the priest, Ahimelech son of Abiathar, and other prominent leaders (1 Chronicles 25:9-31).

In summary, Chapter twenty-five of 1 Chronicles depicts the organization, and responsibilities of Levitical musicians. Highlighting selection by David, and assignment of roles. Mentioning listing names, and training in music. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King David's establishment of an organized system for musical worship within the temple through selecting skilled individuals from specific Levitical families, and his oversight in ensuring proper training while emphasizing divine inspiration through prophesying alongside musical accompaniment as an integral part of Israel's worship practices.

1 Chronicles 25:1 Moreover David and the captains of the host separated to the service of the sons of Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, with psalteries, and with cymbals: and the number of the workmen according to their service was:

David and the captains of the army appointed Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun to prophesy through the playing of harps, psalteries, and cymbals.

1. The Power of Music in Worship

2. The Importance of Working Together

1. Colossians 3:16-17 - 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. 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 Chronicles 25:2 Of the sons of Asaph; Zaccur, and Joseph, and Nethaniah, and Asarelah, the sons of Asaph under the hands of Asaph, which prophesied according to the order of the king.

The four sons of Asaph, Zaccur, Joseph, Nethaniah, and Asarelah, were prophets who served the king.

1. The Power of Unity and Serving the King

2. The Importance of Following Orders

1. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer.

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.

1 Chronicles 25:3 Of Jeduthun: the sons of Jeduthun; Gedaliah, and Zeri, and Jeshaiah, Hashabiah, and Mattithiah, six, under the hands of their father Jeduthun, who prophesied with a harp, to give thanks and to praise the LORD.

The passage describes the sons of Jeduthun who were skilled musicians and prophets.

1. Praise God through Music and Proclamation

2. The Power of Worship and Proclamation

1. Psalm 150:3-5 - Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the harp and lyre; Praise Him with the timbrel and dancing; Praise Him with the strings and pipe; Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with resounding cymbals.

2. Ephesians 5:19-20 - Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Chronicles 25:4 Of Heman: the sons of Heman: Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Shebuel, and Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti, and Romamtiezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, and Mahazioth:

Heman was the father of Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Shebuel, Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti, Romamtiezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, and Mahazioth.

1. The Power of Multigenerational Faithfulness (1 Chron. 25:4)

2. The Blessing and Responsibility of Parental Legacy (1 Chron. 25:4)

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 25:5 All these were the sons of Heman the king's seer in the words of God, to lift up the horn. And God gave to Heman fourteen sons and three daughters.

Heman was the king's seer and was blessed with fourteen sons and three daughters by God.

1. God rewards those who seek him with blessings beyond our understanding.

2. Our faithfulness to God will reap great rewards.

1. 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."

2. Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

1 Chronicles 25:6 All these were under the hands of their father for song in the house of the LORD, with cymbals, psalteries, and harps, for the service of the house of God, according to the king's order to Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman.

The sons of Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman were appointed by King David to play instruments for the service of the House of God.

1. Using Our Gifts for the Glory of God

2. The Power of Worship and Praise

1. Romans 12:6-8 - Having different gifts, each according to the grace given to us.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

1 Chronicles 25:7 So the number of them, with their brethren that were instructed in the songs of the LORD, even all that were cunning, was two hundred fourscore and eight.

Two hundred and eighty-eight Levites were chosen for their skill in singing and playing musical instruments in the service of the Lord.

1. The Power of Music in Worship

2. The Importance of Service in the Church

1. 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.

2. Psalm 150:4 Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

1 Chronicles 25:8 And they cast lots, ward against ward, as well the small as the great, the teacher as the scholar.

All people were chosen for their tasks in the temple by casting lots, regardless of their social status.

1. God is no respecter of persons, and He shows no partiality based on social status.

2. Everyone is needed in the work of the Kingdom, and all are uniquely gifted and called by God.

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. 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 Chronicles 25:9 Now the first lot came forth for Asaph to Joseph: the second to Gedaliah, who with his brethren and sons were twelve:

This passage is about the division of roles among the Levite musicians, with Asaph and Gedaliah each receiving a lot.

1. The Power of Division: How to Accomplish So Much with So Little

2. The Strength of Unity: Working Together for a Greater Cause

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

1 Chronicles 25:10 The third to Zaccur, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

This passage from 1 Chronicles 25:10 describes the sons of Zaccur, which included twelve people.

1. The Blessings of a Large Family

2. The Importance of Following God s Plan

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. Matthew 19:14 - But Jesus said, Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.

1 Chronicles 25:11 The fourth to Izri, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

Izri was one of four sons of Heman the singer, and he had twelve sons and brethren.

1. The Power of Family: The Story of Izri

2. The Blessings of a Large Family: Learning from Izri

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. Ephesians 6:4 - "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

1 Chronicles 25:12 The fifth to Nethaniah, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

The fifth of the sons of Heman was Nethaniah, and he had twelve sons and brothers.

1. God will provide us with an abundance of family and friends if we trust in Him.

2. No matter how difficult our circumstances may be, God will bring us comfort and strength through our relationships with others.

1. Psalm 68:6 - God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing.

2. Acts 2:44-47 - 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.

1 Chronicles 25:13 The sixth to Bukkiah, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

Bukkiah and his sons and brothers were twelve in total.

1. We can all find strength in numbers.

2. Together we can achieve great things.

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. Proverbs 27:17 - "Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another."

1 Chronicles 25:14 The seventh to Jesharelah, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

This passage tells of the seventh son of Jesharelah, and his family of twelve people.

1. The importance of family and the blessings of being part of a large one.

2. God's faithfulness to His people and how He provides for them.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 25:15 The eighth to Jeshaiah, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

The passage describes the family lineage of Jeshaiah, consisting of him and his sons and brothers, totaling twelve members.

1. God is the ultimate provider as He provides for all of our needs regardless of our family size.

2. Our families are gifts from God and should be cherished and nurtured.

1. Psalm 68:6 - God sets the lonely in families.

2. Deuteronomy 6:5-6 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

1 Chronicles 25:16 The ninth to Mattaniah, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

The ninth to Mattaniah was allotted twelve members of his family.

1. God provides for us according to His plans and His purpose.

2. God's faithfulness and blessings to us are a cause for rejoicing.

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 92:4 - For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

1 Chronicles 25:17 The tenth to Shimei, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

This passage lists the number of people in Shimei's family.

1. The Power of Family : A on the importance of family relationships and how they can empower and support us.

2. The Blessing of Numbers : A on how the number of people in our lives can be a source of both strength and joy.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 25:18 The eleventh to Azareel, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

Azareel and his family members numbered twelve.

1. The Power of Family Unity

2. The Value of Relationships

1. Psalm 133:1 3

2. Proverbs 17:17

1 Chronicles 25:19 The twelfth to Hashabiah, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

Passage Hashabiah, his sons, and his brethren were a group of twelve.

1. The Power of Unity: Drawing Strength from Togetherness.

2. The Value of Family: Celebrating the Gift of 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. Genesis 2:18 - "Then the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him. "

1 Chronicles 25:20 The thirteenth to Shubael, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

Shubael and his sons and brethren were a total of twelve people.

1. Trusting in God's Plan for Our Lives

2. The Strength of Family and 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. Ephesians 6:4 "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."

1 Chronicles 25:21 The fourteenth to Mattithiah, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

Mattithiah had twelve sons and brothers.

1. Serve God with all your heart and your brothers will be many.

2. Follow the example of Mattithiah and surround yourself with family.

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.

1 Chronicles 25:22 The fifteenth to Jeremoth, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

This passage mentions that Jeremoth and his twelve sons and brothers were part of the fifteenth division of musicians.

1. God's plan for us is to work together as a team to serve Him.

2. We can learn from Jeremoth's example to work together for the Lord.

1. 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.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 25:23 The sixteenth to Hananiah, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

Hananiah and his family had twelve members.

1. God often uses the unlikely to do great things.

2. The power of family is essential to fulfilling God's plan.

1. Matthew 19:26- With God all things are possible.

2. Ephesians 6:1-4- Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right.

1 Chronicles 25:24 The seventeenth to Joshbekashah, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

This passage tells us that Joshbekashah had twelve sons and his brothers.

1. The importance of family and the blessing of having many brothers and sisters.

2. God's provision and the tremendous blessing of a large 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. Proverbs 17:6 - "Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers."

1 Chronicles 25:25 The eighteenth to Hanani, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

Hanani and his family had twelve members.

1. The importance of family and the strength found in numbers.

2. God's faithfulness and provision of family.

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. 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 Chronicles 25:26 The nineteenth to Mallothi, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

Mallothi and his family had twelve members.

1. The Importance of Family: No matter how big or small, family always matters.

2. The Power of Numbers: Even a small group can be powerful when united.

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. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

1 Chronicles 25:27 The twentieth to Eliathah, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

This verse records the names and number of the descendants of Eliathah, which totaled twelve.

1. The Power of Faithful Families: Examining God's Plan for Multi-Generational Faith

2. The Power of Numbers: What Can We Learn from the Bible's Record Keeping?

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. 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 alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

1 Chronicles 25:28 The one and twentieth to Hothir, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

The twenty-first son of Asaph was Hothir, and he had twelve sons and brothers.

1. God gives us all different families, but He is still the one who binds us together.

2. When we are blessed with children, we should always remember to be grateful for the gifts God has provided us.

1. 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.

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 Chronicles 25:29 The two and twentieth to Giddalti, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

The passage describes the family of Giddalti, which consists of twelve people.

1. The importance of family: God's plan for unity and strength.

2. The blessing of a large family: God's faithfulness in times of abundance.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 25:30 The three and twentieth to Mahazioth, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve:

Mahazioth had twelve sons and brethren in 1 Chronicles 25:30.

1. The Power of Family: Celebrating the Strength of Unity

2. The Blessing of Abundance: Rejoicing in God's Generosity

1. Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

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 Chronicles 25:31 The four and twentieth to Romamtiezer, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve.

This passage tells of the 24th division of priests, Romamtiezer, and his sons and brothers, who numbered twelve in total.

1. The Importance of Family: An Exploration of 1 Chronicles 25:31

2. The Power of a Unified Front: The Significance of Romamtiezer and His Family

1. Proverbs 22:6: Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

2. Ephesians 6:4: Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

1 Chronicles chapter 26 focuses on the organization and responsibilities of the gatekeepers and other officials in service at the entrances of the temple.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by mentioning that divisions are made among the gatekeepers, who are from the Korahite clan. They are assigned specific duties in guarding the entrances to the tabernacle and later to the temple (1 Chronicles 26:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how these gatekeepers, including their relatives, were chosen for their strength and reliability. They were responsible for maintaining order at each entrance and ensuring that only authorized individuals entered (1 Chronicles 26:3-8).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to listing various gatekeeper divisions along with their specific responsibilities. These divisions include those stationed at the east gate, those stationed at the north gate, those stationed at the south gate, and those stationed at various storehouses (1 Chronicles 26:9-18).

4th Paragraph:The account describes other officials who were responsible for overseeing various tasks related to materials used in worship. These tasks included counting and distributing items such as dedicated gifts, spoils of war, and other valuable resources (1 Chronicles 26:20-28).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by noting that all these officials gatekeepers, treasurers, officers were chosen by King David along with Samuel's help. They carried out their duties faithfully throughout David's reign (1 Chronicles 26:29-32).

In summary, Chapter twenty-six of 1 Chronicles depicts the organization, and responsibilities of temple officials. Highlighting division among gatekeepers, and selection based on reliability. Mentioning listing different divisions, and additional roles related to materials. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King David's establishment of an organized system for maintaining order and security within the temple through assigning trustworthy individuals as gatekeepers, and his attention to proper management of dedicated resources while emphasizing divine guidance through collaboration with religious authorities like Samuel in appointing these officials for effective administration within Israel's sacred spaces.

1 Chronicles 26:1 Concerning the divisions of the porters: Of the Korhites was Meshelemiah the son of Kore, of the sons of Asaph.

This passage describes the divisions of the porters and mentions Meshelemiah, the son of Kore, of the sons of Asaph.

1. The Importance of Working Together: A Study of Meshelemiah and the Porters

2. The Call to Serve: The Legacy of Meshelemiah and the Sons of Asaph

1. Psalm 136:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

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.

1 Chronicles 26:2 And the sons of Meshelemiah were, Zechariah the firstborn, Jediael the second, Zebadiah the third, Jathniel the fourth,

The passage describes the sons of Meshelemiah, listing them in order of their birth.

1. The Power of Patience: How Waiting on God's Timing Opens Doors

2. The Faithfulness of Our Fathers: Lessons in Commitment from Meshelemiah

1. Romans 12:12 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

1 Chronicles 26:3 Elam the fifth, Jehohanan the sixth, Elioenai the seventh.

This passage lists Elam, Jehohanan, and Elioenai as the fifth, sixth, and seventh sons of Jesse.

1. God is Faithful: Reflecting on 1 Chronicles 26:3 to See God's Faithfulness in our Lives

2. God's Plan: Understanding the Significance of the Sons of Jesse in 1 Chronicles 26:3

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 26:4 Moreover the sons of Obededom were, Shemaiah the firstborn, Jehozabad the second, Joah the third, and Sacar the fourth, and Nethaneel the fifth,

This passage describes the five sons of Obededom.

1. God's sovereignty in our lives - how He ordains each of our lives according to His will and plan.

2. The importance of family - honoring our family and our heritage as God-given gifts.

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

1 Chronicles 26:5 Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the seventh, Peulthai the eighth: for God blessed him.

Eight gatekeepers of the temple are named in 1 Chronicles 26:5; God blessed the eighth gatekeeper, Peulthai.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: God's Blessing on Peulthai for His Faithfulness.

2. The Power of Faith: How Peulthai's Faithfulness Brought God's 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. 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 Chronicles 26:6 Also unto Shemaiah his son were sons born, that ruled throughout the house of their father: for they were mighty men of valour.

Shemaiah's sons were powerful warriors and governed their father's house.

1. The Strength of a Family: How the Mighty Men of Valour of 1 Chronicles 26:6 Demonstrate the Power of Unity

2. Empowerment Through Courage: The Legacy of Shemaiah and His Sons as Described in 1 Chronicles 26:6

1. Proverbs 18:1-2 Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment. A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion.

2. Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

1 Chronicles 26:7 The sons of Shemaiah; Othni, and Rephael, and Obed, Elzabad, whose brethren were strong men, Elihu, and Semachiah.

The sons of Shemaiah were Othni, Rephael, Obed, Elzabad and Elihu Semachiah, all of whom were strong men.

1. Strength in the Lord: How to Stand Firm in Difficult Times

2. A Godly Lineage: The Legacy of Faithful Ancestors

1. Ephesians 6:10-20 - The Armor of God

2. Psalm 18:29 - The Lord is My Strength and My Shield

1 Chronicles 26:8 All these of the sons of Obededom: they and their sons and their brethren, able men for strength for the service, were threescore and two of Obededom.

This verse from 1 Chronicles 26:8 tells us that the sons of Obededom were able-bodied and numbered sixty-two.

1. The Strength of Obedience: A Study on the Sons of Obededom

2. The Power of Faith: How Obededom's Sons Found Strength in Service

1. Romans 12:11 - "Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord."

2. Ephesians 6:7 - "Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people."

1 Chronicles 26:9 And Meshelemiah had sons and brethren, strong men, eighteen.

Meshelemiah had eighteen sons and strong brothers.

1. The Power of Family: An Exploration of the Strength that Can Be Found in Numbers

2. The Power of Faith: How the Legacy of One Person Can Impact an Entire Family

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

2. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

1 Chronicles 26:10 Also Hosah, of the children of Merari, had sons; Simri the chief, (for though he was not the firstborn, yet his father made him the chief;)

Hosah, from the family of Merari, had a son named Simri who was made chief even though he was not the firstborn.

1. God can change the course of your life for the better, even if you are not the firstborn.

2. The Lord can bless you with an unexpected role and position of leadership.

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 people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

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 Chronicles 26:11 Hilkiah the second, Tebaliah the third, Zechariah the fourth: all the sons and brethren of Hosah were thirteen.

This passage describes the sons and brothers of Hosah, totaling thirteen in number.

1. The importance of family and the joy of having siblings.

2. God's sovereignty in providing for us through our families.

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. Acts 5:12-14 - Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women.

1 Chronicles 26:12 Among these were the divisions of the porters, even among the chief men, having wards one against another, to minister in the house of the LORD.

This passage describes the divisions of porters, who are chief men, assigned to guard the entry points of the temple of the Lord.

1. The importance of service and security in the house of the Lord.

2. The need to be vigilant and faithful in protecting the temple of the Lord.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

2. 1 Peter 4:10 - As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

1 Chronicles 26:13 And they cast lots, as well the small as the great, according to the house of their fathers, for every gate.

The people of Israel were organized into gatekeepers and they were assigned their roles by casting lots.

1. God has a plan for each of us and He will provide the opportunities to fulfill that plan.

2. Even in seemingly random events, God is still in control.

1. Proverbs 16:33 - "The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord."

2. Acts 1:26 - "And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles."

1 Chronicles 26:14 And the lot eastward fell to Shelemiah. Then for Zechariah his son, a wise counsellor, they cast lots; and his lot came out northward.

Shelemiah's lot was eastward, and Zechariah's lot was cast and came out northward.

1. God's Plans and Our Responses - How we can trust God's direction for our lives.

2. Accepting God's Guidance - Understanding what it means to accept God's will for our lives.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps.

2. James 4:13-15 - Now listen, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money. 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. Instead, you ought to say, If it is the Lord s will, we will live and do this or that.

1 Chronicles 26:15 To Obededom southward; and to his sons the house of Asuppim.

Obededom and his sons were given the responsibility of looking after the house of Asuppim.

1. Obedience leads to reward - 1 Chronicles 26:15

2. Serve faithfully - 1 Chronicles 26:15

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."

1 Chronicles 26:16 To Shuppim and Hosah the lot came forth westward, with the gate Shallecheth, by the causeway of the going up, ward against ward.

In 1 Chronicles 26:16, Shuppim and Hosah were assigned a portion of land westward of the gate Shallecheth which was reached by a causeway that went up.

1. Our lives are like a causeway, each step taking us closer to our destination.

2. We can learn from the example of Shuppim and Hosah, who were faithful stewards of the portion of land entrusted to them.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps.

2. Psalm 23:3 - He guides me along the right paths for his name s sake.

1 Chronicles 26:17 Eastward were six Levites, northward four a day, southward four a day, and toward Asuppim two and two.

There were eighteen Levites assigned to various duties in the east, north, south, and west of the Temple.

1. God has a plan and purpose for each of us, no matter how small our roles may seem.

2. We should trust God to provide us with opportunities to serve His kingdom.

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 3:23-24 - 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 Chronicles 26:18 At Parbar westward, four at the causeway, and two at Parbar.

This passage from 1 Chronicles 26:18 describes a location and the number of guards that were placed there.

1. The Importance of Protection: Understanding the significance of guarding those who are vulnerable.

2. The Power of Numbers: Recognizing the value of having multiple people to defend what is right.

1. Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

2. Proverbs 18:10 - "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe."

1 Chronicles 26:19 These are the divisions of the porters among the sons of Kore, and among the sons of Merari.

This passage lists the divisions of the porters among the sons of Kore and Merari.

1. Jesus gave us a model of humble service in John 13:12-17.

2. The Lord calls us to serve one another in the same way the porters served in 1 Chronicles 26.

1. John 13:12-17

2. 1 Chronicles 26:19

1 Chronicles 26:20 And of the Levites, Ahijah was over the treasures of the house of God, and over the treasures of the dedicated things.

Ahijah was appointed to oversee the treasures of the House of God and the dedicated things.

1. The Importance of Stewardship - how our dedication to God's work will be rewarded.

2. Faithful Service - how faithfulness in our service to God brings blessings.

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. 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 Chronicles 26:21 As concerning the sons of Laadan; the sons of the Gershonite Laadan, chief fathers, even of Laadan the Gershonite, were Jehieli.

This passage discusses the sons of Laadan, a Gershonite, with Jehieli listed as the chief father.

1. The importance of honoring family heritage.

2. Seeking out our father's wisdom and understanding.

1. Proverbs 4:1-9 - Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding.

2. Romans 11:33-36 - Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

1 Chronicles 26:22 The sons of Jehieli; Zetham, and Joel his brother, which were over the treasures of the house of the LORD.

This passage mentions two sons of Jehieli, Zetham and Joel, who were in charge of the treasures of the Lord's house.

1. The Importance of Stewardship: A Study of 1 Chronicles 26:22

2. God's Blessing and Provision: An Examination of 1 Chronicles 26:22

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

2. Genesis 2:15 - The Commission to Cultivate and Keep the Garden

1 Chronicles 26:23 Of the Amramites, and the Izharites, the Hebronites, and the Uzzielites:

This passage is a list of the four descendants of Kohath, a son of Levi.

1. The Power of Lineage: The Importance of Knowing Your Family History

2. The Importance of Honoring Your Ancestors and Their Legacy

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ

2. Exodus 6:16-20 - The descendants of Levi, and their duties in the Tabernacle

1 Chronicles 26:24 And Shebuel the son of Gershom, the son of Moses, was ruler of the treasures.

Shebuel, the son of Gershom, son of Moses, was in charge of the treasures.

1. Keeping God's Treasures: The Story of Shebuel

2. Making the Most of God's Resources: The Example of Shebuel

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce.

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.

1 Chronicles 26:25 And his brethren by Eliezer; Rehabiah his son, and Jeshaiah his son, and Joram his son, and Zichri his son, and Shelomith his son.

Eliezer's brothers are Rehabiah, Jeshaiah, Joram, Zichri, and Shelomith.

1. God's Plan for Families: An Examination of 1 Chronicles 26:25

2. God's Faithfulness to His Children: The Story of Eliezer and His Brothers

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.

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 Chronicles 26:26 Which Shelomith and his brethren were over all the treasures of the dedicated things, which David the king, and the chief fathers, the captains over thousands and hundreds, and the captains of the host, had dedicated.

Shelomith and his brothers were responsible for managing all of the dedicated offerings given to the temple by David, the kings, and the leaders of the military.

1. Generosity: The Value of Giving to the Lord

2. The Power of Dedication: Giving All to God

1. Deuteronomy 15:10 - "Give generously to him 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. 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."

1 Chronicles 26:27 Out of the spoils won in battles did they dedicate to maintain the house of the LORD.

The spoils from battle were used to maintain the house of the LORD.

1. The Lord's House: A Blessing and a Responsibility

2. Reaping the Rewards and Benefits of the Lord's House

1. Deuteronomy 20:1-4 - When you go out to battle against your enemies and see horses and chariots and an army larger than your own, do not be afraid of them, for the LORD your God, who brought you up out of Egypt, is with you.

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.

1 Chronicles 26:28 And all that Samuel the seer, and Saul the son of Kish, and Abner the son of Ner, and Joab the son of Zeruiah, had dedicated; and whosoever had dedicated any thing, it was under the hand of Shelomith, and of his brethren.

Four men, Samuel the seer, Saul the son of Kish, Abner the son of Ner, and Joab the son of Zeruiah, dedicated various items to the Lord and put them under the care of Shelomith and his brethren.

1. Dedicating Our Lives to God: The Example of Samuel, Saul, Abner, and Joab

2. The Power of Dedication: Putting Our Gifts in the Hands of Shelomith and His Brethren

1. Joshua 24:15-16 - "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. Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

1 Chronicles 26:29 Of the Izharites, Chenaniah and his sons were for the outward business over Israel, for officers and judges.

Chenaniah and his sons were in charge of the external affairs of Israel, such as officers and judges.

1. The importance of having righteous leadership in our lives.

2. The importance of having a strong sense of justice in our society.

1. Proverbs 29:2 - When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

2. Matthew 22:21 - Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.

1 Chronicles 26:30 And of the Hebronites, Hashabiah and his brethren, men of valour, a thousand and seven hundred, were officers among them of Israel on this side Jordan westward in all the business of the LORD, and in the service of the king.

This passage describes the Hebronites, with Hashabiah at the head, and their service to the LORD and king.

1. The Power of Service: How Devotion to God and Others Can Change the World

2. Finding Fulfillment Through Serving Others

1. Matthew 20:25 28 - Jesus teaches his disciples that the greatest among them will be the one who serves the most.

2. Mark 10:45 - Jesus teaches about the importance of taking up the role of a servant.

1 Chronicles 26:31 Among the Hebronites was Jerijah the chief, even among the Hebronites, according to the generations of his fathers. In the fortieth year of the reign of David they were sought for, and there were found among them mighty men of valour at Jazer of Gilead.

Jerijah was the chief of the Hebronites during the fortieth year of David's reign. During that time, many mighty men of valour were found in Jazer of Gilead.

1. The Power of Generational Faithfulness

2. Finding Strength and Courage in Hard Times

1. Romans 8:31-39 - For if God is for us, who can be against us?

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.

1 Chronicles 26:32 And his brethren, men of valour, were two thousand and seven hundred chief fathers, whom king David made rulers over the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, for every matter pertaining to God, and affairs of the king.

King David appointed two thousand and seven hundred men of valor to rule over the Reubenites, Gadites, and half-tribe of Manasseh for matters related to God and the king.

1: We should be like King David, and remember to lead with valor in all matters.

2: We must remember to be devoted to God and the king as King David was.

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: Proverbs 21:1 - The king s heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will.

1 Chronicles chapter 27 focuses on the organization and administration of various divisions within Israel, including military commanders, government officials, and other leaders.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by mentioning that the number of Israelite soldiers is counted and divided into twelve divisions, each serving for one month in a year. These divisions are under the command of prominent military leaders (1 Chronicles 27:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how certain individuals are appointed to oversee specific responsibilities within the kingdom. These include officials who manage David's property and resources, those in charge of the king's treasuries, those responsible for agricultural affairs such as vineyards and olive groves, and others overseeing livestock (1 Chronicles 27:25-31).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to listing the names of these officials along with their respective roles. The chapter provides details about commanders of thousands and hundreds, tribal leaders, counselors to the king, administrators over various aspects of David's kingdom (1 Chronicles 27:4-24).

4th Paragraph:The account describes how these officials served faithfully under King David's leadership throughout his reign. Their numbers were vast as they provided support in both military matters and civil administration (1 Chronicles 27:32-34).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by noting that Joab son of Zeruiah was commander-in-chief over the army while Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was recorder or historian. These appointments reflect their prominent roles during David's rule (1 Chronicles 27:34-37).

In summary, Chapter twenty-seven of 1 Chronicles depicts the organization, and administration within Israel. Highlighting counting soldiers, and appointment of military leaders. Mentioning listing names, and assigning various responsibilities. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King David's establishment of an organized system for governance within Israel through appointing capable individuals to oversee different aspects such as military divisions, and his recognition of key figures like Joab and Jehoshaphat who held significant positions during his reign while emphasizing effective leadership through their faithful service in maintaining order and prosperity throughout the kingdom.

1 Chronicles 27:1 Now the children of Israel after their number, to wit, the chief fathers and captains of thousands and hundreds, and their officers that served the king in any matter of the courses, which came in and went out month by month throughout all the months of the year, of every course were twenty and four thousand.

This passage describes the organization of the Israelites into units of 24,000, which served the king in monthly rotations throughout the year.

1. The Power of Organization: How God Calls Us to Unity

2. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commands

1. Matthew 22:37-39 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

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 Chronicles 27:2 Over the first course for the first month was Jashobeam the son of Zabdiel: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.

Jashobeam was the leader of the first division of 24,000 soldiers for the first month of service.

1. The importance of leadership and leading by example.

2. The power of unity in numbers.

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

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: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

1 Chronicles 27:3 Of the children of Perez was the chief of all the captains of the host for the first month.

This passage tells us that the leader of the army in the first month was from the tribe of Perez.

1. Our Strength Comes from Unity: How Coming Together Can Help Us Overcome Anything

2. Serving God and Our Country: How We Can Honor Both Through Leadership

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. 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 Chronicles 27:4 And over the course of the second month was Dodai an Ahohite, and of his course was Mikloth also the ruler: in his course likewise were twenty and four thousand.

During the second month of the year, an Ahohite named Dodai was in charge of 24,000 people.

1. The Power of Leadership: The Example of Dodai

2. Fulfilling God's Calling: Working Together to Accomplish His Will

1. Exodus 18:21-22 - 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: 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.

2. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

1 Chronicles 27:5 The third captain of the host for the third month was Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, a chief priest: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.

This passage describes Benaiah, son of Jehoiada, who was the third captain of the host for the third month, and had 24,000 people in his course.

1. The Importance of Leadership in the Bible

2. The Role of Priests in Ancient Times

1. 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.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 27:6 This is that Benaiah, who was mighty among the thirty, and above the thirty: and in his course was Ammizabad his son.

Benaiah was a mighty warrior among the thirty elite warriors and his son, Ammizabad, was in his course.

1. "The Power of Legacy: Passing Strength from Generation to Generation"

2. "Living a Life of Courage and Strength"

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 20:29, "The glory of young men is their strength; the splendor of old men is their gray hair."

1 Chronicles 27:7 The fourth captain for the fourth month was Asahel the brother of Joab, and Zebadiah his son after him: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.

Asahel, the brother of Joab, was the fourth captain for the fourth month, and he was followed by his son Zebadiah, who was in charge of twenty-four thousand people.

1. God works in mysterious ways to bring people into positions of power and influence.

2. God gives authority and responsibility to those He has chosen.

1. 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 - 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; 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.

2. Psalm 75:6-7 - For not from the east or from the west and not from the wilderness comes lifting up, but it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another.

1 Chronicles 27:8 The fifth captain for the fifth month was Shamhuth the Izrahite: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.

The fifth captain in the fifth month of the year was Shamhuth the Izrahite, and his division had twenty-four thousand men.

1. The Importance of Dedicated Leadership

2. God's Provision for His People

1. Ephesians 4:11-12 - And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ.

2. 1 Corinthians 12:27-28 - Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues.

1 Chronicles 27:9 The sixth captain for the sixth month was Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.

Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite was the sixth captain in the sixth month of the year, and his course of service had 24,000 men.

1. The Strength of Unity: How Working Together Can Accomplish Great Things

2. The Value of Service: How Our Part is Important in the Bigger Picture

1. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

2. Romans 12:4-8 - "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. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness."

1 Chronicles 27:10 The seventh captain for the seventh month was Helez the Pelonite, of the children of Ephraim: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.

Helez the Pelonite, from the tribe of Ephraim, was the seventh captain for the seventh month and his army was made up of twenty-four thousand soldiers.

1. The Power of God's Faithful People: Helez the Pelonite and the Tribe of Ephraim

2. A Call to Unity: Helez the Pelonite and the 24,000 Soldiers

1. Joshua 4:12-13: When the people of Israel crossed the Jordan, twelve stones were taken from the river to represent the twelve tribes of Israel.

2. Ephesians 4:3: Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

1 Chronicles 27:11 The eighth captain for the eighth month was Sibbecai the Hushathite, of the Zarhites: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.

Sibbecai the Hushathite was the eighth captain for the eighth month, and he oversaw a total of 24,000 men.

1. The Power of Dedication: Being Faithful in Small Things

2. The Strength of Unity: Working Together Toward a Common Goal

1. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

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 Chronicles 27:12 The ninth captain for the ninth month was Abiezer the Anetothite, of the Benjamites: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.

Abiezer the Anetothite, a Benjamite, was the ninth captain of the ninth month and was responsible for 24,000 troops.

1. Serve with Purpose: A Study of Abiezer the Anetothite

2. Dedication to Duty: Exploring the Life of Abiezer the Anetothite

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. 2 Corinthians 5:15 - And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

1 Chronicles 27:13 The tenth captain for the tenth month was Maharai the Netophathite, of the Zarhites: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.

Maharai the Netophathite was the tenth captain of the tenth month, with 24,000 men assigned to his course.

1. God's Strength in Our Weakness: How Knowing Our Limitations Can Bring Us Closer to God

2. A Unified Force: The Power of Unity in Moving Towards a Common Goal

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. 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 Chronicles 27:14 The eleventh captain for the eleventh month was Benaiah the Pirathonite, of the children of Ephraim: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.

Benaiah the Pirathonite of the tribe of Ephraim was appointed captain of the eleventh month and was in charge of twenty-four thousand men.

1. The importance of God-given leadership in times of crisis.

2. The power of faith and trust in God in times of hardship.

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. 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 Chronicles 27:15 The twelfth captain for the twelfth month was Heldai the Netophathite, of Othniel: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.

Heldai the Netophathite was the captain for the twelfth month and he was in charge of 24,000 people.

1. The Power of Responsibility: How to Lead Effectively

2. Understanding God's Call to Serve: Exploring Our Purpose in Life

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

2. 1 Timothy 3:1-7 Qualifications for Overseers and Deacons

1 Chronicles 27:16 Furthermore over the tribes of Israel: the ruler of the Reubenites was Eliezer the son of Zichri: of the Simeonites, Shephatiah the son of Maachah:

This passage names two rulers of the tribes of Israel, Eliezer of the Reubenites and Shephatiah of the Simeonites.

1. The Importance of Leadership in the Tribe of Israel

2. The Legacy of Eliezer and Shephatiah

1. Deuteronomy 1:15-17 - God's instruction to the leaders of Israel to appoint wise and understanding leaders to lead the people.

2. Proverbs 29:2 - When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

1 Chronicles 27:17 Of the Levites, Hashabiah the son of Kemuel: of the Aaronites, Zadok:

The passage lists two Levites and Aaronites.

1. Our Duty to Uphold Our Faithful Leaders

2. The Importance of the Levites and Aaronites

1. Exodus 28:1 - "Take thou also 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. 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."

1 Chronicles 27:18 Of Judah, Elihu, one of the brethren of David: of Issachar, Omri the son of Michael:

Passage Two of David's brothers, Elihu from Judah and Omri the son of Michael from Issachar, were mentioned in 1 Chronicles 27:18.

1. God Connects Us Through Our Relationships

2. God Chooses Us for a Purpose

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 27:19 Of Zebulun, Ishmaiah the son of Obadiah: of Naphtali, Jerimoth the son of Azriel:

Ishmaiah the son of Obadiah from Zebulun and Jerimoth the son of Azriel from Naphtali are mentioned in 1 Chronicles 27:19.

1. Uniting in the Name of God: The Example of Ishmaiah and Jerimoth

2. Overcoming Division with Unity: Learning from Ishmaiah and Jerimoth

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 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 selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

1 Chronicles 27:20 Of the children of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Azaziah: of the half tribe of Manasseh, Joel the son of Pedaiah:

Two sons of Israel, Hoshea and Joel, are mentioned in 1 Chronicles 27:20.

1. The Faithfulness of God's Promises: Hoshea and Joel in Israel's Lineage

2. Living a Life of Faithfulness: Lessons from Hoshea and Joel

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 27:21 Of the half tribe of Manasseh in Gilead, Iddo the son of Zechariah: of Benjamin, Jaasiel the son of Abner:

King David appointed Iddo the son of Zechariah of the half tribe of Manasseh in Gilead, and Jaasiel the son of Abner of Benjamin as overseers.

1. God appoints individuals to specific roles to serve His purposes.

2. Recognizing and fulfilling our God-given roles is essential.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 27:22 Of Dan, Azareel the son of Jeroham. These were the princes of the tribes of Israel.

This passage from 1 Chronicles lists the princes of the tribes of Israel, including Azareel the son of Jeroham from the tribe of Dan.

1. God s Faithfulness Shown Through His Chosen Leaders

2. The Power of Intergenerational Faithfulness

1. 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.

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.

1 Chronicles 27:23 But David took not the number of them from twenty years old and under: because the LORD had said he would increase Israel like to the stars of the heavens.

David refused to count the number of troops under the age of twenty because the LORD promised to increase Israel's population like the stars in the heavens.

1. God's promises are faithful and true; we can trust that He will keep His word. 2. We should seek to make the most of the blessings God has given us.

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 27:24 Joab the son of Zeruiah began to number, but he finished not, because there fell wrath for it against Israel; neither was the number put in the account of the chronicles of king David.

Joab started to count the people of Israel, but he did not finish because it caused wrath from God. The numbers were not recorded in the chronicles of King David.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The power of God's wrath and its consequences.

1. Romans 6:16 - Do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.

2. Psalm 103:11 - For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him.

1 Chronicles 27:25 And over the king's treasures was Azmaveth the son of Adiel: and over the storehouses in the fields, in the cities, and in the villages, and in the castles, was Jehonathan the son of Uzziah:

Azmaveth was responsible for overseeing the king's treasures, and Jehonathan was responsible for overseeing the storehouses in the fields, cities, villages, and castles.

1. The Importance of Faithful Stewardship

2. Trusting God with Your Resources

1. Luke 16:10-13 - He who is faithful in little will also be faithful in much

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honour the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce

1 Chronicles 27:26 And over them that did the work of the field for tillage of the ground was Ezri the son of Chelub:

Ezri the son of Chelub was the overseer of those who worked in the fields.

1. The Importance of Serving God in Every Aspect of Life

2. The Power 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. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going."

1 Chronicles 27:27 And over the vineyards was Shimei the Ramathite: over the increase of the vineyards for the wine cellars was Zabdi the Shiphmite:

Shimei the Ramathite was responsible for the vineyards and Zabdi the Shiphmite was responsible for the wine cellars.

1. The importance of delegation in achieving success

2. The value of working together to achieve a common goal

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

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.

1 Chronicles 27:28 And over the olive trees and the sycomore trees that were in the low plains was Baalhanan the Gederite: and over the cellars of oil was Joash:

Baalhanan the Gederite was in charge of the olive and sycamore trees in the low plains, and Joash was in charge of the cellars of oil.

1. Appreciating the gifts from God that we have been given.

2. Knowing our place and our purpose in life.

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1 - "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

1 Chronicles 27:29 And over the herds that fed in Sharon was Shitrai the Sharonite: and over the herds that were in the valleys was Shaphat the son of Adlai:

There were two leaders appointed to oversee the herds in Sharon and the valleys, Shitrai the Sharonite and Shaphat the son of Adlai.

1. "The Power of Appointment"

2. "The Benefits of Serving with a Leader"

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. 1 Peter 5:1-4 - So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: 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.

1 Chronicles 27:30 Over the camels also was Obil the Ishmaelite: and over the asses was Jehdeiah the Meronothite:

Obil the Ishmaelite was responsible for the camels, while Jehdeiah the Meronothite was responsible for the asses.

1. God has given us all different roles and responsibilities, and it is important to carry out our duties faithfully.

2. We should be willing to accept the roles God gives us and use them to His glory.

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.

1 Chronicles 27:31 And over the flocks was Jaziz the Hagerite. All these were the rulers of the substance which was king David's.

King David had Jaziz the Hagerite serve as the ruler over his flocks.

1. The Importance of Good Leaders

2. God's Provision for King David's Flocks

1. Jeremiah 3:15 - "And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding."

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 Chronicles 27:32 Also Jonathan David's uncle was a counsellor, a wise man, and a scribe: and Jehiel the son of Hachmoni was with the king's sons:

Jehiel the son of Hachmoni was a wise man and counsellor who was with the royal family, and Jonathan, David's uncle, was also a wise man, counsellor, and scribe.

1. How Godly Wisdom is a Blessing to All

2. The Importance of Wise Counsel

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 Chronicles 27:33 And Ahithophel was the king's counsellor: and Hushai the Archite was the king's companion:

Ahithophel was the king's counsellor and Hushai the Archite was the king's companion.

1. The importance of wise counsel in life.

2. God's divine purpose in appointing those in positions of authority.

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.

1 Chronicles 27:34 And after Ahithophel was Jehoiada the son of Benaiah, and Abiathar: and the general of the king's army was Joab.

This passage mentions three individuals: Ahithophel, Jehoiada, and Joab, who were important to King David.

1. The importance of loyalty and faithfulness in relationships.

2. The benefits of having a good team of advisors.

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."

1 Chronicles chapter 28 focuses on David's preparations for the construction of the temple and his charge to Solomon as his successor.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with David gathering all the officials of Israel, including the commanders, captains, and leaders. He addresses them and announces his intention to build a house for the ark of the covenant, which symbolizes God's presence (1 Chronicles 28:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how David shares his personal desire to build the temple but is told by God through the prophet Nathan that it is not his task. Instead, God has chosen Solomon, David's son, to carry out this important mission (1 Chronicles 28:3-7).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to David's charge to Solomon regarding building the temple. He provides detailed instructions and guidance on various aspects such as architectural plans, materials needed (including gold and silver), skilled workers required for specific tasks, and encouragement to be strong and courageous in carrying out this sacred duty (1 Chronicles 28:8-10).

4th Paragraph:The account describes how David hands over to Solomon all the plans he received from God for constructing both the temple structure and its furnishings. These plans are given in writing along with instructions on how everything should be done (1 Chronicles 28:11-19).

5th Paragraph:The chapter continues with David addressing Solomon directly in front of all assembled officials. He urges him to wholeheartedly seek after God, obey His commandments, walk in His ways, and remain faithful as king so that he may prosper in all he does (1 Chronicles 28:20-21).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by noting that David reassures Solomon that God will be with him if he follows these instructions faithfully. Additionally, David commands all Israelites present to support Solomon in building the temple (1 Chronicles 28:22-29).

In summary, Chapter twenty-eight of 1 Chronicles depicts David's preparations, and charge to Solomon for building. Highlighting announcement of intent, and divine guidance through Nathan. Mentioning detailed instructions given, and handing over plans. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King David's deep desire to build a permanent dwelling place for God but acknowledging God's choice of Solomon as its builder, and his meticulous provision of guidance along with written plans while emphasizing obedience to divine commands as crucial for success while passing on this sacred responsibility from one generation David to another Solomon in order for Israel's worship practices centered around a permanent temple structure could be realized.

1 Chronicles 28:1 And David assembled all the princes of Israel, the princes of the tribes, and the captains of the companies that ministered to the king by course, and the captains over the thousands, and captains over the hundreds, and the stewards over all the substance and possession of the king, and of his sons, with the officers, and with the mighty men, and with all the valiant men, unto Jerusalem.

David gathered all the leaders of Israel together in Jerusalem.

1. God calls us to be faithful leaders.

2. Obedience to God's call is essential to success.

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 "Without wise leadership, a nation falls; there is safety in having many advisers."

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:

King David stands up to address his people, expressing his desire to build a temple for the Ark of the Covenant and the footstool of God.

1. The Importance of Taking Action: A on King David and the Temple

2. Following Your Dreams: How King David Followed His Heart and Built a Temple

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 16:3 - "Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established."

1 Chronicles 28:3 But God said unto me, Thou shalt not build an house for my name, because thou hast been a man of war, and hast shed blood.

God told King David he could not build a temple for Him because he had been a warrior and had shed blood.

1. God's grace is available to all, no matter our past.

2. Following God's will is more important than our own plans.

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

2. Isaiah 55:8 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.

1 Chronicles 28:4 Howbeit the LORD God of Israel chose me before all the house of my father to be king over Israel for ever: for he hath chosen Judah to be the ruler; and of the house of Judah, the house of my father; and among the sons of my father he liked me to make me king over all Israel:

God chose King David to be ruler of Israel and of the house of Judah.

1. God's Choice: The Story of King David

2. Lessons from King David: Trusting God's Decisions

1. 1 Chronicles 28:4

2. Psalm 78:70-71: He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds: From following the ewes great with young he brought him to feed Jacob his people, and Israel his inheritance.

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.

God chose Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel out of all of His sons.

1. God's sovereignty in choosing leaders

2. The importance of obedience and faithfulness to God

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Proverbs 16:10-13

1 Chronicles 28:6 And he said unto me, Solomon thy son, he shall build my house and my courts: for I have chosen him to be my son, and I will be his father.

King David declared that his son Solomon would be the one to build the Temple of the Lord.

1. God chooses people to carry out His work - 1 Chronicles 28:6

2. God is a loving and faithful Father - 1 Chronicles 28:6

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

2. Romans 8:14-16 - For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

1 Chronicles 28:7 Moreover I will establish his kingdom for ever, if he be constant to do my commandments and my judgments, as at this day.

God's kingdom will last forever if we are obedient to His commandments.

1. Life is a Test of Obedience

2. The Blessing of Faithful Living

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.

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 Chronicles 28:8 Now therefore in the sight of all Israel the congregation of the LORD, and in the audience of our God, keep and seek for all the commandments of the LORD your God: that ye may possess this good land, and leave it for an inheritance for your children after you for ever.

This passage calls on all Israel to keep and seek after God's commands in order to possess the promised land and leave it as an inheritance for future generations.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: How Keeping God's Commands Brings Fulfillment

2. The Legacy of Faith: Passing on God's Promises to the Next Generation

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding

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 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.

Solomon is called to serve God with a perfect heart and willing mind, for God knows and understands all. If Solomon seeks out God, he will be found, but if he forsakes Him, God will cast him off forever.

1. The Promise of Obedience: Serving God with Perfect Heart and Willing Mind

2. The Power of God's Love: Seeking Him and Being Found

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 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

1 Chronicles 28:10 Take heed now; for the LORD hath chosen thee to build an house for the sanctuary: be strong, and do it.

Passage God has chosen David to build a sanctuary and he must be brave and do it.

1. Bravely Obey God's Calling

2. God's Chosen Are Called To Do Great Things

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.

1 Chronicles 28:11 Then David gave to Solomon his son the pattern of the porch, and of the houses thereof, and of the treasuries thereof, and of the upper chambers thereof, and of the inner parlours thereof, and of the place of the mercy seat,

David gave Solomon the pattern for building the Temple, including the porch, houses, treasuries, upper chambers, inner parlours, and mercy seat.

1. The Importance of Obedience: Following God's Instructions for Building the Temple

2. Seeking God's Mercy: Reflecting on the Significance of the Mercy Seat

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - God's instructions for building the Temple

2. Hebrews 4:16 - Coming to God's throne of grace with confidence in His mercy

1 Chronicles 28:12 And the pattern of all that he had by the spirit, of the courts of the house of the LORD, and of all the chambers round about, of the treasuries of the house of God, and of the treasuries of the dedicated things:

David was inspired by God to plan and build the temple of the Lord with its courts and chambers, treasuries, and dedicated things.

1. "God's Divine Plans for Building the Temple of the Lord"

2. "God's Inspiration to David for the Temple of the Lord"

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 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

1 Chronicles 28:13 Also for the courses of the priests and the Levites, and for all the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and for all the vessels of service in the house of the LORD.

David commands Solomon to build the temple of the Lord and to provide for its upkeep, as well as for the priests and Levites who will serve it.

1. Allowing God to Guide Our Lives: How to Abide by His Commands

2. The Importance of Serving the Lord: Taking Care of His House

1. Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

1 Chronicles 28:14 He gave of gold by weight for things of gold, for all instruments of all manner of service; silver also for all instruments of silver by weight, for all instruments of every kind of service:

David gave gold and silver to make instruments for service in the temple.

1. God's Provision: How God Provides What We Need

2. The Purpose of Service: How We Can Serve God Through Our Lives

1. 1 Chronicles 28:14

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

1 Chronicles 28:15 Even the weight for the candlesticks of gold, and for their lamps of gold, by weight for every candlestick, and for the lamps thereof: and for the candlesticks of silver by weight, both for the candlestick, and also for the lamps thereof, according to the use of every candlestick.

The passage describes the instructions for making the candlesticks and lamps for the temple.

1. God calls us to make a holy offering of our very best.

2. Working diligently to create things for God brings honor and blessing.

1. Exodus 25:31-40 God commands the making of the tabernacle.

2. Proverbs 16:3 Commit your work to the Lord and it will be established.

1 Chronicles 28:16 And by weight he gave gold for the tables of shewbread, for every table; and likewise silver for the tables of silver:

King David gave gold and silver to make tables of bread and silver.

1. The Importance of Generosity: A Study of King David

2. God's Provision: The Example of King David

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. 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 Chronicles 28:17 Also pure gold for the fleshhooks, and the bowls, and the cups: and for the golden basons he gave gold by weight for every bason; and likewise silver by weight for every bason of silver:

King David instructed the people to provide gold and silver for the vessels of the temple.

1. The importance of giving to the Lord's work.

2. How we can best use the resources God has given us.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully)

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 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.

David instructed his son, Solomon, to build a temple for the Lord and to make two cherubim chariots from pure gold.

1. The Importance of Dedicating our Lives to God

2. The Power of Gold and its Representation of Faith

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. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:

10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

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.

David was given insight and understanding from the LORD, which gave him the pattern for how to carry out the works of the temple.

1. God's Guidance - Learning to trust and follow God's leading.

2. The Pattern of God - Recognizing the design of God 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. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

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.

David encourages Solomon to be strong and courageous and reminds him that God will be with him and will not fail or forsake him as he completes the work to service the house of the LORD.

1. "The Power of Encouragement: How the Words of Others Empower Us for Success"

2. "The Faithfulness of God: Trusting that God Will Not Fail or Forsake Us"

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. 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 Chronicles 28:21 And, behold, the courses of the priests and the Levites, even they shall be with thee for all the service of the house of God: and there shall be with thee for all manner of workmanship every willing skilful man, for any manner of service: also the princes and all the people will be wholly at thy commandment.

This passage describes God's commandment that the priests, Levites, willing and skilful men, princes, and people will be available to serve in the house of God.

1. God's Commandment: Serving in His House

2. The Value of Service: Working Together for God's Glory

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 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.

1 Chronicles chapter 29 focuses on David's final preparations for the construction of the temple and his public prayer and offerings to God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with David gathering all the officials, leaders, and people of Israel. He addresses them, expressing his desire to build a house for God but acknowledging that it is Solomon who has been chosen by God for this task (1 Chronicles 29:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how David encourages the people to contribute willingly towards the construction of the temple. He sets an example by offering a substantial amount of gold, silver, precious stones, and other valuable resources from his personal treasures. The leaders and people follow suit in their generous offerings (1 Chronicles 29:6-9).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to describing the overwhelming response from the people as they joyfully give their offerings for building God's house. They recognize that everything they possess comes from God and express gratitude through their giving (1 Chronicles 29:10-16).

4th Paragraph:The account describes David's prayer before all the assembly. He praises God's greatness, sovereignty, and generosity. He acknowledges that all things come from Him and prays for Solomon's wisdom, strength, and devotion in carrying out this important task (1 Chronicles 29:17-19).

5th Paragraph:The chapter continues with Solomon being publicly acknowledged as king over Israel. They anoint him with oil in front of everyone present while Zadok is affirmed as high priest (1 Chronicles 29:20-22).

6th Paragraph:The narrative concludes with a description of extensive sacrifices offered to God by both David and all Israel burnt offerings and peace offerings in celebration of Solomon's kingship and in dedication to building the temple (1 Chronicles 29:23-25).

7th Paragraph:The chapter ends by noting that David hands over his plans for building the temple to Solomon along with instructions on how to carry out these plans faithfully. The assembly worships God again before returning home joyfully (1 Chronicles 29:26-30).

In summary, Chapter twenty-nine of 1 Chronicles depicts David's final preparations, and public prayer before building. Highlighting encouragement for contributions, and generous offerings made. Mentioning description of prayer, and public acknowledgment of Solomon. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King David's unwavering commitment towards establishing a permanent dwelling place for God through his personal example in giving generously, and his heartfelt prayers acknowledging divine sovereignty while passing on responsibilities including plans for constructing the temple onto his son Solomon along with expressions of gratitude through extensive sacrifices offered by both himself and all Israelites present during this significant occasion emphasizing unity among Israelites in worship practices centered around dedicating resources towards realizing their shared vision a magnificent temple where they can honor God together under Solomon s reign.

1 Chronicles 29:1 Furthermore 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.

King David announces to the congregation that God has chosen his son Solomon, but he is young and the work of building the palace for the Lord is great.

1. The Blessings of Obedience - Obedience to God brings blessing into our lives, as seen in King David's faithfulness in recognizing God's choice of Solomon and building the palace for Him.

2. The Power of Faith - King David's faith and trust in God allowed him to recognize God's choice of Solomon and have the courage to complete the task of building a palace for 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. 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 Chronicles 29:2 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.

King David prepared with all his might materials for the construction of the House of God, including gold, silver, brass, iron, wood, onyx stones, glistering stones of various colors, precious stones, and marble stones.

1. The Importance of Generosity in Worship

2. The Beauty of God's House and the Materials Needed to Construct It

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. Exodus 25:2-9 - 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.

1 Chronicles 29:3 Moreover, because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of mine 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,

King David donated his own personal gold and silver to the House of God in addition to his other offerings.

1. The Generosity of King David - Encouraging Generosity in the Church

2. The Holiness of the House of God - A Call for Holiness in the Church

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - Remember the example of the generous Macedonians and give cheerfully and freely

2. 1 Peter 1:14-16 - As obedient children, be holy in all you do, just as God is holy.

1 Chronicles 29:4 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 withal:

King David gathered materials to overlay the walls of the houses, including three thousand talents of gold from Ophir and seven thousand talents of refined silver.

1. The Value of Giving Selflessly

2. The Power of Working Together

1. 2 Corinthians 8:1-9 (Now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord s people. And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.)

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 Chronicles 29:5 The gold for things of gold, and the 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?

King David asked those present to willingly and generously give to the Lord and the temple so that craftsmen could use the resources to make the temple.

1. The importance of giving generously and sacrificially to God.

2. How to demonstrate our commitment to God through our offerings.

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.

1 Chronicles 29:6 Then the chief of the fathers and princes of the tribes of Israel, and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the rulers of the king's work, offered willingly,

The leaders of the tribes of Israel offered their own resources to building the temple.

1. God blesses those who give willingly and generously.

2. Our offerings to God should be the best of all that we have.

1. 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."

2. Philippians 4:18 - "Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God."

1 Chronicles 29:7 And gave for the service of the house of God of gold five thousand talents and ten thousand drams, and of silver ten thousand talents, and of brass eighteen thousand talents, and one hundred thousand talents of iron.

King David donated a large amount of gold, silver, brass, and iron to the service of God's house.

1. The Power of Generosity: How God Uses Our Gifts

2. Understanding the Value of Resources in Serving God

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. 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."

1 Chronicles 29:8 And they with whom precious stones were found gave them to the treasure of the house of the LORD, by the hand of Jehiel the Gershonite.

Jehiel the Gershonite accepted precious stones as donations for the treasure of the House of the Lord.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Giving to the Lord Benefits Us

2. The Treasure of the Lord: How We Can Invest in God's Kingdom

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 29:9 Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the LORD: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy.

The people joyfully offered their gifts willingly and with a perfect heart to the LORD, and King David rejoiced with great joy.

1. Joy in Generosity: Celebrating the Joy of Giving

2. A Heart of Worship: Living a Life of Joyful Obedience

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

2. 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.

1 Chronicles 29:10 Wherefore David blessed the LORD before all the congregation: and David said, Blessed be thou, LORD God of Israel our father, for ever and ever.

David praised the Lord God of Israel in front of the congregation.

1. A Call to Praise God: Recognizing His Power and Love

2. Understanding the Value of Thanksgiving and Praise

1. Psalm 103:1-5

2. Colossians 3:15-17

1 Chronicles 29:11 Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.

God's greatness, power, glory, victory, and majesty reign over all of heaven and earth, and He is exalted as head above all.

1. God's Sovereignty: How He Reigns Over All

2. The Majesty of God: Our Highest Praise

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

2. Psalm 103:19 - The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

1 Chronicles 29:12 Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all.

God is the source of riches, honor, power, and might, and He is able to make great things and give strength to all.

1. The Power of God: Understanding the Strength from Above

2. Riches and Honor: Recognizing the Blessings of the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:29 - "He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless."

2. Psalm 112:3 - "Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever."

1 Chronicles 29:13 Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

This passage expresses gratitude to God for His glory and provision.

1. "Giving Thanks: Acknowledging God's Faithfulness"

2. "The Power of Praise: Rejoicing in God's Goodness"

1. 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."

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 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.

The people of Israel recognize that all they have comes from the Lord, and they willingly offer it to Him.

1. Let us remember that all we have comes from the Lord and return it to Him with gratitude.

2. The Lord gives generously; let us demonstrate our gratitude through generous giving.

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 24:1 - "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."

1 Chronicles 29:15 For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding.

This passage is a reminder of our mortality in life and that we are all just passing through.

1. Accepting Our Mortality: Embracing the Journey of Life

2. Our Short Time on Earth: Making the Most of Our Days

1. 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.

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.

1 Chronicles 29:16 O LORD our God, all this store that we have prepared to build thee an house for thine holy name cometh of thine hand, and is all thine own.

Passage David acknowledges that the resources used to build the temple are a gift from God and belong to Him.

1. We must recognize God's sovereignty over our lives and resources.

2. We must offer to God everything that we have with thanksgiving.

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

2. Deuteronomy 8:17-18 - "And you say in your heart, My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth. But 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."

1 Chronicles 29:17 I know also, my God, that thou triest the heart, and hast pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of mine heart I have willingly offered all these things: and now have I seen with joy thy people, which are present here, to offer willingly unto thee.

David joyfully offers his possessions to God, knowing that God takes pleasure in those who are upright and tests the heart.

1. The Power of Uprightness: God tests the heart and takes pleasure in those who are upright.

2. The Joy of Giving: When we give willingly and joyfully, God responds in kind.

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 6:21, For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

1 Chronicles 29:18 O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, keep this for ever in the imagination of the thoughts of the heart of thy people, and prepare their heart unto thee:

This passage is a prayer to God, asking Him to help His people keep Him in their thoughts and to prepare their hearts for Him.

1. "The Power of Prayer: Calling Out to God"

2. "God's Unending Presence: A Blessing for All"

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

2. Psalm 33:18 - "Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy."

1 Chronicles 29:19 And give unto Solomon my son a perfect heart, to keep thy commandments, thy testimonies, and thy statutes, and to do all these things, and to build the palace, for the which I have made provision.

King David prays for God to give his son Solomon a perfect heart to keep God's commandments, testimonies, and statutes, and to build the palace.

1. "The Building of the Kingdom: What We Can Learn from King David's Prayers for His Son"

2. "The Beauty of Obedience: King David's Prayers for His Son Solomon"

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 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

1 Chronicles 29:20 And David said to all the congregation, Now bless the LORD your God. And all the congregation blessed the LORD God of their fathers, and bowed down their heads, and worshipped the LORD, and the king.

David called on all the congregation to bless the Lord God, and they all bowed down and worshipped the Lord and David.

1. Let us always remember to give thanks to the Lord and to bow down and worship Him in reverence.

2. We must humbly come before the Lord in prayer and adoration, and give Him the honor and glory He deserves.

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 95:6 - Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

1 Chronicles 29:21 And they sacrificed sacrifices unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings unto the LORD, on the morrow after that day, even a thousand bullocks, a thousand rams, and a thousand lambs, with their drink offerings, and sacrifices in abundance for all Israel:

All Israel offered a thousand bullocks, a thousand rams, and a thousand lambs as a sacrifice to the LORD.

1. Sacrifice: A Symbol of Gratitude and Worship.

2. God's Abundant Provision: A Gift of 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. 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. Ephesians 5:2 - "And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

1 Chronicles 29:22 And did eat and drink before the LORD on that day with great gladness. And they made Solomon the son of David king the second time, and anointed him unto the LORD to be the chief governor, and Zadok to be priest.

The people of Israel rejoiced and anointed Solomon as king for a second time and Zadok as priest.

1. Celebrating God's faithfulness and provision

2. The importance of leadership within the body of Christ

1. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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 Chronicles 29:23 Then Solomon sat on the throne of the LORD as king instead of David his father, and prospered; and all Israel obeyed him.

Solomon was crowned king in place of his father David, and was obeyed by all Israel.

1. Obedience to God's chosen leader brings prosperity.

2. Following God's commands leads to success.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 29:24 And all the princes, and the mighty men, and all the sons likewise of king David, submitted themselves unto Solomon the king.

All the princes, mighty men, and sons of King David submitted to King Solomon.

1. Submission to Authority: Learning from the Example of King David's Family

2. Humble Obedience: The Key to God's Favor

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Philippians 2:5-11

1 Chronicles 29:25 And the LORD magnified Solomon exceedingly in the sight of all Israel, and bestowed upon him such royal majesty as had not been on any king before him in Israel.

Solomon was greatly honored and given a level of majesty that no other king in Israel had previously experienced.

1. The Majesty of God: How God Elevates and Honors His People

2. The Privilege of Serving God: How God Bestows His Favor Upon His Followers

1. Proverbs 22:4: Humility and the fear of the Lord bring wealth and honor and life.

2. Psalm 18:35: You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your right hand supported me; your gentleness made me great.

1 Chronicles 29:26 Thus David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel.

David, son of Jesse, was crowned king over all Israel.

1. God is sovereign and will bring about His will despite the circumstances.

2. God can use anyone to accomplish His purpose.

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. 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.

1 Chronicles 29:27 And the time that he reigned over Israel was forty years; seven years reigned he in Hebron, and thirty and three years reigned he in Jerusalem.

King David reigned over Israel for a total of forty years, seven of those years were spent in Hebron and thirty-three in Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Commitment: Learning from King David's Forty-Year Reign

2. How to Reach Your Goals: Taking Inspiration from King David's Reign

1. 1 Chronicles 17:11-14 - And it shall be, when your days are fulfilled, when you must go to be with your fathers, that I will set up your seed after you, who will be of your sons; and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build Me a house, and I will establish his throne forever. I will be his Father, and he shall be my son; and I will not take My mercy away from him, as I took it from him who was before you. And I will establish him in My house and in My kingdom forever; and his throne shall be established forever.

2. 2 Samuel 5:4-5 - David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah.

1 Chronicles 29:28 And he died in a good old age, full of days, riches, and honour: and Solomon his son reigned in his stead.

King David died in old age, having lived a full life of riches and honour, and his son Solomon succeeded him.

1. God rewards those who serve Him faithfully with a life of abundance.

2. God is faithful to His promises and gives us a hope for the future.

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. 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 Chronicles 29:29 Now the acts of David the king, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of Samuel the seer, and in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the book of Gad the seer,

The acts of King David were recorded in three books written by Samuel, Nathan, and Gad.

1. God's faithfulness and the legacy of King David

2. The transformative power of God in the life of King David

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. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

1 Chronicles 29:30 With all his reign and his might, and the times that went over him, and over Israel, and over all the kingdoms of the countries.

King David reigned over Israel and the surrounding nations with strength and power.

1. The Strength of David: An Exploration of Power and Authority

2. The Legacy of David: A Study of Faithfulness and Courage

1. 1 Chronicles 29:30

2. 1 Samuel 16:13-14 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. But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him.

2 Chronicles chapter 1 focuses on the beginning of Solomon's reign as king and his encounter with God at Gibeon.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Solomon's consolidation of power as he establishes himself firmly as king over Israel. He gathers his officials and leads them to the high place in Gibeon, where the tabernacle of meeting is located (2 Chronicles 1:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how Solomon offers a tremendous number of sacrifices before God at the bronze altar in Gibeon. This act demonstrates his dedication and desire to seek God's favor (2 Chronicles 1:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to describing a significant event where God appears to Solomon during the night. He asks Solomon what he desires, promising to grant him anything he asks for (2 Chronicles 1:7-10).

4th Paragraph:The account describes how Solomon responds humbly, acknowledging God's faithfulness towards David, his father, and recognizing his own inadequacy for ruling over such a great nation. He requests wisdom and knowledge to govern Israel effectively (2 Chronicles 1:11-12).

5th Paragraph:The chapter continues with God granting Solomon's request for wisdom but also promising him riches, honor, and long life if he remains faithful to His commandments. Additionally, God assures that there will be no king like Solomon throughout his lifetime (2 Chronicles 1:13-17).

In summary, Chapter one of 2 Chronicles depicts the beginning, and encounter of King Solomon. Highlighting consolidation of power, and offering sacrifices at Gibeon. Mentioning description of divine appearance, and humble request for wisdom. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Solomon's commitment towards seeking divine guidance through offering sacrifices at a sacred location Gibeon demonstrating devotion while emphasizing humility through his request for wisdom rather than personal gain or glory, and God's gracious response by granting not only wisdom but also blessings upon blessings if he remains faithful illustrating divine favor bestowed upon this newly anointed king as he embarks on leading Israel into an era marked by prosperity under wise governance.

2 Chronicles 1:1 And Solomon the son of David was strengthened in his kingdom, and the LORD his God was with him, and magnified him exceedingly.

Solomon was strengthened in his kingdom by God and was greatly magnified.

1. God gives strength to those who seek Him.

2. Through God's strength, we can accomplish great things.

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.

2 Chronicles 1:2 Then Solomon spake unto all Israel, to the captains of thousands and of hundreds, and to the judges, and to every governor in all Israel, the chief of the fathers.

Solomon addressed all the leaders of Israel, the captains, judges, governors, and fathers.

1. The importance of leadership in the Kingdom of God.

2. The power of authority and respect.

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. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

2. Proverbs 8:15-16, By me kings reign, and rulers decree what is just; by me princes rule, and nobles, all who govern rightly.

2 Chronicles 1:3 So Solomon, and all the congregation with him, went to the high place that was at Gibeon; for there was the tabernacle of the congregation of God, which Moses the servant of the LORD had made in the wilderness.

Summarize Passage: Solomon and the congregation went to the tabernacle at Gibeon, which had been made by Moses in the wilderness.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Guidance - 2 Chronicles 1:3

2. The Importance of Covenant - 2 Chronicles 1:3

1. Exodus 33:7-11 - Moses and God's presence in the tabernacle

2. Ezekiel 37:26 - God's covenant with the people of Israel

2 Chronicles 1:4 But the ark of God had David brought up from Kirjathjearim to the place which David had prepared for it: for he had pitched a tent for it at Jerusalem.

King David moved the ark of God from Kirjathjearim to Jerusalem, where he had prepared a tent for it.

1. Preparing a Place for God - how to create a spiritual atmosphere in our lives

2. The Importance of Obedience - the consequences of following and not following God's commands

1. John 14:1-3 - Jesus preparing a place for us in Heaven

2. 1 Samuel 15:22-23 - Saul disobeying God's command and the consequences thereof

2 Chronicles 1:5 Moreover the brasen altar, that Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, he put before the tabernacle of the LORD: and Solomon and the congregation sought unto it.

Solomon and the congregation sought the brass altar made by Bezaleel, which was placed before the tabernacle of the Lord.

1. The Power of Seeking: A Study of 2 Chronicles 1:5

2. The Significance of the Brass Altar: Finding Meaning in 2 Chronicles 1:5

1. Matthew 6:33, But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Exodus 38:1-7, Now Bezalel made the ark of acacia wood; its length was two and a half cubits, and its width one and a half cubits, and its height one and a half cubits; and he overlaid it with pure gold inside and outside...

2 Chronicles 1:6 And Solomon went up thither to the brasen altar before the LORD, which was at the tabernacle of the congregation, and offered a thousand burnt offerings upon it.

Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings to the Lord at the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The Power of Worship: Sacrificing for the Lord

2. The Joy of Obedience: Serving God through Sacrifice

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. 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."

2 Chronicles 1:7 In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee.

God appeared to Solomon in a dream and offered to give him whatever he asked for.

1. God's Generosity: Exploring the Meaning of God's Offer to Solomon

2. Seeking God's Wisdom: The Impact of Solomon's Request

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. 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 Chronicles 1:8 And Solomon said unto God, Thou hast shewed great mercy unto David my father, and hast made me to reign in his stead.

Solomon acknowledges God's mercy to David and his reign in his stead.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever

2. Following in the Footsteps of Our Predecessors

1. Psalm 136:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for his steadfast love endures forever.

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.

2 Chronicles 1:9 Now, O LORD God, let thy promise unto David my father be established: for thou hast made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude.

Solomon asked God to keep the promise given to his father David, that he would be king of a large and numerous people.

1. God's faithfulness to his promises.

2. The importance of trusting in God and His provision.

1. Psalm 37:5 - 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.

2 Chronicles 1:10 Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, that is so great?

Solomon asks God for wisdom and knowledge so that he can lead his people.

1. The power of wisdom and knowledge and how it guides us in life

2. Seeking wisdom and knowledge from God

1. Proverbs 1:7: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction."

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."

2 Chronicles 1:11 And God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king:

Solomon asked God for wisdom and knowledge so that he could judge God's people.

1. The Power of Asking for Wisdom

2. The Blessing of Serving God's People

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."

2 Chronicles 1:12 Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like.

Solomon is granted wisdom, knowledge, riches, wealth, and honor that no king before or after him will have.

1. The Blessings of God: How to Receive His Riches and Honor

2. The Power of Wisdom and Knowledge: How to Use It to Benefit Your Life

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 3:13-14 - 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 Chronicles 1:13 Then Solomon came from his journey to the high place that was at Gibeon to Jerusalem, from before the tabernacle of the congregation, and reigned over Israel.

Solomon returned to Jerusalem from a journey to the high place at Gibeon and reigned over Israel.

1. We can learn from Solomon's example of faithfulness and commitment to God.

2. The importance of following God's will when it comes to our leadership.

1. Deuteronomy 17:14-20 - When you come to the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me, you may indeed set a king over you whom the Lord your God will choose.

2. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

2 Chronicles 1:14 And Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen: and he had a thousand and four hundred chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen, which he placed in the chariot cities, and with the king at Jerusalem.

Solomon assembled an army of chariots and horsemen, with 1400 chariots and 12000 horsemen stationed in cities around Jerusalem and with the king in Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Preparation: How Being Prepared Empowers Us to Serve God

2. The Strength of the King: How God Grants Us Strength to Lead

1. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

2 Chronicles 1:15 And the king made silver and gold at Jerusalem as plenteous as stones, and cedar trees made he as the sycomore trees that are in the vale for abundance.

King Solomon made vast amounts of silver and gold in Jerusalem and also planted cedar trees in abundance.

1. The Abundance of God's Provision

2. Living in the Abundance of God's Blessing

1. Psalm 34:10 - Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing.

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.

2 Chronicles 1:16 And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt, and linen yarn: the king's merchants received the linen yarn at a price.

Solomon bought horses and linen yarn from Egypt for his own use.

1. Making wise investments - 2 Chronicles 1:16

2. The importance of careful spending - 2 Chronicles 1:16

1. Proverbs 21:20 - "There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up."

2. Luke 16:11 - "If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?"

2 Chronicles 1:17 And they fetched up, and brought forth out of Egypt a chariot for six hundred shekels of silver, and an horse for an hundred and fifty: and so brought they out horses for all the kings of the Hittites, and for the kings of Syria, by their means.

Solomon purchases horses from Egypt for himself and the kings of the Hittites and Syria.

1. The importance of generosity, 2 Corinthians 9:7-9

2. God's provision for us, Philippians 4:19

1. Proverbs 21:20, "There is desirable treasure, and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up."

2. Proverbs 22:7, "The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender."

2 Chronicles chapter 2 focuses on Solomon's preparations for the construction of the temple and his correspondence with Hiram, the king of Tyre.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Solomon making plans to build a house for God in Jerusalem. He gathers a vast number of workers from Israel and assigns them specific tasks related to the construction (2 Chronicles 2:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how Solomon sends a message to King Hiram, requesting assistance in obtaining cedar trees from Lebanon for building the temple. He acknowledges Hiram's expertise in working with wood and offers to compensate him for his services (2 Chronicles 2:3-8).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to describing Hiram's response to Solomon's request. He praises God for choosing Solomon as king and agrees to provide cedar and cypress logs as well as skilled craftsmen for the construction project (2 Chronicles 2:9-10).

4th Paragraph:The account describes how Solomon makes arrangements with Hiram regarding the provision of food supplies for the workers during their time in Lebanon. This agreement ensures that an abundant supply of wheat, barley, wine, and oil will be available (2 Chronicles 2:11-16).

5th Paragraph:The chapter continues with a mention of Solomon appointing a skilled craftsman named Huram-abi from Judah as chief craftsman over all the work on the temple. He is highly skilled in working with gold, silver, bronze, iron, stone, and wood (2 Chronicles 2:17-18).

In summary, Chapter two of 2 Chronicles depicts Solomon's preparations, and correspondence with King Hiram. Highlighting gathering workers, and requesting assistance from Tyre. Mentioning description of Hiram's response, and arrangements made. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Solomon's meticulous planning in assembling resources workers and materials cedar trees required for constructing God s house while emphasizing collaboration between kingdoms through diplomatic correspondence exemplified by his communication with King Hiram illustrating strategic alliances forged based on mutual benefits towards achieving shared goals an impressive temple structure built under skilled craftsmanship by appointing Huram-abi who excels in various artistic mediums contributing to its grandeur and splendor.

2 Chronicles 2:1 And Solomon determined to build an house for the name of the LORD, and an house for his kingdom.

Solomon decided to construct a temple for the Lord and a palace for his own kingdom.

1. The Importance of Godly Dedication - 2 Chronicles 2:1

2. The Privilege of Serving the Lord - 2 Chronicles 2:1

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;

2. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.

2 Chronicles 2:2 And Solomon told out threescore and ten thousand men to bear burdens, and fourscore thousand to hew in the mountain, and three thousand and six hundred to oversee them.

Solomon organized and commanded a workforce of 150,000 men to build his temple.

1. The Need for Hard Work and Diligence - 2 Chronicles 2:2

2. The Importance of Leadership and Oversight - 2 Chronicles 2:2

1. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

2. Proverbs 27:23 - Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds.

2 Chronicles 2:3 And Solomon sent to Huram the king of Tyre, saying, As thou didst deal with David my father, and didst send him cedars to build him an house to dwell therein, even so deal with me.

Solomon sends a message to Huram the king of Tyre asking for the same support that was given to his father, David.

1. God's faithfulness to His covenant promises to our fathers.

2. The importance of honoring our ancestors and their legacy.

1. Psalm 105:8-9 - He remembers His covenant forever, the word He commanded, for a thousand generations.

2. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children.

2 Chronicles 2:4 Behold, I build an house to the name of the LORD my God, to dedicate it to him, and to burn before him sweet incense, and for the continual shewbread, and for the burnt offerings morning and evening, on the sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the solemn feasts of the LORD our God. This is an ordinance for ever to Israel.

Solomon made plans to build a temple for the Lord and set up ordinances for sacrifices to be offered to God on a regular basis.

1: The Lord Deserves Our Worship

2: The Blessing of Obedience in Worship

1: Exodus 30:7-8 - 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. 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.

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.

2 Chronicles 2:5 And the house which I build is great: for great is our God above all gods.

Solomon announces that the temple he is building is great because God is greater than any other gods.

1. "God is Greater Than Any Other Gods"

2. "Put Your Trust In God"

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary?

2. Psalm 91:1-2 - He who dwells 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 I will trust.

2 Chronicles 2:6 But who is able to build him an house, seeing the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain him? who am I then, that I should build him an house, save only to burn sacrifice before him?

Solomon is questioning who is able to build a house for God when even the heavens cannot contain him.

1. We Are All Called to Serve God - No matter who we are, we are called to serve the Lord.

2. The Majesty of God - We can never truly comprehend the greatness of God.

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. Psalm 139 - O Lord, thou hast searched me, and known me.

2 Chronicles 2:7 Send me now therefore a man cunning to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, and in iron, and in purple, and crimson, and blue, and that can skill to grave with the cunning men that are with me in Judah and in Jerusalem, whom David my father did provide.

Solomon requests a skilled artisan to work with gold, silver, brass, iron, purple, crimson, and blue in both Judah and Jerusalem, as David his father had done.

1. God's Provisions for His People - How God provides for His people in unexpected ways

2. The Value of Skill and Craftsmanship - How to honor God with our gifts and talents

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. Proverbs 22:29 - Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men.

2 Chronicles 2:8 Send me also cedar trees, fir trees, and algum trees, out of Lebanon: for I know that thy servants can skill to cut timber in Lebanon; and, behold, my servants shall be with thy servants,

Solomon is requesting cedar, fir, and algum trees from Lebanon to build the temple and has sent servants to help cut the timber.

1. The importance of working together to achieve a common goal.

2. The power of faith to accomplish great things.

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.

2 Chronicles 2:9 Even to prepare me timber in abundance: for the house which I am about to build shall be wonderful great.

Solomon is preparing to build a great temple and needs a large amount of timber.

1. The Importance of Working Together to Accomplish Great Things

2. Overcoming Challenges to Accomplish Our Goals

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!"

2 Chronicles 2:10 And, behold, I will give to thy servants, the hewers that cut timber, twenty thousand measures of beaten wheat, and twenty thousand measures of barley, and twenty thousand baths of wine, and twenty thousand baths of oil.

Solomon provided 20,000 measures of wheat, barley, wine and oil to his servants to build the temple.

1. The Generosity of God - How God s bounty overflows and blesses us

2. The Dedication of Solomon - How his commitment to the Lord s temple was 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. 1 Chronicles 29:14-15 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. For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding.

2 Chronicles 2:11 Then Huram the king of Tyre answered in writing, which he sent to Solomon, Because the LORD hath loved his people, he hath made thee king over them.

Solomon was appointed king of Israel by God because of His love for His people.

1. God's love is everlasting and unconditional.

2. We must accept God's love and serve Him with our whole being.

1. John 13:34-35 - "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

2. 1 John 4:19 - We love Him because He first loved us.

2 Chronicles 2:12 Huram said moreover, Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, that made heaven and earth, who hath given to David the king a wise son, endued with prudence and understanding, that might build an house for the LORD, and an house for his kingdom.

The Lord God of Israel is praised for giving King David a wise son who is capable of building a house for the Lord and a house for his kingdom.

1. The Wisdom of God: How God Grants Us the Ability to Accomplish Great Things

2. The Power of Prudence and Understanding: How to Build a Kingdom by Living Wisely

1. Proverbs 3:13-18 - 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. Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called blessed.

2. 1 Kings 3:9-13 - So give your servant an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours? The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. So God said to him, Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be.

2 Chronicles 2:13 And now I have sent a cunning man, endued with understanding, of Huram my father's,

King Solomon of Israel sent a skilled man from Huram's family to help build a temple.

1. The Wisdom of Solomon: How We Can Use Our Skills to Serve God

2. The Power of Working Together: Building a Legacy with Others

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

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 Chronicles 2:14 The son of a woman of the daughters of Dan, and his father was a man of Tyre, skilful to work in gold, and in silver, in brass, in iron, in stone, and in timber, in purple, in blue, and in fine linen, and in crimson; also to grave any manner of graving, and to find out every device which shall be put to him, with thy cunning men, and with the cunning men of my lord David thy father.

Solomon hired skilled workers from Tyre and from his father David's workers to build the temple.

1. The importance of finding skilled workers for God's work

2. The beauty of working together for God's glory

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

2. Proverbs 27:17

2 Chronicles 2:15 Now therefore the wheat, and the barley, the oil, and the wine, which my lord hath spoken of, let him send unto his servants:

Solomon requests that the materials he requires for building the temple be sent to his servants.

1. The Power of Requesting: How God Responds to Our Needs

2. Building Our Lives on the Foundation of Faith

1. Matthew 7:7-11 - Ask, seek, and knock and you will receive.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-10 - God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Chronicles 2:16 And we will cut wood out of Lebanon, as much as thou shalt need: and we will bring it to thee in floats by sea to Joppa; and thou shalt carry it up to Jerusalem.

Solomon hires Hiram of Tyre to provide materials for the building of the Jerusalem Temple.

1. The Importance of Working Together to Achieve a Vision

2. The Unifying Power of Shared Goals

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. 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 Chronicles 2:17 And Solomon numbered all the strangers that were in the land of Israel, after the numbering wherewith David his father had numbered them; and they were found an hundred and fifty thousand and three thousand and six hundred.

Solomon counted the foreigners that were living in Israel, and there were 153,600 of them.

1. God's Provision Through Immigration - Reflecting on the story of Solomon and the foreigners that were counted in Israel.

2. God's Sovereignty in Providing People - Examining the faithfulness of God in providing people to fulfill His purposes.

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. John 10:16 - "And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd."

2 Chronicles 2:18 And he set threescore and ten thousand of them to be bearers of burdens, and fourscore thousand to be hewers in the mountain, and three thousand and six hundred overseers to set the people a work.

Solomon recruited 180,000 workers to build the temple in Jerusalem.

1. How to Make the Most of Our Talents and Resources

2. The Importance of Working Together for a Common Goal

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

2. Ephesians 4:11-16 (Unity in the Body of Christ)

2 Chronicles chapter 3 focuses on the construction of the temple and the detailed description of its structure and furnishings.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting the location where Solomon built the temple. It was constructed on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem, specifically on the threshing floor of Ornan (also known as Araunah) that David had purchased (2 Chronicles 3:1).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative describes in great detail the dimensions and materials used in constructing various parts of the temple. This includes information about the length, width, and height of different sections such as the porch, main hall, inner sanctuary (Most Holy Place), and outer rooms (2 Chronicles 3:3-9).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to describing how Solomon adorned the interior of the temple with precious materials. The walls were overlaid with pure gold, and he made intricate carvings of cherubim, palm trees, flowers, and other decorative elements throughout (2 Chronicles 3:4-7).

4th Paragraph:The account highlights how two massive cherubim sculptures were placed inside the Most Holy Place. These cherubim were made from olive wood covered with gold and stood facing each other with outstretched wings touching each wall (2 Chronicles 3:10-13).

5th Paragraph:The chapter continues with a mention of a veil made from blue, purple, crimson fabric adorned with cherubim separating the Most Holy Place from the rest of the temple. Additionally, two bronze pillars named Jachin and Boaz were erected at the entrance to provide support for a roofed portico (2 Chronicles 3:14-17).

In summary, Chapter three of 2 Chronicles depicts the construction, and detailed description of Solomon's temple. Highlighting location chosen, and dimensions provided. Mentioning use of precious materials, and elaborate decorations. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Solomon's meticulous attention to detail in constructing God s house temple on Mount Moriah emphasizing its grandeur through extensive use of valuable resources like gold while adorning its interior with intricate carvings depicting symbols associated with divine presence a testament to Israel's devotion towards worship practices centered around this magnificent structure representing their commitment towards honoring God under wise governance an architectural marvel exemplified by two colossal golden cherubim standing guard within its sacred inner chamber serving as reminders for Israelites regarding their relationship with God His protection over them through His heavenly messengers while solidifying their faith by erecting bronze pillars symbolizing stability a visual representation signifying divine blessings upon entering this holy place a testament to Israel's dedication towards creating an environment conducive for encountering God s presence during religious ceremonies conducted within its sacred confines.

2 Chronicles 3:1 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.

Solomon began to build the house of the Lord in Jerusalem, on the same site that David had prepared in the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.

1. The Faithfulness of God: How God Honors the Plans of His People

2. The Legacy of Faith: How We Follow in the Footsteps of Our Fathers

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. Colossians 2:6-7 - Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, 7 rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

2 Chronicles 3:2 And he began to build in the second day of the second month, in the fourth year of his reign.

King Solomon began to build the temple in Jerusalem four years into his reign on the second day of the second month.

1. Building a Foundation for Faith: Developing a Lasting Relationship with God

2. The Journey of a Leader: Using Wisdom to Lead with Faith

1. Psalm 127:1, Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

2. Isaiah 58:12, Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

2 Chronicles 3:3 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.

Solomon was instructed to build the house of God and was given dimensions of 60 cubits by 20 cubits.

1. The importance of following divine instruction for building something great

2. The grandeur of God's temple and how it reflects His glory

1. 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."

2. Proverbs 9:1 - "Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn her seven pillars."

2 Chronicles 3:4 And the porch that was in the front of the house, the length of it was according to the breadth of the house, twenty cubits, and the height was an hundred and twenty: and he overlaid it within with pure gold.

Solomon built a porch in the front of the house that was twenty cubits long and 120 cubits high, and he overlaid it with pure gold.

1. The Beauty of God's House: How Solomon's Artistry Reflects the Splendor of God's Kingdom

2. Embracing Generosity: How Solomon's Generosity Illustrates the Provision of God

1. Exodus 25:8-9 - And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. 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. 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 Chronicles 3:5 And the greater house he cieled with fir tree, which he overlaid with fine gold, and set thereon palm trees and chains.

Solomon built the temple of Jerusalem and lined the greater house with fir tree, covering it with fine gold and decorating it with palm trees and chains.

1. God's House Shall Be Decorated with Beauty

2. Building a House for the Lord

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

2. 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.

2 Chronicles 3:6 And he garnished the house with precious stones for beauty: and the gold was gold of Parvaim.

Solomon adorned the temple with beautiful stones and gold from Parvaim.

1. The Beauty of God's House - A lesson from Solomon's Temple

2. The Power of Generosity - Giving your best to God

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. 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 Chronicles 3:7 He overlaid also the house, the beams, the posts, and the walls thereof, and the doors thereof, with gold; and graved cherubims on the walls.

The Lord instructed Solomon to build the temple in Jerusalem, and Solomon obliged by covering the house, beams, posts, walls, and doors with gold and engraving cherubims on the walls.

1. The Beauty of God's House: a about the significance of Solomon's work in adorning the temple with gold and cherubims.

2. Obedience to God: a about the importance of following the Lord's commands.

1. Exodus 25:18-20 - the instructions for building the tabernacle.

2. 1 Kings 6:1-7 - Solomon's instructions on building the temple.

2 Chronicles 3:8 And he made the most holy house, the length whereof was according to the breadth of the house, twenty cubits, and the breadth thereof twenty cubits: and he overlaid it with fine gold, amounting to six hundred talents.

Solomon built a temple in Jerusalem with a width and length of twenty cubits and overlaid it with 600 talents of fine gold.

1. The Cost of Holiness: What is the price we are willing to pay to be holy?

2. The Beauty of Obedience: Our commitment to God's commands is beautiful and praiseworthy.

1. Exodus 25:8-9 - God commanded that the tabernacle be built in exact measurements and richly adorned with gold.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - We are to be holy, as God is holy, by living out our lives in obedience to Him.

2 Chronicles 3:9 And the weight of the nails was fifty shekels of gold. And he overlaid the upper chambers with gold.

Solomon adorned the temple in Jerusalem with gold, including the weight of the nails being fifty shekels of gold.

1. The Worth of Gold: A Meditation on 2 Chronicles 3:9

2. The Glorious Temple: An Exposition of 2 Chronicles 3:9

1. 1 Kings 6:14-15 - The account of the temple building in Solomon's reign

2. Psalm 19:10 - "More to be desired are they than gold, even than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb."

2 Chronicles 3:10 And in the most holy house he made two cherubims of image work, and overlaid them with gold.

Solomon built a most holy house and placed two golden cherubim within it.

1. The importance of holiness in our lives

2. The beauty of God's creation

1. Exodus 25:18-22 - 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 99:1 - The LORD reigneth; let the people tremble: he sitteth between the cherubims; let the earth be moved.

2 Chronicles 3:11 And the wings of the cherubims were twenty cubits long: one wing of the one cherub was five cubits, reaching to the wall of the house: and the other wing was likewise five cubits, reaching to the wing of the other cherub.

The wings of the cherubims in the temple of Solomon were twenty cubit long with one wing on each cherub being five cubits long.

1. The Magnificence of the House of the Lord

2. The Splendor of Worship

1. Exodus 25:18-20

2. Ezekiel 10:1-10

2 Chronicles 3:12 And one wing of the other cherub was five cubits, reaching to the wall of the house: and the other wing was five cubits also, joining to the wing of the other cherub.

The second cherub in the temple of Solomon had two wings, each measured at five cubits long and reaching the walls of the temple.

1. The great length of the wing of the cherubim symbolizes God's vast protection.

2. The wings of the cherubim remind us of the power of God's protection.

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 Chronicles 3:13 The wings of these cherubims spread themselves forth twenty cubits: and they stood on their feet, and their faces were inward.

This verse discusses the size and position of cherubim in Solomon's temple.

1. The Splendor of God's House: How the Magnificent Details of Solomon's Temple Point to His Majesty

2. "Stand on Your Feet": The Call to Boldly Follow God's Will

1. Psalm 99:1, "The Lord reigns, let the peoples tremble; he sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake!"

2. Ezekiel 10:1-5, "I looked, and I saw the likeness of a throne of sapphire above the expanse that was over the heads of the cherubim. And he said to the man clothed in linen, Go in among the whirling wheels underneath the cherubim. Fill your hands with burning coals from among the cherubim and scatter them over the city. And he went in as I watched."

2 Chronicles 3:14 And he made the vail of blue, and purple, and crimson, and fine linen, and wrought cherubims thereon.

Solomon built a veil for the temple of Jerusalem, which was made of blue, purple, crimson, and fine linen, and decorated with cherubim.

1. The Beauty of Holiness: Exploring the Significance of the Veil in the House of God

2. The Colorful Tapestry of God's Love: How the Colors of the Veil Represent His Unfailing Love

1. Exodus 25:31-40 - The Lord instructed Moses to make a veil for the tabernacle.

2. Hebrews 10:19-20 - We have confidence to enter the holy place through the veil of His flesh.

2 Chronicles 3:15 Also he made before the house two pillars of thirty and five cubits high, and the chapiter that was on the top of each of them was five cubits.

Solomon built two pillars before the Temple, each thirty-five cubits high with a five cubit wide capstone.

1. "The Significance of Pillars in Scripture"

2. "Building a Foundation on the Rock of Christ"

1. 1 Corinthians 3:11-15 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

2. Isaiah 28:16 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

2 Chronicles 3:16 And he made chains, as in the oracle, and put them on the heads of the pillars; and made an hundred pomegranates, and put them on the chains.

Solomon built two pillars for the temple of God and adorned them with chains and pomegranates.

1. The Symbolism of Solomon's Pillars: How our commitment to God is reflected in our actions.

2. The Power of Symbols: How physical manifestations of faith can strengthen our spiritual connection to God.

1. 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."

2. 1 Corinthians 13:13 - "So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

2 Chronicles 3:17 And he reared up the pillars before the temple, one on the right hand, and the other on the left; and called the name of that on the right hand Jachin, and the name of that on the left Boaz.

Solomon built two pillars in front of the temple, named Jachin and Boaz.

1. The Pillars of Strength: Lessons from Jachin and Boaz

2. A Look at the Pillars of the Temple: Insights from Jachin and Boaz

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. 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 Chronicles chapter 4 continues the description of the construction of the temple, focusing on the furnishings and implements used in its services.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing the bronze altar that Solomon made for offering sacrifices. It was a large and elaborate structure placed in front of the temple entrance (2 Chronicles 4:1).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how Solomon also made a large basin called the Sea. It was circular in shape, measuring ten cubits in diameter and five cubits in height. It rested on twelve oxen, facing outward, with three facing each direction (2 Chronicles 4:2-5).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to describing various other items made from bronze for use in temple services. This includes pots, shovels, and basins used for washing offerings, as well as all the utensils necessary for priestly duties (2 Chronicles 4:6-8).

4th Paragraph:The account describes how Solomon commissioned skilled craftsmen to create ten golden lampstands according to specific instructions. These lampstands were placed inside the temple five on each side with their lamps burning brightly before God (2 Chronicles 4:7-8).

5th Paragraph:The chapter continues with a mention of other items made from gold such as tables for displaying showbread and golden forks, bowls, cups, and censers used during worship services. All these vessels were crafted according to precise specifications (2 Chronicles 4:19-22).

In summary, Chapter four of 2 Chronicles depicts the construction, and description of furnishings within Solomon's temple. Highlighting creation of bronze altar, and large basin called the Sea. Mentioning various bronze items crafted, and golden utensils prepared. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Solomon's attention to detail in furnishing God s house temple with necessary implements emphasizing functionality through crafting essential items like an altar for sacrifices along with an impressive basin symbolizing purification while highlighting aesthetic beauty through artistic creations such as golden lampstands illuminating sacred space while ensuring proper conduct during worship ceremonies through provision of utensils required by priests exemplifying Israel's commitment towards maintaining rituals associated with divine presence a testament to their dedication towards upholding religious practices centered around this magnificent structure a harmonious blend between functionality and artistic expression aimed at facilitating meaningful encounters with God within His holy dwelling place under wise governance a testament to Israel's devotion towards honoring God through meticulous preparations for His worship services conducted within its sacred walls using intricately designed vessels crafted from precious materials symbolizing their reverence towards divine presence manifesting itself during these solemn occasions

2 Chronicles 4:1 Moreover he made an altar of brass, twenty cubits the length thereof, and twenty cubits the breadth thereof, and ten cubits the height thereof.

Solomon built a brass altar that was 20 cubits long, 20 cubits wide, and 10 cubits tall.

1. The Power of Obedience - Solomon's obedience to God in building an altar of brass.

2. Building on a Foundation of Faith - The importance of building on a strong 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. 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 Chronicles 4:2 Also he made a molten sea of ten cubits from brim to brim, round in compass, and five cubits the height thereof; and a line of thirty cubits did compass it round about.

Solomon constructes a great molten sea in the temple that is ten cubits from brim to brim and thirty cubits round in compass.

1. Our works reflect the greatness of God's love and power.

2. We are called to build the kingdom of God with our hands.

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:9 - For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

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. Two rows of oxen were cast, when it was cast.

The Sea of Cast Metal, which was part of the Temple, was surrounded by oxen in two rows, with ten oxen in a cubit.

1. The Strength of the Lord's Temple: A Study of the Symbolism of 2 Chronicles 4:3

2. The Beauty and Majesty of the Lord's House: A Look at the Significance of the Sea of Cast Metal

1. Psalm 127:1 - Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: and except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

2. Ezekiel 43:13-17 - Thou shalt also make a molten sea, ten cubits from the one brim to the other: it shall be round all about, and his height shall be five cubits: and a line of thirty cubits shall compass it round about.

2 Chronicles 4:4 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 was placed on top of a large bronze basin that was supported by twelve oxen, each facing a different direction.

1. The twelve oxen in 2 Chronicles 4:4 represent the various directions of our lives and the importance of leaning on God for strength and guidance.

2. The bronze basin in 2 Chronicles 4:4 symbolizes the strength and stability of our faith in God.

1. Psalm 33:20 - Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

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 Chronicles 4:5 And the thickness of it was an handbreadth, and the brim of it like the work of the brim of a cup, with flowers of lilies; and it received and held three thousand baths.

The article discusses a vessel called a sea, which was made from bronze and was a handbreadth thick and had a brim shaped like a cup with lilies. It was capable of holding three thousand baths of liquid.

1. God's Perfect Creation: The Significance of the Bronze Sea

2. The Importance of Stewardship: Learning from the Bronze Sea

1. 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.

2. 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.

2 Chronicles 4:6 He made also ten lavers, and put five on the right hand, and five on the left, to wash in them: such things as they offered for the burnt offering they washed in them; but the sea was for the priests to wash in.

Solomon constructed ten lavers to wash the offerings for the burnt offering. Five were placed on the right side and five on the left, while the priests were to wash in the sea.

1. The Significance of Washing in the Bible

2. The Power of Obedience in the Scriptures

1. John 13:10 - Jesus said to him, He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.

2. Ezekiel 36:25 - 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 Chronicles 4:7 And he made ten candlesticks of gold according to their form, and set them in the temple, five on the right hand, and five on the left.

Solomon made ten golden candlesticks and placed five on each side of the temple.

1. The importance of balance and symmetry in our lives.

2. The beauty and power of gold as a symbol of God's presence.

1. Exodus 25:31-40 - God instructs Moses to build the tabernacle and its furnishings, including the golden candlesticks.

2. Isaiah 60:1-3 - God's glory will shine through the nations, lighting up Jerusalem with the brilliance of the golden candlesticks.

2 Chronicles 4:8 He made also ten tables, and placed them in the temple, five on the right side, and five on the left. And he made an hundred basons of gold.

Solomon made ten tables and a hundred basons of gold to be placed in the temple.

1. The Beauty of Obedience - How Solomon's commitment to God's will led to beautiful things.

2. The Value of Giving - How Solomon's generous offering of gold reflected his heart for 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. 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.

2 Chronicles 4:9 Furthermore he made the court of the priests, and the great court, and doors for the court, and overlaid the doors of them with brass.

Solomon built a court of priests and a great court with brass doors.

1. The importance of dedication and hard work in building a lasting legacy.

2. The spiritual importance of building a place of worship.

1. Hebrews 11:10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

2. Proverbs 14:1 The wisest of women builds her house, but folly with her own hands tears it down.

2 Chronicles 4:10 And he set the sea on the right side of the east end, over against the south.

Solomon built a large bronze basin in the temple of Jerusalem and placed it to the east of the south.

1. The Importance of Prayer in Our Lives

2. The Power of Faith and Obedience

1. 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.

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 Chronicles 4:11 And Huram made the pots, and the shovels, and the basons. And Huram finished the work that he was to make for king Solomon for the house of God;

Huram made the pots, shovels, and basons for King Solomon's house of God.

1. The Importance of Serving God with Excellence

2. Doing God's Work with a Heart of Worship

1. Exodus 31:1-5 - Bezalel and Oholiab were chosen by God to build the tabernacle and furnish it with the necessary objects.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.

2 Chronicles 4:12 To wit, the two pillars, and the pommels, and the chapiters which were on the top of the two pillars, and the two wreaths to cover the two pommels of the chapiters which were on the top of the pillars;

The two pillars in Solomon's Temple had pommels and chapiters on the top, with two wreaths to cover them.

1: God's glory is reflected in the beauty and grandeur of the Temple.

2: We can follow Solomon's example and strive to give God the best we have to offer.

1: 1 Chronicles 28:20 - And David said to his son Solomon, 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.

2: 1 Kings 5:7 - And King Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand cors of wheat as food for his household, and twenty cors of beaten oil. Thus gave Solomon to Hiram year by year.

2 Chronicles 4:13 And four hundred pomegranates on the two wreaths; two rows of pomegranates on each wreath, to cover the two pommels of the chapiters which were upon the pillars.

This passage describes the decoration of the pillars in the temple of Solomon, which include two wreaths with four hundred pomegranates arranged in two rows on each wreath.

1. God's Perfection in Creation: Adorning the Temple of Solomon

2. The Significance of the Number Four Hundred in the Bible

1. Psalm 96:6 - Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy in his dwelling place.

2. Ephesians 5:27 - 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.

2 Chronicles 4:14 He made also bases, and lavers made he upon the bases;

Solomon made bronze basins and stands which were used for washing.

1. The Importance of Cleanliness and Sanctity

2. The Significance of Repetition in Worship

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. 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.

2 Chronicles 4:15 One sea, and twelve oxen under it.

This passage describes a design for the Temple of Solomon in which there is one large sea and twelve oxen underneath it.

1. The Power of Unity: How the Temple of Solomon illustrates the strength of coming together

2. The Power of Serving: How the oxen represent the importance of serving others

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!"

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves."

2 Chronicles 4:16 The pots also, and the shovels, and the fleshhooks, and all their instruments, did Huram his father make to king Solomon for the house of the LORD of bright brass.

Huram, the father of Solomon, made various items of bright brass for Solomon to be used in the Temple of the Lord.

1. The Importance of Using Our Talents for the Lord

2. The Power of Generosity in Worship

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

2. 1 Chronicles 29:1-5 - David's Generous Offerings to the Lord

2 Chronicles 4:17 In the plain of Jordan did the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zeredathah.

King Solomon cast large bronze items in the plain of Jordan between two cities, Succoth and Zeredathah.

1. The Value of Commitment: King Solomon's dedication to his task of casting bronze in the plain of Jordan.

2. The Power of Unity: Working together and celebrating successes, as exemplified by King Solomon's work with the two cities of Succoth and Zeredathah.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

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.

2 Chronicles 4:18 Thus Solomon made all these vessels in great abundance: for the weight of the brass could not be found out.

Solomon made many vessels from brass in abundance and the exact weight could not be found.

1. The Unmeasurable Generosity of God

2. Abundance Beyond Measure

1. 2 Corinthians 9:11 - "You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."

2. Isaiah 40:15 - "Behold, the nations are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; he weighs the islands as though they were fine dust."

2 Chronicles 4:19 And Solomon made all the vessels that were for the house of God, the golden altar also, and the tables whereon the shewbread was set;

Solomon made all the vessels for the House of God, including a golden altar and the tables for the showbread.

1. How Dedicating Ourselves to God Brings Us Closer to Him

2. The Value of Sacrificial Living

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

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."

2 Chronicles 4:20 Moreover the candlesticks with their lamps, that they should burn after the manner before the oracle, of pure gold;

This passage describes the making of the gold candlesticks and lamps that were to burn in front of the oracle of the Lord.

1. The Light of God's Presence: How the Candlesticks Point us to the Illuminating Power of God

2. The Gold of God's Promises: How the Candlesticks Remind us of the Unending Wealth of God's Blessing

1. Exodus 25:31-40 - Details of the design of the Candlesticks

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

2 Chronicles 4:21 And the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs, made he of gold, and that perfect gold;

Solomon made items of pure gold for the Temple, including flowers, lamps, and tongs.

1. The Power of Perfection: How We Must Strive for Perfection in Our Lives

2. The Value of Gold: The Significance of Gold in Our Lives

1. Matthew 5:48 - Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

2. 1 Peter 1:7 - That the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

2 Chronicles 4:22 And the snuffers, and the basons, and the spoons, and the censers, of pure gold: and the entry of the house, the inner doors thereof for the most holy place, and the doors of the house of the temple, were of gold.

This passage describes the inner doors of the temple, which were made of pure gold.

1. The Value of Holiness 2. The Power of Gold

1. Proverbs 25:11 - A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver. 2. 1 Timothy 6:10 - For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil.

2 Chronicles chapter 5 describes the completion of the temple and the transfer of the Ark of the Covenant to its designated place.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting how all the work on the temple was completed. Solomon brings together all the elders, leaders, and priests for a special occasion the bringing in of the Ark of the Covenant (2 Chronicles 5:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative describes in detail how Solomon and all Israel assembled before the ark. They offered numerous sacrifices sheep and oxen so many that they could not be counted (2 Chronicles 5:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to describing how priests brought in and placed the Ark of God inside its designated place within the Most Holy Place beneath cherubim's wings. The poles on which it was carried were so long that their ends could be seen from outside (2 Chronicles 5:7-9).

4th Paragraph:The account highlights how these poles were then removed, leaving only the ark itself in its resting place. The ark contained only two items the tablets of stone with God's law given to Moses at Mount Sinai (2 Chronicles 5:10).

5th Paragraph:The chapter continues with a mention of a cloud filling the temple as a sign of God's presence. This cloud was so dense that it prevented priests from continuing their duties. It signified that God had indeed chosen this temple as His dwelling place (2 Chronicles 5:11-14).

In summary, Chapter five of 2 Chronicles depicts the completion, and transferal of Ark into Solomon's temple. Highlighting assembly for special occasion, and offering numerous sacrifices. Mentioning description of placing Ark, and significance of God's presence. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Solomon's completion culmination of constructing God s house temple with meticulous attention to detail emphasizing grandeur through extensive preparations while underscoring solemnity through gathering leaders, elders, and priests for an auspicious occasion marked by offerings made on behalf and witness of entire Israelite community symbolizing unity under wise governance a testament to their dedication towards honoring divine presence through transferring sacred relic the Ark containing tablets inscribed with Ten Commandments representing covenant between God and Israelites from temporary abode into permanent dwelling place a momentous event marked by dense cloud signifying divine approval an undeniable manifestation indicating acceptance a seal upon this magnificent structure an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards establishing sacred space where Israelites can encounter God s presence during worship ceremonies conducted within its hallowed confines an embodiment reflecting devotion towards maintaining spiritual connection between Creator and His chosen people

2 Chronicles 5:1 Thus all the work that Solomon made for the house of the LORD was finished: and Solomon brought in all the things that David his father had dedicated; and the silver, and the gold, and all the instruments, put he among the treasures of the house of God.

Solomon completed all the work for the temple, and put all of David's dedicated items and treasures into the house of God.

1. Dedication of Ourselves to God

2. Making a Sacred Space 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. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

2. Mark 12:30-31 - "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.

2 Chronicles 5:2 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 Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion.

Solomon gathered the elders and leaders of Israel to bring the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord from Zion.

1. The Power of Unity: Working Together to Bring God's Presence

2. God's Faithfulness: Fulfilling His Promise through His Covenant

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. Hebrews 13:20-21 - Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

2 Chronicles 5:3 Wherefore all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto the king in the feast which was in the seventh month.

All the men of Israel gathered together for a feast in the seventh month at the command of the king.

1. The Power of Obedience: How God Uses Those Who Follow His Commands

2. The Blessing of Unity: How God Uses Our Connections to Accomplish His Purposes

1. Matthew 22:37-39 - 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.

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

2 Chronicles 5:4 And all the elders of Israel came; and the Levites took up the ark.

The elders of Israel gathered and the Levites lifted the Ark of the Covenant.

1. The Power of Community: The Importance of Working Together

2. The Significance of the Ark: A Symbol of God's Faithfulness

1. Psalm 133:1-3, Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

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 Chronicles 5:5 And they brought up the ark, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and all the holy vessels that were in the tabernacle, these did the priests and the Levites bring up.

The priests and Levites brought up the Ark of the Covenant, the Tabernacle of the Congregation, and all the holy vessels that were contained in the Tabernacle.

1. The Importance of Holiness - Living a life of holiness in accordance with God's will.

2. The Power of Obedience - Following God's commands and obeying His Word.

1. Exodus 25:8-9 - And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. 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 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; And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercy seat.

2 Chronicles 5:6 Also king Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel that were assembled unto him before the ark, sacrificed sheep and oxen, which could not be told nor numbered for multitude.

King Solomon and the entire congregation of Israel gathered before the Ark of the Covenant and sacrificed a large number of sheep and oxen.

1. The Power of Community: The Miraculous Unification of Israel

2. The Covenant and Sacrifice: The Significance of the Ark of the Covenant

1. Exodus 25:10-22 (God commands the building of the Ark of the Covenant)

2. Deuteronomy 10:1-5 (God reminds his people of the Covenant and its importance)

2 Chronicles 5:7 And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, to the oracle of the house, into the most holy place, even under the wings of the cherubims:

The priests brought the Ark of the Covenant to the innermost part of the Temple, under the wings of the cherubim.

1. The importance of finding a place to rest in God's Presence

2. Protecting the holiness of God's Covenant

1. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge.

2. Exodus 25:17-22 - Make an ark of acacia wood, 45 inches long, 27 inches wide, and 27 inches high. Cover it inside and out with pure gold. Make a gold molding around it.

2 Chronicles 5:8 For the cherubims spread forth their wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubims covered the ark and the staves thereof above.

The cherubims spread their wings over the ark of the covenant and covered it and its staves.

1. The Cherubims' Protection of the Ark of the Covenant: A Lesson in Faithful Obedience

2. God's Provision for His People: How the Ark of the Covenant Reflects His Love

1. Exodus 25:10-22; 37:1-9 - Instructions for the construction of the Ark of the Covenant.

2. Hebrews 11:23-29 - A discussion on the importance of faith.

2 Chronicles 5:9 And they drew out the staves of the ark, that the ends of the staves were seen from the ark before the oracle; but they were not seen without. And there it is unto this day.

The staves of the Ark of the Covenant were visible from the Ark of the Covenant, but not from the outside. This was the case until the present day.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning from the Ark of the Covenant

2. The Significance of the Ark of the Covenant: Understanding God's Plan

1. Exodus 25:10-22 - God's instructions for making the Ark of the Covenant

2. Hebrews 9:4 - Description of the contents inside the Ark of the Covenant

2 Chronicles 5:10 There was nothing in the ark save the two tables which Moses put therein at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of Egypt.

The Ark of the Covenant contained only two stone tablets, which Moses placed there when the Lord made a covenant with the Israelites after they left Egypt.

1. God's Covenant: A Symbol of His Unconditional Love

2. The Power of the Ark of the Covenant in the Lives of the Israelites

1. Exodus 19:5-8 - And Moses said, Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the people of Israel: You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. 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. These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.

2. 2 Corinthians 3:7-11 - Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, fading though it was, will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious? If the ministry that condemns men is glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness! For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory. And if what was fading away came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts! Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold.

2 Chronicles 5:11 And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place: (for all the priests that were present were sanctified, and did not then wait by course:

On the day of dedication of the temple, all the priests present were sanctified and did not wait by course.

1. God's Unconditional Love and Grace - How God shows his unconditional love and grace to all who seek it.

2. The Power of Sanctification - How sanctification brings a special strength and power to believers.

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. Hebrews 10:14-15 - 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,

2 Chronicles 5:12 Also the Levites which were the singers, all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, being arrayed in white linen, having cymbals and psalteries and harps, stood at the east end of the altar, and with them an hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets:)

The Levites, singers from the families of Asaph, Heman and Jeduthun, and 120 priests, all dressed in white linen, were at the east end of the altar with cymbals, psalteries, harps, and trumpets.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord: Celebrating Praise with Music and Song

2. The Power of Unity: The Strength of Coming Together in Worship

1. Psalm 33:3 - Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

2. Ephesians 5:19 - Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

2 Chronicles 5:13 It came even to pass, as 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 musick, 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;

The trumpeters and singers sang praises to the Lord with trumpets, cymbals, and instruments of music, and the house of the Lord was filled with a cloud.

1. The Power of Praise: How Our Praise Brings God's Presence

2. The Unifying Effect of Worship: How Our Praise Unites Us

1. Psalm 150:1-6

2. Ephesians 5:19-20

2 Chronicles 5:14 So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.

The glory of the Lord filled the House of God, causing the priests to be unable to stand and minister.

1. The Power of God's Presence - How it can cause us to be overwhelmed and humbled.

2. Abiding in the Presence of God - Experiencing God's presence in our lives.

1. Psalm 34:5 - "Those who look to Him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame."

2. 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."

2 Chronicles chapter 6 focuses on Solomon's prayer of dedication for the newly constructed temple.

1st Paragraph: Solomon addresses the assembly and acknowledges that God has fulfilled His promise to his father David by allowing him to build a temple for His name (2 Chronicles 6:1-4). He recognizes that even though God cannot be contained in a physical structure, the temple serves as a place where people can seek His presence and offer prayers (2 Chronicles 6:18-21).

2nd Paragraph: Solomon offers a lengthy and heartfelt prayer of dedication, praising God for His faithfulness, power, and covenant with David (2 Chronicles 6:14-17). He acknowledges that no earthly dwelling can fully contain God but prays that His eyes will always be open towards the temple and listen to the prayers offered there (2 Chronicles 6:19-21).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to Solomon interceding on behalf of the people. He prays for forgiveness when they sin against God, asking Him to show mercy and compassion when they repent and turn back to Him (2 Chronicles 6:22-39). Solomon also anticipates future situations where Israel may face defeat or captivity due to disobedience. In those circumstances, he asks that if they repent and seek God's face in the temple, He would hear their prayers and restore them (2 Chronicles 6:24-31).

4th Paragraph:The account describes how Solomon then blesses the assembly before God. He offers sacrifices of dedication thousands of animals and leads the people in worship (2 Chronicles 6:40-42). The chapter concludes with everyone rejoicing over what God had done through Solomon's construction of the temple.

In summary, Chapter six of 2 Chronicles depicts Solomon's prayer, and dedication of the newly built temple. Highlighting acknowledgment of divine fulfillment, and recognition regarding limitations. Mentioning intercession on behalf of people, and blessings bestowed upon assembly. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Solomon's humility expressed through acknowledging human limitations while emphasizing reverence towards divine presence symbolized by constructing a physical structure a dedicated space enabling Israelites to seek communion with their Creator a testament reflecting devotion towards maintaining spiritual connection between Creator and His chosen people exemplified by heartfelt prayer offered by Solomon during its consecration an embodiment representing unity within Israelite community intercession made on behalf seeking forgiveness while expressing hope for restoration during times of adversity an occasion marked by joyous celebration under wise governance an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards establishing sacred space where Israelites can encounter divine presence during worship ceremonies conducted within its hallowed confines a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring God s faithfulness throughout generations

2 Chronicles 6:1 Then said Solomon, The LORD hath said that he would dwell in the thick darkness.

Solomon proclaims that the LORD has promised to live with His people in the midst of darkness.

1. "The LORD is with Us in the Darkest Times"

2. "God's Promise of Presence in Adversity"

1. 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.

2. Isaiah 45:7 - I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the LORD, who does all these things.

2 Chronicles 6:2 But I have built an house of habitation for thee, and a place for thy dwelling for ever.

Solomon builds a permanent house of worship for God.

1. The importance of having a dedicated place to worship God.

2. The significance of dedicating a building to the Lord.

1. Psalm 122:1 - "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD."

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 Chronicles 6:3 And the king turned his face, and blessed the whole congregation of Israel: and all the congregation of Israel stood.

King Solomon blessed the whole congregation of Israel and all stood in response.

1. The power of blessing - how a blessing can unite and bring people together

2. Living in Covenant with God - the importance of honoring God's covenant

1. Genesis 12:2-3 - God's covenant with Abraham to make him a blessing

2. Ephesians 1:3 - Praise for the spiritual blessing of being adopted as children of God

2 Chronicles 6:4 And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, who hath with his hands fulfilled that which he spake with his mouth to my father David, saying,

Solomon offers a prayer of praise to the Lord for fulfilling his promise to his father David.

1. The Power of Promises: How God's Promises Guide and Protect Us

2. The Faithfulness of God: Relying on His Word in Difficult Times

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. 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.

2 Chronicles 6:5 Since the day that I brought forth my people out of the land of Egypt I chose no city among all the tribes of Israel to build an house in, that my name might be there; neither chose I any man to be a ruler over my people Israel:

God chose no city among the tribes of Israel to have His name, nor did He choose any man to be a ruler over His people.

1. God's Sovereignty: How God Exercised His Right to Choose

2. God's Mercy: How God Chose to Show Love and Compassion

1. Exodus 33:18-23 - God's presence among His people

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - God's ways are not our ways

2 Chronicles 6:6 But I have chosen Jerusalem, that my name might be there; and have chosen David to be over my people Israel.

God chose Jerusalem to be the home of His name and chose David to be the leader of His people Israel.

1. God's Sovereignty in Choosing Leaders

2. How to Follow God's Chosen Leaders

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.

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 Chronicles 6:7 Now it was in the heart of David my father to build an house for the name of the LORD God of Israel.

David desired to build a house to honor the LORD God of Israel.

1. The Heart of David: The Motivation and Inspiration of His Actions

2. Seeking God's Glory: Finding Value in Honoring the Name of the LORD

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also

2. Psalm 5:7 - But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.

2 Chronicles 6:8 But the LORD said to David my father, Forasmuch as it was in thine heart to build an house for my name, thou didst well in that it was in thine heart:

The Lord praised David for his desire to build a temple for the Lord's name.

1. God Sees Our Hearts: How We Serve Matters More Than What We Do - 2 Chronicles 6:8

2. The Heart Behind the Deeds: Exploring What God Values Most - 2 Chronicles 6:8

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. Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2 Chronicles 6:9 Notwithstanding thou shalt not build the house; but thy son which shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build the house for my name.

God instructs Solomon not to build the temple, but to leave the task to his son.

1. The Power of Legacy: How We Impact Future Generations

2. Passing the Torch: Why We Shouldn't Hoard Our Responsibilities

1. Proverbs 13:22, A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children.

2. 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 Chronicles 6:10 The LORD therefore hath performed his word that he hath spoken: for I am risen up in the room of David my father, and am set on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and have built the house for the name of the LORD God of Israel.

Solomon has been set on the throne of Israel and has fulfilled the promise made by the Lord to David by building a house for the Lord's name.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping His promises.

2. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

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. Daniel 6:26 - "I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end."

2 Chronicles 6:11 And in it have I put the ark, wherein is the covenant of the LORD, that he made with the children of Israel.

Solomon dedicated the Temple to the Lord, and placed the Ark of the Covenant inside, which contained the covenant the Lord made with the children of Israel.

1. The Power of Covenant: An examination of the Lord's covenant with the children of Israel and its implications for our lives today.

2. The Significance of the Temple: Exploring the importance of the Temple and its dedication to the Lord by Solomon.

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 55:3 - Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live.

2 Chronicles 6:12 And he stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands:

Solomon stood before the LORD's altar in the presence of the Israelite congregation and spread out his hands.

1. The Power of Standing in God's Presence

2. Unifying Through Prayer

1. Psalm 65:2 - O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.

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.

2 Chronicles 6:13 For Solomon had made a brasen scaffold of five cubits long, and five cubits broad, and three cubits high, and had set it in the midst of the court: and upon it he stood, and kneeled down upon his knees before all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven,

Solomon stood on a bronze platform in the middle of the court and prayed to God with hands raised to heaven in front of all the people of Israel.

1. The Power of Prayer: How to Pray Boldly and Hold Nothing Back

2. The Example of Solomon: How One Person's Faith Can Impacts a Nation

1. Matthew 6:5-13 (Context: Jesus teaches on the proper way to pray)

2. James 5:13-16 (Context: Prayer in times of suffering and illness)

2 Chronicles 6:14 And said, O LORD God of Israel, there is no God like thee in the heaven, nor in the earth; which keepest covenant, and shewest mercy unto thy servants, that walk before thee with all their hearts:

Solomon praised God for being the only one who keeps his covenant and shows mercy to those who serve Him with all their hearts.

1. The Covenant of God - Understanding the God of Mercy

2. Walking with God - Serving God with All Your Heart

1. 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.

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.

2 Chronicles 6:15 Thou which hast kept with thy servant David my father that which thou hast promised him; and spakest with thy mouth, and hast fulfilled it with thine hand, as it is this day.

God fulfilled His promise to David as He had spoken with His mouth and fulfilled it with His hand.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises

2. The assurance of God's 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. 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 Chronicles 6:16 Now therefore, O LORD God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father that which thou hast promised him, saying, There shall not fail thee a man in my sight to sit upon the throne of Israel; yet so that thy children take heed to their way to walk in my law, as thou hast walked before me.

God promises to keep with King David and his descendants if they obey his law as he has done.

1. The Lord's Promise of Fidelity and Obedience

2. God's Covenant with King David and His Descendants

1. 2 Samuel 7:12-17 - God's covenant with David

2. Jeremiah 33:20-21 - God's promise of a sure house and throne

2 Chronicles 6:17 Now then, O LORD God of Israel, let thy word be verified, which thou hast spoken unto thy servant David.

Solomon prays to the Lord God of Israel, asking Him to fulfill His promise to David.

1. God Is Faithful - Exploring the trustworthiness of God and how He is always faithful to His promises.

2. God's Word - Examining how God's Word is true and how we can put our faith in it.

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 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 Chronicles 6:18 But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have built!

Solomon acknowledges that God is too great to be contained in the temple that he built.

1. The Transcendence of God - exploring the unfathomable greatness of God.

2. Building a House for God - recognizing that God is too great for a physical temple, but how we can still build a spiritual one.

1. 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?

2. Psalm 115:3 - Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.

2 Chronicles 6:19 Have respect therefore to the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O LORD my God, to hearken unto the cry and the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee:

In 2 Chronicles 6:19, Solomon pleads with God to listen to his prayer and supplication.

1. Praying with Respect: Honoring God in Our Requests

2. The Power of Prayer: How We Can Make a Difference Through Intercession

1. James 5:16 - The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

2. Matthew 6:5-13 - Jesus' teaching on prayer, including the Lord's Prayer.

2 Chronicles 6:20 That thine eyes may be open upon this house day and night, upon the place whereof thou hast said that thou wouldest put thy name there; to hearken unto the prayer which thy servant prayeth toward this place.

Solomon prays to God to keep His eyes open on the temple and to listen to the prayers of His servants.

1. The Power of Prayer: Learning to Pray in Faith

2. Seeking God's Presence: Humility and Reverence in Worship

1. James 5:16 - The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

2. Isaiah 56:7 - Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.

2 Chronicles 6:21 Hearken therefore unto the supplications of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, which they shall make toward this place: hear thou from thy dwelling place, even from heaven; and when thou hearest, forgive.

God is asking us to listen to the prayers of His people and to forgive them when they ask for it.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Understanding the Importance of Listening to God's People

2. The Necessity of Repentance: Learning to Seek and Receive God's Forgiveness

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. Luke 23:34 - And Jesus said, Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.

2 Chronicles 6:22 If a man sin against his neighbour, and an oath be laid upon him to make him swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house;

God decrees that if a man commits a sin against his neighbor and an oath is laid upon him, the oath should be brought to the temple in the house of God.

1. "The Power of an Oath - A Lesson from 2 Chronicles 6:22"

2. "Reconciliation Through Oaths - God's Will as Revealed in 2 Chronicles 6:22"

1. Romans 14:13-14 - "Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother. 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."

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."

2 Chronicles 6:23 Then hear thou from heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, by requiting the wicked, by recompensing his way upon his own head; and by justifying the righteous, by giving him according to his righteousness.

God calls upon us to judge ourselves and others, rewarding those who are righteous and punishing those who are wicked.

1. God's Justice: Making Righteous Judgments

2. Living Righteously: Rewarding God's Way

1. Romans 2:6-8 - God will render to each one according to his deeds

2. Proverbs 11:21 - Be sure of this: The wicked will not go unpunished

2 Chronicles 6:24 And if thy people Israel be put to the worse before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee; and shall return and confess thy name, and pray and make supplication before thee in this house;

When the Israelites fall into trouble with their enemies due to sinning against God, they can return to God and confess their sins in the temple.

1. Confession: The Power of Repentance

2. The Mercy of God: Turning Sin into Righteousness

1. Psalms 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 5:8 - But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

2 Chronicles 6:25 Then hear thou from the heavens, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest to them and to their fathers.

Solomon prays to God asking for forgiveness of the sins of the people of Israel and for Him to bring them back to the land which He gave to them and their forefathers.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - Exploring how God's grace and mercy can bring us back to Him.

2. The Blessings of Obedience - Understanding the rewards of faithfulness and walking in God's will.

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. Romans 5:20 - Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.

2 Chronicles 6:26 When the heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; yet if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou dost afflict them;

When the people of Israel sin against God, He can shut up the heavens and withhold rain. But if the people pray to God, confess their sins, and turn away from their wickedness, then God will forgive them.

1. God's Mercy: When the Israelites Confess Their Sin

2. God's Faithfulness: Turning from Wickedness and Receiving Forgiveness

1. Ezekiel 18:30-32

2. James 5:16-18

2 Chronicles 6:27 Then hear thou from heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, when thou hast taught them the good way, wherein they should walk; and send rain upon thy land, which thou hast given unto thy people for an inheritance.

God implores His people to repent and follow His ways so that He may forgive their sins and bestow rain upon their land.

1. The Path of Repentance: Taking Responsibility for Ourselves and Our Communities

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Redeeming Ourselves Through Grace

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. Proverbs 28:13 - Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

2 Chronicles 6:28 If there be dearth in the land, if there be pestilence, if there be blasting, or mildew, locusts, or caterpillers; if their enemies besiege them in the cities of their land; whatsoever sore or whatsoever sickness there be:

Solomon prays to God to protect the people of Israel from any natural or man-made disaster that might befall them.

1. God is our Protector in Times of Trouble

2. Uniting in Prayer During 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.

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.

2 Chronicles 6:29 Then what prayer or what supplication soever shall be made of any man, or of all thy people Israel, when every one shall know his own sore and his own grief, and shall spread forth his hands in this house:

Solomon prayed for mercy and supplication for the people of Israel when they faced their own hardships and grief.

1. God's Grace in Times of Suffering

2. Comfort and Strength in the Midst of Trials

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. 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 Chronicles 6:30 Then hear thou from heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and render unto every man according unto all his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou only knowest the hearts of the children of men:)

God is asking us to forgive and render according to each person's ways, knowing that only God knows the hearts of people.

1. God's Mercy: Understanding the Importance of Forgiveness

2. Knowing God's Heart: Compassion and Grace in Our Relationships

1. Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

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 Chronicles 6:31 That they may fear thee, to walk in thy ways, so long as they live in the land which thou gavest unto our fathers.

Solomon prays to God to give the people of Israel the fear of Him so that they may walk in His ways for as long as they inhabit the land given to their fathers.

1. The Power of Fear in Faith: How Fear of the Lord Leads to Obedience

2. God's Unfailing Promise: The Land of Israel and the Faithful

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 25:12-13 Who is the man who fears the LORD? Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose. He himself shall dwell in prosperity, and his offspring shall inherit the land.

2 Chronicles 6:32 Moreover concerning the stranger, which is not of thy people Israel, but is come from a far country for thy great name's sake, and thy mighty hand, and thy stretched out arm; if they come and pray in this house;

God desires for those from other nations to come to his house and pray.

1. God's Love Reaches Across Nations

2. An Invitation to Pray in God's House

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

2. Isaiah 56:7 - These I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.

2 Chronicles 6:33 Then hear thou from the heavens, even from 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, and fear thee, as doth thy people Israel, and may know that this house which I have built is called by thy name.

Solomon prays to God to answer the prayers of people from all nations, so that they may revere the Lord and recognize that He is the one that the temple is dedicated to.

1. The Call to Reverence in 2 Chronicles 6:33

2. God's Love for All Nations in 2 Chronicles 6:33

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. Isaiah 56:7 - these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

2 Chronicles 6:34 If thy people go out to war against their enemies by the way that thou shalt send them, and they pray unto thee toward this city which thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built for thy name;

The people of Israel are instructed to pray to God when they go to war with their enemies.

1. The Power of Prayer in Times of War

2. Trusting in God in Times of Conflict

1. 2 Chronicles 6:34

2. Isaiah 30:15 - "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength."

2 Chronicles 6:35 Then hear thou from the heavens their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.

God listens to the prayers of His people and takes action to defend them.

1. Pray Unceasingly - 1 Thessalonians 5:17

2. God is Always Listening - Psalm 5:1-3

1. 2 Chronicles 6:35

2. Psalm 5:1-3

2 Chronicles 6:36 If they sin against thee, (for there is no man which sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them over before their enemies, and they carry them away captives unto a land far off or near;

God will forgive the sins of His people, but if they persist in sin He may allow their enemies to take them away into exile.

1. Remember That God's Forgiveness Is Limitless

2. The Consequences of Persistent Rebellion

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. 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.

2 Chronicles 6:37 Yet if they bethink themselves in the land whither they are carried captive, and turn and pray unto thee in the land of their captivity, saying, We have sinned, we have done amiss, and have dealt wickedly;

In 2 Chronicles 6:37, God is encouraging the Israelites to remember and pray to Him, even if they are being held captive in a foreign land, and to acknowledge their wrongdoings.

1. The Power of Praying to God in Times of Trouble

2. The Strength of Acknowledging Our Sin

1. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

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 Chronicles 6:38 If they return to thee with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, whither they have carried them captives, and pray toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, and toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house which I have built for thy name:

The people of Israel prayed toward the land that God had given to their fathers, the chosen city, and the temple built for His name.

1. The Power of Prayer and Repentance - How God Honors the Prayers of His People

2. Turning to God in Times of Adversity - How God Answers the Prayers of His People

1. Jeremiah 29:12-14 - "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. I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile."

2. Deuteronomy 4:29-31 - "But from there you will seek the Lord your God and you will find him, if you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul. 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. For the Lord your God is a merciful God. He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them."

2 Chronicles 6:39 Then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause, and forgive thy people which have sinned against thee.

Solomon prays to God to hear the prayers of his people and forgive them for their sins.

1. The Power of Praying for Forgiveness

2. Seeking God's Mercy in Times of Sin

1. 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 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.

2. 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 Chronicles 6:40 Now, my God, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attent unto the prayer that is made in this place.

Solomon prays for God to be attentive to the prayers made from the Temple.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Heeds Our Requests

2. Seeking God's Attention: Recognizing the Importance of Prayer

1. Psalm 145:18-19 - The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them.

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.

2 Chronicles 6:41 Now therefore arise, O LORD God, into thy resting place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness.

God is called upon to arise and let His priests be clothed with salvation and His saints rejoice in goodness.

1. The Power of God's Salvation and Goodness

2. Rejoicing in the Resting Place of the Lord

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 132:8 - Arise, O Lord, into thy resting place; thou and the ark of thy strength.

2 Chronicles 6:42 O LORD God, turn not away the face of thine anointed: remember the mercies of David thy servant.

Solomon prays to God to remember the mercies of David, God's anointed.

1. The Power of Prayer: Remembering the Mercies of David

2. God's Anointed: Our Duty to Pray for Them

1. Psalm 103:17:But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children.

2. 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.

2 Chronicles chapter 7 describes the completion of the temple and the dedication ceremony, as well as God's response to Solomon's prayer.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a description of the dedication ceremony. Solomon and all Israel gather before the temple to offer sacrifices and worship God. The Levitical singers and musicians lead in praising God with songs of thanksgiving (2 Chronicles 7:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how, as the people worshiped, a cloud fills the temple the glory of God's presence descends upon it. The priests are unable to continue their duties because of the overwhelming manifestation of divine glory (2 Chronicles 7:2-3).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to Solomon's address to the people. He acknowledges that God has fulfilled His promise by dwelling in the temple and expresses gratitude for His faithfulness (2 Chronicles 7:4-6). He encourages Israel to remain faithful to God's commandments so that they may continue to experience His blessings.

4th Paragraph:The account describes how Solomon offers numerous sacrifices a great number of cattle and sheep dedicating them on behalf of all Israel. This act is accompanied by a feast that lasts for seven days, during which time they celebrate joyfully before God (2 Chronicles 7:4-10).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with an account of a night-time visitation from God. He appears to Solomon and affirms His acceptance of both him personally and his prayer on behalf of Israel. However, He also warns that if Israel turns away from Him and worships other gods, they will face consequences such as famine or defeat at their enemies' hands (2 Chronicles 7:11-22).

In summary, Chapter seven of 2 Chronicles depicts the dedication ceremony, and divine response at Solomon's temple. Highlighting completion through dedication, and overwhelming manifestation. Mentioning acknowledgment towards divine fulfillment, and encouragement towards faithfulness. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Solomon's devotion expressed through conducting elaborate ceremonies aimed at consecrating dedicating God s house temple with utmost reverence while emphasizing joyous celebration under wise governance an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards establishing sacred space where Israelites can encounter divine presence during worship ceremonies conducted within its hallowed confines exemplified by cloud symbolizing glory descending a testament reflecting commitment towards maintaining spiritual connection between Creator and His chosen people an embodiment representing unity within Israelite community expressed through expressions gratitude while underscoring importance regarding obedience towards commandments a solemn reminder regarding consequences resulting from turning away from true worship an occasion marked by divine visitation signifying approval acceptance of both king s leadership along with his intercessory prayer on behalf warning against straying from path leading towards blessings an admonition urging fidelity in order for continued prosperity while emphasizing need for genuine repentance during times when nation veers off course a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 7:1 Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the house.

Solomon prayed and the fire from heaven came down and consumed the offerings and the glory of the Lord filled the house.

1. The Power of Prayer: How to Receive Answers from God

2. Seeking God's Presence: Experiencing the Glory of the Lord

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. 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. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

2 Chronicles 7:2 And the priests could not enter into the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD's house.

The glory of the Lord filled the Lord's house, preventing the priests from entering.

1. The Holiness of God and How We Should Respond

2. Glorifying God Through Our Actions

1. Isaiah 6:1-7 - God's glory revealed to Isaiah in a vision.

2. Psalm 29:2 - Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name.

2 Chronicles 7:3 And when all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD upon the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshipped, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.

The children of Israel saw the fire come down and the glory of the Lord on the house, and they bowed down and worshipped the Lord, praising him for His goodness and mercy.

1. The Transforming Power of Worship: Experiencing God's Presence.

2. The Mercy of God: Finding Comfort in His Love and Compassion.

1. Psalm 118:1-4 - "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! Let Israel say, His steadfast love endures forever. Let the house of Aaron say, His steadfast love endures forever. Let those who fear the Lord say, His steadfast love endures 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."

2 Chronicles 7:4 Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the LORD.

The king and all the people offered sacrifices to the Lord.

1. The Power of Sacrifice - How it Brings Us Closer to God

2. Worshipping God Through Giving - The Importance of Offering Sacrifices

1. 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. Leviticus 7:11-14 - This is the law of the fellowship offering that one may present to the Lord: 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. Along with the thanksgiving sacrifice he shall present one of each kind as an offering, and shall give it to the priest with the sacrifice of thanksgiving. And the priest shall offer them up in smoke on the altar as an offering made by fire to the Lord. The priest shall make the memorial portion of it and of the sacrifice of thanksgiving an offering by fire to the Lord; it is a token of the peace offering.

2 Chronicles 7:5 And king Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty and two thousand oxen, and an hundred and twenty thousand sheep: so the king and all the people dedicated the house of God.

King Solomon offered a sacrifice of 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep to dedicate the House of God.

1. The importance of dedicating ourselves to God.

2. The power of offering sacrifices to God.

1. 1 Chronicles 29:11-13; Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

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.

2 Chronicles 7:6 And the priests waited on their offices: the Levites also with instruments of musick of the LORD, which David the king had made to praise the LORD, because his mercy endureth for ever, when David praised by their ministry; and the priests sounded trumpets before them, and all Israel stood.

The priests and Levites served in the temple, playing instruments of music for David's praise of the Lord, and the priests sounded trumpets as all Israel stood.

1. The Mercy of the Lord Endures Forever

2. Serving with Music and Instruments of Praise

1. Psalm 136:1-2 - "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods, for His love endures forever."

2. Psalm 100:4-5 - "Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations."

2 Chronicles 7:7 Moreover Solomon hallowed the middle of the court that was before the house of the LORD: for there he offered burnt offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings, because the brasen altar which Solomon had made was not able to receive the burnt offerings, and the meat offerings, and the fat.

Solomon consecrated the area in front of the house of the Lord and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings because the bronze altar was not big enough to contain them.

1. The Importance of Dedication to God's House - 2 Chronicles 7:7

2. The Holiness of the House of the Lord - 2 Chronicles 7:7

1. Exodus 30:1-10 God's instructions for the altar of incense

2. Leviticus 1:1-17 - God's instructions for burnt offerings

2 Chronicles 7:8 Also at the same time Solomon kept the feast seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of Egypt.

Solomon held a seven-day feast attended by a huge congregation of people from Hamath to the River of Egypt.

1. God cares for us even in times of joy and celebration.

2. We should always remember to be grateful for the blessings we have been given.

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. Psalm 100:4 - Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

2 Chronicles 7:9 And in the eighth day they made a solemn assembly: for they kept the dedication of the altar seven days, and the feast seven days.

The people of Israel celebrated the dedication of the altar and the feast for a total of fifteen days.

1. The Importance of Dedicating Time for God

2. Celebrating the Joy of Worship

1. Psalm 100:2 - Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

2. Ephesians 5:15-20 - 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 Chronicles 7:10 And on the three and twentieth day of the seventh month he sent the people away into their tents, glad and merry in heart for the goodness that the LORD had shewed unto David, and to Solomon, and to Israel his people.

God showed kindness to David, Solomon, and Israel, and the people celebrated with joy.

1. Celebrating God's Goodness

2. Cherishing the Gifts of God

1. Psalm 118:1-2 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let Israel say: His love endures forever.

2. Ephesians 1:7-8 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God s grace that he lavished on us.

2 Chronicles 7:11 Thus Solomon finished the house of the LORD, and the king's house: and all that came into Solomon's heart to make in the house of the LORD, and in his own house, he prosperously effected.

Solomon completed the construction of the Lord's Temple and his own royal palace, successfully fulfilling all of his goals.

1. How Our Obedience to God Brings Success and Prosperity - 2 Chronicles 7:11

2. How God Rewards Our Diligence - 2 Chronicles 7:11

1. Deuteronomy 5:33 - "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 16:3 - "Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established."

2 Chronicles 7:12 And the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for an house of sacrifice.

God appeared to Solomon and accepted his prayers, selecting the temple in Jerusalem as a place of sacrifice.

1. God hears our prayers and rewards us with his presence.

2. God's favor brings us blessings that can be shared with others.

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. Matthew 6:13 - And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

2 Chronicles 7:13 If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people;

God is sovereign over all things, including rain, locusts, and pestilence.

1. Understanding God's Sovereignty in Challenging Times

2. The Reality of God's Control in 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. Matthew 28:18 - And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

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.

God promises to forgive and heal the land if His people humble themselves, pray, seek His face, and turn from their wicked ways.

1. The Power of Repentance: The Mercy of God and the Restoration of the Land

2. The Healed Land: The Blessing of God and Restitution of Our Souls

1. Isaiah 57:15 - For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

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.

2 Chronicles 7:15 Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears attent unto the prayer that is made in this place.

God opens his eyes and ears to the prayers of His people.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Responds to Our Prayers

2. God is Listening: How to Connect with God Through Prayer

1. James 4:2-3 You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

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.

2 Chronicles 7:16 For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there for ever: and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.

God chose and sanctified the house of the Lord, so that His name may be honored forever and His eyes and heart will be there always.

1. The Power of God's Presence - How God's sanctification of the House of the Lord transforms our lives.

2. The Everlasting Love of God - How God's promise to remain in the House of the Lord is an example of His enduring love.

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. 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?

2 Chronicles 7:17 And as for thee, if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy father walked, and do according to all that I have commanded thee, and shalt observe my statutes and my judgments;

God commands us to walk in the same way as our father David did, and to obey His commandments and statutes.

1. The Faithful Walk of David - Exploring the example of faithfulness that David set for us and how we can follow it.

2. Obeying God's Commands - Discussing the importance of following God's statutes and commands.

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

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.

2 Chronicles 7:18 Then will I stablish the throne of thy kingdom, according as I have covenanted with David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man to be ruler in Israel.

God promised King Solomon that his throne and kingdom would be secure as long as he remained faithful.

1. God's faithfulness is our security

2. God's loyalty is our strength

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. 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 Chronicles 7:19 But if ye turn away, and forsake my statutes and my commandments, which I have set before you, and shall go and serve other gods, and worship them;

God warns the people of Israel to remain faithful to His statutes and commandments, or they will face consequences if they turn away and worship other gods.

1. God's Promises: The Blessing of Remaining Faithful to His Statutes and Commandments

2. The Consequences of Turning Away from God: The Danger of Worshipping Other Gods

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 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. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

2 Chronicles 7:20 Then will I pluck them up by the roots out of my land which I have given them; and this house, which I have sanctified for my name, will I cast out of my sight, and will make it to be a proverb and a byword among all nations.

God warns that he will remove the Israelites from the land he has given them and make his sanctified house a proverb and a byword among all nations.

1. "The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Israelites' Mistakes"

2. "The Importance of Following God's Word"

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's promise of blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience

2. Luke 6:46-49 - Jesus' parable of the wise and foolish builders

2 Chronicles 7:21 And this house, which is high, shall be an astonishment to every one that passeth by it; so that he shall say, Why hath the LORD done thus unto this land, and unto this house?

The house of the LORD was so great that it was a marvel to all who passed by, prompting them to ask why the LORD did such a thing.

1. The Marvel of the LORD's House: Examining the Greatness of God's Dwelling Place

2. Awe in the Presence of the Almighty: Experiencing Wonder at the LORD's Splendor

1. Psalm 144:3-4 - LORD, what is man, that thou takest knowledge of him! or the son of man, that thou makest account of him! Man is like to vanity: his days are as a shadow that passeth away.

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.

2 Chronicles 7:22 And it shall be answered, Because they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold on other gods, and worshipped them, and served them: therefore hath he brought all this evil upon them.

God brought punishment on the people of Israel for forsaking Him and worshiping other gods.

1. The importance of faithfulness to God and the consequences of unfaithfulness

2. Repentance and turning back to God

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. 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 Chronicles chapter 8 describes Solomon's activities and accomplishments after the completion of the temple, including the construction of various cities and his administration.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Solomon's efforts to build and fortify cities. He reconstructs and strengthens cities that had been previously conquered by his father, David. These cities served as storage centers for supplies, chariots, and horses (2 Chronicles 8:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Solomon's interaction with Hiram, the king of Tyre. They engage in a trade agreement where Hiram provides materials cedar trees and skilled workers for Solomon's building projects in exchange for food supplies from Israel (2 Chronicles 8:7-10).

3rd Paragraph: The focus turns to describing how Solomon carries out various construction projects. He builds additional cities for storage purposes, as well as military installations such as chariot cities and cavalry bases (2 Chronicles 8:4-6). He also builds up Jerusalem by expanding its boundaries (2 Chronicles 8:11).

4th Paragraph:The account highlights how Solomon establishes an organized system of governance. He appoints officials priests, Levites, administrators to oversee different aspects of the kingdom (2 Chronicles 8:14-16). Additionally, he arranges regular offerings at the temple according to the requirements outlined in God's law (2 Chronicles 8:12-13).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning how Solomon sends ships to trade with distant lands like Ophir for gold and other valuable resources. These trading ventures bring great wealth to Israel under Solomon's reign (2 Chronicles 8:17-18).

In summary, Chapter eight of 2 Chronicles depicts Solomon's post-temple activities, and administrative accomplishments. Highlighting construction, and fortification of cities. Mentioning trade agreement with Hiram, and various building projects undertaken. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Solomon's efforts expressed through constructing fortified centers aimed at ensuring security while emphasizing economic prosperity through engaging in international trade agreements exemplified by partnership with King Hiram a testament reflecting wisdom towards utilizing available resources an embodiment representing efficient governance under wise leadership illustrated through establishment administrative structures ensuring smooth functioning within kingdom an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards establishing prosperous nation where people can thrive a testament illustrating commitment towards responsible stewardship over blessings bestowed upon Israel

2 Chronicles 8:1 And it came to pass at the end of twenty years, wherein Solomon had built the house of the LORD, and his own house,

After twenty years of building the Lord's house and his own, Solomon had completed the two constructions.

1. The Value of Dedication: A Study in 2 Chronicles 8:1

2. The Power of Perseverance: A Reflection on 2 Chronicles 8:1

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 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."

2 Chronicles 8:2 That the cities which Huram had restored to Solomon, Solomon built them, and caused the children of Israel to dwell there.

Solomon built cities that were restored by Huram and allowed the Israelites to live there.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the restoration of His people

2. God's love is demonstrated through His provision for His people

1. Psalm 107:1-2 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story those he redeemed from the hand of the foe.

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 Chronicles 8:3 And Solomon went to Hamathzobah, and prevailed against it.

Solomon went to Hamathzobah and conquered it.

1. The Power of God Through Obedience

2. The Strength of Faithful Leadership

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 16:3 - Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

2 Chronicles 8:4 And he built Tadmor in the wilderness, and all the store cities, which he built in Hamath.

Solomon built Tadmor and other store cities in Hamath.

1. The importance of building strong foundations.

2. The value of preparing for the future.

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.

2. Proverbs 24:3-4 - Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

2 Chronicles 8:5 Also he built Bethhoron the upper, and Bethhoron the nether, fenced cities, with walls, gates, and bars;

Solomon built two cities, Bethhoron the upper and Bethhoron the nether, and fortified them with walls, gates, and bars.

1. The Strength of Preparation: Lessons from Solomon's Building of Bethhoron

2. The Value of Protection: Fortifying Our Lives with God's Word

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it.

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 Chronicles 8:6 And Baalath, and all the store cities that Solomon had, and all the chariot cities, and the cities of the horsemen, and all that Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and throughout all the land of his dominion.

Solomon built a great many cities and storehouses throughout the land of his dominion.

1. Don't be afraid to take risks in order to build something great.

2. God calls us to use our talents for the betterment of the world.

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.

2 Chronicles 8:7 As for all the people that were left of the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which were not of Israel,

Chronicles 8:7 speaks of all the non-Israelite people groups left behind in the region.

1. God's faithfulness to preserve his people despite opposition

2. The importance of unity amongst believers

1. Isaiah 27:6 - "Those who come He shall cause to take root in Jacob; Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit."

2. Deuteronomy 7:6 - "For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth."

2 Chronicles 8:8 But of their children, who were left after them in the land, whom the children of Israel consumed not, them did Solomon make to pay tribute until this day.

Solomon made the remaining children of the people in the land pay tribute to him to this day.

1. True freedom is found in submission to God's will.

2. We are responsible for caring for our fellow human beings.

1. Matthew 10:39 - He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

2. 1 John 3:16 - By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us.

2 Chronicles 8:9 But of the children of Israel did Solomon make no servants for his work; but they were men of war, and chief of his captains, and captains of his chariots and horsemen.

Solomon did not make any of the Israelites his servants, instead they were soldiers, commanders, and captains of his chariots and horsemen.

1. The Strength of the People of Israel: How Solomon leveraged the strengths of his people to build a strong kingdom.

2. Finding Our Place in the Kingdom: How to discover and utilize our gifts and talents for the benefit of the kingdom.

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 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: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

2 Chronicles 8:10 And these were the chief of king Solomon's officers, even two hundred and fifty, that bare rule over the people.

King Solomon had 250 officers who were responsible for ruling and managing the people.

1. The Power of Leadership - Exploring the importance of leadership and the responsibility that comes with it.

2. The Duties of a Ruler - Examining the role of a ruler and the need for wisdom and justice.

1. Proverbs 20:8 - A king who sits on the throne of judgment winnows out all evil with his eyes.

2. Proverbs 16:10 - A divine decision is in the lips of a king; his mouth should not err in judgment.

2 Chronicles 8:11 And Solomon brought up the daughter of Pharaoh out of the city of David unto the house that he had built for her: for he said, My wife shall not dwell in the house of David king of Israel, because the places are holy, whereunto the ark of the LORD hath come.

Solomon moved Pharaoh's daughter out of the city of David to the house he had built for her, because he wanted his wife to live in a place that was holy.

1. The Importance of Living in a Holy Place.

2. The Importance of Keeping God's Commandments.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - The blessings of obeying the Lord's commands.

2. Exodus 19:5-6 - God's people are to be a holy nation.

2 Chronicles 8:12 Then Solomon offered burnt offerings unto the LORD on the altar of the LORD, which he had built before the porch,

Solomon offered burnt offerings to the Lord at the altar he had built in front of the porch.

1. What is the Meaning of Dedicated Offering?

2. Why Should We Offer Sacrifices to the Lord?

1. 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.

2. Leviticus 1:1-3 - And the Lord called unto Moses, and spake 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, ye shall bring your offering of the cattle, even of the herd, and of the flock.

2 Chronicles 8:13 Even after a certain rate every day, offering according to the commandment of Moses, on the sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the solemn feasts, three times in the year, even in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles.

Solomon held services on the Sabbath, new moon, and three festivals as commanded by Moses.

1. Celebrating the Feasts: A Reflection of God's Holiness

2. Keeping the Sabbath: A Sign of Obedience

1. Exodus 23:14-17

2. Deuteronomy 16:16-17

2 Chronicles 8:14 And he appointed, according to the order of David his father, the courses of the priests to their service, and the Levites to their charges, to praise and minister before the priests, as the duty of every day required: the porters also by their courses at every gate: for so had David the man of God commanded.

Solomon appointed priests and Levites to their respective service and also assigned porters to each gate, according to the instructions of his father David, who was a man of God.

1. The importance of following the instructions of our fathers and those of God.

2. The value of service and praise to God.

1. Psalm 103:20-22 - Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word! Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will!

2. Proverbs 4:1-2 - 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.

2 Chronicles 8:15 And they departed not from the commandment of the king unto the priests and Levites concerning any matter, or concerning the treasures.

Solomon and the people followed the king's commands to the priests and Levites concerning all matters, including the treasures.

1. Obedience to Authority Brings Blessing

2. Following God's Commands Leads to Joy

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 13:1-7 - 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. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

2 Chronicles 8:16 Now all the work of Solomon was prepared unto the day of the foundation of the house of the LORD, and until it was finished. So the house of the LORD was perfected.

Solomon completed the work for the building of the Lord's house.

1. The importance of completing the work God has given us.

2. The dedication of Solomon in building the temple of the Lord.

1. Proverbs 24:27 - "Finish your outdoor work and get your fields ready; after that, build your house."

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 Chronicles 8:17 Then went Solomon to Eziongeber, and to Eloth, at the sea side in the land of Edom.

Solomon traveled to Eziongeber and Eloth, two cities on the coast of Edom.

1. The Importance of Travel in Faith

2. Taking Time for Reflection and Refocus

1. Romans 10:15 And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!

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.

2 Chronicles 8:18 And Huram sent him by the hands of his servants ships, and servants that had knowledge of the sea; and they went with the servants of Solomon to Ophir, and took thence four hundred and fifty talents of gold, and brought them to king Solomon.

King Solomon sent Huram's servants to Ophir to retrieve 450 talents of gold, which they successfully delivered to King Solomon.

1. God blesses those who are obedient to Him.

2. Our faithfulness and obedience to God can lead to great rewards.

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 shall direct your paths.

2 Chronicles chapter 9 recounts the visit of the Queen of Sheba to Solomon, highlighting her admiration for his wisdom and wealth.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing the Queen of Sheba's journey to Jerusalem to test Solomon with difficult questions. She brings a great caravan of gifts, including spices, gold, and precious stones (2 Chronicles 9:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on the meeting between Solomon and the Queen of Sheba. She asks him challenging questions on various topics, seeking to assess his wisdom. Solomon answers all her inquiries with profound insight and understanding (2 Chronicles 9:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how impressed the Queen of Sheba is by Solomon's wisdom, his magnificent palace, his servants' attire, and the offerings presented at the temple. She acknowledges that everything she had heard about him was true (2 Chronicles 9:5-6).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Solomon reciprocates by giving gifts to the Queen of Sheba a display of his generosity. He also grants her every request and sends her back to her own land with honor (2 Chronicles 9:12).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by summarizing Solomon's immense wealth and prosperity. It mentions his annual income from taxes and trade the abundance of gold he received and describes how he surpassed all other kings in riches and wisdom (2 Chronicles 9:22-23).

In summary, Chapter nine of 2 Chronicles depicts the visit, and interaction between Queen of Sheba and King Solomon. Highlighting journey undertaken, and challenging questions posed. Mentioning admiration towards wisdom, and opulence displayed. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Solomon's reputation expressed through receiving foreign dignitary seeking counsel while emphasizing grandeur displayed within royal court exemplified through abundance treasures symbolizing prosperity under wise governance an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards establishing prosperous nation where people can thrive a testament illustrating commitment towards responsible stewardship over blessings bestowed upon Israel

2 Chronicles 9:1 And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to prove Solomon with hard questions at Jerusalem, with a very great company, and camels that bare spices, and gold in abundance, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart.

The Queen of Sheba heard of King Solomon's fame and visited Jerusalem with a large entourage and many gifts to test him with difficult questions.

1. The Power of Fame - How God's works can be proclaimed throughout the world.

2. The Power of Wisdom - How God has given us the ability to answer any question.

1. Proverbs 16:24 - Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

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 Chronicles 9:2 And Solomon told her all her questions: and there was nothing hid from Solomon which he told her not.

Solomon answered all of the Queen of Sheba's questions, leaving nothing out.

1. God's Wisdom: Solomon and the Queen of Sheba.

2. The Power of Communication: Listening and Understanding.

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. 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 Chronicles 9:3 And when the queen of Sheba had seen the wisdom of Solomon, and the house that he had built,

The Queen of Sheba was amazed by the wisdom of King Solomon and the structure of his palace.

1. The Beauty of Wisdom: How the Queen of Sheba was captivated by Solomon's wisdom.

2. The Majesty of God's House: How Solomon's palace was a testament to God's glory.

1. Proverbs 8:12-13 - 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.

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.

2 Chronicles 9:4 And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel; his cupbearers also, and their apparel; and his ascent by which he went up into the house of the LORD; there was no more spirit in her.

The passage from 2 Chronicles 9:4 describes the opulence of King Solomon's court, including his food, servants, ministers, cupbearers, and the procession he made when entering the temple.

1. Solomon's Wealth: How to Use Resources for God's Glory

2. The Power of Worship: Ascending to the House of the Lord

1. Proverbs 21:20 - There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise;

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 Chronicles 9:5 And she said to the king, It was a true report which I heard in mine own land of thine acts, and of thy wisdom:

The Queen of Sheba praised King Solomon for his wisdom and the report of his acts she had heard from her own land.

1. The Queen of Sheba: A Model of Praise and Admiration

2. The Power of a Good Reputation: The Example of King Solomon

1. Proverbs 27:2 - "Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips."

2. James 3:17 - "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."

2 Chronicles 9:6 Howbeit I believed not their words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: and, behold, the one half of the greatness of thy wisdom was not told me: for thou exceedest the fame that I heard.

Solomon was amazed when he saw the greatness of wisdom in the kingdom of the Queen of Sheba.

1. The Wisdom of God Is Beyond Human Understanding

2. Humility in the Face of the Unfathomable

1. 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

2. James 3:13-18

2 Chronicles 9:7 Happy are thy men, and happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and hear thy wisdom.

Solomon's men and servants are blessed to be able to stand before him and hear his wisdom.

1. The Blessing of Hearing Godly Wisdom

2. Serving and Receiving Wisdom from the Lord

1. Proverbs 3:13-18

2. Colossians 3:16-17

2 Chronicles 9:8 Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee to set thee on his throne, to be king for the LORD thy God: because thy God loved Israel, to establish them for ever, therefore made he thee king over them, to do judgment and justice.

God appointed Solomon as king of Israel because He loved the Israelites and wanted them to be established forever.

1. The Love of God and its Reflection in His Appointments

2. God's Faithfulness to His Promises

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 103:17 - But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD s love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children s children.

2 Chronicles 9:9 And she gave the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, and of spices great abundance, and precious stones: neither was there any such spice as the queen of Sheba gave king Solomon.

The Queen of Sheba presented King Solomon with an extravagant gift of 120 talents of gold, a large quantity of spices, and precious stones.

1. The Value of Generosity - how sacrificing for the benefit of others is a sign of true greatness

2. The Cost of Wisdom - how the pursuit of knowledge requires a great price

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 11:24-25 - "One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed."

2 Chronicles 9:10 And the servants also of Huram, and the servants of Solomon, which brought gold from Ophir, brought algum trees and precious stones.

The servants of Huram and Solomon brought gold and other valuable items from Ophir.

1. The Value of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Results in Abundance

2. The Power of Partnership: How Working Together Brings Blessings

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 11:25 - A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

2 Chronicles 9:11 And the king made of the algum trees terraces to the house of the LORD, and to the king's palace, and harps and psalteries for singers: and there were none such seen before in the land of Judah.

King Solomon made terraces and musical instruments for use in the house of the Lord and in the King's palace.

1. The importance of obedience to God and honoring His house.

2. The power of music to bring glory to God.

1. Psalm 33:3 - "Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for 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."

2 Chronicles 9:12 And king Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatsoever she asked, beside that which she had brought unto the king. So she turned, and went away to her own land, she and her servants.

King Solomon granted the Queen of Sheba's every wish and she departed with her servants to her home.

1. God is generous and will fulfill all of our desires.

2. Trust in God to provide for all of our needs.

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 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2 Chronicles 9:13 Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred and threescore and six talents of gold;

Solomon was blessed with a great abundance of wealth.

1: God provides abundantly when we trust and obey Him.

2: By faithfully following God, we can be blessed with great wealth.

1: Proverbs 8:18-21 - "Riches and honor are with me, enduring wealth and righteousness. My fruit is better than gold, even fine gold, and my yield than choice silver. I walk in the way of righteousness, in the paths of justice, bestowing wealth on those who love me and making their treasuries full."

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."

2 Chronicles 9:14 Beside that which chapmen and merchants brought. And all the kings of Arabia and governors of the country brought gold and silver to Solomon.

The kings of Arabia and merchants brought gold and silver to Solomon in addition to other items.

1. The Power of Generosity: A Study of Solomon

2. Contentment in God's Gifts: The Example of Solomon

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. Ecclesiastes 2:24 - "There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God."

2 Chronicles 9:15 And king Solomon made two hundred targets of beaten gold: six hundred shekels of beaten gold went to one target.

King Solomon made two hundred targets of beaten gold, each costing six hundred shekels.

1. Living a Life of Generosity

2. The Value of Gold in Our Lives

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 6:10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

2 Chronicles 9:16 And three hundred shields made he of beaten gold: three hundred shekels of gold went to one shield. And the king put them in the house of the forest of Lebanon.

King Solomon made 300 shields from beaten gold, each shield was made from 300 shekels of gold and placed in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.

1. The Power of Generosity - Using King Solomon as an example, how God blesses us when we are generous with our resources.

2. The Strength of Faith - King Solomon's faith in God led to his success and how we can have faith in God to provide for us.

1. 2 Chronicles 9:16

2. 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 Chronicles 9:17 Moreover the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with pure gold.

King Solomon made an impressive ivory throne that was overlaid with gold.

1. God's blessings are not only spiritual, but also tangible.

2. Our possessions should be a reflection of God's goodness.

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.

2. Proverbs 21:20 - There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up.

2 Chronicles 9:18 And there were six steps to the throne, with a footstool of gold, which were fastened to the throne, and stays on each side of the sitting place, and two lions standing by the stays:

King Solomon's throne had a gold footstool and two lions standing by the sides.

1. God's loving protection surrounds us.

2. The beauty and power of God's kingdom.

1. 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.

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.

2 Chronicles 9:19 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.

King Solomon had a throne built of ivory and overlaid with gold, with twelve lions standing on either side of the six steps leading to it.

1. The Power of Obedience: The Story of Solomon's Throne

2. God's Hand in Our Lives: What We Can Learn From Solomon's Throne

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 4:7 - For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

2 Chronicles 9:20 And all the drinking vessels of king Solomon 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 not any thing accounted of in the days of Solomon.

King Solomon had all his drinking vessels made of gold and the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon were made of pure gold, none of which were made of silver.

1. The Value of Commitment: How King Solomon Demonstrated a Dedication to Excellence

2. The Necessity of Gratitude: Appreciating the Blessings of Gold

1. 1 Kings 10:14-16 - And the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred threescore and six talents of gold.

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!

2 Chronicles 9:21 For the king's ships went to Tarshish with the servants of Huram: every three years once came the ships of Tarshish bringing gold, and silver, ivory, and apes, and peacocks.

King Solomon's ships went to Tarshish every three years to bring back gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks.

1. The Wealth of Solomon: God's Blessing in Action

2. Contentment in the Riches of God

1. Ecclesiastes 5:10 - He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity.

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.

2 Chronicles 9:22 And king Solomon passed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.

King Solomon surpassed all other kings on earth in terms of wealth and wisdom.

1. Seek Wisdom and Riches will Follow

2. The Wisdom of Solomon

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. Ecclesiastes 2:13 - Then I saw that wisdom excelleth folly, as far as light excelleth darkness.

2 Chronicles 9:23 And all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom, that God had put in his heart.

Kings from all over the world came to hear the wisdom of Solomon, which God had put in his heart.

1. Relying on God's Wisdom - how to tap into the wisdom God has given us and use it to make wise decisions.

2. The Power of a Good Reputation - how to build a reputation that will draw people to us and our wisdom.

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. 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. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil."

2 Chronicles 9:24 And they brought every man his present, vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and raiment, harness, and spices, horses, and mules, a rate year by year.

Every year, the people brought presents to the King of Israel consisting of silver and gold vessels, clothes, harness, spices, horses, and mules.

1. God's Generosity: How God's Blessings Benefit Our Lives

2. Contentment: The Rewards of Finding Satisfaction in God

1. Psalm 84:11-12 "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."

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."

2 Chronicles 9:25 And Solomon had four thousand stalls for horses and chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen; whom he bestowed in the chariot cities, and with the king at Jerusalem.

Solomon had a large army consisting of four thousand stalls for horses and chariots and twelve thousand horsemen, which he kept in chariot cities and at Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Preparation: Using the example of Solomon's army, discuss the importance of preparing for the unknown and unexpected.

2. God's Provision: Discuss how God provided for Solomon's need for a large army to protect his kingdom.

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. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

2 Chronicles 9:26 And he reigned over all the kings from the river even unto the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt.

King Solomon ruled over a large area of land from the Euphrates River to the land of the Philistines and the Egyptian border.

1. God's Blessing: The Story of Solomon's Reign

2. The Power of Obedience: Learning from Solomon's Example

1. Proverbs 8:15-16 By me kings reign, and rulers decree justice. By me princes rule, and nobles, all the judges of the earth.

2. 1 Kings 4:20-21 Judah and Israel were many, as the sand which is by the sea in multitude, eating and drinking, and making merry. 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.

2 Chronicles 9:27 And the king made silver in Jerusalem as stones, and cedar trees made he as the sycomore trees that are in the low plains in abundance.

King Solomon made Jerusalem a prosperous city by creating vast amounts of silver and cedar trees in abundance.

1. God's Blessing on Obedience: How Solomon's Obedience Brought Prosperity to Jerusalem

2. The Power of Abundance: How to Live a Life of Abundance

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's promise of blessings for obedience

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart

2 Chronicles 9:28 And they brought unto Solomon horses out of Egypt, and out of all lands.

Solomon received horses from Egypt and other foreign lands.

1. Taking Risks to Receive Rewards

2. The Power of Patience and Pursuit

1. Proverbs 13:4 - "The soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, while the soul of the diligent is richly supplied."

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 by his poverty might become rich."

2 Chronicles 9:29 Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, first and last, are they not written in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the prophecy of Ahijah the Shilonite, and in the visions of Iddo the seer against Jeroboam the son of Nebat?

The acts of Solomon, both the beginning and the end, were recorded in the books of Nathan the prophet, Ahijah the Shilonite, and Iddo the seer, regarding Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

1. The Importance of Recording God's Actions: 2 Chronicles 9:29

2. The Power of the Prophetic Word: 2 Chronicles 9:29

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. Psalm 78:4 - We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

2 Chronicles 9:30 And Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty years.

Solomon became King of Jerusalem and reigned for 40 years.

1. The Blessing of Long Reign - 2 Chronicles 9:30

2. The Power of God's Provision - 2 Chronicles 9:30

1. Psalm 72:17 - His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and men shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:13 - Better is a poor and a wise child than an old and foolish king, who will no more be admonished.

2 Chronicles 9:31 And Solomon slept with his fathers, and he was buried in the city of David his father: and Rehoboam his son reigned in his stead.

Solomon, the King of Israel, died and was buried in the city of David, his father, and Rehoboam, his son, succeeded him.

1. The Importance of a Legacy: Solomon's Story

2. Passing the Torch: Rehoboam's Reign

1. Proverbs 13:22 - "A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children."

2. 1 Kings 2:12 - "And Solomon sat on the throne of his father David, and his kingdom was firmly established."

2 Chronicles chapter 10 describes the division of the kingdom of Israel following the death of Solomon and Rehoboam's unwise response to the people's request for lighter burdens.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the people of Israel gathering in Shechem to make Rehoboam, Solomon's son, their king. Jeroboam, a prominent figure among them, speaks on behalf of the people and requests that Rehoboam lighten their heavy burdens imposed by Solomon (2 Chronicles 10:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Rehoboam seeking counsel from his father's advisors regarding how to respond to the people's request. The older advisors advise him to listen to and serve the people with kindness, leading to their loyalty. However, some younger advisors suggest that he should assert his authority even more forcefully (2 Chronicles 10:5-11).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Rehoboam rejects the advice of his father's older advisors and instead follows the counsel given by his peers. He responds harshly to the people, declaring that he will increase their burdens rather than lighten them (2 Chronicles 10:12-15).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how this decision leads to a rebellion among ten out of twelve tribes in Israel. They reject Rehoboam as their king and instead choose Jeroboam as their leader (2 Chronicles 10:16-19). Only Judah and Benjamin remain loyal to Rehoboam.

In summary, Chapter ten of 2 Chronicles depicts the division, and rebellion within kingdom under reign leadership of King Rehoboam. Highlighting gathering at Shechem, and request for lighter burdens. Mentioning counsel sought from advisors, and rejection towards wise advice. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Rehoboam s leadership expressed through response towards plea made by Israelites while emphasizing consequences resulting from unwise decisions exemplified by refusal towards listening understanding the needs concerns expressed by his subjects an embodiment representing failure in governance a testament illustrating division within nation an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a reminder about importance regarding wise counsel while underscoring need for humility when exercising authority over others an occasion marked by political unrest within kingdom a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 10:1 And Rehoboam went to Shechem: for to Shechem were all Israel come to make him king.

All Israel went to Shechem to crown Rehoboam as the new king.

1. The importance of uniting together and following God's chosen leader.

2. The power of obedience and submission to the will of God.

1. Matthew 22:21 - "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's."

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."

2 Chronicles 10:2 And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who was in Egypt, whither he had fled from the presence of Solomon the king, heard it, that Jeroboam returned out of Egypt.

Jeroboam flees from Solomon's presence to Egypt, but later returns.

1. God's plans are bigger than our fears; trust in Him.

2. Our past mistakes do not define us; God still has a purpose for us.

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. 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 Chronicles 10:3 And they sent and called him. So Jeroboam and all Israel came and spake to Rehoboam, saying,

Jeroboam and the people of Israel asked Rehoboam to lighten the burden of taxation that Solomon had placed on them.

1. The Power of Asking: Learning to Advocate for Ourselves

2. God's Provision: Trusting in His Mercy and Generosity

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

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 Chronicles 10:4 Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore ease thou somewhat the grievous servitude of thy father, and his heavy yoke that he put upon us, and we will serve thee.

The people of Israel asked Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, to ease the burden of servitude his father had put upon them, and in return they would serve him.

1. The Power of Compassion: How to Respond to the Needs of Others

2. Serving God Through Service to Others

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. 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 Chronicles 10:5 And he said unto them, Come again unto me after three days. And the people departed.

King Rehoboam asked the people to come back in three days to receive a response concerning their request.

1: We must be patient with God, trusting that He will answer us in His time.

2: We need to be humble and willing to wait for God's perfect timing in our lives.

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 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 Chronicles 10:6 And king Rehoboam took counsel with the old men that had stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, saying, What counsel give ye me to return answer to this people?

King Rehoboam sought counsel from the old men that had served his father Solomon on how to answer the people.

1. Following the Wisdom of the Elders

2. The Value of Seeking Counsel

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.

2 Chronicles 10:7 And they spake unto him, saying, If thou be kind to this people, and please them, and speak good words to them, they will be thy servants for ever.

Solomon was advised to be kind and pleasant to his people in order to gain their loyalty and service.

1. "The Power of Kindness and Pleasantry"

2. "The Blessing of Loyalty and Service"

1. Matthew 5:7 "Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy."

2. Proverbs 16:7 "When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."

2 Chronicles 10:8 But he forsook the counsel which the old men gave him, and took counsel with the young men that were brought up with him, that stood before him.

Rehoboam rejected the advice of the elders and instead followed the advice of the younger men who had been brought up with him.

1. The Wisdom of Age vs. The Enthusiasm of Youth

2. The Danger of Rejecting Godly Advice

1. Proverbs 16:16-17 - How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver. The highway of the upright avoids evil; whoever guards his way preserves his life.

2. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2 Chronicles 10:9 And he said unto them, What advice give ye that we may return answer to this people, which have spoken to me, saying, Ease somewhat the yoke that thy father did put upon us?

King Rehoboam asked his counselors for advice on how to respond to a request from the people to lighten his father's yoke.

1. We can learn from the example of King Rehoboam when it comes to seeking wise counsel.

2. We should take the time to carefully consider our choices and how they might affect those around us.

1. Proverbs 12:15 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

2. James 1:19-20 - 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 Chronicles 10:10 And the young men that were brought up with him spake unto him, saying, Thus shalt thou answer the people that spake unto thee, saying, Thy father made our yoke heavy, but make thou it somewhat lighter for us; thus shalt thou say unto them, My little finger shall be thicker than my father's loins.

King Rehoboam was asked to lighten the burden of the people his father had left them with, and he responded that his little finger was thicker than his father's loins.

1. Rehoboam's lesson of humility

2. The power of small things

1. Matthew 5:13-16 - You are the salt of the earth and the light of the world

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness

2 Chronicles 10:11 For whereas my father put a heavy yoke upon you, I will put more to your yoke: my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.

Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, told the Israelites that he would be a harsher ruler than his father, and would punish them with more severe methods.

1. The Danger of Not Following God's Will - 2 Chronicles 10:11

2. The Need for Discipline in our Lives - 2 Chronicles 10:11

1. Proverbs 3:11-12 - "My son, do not despise the Lord s discipline, and do not resent his rebuke, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in."

2. Hebrews 12:5-6 - "And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? My son, do not take the Lord s discipline lightly, or lose heart when you are corrected by him; for the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes those he accepts as his children.

2 Chronicles 10:12 So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day, as the king bade, saying, Come again to me on the third day.

Rehoboam asked Jeroboam and the people to return to him on the third day.

1. "Put Your Trust in God's Timing"

2. "The Power of Patience"

1. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for 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 Chronicles 10:13 And the king answered them roughly; and king Rehoboam forsook the counsel of the old men,

Rehoboam ignored the advice of the older, wiser advisors and responded rudely.

1: God calls us to be respectful and humble, even in the face of opposition.

2: We should seek wise counsel and be open to advice from those around us.

1: Proverbs 15:33 - The fear of the Lord is instruction in wisdom, and humility comes before honor.

2: Proverbs 12:15 - The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice.

2 Chronicles 10:14 And answered them after the advice of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add thereto: my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.

Rehoboam listened to the advice of the young men and instead of lightening his father's yoke, he added to it and instead of using whips, he chose to use scorpions.

1. The Power of Advice: How the Young Men's Advice Influenced Rehoboam's Decisions

2. The Consequences of Our Choices: Rehoboam's Choice to Add to His Father's Yoke

1. Proverbs 27:17, Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

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 Chronicles 10:15 So the king hearkened not unto the people: for the cause was of God, that the LORD might perform his word, which he spake by the hand of Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

The king of Israel refused to heed the people's advice, as it had been ordained by God that He would fulfill His promise to Jeroboam through Ahijah the Shilonite.

1: God's plan for us is often different from what we may think is best.

2: We must trust in God's will even when it does not make sense to us.

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.

2 Chronicles 10:16 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? and we have none inheritance in the son of Jesse: every man to your tents, O Israel: and now, David, see to thine own house. So all Israel went to their tents.

The people of Israel refused to listen to King Rehoboam's demands and instead declared their allegiance to David and left for their tents.

1. Our Loyalty to the Lord: Recognizing Who We Serve

2. Seeking Guidance from the Lord: Choosing the Right Path

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Obey the governing authorities

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - Building on a Solid Foundation

2 Chronicles 10:17 But as for the children of Israel that dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them.

Rehoboam reigned over the children of Israel in the cities of Judah.

1. The Importance of Faithful Leadership

2. The Blessing of Obedience

1. Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account.

2 Chronicles 10:18 Then king Rehoboam sent Hadoram that was over the tribute; and the children of Israel stoned him with stones, that he died. But king Rehoboam made speed to get him up to his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.

King Rehoboam sent Hadoram to collect tribute from the Israelites, but they stoned him to death. Rehoboam quickly fled back to Jerusalem in his chariot.

1. God's will can manifest in unexpected places, even from the hands of those who wish to harm us.

2. The impulse to flee in fear should be balanced with courage and faith in God'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. 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 Chronicles 10:19 And Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day.

Israel rebelled against the house of David and still remains in a state of rebellion.

1. We must remain loyal to God's chosen leaders.

2. We must not forget the consequences of disobedience.

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. 1 Samuel 15:23-24

2 Chronicles chapter 11 describes the actions and events that follow the division of the kingdom, focusing on Rehoboam's reign in Judah and Jeroboam's rule over the northern kingdom of Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Rehoboam's plan to gather an army of 180,000 men from Judah and Benjamin to fight against the rebellious tribes of Israel. However, God sends a prophet named Shemaiah to advise against this war, as it is part of God's plan for the division (2 Chronicles 11:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Rehoboam fortifying various cities in Judah to strengthen his position. He builds up Bethlehem, Etam, Tekoa, Beth-zur, Soco, Adullam, Gath, Mareshah, Ziph, Adoraim, Lachish, Azekah, Zorah,Aijalon and Hebron (2 Chronicles 11:5-12).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how many priests and Levites from all over Israel come to Jerusalem after Jeroboam rejects them as religious leaders. They leave their cities and properties behind in order to serve God in Jerusalem (2 Chronicles 11:13-17).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing Jeroboam's actions in the northern kingdom. Fearing that his people would return to Rehoboam if they continued going to Jerusalem for worship at the temple there,Jereboeam erects golden calves as idols in Dan and Bethel leading people astray with false worship practices (2 Chronicles 11:14-15).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by summarizing how Rehoboam strengthens his reign by marrying multiple wives taking eighteen wives and having sixty concubines who bear him twenty-eight sons and sixty daughters. It mentions that he appoints his son Abijah as chief prince among his brothers a testament illustrating consolidation power within royal family exemplified through strategic alliances an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards establishing prosperous nation where people can thrive a testament illustrating commitment towards responsible stewardship over blessings bestowed upon Judah

In summary, Chapter eleven of 2 Chronicles depicts the aftermath, and actions following division within kingdom. Highlighting fortification undertaken, and relocation of priests. Mentioning idolatrous practices introduced, and consolidation within royal family. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Rehoboam s response expressed through fortifying positions aimed at ensuring security while emphasizing devotion towards true worship exemplified by priests leaving their homes behind committing themselves fully towards serving God an embodiment representing faithfulness amidst division an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards establishing prosperous nation where people can thrive a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 11:1 And when Rehoboam was come to Jerusalem, he gathered of the house of Judah and Benjamin an hundred and fourscore thousand chosen men, which were warriors, to fight against Israel, that he might bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam.

Rehoboam gathered an army of 180,000 warriors from Judah and Benjamin in order to fight against Israel and reclaim the kingdom for himself.

1. God's plan is bigger than our own - 2 Corinthians 4:7-9

2. The danger of pride - Proverbs 16:18

1. 2 Chronicles 10:4-19

2. 1 Kings 12:1-24

2 Chronicles 11:2 But the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah the man of God, saying,

The Word of the Lord came to Shemaiah the man of God.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning from Shemaiah's Example

2. The Importance of Hearing 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. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

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.

2 Chronicles 11:3 Speak unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin, saying,

The Lord instructed the prophet to speak to King Rehoboam and all Israel in Judah and Benjamin.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Instructions

2. Abiding in God's Covenant: A Study of the Kingdom of Judah

1. Isaiah 1:19 - "If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

2 Chronicles 11:4 Thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren: return every man to his house: for this thing is done of me. And they obeyed the words of the LORD, and returned from going against Jeroboam.

The people of Israel were commanded by the Lord not to fight against their own brethren, and they obeyed and returned home.

1. Obeying God's Commands Brings Blessing

2. The Power of Obedience to God's Word

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. 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.

2 Chronicles 11:5 And Rehoboam dwelt in Jerusalem, and built cities for defence in Judah.

Rehoboam moved to Jerusalem and built fortified cities in Judah for protection.

1. "The Importance of Protection: Lessons from Rehoboam"

2. "Trusting God for Protection: The Example of Rehoboam"

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. Proverbs 18:10 - "The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe."

2 Chronicles 11:6 He built even Bethlehem, and Etam, and Tekoa,

King Rehoboam fortified his kingdom by fortifying and building cities, including Bethlehem, Etam, and Tekoa.

1. The Strength of Rehoboam: How Faith and Preparation Protects Us

2. A King's Kingdom: How to Build Strongholds in Our Lives

1. Proverbs 18:10 - "The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe."

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 Chronicles 11:7 And Bethzur, and Shoco, and Adullam,

The passage discusses the cities in Judah that King Rehoboam fortified.

1: God provides us with the strength and protection we need to thrive.

2: Even when life becomes difficult, we can rely on our faith to guide us through.

1: Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock, 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.'"

2 Chronicles 11:8 And Gath, and Mareshah, and Ziph,

The people of Judah gathered in Jerusalem and fortified the city. They also fortified the towns of Judah from Gath to Mareshah and Ziph.

The people of Judah fortified Jerusalem and other towns in the region from Gath to Mareshah and Ziph.

1. The importance of standing firm in faith and striving to remain united.

2. The power of taking a stand and defending what is right.

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. 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.

2 Chronicles 11:9 And Adoraim, and Lachish, and Azekah,

The passage describes three cities that were fortified by Rehoboam in Judah.

1. The Strength and Protection of God - How God is our fortress in times of trouble.

2. Building a Foundation in Our Lives - How to construct a solid foundation in our lives with God.

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 10:25 - "When the storm passes, the wicked are no more, but the righteous are established forever."

2 Chronicles 11:10 And Zorah, and Aijalon, and Hebron, which are in Judah and in Benjamin fenced cities.

This passage describes the three cities in Judah and Benjamin that were fortified.

1. The Importance of Being Prepared - 2 Chronicles 11:10

2. The Strength of a Fortress - 2 Chronicles 11:10

1. Proverbs 18:10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

2. Psalm 61:2 From the end of the earth I call to you when my heart is faint. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

2 Chronicles 11:11 And he fortified the strong holds, and put captains in them, and store of victual, and of oil and wine.

Rehoboam fortified the cities of Judah and put captains in charge with provisions of food, oil and wine.

1. God's Protection and Provision for His People

2. The Strength of a City Lies Within its People

1. Psalm 33:20 "Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield."

2. Jeremiah 29:7 "Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.

2 Chronicles 11:12 And in every several city he put shields and spears, and made them exceeding strong, having Judah and Benjamin on his side.

King Rehoboam fortified cities in Judah and Benjamin with shields and spears to strengthen their defense.

1. The Strength of Unity - how coming together and being unified can bring strength and protection.

2. The Power of Preparation - how being prepared and taking steps to protect ourselves can lead to a successful defense.

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. Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe.

2 Chronicles 11:13 And the priests and the Levites that were in all Israel resorted to him out of all their coasts.

People of all backgrounds in Israel turned to Rehoboam for spiritual guidance.

1. The Power of Unity: Rehoboam's Story

2. Seeking Guidance from Righteous Leaders

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. 2 Chronicles 18:6 - Then Jehovah said, You have had the people consult their God? For there is no revelation from the God of Israel.

2 Chronicles 11:14 For the Levites left their suburbs and their possession, and came to Judah and Jerusalem: for Jeroboam and his sons had cast them off from executing the priest's office unto the LORD:

Jeroboam and his sons had prevented the Levites from carrying out their priestly duties in the LORD's service.

1. God's Call and Our Obedience

2. The Power of Faithfulness

1. 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.

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 Chronicles 11:15 And he ordained him priests for the high places, and for the devils, and for the calves which he had made.

Rehoboam set up priests for worship of idols on the high places, and also for worship of the golden calves he had made.

1. The Sins of Rehoboam: Idolatry and Disobedience

2. Worshipping False Idols: The Warning of Rehoboam

1. 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.

2. Deuteronomy 5:7-9 - '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 on 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.

2 Chronicles 11:16 And after them out of all the tribes of Israel such as set their hearts to seek the LORD God of Israel came to Jerusalem, to sacrifice unto the LORD God of their fathers.

Many from the tribes of Israel sought after the Lord and came to Jerusalem to offer sacrifices.

1. Seeking after the Lord: How to Find Him and Draw Closer to Him

2. The Power of Sacrifice: How it Can Bring Us Closer to God

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. 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 Chronicles 11:17 So they strengthened the kingdom of Judah, and made Rehoboam the son of Solomon strong, three years: for three years they walked in the way of David and Solomon.

Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, was made strong in his kingdom of Judah for three years, during which time his people followed the ways of David and Solomon.

1. Following the Wisdom of the Righteous: The Legacy of David and Solomon

2. Trusting in God's Provision: Strengthening the Kingdom of Judah

1. 2 Chronicles 11:17

2. Proverbs 14:15 "The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps."

2 Chronicles 11:18 And Rehoboam took him Mahalath the daughter of Jerimoth the son of David to wife, and Abihail the daughter of Eliab the son of Jesse;

Rehoboam took two wives, Mahalath the daughter of Jerimoth, the son of David, and Abihail the daughter of Eliab the son of Jesse.

1. The importance of a strong marital relationship in Biblical times.

2. God's plan for marriage: a reflection of His love for us.

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

2. Proverbs 18:22 - He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the Lord.

2 Chronicles 11:19 Which bare him children; Jeush, and Shamariah, and Zaham.

King Rehoboam of Judah had three sons, Jeush, Shamariah, and Zaham.

1. The importance of fatherhood and the value it adds to a family.

2. God's faithfulness in providing families with children.

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. Galatians 4:4-7 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. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, Abba! Father! So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

2 Chronicles 11:20 And after her he took Maachah the daughter of Absalom; which bare him Abijah, and Attai, and Ziza, and Shelomith.

Rehoboam took Maachah, the daughter of Absalom, as his wife and she bore him four sons.

1. The Importance of Family: Rehoboam's Example

2. The Blessing of God in Relationships: Rehoboam's Legacy

1. Proverbs 18:22 - He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor from the Lord.

2. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving p to one another.

2 Chronicles 11:21 And Rehoboam loved Maachah the daughter of Absalom above all his wives and his concubines: (for he took eighteen wives, and threescore concubines; and begat twenty and eight sons, and threescore daughters.)

Rehoboam loved Maachah, daughter of Absalom, above all his other wives and concubines, despite having eighteen wives and sixty concubines with whom he had a total of 88 children.

1. Love Above All: The Example of Rehoboam.

2. The Dangers of Polygamy.

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 22:37-40: "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 Chronicles 11:22 And Rehoboam made Abijah the son of Maachah the chief, to be ruler among his brethren: for he thought to make him king.

Rehoboam made Abijah the son of Maachah the chief ruler among his brethren with the intention of making him king.

1. The Power of Leadership: Lessons from Rehoboam and Abijah

2. The Value of a Brother's Love: Rehoboam's Choice

1. Proverbs 12:15 - "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice."

2. Romans 16:17-18 - "I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive."

2 Chronicles 11:23 And he dealt wisely, and dispersed of all his children throughout all the countries of Judah and Benjamin, unto every fenced city: and he gave them victual in abundance. And he desired many wives.

King Rehoboam of Judah wisely distributed his children to the fortified cities and provided them with food and desired to marry many wives.

1. The wisdom of King Rehoboam: How wise decision-making can lead to a prosperous kingdom.

2. The importance of providing for your family: How King Rehoboam's example can be used to teach about the importance of providing for our families.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.

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.

2 Chronicles chapter 12 describes the downfall of Rehoboam's reign in Judah and the invasion of Jerusalem by the Egyptian king Shishak.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Rehoboam's abandonment of God's law and his people's subsequent unfaithfulness. As a result, God allows King Shishak of Egypt to invade Judah (2 Chronicles 12:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Shishak's invasion of Jerusalem. He conquers the fortified cities of Judah and surrounds Jerusalem, prompting the prophet Shemaiah to deliver a message from God to Rehoboam and his leaders, explaining that this is a punishment for their disobedience (2 Chronicles 12:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Rehoboam and his leaders humble themselves before God in response to Shemaiah's message. They acknowledge their wrongdoing and seek God's mercy (2 Chronicles 12:6-7).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how God responds with mercy by sending word through Shemaiah that He will not completely destroy them because of their repentance. However, they will become servants under foreign domination so that they may learn the difference between serving Him and serving other nations (2 Chronicles 12:8-9).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by summarizing how King Shishak takes away many treasures from both the temple and the royal palace in Jerusalem as spoils of war. It mentions that although Rehoboam replaces these treasures with bronze items, they do not compare in value or splendor (2 Chronicles 12:9-11).

In summary, Chapter twelve of 2 Chronicles depicts the consequences, and invasion faced during reign leadership of King Rehoboam. Highlighting abandonment towards faithfulness, and invasion led by Egyptian king. Mentioning humility displayed, and subsequent restoration granted. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Rehoboam s disobedience expressed through turning away from true worship while emphasizing divine discipline exemplified through invasion conducted under Egyptian king an embodiment representing consequences resulting from unfaithfulness an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a reminder about importance regarding repentance when facing judgment an occasion marked by divine intervention within kingdom a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 12:1 And it came to pass, when Rehoboam had established the kingdom, and had strengthened himself, he forsook the law of the LORD, and all Israel with him.

After Rehoboam established his kingdom and increased his own power, he and all the Israelites abandoned the Lord's law.

1. The Dangers of Disobedience: Rehoboam's Example

2. Taking God's Word Seriously: The Israelites' Choice

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 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

2 Chronicles 12:2 And it came to pass, that in the fifth year of king Rehoboam Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, because they had transgressed against the LORD,

1: We must always remain faithful to the Lord and His commandments or risk suffering consequences.

2: We must remain vigilant and prepared for any challenges that may arise, trusting in the Lord for guidance and strength.

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 37:3 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

2 Chronicles 12:3 With twelve hundred chariots, and threescore thousand horsemen: and the people were without number that came with him out of Egypt; the Lubims, the Sukkiims, and the Ethiopians.

King Rehoboam of Judah was confronted by an alliance of many nations, led by King Shishak of Egypt, with a vast army of 12,000 chariots and 60,000 horsemen. Accompanying them were numerous people from the Lubim, Sukkiim, and Ethiopian nations.

1. God can use the most unlikely of people to accomplish His plans - 2 Chronicles 16:9a

2. The importance of unity and strength in numbers - Ecclesiastes 4:12

1. 2 Chronicles 16:9a - "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. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - "And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

2 Chronicles 12:4 And he took the fenced cities which pertained to Judah, and came to Jerusalem.

King Rehoboam of Judah conquered the fenced cities of Judah and arrived in Jerusalem.

1. God's protection is all-encompassing - 2 Chronicles 12:4

2. God's faithfulness is everlasting - 2 Chronicles 12:4

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 54:17 - no weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me," declares the Lord.

2 Chronicles 12:5 Then came Shemaiah the prophet to Rehoboam, and to the princes of Judah, that were gathered together to Jerusalem because of Shishak, and said unto them, Thus saith the LORD, Ye have forsaken me, and therefore have I also left you in the hand of Shishak.

Shemaiah the prophet visits Rehoboam and the princes of Judah in Jerusalem and warns them that God has abandoned them due to their forsaking of Him and has left them in the hands of Shishak.

1. The consequences of forsaking God.

2. The importance of repentance and faith.

1. Deuteronomy 8:19-20 - And it shall be, if you do at all forget the LORD your God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish. As the nations which the LORD destroys before you, so you shall perish; because you would not be obedient to the voice of the LORD your God.

2. Luke 13:3 - I tell you, No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.

2 Chronicles 12:6 Whereupon the princes of Israel and the king humbled themselves; and they said, The LORD is righteous.

The princes of Israel and the king humbled themselves and acknowledged that the LORD is righteous.

1. The Power of Humility: How Acknowledging the Lord s Righteousness Can Transform Our Lives

2. Our Responsibility to God: Recognizing the LORD s Righteousness and Showing Our Respect

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2 Chronicles 12:7 And when the LORD saw that they humbled themselves, the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah, saying, They have humbled themselves; therefore I will not destroy them, but I will grant them some deliverance; and my wrath shall not be poured out upon Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak.

After the people of Judah humbled themselves, the LORD promised not to destroy them and instead offered deliverance from Shishak's wrath.

1. Humility leads to divine deliverance

2. God rewards humility

1. James 4:6-8 But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2. Psalm 34:18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2 Chronicles 12:8 Nevertheless they shall be his servants; that they may know my service, and the service of the kingdoms of the countries.

The kingdom of Judah served other nations in order to understand God's service and the service of other kingdoms.

1. The importance of serving other nations as an example of recognizing God's service.

2. Understanding God's service through serving others.

1. Matthew 25:37-40 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you? 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. Romans 12:10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

2 Chronicles 12:9 So Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, and took away the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house; he took all: he carried away also the shields of gold which Solomon had made.

Shishak, the king of Egypt, invaded Jerusalem and took away the treasures from the LORD's house and from the king's house, including the gold shields that Solomon had made.

1. Unchecked Greed: The Consequences of Covetousness

2. The Lord's Protection: Relying on Trust in God

1. Proverbs 28:20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

2. Psalm 20:7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

2 Chronicles 12:10 Instead of which king Rehoboam made shields of brass, and committed them to the hands of the chief of the guard, that kept the entrance of the king's house.

King Rehoboam made shields of brass and gave them to the guards of his palace.

1. The importance of protection and security in the kingdom of God.

2. The significance of God's presence in our lives.

1. Psalm 91:11 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

2. Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe.

2 Chronicles 12:11 And when the king entered into the house of the LORD, the guard came and fetched them, and brought them again into the guard chamber.

King Rehoboam went into the Lord's house but was brought back to the guard chamber by the guard.

1. Knowing When to Follow the Lord's Guidance

2. The Importance of Obedience to the Lord

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.

2 Chronicles 12:12 And when he humbled himself, the wrath of the LORD turned from him, that he would not destroy him altogether: and also in Judah things went well.

After humbling himself, the Lord's wrath was diverted from King Rehoboam and peace was restored in Judah.

1. Humility is the key to unlocking God's mercy and grace.

2. God is willing to forgive and restore those who humble themselves and repent.

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before 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."

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. And his mother's name was Naamah an Ammonitess.

Rehoboam was 41 years old when he became king of Jerusalem and reigned for 17 years. His mother was Naamah, an Ammonite.

1. The Strength of Rehoboam: How to Rely on God's Strength in Times of Difficulty

2. Rehoboam's Mother: How to Respect and Honor Those Who Are Different from Us

1. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me

2. Luke 6:27-31 - Love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back

2 Chronicles 12:14 And he did evil, because he prepared not his heart to seek the LORD.

King Rehoboam hardened his heart and did not seek the Lord.

1. The Danger of Hardening Your Heart

2. Seeking the Lord with an Open Heart

1. Ezekiel 11:19 - "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh:"

2. Romans 10:9-10 - "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. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

2 Chronicles 12:15 Now the acts of Rehoboam, first and last, are they not written in the book of Shemaiah the prophet, and of Iddo the seer concerning genealogies? And there were wars between Rehoboam and Jeroboam continually.

Rehoboam's acts are recorded in the book of Shemaiah the prophet and of Iddo the seer, and there were ongoing wars between Rehoboam and Jeroboam.

1. God's Word is Faithful and True: Exploring the Reliability of Scripture in 2 Chronicles 12:15

2. The Ongoing Struggle Between Rehoboam and Jeroboam: A Study of Conflict in 2 Chronicles 12:15

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. 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 Chronicles 12:16 And Rehoboam slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David: and Abijah his son reigned in his stead.

Rehoboam died and was buried in the city of David, and was succeeded by his son Abijah.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Wisdom of God in Appointing and Replacing Kings

2. The Faithfulness of God: The Unshakeable Promise of an Eternal Kingdom

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! 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.

2. 2 Samuel 7:12-16 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. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.

2 Chronicles chapter 13 recounts the conflict between Abijah, the son of Rehoboam, and Jeroboam, the king of Israel. It highlights Abijah's victory and his efforts to restore worship in Judah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Abijah as the king of Judah and describing his military preparations for war against Jeroboam, the king of Israel. Abijah addresses Jeroboam and reminds him that God has chosen David's descendants to rule over Israel (2 Chronicles 13:1-12).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on the battle between Abijah's army consisting of 400,000 valiant warriors from Judah and Jeroboam's army consisting of 800,000 mighty men from Israel. Despite being outnumbered, Abijah trusts in God and delivers a powerful speech before engaging in battle (2 Chronicles 13:13-18).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how God gives victory to Abijah and his army over Jeroboam. They strike down five hundred thousand soldiers from Israel, leaving them defeated (2 Chronicles 13:19-20).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Abijah continues to strengthen his reign in Judah after the victory. He takes several cities from Israel, including Bethel, Jeshanah, and Ephron. He also restores true worship in Judah by removing idols and appointing priests for proper service at the altars (2 Chronicles 13:19-22).

In summary, Chapter thirteen of 2 Chronicles depicts the conflict, and victory achieved during reign leadership of King Abijay. Highlighting military preparations undertaken, and reminder towards divine choice. Mentioning battle fought against larger force, and trust placed upon God. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Abijay s faith expressed through reliance upon divine intervention while emphasizing triumph achieved through obedience exemplified by adherence towards principles laid out within Scripture an embodiment representing courage amidst adversity an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 13:1 Now in the eighteenth year of king Jeroboam began Abijah to reign over Judah.

Abijah began his reign over Judah in the eighteenth year of King Jeroboam's rule.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - 2 Peter 3:8

2. Leadership in Times of Change - Jeremiah 29:7

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 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 Chronicles 13:2 He reigned three years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Michaiah the daughter of Uriel of Gibeah. And there was war between Abijah and Jeroboam.

1: Abijah was a king who reigned for three years in Jerusalem and fought a war against Jeroboam.

2: Abijah's mother, Michaiah, was the daughter of Uriel from Gibeah, and we can learn from her example of faith and loyalty.

1: 2 Chronicles 13:2

2: Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

2 Chronicles 13:3 And Abijah set the battle in array with an army of valiant men of war, even four hundred thousand chosen men: Jeroboam also set the battle in array against him with eight hundred thousand chosen men, being mighty men of valour.

Abijah and Jeroboam both assembled large armies for a battle, with Abijah having 400,000 chosen men and Jeroboam having 800,000 chosen men.

1. The Danger of Pride in Battle

2. The Strength of God's People

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

2. 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 Chronicles 13:4 And Abijah stood up upon mount Zemaraim, which is in mount Ephraim, and said, Hear me, thou Jeroboam, and all Israel;

Abijah stood upon Mount Zemaraim and called out to Jeroboam and all Israel.

1. The Importance of Standing Up for What You Believe In

2. Overcoming Fear and Doubt in Times 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. Romans 8:31: What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2 Chronicles 13:5 Ought ye not to know that the LORD God of Israel gave the kingdom over Israel to David for ever, even to him and to his sons by a covenant of salt?

The LORD God of Israel gave the kingdom of Israel to David and his sons by a covenant of salt.

1. The Covenant of Salt: Understanding the Significance of God's Promise

2. The Kingdom of Heaven: God's Unconditional Love for His People

1. 2 Samuel 7:12-16 - When the LORD promised to establish a house for David and his descendants

2. Matthew 5:13-16 - Being a salt and light in the world to bring God's kingdom to earth.

2 Chronicles 13:6 Yet Jeroboam the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon the son of David, is risen up, and hath rebelled against his lord.

Jeroboam, the servant of Solomon, has rebelled against his lord.

1. The consequences of rebelling against God.

2. The importance of remaining loyal to God.

1. Proverbs 17:11 - An evil man seeketh only rebellion: therefore a cruel messenger shall be sent against him.

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.

2 Chronicles 13:7 And there are gathered unto him vain men, the children of Belial, and have strengthened themselves against Rehoboam the son of Solomon, when Rehoboam was young and tenderhearted, and could not withstand them.

Rehoboam was not able to withstand a gathering of men who were led by children of Belial due to his young and tender age.

1. The Strength of Youth: Understanding Our Limitations

2. The Power of Righteousness: Overcoming Temptation

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 8:2: Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

2 Chronicles 13:8 And now ye think to withstand the kingdom of the LORD in the hand of the sons of David; and ye be a great multitude, and there are with you golden calves, which Jeroboam made you for gods.

The people of Judah are attempting to oppose the kingdom of the LORD and are relying on the golden calves which Jeroboam had made as their gods.

1. Relying on idols instead of the LORD will lead to destruction.

2. The LORD is the only true God and should be worshipped accordingly.

1. Isaiah 44:9-20 - The LORD chastising those who rely on idols made by human hands instead of worshipping Him.

2. Psalm 115:3-8 - A psalm praising the LORD as the only true God who is worthy of worship.

2 Chronicles 13:9 Have ye not cast out the priests of the LORD, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and have made you priests after the manner of the nations of other lands? so that whosoever cometh to consecrate himself with a young bullock and seven rams, the same may be a priest of them that are no gods.

The people of Judah have rejected the priests and Levites of the Lord and instead appointed their own priests after the false gods of the nations around them.

1. How the People of Judah Rejected God's Chosen Leaders

2. The Dangers of Worshipping False Gods

1. 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."

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.

2 Chronicles 13:10 But as for us, the LORD is our God, and we have not forsaken him; and the priests, which minister unto the LORD, are the sons of Aaron, and the Levites wait upon their business:

The LORD is the God of the people and the priests are from the lineage of Aaron, while the Levites are in charge of their duties.

1) God's faithfulness to His people and His promises

2) The importance of honoring God and fulfilling our responsibilities

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) 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.

2 Chronicles 13:11 And they burn unto the LORD every morning and every evening burnt sacrifices and sweet incense: the shewbread also set they in order upon the pure table; and the candlestick of gold with the lamps thereof, to burn every evening: for we keep the charge of the LORD our God; but ye have forsaken him.

The people of Judah offered burnt sacrifices and incense to the Lord every morning and evening, and they set out the showbread and lit a golden candlestick with lamps. They kept the commandments of the Lord, but the people of Israel had forsaken Him.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Staying True to God's Commands Brings Blessings

2. The Cost of Disobedience: A Reflection on Rejecting God's Will

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience

2. Isaiah 1:19-20 - God's call for repentance and the invitation to turn back to Him

2 Chronicles 13:12 And, behold, God himself is with us for our captain, and his priests with sounding trumpets to cry alarm against you. O children of Israel, fight ye not against the LORD God of your fathers; for ye shall not prosper.

The people of Israel are warned not to fight against the Lord God of their fathers, as they will not prosper in doing so.

1. The Power of Faith: Relying on God in Times of Struggle

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Facing the Reality of Going Against 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. Matthew 19:26 - Jesus looked at them and said, With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

2 Chronicles 13:13 But Jeroboam caused an ambushment to come about behind them: so they were before Judah, and the ambushment was behind them.

Jeroboam caused a surprise attack on Judah from behind.

1. The Power of Surprises: How Unexpected Events can Change Our Lives

2. The Perils of Pride: Why Thinking We Are Better Than Others is Dangerous

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and haughtiness before a fall.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:12 - So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don t fall!

2 Chronicles 13:14 And when Judah looked back, behold, the battle was before and behind: and they cried unto the LORD, and the priests sounded with the trumpets.

The people of Judah found themselves surrounded by enemies in battle, and called out to the Lord for help.

1. The power of prayer in times of difficulty

2. Facing battles 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 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 Chronicles 13:15 Then the men of Judah gave a shout: and as the men of Judah shouted, it came to pass, that God smote Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah.

The men of Judah shouted and God then used Abijah and Judah to defeat Jeroboam and all Israel.

1. Don't underestimate the power of a unified voice.

2. We have the power to move mountains when we call on God's name.

1. Matthew 21:21 - Jesus replied, Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, Go, throw yourself into the sea, and it will be done.

2. Psalm 149:6 - Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand.

2 Chronicles 13:16 And the children of Israel fled before Judah: and God delivered them into their hand.

The children of Israel were defeated by Judah and God gave Judah victory in the battle.

1. God's Faithfulness in Our Victories

2. When We Seek God, He Will Lead Us To Victory

1. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

2 Chronicles 13:17 And Abijah and his people slew them with a great slaughter: so there fell down slain of Israel five hundred thousand chosen men.

Abijah and his people defeated the Israelites in a great battle, killing 500,000 chosen men.

1. Victory in Christ: How Abijah's faith enabled him to prevail in battle

2. The Cost of War: Reflecting on the tragedy of Abijah's great slaughter

1. 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.

2. Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2 Chronicles 13:18 Thus the children of Israel were brought under at that time, and the children of Judah prevailed, because they relied upon the LORD God of their fathers.

The children of Israel were defeated in battle while the children of Judah triumphed due to their reliance on the LORD God.

1. The Power of Relying on God - 2 Chronicles 13:18

2. Trusting in God in Every Situation - 2 Chronicles 13:18

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.

2 Chronicles 13:19 And Abijah pursued after Jeroboam, and took cities from him, Bethel with the towns thereof, and Jeshanah with the towns thereof, and Ephrain with the towns thereof.

Abijah defeats Jeroboam and takes three cities from him.

1. God's faithfulness in providing victory.

2. The danger of pursuing earthly 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. Psalm 20:7-8 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God. They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright.

2 Chronicles 13:20 Neither did Jeroboam recover strength again in the days of Abijah: and the LORD struck him, and he died.

Jeroboam was unable to gain strength after the days of Abijah, and was struck down by the Lord, resulting in his death.

1. The Power of God's Judgment: How God's Wrath Can Overcome Any Human Power

2. The Unfailing Will of God: How Our Plans Cannot Stand Against the Sovereign Plans of the Lord

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 12:19 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 Chronicles 13:21 But Abijah waxed mighty, and married fourteen wives, and begat twenty and two sons, and sixteen daughters.

Abijah was a powerful man who married fourteen wives and had a total of 38 children.

1. The Power of Marriage in the Bible: Examining 2 Chronicles 13:21

2. The Blessing of Large Families: Reflecting on 2 Chronicles 13:21

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. 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.

2 Chronicles 13:22 And the rest of the acts of Abijah, and his ways, and his sayings, are written in the story of the prophet Iddo.

Abijah's acts, ways and sayings are recorded in the writings of the prophet Iddo.

1. The Impact of our Actions - Proverbs 22:1

2. Living a Life of Integrity - Proverbs 10:9

1. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

2. Proverbs 10:9 - Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out.

2 Chronicles chapter 14 describes the reign of King Asa of Judah and his efforts to strengthen the kingdom and promote true worship.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting the peaceful early years of Asa's reign. He does what is good and right in the eyes of God, removing foreign altars and idols from the land (2 Chronicles 14:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Asa's military preparations. He builds fortified cities in Judah, equips his army with shields and spears, and musters an army of 300,000 men from Judah and 280,000 men from Benjamin (2 Chronicles 14:6-8).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Asa seeks God's help before going into battle against Zerah, an Ethiopian king who leads a vast army. Asa cries out to God for deliverance, acknowledging that victory ultimately comes from Him (2 Chronicles 14:9-11).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how God grants Asa a great victory over Zerah's forces. The Ethiopian army is defeated, and they flee before Judah. As a result, Judah gains abundant spoils from the battle (2 Chronicles 14:12-15).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by summarizing how King Asa leads his people in renewing their commitment to God. They make a covenant to seek Him with all their heart and soul. They remove idols throughout the land of Judah, experiencing peace during this time (2 Chronicles 14:16-17).

In summary, Chapter fourteen of 2 Chronicles depicts the reign, and victories achieved during leadership reign of King Asa. Highlighting removal towards idolatry, and military preparations undertaken. Mentioning reliance upon divine intervention, and triumph achieved through obedience. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Asa s faith expressed through seeking divine help while emphasizing success achieved through trust in God exemplified by adherence towards principles laid out within Scripture an embodiment representing reliance upon divine guidance an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 14:1 So Abijah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David: and Asa his son reigned in his stead. In his days the land was quiet ten years.

Abijah passed away and was buried in the city of David and his son Asa succeeded him, and the land was at peace for ten years.

1. Abijah passed away, but his legacy lives on through his son Asa.

2. The life of Abijah is an example of faithfulness, peace, and legacy.

1. Psalm 116:15 - Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

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 Chronicles 14:2 And Asa did that which was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God:

Asa did what was good and right in the sight of the Lord.

1. Doing Right in the Sight of the Lord

2. Living a Life Pleasing to 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. Psalm 119:9 - How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

2 Chronicles 14:3 For he took away the altars of the strange gods, and the high places, and brake down the images, and cut down the groves:

King Asa of Judah removed the altars of false gods, destroyed their images, and cut down their groves.

1. The importance of having faith in one true God.

2. The importance of standing firm in one's faith.

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. 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 Chronicles 14:4 And commanded Judah to seek the LORD God of their fathers, and to do the law and the commandment.

Asa, King of Judah, called on the people of Judah to seek the Lord God of their fathers and to obey His law and commandments.

1. Following God's Commandments Brings True Happiness

2. Obedience Brings Blessing and Protection

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 119:2 "Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart."

2 Chronicles 14:5 Also he took away out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the images: and the kingdom was quiet before him.

King Asa removed all of the high places and images from the cities of Judah in order to bring peace to the kingdom.

1. God's Blessings Follow Obedience

2. The Fruits of Faithful Living

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's blessings to those who obey His commands

2. Isaiah 32:17-18 - The peace and prosperity that follows faithfulness to God

2 Chronicles 14:6 And he built fenced cities in Judah: for the land had rest, and he had no war in those years; because the LORD had given him rest.

Asa, the king of Judah, was able to enjoy a period of rest because the LORD granted it to him. He used this time to build fortifications and cities.

1. God will provide peace and rest when we trust in Him.

2. God is faithful to His promises and will reward those who seek His will.

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.

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 Chronicles 14:7 Therefore he said unto Judah, Let us build these cities, and make about them walls, and towers, gates, and bars, while the land is yet before us; because we have sought the LORD our God, we have sought him, and he hath given us rest on every side. So they built and prospered.

Asa and the people of Judah sought the LORD and found rest and peace, and so built their cities and prospered.

1. Seeking the LORD and trusting Him brings peace and prosperity.

2. Obeying God brings blessings and success.

1. Psalm 34:8 - Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.

2. Isaiah 26:3 - You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

2 Chronicles 14:8 And Asa had an army of men that bare targets and spears, out of Judah three hundred thousand; and out of Benjamin, that bare shields and drew bows, two hundred and fourscore thousand: all these were mighty men of valour.

Asa assembled a massive army of 480,000 men from Judah and Benjamin, all of them mighty warriors.

1. The power of unity - 2 Chronicles 14:8

2. Preparing for battle - 2 Chronicles 14:8

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - putting on the whole armor of God

2. Psalm 144:1-2 - praising God for being a shield and defender

2 Chronicles 14:9 And there came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian with an host of a thousand thousand, and three hundred chariots; and came unto Mareshah.

Zerah the Ethiopian attacked Judah with an army of one million and three hundred chariots, and arrived at Mareshah.

1. The Power of Faith: Learning from the Story of Zerah and Judah

2. Overcoming Fear in the Face of 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. Matthew 21:22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

2 Chronicles 14:10 Then Asa went out against him, and they set the battle in array in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah.

Asa led an army against an adversary and they fought in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah.

1. The Power of Faithful Leadership - How Asa's commitment to God enabled him to lead his people to victory.

2. Lessons from Asa's Battle - What we can learn from Asa's example of courage and faith in the face of adversity.

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. 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 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.

Asa prayed to the Lord for help against a multitude of adversaries and declared that the Lord was their only hope of victory.

1. "Trust in the Lord s Power: A lesson from 2 Chronicles 14:11"

2. "The Source of Strength: Finding Courage in 2 Chronicles 14:11"

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2 Chronicles 14:12 So the LORD smote the Ethiopians before Asa, and before Judah; and the Ethiopians fled.

Asa and Judah were victorious against the Ethiopians in battle, and the Ethiopians were forced to flee.

1. God is our strength and our shield in times of trouble.

2. God is faithful to those who trust and obey 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, my stronghold.

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 Chronicles 14:13 And Asa and the people that were with him pursued them unto Gerar: and the Ethiopians were overthrown, that they could not recover themselves; for they were destroyed before the LORD, and before his host; and they carried away very much spoil.

Asa and his people defeated the Ethiopians in Gerar and took a lot of spoils as a result.

1. The Power of God to Overcome Difficulties

2. The Blessings of Victory in God's Name

1. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to 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.

2 Chronicles 14:14 And they smote all the cities round about Gerar; for the fear of the LORD came upon them: and they spoiled all the cities; for there was exceeding much spoil in them.

The people of Judah smote the cities around Gerar and obtained much spoil because they feared the Lord.

1. Our Duty to Fear the Lord - how we should seek to honor and fear God in all aspects of our lives

2. The Blessings of Fearing the Lord - how God blesses those who revere Him and obey His commands

1. Proverbs 1:7 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Psalm 19:9 "The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether."

2 Chronicles 14:15 They smote also the tents of cattle, and carried away sheep and camels in abundance, and returned to Jerusalem.

Asa and the army of Judah defeated Zerah the Ethiopian, taking many sheep and camels as spoils of war and returning to Jerusalem.

1. Be courageous in the face of adversity like Asa and the army of Judah.

2. God rewards those who are faithful to Him.

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

2. 2 Corinthians 10:4 - "For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds."

2 Chronicles chapter 15 describes the religious reforms and revival that take place during the reign of King Asa of Judah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting the presence of Azariah, a prophet, who delivers a message from God to Asa and his people. The prophet encourages them to seek God and promises that if they do, they will find Him; but if they forsake Him, He will forsake them (2 Chronicles 15:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Asa's response to the prophet's message. He gathers all the people of Judah and Benjamin together in Jerusalem and leads them in renewing their covenant with God. They make a solemn oath to seek God with all their heart and soul (2 Chronicles 15:8-15).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Asa takes action to remove idols and false worship practices from the land. He deposes his grandmother Maacah from her position as queen mother because she had made an idol for Asherah. Asa cuts down her idol, crushes it, and burns it in the Kidron Valley (2 Chronicles 15:16-19).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how there is peace in Judah during this time because they sought God wholeheartedly. Asa also takes advantage of this peaceful period by fortifying cities throughout Judah (2 Chronicles 15:19-23).

In summary, Chapter fifteen of 2 Chronicles depicts the religious reforms, and revival experienced during reign leadership of King Asa. Highlighting prophecy delivered, and renewal of covenant undertaken. Mentioning removal towards idolatry, and fortification efforts initiated. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Asa s response expressed through repentance while emphasizing revival achieved through seeking God exemplified by adherence towards principles laid out within Scripture an embodiment representing spiritual renewal an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 15:1 And the Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded:

Azariah, the son of Oded, was filled with the Spirit of God.

1. Living in the Spirit: How to Receive and Respond to God's Presence

2. The Power of Obedience: How to Receive and Walk in God's Blessing

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 8:14 - For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

2 Chronicles 15:2 And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The LORD is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.

Asa and all Judah and Benjamin are reminded that the Lord will be with them if they seek Him, but that He will also forsake them if they forsake Him.

1. "Seeking the Lord"

2. "God's Promise to be Faithful"

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

2. 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."

2 Chronicles 15:3 Now for a long season Israel hath been without the true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law.

Israel had been without God, a teaching priest, and a law for a long time.

1. God's Mercy - How God's mercy is able to restore those that have gone astray.

2. Seeking Guidance - The importance of seeking guidance from God and His people.

1. "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 Chronicles 7:14)

2. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:" (2 Timothy 3:16)

2 Chronicles 15:4 But when they in their trouble did turn unto the LORD God of Israel, and sought him, he was found of them.

When people are in trouble, they should turn to the LORD God of Israel and seek Him, for He will be found.

1. The Lord is Always There - He will be found in times of trouble.

2. Seek the Lord - He will be found when you turn to 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.

12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.

13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

2. Luke 11:9-10 And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

10 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

2 Chronicles 15:5 And in those times there was no peace to him that went out, nor to him that came in, but great vexations were upon all the inhabitants of the countries.

During this time, there was no peace for anyone and all inhabitants of the countries experienced great hardships.

1. Peace in Uncertain Times

2. God's Strength in Troubling 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. Isaiah 26:3 You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

2 Chronicles 15:6 And nation was destroyed of nation, and city of city: for God did vex them with all adversity.

Nations destroyed other nations and cities destroyed other cities due to God's displeasure.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the History of Nations.

2. Understanding the Wrath of God: How Adversity Can Lead to Repentance.

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - God's warnings of the consequences of disobedience and rebellion.

2. Isaiah 5:5-7 - God's judgment against those who reject His statutes.

2 Chronicles 15:7 Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded.

God encourages us to stay strong and be rewarded for our work.

1. The Reward of Doing God's Work - 2 Chronicles 15:7

2. Strength in Doing God's Will - 2 Chronicles 15:7

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.

2 Chronicles 15:8 And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and put away the abominable idols out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from mount Ephraim, and renewed the altar of the LORD, that was before the porch of the LORD.

Asa heard a prophecy from Oded the prophet, which gave him courage to remove the idols from the land of Judah and Benjamin, and to restore the altar of the LORD.

1. God Gives Us Courage to Overcome Adversity

2. The Importance of Renewing Our Commitment to God

1. Joshua 24:15 - As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - 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 Chronicles 15:9 And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and the strangers with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh, and out of Simeon: for they fell to him out of Israel in abundance, when they saw that the LORD his God was with him.

King Asa of Judah gathered his people together, including those from the tribes of Ephraim, Manasseh, and Simeon, to recognize that the Lord was with him.

1. God is always with us, no matter how alone we feel.

2. When we gather together, we can be stronger in faith.

1. Matthew 18:20 - "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2 Chronicles 15:10 So they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa, the people of Judah gathered together in Jerusalem in the third month.

1. The Power of Gathering Together: What We Can Learn from the People of Judah

2. The Importance of Commitment: How Asa Demonstrated His Dedication to God

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. Psalm 122:1 - "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'"

2 Chronicles 15:11 And they offered unto the LORD the same time, of the spoil which they had brought, seven hundred oxen and seven thousand sheep.

The people of Judah brought offerings to the LORD, including seven hundred oxen and seven thousand sheep.

1. The Power of Generosity: Understanding the Significance of Offering Sacrifices to the Lord

2. A Heart of Gratitude: How to Show Appreciation to God Through Giving

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 9:7 (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 Chronicles 15:12 And they entered into a covenant to seek the LORD God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul;

The people of Judah entered into a covenant to seek the Lord God of their fathers with all their heart and soul.

1. We must strive to seek the Lord with all our heart and soul.

2. The importance of making a covenant with the Lord.

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2. Deuteronomy 6:5 - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

2 Chronicles 15:13 That whosoever would not seek the LORD God of Israel should be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman.

In 2 Chronicles 15:13, it is stated that anyone who refuses to seek the LORD God of Israel should be put to death, regardless of age or gender.

1. How Do We Pursue God?

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God.

1. Psalm 27:4 - One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life.

2. Proverbs 28:5 - Evil men do not understand what is right, but those who seek the LORD understand it fully.

2 Chronicles 15:14 And they sware unto the LORD with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and with cornets.

People swore to the LORD with loud voices, shouting, trumpets, and cornet instruments.

1. Obeying the Lord with Joy: Celebrating Our Commitment to God

2. Living a Life of Obedience: Following God's Will in All Things

1. Psalm 100:2 Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

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 Chronicles 15:15 And all Judah rejoiced at the oath: for they had sworn with all their heart, and sought him with their whole desire; and he was found of them: and the LORD gave them rest round about.

All the people of Judah rejoiced and sought God with all their hearts and were rewarded with peace.

1. Seeking God with All Your Heart Leads to Contentment

2. Obeying God Brings Peace and Joy

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your 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."

2 Chronicles 15:16 And also concerning Maachah the mother of Asa the king, he removed her from being queen, because she had made an idol in a grove: and Asa cut down her idol, and stamped it, and burnt it at the brook Kidron.

Asa, the king of Judah, removed his mother Maachah from being queen after she made an idol and he destroyed it.

1. The Need for Faithfulness and Obedience to God

2. The Power of God to Overcome Idolatry

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. Romans 1:21-25 "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. 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. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

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.

Despite the fact that the high places in Israel were not taken away, Asa's heart was perfect all his days.

1. The Perfect Heart: Living a Life of Faith in Unfavorable Conditions

2. Asa's Example: Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity

1. Proverbs 4:23 - Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

2. Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

2 Chronicles 15:18 And he brought into the house of God the things that his father had dedicated, and that he himself had dedicated, silver, and gold, and vessels.

Asa, King of Judah, brought to the House of God items his father and he had both dedicated, which included silver, gold, and vessels.

1. The Importance of Dedication to God

2. The Power of Giving to the Church

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. 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 Chronicles 15:19 And there was no more war unto the five and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa.

Asa's reign was characterized by a lack of war for 35 years.

1. God's faithfulness is always with us, even during times of conflict.

2. We should strive for peace through faith in God.

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 the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal."

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, 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 Chronicles chapter 16 describes the later years of King Asa's reign, including his alliance with a foreign king and his response to rebuke from a prophet.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting the invasion of Baasha, the king of Israel, against Judah. Baasha builds Ramah as a stronghold to prevent anyone from going in or out of Jerusalem. In response, Asa takes silver and gold from the treasuries of the temple and palace and sends them to Ben-Hadad, the king of Aram (2 Chronicles 16:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Hanani, a seer, who confronts Asa for relying on the king of Aram instead of seeking God's help. Hanani reminds Asa that in the past, when he relied on God, he experienced victory over powerful enemies. However, because he chose human help over divine intervention this time, he will face ongoing conflict (2 Chronicles 16:7-9).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Asa responds negatively to Hanani's rebuke. He becomes angry with Hanani and puts him in prison. Moreover, during this time, Asa oppresses some people in Judah (2 Chronicles 16:10).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how King Asa develops a foot disease in his later years but does not seek God's help for healing; instead relying solely on physicians. He dies after forty-one years as king and is buried in a tomb that he had prepared for himself (2 Chronicles 16:11-14).

In summary, Chapter sixteen of 2 Chronicles depicts the actions, and consequences faced during later years leadership of King Asa. Highlighting reliance upon foreign alliance, and rebuke received from prophet. Mentioning negative response towards rebuke, and refusal towards seeking divine intervention. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Asa s choices expressed through misplaced trust while emphasizing consequences resulting from disobedience exemplified by rejection towards prophetic guidance an embodiment representing spiritual decline an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 16:1 In the six and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah, and built Ramah, to the intent that he might let none go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.

In the 36th year of Asa's reign, King Baasha of Israel besieged Judah and built Ramah in order to keep Asa king of Judah from communicating with his people.

1. The importance of staying connected to our people, even in times of strife.

2. The power of God to strengthen us in our times of need.

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 - "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 Chronicles 16:2 Then Asa brought out silver and gold out of the treasures of the house of the LORD and of the king's house, and sent to Benhadad king of Syria, that dwelt at Damascus, saying,

Asa, king of Judah, took silver and gold from the treasures of the LORD and the king's house and sent them to Benhadad, king of Syria.

1. Remembering to be Generous in Our Giving

2. The Importance of Honoring God with Our Resources

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - But remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth.

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. Then He will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.

2 Chronicles 16:3 There is a league between me and thee, as there was between my father and thy father: behold, I have sent thee silver and gold; go, break thy league with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me.

Asha, king of Judah, sends silver and gold to Ben-Hadad, king of Syria, in order to break the league between Ben-Hadad and Baasha, king of Israel, and cause him to depart from Asha.

1. God's sovereign protection in times of crisis. 2. The importance of trusting God's provision.

1. Isaiah 46:11 - "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. Matthew 6:25-26 - "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 Chronicles 16:4 And Benhadad hearkened unto king Asa, and sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel; and they smote Ijon, and Dan, and Abelmaim, and all the store cities of Naphtali.

King Asa requested Benhadad to send his army to attack the cities of Israel, and they succeeded in conquering Ijon, Dan, Abelmaim, and all the store cities of Naphtali.

1. The Power of Prayer - How Asa's Prayer to God Brought Victory

2. The Importance of Faithful Obedience - How Asa's Faithful Obedience Led to Victory

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Daniel 3:17-18 - "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.

2 Chronicles 16:5 And it came to pass, when Baasha heard it, that he left off building of Ramah, and let his work cease.

Baasha stopped building the city of Ramah when he heard news of Asa's alliance with Syria.

1. God can move us away from our plans when it is in our best interest.

2. We must be willing to listen to the wisdom of those around us.

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. 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 Chronicles 16:6 Then Asa the king took all Judah; and they carried away the stones of Ramah, and the timber thereof, wherewith Baasha was building; and he built therewith Geba and Mizpah.

King Asa of Judah took the materials from Ramah that King Baasha had been using to build and used them to build Geba and Mizpah.

1. God will provide us with the resources we need to accomplish his will.

2. We should be willing to surrender our own plans for something greater.

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.

2 Chronicles 16:7 And at that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said unto him, Because thou hast relied on the king of Syria, and not relied on the LORD thy God, therefore is the host of the king of Syria escaped out of thine hand.

Hanani the seer warned Asa king of Judah for relying on the king of Syria instead of relying on God, resulting in the defeat of the army of the king of Syria.

1. The Power of Faith: Trusting in the Lord for Victory

2. Relying on God's Strength: Putting Your Hope in 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. 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 Chronicles 16:8 Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubims a huge host, with very many chariots and horsemen? yet, because thou didst rely on the LORD, he delivered them into thine hand.

Asa's reliance on the Lord enabled him to defeat a large enemy army.

1. Trusting in the Lord will lead to victory.

2. God will provide strength when faced with adversity.

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

2. Psalm 118:6 - "The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

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. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars.

Asa, the king of Judah, did foolishly by not seeking God's help and was warned that he would have wars from then on.

1. The importance of seeking God's help in all our ways.

2. The consequences of not seeking God's help.

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 4:7-8 - 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.

2 Chronicles 16:10 Then Asa was wroth with the seer, and put him in a prison house; for he was in a rage with him because of this thing. And Asa oppressed some of the people the same time.

Asa was angry with a seer and subsequently imprisoned him, and he also oppressed some of the people.

1. The Danger of Wrath: How Quickly Anger Can Lead Us Astray

2. The Consequences of Oppression: How Power Can Corrupt

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 - "Therefore, 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 Chronicles 16:11 And, behold, the acts of Asa, first and last, lo, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

Asa, the king of Judah and Israel, was a righteous ruler whose actions were recorded in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

1. Commit to doing what is right even when it is hard.

2. Make a lasting impact by living a life of integrity.

1. Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

2. 1 Peter 2:12 - 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.

2 Chronicles 16:12 And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not to the LORD, but to the physicians.

Asa, King of Judah, fell ill in his thirty-ninth year of his reign and his disease was very severe, yet he sought help from physicians rather than God.

1. The importance of turning to God in times of trouble

2. Learning to trust God in times of suffering

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."

2 Chronicles 16:13 And Asa slept with his fathers, and died in the one and fortieth year of his reign.

Asa, King of Judah, died in the forty-first year of his reign.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Time of Our Death is in His Hands

2. To Whom Much is Given, Much is Expected: A Study of Asa's Life

1. James 4:14-15 - "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. Ecclesiastes 8:12-13 - "Though a sinner does evil a hundred times and his days are prolonged, yet I know that it will be well with those who fear God, who fear before Him. But it will not be well with the wicked; nor will he prolong his days, which are as a shadow, because he does not fear before God."

2 Chronicles 16:14 And they buried him in his own sepulchres, which he had made for himself in the city of David, and laid him in the bed which was filled with sweet odours and divers kinds of spices prepared by the apothecaries' art: and they made a very great burning for him.

Asa, the king of Judah, was buried in the sepulchres he had built in the city of David with spices and sweet odours, and a great burning was made for him.

1. The Importance of Legacy: Living a Life Worth Remembering

2. The Power of Death: Preparing for Life's Final Moment

1. Proverbs 14:32 (The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: but the righteous hath hope in his death.)

2. Ecclesiastes 12:7 (Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.)

2 Chronicles chapter 17 describes the reign of King Jehoshaphat of Judah and his efforts to strengthen the kingdom through religious reforms and military preparations.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Jehoshaphat's ascent to the throne of Judah after his father, Asa. It is noted that he follows in the ways of David and seeks God wholeheartedly (2 Chronicles 17:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Jehoshaphat's actions to promote true worship. He sends officials, Levites, and priests throughout Judah to teach the people about God's law. As a result, the fear of God spreads among the surrounding nations, preventing them from attacking Judah (2 Chronicles 17:7-10).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Jehoshaphat strengthens his military by organizing an army consisting of mighty warriors from Judah. Their numbers reach up to one million soldiers equipped with weapons provided by their king (2 Chronicles 17:11-19).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how other nations hear about Jehoshaphat's might and become afraid. They bring tribute gifts and presents as a sign of submission to him (2 Chronicles 17:20-21).

In summary, Chapter seventeen of 2 Chronicles depicts the reign, and reforms undertaken during leadership reign of King Jehoshaphat. Highlighting commitment towards true worship, and spread towards knowledge regarding divine law. Mentioning strengthening efforts towards military, and submission displayed by surrounding nations. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Jehoshaphat s faith expressed through seeking God while emphasizing prosperity achieved through obedience exemplified by adherence towards principles laid out within Scripture an embodiment representing spiritual revival an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 17:1 And Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his stead, and strengthened himself against Israel.

Jehoshaphat became king after his father and took steps to protect Israel.

1. The importance of protecting God's people.

2. The importance of strong leadership and being prepared for the challenges of leadership.

1. Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

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."

2 Chronicles 17:2 And he placed forces in all the fenced cities of Judah, and set garrisons in the land of Judah, and in the cities of Ephraim, which Asa his father had taken.

King Asa's son, Jehoshaphat, placed forces in Judah's fenced cities and set garrisons in the land of Judah and in the cities of Ephraim.

1: God gives us strength to protect ourselves, our families, and our communities.

2: Work together to protect your home, your city, and your country.

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: 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love."

2 Chronicles 17:3 And the LORD was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the first ways of his father David, and sought not unto Baalim;

Jehoashaphat's faithfulness: Jehoshaphat remained faithful to God, just as his father David had done, and did not turn to idolatry.

1. Putting God First: The importance of following the example of our ancestors in faith.

2. Dedication to God: The power of true dedication to God and the blessings that come with it.

1. Psalm 78:3-7 - 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.

4. 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 Chronicles 17:4 But sought to the Lord God of his father, and walked in his commandments, and not after the doings of Israel.

Jehoshaphat sought the Lord God of his father and followed his commandments rather than those of Israel.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Brings Blessing

2. The Strength of Faith: How Trusting in God Brings Victory

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.

2 Chronicles 17:5 Therefore the LORD stablished the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah brought to Jehoshaphat presents; and he had riches and honour in abundance.

Jehoshaphat was blessed with riches and honour from the Lord, and all the people of Judah brought him presents.

1. God rewards those who follow Him with blessings of abundance.

2. Faithfulness leads to God's favor and blessing.

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. 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 Chronicles 17:6 And his heart was lifted up in the ways of the LORD: moreover he took away the high places and groves out of Judah.

King Jehoshaphat of Judah followed the Lord and removed all the high places and groves from Judah.

1. God is a jealous God, therefore we must remove all idols from our hearts.

2. We must always strive to follow God's ways and reject the ways of the world.

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 the fourth generation of those who hate me."

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."

2 Chronicles 17:7 Also in the third year of his reign he sent to his princes, even to Benhail, and to Obadiah, and to Zechariah, and to Nethaneel, and to Michaiah, to teach in the cities of Judah.

In the third year of his reign, King Jehoshaphat of Judah sent his princes to teach in the cities of Judah.

1. God s faithfulness is displayed when we obey His commands.

2. Investing in our spiritual growth by learning God s Word is essential for true joy and peace.

1. 2 Chronicles 17:7

2. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2 Chronicles 17:8 And with them he sent Levites, even Shemaiah, and Nethaniah, and Zebadiah, and Asahel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehonathan, and Adonijah, and Tobijah, and Tobadonijah, Levites; and with them Elishama and Jehoram, priests.

In order to spread the message of God in Judah, King Jehoshaphat sent Levites and priests, Shemaiah, Nethaniah, Zebadiah, Asahel, Shemiramoth, Jehonathan, Adonijah, Tobijah, and Tobadonijah, along with Elishama and Jehoram.

1. The Power of Unity: What We Can Learn From King Jehoshaphat

2. The Power of God In Our Lives: How King Jehoshaphat Followed His Command

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. Romans 10:14-15 - How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!

2 Chronicles 17:9 And they taught in Judah, and had the book of the law of the LORD with them, and went about throughout all the cities of Judah, and taught the people.

The people of Judah studied and taught the Law of the Lord, traveling to all the cities of Judah to share their knowledge.

1. The Power of Knowledge: How Obedience to the Lord's Law Impacts Our Lives

2. Sharing Our Faith: The Responsibility We Have to Teach Others

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. 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 Chronicles 17:10 And the fear of the LORD fell upon all the kingdoms of the lands that were round about Judah, so that they made no war against Jehoshaphat.

All the kingdoms around Judah feared the Lord and did not make war with Jehoshaphat.

1. The Power of the Lord - how His presence can protect and bring peace in times of conflict.

2. Fear of the Lord - how having a reverence for God can bring blessings and protection.

1. Psalm 34:7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, and rescues them.

2. Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2 Chronicles 17:11 Also some of the Philistines brought Jehoshaphat presents, and tribute silver; and the Arabians brought him flocks, seven thousand and seven hundred rams, and seven thousand and seven hundred he goats.

The Philistines and Arabians presented Jehoshaphat with gifts of silver, rams, and he goats.

1. The Power of Giving: How Generosity Can Transform Your Life (2 Corinthians 9:7)

2. The Blessing of Obedience: How Following God s Will Can Lead to Success (Deuteronomy 28:1-14)

1. Psalm 37:16-17 - A little that a righteous man has is better than the riches of many wicked.

2. Proverbs 11:24-25 - One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.

2 Chronicles 17:12 And Jehoshaphat waxed great exceedingly; and he built in Judah castles, and cities of store.

Jehoshaphat became incredibly successful and prosperous, and used his wealth to build many castles and cities.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: How Following God's Word Can Lead to Greatness

2. The Value of Diligence: The Rewards of Hard Work and Dedication

1. Proverbs 22:29 - "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men."

2. 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."

2 Chronicles 17:13 And he had much business in the cities of Judah: and the men of war, mighty men of valour, were in Jerusalem.

King Jehoshaphat of Judah dedicated himself to strengthening the kingdom by appointing strong warriors to defend Jerusalem.

1. God gives us strength to persevere when we dedicate ourselves to Him.

2. We should use our gifts and talents to serve the Lord.

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. 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 Chronicles 17:14 And these are the numbers of them according to the house of their fathers: Of Judah, the captains of thousands; Adnah the chief, and with him mighty men of valour three hundred thousand.

In 2 Chronicles 17:14, Adnah is the leader of the Judahites, with three hundred thousand mighty men of valor under his command.

1. The Power of Leadership: How to Lead with Strength and Courage

2. Courage in the Face of Adversity: Finding Strength in Difficult 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. Psalm 27:14, "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord."

2 Chronicles 17:15 And next to him was Jehohanan the captain, and with him two hundred and fourscore thousand.

Jehohanan was the captain of two hundred and eighty thousand men in the army of King Asa of Judah.

1. The Power of Unity: How Jehohanan Achieved Greatness Through Godly Strength

2. The Obedience of a Soldier: The Example of Jehohanan in Serving King Asa

1. Ephesians 4:3-6 - Making Every Effort to Maintain the Unity of the Spirit in the Bond of Peace

2. Joshua 1:7-9 - Be Strong and Courageous, Do Not be Afraid or Discouraged

2 Chronicles 17:16 And next him was Amasiah the son of Zichri, who willingly offered himself unto the LORD; and with him two hundred thousand mighty men of valour.

Amasiah willingly offered himself to the Lord and was accompanied by two hundred thousand mighty men of valour.

1. The Power of Commitment: Serving God with Boldness

2. Offering Yourself to God: Showing Dedication to the Lord

1. 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.

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."

2 Chronicles 17:17 And of Benjamin; Eliada a mighty man of valour, and with him armed men with bow and shield two hundred thousand.

Eliada of Benjamin was a mighty man of valour, and he was accompanied by two hundred thousand armed men with bows and shields.

1. The Power of Unity: Learn from Eliada of Benjamin how to accomplish mighty feats when united.

2. Valour: Be like Eliada of Benjamin and learn to be courageous and strong in the face of adversity.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

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.

2 Chronicles 17:18 And next him was Jehozabad, and with him an hundred and fourscore thousand ready prepared for the war.

Jehozabad was appointed alongside 180,000 troops to fight in a war.

1. The Power of Unity: How Our Faith in God Helps Us Work Together.

2. The Strength of Our Strength: The Power of Standing United in Faith.

1. 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.

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 Chronicles 17:19 These waited on the king, beside those whom the king put in the fenced cities throughout all Judah.

The kings of Judah appointed people to serve him in the fortified cities all around Judah.

1. Our Duty to Serve God and His Leaders

2. Finding Strength in Unity

1. 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.

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.

2 Chronicles chapter 18 recounts the ill-fated alliance between King Jehoshaphat of Judah and King Ahab of Israel, as well as the disastrous consequences that follow.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Jehoshaphat's close relationship with Ahab, the wicked king of Israel. Jehoshaphat visits Ahab in Samaria, and Ahab proposes a joint military campaign against Ramoth-gilead. Jehoshaphat agrees but suggests seeking counsel from the Lord before going into battle (2 Chronicles 18:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on the false prophets summoned by Ahab who prophesy success in battle. However, Jehoshaphat requests to hear from a prophet of the Lord. Micaiah is brought before them and predicts defeat for their alliance, warning that God has put a lying spirit in the mouths of Ahab's prophets (2 Chronicles 18:5-27).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Micaiah's prophecy angers Ahab, who imprisons him until his return from battle. Despite Micaiah's warning, both kings proceed with their plans and go into battle against Ramoth-gilead (2 Chronicles 18:28-34).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Jehoshaphat narrowly escapes death during the battle when he is mistaken for Ahab by enemy archers. Realizing his mistake, they cease pursuing him. However, Ahab is struck by an arrow and dies in battle (2 Chronicles 18:35-36).

In summary, Chapter eighteen of 2 Chronicles depicts the ill-fated alliance, and consequences faced during leadership reign of King Jehoshaphat. Highlighting agreement towards military campaign, and request for divine guidance. Mentioning false prophecies received, and warning given by prophet. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Jehoshaphat s decision expressed through alignment with wickedness while emphasizing repercussions resulting from disobedience exemplified by rejection towards prophetic warnings an embodiment representing spiritual compromise an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 18:1 Now Jehoshaphat had riches and honour in abundance, and joined affinity with Ahab.

Jehoshaphat was a wealthy and honorable man who formed an alliance with Ahab.

1. The Danger of Alliances with Unbelievers

2. The Danger of Wealth and Honor without Humility

1. James 4:4 "You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."

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

2 Chronicles 18:2 And after certain years he went down to Ahab to Samaria. And Ahab killed sheep and oxen for him in abundance, and for the people that he had with him, and persuaded him to go up with him to Ramothgilead.

After a period of time, Jehoshaphat visited Ahab in Samaria and was welcomed with an abundance of sheep and oxen. Ahab then persuaded Jehoshaphat to go to Ramothgilead with him.

1. The Value of Friendship: Jehoshaphat and Ahab's relationship demonstrates the value of friendship, and how it can be strengthened by generous hospitality.

2. The Importance of Listening to God: Jehoshaphat's willingness to listen to God and not to Ahab shows the importance of always seeking God's will.

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. 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.

2 Chronicles 18:3 And Ahab king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat king of Judah, Wilt thou go with me to Ramothgilead? And he answered him, I am as thou art, and my people as thy people; and we will be with thee in the war.

Ahab, king of Israel, asked Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, if he would join him in a battle at Ramothgilead. Jehoshaphat agreed to join Ahab in the fight.

1. The Power of Unity: How coming together in Christ can lead to greater strength and victory.

2. The Importance of Solidarity: How standing together in our faith can help us to achieve our goals.

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 16:3 - Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established.

2 Chronicles 18:4 And Jehoshaphat said unto the king of Israel, Enquire, I pray thee, at the word of the LORD to day.

Jehoshaphat advised the king of Israel to seek guidance from the Lord.

1. Trust in the Lord's will and seek His counsel in all things.

2. God desires that we turn to Him for guidance and direction.

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 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 Chronicles 18:5 Therefore the king of Israel gathered together of prophets four hundred men, and said unto them, Shall we go to Ramothgilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up; for God will deliver it into the king's hand.

The King of Israel gathered four hundred prophets to ask if he should go to battle at Ramothgilead. The prophets said to go up as God would deliver it into the king's hand.

1. Faith in God Leads to Victory

2. Obeying God Brings 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. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

2 Chronicles 18:6 But Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD besides, that we might enquire of him?

Jehoshaphat asked if there was a prophet of the LORD so that they could enquire of him.

1. Seek out the guidance of the Lord in all matters.

2. Pray for the wisdom to recognize the Lord's guidance.

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 Chronicles 18:7 And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man, by whom we may enquire of the LORD: but I hate him; for he never prophesied good unto me, but always evil: the same is Micaiah the son of Imla. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the king say so.

King of Israel and Jehoshaphat discuss consulting Micaiah the son of Imla, who always prophesied evil to Israel's king, but Jehoshaphat disagreed with his assessment of him.

1. The Power of Positivity: Refusing to Let Negativity Win

2. The Difference a Positive Attitude Makes: Choosing to See the Good Instead of the Bad

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. Proverbs 17:22 - A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person s strength.

2 Chronicles 18:8 And the king of Israel called for one of his officers, and said, Fetch quickly Micaiah the son of Imla.

The King of Israel commanded one of his officers to quickly bring Micaiah the son of Imla.

1. God is sovereign over all things.

2. We should always be obedient to God's commands.

1. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:1 - Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong.

2 Chronicles 18:9 And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah sat either of them on his throne, clothed in their robes, and they sat in a void place at the entering in of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them.

The kings of Israel and Judah, Jehoshaphat and Jehoshaphat, were sitting together in a void place at the entrance of the gate of Samaria with all the prophets prophesying before them.

1. The Power of Unity - How unity can bring peace and understanding between two sides.

2. The Importance of Prophecy - How prophecy can be used to guide us in our daily lives.

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Isaiah 8:20 - To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn.

2 Chronicles 18:10 And Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah had made him horns of iron, and said, Thus saith the LORD, With these thou shalt push Syria until they be consumed.

Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah had made horns of iron and declared that with them the LORD would consume Syria.

1. The Power of God in Defeating Enemies

2. The Strength of Our Faith in Overcoming Obstacles

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."

2 Chronicles 18:11 And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, Go up to Ramothgilead, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the hand of the king.

The prophets prophesied that the LORD would give the victory to King Jehoshaphat in the battle of Ramothgilead.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises

2. The power of the prophetic words

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 33:4 - For the word of the Lord is right; and all his works are done in truth.

2 Chronicles 18:12 And the messenger that went to call Micaiah spake to him, saying, Behold, the words of the prophets declare good to the king with one assent; let thy word therefore, I pray thee, be like one of theirs, and speak thou good.

A messenger asked Micaiah to agree with the other prophets and give the king good news.

1. "The Power of Agreement"

2. "The Power of Unification"

1. Matthew 18:19-20 "Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:12 "Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

2 Chronicles 18:13 And Micaiah said, As the LORD liveth, even what my God saith, that will I speak.

Micaiah declared that he would only speak what the Lord said.

1. Speak only the words of God.

2. Live a life of faith and obedience.

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 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 Chronicles 18:14 And when he was come to the king, the king said unto him, Micaiah, shall we go to Ramothgilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And he said, Go ye up, and prosper, and they shall be delivered into your hand.

Micaiah prophesied to the king that they would be successful in their battle if they went to Ramothgilead.

1. Take Courage and Trust in God's Promises

2. The Power of Faith and Obedience

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 Chronicles 18:15 And the king said to him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou say nothing but the truth to me in the name of the LORD?

The king asked a man how many times he should adjure the man to tell him only the truth in the name of the Lord.

1. The Importance of Speaking the Truth in the Name of the Lord

2. The Power of an Adjuration in the Name of the Lord

1. Psalm 34:13 - "Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile."

2. Colossians 3:9 - "Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds"

2 Chronicles 18:16 Then he said, I did see all Israel scattered upon the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd: and the LORD said, These have no master; let them return therefore every man to his house in peace.

Micaiah prophesied that Israel had no shepherd and that they should return home in peace.

1. God is a Good Shepherd: How God Leads and Guides His People

2. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Can Bring Peace

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. 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 Chronicles 18:17 And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, Did I not tell thee that he would not prophesy good unto me, but evil?

The King of Israel told Jehoshaphat that he had predicted only evil would come from the prophet.

1. The importance of discerning the truth from falsehood.

2. The power of words and how God can work through them.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

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 Chronicles 18:18 Again he said, Therefore hear the word of the LORD; I saw the LORD sitting upon his throne, and all the host of heaven standing on his right hand and on his left.

The prophet Micaiah had a vision of the Lord seated on his throne with the armies of heaven standing on his right and left.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Reaffirming His Power and Authority

2. The Reality of Heaven: A Glimpse into the Spiritual Realm

1. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

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.

2 Chronicles 18:19 And the LORD said, Who shall entice Ahab king of Israel, that he may go up and fall at Ramothgilead? And one spake saying after this manner, and another saying after that manner.

The Lord asked who would be able to convince Ahab, the king of Israel, to go to Ramothgilead and be defeated. Two people suggested ways to accomplish this.

1. The Power of Persuasion: How We Can Influence Others for the Lord

2. The Truth in the Lord's Plans: How We Can Follow His Path

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. 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 Chronicles 18:20 Then there came out a spirit, and stood before the LORD, and said, I will entice him. And the LORD said unto him, Wherewith?

A spirit came before the Lord and asked for permission to entice someone. The Lord asked what the spirit would use to entice him.

1. God is always in control of our lives, even when we are tempted.

2. We can trust in the Lord to help us resist temptation.

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. Let no one say when tempted, I am being tempted by God ; for God cannot be tempted by evil and he himself tempts no one. But one is tempted by one s own desire, being lured and enticed by it. Then desire when it has conceived 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."

2 Chronicles 18:21 And he said, I will go out, and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And the Lord said, Thou shalt entice him, and thou shalt also prevail: go out, and do even so.

Ahab, the king of Israel, asked God for advice on how to outwit the prophets of the opposing army. God instructed Ahab to have a lying spirit inhabit all of the prophets in order to deceive them.

1. The Power of Deception: How to Navigate Unfavorable Situations

2. Trusting in God: Relying on the Lord for Guidance in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 7:14 - "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2 Chronicles 18:22 Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of these thy prophets, and the LORD hath spoken evil against thee.

God had put a lying spirit in the mouths of prophets to speak evil against the people.

1. The consequences of lying and how it affects our relationship with God

2. The importance of listening to God's word and not the voices of men

1. Psalm 5:6 - "You destroy those who tell lies; bloodthirsty and deceitful people the LORD abhors."

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."

2 Chronicles 18:23 Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah came near, and smote Micaiah upon the cheek, and said, Which way went the Spirit of the LORD from me to speak unto thee?

Micaiah was struck on the cheek by Zedekiah, who asked him how the Spirit of the LORD had spoken to him.

1. The Power of the Holy Spirit: How God Gives Direction in Our Lives

2. The Danger of Pride: Why We Should Not Question God's Will

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

2 Chronicles 18:24 And Micaiah said, Behold, thou shalt see on that day when thou shalt go into an inner chamber to hide thyself.

Micaiah prophesied that King Ahab would hide himself on the day of battle.

1: God's Judgment - We must be prepared to face the consequences of our actions.

2: Listen to God's Prophets - We must heed the warnings of God's messengers.

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 Chronicles 18:25 Then the king of Israel said, Take ye Micaiah, and carry him back to Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king's son;

The King of Israel orders Micaiah to be taken back to Amon the governor of the city and Joash, the king's son.

1. The Lord's Guidance in a King's Decisions

2. The Duty of Loyalty to Authority

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 13:1-7 - 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.

2 Chronicles 18:26 And say, Thus saith the king, Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction, until I return in peace.

The King ordered that a fellow be put in prison and fed with bread and water of affliction until his return in peace.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - Luke 23:34

2. The Power of Humility - James 4:6-10

1. Matthew 18:21-35 - Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

2. Psalm 25:11 - Teach me thy way, O Lord; I will walk in thy truth.

2 Chronicles 18:27 And Micaiah said, If thou certainly return in peace, then hath not the LORD spoken by me. And he said, Hearken, all ye people.

Micaiah warned the people that if Ahab did not return in peace, the Lord had spoken through him.

1. God's Word is Reliable - 2 Timothy 3:16-17

2. Obeying God is Paramount - Joshua 24:15

1. Psalm 19:7-11

2. Romans 10:13-15

2 Chronicles 18:28 So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramothgilead.

The kings of Israel and Judah, Jehoshaphat and Ahab, went to Ramothgilead together.

1. The Power of Unity: Ahab and Jehoshaphat's Joint Effort to Secure Ramothgilead

2. The Importance of Alliances: Working Together for a Common Goal

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

2 Chronicles 18:29 And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, I will disguise myself, and will go to the battle; but put thou on thy robes. So the king of Israel disguised himself; and they went to the battle.

The King of Israel told Jehoshaphat that he would disguise himself and go to battle, while Jehoshaphat would put on his robes. The King of Israel then disguised himself and the two went to battle.

1. Trust in the Lord and Lean Not on Your Own Understanding - Proverbs 3:5-6

2. Put on the Armor of God - Ephesians 6:10-18

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

2. James 4:13-17 - Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:

2 Chronicles 18:30 Now the king of Syria had commanded the captains of the chariots that were with him, saying, Fight ye not with small or great, save only with the king of Israel.

The King of Syria gave the captains of his chariots specific orders to only fight the king of Israel.

1. The Power of Authority: Obedience to God's Command

2. God's Sovereignty: When He Grants Victory

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

2. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

2 Chronicles 18:31 And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, It is the king of Israel. Therefore they compassed about him to fight: but Jehoshaphat cried out, and the LORD helped him; and God moved them to depart from him.

Jehoshaphat was attacked by chariot captains who mistook him for the King of Israel. He cried out to the Lord for help and God moved them to depart from him.

1. "God is Our Protector"

2. "What to Do When You are Under Attack"

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

2 Chronicles 18:32 For it came to pass, that, when the captains of the chariots perceived that it was not the king of Israel, they turned back again from pursuing him.

The captains of the chariots realized that Jehoshaphat, who they were chasing, was not the king of Israel and turned back.

1. God is always with us, even in difficult times.

2. We must rely on God's protection and guidance.

1. 2 Chronicles 18:32

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.

2 Chronicles 18:33 And a certain man drew a bow at a venture, and smote the king of Israel between the joints of the harness: therefore he said to his chariot man, Turn thine hand, that thou mayest carry me out of the host; for I am wounded.

A man randomly shot an arrow at the king of Israel and struck him between the joints of the harness, so he asked his charioteer to take him out of the battle because he was wounded.

1. The Sovereignty of God - How God uses even the random events of life to accomplish his will.

2. The Power of an Arrow - How a seemingly insignificant event can have a great impact.

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. Proverbs 16:33 - The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord.

2 Chronicles 18:34 And the battle increased that day: howbeit the king of Israel stayed himself up in his chariot against the Syrians until the even: and about the time of the sun going down he died.

The battle between Israel and Syria continued throughout the day until the king of Israel passed away at sunset.

1. The Power and Finitude of Human Life

2. The Power of Faith in Troubled Times

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

2. Ecclesiastes 9:11 - I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.

2 Chronicles chapter 19 describes the aftermath of Jehoshaphat's alliance with Ahab and his efforts to bring about judicial and spiritual reforms in Judah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Jehoshaphat's return to Jerusalem after his encounter with Ahab. Jehu, the seer, confronts him and rebukes him for helping the wicked and loving those who hate the Lord. However, Jehoshaphat is commended for his earlier reforms (2 Chronicles 19:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Jehoshaphat's appointment of judges throughout Judah. He instructs them to judge with integrity, fear God, and not show partiality or accept bribes. He reminds them that their judgments are ultimately accountable to God (2 Chronicles 19:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Jehoshaphat establishes a hierarchy of authority in Jerusalem by appointing Levites, priests, and heads of Israelite families as overseers in matters concerning the Lord's law and disputes among the people (2 Chronicles 19:8-11).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Jehoshaphat warns these appointed officials to carry out their duties faithfully without transgressing against the Lord. He encourages them to be courageous in upholding justice according to God's standards (2 Chronicles 19:9-11).

In summary, Chapter nineteen of 2 Chronicles depicts the aftermath, and reforms undertaken during leadership reign of King Jehoshaphat. Highlighting rebuke received regarding alliance, and establishment towards judicial system. Mentioning instructions given towards judges, and appointment of overseers within hierarchy. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Jehoshaphat s response expressed through repentance while emphasizing efforts towards reform exemplified by commitment towards just governance an embodiment representing restoration an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 19:1 And Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned to his house in peace to Jerusalem.

Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, returned to Jerusalem in peace.

1. The Peace of the Lord is Always Present

2. Nothing is Impossible with God

1. Philippians 4:7 - "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2. Luke 1:37 - "For nothing will be impossible with God.

2 Chronicles 19:2 And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD? therefore is wrath upon thee from before the LORD.

Jehu, the son of Hanani, warned King Jehoshaphat for helping the ungodly and loving those who hate the Lord, and thus brought God's wrath upon him.

1. Love God and Hate Evil: The Message of 2 Chronicles 19:2

2. Obeying God's Commands: The Consequence of Disregard in 2 Chronicles 19:2

1. Romans 12:9 - Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.

2. Psalm 97:10 - You who love the Lord, hate evil! He preserves the lives of His saints; He delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.

2 Chronicles 19:3 Nevertheless there are good things found in thee, in that thou hast taken away the groves out of the land, and hast prepared thine heart to seek God.

The author commends a ruler for removing groves from the land and preparing his heart to seek God.

1. "A Heart Prepared to Seek God"

2. "The Positive Impact of Taking Away Groves"

1. Deuteronomy 12:2-3 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: 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.

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 Chronicles 19:4 And Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem: and he went out again through the people from Beersheba to mount Ephraim, and brought them back unto the LORD God of their fathers.

Jehoshaphat dwelt in Jerusalem and made a tour of the people from Beersheba to mount Ephraim, encouraging them to return to the LORD God of their fathers.

1. God always wants us to return to Him and follow His ways.

2. We should always be encouraged to pursue holiness and righteousness in our lives.

1. Hebrews 12:14 - Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

2 Chronicles 19:5 And he set judges in the land throughout all the fenced cities of Judah, city by city,

Jehoshaphat appointed judges to rule in all the fortified cities of Judah.

1. The Importance of Justice: What Jehoshaphat's Example Can Teach Us

2. Appointing Leaders with Wisdom and Discernment

1. Deuteronomy 16:18-20 - Appointing judges and officers in Israel

2. Proverbs 16:10 - An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

2 Chronicles 19:6 And said to the judges, Take heed what ye do: for ye judge not for man, but for the LORD, who is with you in the judgment.

The people of Judah were warned to be careful when making decisions, since they were judging on behalf of God and not just for themselves.

1. Be Careful in All Your Decisions - 2 Chronicles 19:6

2. Judgment Comes From The Lord - 2 Chronicles 19:6

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 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 Chronicles 19:7 Wherefore now let the fear of the LORD be upon you; take heed and do it: for there is no iniquity with the LORD our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts.

In 2 Chronicles 19:7, it is emphasized that God does not show partiality or accept bribes, and that we should fear and obey Him.

1. The Holiness of God: Why We Should Fear the Lord

2. No Respect of Persons: Why Everyone is Equal in God s Eyes

1. 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

2. Psalm 5:7-8 But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple. Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face.

2 Chronicles 19:8 Moreover in Jerusalem did Jehoshaphat set of the Levites, and of the priests, and of the chief of the fathers of Israel, for the judgment of the LORD, and for controversies, when they returned to Jerusalem.

Jehoshaphat set apart Levites, priests, and other Israelite leaders in Jerusalem to judge according to the Lord's will and settle disputes.

1. Recognizing the Power of God in Our Lives

2. Submitting to the Authority of God's Word

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

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

2 Chronicles 19:9 And he charged them, saying, Thus shall ye do in the fear of the LORD, faithfully, and with a perfect heart.

Jehoshaphat charged his judges to serve the LORD faithfully and with a perfect heart.

1. "The Heart of True Service," focusing on faithfully serving the LORD with a perfect heart.

2. "The Fear of the LORD," emphasizing the importance of reverencing the LORD in all our actions.

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. 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 Chronicles 19:10 And what cause soever shall come to you of your brethren that dwell in their cities, between blood and blood, between law and commandment, statutes and judgments, ye shall even warn them that they trespass not against the LORD, and so wrath come upon you, and upon your brethren: this do, and ye shall not trespass.

This passage encourages people to warn their brethren not to transgress against the LORD, lest wrath come upon them.

1. The importance of warning others against sin and the consequences of not doing so.

2. The need to take responsibility for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

1. James 5:19-20 - "My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins."

2. Galatians 6:1-2 - "Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

2 Chronicles 19:11 And, behold, Amariah the chief priest is over you in all matters of the LORD; and Zebadiah the son of Ishmael, the ruler of the house of Judah, for all the king's matters: also the Levites shall be officers before you. Deal courageously, and the LORD shall be with the good.

The King has appointed Amariah the chief priest to be in charge of matters concerning the Lord, and Zebadiah the son of Ishmael to be ruler of the house of Judah for all the King's matters. The Levites will also serve as officers. The king urges the people to be courageous and remind them that the Lord will be with the good.

1. "The Lord Is With The Good" - Proclaiming the importance of living a life of righteousness and courage, trusting that God is with us and will reward us in the end.

2. "Obedience In The Face Of Authority" - Teaching on the importance of submitting to God-given authority and following the instructions of those in charge, while still having faith in God's goodness.

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 5:7 - "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

2 Chronicles chapter 20 describes a significant event during Jehoshaphat's reign, where Judah faces a formidable enemy army, and the king seeks God's help and leads the people in prayer and fasting.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting the threat of invasion from a vast army composed of Moabites, Ammonites, and others. Jehoshaphat is alarmed and resolves to seek the Lord's guidance. He proclaims a fast throughout Judah, and people gather in Jerusalem to seek God's help (2 Chronicles 20:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Jehoshaphat's prayer before all the people. He acknowledges God as their powerful Creator who delivered their ancestors from Egypt. He pleads for God's intervention against their enemies, expressing their dependence on Him (2 Chronicles 20:5-12).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Jahaziel, a Levite from the descendants of Asaph, receives a message from God in response to Jehoshaphat's prayer. Jahaziel assures them that they need not fear or fight in this battle because it belongs to God. They are instructed to position themselves and witness His deliverance (2 Chronicles 20:13-17).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Jehoshaphat leads his people into battle with praise instead of weapons. They sing praises to God as they march toward the battlefield. When they arrive, they find that their enemies have turned against one another due to divine intervention (2 Chronicles 20:18-24).

5th Paragraph:The account concludes by highlighting how Judah gathers great spoils after their enemies' defeat without even having to fight directly. They return rejoicing to Jerusalem with music and worshiping God in His temple (2 Chronicles 20:25-30).

In summary, Chapter twenty of 2 Chronicles depicts the crisis faced, and deliverance experienced during leadership reign of King Jehoshaphat. Highlighting threat posed by enemy alliance, and seeking divine guidance through prayer. Mentioning assurance received through prophet, and victory achieved through praise. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Jehoshaphat s faith expressed through seeking God while emphasizing miraculous deliverance achieved through reliance on Him exemplified by commitment towards worship an embodiment representing divine intervention an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 20:1 It came to pass after this also, that the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them other beside the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle.

Jehoshaphat was attacked by the Moabites, Ammonites, and other enemies.

1. Trusting in the Lord During Troubling Times (2 Chronicles 20:1)

2. Overcoming Fear Through Faith (2 Chronicles 20:1)

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."

2 Chronicles 20:2 Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond the sea on this side Syria; and, behold, they be in Hazazontamar, which is Engedi.

Jehoshaphat was informed of a large enemy force that was coming from across the sea and was located in Hazazontamar, which is Engedi.

1. Overcoming Fear - How to rely on God in times of uncertainty.

2. The Power of Prayer - How faith in God can move mountains.

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.

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 and am not afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

2 Chronicles 20:3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

Jehoshaphat was afraid and began to seek the Lord, so he declared a fast throughout Judah.

1. Overcoming Fear Through Seeking God - 2 Chronicles 20:3

2. Taking Action In Faith - 2 Chronicles 20:3

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.

2 Chronicles 20:4 And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the LORD: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

The people of Judah gathered together to ask the LORD for help.

1. God is our helper in times of trouble - Psalm 46:1

2. Seeking God in unity brings strength - Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

1. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

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 Chronicles 20:5 And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court,

Jehoshaphat stood before the Lord in the temple in the presence of the people of Judah and Jerusalem.

1. God calls us to stand before Him with courage and faith.

2. The presence of the Lord can give us strength and hope.

1. 2 Chronicles 20:5 - And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court.

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 Chronicles 20:6 And said, O LORD God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?

Jehoshaphat and the people of Judah prayed to God for help in their battle against their enemies. They acknowledged that God was in charge of all the nations and had the power to help them.

1. Acknowledge God's Sovereignty - 2 Chronicles 20:6

2. Seek God's Help in Times of Need - 2 Chronicles 20:6

1. Isaiah 45:9-10 Woe to the one who quarrels with his Maker an earthenware vessel among the vessels of earth! Will the clay say to the potter, What are you doing? Or the thing you are making say, He has no hands ?

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.

2 Chronicles 20:7 Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever?

God drove out the people living in the land of Israel and gave it to Abraham and his descendants forever.

1. God's Faithfulness: Remembering God's Promise to Abraham and His People

2. The Power of Prayer: Trusting in God for the Solution

1. Genesis 15:18-21 - God's covenant with Abraham

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 Chronicles 20:8 And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying,

The people of Judah built a sanctuary for the Lord's name in the land of Judah after they were allowed to dwell there.

1. How We Can Build a Sanctuary for the Lord's Name

2. God's Faithfulness in Allowing Us To Dwell in His Presence

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. Psalms 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 Chronicles 20:9 If, when evil cometh upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in thy presence, (for thy name is in this house,) and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help.

In times of adversity, the people of God can seek their refuge in the Lord's house and cry out to Him in their distress.

1. The Comfort of God's House in Times of Trouble

2. Trusting God in Affliction

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 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 Chronicles 20:10 And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not;

King Jehoshaphat of Judah sought the Lord for help against the enemy nations of Ammon, Moab, and Seir, who had not been conquered when Israel came out of Egypt.

1. God's faithfulness is greater than any opposition.

2. Even when we feel helpless, God is our strength.

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. Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2 Chronicles 20:11 Behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit.

The people of Judah face an enemy who is trying to take away the land that God has given them.

1. A Call to Stand Firm in Faith - trusting in God's provision and strength in the face of opposition.

2. Unshakable Faith in God's Promises - not allowing fear or opposition to prevent us from claiming what God has promised 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. 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 Chronicles 20:12 O our God, wilt thou not judge them? 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.

The people of Judah are in a difficult position as a great army is coming against them, and they do not have the strength to fight back. They turn to God for help and guidance, asking Him to judge and protect them.

1. "The Lord Is Our Strength" - God is the only one who can provide the strength and protection we need in times of difficulty and uncertainty.

2. "Turning to God in Prayer" - When faced with overwhelming odds, we can turn to God in prayer, trusting in His ability to provide help and guidance.

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. Psalm 31:3 - For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.

2 Chronicles 20:13 And all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children.

All of Judah gathered together in front of the Lord, accompanied by their families.

1. The Blessing of Family Worship - How to cultivate a culture of worshipping the Lord together as a family.

2. The Power of Unity - How standing together in unity can bring us closer to the Lord and towards each other.

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 133:1 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

2 Chronicles 20:14 Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation;

The Spirit of the Lord descended upon a Levite named Jahaziel during a congregation of the Israelites.

1. Trusting in the Lord in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of the Holy Spirit

1. John 14:26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said 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.

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.

King Jehoshaphat encourages the people of Judah and Jerusalem to not be afraid of their enemies as God will fight their battles.

1. "God's Strength in Times of Trouble"

2. "Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart"

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?"

2 Chronicles 20:16 To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel.

Jehoshaphat and the people of Judah are preparing to battle their enemies who are coming up by the cliff of Ziz and will be found at the end of the brook before the wilderness of Jeruel.

1. Be courageous in the face of difficulty and trust in God's protection.

2. Stand firm in faith and trust the Lord for victory.

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.

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.

The Lord encourages Judah and Jerusalem not to be afraid, as He will be with them in the coming battle and they will not have to fight.

1. "The Lord Is Our Strength: Relying on God in Times of Trouble"

2. "Fear Not: Trusting in God 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. 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."

2 Chronicles 20:18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.

Jehoshaphat and the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem bowed down to the LORD in worship.

1. Worship: A Heart of Humility

2. The Power of Worship

1. Isaiah 6:1-8

2. Matthew 15:21-28

2 Chronicles 20:19 And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high.

The Levites praised the Lord God of Israel with a loud voice.

1. The Power of Praise: Learning to Praise the Lord with a Loud Voice

2. The Importance of Expressing Gratitude: Celebrating the Lord God of Israel

1. 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!

2. Romans 15:11 - And again, Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him.

2 Chronicles 20:20 And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

Jehoshaphat encouraged the people of Judah to trust in the Lord and to believe in His prophets so that they may be established and prosper.

1. Trusting God: The Path to Prosperity

2. The Power of Believing: How Faith Can Lead to Success

1. Psalm 112:7 - "He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in 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."

2 Chronicles 20:21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever.

King Jehoshaphat consulted with the people and appointed singers to lead the army in praise of God, who's mercy endures forever.

1. The Power of Praise: How God's Mercy Endures Forever

2. Giving God the Praise He Deserves: Celebrating His Mercy

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. 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 Chronicles 20:22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

The people of Judah praised the Lord and in response, the Lord sent ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir who were attacking Judah, and they were defeated.

1. The power of praise: God hears and responds to our worship.

2. The Lord will protect His people: In times of trouble, we can rely on the Lord's help.

1. Psalm 18:3 - "I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies."

2. 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 is become my salvation."

2 Chronicles 20:23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.

The children of Ammon and Moab attempted to destroy the inhabitants of mount Seir, and ended up destroying each other instead.

1. "The Fruit of Vengeance" - Exploring the destructive consequences of seeking revenge.

2. "The Power of Unity" - Examining the strength of working together as an alternative to violence.

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. Romans 12:9-11 - Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

2 Chronicles 20:24 And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.

The people of Judah were surprised to find a multitude of dead bodies in the wilderness, with none having escaped.

1. God's protection in times of danger

2. The power of faith in God in times of 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 91:1-2 - 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 Chronicles 20:25 And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much.

Jehoshaphat and his people went to collect the spoils of their enemies and found an abundance of riches and precious jewels, which they took for themselves. They took three days to collect all the spoils.

1. "Overcoming Enemies with Faith and Love"

2. "The Abundance of Blessings from God"

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 (Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might)

2. James 4:7 (Submit yourselves to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from you)

2 Chronicles 20:26 And on the fourth day they assembled themselves in the valley of Berachah; for there they blessed the LORD: therefore the name of the same place was called, The valley of Berachah, unto this day.

On the fourth day, the people of Judah gathered in the valley of Berachah to praise the Lord and the place has been known as the valley of Berachah ever since.

1. The Power of Praise: Celebrating God's Faithfulness

2. The Blessing of Community: Finding Strength in Unity

1. Psalm 150:6 - Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

2. Ephesians 5:19-20 - Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

2 Chronicles 20:27 Then they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat in the forefront of them, to go again to Jerusalem with joy; for the LORD had made them to rejoice over their enemies.

After defeating their enemies, the people of Judah and Jerusalem, led by Jehoshaphat, returned to Jerusalem with joy because the LORD had given them the victory.

1. Joy in Victory: Celebrating God's Goodness in Times of Adversity

2. The Power of Praise: Rejoicing in the Lord Even in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 9:2 - I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

2. Philippians 4:4 - Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

2 Chronicles 20:28 And they came to Jerusalem with psalteries and harps and trumpets unto the house of the LORD.

The people of Judah and Benjamin came to Jerusalem to worship the Lord with musical instruments.

1. Music as Worship - the Power of Praise

2. A House of Praise - Expressing Joy in the Lord

1. Psalm 33:1-3, Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise Him. Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to Him on the ten-stringed lyre. Sing to Him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

2. Psalm 150:1-6, 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. 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. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD.

2 Chronicles 20:29 And the fear of God was on all the kingdoms of those countries, when they had heard that the LORD fought against the enemies of Israel.

After the Lord fought against the enemies of Israel, fear of God spread throughout the surrounding countries.

1. Faith in God will lead to victory in the face of adversity.

2. The power of God will bring fear and reverence to all nations.

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 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 Chronicles 20:30 So the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet: for his God gave him rest round about.

Jehoshaphat was granted peace and security from his God.

1. Taking Time To Receive Rest From God

2. Trusting God To Provide Security

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. Isaiah 26:3 - You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

2 Chronicles 20:31 And Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah: he was thirty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi.

Jehoshaphat became king of Judah at the age of 35 and reigned for 25 years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Azubah, the daughter of Shilhi.

1. Learning from Jehoshaphat's Faith: How to Trust God in Times of Trouble.

2. The Faith of Azubah: A Model of Motherhood and Commitment to God.

1. 2 Chronicles 15:7-8 - Be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.

2. Proverbs 31:10-12 - An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels.

2 Chronicles 20:32 And he walked in the way of Asa his father, and departed not from it, doing that which was right in the sight of the LORD.

Jehoshaphat followed in the footsteps of his father Asa, and did what the LORD commanded.

1. Doing Right in the Eyes of the Lord

2. Walking in the Footsteps of Our Fathers

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

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.

2 Chronicles 20:33 Howbeit the high places were not taken away: for as yet the people had not prepared their hearts unto the God of their fathers.

The people of Judah did not remove their high places of worship, as they had not yet devoted their hearts to the Lord.

1. "Devoting Our Hearts to the Lord"

2. "The Importance of Removing High Places of Worship"

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, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days."

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."

2 Chronicles 20:34 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of Jehu the son of Hanani, who is mentioned in the book of the kings of Israel.

The acts of Jehoshaphat are recorded in the books of Jehu and the kings of Israel.

1. Trust in the Lord: The Story of Jehoshaphat

2. Living a Life of Faith: Lessons from Jehoshaphat

1. 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. Tomorrow go out against them, and the Lord will be with 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.

2 Chronicles 20:35 And after this did Jehoshaphat king of Judah join himself with Ahaziah king of Israel, who did very wickedly:

Jehoshaphat, King of Judah, allied himself with Ahaziah, King of Israel, even though Ahaziah was very wicked.

1. The Dangers of Aligning with Wicked People

2. Learning from Jehoshaphat's Mistake

1. Proverbs 13:20 - Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

2. Psalm 1:1 - 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.

2 Chronicles 20:36 And he joined himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish: and they made the ships in Eziongaber.

King Jehoshaphat of Judah made an alliance with King Ahaziah of Israel and together they built ships in Eziongaber to sail to Tarshish.

1. God desires us to join forces with our brothers and sisters in Christ to do His work.

2. Through the power of unity, we can do great things for the glory of God.

1. Acts 2:42-47

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

2 Chronicles 20:37 Then Eliezer the son of Dodavah of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, Because thou hast joined thyself with Ahaziah, the LORD hath broken thy works. And the ships were broken, that they were not able to go to Tarshish.

Jehoshaphat had joined with Ahaziah, and as a consequence the LORD had caused his ships to be broken and unable to sail to Tarshish.

1. The Consequences of Unwise Partnerships

2. Heeding God's Warning Signs

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. Isaiah 30:1 - Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin.

2 Chronicles chapter 21 describes the reign of Jehoram, the son of Jehoshaphat, as the king of Judah and his wicked actions that lead to divine judgment.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Jehoram's ascension to the throne after his father's death. Unlike his father, Jehoram does evil in the sight of the Lord and marries a daughter of Ahab, furthering his alliance with the wicked house of Israel (2 Chronicles 21:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Jehoram's actions as king. He kills all his brothers and some officials in Judah. Moreover, he leads Judah astray by promoting idol worship and causing the people to forsake God's commandments (2 Chronicles 21:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Elijah, a prophet sent by God, writes a letter warning Jehoram about his wickedness and pronouncing judgment upon him. The letter predicts that he will suffer from a severe disease in his bowels until it causes his death (2 Chronicles 21:12-15).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how God stirs up neighboring enemies against Jehoram because of his wickedness. Edom rebels against Judah during this time, and Libnah also revolts against him (2 Chronicles 21:16-17).

5th Paragraph:The account concludes by highlighting how Jehoram dies a painful death due to an incurable disease in accordance with Elijah's prophecy. His death is not mourned by the people, and he is buried without honor (2 Chronicles 21:18-20).

In summary, Chapter twenty-one of 2 Chronicles depicts the reign, and judgment faced during leadership reign of King Jehoram. Highlighting departure from righteousness, and alliance formed with wickedness. Mentioning warnings received through prophet, and consequences faced due to rebellion. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Jehoram s choices expressed through disobedience while emphasizing divine retribution resulting from unfaithfulness exemplified by disregard towards God s commands an embodiment representing spiritual decline an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 21:1 Now Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. And Jehoram his son reigned in his stead.

Jehoshaphat dies and Jehoram succeeds him as King.

1. Learning to accept change and new beginnings

2. The importance of honoring our ancestors

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. 1 Samuel 15:23-24

2 Chronicles 21:2 And he had brethren the sons of Jehoshaphat, Azariah, and Jehiel, and Zechariah, and Azariah, and Michael, and Shephatiah: all these were the sons of Jehoshaphat king of Israel.

Jehoshaphat, king of Israel, had several sons, including Azariah, Jehiel, Zechariah, Michael, and Shephatiah.

1. The importance of family and legacy in the eyes of God.

2. The power of a godly example in the life of a leader.

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 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

2 Chronicles 21:3 And their father gave them great gifts of silver, and of gold, and of precious things, with fenced cities in Judah: but the kingdom gave he to Jehoram; because he was the firstborn.

Jehoram was given the kingdom by his father, along with great gifts of silver, gold, and precious items, as well as fenced cities in Judah.

1. The Blessing of Being a Firstborn

2. The Power of Generosity

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. Psalm 112:9 - He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.

2 Chronicles 21:4 Now when Jehoram was risen up to the kingdom of his father, he strengthened himself, and slew all his brethren with the sword, and divers also of the princes of Israel.

Jehoram, son of King Jehoshaphat, rose to the throne and killed his brothers and other noblemen of Israel with a sword.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How to Overcome Conflict and Find Mercy

2. The Dangers of Pride: How to Humble Yourself Before God

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

2 Chronicles 21:5 Jehoram was thirty and two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

Jehoram was 32 years old when he became King of Jerusalem and reigned for 8 years.

1. The importance of making the most of our time on Earth.

2. The importance of leadership and the example we set for others.

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 22:29 Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men.

2 Chronicles 21:6 And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, like as did the house of Ahab: for he had the daughter of Ahab to wife: and he wrought that which was evil in the eyes of the LORD.

Jehoram married the daughter of Ahab and followed in the path of the wicked kings of Israel, displeasing the Lord.

1. The Dangers of Marrying Unbelievers

2. The Consequences of Following Wicked Ways

1. 2 Corinthians 6:14-17

2. Proverbs 11:19

2 Chronicles 21:7 Howbeit the LORD would not destroy the house of David, because of the covenant that he had made with David, and as he promised to give a light to him and to his sons for ever.

Despite the wickedness of King Jehoram, the Lord keeps his promise to David and preserves his house.

1. God is Faithful: The Promise of the Covenant Kept.

2. The Mercy of the Lord: Despite Our Sins, He Still Protects Us.

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. 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 Chronicles 21:8 In his days the Edomites revolted from under the dominion of Judah, and made themselves a king.

During the reign of King Jehoram of Judah, the Edomites declared themselves independent and chose their own king.

1. The Power of Independence - How to stand firm in the face of opposition

2. God's Sovereignty - Learning to trust God's plans even when it seems our own have failed

1. 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. 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 Chronicles 21:9 Then Jehoram went forth with his princes, and all his chariots with him: and he rose up by night, and smote the Edomites which compassed him in, and the captains of the chariots.

Jehoram led his troops and chariots to battle the Edomites in a surprise attack at night.

1. God is always with us in battle, no matter the odds.

2. We must be courageous and act with faith even when the odds are against us.

1. Deuteronomy 20:3-4 - 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, 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!

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

2 Chronicles 21:10 So the Edomites revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. The same time also did Libnah revolt from under his hand; because he had forsaken the LORD God of his fathers.

The Edomites and Libnah revolted against Judah because Judah had forsaken the LORD.

1. The Consequences of Forsaking the LORD: A Look at 2 Chronicles 21:10

2. Faithfulness Rewarded: A Study of 2 Chronicles 21:10

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. Hosea 4:6 - My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

2 Chronicles 21:11 Moreover he made high places in the mountains of Judah, and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit fornication, and compelled Judah thereto.

King Jehoram of Judah practiced idolatry and led the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit fornication.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Power of Temptation

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 10:13-14 "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 Chronicles 21:12 And there came a writing to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, Thus saith the LORD God of David thy father, Because thou hast not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat thy father, nor in the ways of Asa king of Judah,

King Jehoram of Judah failed to follow the godly examples set by his father, Jehoshaphat, and Asa, king of Judah.

1. Walking in the Ways of Our Fathers

2. Living in Obedience to God s Commands

1. Proverbs 4:20-27 (My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.)

2. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 (Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse;)

2 Chronicles 21:13 But hast walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and hast made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to go a whoring, like to the whoredoms of the house of Ahab, and also hast slain thy brethren of thy father's house, which were better than thyself:

King Jehoram of Judah had committed many evil acts, such as following the example of the kings of Israel and encouraging Judah and Jerusalem to worship idols, as well as killing his own brothers who were better than him.

1. The Danger of Following Bad Examples - 2 Chronicles 21:13

2. The Consequences of Sin - 2 Chronicles 21:13

1. Proverbs 13:20 - He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

2 Chronicles 21:14 Behold, with a great plague will the LORD smite thy people, and thy children, and thy wives, and all thy goods:

God will punish the people of Judah with a great plague and will affect their children, wives, and possessions.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study of God's Punishment in 2 Chronicles 21

2. The Power of God's Judgment: A Look at 2 Chronicles 21

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 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 Chronicles 21:15 And thou shalt have great sickness by disease of thy bowels, until thy bowels fall out by reason of the sickness day by day.

God warns King Jehoram of Judah of a great sickness that would cause his bowels to fall out.

1. God's Warnings: Heeding the Call to Repentance

2. God's Power: Even the Greatest Kings are Not Above His Judgement

1. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

2. Genesis 18:25 - Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?

2 Chronicles 21:16 Moreover the LORD stirred up against Jehoram the spirit of the Philistines, and of the Arabians, that were near the Ethiopians:

The LORD stirred up the spirit of the Philistines, Arabians, and Ethiopians against King Jehoram.

1. The Power of God in the Lives of Kings

2. How Our Choices Affect Our Lives

1. 1 Chronicles 21:1 - And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

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.

2 Chronicles 21:17 And they came up into Judah, and brake into it, and carried away all the substance that was found in the king's house, and his sons also, and his wives; so that there was never a son left him, save Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons.

The invading forces of Israel and Judah invaded the kingdom of Judah and looted the king's palace, taking all of his possessions, including his sons and wives, leaving only the youngest son, Jehoahaz.

1. The Power of Faith Over Fear: Standing Firm Despite Adversity

2. The Value of Resilience and Perseverance in Times of Trouble

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 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 Chronicles 21:18 And after all this the LORD smote him in his bowels with an incurable disease.

The Lord punished Jehoram with an incurable disease after he had done evil in the sight of the Lord.

1. God will always be watching and will not tolerate sin.

2. We must be careful to stay away from sin at all costs.

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.

2 Chronicles 21:19 And it came to pass, that in process of time, after the end of two years, his bowels fell out by reason of his sickness: so he died of sore diseases. And his people made no burning for him, like the burning of his fathers.

After two years of illness, Jehoram died of a painful disease. His people did not burn him like his ancestors.

1. The Worth of a Life: Reflections on 2 Chronicles 21:19

2. Remembering Those Who Have Passed: A Study of 2 Chronicles 21:19

1. Isaiah 53:3 - He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.

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.

2 Chronicles 21:20 Thirty and two years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years, and departed without being desired. Howbeit they buried him in the city of David, but not in the sepulchres of the kings.

Jehoram of Judah began to reign at age 32 and reigned in Jerusalem for 8 years before dying without being desired. He was buried in the city of David, but not in the sepulchres of the kings.

1. God's Plans are Not Always Our Plans

2. The Power of Humility and Dying Unnoticed

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 23:12 - And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

2 Chronicles chapter 22 continues the account of Jehoram's reign and introduces his son Ahaziah, who becomes king after his father's death.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting the wickedness of Ahaziah's mother, Athaliah, who influences him to follow in the footsteps of the house of Ahab. After Jehoram's death, Ahaziah assumes the throne of Judah (2 Chronicles 22:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Ahaziah aligns himself with Ahab's family through marriage. He joins forces with Joram, the son of Ahab and king of Israel, to fight against Hazael, the king of Aram. However, this battle ends in disaster for Ahaziah as he is wounded (2 Chronicles 22:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Ahaziah seeks refuge in Samaria but is ultimately found and killed by Jehu, whom God has anointed as a prophet to execute judgment on the house of Ahab. This marks the fulfillment of Elijah's prophecy regarding Ahab's descendants (2 Chronicles 22:7-9).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Athaliah takes advantage of her son's death and seizes power in Judah. She ruthlessly eliminates all potential heirs to secure her position as queen (2 Chronicles 22:10-12).

In summary, Chapter twenty-two of 2 Chronicles depicts the reign, and downfall faced during leadership reign of King Ahaziah. Highlighting influence received from wicked mother, and alignment formed with house family of Ahab. Mentioning defeat experienced during battle, and execution faced due to divine judgment. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Ahaziah s choices expressed through following evil influences while emphasizing consequences resulting from disobedience exemplified by downfall due to divine intervention an embodiment representing divine justice an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 22:1 And the inhabitants of Jerusalem made Ahaziah his youngest son king in his stead: for the band of men that came with the Arabians to the camp had slain all the eldest. So Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah reigned.

Ahaziah became king of Jerusalem after the Arabians killed all the other heirs to the throne.

1. Trust in God's plan despite unexpected and difficult circumstances.

2. The power of faith in the midst of tragedy.

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."

2 Chronicles 22:2 Forty and two years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Athaliah the daughter of Omri.

Ahaziah began to reign when he was 42 years old and his mother's name was Athaliah, daughter of Omri.

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. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

1. 2 Kings 8:26 - Ahaziah was forty-two years old when he became king of Judah, and he reigned in Jerusalem one year. His mother's name was Athaliah, a granddaughter of Omri.

2. 2 Kings 11:1-3 - When Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she proceeded to destroy the whole royal family. But Jehosheba, the daughter of King Jehoram and sister of Ahaziah, took Joash son of Ahaziah and stole him away from among the royal princes who were about to be murdered. She put him and his nurse in a bedroom to hide him from Athaliah; so he was not killed. He remained hidden with his nurse at the temple of the Lord for six years while Athaliah ruled the land.

2 Chronicles 22:3 He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab: for his mother was his counsellor to do wickedly.

Ahaziah, son of King Jehoram of Judah, followed the wicked ways of the house of Ahab, as his mother encouraged him to do so.

1. The Power of Influence: How Our Choices Are Affected by Those Around Us

2. Beware of Bad Counsel: The Dangers of Listening to the Wrong Advice

1. Proverbs 13:20 - He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will suffer harm.

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

2 Chronicles 22:4 Wherefore he did evil in the sight of the LORD like the house of Ahab: for they were his counsellors after the death of his father to his destruction.

After the death of his father, King Jehoram of Judah accepted the counsel of those who committed evil in the sight of the Lord, similar to the counsel of the house of Ahab, leading to his destruction.

1. The Dangers of Listening to the Wrong People

2. Learning from the Mistakes of Others

1. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:11-12 - 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.

2 Chronicles 22:5 He walked also after their counsel, and went with Jehoram the son of Ahab king of Israel to war against Hazael king of Syria at Ramothgilead: and the Syrians smote Joram.

Joram, son of Ahab king of Israel, followed the counsel of others and joined Jehoram to fight against Hazael king of Syria at Ramothgilead. The Syrians ultimately defeated Joram in battle.

1. Trust in God, Not in Man - Proverbs 3:5-6

2. The Power of Unwise Counsel - Proverbs 12:15

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. Proverbs 12:15 - "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice."

2 Chronicles 22:6 And he returned to be healed in Jezreel because of the wounds which were given him at Ramah, when he fought with Hazael king of Syria. And Azariah the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see Jehoram the son of Ahab at Jezreel, because he was sick.

Azariah, the son of Jehoram king of Judah, went to visit Jehoram, the son of Ahab, in Jezreel to offer him healing for the wounds he received while fighting with Hazael king of Syria at Ramah.

1. The Power of Healing: The importance of physical, emotional, and spiritual healing.

2. Faith in the Face of Adversity: How to remain faithful and courageous in the midst of difficult battles.

1. James 5:13-16 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

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.

2 Chronicles 22:7 And the destruction of Ahaziah was of God by coming to Joram: for when he was come, he went out with Jehoram against Jehu the son of Nimshi, whom the LORD had anointed to cut off the house of Ahab.

Ahaziah was destroyed by God for joining Jehoram in supporting Jehu, who God had anointed to take down the house of Ahab.

1. The Lord will punish those who defy His will.

2. God's power is greater than any human's.

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. 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?"

2 Chronicles 22:8 And it came to pass, that, when Jehu was executing judgment upon the house of Ahab, and found the princes of Judah, and the sons of the brethren of Ahaziah, that ministered to Ahaziah, he slew them.

Jehu executed judgment on the house of Ahab and killed the princes of Judah and the sons of the brethren of Ahaziah who had ministered to Ahaziah.

1. The Power of God's Judgment: Examining 2 Chronicles 22:8

2. Understanding God's Justice: Exploring 2 Chronicles 22:8

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. Deuteronomy 32:35 - It is mine to avenge; I will repay. In due time their foot will slip; their day of disaster is near and their doom rushes upon them.

2 Chronicles 22:9 And he sought Ahaziah: and they caught him, (for he was hid in Samaria,) and brought him to Jehu: and when they had slain him, they buried him: Because, said they, he is the son of Jehoshaphat, who sought the LORD with all his heart. So the house of Ahaziah had no power to keep still the kingdom.

Ahaziah was found hiding in Samaria and was slain by Jehu. The house of Ahaziah had no power to keep their kingdom.

1. The Power of Seeking God with All Our Heart - 2 Chronicles 22:9

2. The Consequences of Not Seeking God - 2 Chronicles 22:9

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

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 Chronicles 22:10 But when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal of the house of Judah.

Athaliah, the mother of Ahaziah, saw her son had died and destroyed all the royal descendants of the house of Judah.

1. God's Sovereignty: Looking at the Sovereignty of God in the midst of tragedy.

2. The Power of Grief: Examining the power of grief and how it can shape our lives.

1. Job 1:21 - "The Lord gives and the Lord takes away"

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 Chronicles 22:11 But Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons that were slain, and put him and his nurse in a bedchamber. So Jehoshabeath, the daughter of king Jehoram, the wife of Jehoiada the priest, (for she was the sister of Ahaziah,) hid him from Athaliah, so that she slew him not.

Jehoshabeath, the daughter of King Jehoram, the wife of Jehoiada the priest, protected Joash from being killed by Athaliah by hiding him in a bedchamber.

1. The Power of Protection: How the Love of a Family Member Saved a Life

2. The Strength of Faith: How Jehoshabeath's Belief in God Enabled Her to Stand Up for What Was Right

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 34:7 The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

2 Chronicles 22:12 And he was with them hid in the house of God six years: and Athaliah reigned over the land.

Jehoram, Athaliah's son, was in hiding in the house of God for six years while Athaliah reigned over the land.

1. God's protection in times of distress.

2. God's plan for our lives is greater than our own.

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. 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 Chronicles chapter 23 recounts the events surrounding the overthrow of Queen Athaliah and the restoration of the rightful king, Joash, in Judah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting how Jehoiada, a priest, takes action to protect and restore the line of David. He gathers together the commanders of the royal guard and makes a covenant with them to support Joash as king (2 Chronicles 23:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Jehoiada's plan to execute their strategy. He instructs them to station themselves around the temple with weapons while he anoints Joash as king. The people are called together, and Jehoiada proclaims Joash as their rightful ruler (2 Chronicles 23:4-11).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Athaliah hears the commotion and comes to investigate. When she sees Joash being crowned, she cries out in protest but is swiftly executed by command of Jehoiada (2 Chronicles 23:12-15).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Jehoiada establishes reforms in worship according to God's commands. He restores order in the temple, removes idolatrous practices, and reinstates proper service for priests and Levites (2 Chronicles 23:16-21).

In summary, Chapter twenty-three of 2 Chronicles depicts the overthrow, and restoration experienced during leadership reign of King Joash. Highlighting plot devised towards protecting rightful heir, and execution carried out against usurping queen. Mentioning reforms implemented towards worship, and restoration achieved through divine intervention. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both Priest Jehoiada s actions expressed through loyalty towards true king while emphasizing restoration resulting from righteous intervention exemplified by reinstatement towards proper worship an embodiment representing divine providence an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 23:1 And in the seventh year Jehoiada strengthened himself, and took the captains of hundreds, Azariah the son of Jeroham, and Ishmael the son of Jehohanan, and Azariah the son of Obed, and Maaseiah the son of Adaiah, and Elishaphat the son of Zichri, into covenant with him.

In the seventh year, Jehoiada made an alliance with five captains of hundreds.

1. The Power of Covenant Relationships

2. Keeping Our Promises: The Example of Jehoiada

1. Genesis 6:18 - God's covenant with Noah

2. 1 Samuel 20:8 - Jonathan's covenant with David

2 Chronicles 23:2 And they went about in Judah, and gathered the Levites out of all the cities of Judah, and the chief of the fathers of Israel, and they came to Jerusalem.

The Levites and the heads of the families of Israel traveled throughout Judah, gathering in Jerusalem.

1. The importance of gathering together in fellowship

2. How God uses people to accomplish His will

1. Acts 2:46-47 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.

2. Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

2 Chronicles 23:3 And all the congregation made a covenant with the king in the house of God. And he said unto them, Behold, the king's son shall reign, as the LORD hath said of the sons of David.

The people made a covenant with the king in the house of God, agreeing that the king's son would reign as the Lord had said would happen with the sons of David.

1. The Power of Commitment: How a Covenant with God Changes Lives

2. The Promise of a King: God's Plan for the House of David

1. Jeremiah 33:17 For thus says the Lord: David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel.

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 Chronicles 23:4 This is the thing that ye shall do; A third part of you entering on the sabbath, of the priests and of the Levites, shall be porters of the doors;

On the Sabbath, a third of the priests and Levites were to act as porters of the doors.

1. God's Commandments: Fulfilling Our Responsibilities

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Word

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 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 Chronicles 23:5 And a third part shall be at the king's house; and a third part at the gate of the foundation: and all the people shall be in the courts of the house of the LORD.

Jehoiada the priest commands the nation of Judah to be divided into three groups, one at the king's house, one at the gate of the foundation, and one in the courts of the Lord's house.

1. The Need for Unity in the Church

2. The Power of Obedience to God's Word

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. James 1:22: But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2 Chronicles 23:6 But let none come into the house of the LORD, save the priests, and they that minister of the Levites; they shall go in, for they are holy: but all the people shall keep the watch of the LORD.

The Levites were given permission to enter the House of the LORD, while all other people were commanded to keep watch outside.

1. The Importance of Holiness in the House of the LORD

2. Keeping Watch in the House of the LORD

1. 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.

2. Leviticus 10:10 - And that ye may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean.

2 Chronicles 23:7 And the Levites shall compass the king round about, every man with his weapons in his hand; and whosoever else cometh into the house, he shall be put to death: but be ye with the king when he cometh in, and when he goeth out.

The Levites were to stand guard with weapons in hand and anyone else entering the house would be put to death. The Levites were to be with the king when he came and went.

1. The importance of having faithful guards around the king.

2. The significance of being with the king during his comings and goings.

1. Proverbs 16:15 - In the light of the king s face is life; and his favour is as a cloud of the latter rain.

2. Psalm 121:4-5 - Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD is thy keeper: the LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand.

2 Chronicles 23:8 So the Levites and all Judah did according to all things that Jehoiada the priest had commanded, and took every man his men that were to come in on the sabbath, with them that were to go out on the sabbath: for Jehoiada the priest dismissed not the courses.

Jehoiada the priest commanded the Levites and Judah to take turns coming into and going out of the temple on the sabbath, and he did not change the order of the courses.

1. The importance of following God's commands even when it is difficult.

2. The faithfulness of Jehoiada in abiding by God's commands.

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. 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 Chronicles 23:9 Moreover Jehoiada the priest delivered to the captains of hundreds spears, and bucklers, and shields, that had been king David's, which were in the house of God.

Jehoiada the priest provided the captains of hundreds with spears, bucklers, and shields that had belonged to King David and were stored in the house of God.

1. The Power of Generosity

2. Living a Life of Faithful Service

1. Proverbs 11:25 - A generous person will be enriched, and one who gives a drink of water will receive a reward.

2. 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 Chronicles 23:10 And he set all the people, every man having his weapon in his hand, from the right side of the temple to the left side of the temple, along by the altar and the temple, by the king round about.

Jehoiada placed men with weapons around the temple of Jerusalem to protect the king.

1. The importance of protection and security in the Lord's house.

2. God's faithfulness in providing security through His people.

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. 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 Chronicles 23:11 Then they brought out the king's son, and put upon him the crown, and gave him the testimony, and made him king. And Jehoiada and his sons anointed him, and said, God save the king.

Jehoiada and his sons anointed King Joash, placed a crown upon him, and presented him with the testimony before proclaiming him king.

1. God's Sovereignty in Appointing Leaders

2. The Power of Anointing in God's Kingdom

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. 1 Samuel 10:1-7

2 Chronicles 23:12 Now when Athaliah heard the noise of the people running and praising the king, she came to the people into the house of the LORD:

Athaliah heard the noise of people running and praising the king, so she went to the house of the LORD to investigate.

1. Taking Time to Investigate - the importance of looking into matters before making decisions.

2. The Sounds of Praise - the power of worship and giving glory to God.

1. Proverbs 18:13 - He who gives an answer before he hears, It is folly and shame to him.

2. John 4:23-24 - But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

2 Chronicles 23:13 And she looked, and, behold, the king stood at his pillar at the entering in, and the princes and the trumpets by the king: and all the people of the land rejoiced, and sounded with trumpets, also the singers with instruments of musick, and such as taught to sing praise. Then Athaliah rent her clothes, and said, Treason, Treason.

Athaliah, upon seeing the king and the people of the land rejoicing, tore her clothes and declared "Treason, Treason."

1. A Call to Repentance: The Treason of Athaliah

2. Treason or Triumph: Our Response to God's Sovereign Grace

1. Proverbs 28:13- He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion.

2. Isaiah 6:5- Then I said, Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.

2 Chronicles 23:14 Then Jehoiada the priest brought out the captains of hundreds that were set over the host, and said unto them, Have her forth of the ranges: and whoso followeth her, let him be slain with the sword. For the priest said, Slay her not in the house of the LORD.

Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of hundreds to execute a woman outside of the house of the Lord.

1. The Holiness of the Lord's House

2. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commands

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. 1 Timothy 5:17, Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

2 Chronicles 23:15 So they laid hands on her; and when she was come to the entering of the horse gate by the king's house, they slew her there.

Jehoiada and the Levites arrested Athaliah and executed her at the entrance of the horse gate.

1. Do not allow evil to reign over you; choose righteousness and justice instead.

2. It is important to stand up for what is right even in the face of opposition.

1. Psalm 106:3 - Blessed are they who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times!

2. Romans 13:3-4 - 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.

2 Chronicles 23:16 And Jehoiada made a covenant between him, and between all the people, and between the king, that they should be the LORD's people.

Jehoiada made a covenant between himself, the people, and the king that they would become the Lord's people.

1. The Power of Covenant: A Study of 2 Chronicles 23:16

2. Making God's People: An Examination of 2 Chronicles 23:16

1. Jeremiah 50:5, "They shall ask the way to Zion, with their faces thitherward, saying, Come, and let us join ourselves to the LORD in a perpetual covenant that shall not be forgotten."

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."

2 Chronicles 23:17 Then all the people went to the house of Baal, and brake it down, and brake his altars and his images in pieces, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars.

The people of Judah destroyed the house of Baal and all its idols, and killed the priest Mattan.

1. The Power of God How God's People Overcome Idolatry

2. The Wrath of God The Consequences of Idolatry

1. 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.

2. Psalm 97:7 Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all ye gods.

2 Chronicles 23:18 Also Jehoiada appointed the offices of the house of the LORD by the hand of the priests the Levites, whom David had distributed in the house of the LORD, to offer the burnt offerings of the LORD, as it is written in the law of Moses, with rejoicing and with singing, as it was ordained by David.

Jehoiada appointed the Levites to offer burnt offerings to the LORD in the house of the LORD, as David had ordained in accordance with the law of Moses.

1. The Need for Righteousness and Obedience to God s Word

2. The Blessings of Serving God in Obedience

1. 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.

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.

2 Chronicles 23:19 And he set the porters at the gates of the house of the LORD, that none which was unclean in any thing should enter in.

Jehoiada the priest ordered the porters to prevent anyone who was unclean from entering the House of the Lord.

1. The Holiness of God and the Need for Us to be Righteous

2. The Importance of Obeying God's Commandments

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. 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."

2 Chronicles 23:20 And he took the captains of hundreds, and the nobles, and the governors of the people, and all the people of the land, and brought down the king from the house of the LORD: and they came through the high gate into the king's house, and set the king upon the throne of the kingdom.

Jehoiada led the people of Judah in restoring King Joash to the throne of Judah.

1. The Power of Unity - How Jehoiada and the people of Judah worked together to restore King Joash to the throne.

2. God's Plan - How God worked through Jehoiada and the people of Judah to restore King Joash to the throne.

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Proverbs 21:1 - The king s heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He wishes.

2 Chronicles 23:21 And all the people of the land rejoiced: and the city was quiet, after that they had slain Athaliah with the sword.

The people of the land rejoiced after they killed Athaliah with a sword.

1. The Power of Rejoicing: How to Find Joy After Difficult Times

2. Divine Justice: How God Upholds Righteousness and Punishes Wickedness

1. Psalm 97:12 - Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

2. Isaiah 3:10 - Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings.

2 Chronicles chapter 24 describes the reign of Joash, the restoration of the temple, and Joash's downfall due to his apostasy.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Joash's early years as king. Under the guidance of Jehoiada, he leads a successful restoration project for the temple. The people willingly contribute to repair and beautify God's house (2 Chronicles 24:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Jehoiada's death and its impact on Joash. After Jehoiada's passing, Joash listens to wicked advisers who lead him astray. He forsakes the worship of God and turns to idolatry (2 Chronicles 24:15-18).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how prophets are sent by God to warn Joash about his apostasy, but he refuses to listen and even orders Zechariah, son of Jehoiada, to be stoned for delivering God's message (2 Chronicles 24:19-22).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Joash faces divine judgment for his disobedience. He is defeated in battle by a small Aramean army sent by God as punishment. His own officials conspire against him and assassinate him in his bed (2 Chronicles 24:23-25).

5th Paragraph:The account concludes by highlighting how Amaziah, Joash's son, becomes king after his father's death. Though he follows some righteous actions early in his reign, he eventually falls into idolatry as well (2 Chronicles 24:26-27).

In summary, Chapter twenty-four of 2 Chronicles depicts the restoration, and downfall experienced during leadership reign of King Joash. Highlighting rebuilding undertaken towards temple, and deviation caused through wicked counsel. Mentioning warnings received through prophets, and consequences faced due to rebellion. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Joash s choices expressed through initial devotion while emphasizing spiritual decline resulting from turning away from God exemplified by divine judgment an embodiment representing divine justice an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 24:1 Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Zibiah of Beersheba.

Joash began to reign in Jerusalem at the age of seven and reigned for forty years. His mother was Zibiah of Beersheba.

1. God can use anyone for His purposes, no matter their age.

2. Even in difficult times, God is in control.

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 1:37 - "For nothing is impossible with God."

2 Chronicles 24:2 And Joash did that which was right in the sight of the LORD all the days of Jehoiada the priest.

Joash followed the commands of the Lord while Jehoiada the priest was alive.

1. The Power of Positive Examples: Learning from Joash's Faithfulness

2. Living a Life of Obedience: Applying the Lessons of Joash

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. 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 Chronicles 24:3 And Jehoiada took for him two wives; and he begat sons and daughters.

Jehoiada took two wives and had children with them.

1. The importance of family in the Bible

2. God's faithfulness in providing for our needs

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

2 Chronicles 24:4 And it came to pass after this, that Joash was minded to repair the house of the LORD.

Joash was determined to repair the house of the Lord.

1. God's House is Our Priority - 2 Chronicles 24:4

2. Working to Restore God's House - 2 Chronicles 24:4

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. Luke 12:48 - From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.

2 Chronicles 24:5 And he gathered together the priests and the Levites, and said to them, Go out unto the cities of Judah, and gather of all Israel money to repair the house of your God from year to year, and see that ye hasten the matter. Howbeit the Levites hastened it not.

King Joash of Judah called the priests and Levites to gather money from all Israel to repair the house of God, but the Levites did not hasten the matter.

1: God calls us to serve Him wholeheartedly and to use our resources to help build His house.

2: We must be diligent in our faith and act quickly when responding to God's calling.

Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Luke 10:2 - Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.

2 Chronicles 24:6 And the king called for Jehoiada the chief, and said unto him, Why hast thou not required of the Levites to bring in out of Judah and out of Jerusalem the collection, according to the commandment of Moses the servant of the LORD, and of the congregation of Israel, for the tabernacle of witness?

King Jehoash asked Jehoiada why the Levites had not collected the offerings according to Moses' instructions for the Tabernacle of Witness.

1. Obedience and Faithfulness to God's Commands

2. The Purpose of the Tabernacle of Witness

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. 2 Corinthians 8:5 And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.

2 Chronicles 24:7 For the sons of Athaliah, that wicked woman, had broken up the house of God; and also all the dedicated things of the house of the LORD did they bestow upon Baalim.

Athaliah's sons broke up the house of God and gave the items dedicated to the Lord to Baalim.

1. God is sovereign and will not be mocked

2. Do not put other gods before 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. Isaiah 42:8 I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.

2 Chronicles 24:8 And at the king's commandment they made a chest, and set it without at the gate of the house of the LORD.

The people of Judah assembled a chest to be placed at the gate of the temple of the Lord, in accordance with the king's command.

1. Obey King and God - The people of Judah exemplified obedience to both their king and God by following the king's command to place a chest at the temple's gate.

2. The Temple of the Lord - The people of Judah recognized the importance of the temple of the Lord, as shown by their dedication of a chest at the temple's gate.

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 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 Chronicles 24:9 And they made a proclamation through Judah and Jerusalem, to bring in to the LORD the collection that Moses the servant of God laid upon Israel in the wilderness.

The people of Judah and Jerusalem were commanded to bring to the Lord the collection that Moses had set for Israel in the wilderness.

1. The importance of giving generously to the Lord.

2. Obedience to God's commands brings blessings.

1. Deuteronomy 14:22-29 - God's instructions to His people to give a tithe of their increase.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - Paul's exhortation to the Corinthians to give generously, cheerfully and abundantly.

2 Chronicles 24:10 And all the princes and all the people rejoiced, and brought in, and cast into the chest, until they had made an end.

The people and princes of Judah rejoiced and brought contributions to the chest until they had finished.

1. Rejoice in the Lord Always - Philippians 4:4

2. Be Generous in All Things - 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

1. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:7 - Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has already approved what you do.

2 Chronicles 24:11 Now it came to pass, that at what time the chest was brought unto the king's office by the hand of the Levites, and when they saw that there was much money, the king's scribe and the high priest's officer came and emptied the chest, and took it, and carried it to his place again. Thus they did day by day, and gathered money in abundance.

Every day, the king s scribe and the high priest s officer were collecting money from the chest given to them by the Levites.

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. 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 Chronicles 24:12 And the king and Jehoiada gave it to such as did the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and hired masons and carpenters to repair the house of the LORD, and also such as wrought iron and brass to mend the house of the LORD.

King Jehoiada and the king provided funds to hire masons, carpenters, iron and brass workers in order to repair the house of the Lord.

1. The Importance of Doing God's Work - 2 Chronicles 24:12

2. The Rewards of Serving the Lord - 2 Chronicles 24:12

1. Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added to you.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.

2 Chronicles 24:13 So the workmen wrought, and the work was perfected by them, and they set the house of God in his state, and strengthened it.

The workmen completed the repairs and improvements to the House of God and restored it to its former glory.

1. God's House of Worship: Restoring Our Faith

2. The Power of Perseverance: Completing the Task

1. Nehemiah 4:6 - So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.

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.

2 Chronicles 24:14 And when they had finished it, they brought the rest of the money before the king and Jehoiada, whereof were made vessels for the house of the LORD, even vessels to minister, and to offer withal, and spoons, and vessels of gold and silver. And they offered burnt offerings in the house of the LORD continually all the days of Jehoiada.

Jehoiada and the people of Judah brought money to the king to be used for making vessels for the house of the Lord, with which they offered burnt offerings continually.

1. The Power of Generosity: The Faithful Stewardship of the People of Judah

2. Cultivating a Heart of Worship: The Devoted Service of Jehoiada

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. 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 Chronicles 24:15 But Jehoiada waxed old, and was full of days when he died; an hundred and thirty years old was he when he died.

Jehoiada lived to be very old, dying at the age of 130 years old.

1. Appreciating the Gift of Longevity

2. Living a Life of Worship and Obedience

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

2 Chronicles 24:16 And they buried him in the city of David among the kings, because he had done good in Israel, both toward God, and toward his house.

The people of Israel buried King Joash in the city of David because he had done good deeds for God and his house.

1. Doing good works will bring blessings.

2. A legacy of faithfulness to God will be remembered.

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. 2 Timothy 4:7-8 - "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing."

2 Chronicles 24:17 Now after the death of Jehoiada came the princes of Judah, and made obeisance to the king. Then the king hearkened unto them.

After the death of Jehoiada, the princes of Judah bowed down to the king and the king listened to them.

1. The lives we live affect those around us

2. Putting others before ourselves

1. Romans 12:10-13 - Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give p to one another in honor; not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

2 Chronicles 24:18 And they left the house of the LORD God of their fathers, and served groves and idols: and wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this their trespass.

The people of Judah and Jerusalem abandoned the Lord and instead served idols, leading to God's wrath.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Importance of Faithfulness to God

1. Isaiah 24:4-5 - The earth mourns and withers, the world languishes and withers; the heavens languish together with the earth. The earth lies defiled under its inhabitants; for they have transgressed the laws, violated the statutes, broken the everlasting covenant.

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-18 - But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you. Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the field. Cursed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Cursed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. Cursed shall you be when you come in, and cursed shall you be when you go out.

2 Chronicles 24:19 Yet he sent prophets to them, to bring them again unto the LORD; and they testified against them: but they would not give ear.

God sent prophets to the people to encourage them to return to Him, but they refused to listen.

1. Don't Let Stubbornness Overcome Obedience

2. The Call to Repentance

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. Isaiah 1:16-19 - Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow. 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. If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land;

2 Chronicles 24:20 And the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, which stood above the people, and said unto them, Thus saith God, Why transgress ye the commandments of the LORD, that ye cannot prosper? because ye have forsaken the LORD, he hath also forsaken you.

Jehoiada's son Zechariah was filled with the Spirit of God and asked the people why they were not succeeding, reminding them that when they had forsaken God, He had forsaken them.

1. Reclaiming the Covenant: Abiding in God's Promise

2. The Blessing of Obedience: God's Promise to His People

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's promise of blessings for obedience.

2. Hebrews 12:14-15 - Pursuing peace and holiness through obedience.

2 Chronicles 24:21 And they conspired against him, and stoned him with stones at the commandment of the king in the court of the house of the LORD.

King Joash commanded that his servant be stoned to death in the court of the house of the LORD.

1. God's justice is perfect and no one is above it.

2. We must treat our servants with respect and kindness.

1. Psalm 37:28, "For the LORD loves justice and will not forsake his godly ones; they are preserved forever."

2. Ephesians 6:9, "And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him."

2 Chronicles 24:22 Thus Joash the king remembered not the kindness which Jehoiada his father had done to him, but slew his son. And when he died, he said, The LORD look upon it, and require it.

Joash, the king of Judah, forgot the kindness of his father Jehoiada and killed his son. He asked the LORD to take notice of this wrongdoing.

1. The Importance of Gratitude: Remembering the Kindness of Others

2. The Power of Prayer: Seeking the LORD s Justice

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. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

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.

2 Chronicles 24:23 And it came to pass at the end of the year, that the host of Syria came up against him: and they came to Judah and Jerusalem, and destroyed all the princes of the people from among the people, and sent all the spoil of them unto the king of Damascus.

At the end of the year, the army of Syria invaded Judah and Jerusalem, killing all of the princes and taking their plunder.

1. The Power of God's Protection: How to Find Strength in Difficult Times

2. Living in the Shadow of God's Promise: The Comfort of Knowing He is in Control

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.

2 Chronicles 24:24 For the army of the Syrians came with a small company of men, and the LORD delivered a very great host into their hand, because they had forsaken the LORD God of their fathers. So they executed judgment against Joash.

Joash forsook the LORD God of his fathers and was punished by the LORD by delivering a great army of Syrians to his hand.

1. God will never give up on us, even when we turn away from Him.

2. Acknowledge and turn to the Lord God of your fathers before it's too late.

1. 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.

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?

2 Chronicles 24:25 And when they were departed from him, (for they left him in great diseases,) his own servants conspired against him for the blood of the sons of Jehoiada the priest, and slew him on his bed, and he died: and they buried him in the city of David, but they buried him not in the sepulchres of the kings.

Jehoash, king of Judah, was betrayed and killed by his own servants due to the death of Jehoiada the priest. He was buried in the city of David, but not in the sepulchres of the kings.

1. We must be careful of whom we trust in life.

2. Betrayal and vengeance can have harsh and deadly consequences.

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 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 Chronicles 24:26 And these are they that conspired against him; Zabad the son of Shimeath an Ammonitess, and Jehozabad the son of Shimrith a Moabitess.

Two people, Zabad the son of Shimeath an Ammonitess and Jehozabad the son of Shimrith a Moabitess, conspired against Jehoiada the priest.

1. The Power of Uniting in Good: A Study of 2 Chronicles 24:26

2. The Danger of Conspiring Against God's Anointed: A Study of 2 Chronicles 24:26

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Without wise guidance, a nation falls; with many counselors there is safety.

2. Romans 12:20 - Therefore, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by doing so you will heap burning coals on his head.

2 Chronicles 24:27 Now concerning his sons, and the greatness of the burdens laid upon him, and the repairing of the house of God, behold, they are written in the story of the book of the kings. And Amaziah his son reigned in his stead.

Amaziah's sons were burdened with greatness and were responsible for repairing the House of God, and Amaziah's son took the throne after him.

1. The Power of Legacy: Passing on the Blessing to the Next Generation

2. The Responsibility of Serving God and His People

1. Joshua 24:15 - "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

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."

2 Chronicles chapter 25 describes the reign of Amaziah, his military victories, and his eventual downfall due to pride and idolatry.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Amaziah's ascension to the throne at the age of 25. He starts his reign by executing those who assassinated his father but spares their children in accordance with God's law (2 Chronicles 25:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Amaziah's military campaigns. He assembles a formidable army and defeats the Edomites, capturing their capital city. However, he brings back idols from Edom and begins to worship them (2 Chronicles 25:5-14).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how a prophet warns Amaziah about his idolatry and advises him to seek God instead. However, Amaziah disregards the prophet's counsel and challenges Joash, king of Israel, to battle (2 Chronicles 25:15-16).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Joash warns Amaziah not to proceed with war because it will lead to his defeat. Ignoring this warning, they engage in battle, resulting in Judah's defeat and the capture of Amaziah (2 Chronicles 25:17-24).

5th Paragraph:The account concludes by highlighting how Jerusalem is plundered by Joash before he returns to Samaria. Following his release from captivity, Amaziah faces rebellion within Judah and is eventually assassinated (2 Chronicles 25:25-28).

In summary, Chapter twenty-five of 2 Chronicles depicts the reign, and downfall experienced during leadership reign of King Amaziah. Highlighting execution carried out towards conspirators, and victories achieved through military campaigns. Mentioning warnings received through prophet, and consequences faced due to prideful rebellion. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Amaziah s choices expressed through initial justice while emphasizing spiritual decline resulting from idolatry exemplified by defeat in battle an embodiment representing divine justice an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 25:1 Amaziah was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem.

Amaziah was 25 years old when he became King of Jerusalem and reigned for 29 years. His mother's name was Jehoaddan.

1. A King's Commitment: The Story of Amaziah

2. Upholding a Legacy: Amaziah and His Mother Jehoaddan

1. 2 Kings 14:1-2 - In the second year of Joash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel, Amaziah son of Joash king of Judah began to reign. He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-nine years. His mother s name was Jehoaddahn of Jerusalem.

2. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

2 Chronicles 25:2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a perfect heart.

Amaziah did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, but his heart was not fully devoted.

1. The Dangers of Half-Hearted Commitment

2. The Need for Wholehearted Obedience

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. 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 Chronicles 25:3 Now it came to pass, when the kingdom was established to him, that he slew his servants that had killed the king his father.

Amaziah, King of Judah, killed those who murdered his father when he gained the throne.

1. The Power of Justice - How God calls us to seek justice and right wrongs.

2. Honoring Parents - How honoring your parents is an important part of God's plan.

1. Proverbs 20:28 - Steadfast love and faithfulness preserve the king, and by steadfast love his throne is upheld.

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.

2 Chronicles 25:4 But he slew not their children, but did as it is written in the law in the book of Moses, where the LORD commanded, saying, The fathers shall not die for the children, neither shall the children die for the fathers, but every man shall die for his own sin.

King Amaziah of Judah followed the law commanded by God in the book of Moses, which stated that each man should be punished for their own sin and not the sin of their parents.

1. The Consequences of Sin and the Importance of Obedience

2. Separating Righteousness from Unrighteousness

1. 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."

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

2 Chronicles 25:5 Moreover Amaziah gathered Judah together, and made them captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, according to the houses of their fathers, throughout all Judah and Benjamin: and he numbered them from twenty years old and above, and found them three hundred thousand choice men, able to go forth to war, that could handle spear and shield.

Amaziah gathered the people of Judah and Benjamin, numbering them from twenty years old and above, and finding three hundred thousand men able to go to war.

1. The Strength of Unity: A Look at 2 Chronicles 25:5

2. Using Our Gifts: A Study of 2 Chronicles 25:5

1. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

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 Chronicles 25:6 He hired also an hundred thousand mighty men of valour out of Israel for an hundred talents of silver.

Amaziah hired one hundred thousand valiant warriors from Israel for one hundred talents of silver.

1. The Strength of Unity - Using the example of Amaziah, we can see how coming together as one can be a powerful force.

2. The Price of War - Amaziah paid an expensive price for the services of his warriors, reminding us of the high cost of entering into conflict.

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. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

2 Chronicles 25:7 But there came a man of God to him, saying, O king, let not the army of Israel go with thee; for the LORD is not with Israel, to wit, with all the children of Ephraim.

A man of God warned King Amaziah not to let the army of Israel go with him in battle because the Lord was not with them.

1. God's Word: Obedience Is Better Than Sacrifice

2. Heed the Warning of the Lord

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.)

2. 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 Chronicles 25:8 But if thou wilt go, do it, be strong for the battle: God shall make thee fall before the enemy: for God hath power to help, and to cast down.

King Amaziah is urged to seek the guidance of God before going to battle.

1. Seek God's Guidance in All Things

2. Have Faith in the Strength of God

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 thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

2 Chronicles 25:9 And Amaziah said to the man of God, But what shall we do for the hundred talents which I have given to the army of Israel? And the man of God answered, The LORD is able to give thee much more than this.

Amaziah questions the man of God about what to do with the hundred talents he has already given to the army of Israel, and the man of God replies that the Lord is able to give him much more than that.

1. Trust in the Lord - He will provide more than we expect.

2. God's abundance is greater than our offerings.

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. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2 Chronicles 25:10 Then Amaziah separated them, to wit, the army that was come to him out of Ephraim, to go home again: wherefore their anger was greatly kindled against Judah, and they returned home in great anger.

Amaziah separated the army from Ephraim, but they were greatly angered and returned home.

1. The Power of Anger: How to Manage Emotions in Difficult Situations

2. Learning to Forgive: Letting Go of Resentment and Anger

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. 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 Chronicles 25:11 And Amaziah strengthened himself, and led forth his people, and went to the valley of salt, and smote of the children of Seir ten thousand.

Amaziah led his people to the Valley of Salt and defeated the children of Seir, killing 10,000 of them.

1. The Strength of Faith: Learning to Trust in God for Victory

2. The Dangers of Pride: The Consequences of Rejecting God's Guidance

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

2. 2 Chronicles 32:7 "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."

2 Chronicles 25:12 And other ten thousand left alive did the children of Judah carry away captive, and brought them unto the top of the rock, and cast them down from the top of the rock, that they all were broken in pieces.

The children of Judah defeated the enemies of Israel and captured ten thousand of them, which they took to the top of the rock and threw them off, killing them.

1. The Fierce Power of Faith: The Strength of God's People

2. Overcoming Adversity Through Trust in 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 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 Chronicles 25:13 But the soldiers of the army which Amaziah sent back, that they should not go with him to battle, fell upon the cities of Judah, from Samaria even unto Bethhoron, and smote three thousand of them, and took much spoil.

Amaziah sent some of his army back, but they ended up attacking cities in Judah and killing three thousand people as well as taking much of their possessions.

1. The Danger of Disobeying God's Commands: A Study of 2 Chronicles 25:13

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Plans: Examining 2 Chronicles 25:13

1. Matthew 22:37-39 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - If you 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 Chronicles 25:14 Now it came to pass, after that Amaziah was come from the slaughter of the Edomites, that he brought the gods of the children of Seir, and set them up to be his gods, and bowed down himself before them, and burned incense unto them.

Amaziah's idolatry: A warning against worshipping false gods.

1. The danger of worshipping false gods, 2 Chronicles 25:14

2. The importance of worshipping the one true God, 2 Chronicles 25:14

1. Exodus 20:3-5 "Thou shalt have no other gods before me"

2. Deuteronomy 4:15-19 "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"

2 Chronicles 25:15 Wherefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against Amaziah, and he sent unto him a prophet, which said unto him, Why hast thou sought after the gods of the people, which could not deliver their own people out of thine hand?

Amaziah was judged by God and sent a prophet to confront him for seeking the gods of the people instead of trusting in the Lord.

1. Trusting in the Lord: Why We Should Put Our Faith in God.

2. The Dangers of Idolatry: Why We Should Reject False Gods.

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 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 Chronicles 25:16 And it came to pass, as he talked with him, that the king said unto him, Art thou made of the king's counsel? forbear; why shouldest thou be smitten? Then the prophet forbare, and said, I know that God hath determined to destroy thee, because thou hast done this, and hast not hearkened unto my counsel.

The King asked the prophet if he was giving advice from the King's counsel and the prophet replied that he knew God had determined to destroy the King because he had not listened to his advice.

1. The importance of seeking counsel from God, rather than relying on our own judgement.

2. The consequences of ignoring wise counsel.

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."

2 Chronicles 25:17 Then Amaziah king of Judah took advice, and sent to Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, Come, let us see one another in the face.

Amaziah, King of Judah, seeks an audience with Joash, King of Israel.

1. The Value of Seeking Advice

2. The Power of Face-to-Face Interactions

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

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.

2 Chronicles 25:18 And Joash king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, The thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, Give thy daughter to my son to wife: and there passed by a wild beast that was in Lebanon, and trode down the thistle.

Joash, king of Israel, sent a message to Amaziah, king of Judah, asking him to arrange a marriage between his son and Amaziah's daughter.

1. The Power of Unification: How Joash's Request to Amaziah Can Help Us Find Unity

2. The Faithfulness of God: How Joash's Request in 2 Chronicles 25:18 Demonstrates God's Faithfulness

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. 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 Chronicles 25:19 Thou sayest, Lo, thou hast smitten the Edomites; and thine heart lifteth thee up to boast: abide now at home; why shouldest thou meddle to thine hurt, that thou shouldest fall, even thou, and Judah with thee?

The Lord warned Amaziah not to overconfidently meddle in the affairs of Edom, as it could lead to his own destruction and that of Judah.

1. Pride cometh before a fall: Reflecting on the lessons of Amaziah.

2. Choosing the Lord's Will: Submitting to God's plan.

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

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.

2 Chronicles 25:20 But Amaziah would not hear; for it came of God, that he might deliver them into the hand of their enemies, because they sought after the gods of Edom.

Amaziah refused to listen to God's advice, resulting in the deliverance of his people into the hands of their enemies.

1. The consequences of ignoring God's will.

2. The importance of obedience to God.

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. 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 Chronicles 25:21 So Joash the king of Israel went up; and they saw one another in the face, both he and Amaziah king of Judah, at Bethshemesh, which belongeth to Judah.

Joash, king of Israel, and Amaziah, king of Judah, meet at Bethshemesh in Judah.

1. The importance of relationships between leaders of different nations.

2. The importance of humility in 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. Proverbs 18:24, "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

2 Chronicles 25:22 And Judah was put to the worse before Israel, and they fled every man to his tent.

Israel defeated Judah in battle, causing them to flee back to their tents.

1. God's faithfulness in victory and defeat - 2 Chronicles 20:20-23

2. The power of unity - Psalm 133:1

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. Matthew 19:26 - But Jesus looked at them and said to them, With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

2 Chronicles 25:23 And Joash the king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, at Bethshemesh, and brought him to Jerusalem, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim to the corner gate, four hundred cubits.

Joash, the king of Israel, captured Amaziah, the king of Judah, and destroyed part of the wall of Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Authority - Understanding the Authority God Gives Us

2. God's Judgment - How God Uses Authority for Judgment

1. Romans 13:1-2 - Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.

2. Isaiah 13:11 - I will punish the world for its evil, the wicked for their sins.

2 Chronicles 25:24 And he took all the gold and the silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of God with Obededom, and the treasures of the king's house, the hostages also, and returned to Samaria.

Amaziah, the king of Judah, took all the gold, silver, and other vessels from the temple of God when he defeated the Edomites. He also took hostages and treasures from the king's house and returned to Samaria.

1. God's blessings are available to those who remain faithful and obedient.

2. God's justice is swift and sure, even when it comes to those in power.

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. 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 Chronicles 25:25 And Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived after the death of Joash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel fifteen years.

Amaziah, the son of Joash king of Judah, lived for 15 years after the death of Joash, the son of Jehoahaz king of Israel.

1. The Power of Legacy: How We Can Fulfill the Dreams of Our Ancestors

2. The Significance of a Long Life: Fulfilling One's Purpose on Earth

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 16:9 - The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

2 Chronicles 25:26 Now the rest of the acts of Amaziah, first and last, behold, are they not written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel?

Amaziah s actions, both good and bad, are documented in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

1. Remembering to Live Righteously: The Example of Amaziah

2. How to Live a Life Worthy of Remembrance

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. 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 Chronicles 25:27 Now after the time that Amaziah did turn away from following the LORD they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem; and he fled to Lachish: but they sent to Lachish after him, and slew him there.

Amaziah turned away from following God, and as a result a conspiracy formed against him in Jerusalem. He fled to Lachish, but was killed there.

1. Don't be deceived; God sees all and is always watching.

2. Rejecting God's will has consequences-- remain faithful in order to remain blessed.

1. Proverbs 15:3 - The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

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

2 Chronicles 25:28 And they brought him upon horses, and buried him with his fathers in the city of Judah.

Amaziah, King of Judah, was defeated in battle and was brought back to Judah on horses and buried with his fathers.

1. The importance of a legacy: Cherishing the memory of those who have gone before us.

2. The danger of pride: Having a humble heart before God.

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 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2 Chronicles chapter 26 describes the reign of Uzziah (also known as Azariah), his military successes, and his downfall due to pride and a presumptuous act.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Uzziah's ascension to the throne at a young age. Under the guidance of Zechariah, he seeks God and prospers in various endeavors (2 Chronicles 26:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Uzziah's military achievements. He builds up a strong army, defeats the Philistines, and gains control over several cities. His fame spreads far and wide (2 Chronicles 26:6-15).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Uzziah's success leads to pride. He becomes arrogant and attempts to enter the temple to burn incense an act reserved for priests alone. Azariah the priest confronts him but is ignored (2 Chronicles 26:16-20).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how God strikes Uzziah with leprosy as punishment for his presumption in entering the temple. From that point on, he is isolated from society until his death (2 Chronicles 26:21-23).

In summary, Chapter twenty-six of 2 Chronicles depicts the reign, and downfall experienced during leadership reign of King Uzziah. Highlighting prosperity achieved through seeking God, and victories accomplished through military campaigns. Mentioning pride developed within king, and consequences faced due to presumptuous act. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Uzziah s choices expressed through initial devotion while emphasizing spiritual decline resulting from pride exemplified by divine judgment an embodiment representing divine justice an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 26:1 Then all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in the room of his father Amaziah.

The people of Judah crowned Uzziah as king at the age of sixteen to succeed his father, Amaziah.

1. God Calls Us To Step Up When It's Our Time

2. Trusting In God's Timing To Place Us In Positions Of Leadership

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.

2 Chronicles 26:2 He built Eloth, and restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers.

Uzziah, king of Judah, built Eloth and restored it to Judah after he passed away.

1. God's plans don't always match our own, but He has a plan for us.

2. Uzziah's faithfulness to God's will is an example of how we should live 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. 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 Chronicles 26:3 Sixteen years old was Uzziah when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Jecoliah of Jerusalem.

Uzziah was 16 years old when he began to reign in Jerusalem and reigned for 52 years. His mother was Jecoliah of Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Young Leadership: Uzziah's Early Reign in Jerusalem

2. The Power of a Mother's Influence: Jecoliah's Impact on Uzziah

1. 2 Chronicles 26:3

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.

2 Chronicles 26:4 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah did.

Uzziah followed in the footsteps of his father Amaziah and did what was right in the eyes of the LORD.

1. The Power of Example: Following the Footsteps of Our Fathers

2. Living Righteously: The Importance of Doing What is Right

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 37:5- Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

2 Chronicles 26:5 And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God: and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him to prosper.

Uzziah, king of Judah, sought God through the visions of Zechariah and prospered as long as he continued to seek the LORD.

1. The Unfailing Rewards of Seeking God

2. A Call to Intimacy: Seeking the LORD

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;

2. Psalm 145:18 - The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

2 Chronicles 26:6 And he went forth and warred against the Philistines, and brake down the wall of Gath, and the wall of Jabneh, and the wall of Ashdod, and built cities about Ashdod, and among the Philistines.

Uzziah went to war against the Philistines and destroyed the walls of Gath, Jabneh, and Ashdod, then built cities around Ashdod.

1. Overcoming Adversity: Uzziah's Courageous Fight Against the Philistines

2. The Strength of Community: Uzziah's Building of Cities

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. 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 Chronicles 26:7 And God helped him against the Philistines, and against the Arabians that dwelt in Gurbaal, and the Mehunims.

God helped Uzziah, the king of Judah, against the Philistines, Arabians, and Mehunims.

1. God Helps Those Who Put Their Trust in Him - 2 Chronicles 16:9

2. The Power of Prayer - Philippians 4:6-7

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.

2 Chronicles 26:8 And the Ammonites gave gifts to Uzziah: and his name spread abroad even to the entering in of Egypt; for he strengthened himself exceedingly.

Uzziah was given gifts by the Ammonites, which caused his name to become well-known even to the Egyptians. He was very powerful.

1. Live a life of greatness, as exemplified by Uzziah.

2. Understand the power of a reputation, as Uzziah's gifts led to his name being well-known.

1. 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. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

2 Chronicles 26:9 Moreover Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem at the corner gate, and at the valley gate, and at the turning of the wall, and fortified them.

Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem to strengthen the city walls.

1. The importance of strength and security in our lives.

2. Building up the walls of faith in our lives.

1. Proverbs 18:10, "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe."

2. Isaiah 26:1, "In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah: We have a strong city; God makes salvation its walls and ramparts."

2 Chronicles 26:10 Also he built towers in the desert, and digged many wells: for he had much cattle, both in the low country, and in the plains: husbandmen also, and vine dressers in the mountains, and in Carmel: for he loved husbandry.

Uzziah built towers in the desert, dug many wells, and employed many husbandmen and vine dressers in the mountains and on Carmel because he desired to be a successful farmer.

1. The Value of Hard Work - Uzziah shows us the importance of working hard and taking initiative to achieve our goals.

2. The Fruits of Diligence - Uzziah's dedication to his work yielded great success and prosperity.

1. Proverbs 14:23 - All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the Talents - Jesus teaches about the importance of working hard and using the gifts and abilities we have been given.

2 Chronicles 26:11 Moreover Uzziah had an host of fighting men, that went out to war by bands, according to the number of their account by the hand of Jeiel the scribe and Maaseiah the ruler, under the hand of Hananiah, one of the king's captains.

Uzziah had an army organized and commanded by Jeiel the scribe, Maaseiah the ruler, and Hananiah, a captain of the king.

1. The Strength of Our Faith: Learning from Uzziah's Courage

2. God's Provisions: An Example from Uzziah's Army

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, a very present help in trouble.

2 Chronicles 26:12 The whole number of the chief of the fathers of the mighty men of valour were two thousand and six hundred.

This verse of 2 Chronicles 26 tells us that there were 2,600 "mighty men of valour" in the Old Testament.

1. Courage and Valor: What it Takes to Be a Hero

2. God's Army: What It Means to Be a Mighty Man of Valor

1. Joshua 1:6-9 - Be strong and courageous

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armor of God

2 Chronicles 26:13 And under their hand was an army, three hundred thousand and seven thousand and five hundred, that made war with mighty power, to help the king against the enemy.

Uzziah, the king of Judah, assembled an army of 307,500 troops to help him against his enemies.

1. God gives us strength to fight against our enemies.

2. Uzziah's faith in God enabled him to assemble an army against his enemies.

1. Psalm 18:2-3 - 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. Exodus 14:14 - The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

2 Chronicles 26:14 And Uzziah prepared for them throughout all the host shields, and spears, and helmets, and habergeons, and bows, and slings to cast stones.

Uzziah provided weapons to the army of Judah for protection.

1. The Power of Preparation - How having a plan for success can protect us from life's unknowns.

2. Arm Yourself with the Armor of God - The importance of being spiritually prepared for battle.

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Putting on the armor of God.

2. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead to profit.

2 Chronicles 26:15 And he made in Jerusalem engines, invented by cunning men, to be on the towers and upon the bulwarks, to shoot arrows and great stones withal. And his name spread far abroad; for he was marvellously helped, till he was strong.

Uzziah, King of Judah, was known far and wide for his strength, which was attributed to his invention of siege engines in Jerusalem.

1. The Strength of Uzziah - How God's Strength Can Help Us Reach Our Goals

2. Uzziah's Cunning Invention - Applying Creativity to Difficult Problems

1. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

2. Romans 8:35-37 - 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.

2 Chronicles 26:16 But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction: for he transgressed against the LORD his God, and went into the temple of the LORD to burn incense upon the altar of incense.

Uzziah was a great king, but when he became strong he became proud and sinned against God by going into the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense.

1. Pride Goes Before a Fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. The Danger of Disobedience - 2 Chronicles 26:16

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

2. Isaiah 14:12-14 How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.

2 Chronicles 26:17 And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him fourscore priests of the LORD, that were valiant men:

Uzziah, a king of Judah, attempted to enter the temple of the Lord to offer incense, but he was stopped by Azariah and 80 other priests of the Lord.

1. The importance of following God's law even when it goes against our desires.

2. The importance of upholding God's commands, even when they are difficult.

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 John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

2 Chronicles 26:18 And they withstood Uzziah the king, and said unto him, It appertaineth not unto thee, Uzziah, to burn incense unto the LORD, but to the priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to burn incense: go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast trespassed; neither shall it be for thine honour from the LORD God.

Uzziah was rebuked by the priests for attempting to burn incense in the sanctuary, which was only to be done by the consecrated priests of Aaron.

1. We must respect the authority of God and the boundaries He has set in place.

2. We must be aware of the limitations of our own authority and know when to step back and trust the authority of God.

1. 1 Peter 2:13-14 - Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, 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.

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

2 Chronicles 26:19 Then Uzziah was wroth, and had a censer in his hand to burn incense: and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, from beside the incense altar.

Uzziah became angry and took a censer to burn incense, but when he became angry with the priests the Lord afflicted him with leprosy on his forehead.

1. The Danger of Pride: Uzziah's Prideful Disobedience

2. God's Sovereignty: Even in Uzziah's Unfaithfulness, He is Still in Control

1. 2 Chronicles 26:19

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

2 Chronicles 26:20 And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked upon him, and, behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and they thrust him out from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go out, because the LORD had smitten him.

Azariah, the chief priest, and all the other priests noticed that he had leprosy on his forehead, so they forced him to leave. He quickly left because the LORD had struck him with the disease.

1. God's Justice: Understanding God's Discipline

2. Seeing God's Mercy: Finding Strength in Adversity

1. Job 5:17-18 - "Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty: For he maketh sore, and bindeth up: he woundeth, and his hands make whole.

2. 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. 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 Chronicles 26:21 And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house, being a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the LORD: and Jotham his son was over the king's house, judging the people of the land.

Uzziah, the king of Judah, contracted leprosy and was forced to live in a separate house away from the house of the Lord. His son, Jotham, ruled in his stead and judged the people of the land.

1. The Power of Humility in Uzziah's Story

2. How Jotham Fulfilled His Father's Role Despite Uzziah's Disability

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. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2 Chronicles 26:22 Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah, first and last, did Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, write.

Uzziah's actions were recorded by Isaiah the prophet, son of Amoz.

1. The importance of historical record keeping

2. How to live a life of significance

1. 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."

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."

2 Chronicles 26:23 So Uzziah slept with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the field of the burial which belonged to the kings; for they said, He is a leper: and Jotham his son reigned in his stead.

Uzziah died and was buried in a field belonging to the kings. His son Jotham then became king in his place.

1. The Power of Legacy: How We Can Impact Future Generations

2. Uzziah's Life and Death: A Study in the Human Condition

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. 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."

2 Chronicles chapter 27 describes the reign of Jotham, his accomplishments, and his faithfulness to God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Jotham's ascension to the throne at the age of 25 after his father Uzziah's leprosy. He rules over Judah and follows in the ways of the Lord (2 Chronicles 27:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Jotham's achievements in fortifying cities and defending against external threats. He builds up towers, walls, and gates in various regions of Judah (2 Chronicles 27:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Jotham successfully defeats the Ammonites by imposing tribute upon them for three years. His reign is characterized by strength and prosperity (2 Chronicles 27:5-6).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Jotham grows in power because he seeks God and follows His commandments. His actions are recorded in the Book of Kings of Israel and Judah (2 Chronicles 27:7).

In summary, Chapter twenty-seven of 2 Chronicles depicts the reign, and accomplishments experienced during leadership reign of King Jotham. Highlighting faithfulness expressed through following God, and achievements accomplished through fortification efforts. Mentioning victory achieved during battle, and recognition received due to righteousness. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Jotham s choices expressed through devotion towards God while emphasizing prosperity resulting from obedience exemplified by recognition an embodiment representing divine favor an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 27:1 Jotham was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Jerushah, the daughter of Zadok.

Jotham was 25 years old when he began to reign and he reigned for 16 years in Jerusalem. His mother was Jerushah, daughter of Zadok.

1) The Power of One: How Jotham's Reign is an Example of the Impact of One Person

2) The Godly Lineage: Jotham's Royal Descent and How We Can Follow in His Footsteps

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) 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 Chronicles 27:2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Uzziah did: howbeit he entered not into the temple of the LORD. And the people did yet corruptly.

Jotham did what was right according to the Lord, but the people still acted corruptly.

1. Love the Lord with your Whole Heart

2. The Power of Integrity and Honesty

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. Romans 12:9-10 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection.

2 Chronicles 27:3 He built the high gate of the house of the LORD, and on the wall of Ophel he built much.

Jotham built the high gate of the LORD's house and the wall of Ophel.

1. God's provision for us, when we honor Him and seek to do His will (2 Chronicles 27:3).

2. The importance of following God's will in every aspect of our lives (2 Chronicles 27:3).

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 58:12 - Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

2 Chronicles 27:4 Moreover he built cities in the mountains of Judah, and in the forests he built castles and towers.

Jotham built cities and castles in Judah.

1. God's faithfulness in restoring and rebuilding.

2. The importance of building strong foundations.

1. Psalm 122:3 - Jerusalem is the place where the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.

2. Jeremiah 29:4-7 - Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; and plant gardens, and eat their produce.

2 Chronicles 27:5 He fought also with the king of the Ammonites, and prevailed against them. And the children of Ammon gave him the same year an hundred talents of silver, and ten thousand measures of wheat, and ten thousand of barley. So much did the children of Ammon pay unto him, both the second year, and the third.

Jotham, king of Judah, was victorious in battle against the Ammonites and they paid him a tribute of silver, wheat, and barley for two and three years.

1. The Power of Faith and Victory in Battle

2. The Importance of Gratitude and Sacrifice

1. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2. 1 Chronicles 29:14 - "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things come from You, and of Your own we have given You."

2 Chronicles 27:6 So Jotham became mighty, because he prepared his ways before the LORD his God.

Jotham was successful because he followed the Lord's ways.

1. The Power of Preparation in Following God's Ways

2. Jotham: A Model of Obedience to God

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

2 Chronicles 27:7 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all his wars, and his ways, lo, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

Jotham, king of Judah, is remembered for his acts of war and his ways, which are recorded in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

1. God Gives Strength to the Faithful - 2 Chronicles 32:7-8

2. Living with Courage and Faith - 2 Chronicles 32:22-23

1. Romans 8:37 - In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved 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 Chronicles 27:8 He was five and twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem.

Jotham became king of Judah when he was 25, and he reigned for 16 years in Jerusalem.

1. The Importance of Obedience: Lessons from Jotham's Reign

2. Steadfastness in God's Calling: The Example of Jotham

1. 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."

2. Psalm 78:72 - "So he fed them according to the integrity of his heart; and guided them by the skilfulness of his hands."

2 Chronicles 27:9 And Jotham slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David: and Ahaz his son reigned in his stead.

Jotham, the previous king of Judah, died and was buried in the city of David. His son Ahaz succeeded him.

1. God's Sovereignty: Even in Death, God's Plans are Fulfilled

2. Passing the Torch: The Importance of a Good Legacy

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 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.

2 Chronicles chapter 28 describes the reign of Ahaz, his wickedness, and the consequences that befall Judah due to his idolatry.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Ahaz's ascension to the throne at the age of 20. Unlike his father Jotham, he does not follow the ways of God but engages in idol worship and practices abominations (2 Chronicles 28:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Ahaz's military defeats. He is attacked by Israel and suffers significant losses. Many people from Judah are taken captive, and Jerusalem faces a dire situation (2 Chronicles 28:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how prophets are sent by God to warn Ahaz about his wickedness and urge him to repent. However, he refuses to listen and seeks help from foreign nations instead (2 Chronicles 28:9-15).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Ahaz further desecrates the temple by altering its sacred furnishings and shutting its doors. He erects altars for idols throughout Jerusalem (2 Chronicles 28:16-25).

5th Paragraph:The account concludes by highlighting how Ahaz dies without receiving an honorable burial due to his wickedness. His son Hezekiah succeeds him as king (2 Chronicles 28:26-27).

In summary, Chapter twenty-eight of 2 Chronicles depicts the reign, and consequences experienced during leadership reign of King Ahaz. Highlighting wickedness expressed through idolatry, and defeats faced during battles. Mentioning warnings received through prophets, and refusal shown towards repentance. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Ahaz s choices expressed through rebellion against God while emphasizing downfall resulting from disobedience exemplified by defeat an embodiment representing divine judgment an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 28:1 Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem: but he did not that which was right in the sight of the LORD, like David his father:

Ahaz was king of Jerusalem for sixteen years, but he did not obey the Lord like his father David had done.

1. The Importance of Righteousness

2. Following in the Footsteps of our Fathers

1. Ps 25:4-5 "Show me 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. 2 Cor 5:17-21 "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: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 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. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

2 Chronicles 28:2 For he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, and made also molten images for Baalim.

Ahaz, the king of Judah, strayed from the ways of the Lord and instead followed the ways of the kings of Israel, including idol worship of Baalim.

1. "The Dangers of Idolatry"

2. "The Consequences of Turning from the Lord"

1. Exodus 20:3-5 "You shall have no other gods before me"

2. Jeremiah 2:11-13 "My people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water."

2 Chronicles 28:3 Moreover he burnt incense in the valley of the son of Hinnom, and burnt his children in the fire, after the abominations of the heathen whom the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel.

The king of Judah, Ahaz, practiced abominable heathen customs, such as burning incense in the valley of Hinnom and even sacrificing his own children in fire.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Power of God's Mercy

1. 2 Kings 16:3 - "He walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and made also molten images for Baalim."

2. Ezekiel 18:32 - "For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye."

2 Chronicles 28:4 He sacrificed also and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.

King Ahaz of Judah sacrificed and burned incense in high places, hills, and under green trees.

1. Avoiding Idolatry in our Lives

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

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. Deuteronomy 12:1-4 - These are the decrees and laws you must be careful to follow in the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has given you to possess as long as you live in the land. Destroy completely all the places on the high mountains, on the hills and under every spreading tree, where the nations you are dispossessing worship their gods. 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 Chronicles 28:5 Wherefore the LORD his God delivered him into the hand of the king of Syria; and they smote him, and carried away a great multitude of them captives, and brought them to Damascus. And he was also delivered into the hand of the king of Israel, who smote him with a great slaughter.

The Lord punished King Ahaz of Judah by delivering him into the hands of the king of Syria, who took many of the captives to Damascus. The king of Israel then inflicted a great slaughter upon Ahaz.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Story of King Ahaz

2. Keeping Faith: The Example of King Ahaz

1. Isaiah 7:13 - Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

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.

2 Chronicles 28:6 For Pekah the son of Remaliah slew in Judah an hundred and twenty thousand in one day, which were all valiant men; because they had forsaken the LORD God of their fathers.

Pekah killed 120,000 valiant men in Judah because they had abandoned the Lord God.

1. The Power of Disobedience: What Happens When We Abandon God

2. The Consequences of Rebellion: The Devastating Cost of Forsaking God

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, and He will have mercy on him.

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-18 - 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: Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and cursed shalt thou be in the field.

2 Chronicles 28:7 And Zichri, a mighty man of Ephraim, slew Maaseiah the king's son, and Azrikam the governor of the house, and Elkanah that was next to the king.

Zichri, a powerful man from Ephraim, kills Maaseiah, the king's son, and two other important officials of the court.

1. The Power of Faith Drawing Strength from God to Overcome Challenges

2. The Consequence of Rebellion When Rebellion Leads to Destruction

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 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 Chronicles 28:8 And the children of Israel carried away captive of their brethren two hundred thousand, women, sons, and daughters, and took also away much spoil from them, and brought the spoil to Samaria.

The children of Israel took 200,000 captives from their brethren and much spoil from them, which was brought to Samaria.

1. The importance of compassion and mercy, even in times of adversity.

2. The consequences of neglecting God's commands.

1. 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.

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.

2 Chronicles 28:9 But a prophet of the LORD was there, whose name was Oded: and he went out before the host that came to Samaria, and said unto them, Behold, because the LORD God of your fathers was wroth with Judah, he hath delivered them into your hand, and ye have slain them in a rage that reacheth up unto heaven.

A prophet of the LORD named Oded warned the host that came to Samaria that the LORD God had become angry with Judah and had delivered them into their hands.

1. The Wrath of God: How to Respond to God's Anger

2. Oded: An Example of Obedience in the Face of Adversity

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. 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 Chronicles 28:10 And now ye purpose to keep under the children of Judah and Jerusalem for bondmen and bondwomen unto you: but are there not with you, even with you, sins against the LORD your God?

The people of Judah and Jerusalem were about to be enslaved, but the people were warned that they had committed sins against the Lord.

1. Recognizing Our Sins Before God

2. The Consequences of Sin

1. Romans 3:23-25 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.

2 Chronicles 28:11 Now hear me therefore, and deliver the captives again, which ye have taken captive of your brethren: for the fierce wrath of the LORD is upon you.

The people of Judah were warned to release their captives held by them, or face the fierce wrath of the Lord.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - 2 Chronicles 28:11

2. Heed the Warning of God - 2 Chronicles 28:11

1. Jeremiah 21:8-10 - Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring upon this city and upon all her towns all the evil that I have pronounced against it, because they have hardened their necks, that they might not hear my words.

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.

2 Chronicles 28:12 Then certain of the heads of the children of Ephraim, Azariah the son of Johanan, Berechiah the son of Meshillemoth, and Jehizkiah the son of Shallum, and Amasa the son of Hadlai, stood up against them that came from the war,

Four leaders of the Ephraimites opposed those who returned from battle.

1. The importance of standing up for what is right

2. The courage of doing the right thing in difficult circumstances

1. Proverbs 28:1 "The righteous are bold as a lion"

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 Chronicles 28:13 And said unto them, Ye shall not bring in the captives hither: for whereas we have offended against the LORD already, ye intend to add more to our sins and to our trespass: for our trespass is great, and there is fierce wrath against Israel.

The people of Israel had committed a great offense against the Lord and were warned not to bring back captives because it would only add to their transgressions.

1. The Danger of Adding to Our Sins

2. The Consequences of Transgressing Against the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 4:15-16 - "Take 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: Lest ye corrupt yourselves, and make you a graven image, the similitude of any figure, the likeness of male or female"

2. Psalm 19:12-13 - "Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults. Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression."

2 Chronicles 28:14 So the armed men left the captives and the spoil before the princes and all the congregation.

After a successful battle, the armed men presented the captives and the spoils to the princes and all the congregation.

1. The Power of a Righteous Army: How to Stand Up for What is Right

2. The Blessing of Unity: Working Together for a Common Goal

1. 2 Corinthians 10:4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.)

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 Chronicles 28:15 And the men which were expressed by name rose up, and took the captives, and with the spoil clothed all that were naked among them, and arrayed them, and shod them, and gave them to eat and to drink, and anointed them, and carried all the feeble of them upon asses, and brought them to Jericho, the city of palm trees, to their brethren: then they returned to Samaria.

Some men from Judah rose up and rescued their brothers from captivity in Samaria. They provided them with clothing, food, and drink, and those who were unable to walk were placed on donkeys and brought to Jericho, the city of palm trees.

1. God's Providence: How God Works Through His People

2. The Power of Kindness: How Compassion Can Transform Lives

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. Isaiah 58:6-7 - Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter?

2 Chronicles 28:16 At that time did king Ahaz send unto the kings of Assyria to help him.

King Ahaz sought help from the kings of Assyria in a time of need.

1. The importance of seeking help when overwhelmed.

2. Learning from Ahaz's example to humble ourselves before God.

1. Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. James 4:10 "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

2 Chronicles 28:17 For again the Edomites had come and smitten Judah, and carried away captives.

Edomites had attacked Judah and taken captives.

1. God's protection and provision in times of trouble.

2. The power of prayer and 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. 2 Chronicles 20:12 - "O our God, will you not execute judgment on them? For we are powerless against this great horde that is coming against us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.

2 Chronicles 28:18 The Philistines also had invaded the cities of the low country, and of the south of Judah, and had taken Bethshemesh, and Ajalon, and Gederoth, and Shocho with the villages thereof, and Timnah with the villages thereof, Gimzo also and the villages thereof: and they dwelt there.

The Philistines invaded and took control of several cities in the low country and south of Judah, including Bethshemesh, Ajalon, Gederoth, Shocho, Timnah, Gimzo and their respective villages.

1. The Destruction of Sin: Lessons from the Philistine Invasion of Judah

2. God's Sovereignty in Times of Trouble

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 46:1-3 - 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 Chronicles 28:19 For the LORD brought Judah low because of Ahaz king of Israel; for he made Judah naked, and transgressed sore against the LORD.

Ahaz, king of Israel, made Judah naked and transgressed sorely against the LORD, resulting in Judah being brought low by the LORD.

1. God's Wrath: The Consequence of Transgression

2. The Sovereignty of God in All Circumstances

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 5:20 - Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2 Chronicles 28:20 And Tilgathpilneser king of Assyria came unto him, and distressed him, but strengthened him not.

King Tilgathpilneser of Assyria distressed King Ahaz of Judah, but did not help him.

1. Don't rely on the world for help - trust in God instead.

2. The importance of seeking help from the right sources.

1. Jeremiah 17:5-8

2. Proverbs 3:5-6

2 Chronicles 28:21 For Ahaz took away a portion out of the house of the LORD, and out of the house of the king, and of the princes, and gave it unto the king of Assyria: but he helped him not.

Ahaz took away portions of the temple, the king, and the princes, and gave them to the Assyrian king. However, this did not help him.

1. God Cares About the Little Things: A Study on 2 Chronicles 28:21

2. The Cost of Disobedience: Learning from Ahaz's Mistake in 2 Chronicles 28:21

1. Malachi 3:8-12 - God requires us to bring the tithes into the storehouse

2. Proverbs 11:4 - Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death

2 Chronicles 28:22 And in the time of his distress did he trespass yet more against the LORD: this is that king Ahaz.

King Ahaz committed further offenses against the Lord during times of difficulty.

1. The Danger of Turning Away from God During Difficulty

2. The Blessings of Trusting in God During Difficulty

1. Psalm 34:17-19 - The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; He delivers them from all their troubles. The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

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.

2 Chronicles 28:23 For he sacrificed unto the gods of Damascus, which smote him: and he said, Because the gods of the kings of Syria help them, therefore will I sacrifice to them, that they may help me. But they were the ruin of him, and of all Israel.

King Ahaz of Judah sacrificed to the gods of Damascus, believing that they could help him, but it resulted in his ruin and the ruin of all Israel.

1. The Danger of Idolatry - How trusting in false gods and their promises can lead to destruction.

2. The Futility of False Hope - Understanding that hope in something false will not benefit us in the end.

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.

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.

2 Chronicles 28:24 And Ahaz gathered together the vessels of the house of God, and cut in pieces the vessels of the house of God, and shut up the doors of the house of the LORD, and he made him altars in every corner of Jerusalem.

Ahaz gathered the vessels of the house of God and destroyed them, then he made altars in every corner of Jerusalem.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Jeremiah 7:30-31 - "For the children of Judah have done evil in my sight, saith the LORD: they have set their abominations in the house which is called by my name, to pollute it. And they have built the high places of Tophet, 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."

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 Chronicles 28:25 And in every several city of Judah he made high places to burn incense unto other gods, and provoked to anger the LORD God of his fathers.

King Ahaz of Judah made high places to burn incense to other gods, provoking the LORD God of his fathers.

1. The Danger of Idolatry - How it can lead to the anger of the LORD.

2. The Power of Worship - How true worship brings joy and reverence to the LORD.

1. Deuteronomy 11:16 - Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

2. Psalm 96:4 - For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods.

2 Chronicles 28:26 Now the rest of his acts and of all his ways, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

King Ahaz of Judah reigned for sixteen years and did evil in the eyes of the Lord, despite warnings from the prophets. His acts and ways are recorded in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study of King Ahaz and His Reign

2. The Power of Choice: Learning from the Mistakes of King Ahaz

1. Isaiah 7:1-17 - Ahaz's warning from the prophet Isaiah to trust in the Lord.

2. 2 Chronicles 28:22-26 - Ahaz's reign and the consequences of his disobedience.

2 Chronicles 28:27 And Ahaz slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city, even in Jerusalem: but they brought him not into the sepulchres of the kings of Israel: and Hezekiah his son reigned in his stead.

Ahaz died and was buried in Jerusalem, but not with the kings of Israel. His son Hezekiah succeeded him.

1. God has a plan for our lives, even in death.

2. God works through generations, passing on His will from one to the next.

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 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 Chronicles chapter 29 describes the reign of Hezekiah and his efforts to restore the worship of God in Judah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Hezekiah's ascension to the throne at the age of 25. He immediately takes action to cleanse and reopen the temple, which had been desecrated by his father Ahaz (2 Chronicles 29:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Hezekiah's instructions to the priests and Levites. He urges them to consecrate themselves, remove all impurities from the sanctuary, and reinstate proper worship according to God's commandments (2 Chronicles 29:6-11).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how the priests begin their work of purification while musicians prepare for praise and thanksgiving. They offer sacrifices on behalf of all Israel, seeking forgiveness for their sins (2 Chronicles 29:12-19).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Hezekiah gathers all the people in Jerusalem for a great assembly. They celebrate Passover with great joy, offering sacrifices and praising God for His mercy (2 Chronicles 29:20-36).

In summary, Chapter twenty-nine of 2 Chronicles depicts the reign, and restoration experienced during leadership reign of King Hezekiah. Highlighting righteousness expressed through temple cleansing, and revival achieved through reinstating proper worship. Mentioning purification efforts carried out by priests, and celebration observed during Passover. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Hezekiah s choices expressed through devotion towards God while emphasizing restoration resulting from obedience exemplified by revival an embodiment representing divine favor an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 29:1 Hezekiah began to reign when he was five and twenty years old, and he reigned nine and twenty years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Abijah, the daughter of Zechariah.

Hezekiah became king of Jerusalem at the age of 25 and reigned for 29 years. His mother was Abijah, the daughter of Zechariah.

1. A Call to Obedience: Hezekiah's Reign in Jerusalem

2. The Importance of Righteousness: Hezekiah's Faithful Leadership

1. Romans 13:1-7 - 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.

2. Daniel 6:4-9 - So the king gave the order, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!

2 Chronicles 29:2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father had done.

Hezekiah followed in the footsteps of his father King David and did what was right in the Lord's eyes.

1. Following in the Footsteps of Our Fathers

2. Doing What is Right in the Lord's Eyes

1. Proverbs 20:7 - The righteous who walks in his integrity-- blessed are his children after him!

2. Psalm 37:37 - Mark the blameless and behold the upright, for there is a future for the man of peace.

2 Chronicles 29:3 He in the first year of his reign, in the first month, opened the doors of the house of the LORD, and repaired them.

King Hezekiah opened the doors of the House of the Lord and repaired them in the first year of his reign.

1. The Power of Restoration: How Hezekiah's Obedience Led to the Renewal of the Temple

2. Faithful Stewardship: How Hezekiah's Leadership Modeled Commitment to the Lord

1. 2 Chronicles 29:3

2. Acts 3:19-21 - Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

2 Chronicles 29:4 And he brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them together into the east street,

King Hezekiah gathered the priests and Levites together in the east street of Jerusalem.

1. "Living a Life of Dedication to God"

2. "The Power of Unity in the Church"

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 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 Chronicles 29:5 And said unto them, Hear me, ye Levites, sanctify now yourselves, and sanctify the house of the LORD God of your fathers, and carry forth the filthiness out of the holy place.

The Levites were commanded to sanctify themselves and the House of the Lord God of their fathers, and to take away all the filthiness from the holy place.

1. The Command to be Holy: A Call to Separate from Sin and Pursue Holiness

2. The Responsibility of the People of God to Care for His House

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. 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.

2 Chronicles 29:6 For our fathers have trespassed, and done that which was evil in the eyes of the LORD our God, and have forsaken him, and have turned away their faces from the habitation of the LORD, and turned their backs.

The people of Israel had sinned against the Lord by abandoning Him and refusing to worship Him.

1. God's Love and Forgiveness are Unconditional

2. The Danger of Turning Away from God

1. Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Jeremiah 2:19 - Your evil will chastise you, and your apostasy will reprove you. Know and see that it is evil and bitter for you to forsake the LORD your God; the fear of me is not in you, declares the Lord GOD of hosts.

2 Chronicles 29:7 Also they have shut up the doors of the porch, and put out the lamps, and have not burned incense nor offered burnt offerings in the holy place unto the God of Israel.

The people of Judah have neglected to worship God in the temple by not burning incense, offering sacrifices, or even lighting the lamps.

1. "The Cost of Neglecting Worship"

2. "The Value of Fervent Worship"

1. 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.

2. Psalm 95:6 - Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

2 Chronicles 29:8 Wherefore the wrath of the LORD was upon Judah and Jerusalem, and he hath delivered them to trouble, to astonishment, and to hissing, as ye see with your eyes.

The LORD was angry with Judah and Jerusalem and punished them with trouble, astonishment, and hissing.

1. God's Wrath: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Blessings of Obedience: An Example from 2 Chronicles

1. Hebrews 10:31 - It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

2 Chronicles 29:9 For, lo, our fathers have fallen by the sword, and our sons and our daughters and our wives are in captivity for this.

The people of Judah lament the death of their fathers and the captivity of their children, wives, and other family members.

1. In times of sorrow, we can always find comfort in God's compassion and mercy.

2. We must never forget the sacrifices made by our fathers and the suffering endured by our families.

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.

2 Chronicles 29:10 Now it is in mine heart to make a covenant with the LORD God of Israel, that his fierce wrath may turn away from us.

King Hezekiah of Judah seeks to make a covenant with God to turn away His wrath.

1. Hezekiah's Commitment to Making a Covenant with God

2. Turning Away God's Fierce Wrath Through Covenant

1. Deuteronomy 29:14-15 - "Neither with you only do I make this covenant and this oath; 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:"

2. Psalm 130:3-4 - "If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared."

2 Chronicles 29:11 My sons, be not now negligent: for the LORD hath chosen you to stand before him, to serve him, and that ye should minister unto him, and burn incense.

The LORD has chosen the sons of King Hezekiah to stand before Him and serve Him by ministering and burning incense.

1. Serving the LORD with devotion and humility.

2. The importance of obedience and reverence to the LORD.

1. Matthew 5:3-12 - Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

2 Chronicles 29:12 Then the Levites arose, Mahath the son of Amasai, and Joel the son of Azariah, of the sons of the Kohathites: and of the sons of Merari, Kish the son of Abdi, and Azariah the son of Jehalelel: and of the Gershonites; Joah the son of Zimmah, and Eden the son of Joah:

The Levites arose, led by Mahath, Joel, Kish, Azariah, Joah, and Eden.

1. "The Power of Unity: The Example of the Levites"

2. "The Strength of Leadership: Following the Levites' Example"

1. Philippians 2:2 - "complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind"

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 Chronicles 29:13 And of the sons of Elizaphan; Shimri, and Jeiel: and of the sons of Asaph; Zechariah, and Mattaniah:

This passage describes the sons of Elizaphan, Shimri and Jeiel, and the sons of Asaph, Zechariah and Mattaniah.

1. How God Blesses Those Who Follow Him: A Study of Elizaphan, Shimri, Jeiel, Asaph, Zechariah, and Mattaniah

2. Serving God with Joy: Learning from the Lives of Elizaphan, Shimri, Jeiel, Asaph, Zechariah, and Mattaniah

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. 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.

2 Chronicles 29:14 And of the sons of Heman; Jehiel, and Shimei: and of the sons of Jeduthun; Shemaiah, and Uzziel.

This passage mentions four Levites from the sons of Heman, Jehiel, Shimei, Shemaiah, and Uzziel, and the sons of Jeduthun.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Calling.

2. Living a Life of Dedication to the Lord.

1. 1 Chronicles 25:1-8

2. Romans 12:1-2

2 Chronicles 29:15 And they gathered their brethren, and sanctified themselves, and came, according to the commandment of the king, by the words of the LORD, to cleanse the house of the LORD.

The people of Judah gathered together and followed the commandment of the king to cleanse the house of the Lord according to the words of the Lord.

1. God's Word Is Our Guide: How Obedience to God's Word Can Bring Blessing

2. The Power of Unity: How Working Together for a Common Goal Strengthens Our Faith

1. Joshua 24:15 - As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

2. Ephesians 4:3-6 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2 Chronicles 29:16 And the priests went into the inner part of the house of the LORD, to cleanse it, and brought out all the uncleanness that they found in the temple of the LORD into the court of the house of the LORD. And the Levites took it, to carry it out abroad into the brook Kidron.

The priests and Levites cleansed the inner part of the Lord's house and collected all uncleanness and carried it outside to the brook Kidron.

1. The Strength of Devotion - The priests and Levites showed their commitment to God by cleaning the inner part of the Lord's house and disposing of the uncleanness that was found there.

2. The Power of Obedience - The priests and Levites followed God's commands and demonstrated their faithfulness by carrying out the Lord's will.

1. Deuteronomy 23:14 For the LORD your God walks in the midst of your camp, to deliver you, and to give up your enemies before you; therefore shall your camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in you, and turn away from you.

2. Psalm 51:7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

2 Chronicles 29:17 Now they began on the first day of the first month to sanctify, and on the eighth day of the month came they to the porch of the LORD: so they sanctified the house of the LORD in eight days; and in the sixteenth day of the first month they made an end.

The priests began their process of sanctifying the Lord's house on the first day of the first month and completed it in eight days, finishing on the sixteenth.

1. The Power of Dedicated Service - How the priests dedicated themselves to a sacred task and completed it in eight days.

2. The Importance of Timeliness - How the priests adhered to a strict timeline to sanctify the Lord's house.

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. 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 Chronicles 29:18 Then they went in to Hezekiah the king, and said, We have cleansed all the house of the LORD, and the altar of burnt offering, with all the vessels thereof, and the shewbread table, with all the vessels thereof.

The priests and Levites cleansed the house of the Lord, the altar of burnt offering, all the vessels, and the shewbread table and its vessels.

1. God's House is Worthy of Care and Respect

2. Cultivating a Heart of Gratitude and Obedience

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. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

2 Chronicles 29:19 Moreover all the vessels, which king Ahaz in his reign did cast away in his transgression, have we prepared and sanctified, and, behold, they are before the altar of the LORD.

King Ahaz cast away items in his transgression, but they were prepared and sanctified and placed in front of the altar of the Lord.

1. God is forgiving and merciful, no matter our transgressions.

2. We should strive to make our wrongs right and repent to God.

1. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

2. Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

2 Chronicles 29:20 Then Hezekiah the king rose early, and gathered the rulers of the city, and went up to the house of the LORD.

King Hezekiah gathered the rulers of the city and went up to the house of the LORD.

1. The importance of gathering together and seeking God as a community.

2. The example of King Hezekiah's commitment to the Lord.

1. 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.

2. Psalm 122: 1 - I was glad when they said to me, Let us go to the house of the Lord.

2 Chronicles 29:21 And they brought seven bullocks, and seven rams, and seven lambs, and seven he goats, for a sin offering for the kingdom, and for the sanctuary, and for Judah. And he commanded the priests the sons of Aaron to offer them on the altar of the LORD.

King Hezekiah of Judah commanded the priests to offer seven bullocks, seven rams, seven lambs, and seven he goats as a sin offering for the kingdom, the sanctuary, and for Judah.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How King Hezekiah's Offering of Seven Bullocks, Rams, Lambs, and He Goats Showed His Commitment to God

2. The Cost of Obedience: The Significance of Hezekiah's Sin Offering for the Kingdom, the Sanctuary, and For Judah

1. Hebrews 10:1-18 - The writer of Hebrews draws on the sacrificial system of the Old Testament to explain the superior sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

2. Leviticus 8:1-13 - The Lord instructed Moses to consecrate Aaron and his sons as priests, and to offer seven bullocks, seven rams, seven lambs, and seven he-goats as a sin offering.

2 Chronicles 29:22 So they killed the bullocks, and the priests received the blood, and sprinkled it on the altar: likewise, when they had killed the rams, they sprinkled the blood upon the altar: they killed also the lambs, and they sprinkled the blood upon the altar.

The priests of the temple of the Lord in Jerusalem killed bullocks, rams, and lambs and sprinkled their blood on the altar.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Understanding the Importance of Giving to God

2. Offering Ourselves to God: How to Live a Life of Dedication and Devotion

1. Hebrews 10:19-20 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"

2. Leviticus 8:24 "And he brought the bull of the sin offering: and Aaron and his sons laid their hands upon the head of the bull of the sin offering..."

2 Chronicles 29:23 And they brought forth the he goats for the sin offering before the king and the congregation; and they laid their hands upon them:

The people brought the he goats for the sin offering before the king and the congregation, and the congregation laid their hands on them.

1. The Power of Laying Hands

2. The Importance of Atonement

1. Hebrews 11:4 - By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

2. Isaiah 53:11 - He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities.

2 Chronicles 29:24 And the priests killed them, and they made reconciliation with their blood upon the altar, to make an atonement for all Israel: for the king commanded that the burnt offering and the sin offering should be made for all Israel.

The priests made a reconciliation for all Israel by sacrificing animals and making them a burnt offering and a sin offering on the altar as commanded by the king.

1. The Power of the Sacrificial Offering

2. Atonement and Reconciliation in the Old Testament

1. Leviticus 4:35 - "He shall take away all its fat, 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 to the Lord."

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."

2 Chronicles 29:25 And he set the Levites in the house of the LORD with cymbals, with psalteries, and with harps, according to the commandment of David, and of Gad the king's seer, and Nathan the prophet: for so was the commandment of the LORD by his prophets.

King Hezekiah set the Levites in the house of the LORD according to the commandment of David, Gad the king's seer, and Nathan the prophet, as instructed by the LORD and His prophets.

1. Obeying God's Commandments: Hezekiah's Example

2. God's Faithful Prophets: The Necessity of Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - Obeying God's commands in order to enjoy His blessings

2. Joshua 1:8 - Meditating on God's Word in order to be obedient to His commands

2 Chronicles 29:26 And the Levites stood with the instruments of David, and the priests with the trumpets.

The Levites stood with musical instruments and the priests with trumpets to honor King David.

1. The Power of Praise: Celebrating God's Kingship with Music and Song

2. The Power of Unity: How Music Brings Us Closer to God

1. Psalm 98:4-5 Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

2. Psalm 150:3-4 Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!

2 Chronicles 29:27 And Hezekiah commanded to offer the burnt offering upon the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the song of the LORD began also with the trumpets, and with the instruments ordained by David king of Israel.

Hezekiah commanded to offer a burnt offering on the altar and the song of the Lord was accompanied by trumpets and instruments ordained by David, king of Israel.

1. God's Love and Faithfulness in the Worship of His People

2. The Power of Praise and Worship in the Life of the Believer

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. Psalm 150:3-5 - "Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp! Praise Him with tambourine and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe! Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!"

2 Chronicles 29:28 And all the congregation worshipped, and the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded: and all this continued until the burnt offering was finished.

The congregation worshipped, sang, and played trumpets until the burnt offering was finished.

1. Worship should be a continuous and joyful response to God.

2. The importance of offering up our whole selves 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.

2. Psalm 95:6 Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;

2 Chronicles 29:29 And when they had made an end of offering, the king and all that were present with him bowed themselves, and worshipped.

King Hezekiah and the people present with him offered sacrifices to God and then bowed down and worshipped Him.

1. We must put God first in all aspects of our lives.

2. Showing reverence to God is an important part of worship.

1. Psalm 95:6-7 - "Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his 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."

2 Chronicles 29:30 Moreover Hezekiah the king and the princes commanded the Levites to sing praise unto the LORD with the words of David, and of Asaph the seer. And they sang praises with gladness, and they bowed their heads and worshipped.

King Hezekiah and the princes commanded the Levites to sing praises to the Lord, and they sang with joy and bowed down in worship.

1. Joyful Worship: Embracing Gladness in our Praise

2. The Power of Submission: How Bowing Our Heads Reveals Our Devotion

1. Psalm 95:6-7 - Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

2. 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, submitting to one another in the fear of God.

2 Chronicles 29:31 Then Hezekiah answered and said, Now ye have consecrated yourselves unto the LORD, come near and bring sacrifices and thank offerings into the house of the LORD. And the congregation brought in sacrifices and thank offerings; and as many as were of a free heart burnt offerings.

Hezekiah calls the people to consecrate themselves to the LORD and bring sacrifices and thank offerings to the house of the LORD. The people responded with sacrifices and thank offerings, with some burning offerings out of a free heart.

1. The Power of Righteousness: How Dedication to God Can Bring Strength and Blessing

2. A Heart of Gratitude: The Blessing of Offering Thanks 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. 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 Chronicles 29:32 And the number of the burnt offerings, which the congregation brought, was threescore and ten bullocks, an hundred rams, and two hundred lambs: all these were for a burnt offering to the LORD.

The congregation brought 70 bullocks, 100 rams, and 200 lambs as a burnt offering to the LORD.

1. The Power of Generosity - How giving sacrificially to God can demonstrate our faith and bring glory to His name.

2. True Worship - What it looks like to offer a sacrifice of praise to God for His goodness and mercy.

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. 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 Chronicles 29:33 And the consecrated things were six hundred oxen and three thousand sheep.

King Hezekiah of Judah provided 6 hundred oxen and 3 thousand sheep for a religious ceremony.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Giving Brings Joy

2. The Importance of Dedication: A Look at Hezekiah's Commitment to the Lord

1. Luke 12:33-34: "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. For where your treasure is, there will your heart 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."

2 Chronicles 29:34 But the priests were too few, so that they could not flay all the burnt offerings: wherefore their brethren the Levites did help them, till the work was ended, and until the other priests had sanctified themselves: for the Levites were more upright in heart to sanctify themselves than the priests.

The priests did not have enough people to complete the task of flaying the burnt offerings, so the Levites stepped in to help them until they could sanctify themselves.

1. The importance of having an upright heart to serve in God's kingdom.

2. Working together to bring glory to God.

1. 2 Corinthians 6:14-16 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

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 Chronicles 29:35 And also the burnt offerings were in abundance, with the fat of the peace offerings, and the drink offerings for every burnt offering. So the service of the house of the LORD was set in order.

The service of the house of the LORD was set in order with abundant burnt offerings and fat of the peace offerings, as well as drink offerings for each burnt offering.

1. The Importance of Obedience to the Word of the Lord

2. The Necessity of Giving to the House of 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. 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 Chronicles 29:36 And Hezekiah rejoiced, and all the people, that God had prepared the people: for the thing was done suddenly.

1: God works quickly and unexpectedly to provide for His people.

2: Rejoice in the Lord for He is a God of provision and surprises.

1: Psalm 118:24 This is the day that the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways, says 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 Chronicles chapter 30 describes the observance of the Passover under the leadership of Hezekiah and the invitation extended to all Israel, including those from the northern kingdom.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Hezekiah's plan to celebrate the Passover in Jerusalem. He sends messengers throughout Israel and Judah, inviting everyone to come and worship God (2 Chronicles 30:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how many people from various tribes respond positively to Hezekiah's invitation. They gather in Jerusalem, removing idols and purifying themselves before participating in the Passover feast (2 Chronicles 30:6-12).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how God grants unity among the people as they joyfully observe the Passover. The priests offer sacrifices on behalf of all participants, and there is great rejoicing in Jerusalem (2 Chronicles 30:13-27).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how this celebration extends beyond its designated time due to overwhelming participation. Additional days are added for worship and offerings, further emphasizing unity among the people (2 Chronicles 30:28-31).

In summary, Chapter thirty of 2 Chronicles depicts the observance, and unity experienced during celebration observance of Passover under leadership reign of King Hezekiah. Highlighting invitation expressed towards all Israel, and response received through gathering for worship. Mentioning purification efforts carried out by participants, and joy experienced during festivities. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Hezekiah s choices expressed through restoration of religious practices while emphasizing unity resulting from obedience exemplified by celebration an embodiment representing divine favor an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 30:1 And Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah, and wrote letters also to Ephraim and Manasseh, that they should come to the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, to keep the passover unto the LORD God of Israel.

Hezekiah sent out letters to Israel and Judah, as well as Ephraim and Manasseh, to come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover in honor of the Lord God of Israel.

1. The Lord's Invitation: Hezekiah's Call to Repentance

2. Hezekiah's Faith: An Example of Serving the Lord

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 mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

2. Deuteronomy 16:1-3 - 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 offer the Passover sacrifice to the Lord your God, from the flock and the herd, in the place where the Lord chooses to put His name. You shall not eat 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 Chronicles 30:2 For the king had taken counsel, and his princes, and all the congregation in Jerusalem, to keep the passover in the second month.

King Hezekiah of Judah took counsel with his princes and all of the congregation in Jerusalem to keep the Passover in the second month.

1. The Power of Community: Celebrating the Passover Together

2. Hezekiah's Example of Obedience and Leadership

1. Deuteronomy 16:1-5

2. Ephesians 4:1-3

2 Chronicles 30:3 For they could not keep it at that time, because the priests had not sanctified themselves sufficiently, neither had the people gathered themselves together to Jerusalem.

The people of Judah could not celebrate the Passover in the prescribed manner because the priests were not properly consecrated and the people were not gathered in Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Coming Together: How Community is Essential to Holiness

2. The Importance of Preparation: The Necessity for Sanctification

1. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.

2. Leviticus 22:16 - And in a landmark they shall not eat any devoted thing: they shall pour out the blood thereof, and cover it with dust.

2 Chronicles 30:4 And the thing pleased the king and all the congregation.

The king and the entire congregation were pleased with the outcome.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Can Lead to Great Success

2. The Joy of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Can Lead to Blessing

1. Acts 2:46, Day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they partook of food with glad and generous hearts.

2. Psalm 133:1, Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

2 Chronicles 30:5 So they established a decree to make proclamation throughout all Israel, from Beersheba even to Dan, that they should come to keep the passover unto the LORD God of Israel at Jerusalem: for they had not done it of a long time in such sort as it was written.

The people of Israel were called to keep the Passover in Jerusalem as they had not done it for a long time.

1: We must remember to keep the Passover, for it is an important part of our faith.

2: We should observe the Passover as it is a reminder of the Lord's goodness and faithfulness to us.

1: Exodus 12:14-20 - In this passage, God instructs the Israelites to observe the Passover as a sign of His deliverance.

2: Numbers 9:1-14 - This passage describes the Israelites' observance of the Passover and the importance of following the Lord's commands.

2 Chronicles 30:6 So the posts went with the letters from the king and his princes throughout all Israel and Judah, and according to the commandment of the king, saying, Ye children of Israel, turn again unto the LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and he will return to the remnant of you, that are escaped out of the hand of the kings of Assyria.

The posts sent by King Hezekiah of Judah traveled throughout Israel and Judah to urge the people to turn back to God.

1. Turn to God and He Will Return to You 2. Hezekiah's Call to Repentance

1. 2 Chronicles 30:6 2. Romans 10:13-14 (For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.)

2 Chronicles 30:7 And be not ye like your fathers, and like your brethren, which trespassed against the LORD God of their fathers, who therefore gave them up to desolation, as ye see.

The people of Israel were warned not to repeat the sins of their fathers, who were given up to desolation for their disobedience.

1. Learn from our Fathers: Be Careful Not to Repeat Their Sins

2. God Will Not Tolerate Unfaithfulness: Reap the Consequences of Disobedience

1. Romans 6:12-14 - "Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its 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. Proverbs 28:13 - "Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

2 Chronicles 30:8 Now be ye not stiffnecked, as your fathers were, but yield yourselves unto the LORD, and enter into his sanctuary, which he hath sanctified for ever: and serve the LORD your God, that the fierceness of his wrath may turn away from you.

People should humbly surrender themselves to the Lord and obey His commands in order to receive His mercy and forgiveness.

1. The Power of Surrendering to God

2. The Blessings of Obeying 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.

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.

2 Chronicles 30:9 For if ye turn again unto the LORD, your brethren and your children shall find compassion before them that lead them captive, so that they shall come again into this land: for the LORD your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you, if ye return unto him.

The people of Israel are encouraged to turn back to the Lord and they will find mercy and compassion.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord's Mercy

2. The Power of Coming Back to God

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. 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.

2 Chronicles 30:10 So the posts passed from city to city through the country of Ephraim and Manasseh even unto Zebulun: but they laughed them to scorn, and mocked them.

The posts were sent throughout the country of Ephraim and Manasseh to encourage the people to come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover, but they were laughed at and mocked.

1. The Value of Surrendering to God's Will

2. God's Generosity and Compassion in the Face of Unbelief

1. Romans 10:19-21 - "But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have, for Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world.

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, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2 Chronicles 30:11 Nevertheless divers of Asher and Manasseh and of Zebulun humbled themselves, and came to Jerusalem.

Some from the tribes of Asher, Manasseh, and Zebulun humbled themselves and traveled to Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Humility: How Humbling Yourself Can Lead to Success

2. The Journey of Faith: How to Step Out in Trust

1. James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2. Matthew 5:3 - Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

2 Chronicles 30:12 Also in Judah the hand of God was to give them one heart to do the commandment of the king and of the princes, by the word of the LORD.

1: We can trust in God to provide us the strength to do what is right.

2: Obedience to God is the path to unity and peace.

1: Ephesians 4:3-4 striving to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2: James 1:22-25 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2 Chronicles 30:13 And there assembled at Jerusalem much people to keep the feast of unleavened bread in the second month, a very great congregation.

A great multitude of people gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread during the second month.

1. The Power of Unity: Celebrating the Feast of Unleavened Bread Together

2. Celebrating God's Faithfulness: The Significance of the Feast of Unleavened Bread

1. Exodus 12:17-18: Celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread, because it was on this very day that I brought your divisions out of Egypt. Celebrate this day as a lasting ordinance for the generations to come.

2. Deuteronomy 16:3-4: Do not eat it with bread made with yeast, but for seven days eat unleavened bread, the bread of affliction, because you left Egypt in haste so that all the days of your life you may remember the time of your departure from Egypt.

2 Chronicles 30:14 And they arose and took away the altars that were in Jerusalem, and all the altars for incense took they away, and cast them into the brook Kidron.

The people of Jerusalem removed all the altars for incense from the city and threw them into the Kidron stream.

1. The power of obedience: Removing the altars of incense showed the people's obedience to God's command.

2. The importance of following through on our convictions: Taking action on our beliefs, even when it's difficult, is essential to living a godly life.

1. Deuteronomy 12:2-4 - You shall utterly destroy all the places where the nations whom you shall dispossess served their gods, upon the high mountains and upon the hills and under every green tree.

2. Jeremiah 7:18 - The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger.

2 Chronicles 30:15 Then they killed the passover on the fourteenth day of the second month: and the priests and the Levites were ashamed, and sanctified themselves, and brought in the burnt offerings into the house of the LORD.

The priests and Levites celebrated the Passover on the fourteenth day of the second month and offered burnt offerings in the house of the Lord.

1. The Power of Sanctification - How our faith can grow through serving the Lord and striving for holiness.

2. The Significance of the Passover - Examining the importance of the Passover and its deeper spiritual meaning.

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. Ephesians 4:24 - And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

2 Chronicles 30:16 And they stood in their place after their manner, according to the law of Moses the man of God: the priests sprinkled the blood, which they received of the hand of the Levites.

The priests and Levites followed the law of Moses and the priests sprinkled the blood that was given to them by the Levites.

1. The Importance of Following God's Law

2. The Blessing of Obeying 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 am commanding you today for your good?

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.

2 Chronicles 30:17 For there were many in the congregation that were not sanctified: therefore the Levites had the charge of the killing of the passovers for every one that was not clean, to sanctify them unto the LORD.

The Levites were responsible for ritually slaughtering the Passover lambs for those who were not considered spiritually clean.

1. The Power of Holiness - What it means to be sanctified and how to live a life of holiness.

2. God's Grace for All - The story of how God provided for those who were not considered clean.

1. Hebrews 12:14 - Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.

2. Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

2 Chronicles 30:18 For a multitude of the people, even many of Ephraim, and Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves, yet did they eat the passover otherwise than it was written. But Hezekiah prayed for them, saying, The good LORD pardon every one

Many of the people of Ephraim, Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun had not cleansed themselves in accordance with the laws of the Passover, but Hezekiah prayed for them and asked the Lord to forgive them.

1. The Mercy of God: Hezekiah's Example of Forgiveness

2. The Power of Prayer: Hezekiah's Intercession for the People

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;

2. Luke 6:36 - Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

2 Chronicles 30:19 That prepareth his heart to seek God, the LORD God of his fathers, though he be not cleansed according to the purification of the sanctuary.

God can be sought by those who prepare their hearts, even if they are not purified according to the sanctuary's standards.

1. The Power of a Prepared Heart

2. Seeking God With an Open Mind

1. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near.

2. 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.

2 Chronicles 30:20 And the LORD hearkened to Hezekiah, and healed the people.

God answered the prayers of King Hezekiah and healed the people of Judah.

1. The Healing Power of Prayer

2. God's Faithfulness to His People

1. Isaiah 38:17, Behold, it was for my welfare that I had great bitterness; but in love You have delivered my soul from the pit of corruption, for You have cast all my sins behind Your back.

2. James 5:14-16, 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. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

2 Chronicles 30:21 And the children of Israel that were present at Jerusalem kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days with great gladness: and the Levites and the priests praised the LORD day by day, singing with loud instruments unto the LORD.

The children of Israel celebrated the Feast of Unleavened Bread in Jerusalem with great joy and the Levites and Priests praised the Lord with singing and loud instruments every day.

1. "Giving Thanks to God Amidst Difficult Times"

2. "The Power of Praise and Worship"

1. Psalm 100:4 - "Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name."

2. Ephesians 5:19-20 - "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 Chronicles 30:22 And Hezekiah spake comfortably unto all the Levites that taught the good knowledge of the LORD: and they did eat throughout the feast seven days, offering peace offerings, and making confession to the LORD God of their fathers.

Hezekiah encouraged the Levites to eat and offer peace offerings during the seven day feast, while also confessing to the LORD God of their fathers.

1. The Power of Encouragement - How Hezekiah's words brought joy and peace to the Levites.

2. The Joy of Celebration - Celebrating the good news of the LORD with offerings of peace.

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. 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.

2 Chronicles 30:23 And the whole assembly took counsel to keep other seven days: and they kept other seven days with gladness.

The whole assembly decided to observe an additional seven days of celebration with joy.

1. Joy in the Lord: Celebrating with Gladness

2. Making Time for the Lord: Taking Time to Be Thankful

1. Romans 12:12-13 - Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer

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.

2 Chronicles 30:24 For Hezekiah king of Judah did give to the congregation a thousand bullocks and seven thousand sheep; and the princes gave to the congregation a thousand bullocks and ten thousand sheep: and a great number of priests sanctified themselves.

King Hezekiah of Judah generously donated animals to the congregation and the princes gave additional animals, resulting in a great number of priests being sanctified.

1. The Generosity of Giving: A Study of King Hezekiah

2. The Blessing of Sacrificial Giving: An Example from King Hezekiah

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.

2 Chronicles 30:25 And all the congregation of Judah, with the priests and the Levites, and all the congregation that came out of Israel, and the strangers that came out of the land of Israel, and that dwelt in Judah, rejoiced.

The congregation of Judah, including priests, Levites, and both native and foreign Israelites, all rejoiced together.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Brings Joy

2. The Joy of Being Part of a Larger Community: How Belonging Brings Happiness

1. Ephesians 4:3-6 - Working Together in Unity

2. Romans 12:15 - Rejoicing with Those Who Rejoice

2 Chronicles 30:26 So there was great joy in Jerusalem: for since the time of Solomon the son of David king of Israel there was not the like in Jerusalem.

There was great joy in Jerusalem following a religious celebration, the likes of which had not been seen since the time of Solomon.

1. Rejoice in the Lord Always - Philippians 4:4

2. The Joy of the Lord is Your Strength - Nehemiah 8:10

1. 2 Chronicles 30:26

2. 1 Kings 8:56

2 Chronicles 30:27 Then the priests the Levites arose and blessed the people: and their voice was heard, and their prayer came up to his holy dwelling place, even unto heaven.

The Levite priests blessed the people, and their prayers were heard by God and reached his heavenly dwelling.

1. The Power of Prayer - God hears and responds to the prayers of His people.

2. Learning to Pray - Growing in our relationship with God through prayer.

1. Psalm 65:2 - O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.

2. James 5:16 - The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

2 Chronicles chapter 31 describes the reforms implemented by Hezekiah regarding the proper worship of God, the support of the Levites, and the abundance of offerings brought by the people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Hezekiah's commitment to restoring proper worship. He commands the people to follow God's laws and statutes diligently and encourages them to give offerings for the service of the temple (2 Chronicles 31:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how the people respond wholeheartedly to Hezekiah's commands. They bring their tithes, offerings, and other contributions in abundance. The Levites receive these offerings and distribute them accordingly (2 Chronicles 31:4-10).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Hezekiah appoints officials to oversee the distribution of provisions for both priests and Levites. These officials ensure that everyone receives their portion fairly, allowing them to devote themselves fully to their duties (2 Chronicles 31:11-19).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how Hezekiah's reforms lead to prosperity for both Judah and Jerusalem. The people faithfully bring their tithes and offerings, resulting in an overflow of resources that are stored in abundance (2 Chronicles 31:20-21).

In summary, Chapter thirty-one of 2 Chronicles depicts the reforms, and prosperity experienced during leadership reign of King Hezekiah. Highlighting restoration expressed through proper worship, and generosity achieved through faithful giving. Mentioning organization efforts carried out by appointed officials, and abundance experienced during times of obedience. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Hezekiah s choices expressed through commitment towards honoring God while emphasizing prosperity resulting from obedience exemplified by reform an embodiment representing divine favor an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 31:1 Now when all this was finished, all Israel that were present went out to the cities of Judah, and brake the images in pieces, and cut down the groves, and threw down the high places and the altars out of all Judah and Benjamin, in Ephraim also and Manasseh, until they had utterly destroyed them all. Then all the children of Israel returned, every man to his possession, into their own cities.

After the completion of a religious mission, all Israel returned to their possessions in their respective cities.

1. The importance of faithfulness in completing God's mission.

2. The importance of returning to our possessions and responsibilities after accomplishing God's task.

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. Proverbs 12:11 Whoever works his land will have plenty of bread, but he who follows worthless pursuits lacks sense.

2 Chronicles 31:2 And Hezekiah appointed the courses of the priests and the Levites after their courses, every man according to his service, the priests and Levites for burnt offerings and for peace offerings, to minister, and to give thanks, and to praise in the gates of the tents of the LORD.

Hezekiah appointed priests and Levites to serve in the Temple of the Lord.

1. Serve with Gladness: The Power of Joyful Obedience

2. The Meaning of True Worship: Serving in the Lord's House

1. Ecclesiastes 9:10 Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might

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.

2 Chronicles 31:3 He appointed also the king's portion of his substance for the burnt offerings, to wit, for the morning and evening burnt offerings, and the burnt offerings for the sabbaths, and for the new moons, and for the set feasts, as it is written in the law of the LORD.

King Hezekiah appointed a portion of his wealth for burnt offerings and other sacrifices prescribed by the Lord in the law.

1. God's call to sacrificial giving

2. The importance of obedience to God's law

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. 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 Chronicles 31:4 Moreover he commanded the people that dwelt in Jerusalem to give the portion of the priests and the Levites, that they might be encouraged in the law of the LORD.

King Hezekiah instructed the residents of Jerusalem to give the portion of the priests and the Levites to support them in their work in the LORD's law.

1. The Importance of Supporting Our Spiritual Leaders

2. Hezekiah's Dedication to God and His People

1. Matthew 10:8-10 "Freely you have received, freely give.

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 Chronicles 31:5 And as soon as the commandment came abroad, the children of Israel brought in abundance the firstfruits of corn, wine, and oil, and honey, and of all the increase of the field; and the tithe of all things brought they in abundantly.

The children of Israel responded to a commandment to bring in abundance the firstfruits of their land, such as corn, wine, oil, honey, and all other increase from the field, including their tithe.

1. Fulfilling God s Commandments Brings Blessing

2. Trusting God through Obedience and Sacrifice

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 3:9-10 - 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.

2 Chronicles 31:6 And concerning the children of Israel and Judah, that dwelt in the cities of Judah, they also brought in the tithe of oxen and sheep, and the tithe of holy things which were consecrated unto the LORD their God, and laid them by heaps.

The people of Israel and Judah brought their tithes of oxen, sheep, and holy things to the Lord.

1. The Value of Giving: Understanding the Importance of Tithing

2. Obedience to God: The Joy of Serving the Almighty

1. Deuteronomy 14:22-23 - You shall truly tithe all the increase of your grain that the field produces year by year. And you shall eat before the LORD your God, in the place where He chooses to make His name abide, the tithe of your grain and your new wine and your oil, of the firstborn of your herds and your flocks, that you may learn to fear the LORD your God always.

2. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2 Chronicles 31:7 In the third month they began to lay the foundation of the heaps, and finished them in the seventh month.

The foundation of the heaps was laid in the third month and completed in the seventh month.

1. God's Timing Is Perfect - God may choose to have us wait for what we want, but it will always be in His perfect timing.

2. The Power of Perseverance - Through perseverance, great things can be accomplished in a short amount of time.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

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.

2 Chronicles 31:8 And when Hezekiah and the princes came and saw the heaps, they blessed the LORD, and his people Israel.

Hezekiah and the princes visited the heaps of offerings made to the LORD and they praised and blessed the LORD.

1. Give thanks to the Lord for all His blessings.

2. Put your trust in the Lord and He will take care of you.

1. Psalm 118:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

2. Psalm 56:3 - When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

2 Chronicles 31:9 Then Hezekiah questioned with the priests and the Levites concerning the heaps.

Hezekiah inquired about the heaps with the priests and Levites.

1. The Power of Asking Questions

2. The Importance of Seeking Godly Wisdom

1. Proverbs 2:6 "For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding."

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 Chronicles 31:10 And Azariah the chief priest of the house of Zadok answered him, and said, Since the people began to bring the offerings into the house of the LORD, we have had enough to eat, and have left plenty: for the LORD hath blessed his people; and that which is left is this great store.

The people of Israel have been bringing offerings to the Lord and have had plenty to eat, with a great store remaining.

1. "God's Abundance: The Blessing of Generosity"

2. "Trust in the Lord: The Promise of Provision"

1. Matthew 6:25-34

2. Psalm 23:1-6

2 Chronicles 31:11 Then Hezekiah commanded to prepare chambers in the house of the LORD; and they prepared them,

1. The Necessity of Preparation: How Readiness for God's Work Brings Blessing

2. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Brings Rewards

1. 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?

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.

2 Chronicles 31:12 And brought in the offerings and the tithes and the dedicated things faithfully: over which Cononiah the Levite was ruler, and Shimei his brother was the next.

Cononiah the Levite and his brother Shimei faithfully brought in the offerings, tithes, and dedicated things for the Lord.

1. Faithful Giving: The Example of Cononiah and Shimei

2. Stewardship: The Responsibility to Honor God with Our Offerings

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. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - 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 Chronicles 31:13 And Jehiel, and Azaziah, and Nahath, and Asahel, and Jerimoth, and Jozabad, and Eliel, and Ismachiah, and Mahath, and Benaiah, were overseers under the hand of Cononiah and Shimei his brother, at the commandment of Hezekiah the king, and Azariah the ruler of the house of God.

Cononiah and Shimei were appointed by King Hezekiah to oversee the work of Jehiel, Azaziah, Nahath, Asahel, Jerimoth, Jozabad, Eliel, Ismachiah, Mahath, and Benaiah at the House of God.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Commands - 2 Chronicles 31:13

2. Seeking God's Guidance: Hezekiah's Leadership - 2 Chronicles 31:13

1. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

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 Chronicles 31:14 And Kore the son of Imnah the Levite, the porter toward the east, was over the freewill offerings of God, to distribute the oblations of the LORD, and the most holy things.

Kore, a Levite, was responsible for distributing offerings and holy items to the east.

1. The Importance of Giving Freely to God

2. The Role of the Levites in Worship

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. Deuteronomy 18:6-7: "And if a Levite comes from any of your towns out of all Israel, where he lives and he may come when he desires to the place that the Lord will choose, then he shall serve in the name of the Lord his God, like all his fellow Levites who stand to minister there before the Lord."

2 Chronicles 31:15 And next him were Eden, and Miniamin, and Jeshua, and Shemaiah, Amariah, and Shecaniah, in the cities of the priests, in their set office, to give to their brethren by courses, as well to the great as to the small:

The priests of Israel were organized and assigned roles to ensure that they distributed resources equitably to both the powerful and the weak.

1: God calls us to treat everyone with justice and fairness, no matter their social standing.

2: We must always strive to ensure that resources are equitably distributed to those who need them, regardless of their position in society.

1: James 2:1-9, where James speaks about the importance of showing favoritism to no one.

2: Galatians 3:28, which speaks of how in Christ, there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female.

2 Chronicles 31:16 Beside their genealogy of males, from three years old and upward, even unto every one that entereth into the house of the LORD, his daily portion for their service in their charges according to their courses;

This passage records the genealogies of the males who were three years old and older, and who served in the house of the Lord, with their daily portion for their service according to their courses.

1. The Importance of Service to God

2. The Blessings of Serving God Faithfully

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. Ephesians 6:7-8 - 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 bondservant or is free.

2 Chronicles 31:17 Both to the genealogy of the priests by the house of their fathers, and the Levites from twenty years old and upward, in their charges by their courses;

The genealogy of the priests and Levites were organized by their fathers and age, allocating them to their duties.

1. The Power of Organization: How God Uses Us to Do His Work

2. The Importance of Following God's Commandments: Doing His Will with Your Life

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 3:23-24 - 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 Chronicles 31:18 And to the genealogy of all their little ones, their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, through all the congregation: for in their set office they sanctified themselves in holiness:

The people of Israel were faithfully devoted to their religious duties and took great care to ensure that all members of their family, from the youngest to the oldest, were set apart for God's service.

1. Devoting Ourselves to God's Service

2. The Holiness of the Family

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. 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 Chronicles 31:19 Also of the sons of Aaron the priests, which were in the fields of the suburbs of their cities, in every several city, the men that were expressed by name, to give portions to all the males among the priests, and to all that were reckoned by genealogies among the Levites.

This passage discusses the priests and Levites being given portions in every city by those who were named.

1. Humble Service: The Example of the Priests and Levites

2. God's Provision: Understanding the Portions of the Priests and Levites

1. Matthew 20:25-28 - Jesus teaches on being a servant

2. Isaiah 58: 6-12 - A call to justice and righteousness for all God's people

2 Chronicles 31:20 And thus did Hezekiah throughout all Judah, and wrought that which was good and right and truth before the LORD his God.

Hezekiah was a good and righteous ruler in Judah who acted in truth before the LORD.

1. A Call to Righteousness: Following the Example of Hezekiah

2. The Power of Obedience: Hezekiah's Legacy of Faithfulness

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. Proverbs 10:9 - "He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known."

2 Chronicles 31:21 And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God, and in the law, and in the commandments, to seek his God, he did it with all his heart, and prospered.

Hezekiah devoted himself to serving God and kept His laws and commandments with all his heart, and he was successful.

1. The Blessings of Wholehearted Devotion to God

2. Succeeding Through Faith and Obedience

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. James 4:8 - Come near to God and he will come near to you.

2 Chronicles chapter 32 describes the Assyrian invasion of Judah during Hezekiah's reign and God's deliverance of Jerusalem.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting how Sennacherib, the king of Assyria, invades Judah and besieges the fortified cities. Hezekiah takes measures to strengthen the city walls and encourages his people to be strong and have faith in God (2 Chronicles 32:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Sennacherib sends messengers to taunt and intimidate the people of Judah, questioning their trust in God. Hezekiah prays to God for deliverance, seeking His intervention against the Assyrians (2 Chronicles 32:9-20).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how God answers Hezekiah's prayer by sending an angel who strikes down a vast number of Assyrian soldiers. Sennacherib is forced to retreat in disgrace, returning to his own land where he meets a violent end (2 Chronicles 32:21-23).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing Hezekiah's illness and his prayer for healing. God grants him healing and extends his life. Hezekiah becomes proud, but later repents when he realizes his arrogance (2 Chronicles 32:24-26).

5th Paragraph:The account concludes by mentioning the wealth and honor bestowed upon Hezekiah due to his faithfulness. However, he does not remain humble, leading to judgment upon him and Jerusalem in later years (2 Chronicles 32:27-33).

In summary, Chapter thirty-two of 2 Chronicles depicts the invasion, and deliverance experienced during leadership reign of King Hezekiah. Highlighting threat expressed through Assyrian invasion, and victory achieved through divine intervention. Mentioning prayer efforts carried out by Hezekiah, and consequences faced due to pride. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Hezekiah s choices expressed through reliance on God while emphasizing deliverance resulting from faith exemplified by divine intervention an embodiment representing divine favor an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 32:1 After these things, and the establishment thereof, Sennacherib king of Assyria came, and entered into Judah, and encamped against the fenced cities, and thought to win them for himself.

Sennacherib, King of Assyria, attacked Judah by encamping against the fenced cities in an effort to take them for himself.

1. God will protect us from evil forces if we trust in Him.

2. We must remain vigilant and keep our faith in times of trouble.

1. Psalm 46:10 Be still and know that I am God.

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 Chronicles 32:2 And when Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib was come, and that he was purposed to fight against Jerusalem,

Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib was coming to fight against Jerusalem.

1. The importance of perseverance in the face of adversity.

2. The power of faith in the midst of fear.

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. 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 Chronicles 32:3 He took counsel with his princes and his mighty men to stop the waters of the fountains which were without the city: and they did help him.

Hezekiah sought the help of his advisers to block the water sources outside the walls of Jerusalem.

1. Sowing Unity: Hezekiah's Example

2. The Power of Listening to Wise Counsel

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 fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

2 Chronicles 32:4 So there was gathered much people together, who stopped all the fountains, and the brook that ran through the midst of the land, saying, Why should the kings of Assyria come, and find much water?

A large group of people came together to block off all sources of water so that the kings of Assyria would not find them.

1. The Power of United Action to Accomplish Great Things

2. Faith in God in Difficult Times

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.

2. Romans 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.

2 Chronicles 32:5 Also he strengthened himself, and built up all the wall that was broken, and raised it up to the towers, and another wall without, and repaired Millo in the city of David, and made darts and shields in abundance.

King Hezekiah fortified Jerusalem with strong walls and towers, and also repaired the Millo and stocked up on weapons.

1. God will provide strength if we trust in Him.

2. We must be prepared to face the challenges of life.

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 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 Chronicles 32:6 And he set captains of war over the people, and gathered them together to him in the street of the gate of the city, and spake comfortably to them, saying,

King Hezekiah gathered his people together to encourage them to continue to remain faithful to God and to fight against their enemies.

1. Remain faithful to God and He will protect you in the midst of your enemies.

2. Take courage and strength from the Lord in times of difficulty.

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. 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 Chronicles 32:7 Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him:

King Hezekiah encourages the people of Judah to remain strong and courageous in the face of the Assyrian threat.

1. God is always with us, so we need not fear.

2. Have 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. 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 Chronicles 32:8 With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles. And the people rested themselves upon the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.

1. Trusting in the Lord for Strength and Protection

2. Relying on the Promises of God

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.

2 Chronicles 32:9 After this did Sennacherib king of Assyria send his servants to Jerusalem, (but he himself laid siege against Lachish, and all his power with him,) unto Hezekiah king of Judah, and unto all Judah that were at Jerusalem, saying,

Sennacherib king of Assyria sent his servants to Jerusalem and laid siege against Lachish with all his power, and sent a message to Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah in Jerusalem.

1. Don't Fear the Assyrians: A Study in Faith and Courage from 2 Chronicles 32:9

2. Standing Strong in the Face of Adversity: How to Persevere in the Midst of Attack from 2 Chronicles 32:9

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.

2 Chronicles 32:10 Thus saith Sennacherib king of Assyria, Whereon do ye trust, that ye abide in the siege in Jerusalem?

Sennacherib, king of Assyria, questions why the people of Jerusalem remain in siege.

1. Trusting in the Lord in Difficult Times

2. Standing Strong 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. Psalm 118:6 - "The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

2 Chronicles 32:11 Doth not Hezekiah persuade you to give over yourselves to die by famine and by thirst, saying, The LORD our God shall deliver us out of the hand of the king of Assyria?

Hezekiah convinced the people to trust in the Lord to deliver them from the Assyrian king.

1. Trust in the Lord for Deliverance

2. Relying on the Promises of God

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. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - "But 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."

2 Chronicles 32:12 Hath not the same Hezekiah taken away his high places and his altars, and commanded Judah and Jerusalem, saying, Ye shall worship before one altar, and burn incense upon it?

Hezekiah commanded the people of Judah and Jerusalem to only worship at one altar and burn incense on it, taking away all other high places and altars.

1. The Power of True Worship: How Hezekiah's Example Can Guide Us Today

2. The Importance of Following God's Commands: Hezekiah's Call to Obedience

1. 1 Chronicles 29:20-21 - Then David the king said to all the assembly, Bless the Lord your God. And all the assembly blessed the Lord, the God of their fathers, and bowed their heads and paid homage to the Lord and to the king.

2. Psalm 95:6 - O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

2 Chronicles 32:13 Know ye not what I and my fathers have done unto all the people of other lands? were the gods of the nations of those lands any ways able to deliver their lands out of mine hand?

King Hezekiah encourages the people of Judah to remember how their God has protected them from other nations by delivering them from their enemies.

1. Have faith in the Lord and trust in His protection.

2. Remember the Lord's faithfulness and be encouraged to stand firm in 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 46:1-3 - "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 Chronicles 32:14 Who was there among all the gods of those nations that my fathers utterly destroyed, that could deliver his people out of mine hand, that your God should be able to deliver you out of mine hand?

King Hezekiah questions how any god of the nations his fathers have destroyed could possibly deliver their people, and emphasizes the greatness of God by asking how any other god could even hope to deliver them from his hand.

1. The Power and Might of the Lord

2. Our Faith in God's Deliverance

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.

2 Chronicles 32:15 Now therefore let not Hezekiah deceive you, nor persuade you on this manner, neither yet believe him: for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people out of mine hand, and out of the hand of my fathers: how much less shall your God deliver you out of mine hand?

King Sennacherib of Assyria taunts Hezekiah and the people of Judah, claiming that no god of any nation or kingdom has been able to deliver them from Sennacherib s hand.

1. "The Sovereignty of God: Trusting in the One True God"

2. "The Power of Faith: Overcoming Doubt and 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 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 Chronicles 32:16 And his servants spake yet more against the LORD God, and against his servant Hezekiah.

Hezekiah's servants spoke against the LORD and against Hezekiah.

1: Trust in the Lord and don't be like the servants of Hezekiah who spoke against Him. Proverbs 3:5-6

2: Have faith in the Lord no matter the situation. Hebrews 11:6

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: 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 Chronicles 32:17 He wrote also letters to rail on the LORD God of Israel, and to speak against him, saying, As the gods of the nations of other lands have not delivered their people out of mine hand, so shall not the God of Hezekiah deliver his people out of mine hand.

Hezekiah wrote letters to blaspheme the LORD God of Israel, claiming that just as the gods of other nations had failed to save their people from him, the God of Hezekiah would fail to do the same.

1. The Power of Faith: How Hezekiah's Faith in the Lord Triumphed Over All Odds

2. The Reality of Doubt: Hezekiah's Moment of Weakness and How It Can Help Us

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. James 1:6-8 - 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.

2 Chronicles 32:18 Then they cried with a loud voice in the Jews' speech unto the people of Jerusalem that were on the wall, to affright them, and to trouble them; that they might take the city.

The people of Jerusalem were threatened and frightened in an attempt to take the city.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Answers Our Cry for Help

2. Perseverance in the Face of Opposition: Overcoming Difficulties

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 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

2 Chronicles 32:19 And they spake against the God of Jerusalem, as against the gods of the people of the earth, which were the work of the hands of man.

The people of Jerusalem spoke against the God of Jerusalem, comparing Him to the idols of other nations which were made by human hands.

1. The Danger of Idolatry and Comparing God to Man-Made Idols

2. Our God is Worthy of All Praise and Glorification

1. Isaiah 40:18-25 - To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness compare with Him?

2. Psalm 135:15-18 - The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they do not speak; they have eyes, but they do not see; they have ears, but they do not hear, nor is there any breath in their mouths.

2 Chronicles 32:20 And for this cause Hezekiah the king, and the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz, prayed and cried to heaven.

Hezekiah the king and Isaiah the son of Amoz prayed and cried out to God for help.

1. The Power of Prayer - How even the most powerful can turn to God in times of need.

2. The Cry of the Heart - How our emotions and prayers can lead us to the Lord.

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 has great power as it is working."

2. Psalm 61:2 - "From the end of the earth will I cry to You, when my heart is overwhelmed; lead me to the rock that is higher than I."

2 Chronicles 32:21 And the LORD sent an angel, which cut off all the mighty men of valour, and the leaders and captains in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned with shame of face to his own land. And when he was come into the house of his god, they that came forth of his own bowels slew him there with the sword.

The Lord sent an angel to punish the Assyrian king and his army, and the king was killed by those in his own court.

1. God's Justice: The Just Punishment of the Assyrian King

2. The Power of God: How Even the Mighty are Not Beyond His Reach

1. 2 Chronicles 32:21 - "And the LORD sent an angel, which cut off all the mighty men of valour, and the leaders and captains in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned with shame of face to his own land. And when he was come into the house of his god, they that came forth of his own bowels slew him there with the sword."

2. Isaiah 10:5 - "Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger; the staff in their hands is my indignation!"

2 Chronicles 32:22 Thus the LORD saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all other, and guided them on every side.

1: God is our protector and will guide us on all sides.

2: We can trust in the Lord to save us from any situation.

1: Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

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 Chronicles 32:23 And many brought gifts unto the LORD to Jerusalem, and presents to Hezekiah king of Judah: so that he was magnified in the sight of all nations from thenceforth.

1: We should always seek to glorify God through our actions and offerings.

2: When we make offerings to God, He gives us back more than we could ever imagine.

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: Deuteronomy 16:16-17 Three times a year all your males are to appear before the Lord your God at the place he will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks and the Feast of Tabernacles. No one should appear before the Lord empty-handed.

2 Chronicles 32:24 In those days Hezekiah was sick to the death, and prayed unto the LORD: and he spake unto him, and he gave him a sign.

Hezekiah was gravely ill and prayed to the Lord, who responded with a sign.

1. God will provide hope and strength in our darkest moments.

2. The power of prayer can move mountains.

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 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 Chronicles 32:25 But Hezekiah rendered not again according to the benefit done unto him; for his heart was lifted up: therefore there was wrath upon him, and upon Judah and Jerusalem.

Hezekiah failed to return the favor done to him, leading to consequences for himself and Judah and Jerusalem.

1. Pride comes before a fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. The importance of humility - Philippians 2:3

1. Ezekiel 28:2 - "Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus, Thus saith the Lord God; Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas; yet thou art a man, and not God.

2. James 4:6 - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

2 Chronicles 32:26 Notwithstanding Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD came not upon them in the days of Hezekiah.

Hezekiah humbled himself and the people of Jerusalem, preventing the wrath of the LORD from coming upon them.

1. Pride will always come before a fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. Humility is essential for God's blessings - James 4:6-10

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

2. James 4:6-10 - But He gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. 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.

2 Chronicles 32:27 And Hezekiah had exceeding much riches and honour: and he made himself treasuries for silver, and for gold, and for precious stones, and for spices, and for shields, and for all manner of pleasant jewels;

Hezekiah had great wealth and glory, and he stored his silver, gold, jewels, spices, shields, and other valuables in treasuries.

1. The Power of Wealth - How to Properly Utilize Financial Resources

2. The Benefits of Self-Control - Developing Discernment in Accumulating Possessions

1. Proverbs 13:11 - Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10-11 - Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless. As goods increase, so do those who consume them. And what benefit are they to the owners except to feast their eyes on them?

2 Chronicles 32:28 Storehouses also for the increase of corn, and wine, and oil; and stalls for all manner of beasts, and cotes for flocks.

King Hezekiah of Judah prepared for a siege against the Assyrians by storing up corn, wine, oil, and providing shelter for animals and flocks.

1. The Power of Preparation: God's call for us to be ready for whatever may come our way.

2. The Importance of Taking Care of God's Creatures: Taking time to provide for the animals and flocks in our lives.

1. Matthew 25:4-5, "The wise virgins took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the foolish took their lamps, but took no oil with them."

2. Proverbs 27:23-24, "Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds; for riches do not endure forever, and a crown is not secure for all generations."

2 Chronicles 32:29 Moreover he provided him cities, and possessions of flocks and herds in abundance: for God had given him substance very much.

King Hezekiah was blessed with great wealth and resources due to God's generosity.

1. Faithfulness Rewarded: How God Rewarded Hezekiah for His Devotion

2. The Blessings of Obedience: How Hezekiah was Blessed for His Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's promises of blessing on obedience

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart

2 Chronicles 32:30 This same Hezekiah also stopped the upper watercourse of Gihon, and brought it straight down to the west side of the city of David. And Hezekiah prospered in all his works.

Hezekiah prospered in all his works, including stopping the upper watercourse of Gihon and bringing it to the west side of the city of David.

1. Trusting God in Difficult Times: The Story of Hezekiah

2. The Power of Perseverance: Hezekiah's Example

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 37:23 - "The LORD makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him; though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the LORD upholds him with his hand."

2 Chronicles 32:31 Howbeit in the business of the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, who sent unto him to enquire of the wonder that was done in the land, God left him, to try him, that he might know all that was in his heart.

God allowed Hezekiah to be tested and tried through the Babylonian ambassadors in order to know what was in his heart.

1. God Tests Our Hearts to Reveal Our True Nature

2. The Importance of Having a Heart of Faith

1. Psalm 139:23-24 - Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

2. Proverbs 17:3 - The crucible is for silver, and the furnace is for gold, and the Lord tests hearts.

2 Chronicles 32:32 Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and his goodness, behold, they are written in the vision of Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, and in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

1: Let us remember the goodness of Hezekiah and be inspired to strive for similar greatness.

2: Hezekiah sought to do what was right in the Lord's eyes and let us seek to do the same.

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 13:11 - Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

2 Chronicles 32:33 And Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the chiefest of the sepulchres of the sons of David: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem did him honour at his death. And Manasseh his son reigned in his stead.

Hezekiah died and was buried in the sepulchres of the sons of David and all Judah honored him. Manasseh then became king in his place.

1. The Faithfulness of Hezekiah: A Model for Us - 2 Timothy 3:10 12

2. Knowing the Right Time to Die - Ecclesiastes 3:1 8

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps.

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

2 Chronicles chapter 33 describes the wicked reign of Manasseh, his subsequent repentance, and the consequences of his actions.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Manasseh's ascent to the throne at a young age. He engages in idolatry, builds altars for false gods, and practices abominable acts such as sacrificing his own children (2 Chronicles 33:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how God sends prophets to warn Manasseh and the people of Judah about their evil deeds. However, they refuse to listen and continue in their wickedness (2 Chronicles 33:10-17).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how God brings judgment upon Manasseh by allowing him to be captured by the Assyrians. In captivity, he humbles himself before God, repents of his sins, and seeks forgiveness (2 Chronicles 33:18-19).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing how God restores Manasseh's kingdom and blesses him after his repentance. He removes the foreign gods from Jerusalem and encourages the people to worship God alone (2 Chronicles 33:20-25).

In summary, Chapter thirty-three of 2 Chronicles depicts the reign, repentance, and restoration experienced during leadership reign of King Manasseh. Highlighting wickedness expressed through idolatry, and judgment faced due to disobedience. Mentioning repentance efforts carried out by Manasseh, and restoration experienced through divine mercy. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Manasseh s choices expressed through rebellion against God while emphasizing redemption resulting from repentance exemplified by restoration an embodiment representing divine grace an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 33:1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem:

Manasseh was 12 years old when he began to reign over Jerusalem for 55 years.

1. The Power of the King: Manasseh's Reign as an Example

2. The Legacy of Obedience: How Manasseh's Faithfulness Changed History

1. 2 Chronicles 33:1-13

2. Psalm 78:8-9

2 Chronicles 33:2 But did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, like unto the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel.

Manasseh, King of Judah, did evil things in the eyes of the Lord, similar to the practices of the people who were expelled from Israel.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - What We Can Learn from the Tale of Manasseh

2. Obedience to God: What it Means and Why it Matters

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-19 - God's judgement on disobedience

2. 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 - The importance of living in obedience to God

2 Chronicles 33:3 For he built again the high places which Hezekiah his father had broken down, and he reared up altars for Baalim, and made groves, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them.

Manasseh re-built the high places and altars that his father Hezekiah had broken down, and worshipped the host of heaven.

1. The importance of honoring the legacy of our spiritual elders.

2. Taking responsibility for our own spiritual lives.

1. 2 Kings 21:2 - And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, after the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

2. Deuteronomy 12:30-31 - 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 Chronicles 33:4 Also he built altars in the house of the LORD, whereof the LORD had said, In Jerusalem shall my name be for ever.

Manasseh built altars in the House of the Lord in Jerusalem, according to the Lord's command.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: Learning from Manasseh s Example

2. The Joy of Worship: How We Can Honor God in Our Lives

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7

2. Psalm 84:10-12

2 Chronicles 33:5 And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD.

Manasseh built altars to worship idols in both courts of the temple of the Lord.

1. Idolatry: The Greatest Sin

2. Understanding the Depths of God's Love

1. Exodus 20:3-5 You shall have no other gods before me.

2. Romans 5:8 But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2 Chronicles 33:6 And he caused his children to pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom: also he observed times, and used enchantments, and used witchcraft, and dealt with a familiar spirit, and with wizards: he wrought much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.

Manasseh, king of Judah, practiced idolatrous rituals, including child sacrifice, sorcery, and witchcraft, which provoked God to anger.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Examining the Sin of Manasseh

2. Rejecting the Practices of the World: Choosing Obedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 18:10-12 (For 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. 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.)

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 Chronicles 33:7 And 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 before all the tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever:

Manasseh built an idol in the Temple of God, even though the Lord had promised to have His name remain there forever.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Faithfulness of God's Promises

1. Isaiah 48:11 - For my own name's sake will I defer mine anger, and for my praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off.

2. Psalm 33:4 - For the word of the Lord is right; and all his works are done in truth.

2 Chronicles 33:8 Neither will I any more remove the foot of Israel from out of the land which I have appointed for your fathers; so that they will take heed to do all that I have commanded them, according to the whole law and the statutes and the ordinances by the hand of Moses.

God promised that He will not cause Israel to be removed from the land that He had appointed for them, and that they would obey His commands.

1. Abiding in the Promises of God

2. Obedience to God s Commandments

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse;

2. Joshua 1:5 - 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 Chronicles 33:9 So Manasseh made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to err, and to do worse than the heathen, whom the LORD had destroyed before the children of Israel.

Manasseh led Judah and Jerusalem to disobey God and behave worse than the nations God had previously destroyed.

1. The Danger of Disobedience - How Manasseh's Rebellion Led to Destruction

2. The Nature of Sin - Understanding the Consequences of Sinning Against God

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - The curses that God promised to Israel if they disobeyed his commandments

2. Isaiah 5:20-24 - The Lord's lament for the people of Judah who rebelled against him.

2 Chronicles 33:10 And the LORD spake to Manasseh, and to his people: but they would not hearken.

Despite the Lord speaking to Manasseh and his people, they refused to listen.

1. How to Listen to God's Voice

2. The Power of Obedience

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. 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 Chronicles 33:11 Wherefore the LORD brought upon them the captains of the host of the king of Assyria, which took Manasseh among the thorns, and bound him with fetters, and carried him to Babylon.

1: We must be careful to remain faithful to God in all of our actions, or we will be subject to His judgement.

2: We must be mindful of the consequences of our actions and strive to live a life that honors God.

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

2 Chronicles 33:12 And when he was in affliction, he besought the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers,

Manasseh humbled himself and turned to God in times of affliction.

1. The Power of Humility in Times of Affliction

2. Turning to God in Times of Trouble

1. 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. 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 Chronicles 33:13 And prayed unto him: and he was intreated of him, and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD he was God.

Manasseh humbled himself before God and God answered his prayer and restored him to his kingdom in Jerusalem. Manasseh realized that the Lord was in fact God.

1. God is always willing to forgive and restore us if we come to Him in repentance.

2. God desires to have a relationship with us and rewards those who humble themselves before Him.

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 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 Chronicles 33:14 Now after this he built a wall without the city of David, on the west side of Gihon, in the valley, even to the entering in at the fish gate, and compassed about Ophel, and raised it up a very great height, and put captains of war in all the fenced cities of Judah.

King Manasseh built a wall around the city of David and extended it to the Fish Gate, encompassing Ophel. He also put captains of war in all the cities of Judah.

1. The Power of Walls: How a Wall Can Protect Us from Danger

2. The Value of Preparation: Being Ready to Face Any Challenge

1. Proverbs 18:10-11 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe. The wealth of the rich is their strong city, but poverty is the ruin of the poor.

2. Psalm 28:7-8 - The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song. The Lord is the strength of his people, a fortress of salvation for his anointed one.

2 Chronicles 33:15 And he took away the strange gods, and the idol out of the house of the LORD, and all the altars that he had built in the mount of the house of the LORD, and in Jerusalem, and cast them out of the city.

King Manasseh removed foreign gods, idols, and altars that he had built and cast them out of the city.

1. The Power of God's Truth in Overcoming Temptations

2. The Transforming Power of Repentance

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 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 Chronicles 33:16 And he repaired the altar of the LORD, and sacrificed thereon peace offerings and thank offerings, and commanded Judah to serve the LORD God of Israel.

Manasseh repaired the altar of the LORD and offered sacrifices and commanded Judah to serve God.

1. Obedience to God Leads to Blessing

2. Serving God is Our Highest Calling

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. 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 Chronicles 33:17 Nevertheless the people did sacrifice still in the high places, yet unto the LORD their God only.

Despite the removal of the idols from the high places, the people continued to sacrifice at them, but only to the LORD.

1. God Is Worthy of Our Worship: The Story of 2 Chronicles 33:17

2. The Impact of Idolatry: Learning from the People of 2 Chronicles 33:17

1. Matthew 22:37-38 - Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, and mind.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God.

2 Chronicles 33:18 Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and his prayer unto his God, and the words of the seers that spake to him in the name of the LORD God of Israel, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel.

Manasseh's acts, prayers and words spoken to him by seers in the name of the LORD God of Israel are written in the book of the kings of Israel.

1. "The Power of Prayer: Lessons from Manasseh"

2. "The Impact of Seers: Following the Words 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. Psalm 37:4 - "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

2 Chronicles 33:19 His prayer also, and how God was intreated of him, and all his sins, and his trespass, and the places wherein he built high places, and set up groves and graven images, before he was humbled: behold, they are written among the sayings of the seers.

Manasseh humbled himself and prayed to God for forgiveness of his sins. His actions and words are recorded in the writings of the seers.

1. The Power of Humbling Ourselves Before God

2. The Importance of Prayer in Repenting of Our Sins

1. 2 Chronicles 33:19

2. Luke 18:13-14 - And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

2 Chronicles 33:20 So Manasseh slept with his fathers, and they buried him in his own house: and Amon his son reigned in his stead.

Manasseh died and was buried in his own home, and his son Amon succeeded him.

1. The Power of Legacy: How Our Choices Affect Future Generations

2. Knowing Your Identity: The Importance of Knowing Who We Are

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 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.

2 Chronicles 33:21 Amon was two and twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned two years in Jerusalem.

Amon was 22 years old when he became the ruler of Jerusalem and he only reigned for 2 years.

1. Don't forget to seek God's guidance in all aspects of life.

2. The importance of obedience to God's rules and regulations.

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. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.

2 Chronicles 33:22 But he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as did Manasseh his father: for Amon sacrificed unto all the carved images which Manasseh his father had made, and served them;

Amon, the son of Manasseh, did evil in the sight of the LORD by following in his father's footsteps and sacrificing to the carved images Manasseh had made.

1. The Danger of Following in Our Parents' Footsteps

2. The Dangers of Idol Worship

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 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. 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 Chronicles 33:23 And humbled not himself before the LORD, as Manasseh his father had humbled himself; but Amon trespassed more and more.

Amon, son of Manasseh, did not humble himself before the LORD like his father had done but instead sinned more and more.

1. The Power of Humbling Ourselves Before the LORD

2. The Danger of Disobeying God's Commands

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up."

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

2 Chronicles 33:24 And his servants conspired against him, and slew him in his own house.

Manasseh, the King of Judah, was assassinated by his own servants in his home.

1. We must be mindful of the consequences of our actions, for they can lead to unforeseen and tragic results.

2. The path of sin is a dangerous one and can lead to destruction and death.

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way 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.

2 Chronicles 33:25 But the people of the land slew all them that had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his stead.

After the death of King Amon, the people of the land made Josiah, his son, king in his stead.

1. The Power of Faith and Loyalty: The People of Judah's Loyalty to King Josiah

2. The Unfailing Devotion of God: The Faithfulness of Josiah's Reign

1. Joshua 24:15-16 - And if it seems evil to you 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. 1 Peter 2:13-14 - 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.

2 Chronicles chapter 34 describes the righteous reign of King Josiah, his efforts to restore the worship of God, and the discovery of the Book of the Law.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Josiah's ascension to the throne at a young age. He seeks after God and initiates reforms by removing idols and repairing the temple (2 Chronicles 34:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Hilkiah, the high priest, discovers the Book of the Law in the temple during its restoration. Josiah sends messengers to consult with Huldah, a prophetess, who confirms that judgment will come upon Judah but not during Josiah's lifetime due to his repentance (2 Chronicles 34:8-28).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Josiah gathers all the people and reads aloud from the Book of the Law. He makes a covenant with God and leads Judah in renewing their commitment to follow God's commandments (2 Chronicles 34:29-33).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing Josiah's further reforms as he removes all traces of idolatry from Jerusalem and throughout Judah. He celebrates a great Passover feast, demonstrating his commitment to obeying God's laws (2 Chronicles 34:3-35).

In summary, Chapter thirty-four of 2 Chronicles depicts the reign, reforms, and rediscovery experienced during leadership reign of King Josiah. Highlighting righteousness expressed through restoration, and rediscovery achieved through finding Book of Law. Mentioning repentance efforts carried out by Josiah, and renewal experienced through covenant relationship. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Josiah s choices expressed through devotion towards God while emphasizing revival resulting from obedience exemplified by reform an embodiment representing divine favor an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 34:1 Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem one and thirty years.

Josiah began his rule in Jerusalem at the age of 8 and reigned for 31 years.

1. The Power of a Good Leader: How Josiah Influenced Jerusalem

2. The Importance of Making the Right Choices: Josiah's Reign as an Example

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. 1 Timothy 4:12: "Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity."

2 Chronicles 34:2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the ways of David his father, and declined neither to the right hand, nor to the left.

Josiah followed the example of his father, King David, and did what was right in the eyes of the Lord. He stayed on the right path and did not deviate to either side.

1. Staying on the Right Path - How to Keep Yourself on the Right Path in Life

2. Following the Example of King David - How to Follow in the Footsteps of Those Who Came Before Us

1. Proverbs 4:26-27 - 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. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

2 Chronicles 34:3 For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father: and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images.

King Josiah began to seek God in his eighth year of reign and in his twelfth year began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of idolatry.

1. The Power of Seeking God: How King Josiah's Pursuit of God Changed Everything

2. The Courage to Purge: King Josiah's Example of Taking Action Against Idolatry

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

2 Chronicles 34:4 And they brake down the altars of Baalim in his presence; and the images, that were on high above them, he cut down; and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images, he brake in pieces, and made dust of them, and strowed it upon the graves of them that had sacrificed unto them.

Josiah destroyed the altars, images, groves, carved images, and molten images of Baal in order to end idolatry and its worship.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Josiah's Faithful Disregard of Idolatry Changed the Course of History

2. A Reflection on the Living God: How Josiah's Disregard of Idolatry Helped Him Find Salvation

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. 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 Chronicles 34:5 And he burnt the bones of the priests upon their altars, and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem.

Josiah burned the bones of the priests on their altars and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Purification: How Josiah's Faithful Actions Cleansed Judah and Jerusalem

2. Following God's Will: How Obedience to God's Command Created Change

1. 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.

2. Leviticus 20:7-8 - Consecrate yourselves, therefore, and be holy, for I am the Lord your God. Keep my statutes and do them; I am the Lord who sanctifies you.

2 Chronicles 34:6 And so did he in the cities of Manasseh, and Ephraim, and Simeon, even unto Naphtali, with their mattocks round about.

Josiah followed the Lord's command and repaired the temple in cities of Manasseh, Ephraim, Simeon, and Naphtali.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Josiah's Faithful Response Changed History

2. Serving God With All Our Heart, Soul, and Strength: How to be a Faithful Follower of God

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength

2. 2 Chronicles 31:20-21 - So the workmen labored, and the work was completed by them, and they restored the house of God to its proper condition and strengthened it. Then they brought the rest of the offerings, the dedicated gifts, and the freewill offerings to the house of God.

2 Chronicles 34:7 And when he had broken down the altars and the groves, and had beaten the graven images into powder, and cut down all the idols throughout all the land of Israel, he returned to Jerusalem.

Josiah, king of Israel, destroyed all of the idols, altars, and groves throughout the land of Israel and returned to Jerusalem.

1. The importance of being devoted to God.

2. The power of obedience to God s commands.

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. Deuteronomy 7:5 But thus shall you deal with them: you shall break down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and chop down their Asherim and burn their graven images with fire.

2 Chronicles 34:8 Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land, and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder, to repair the house of the LORD his God.

King Josiah of Judah purified the land and the temple of the Lord in his 18th year of rule and sent Shaphan, Maaseiah, and Joah to repair it.

1. The Power of Righteousness: The Example of King Josiah

2. The Importance of Repentance and Restoration

1. 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."

2. Ezra 10:4 - "Arise, for it is your task, and we are with you; be strong and do it.

2 Chronicles 34:9 And when they came to Hilkiah the high priest, they delivered the money that was brought into the house of God, which the Levites that kept the doors had gathered of the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim, and of all the remnant of Israel, and of all Judah and Benjamin; and they returned to Jerusalem.

The Levites who were guarding the doors of the House of God had gathered money from Manasseh, Ephraim, the remnant of Israel, Judah, and Benjamin, and delivered it to Hilkiah the high priest.

1. The Power of Generosity: Giving to God's House

2. The Blessing of Working Together: People from Different Tribes Uniting For A Common Cause

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. 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 lands 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.

2 Chronicles 34:10 And they put it in the hand of the workmen that had the oversight of the house of the LORD, and they gave it to the workmen that wrought in the house of the LORD, to repair and amend the house:

The people of Judah gave money to the workmen who had oversight of the Lord's house in order to repair and improve it.

1. God calls us to steward our resources to build up His Kingdom.

2. Generosity is a sign of faithfulness to God.

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

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.

2 Chronicles 34:11 Even to the artificers and builders gave they it, to buy hewn stone, and timber for couplings, and to floor the houses which the kings of Judah had destroyed.

The kings of Judah gave money to artisans and builders to buy the supplies needed to repair the houses that had been destroyed.

1. God's Generosity, 2 Corinthians 9:8-11

2. Restoration and Renewal, Isaiah 61:3-4

1. Job 12:13-15,

2. Psalm 127:1-2.

2 Chronicles 34:12 And the men did the work faithfully: and the overseers of them were Jahath and Obadiah, the Levites, of the sons of Merari; and Zechariah and Meshullam, of the sons of the Kohathites, to set it forward; and other of the Levites, all that could skill of instruments of musick.

The work of restoring the temple in Jerusalem was faithfully done by Jahath, Obadiah, Zechariah, Meshullam, and other Levites who were skilled with musical instruments.

1. God's Faithful Servants: The Story of the Levites in 2 Chronicles 34

2. Restoration and Music: The Levites and the Rebuilding of the Temple

1. Psalm 100:2 - Serve the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing!

2. Leviticus 25:9 - Then you shall cause the trumpet of the Jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement you shall make the trumpet to sound throughout all your land.

2 Chronicles 34:13 Also they were over the bearers of burdens, and were overseers of all that wrought the work in any manner of service: and of the Levites there were scribes, and officers, and porters.

The Levites in 2 Chronicles 34:13 were responsible for various tasks, such as carrying burdens, overseeing work, writing, and guarding.

1. The Power of Service: How Our Actions Speak Louder than Words

2. The Importance of Accountability: Understanding Our Responsibilities

1. Matthew 20:26-28 - But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.

2. Romans 12:11 - "Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord."

2 Chronicles 34:14 And when they brought out the money that was brought into the house of the LORD, Hilkiah the priest found a book of the law of the LORD given by Moses.

Hilkiah the priest found a book of the law of the LORD given by Moses when money was brought into the house of the LORD.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Law Leads to God's Provision

2. The Blessing of Discovery: How Seeking God Leads to Uncovering His Truth

1. Deuteronomy 30:10-14 God's promise to reveal His law to His people

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 God's Word is all-sufficient for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness

2 Chronicles 34:15 And Hilkiah answered and said to Shaphan the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD. And Hilkiah delivered the book to Shaphan.

Hilkiah discovers the book of the law in the house of the Lord and gives it to Shaphan the scribe.

1. The Power of Discovered Truth: How God's Word Can Transform Our Lives

2. The Importance of Studying Scripture: Learning God's Will for Our Lives

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."

2 Chronicles 34:16 And Shaphan carried the book to the king, and brought the king word back again, saying, All that was committed to thy servants, they do it.

Shaphan took a book to the king and reported that the servants were doing all that had been committed to them.

1. The Power of Obedience: Following Through with God's Commands

2. Commitment to God: Doing Even the Small Things

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 Chronicles 28:9 "And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for the Lord searches every heart and understands every desire and every thought.

2 Chronicles 34:17 And they have gathered together the money that was found in the house of the LORD, and have delivered it into the hand of the overseers, and to the hand of the workmen.

The people of Judah collected the money found in the temple and gave it to the supervisors and workers.

1. God's faithful people will be rewarded for their service.

2. The importance of being generous with our resources.

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - 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 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 Chronicles 34:18 Then Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying, Hilkiah the priest hath given me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king.

Shaphan the scribe informed the king that Hilkiah the priest had given him a book, which he then read aloud to the king.

1. God Provides Guidance: Learning to Listen to the Voice of God

2. Delight in the Word of the Lord: How to Receive and Obey God's Instructions

1. 2 Chronicles 34:18

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

2 Chronicles 34:19 And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the law, that he rent his clothes.

When King Josiah heard the words of the law, he was so overwhelmed that he ripped his clothes.

1. Overwhelmed By the Word: How to Respond to the Power of God's Word

2. The Need for Humility in the Face of the Word of God

1. Isaiah 6:1-8 - Isaiah's response to the word of the Lord

2. Philippians 2:5-11 - The humility of Christ in obedience to the Father's will

2 Chronicles 34:20 And the king commanded Hilkiah, and Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Abdon the son of Micah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah a servant of the king's, saying,

The King commanded Hilkiah, Ahikam, Abdon, Shaphan, and Asaiah to do something.

1. The Power of Obedience

2. The Value of Humility

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.

2. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

2 Chronicles 34:21 Go, enquire of the LORD for me, and for them that are left in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the book that is found: for great is the wrath of the LORD that is poured out upon us, because our fathers have not kept the word of the LORD, to do after all that is written in this book.

The people of Israel and Judah inquire of the Lord about the wrath that has been poured out upon them because their fathers have not kept the word of the Lord.

1. The Power of Obedience: Why We Must Follow God's Word

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from Our Fathers' Mistakes

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's Blessings and Curses for Obedience and Disobedience

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trusting in the Lord with All Your Heart

2 Chronicles 34:22 And Hilkiah, and they that the king had appointed, went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvath, the son of Hasrah, keeper of the wardrobe; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the college:) and they spake to her to that effect.

Hilkiah and the people appointed by the King went to Huldah the prophetess in Jerusalem to ask her a question.

1. Obeying God's Calling in Your Life

2. The Power of Seeking Godly Wisdom

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.

12 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.

13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

2. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2 Chronicles 34:23 And she answered them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Tell ye the man that sent you to me,

The LORD God of Israel sent a message through a woman to the men who asked her to speak on His behalf.

1. God Is Always Listening - How God Speaks Through Us

2. Following God's Call - How We Listen to What God is Saying

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. 1 Samuel 3:10 - And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, Samuel! Samuel! And Samuel said, Speak, for your servant hears.

2 Chronicles 34:24 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the curses that are written in the book which they have read before the king of Judah:

The Lord declares that He will bring evil and curses upon the people of Judah, as written in the book they had read before the king.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - It is important to understand that when we disobey God, we will always face consequences.

2. Knowing What is Written - We must always be aware of what is written in the Bible, and faithfully follow its teachings.

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. 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 Chronicles 34:25 Because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the works of their hands; therefore my wrath shall be poured out upon this place, and shall not be quenched.

The people of Judah had forsaken God and burned incense to other gods, resulting in God's wrath being poured out upon them.

1. Avoiding the Wrath of God - How to Remain Faithful to God

2. The Consequences of Idolatry - The Dire Results of Turning Away from God

1. Deuteronomy 8:19-20 - "And when thou shalt look back to the former experiences in thy life, and think of what God hath brought thee through, and the great things he hath done for thee, that thou shalt not follow after other gods, and serve them. For the Lord thy God proveth thee, to know whether thou lovest the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

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."

2 Chronicles 34:26 And as for the king of Judah, who sent you to enquire of the LORD, so shall ye say unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel concerning the words which thou hast heard;

King Josiah of Judah sent officials to enquire of the Lord and the Lord gave a specific response to them.

1. The Importance of Seeking God's Guidance

2. Obeying God's Will

1. Matthew 6:32-33, "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."

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."

2 Chronicles 34:27 Because thine heart was tender, and thou didst humble thyself before God, when thou heardest his words against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, and humbledst thyself before me, and didst rend thy clothes, and weep before me; I have even heard thee also, saith the LORD.

After hearing God's words of judgement against Jerusalem, Josiah humbled himself before the Lord, tearing his clothes and weeping. In response, the Lord heard his prayer.

1. God honors humility and repentance

2. God hears the prayers of those who turn to Him in humility

1. Luke 18:13-14 - And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon 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 every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

2. 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 Chronicles 34:28 Behold, I will gather thee to thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered to thy grave in peace, neither shall thine eyes see all the evil that I will bring upon this place, and upon the inhabitants of the same. So they brought the king word again.

Josiah was informed that he would die in peace and not witness the destruction God would bring upon Jerusalem and its people.

1. Living with Peace in the Face of Uncertainty

2. Finding God's Purpose in the Midst of Challenges

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 48:14 - For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death.

2 Chronicles 34:29 Then the king sent and gathered together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem.

King Josiah summoned all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem to come to him.

1. The Power of Unity: How Coming Together Can Help Us Reach Our Goals

2. The Importance of Leadership: How Good Leadership Can Propel Us Towards Success

1. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2 Chronicles 34:30 And the king went up into the house of the LORD, and all the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the priests, and the Levites, and all the people, great and small: and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant that was found in the house of the LORD.

King Josiah and all the people of Judah, Jerusalem, priests, Levites, and everyone else gathered together to hear the words of the book of the covenant that was found in the house of the Lord.

1. The importance of the Covenant: How Understanding God's Promises Can Bring Us Closer to Him

2. The Power of Community: How Unity Can Strengthen Our Spiritual Journey

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. 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.

2 Chronicles 34:31 And the king stood in his place, and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments, and his testimonies, and his statutes, with all his heart, and with all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant which are written in this book.

King Josiah made a covenant to serve the Lord with all his heart and soul, and to follow His commandments, testimonies, and statutes.

1. The Power of Covenant: How to Keep Promises to God

2. A Renewal of the Heart: Keeping the Covenant with God

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. 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 Chronicles 34:32 And he caused all that were present in Jerusalem and Benjamin to stand to it. And the inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the covenant of God, the God of their fathers.

Josiah, the King of Judah, caused all of the people in Jerusalem and Benjamin to follow the covenant of God, which was established by their fathers.

1. God's covenant is a binding agreement that all of His followers must keep.

2. We should strive to live according to God's covenant, just as Josiah and the people of Jerusalem did.

1. 2 Chronicles 34:32

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."

2 Chronicles 34:33 And Josiah took away all the abominations out of all the countries that pertained to the children of Israel, and made all that were present in Israel to serve, even to serve the LORD their God. And all his days they departed not from following the LORD, the God of their fathers.

Josiah took away all things that were abominable from the lands of the Israelites and made them serve the Lord their God. For the entirety of his life, they continued to follow the Lord.

1. The Power of a Godly King: A Study on Josiah's Reign

2. Following the Lord: The Legacy of Josiah

1. Psalm 119:9-11 - How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

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 Chronicles chapter 35 describes the celebration of the Passover under King Josiah's leadership and his tragic death in battle.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Josiah's command to celebrate the Passover according to the requirements of the Law. He provides offerings and encourages the Levites to carry out their duties faithfully (2 Chronicles 35:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how preparations are made for the Passover feast. The priests slaughter the Passover lambs, and everyone participates in worship and offerings as prescribed by Moses (2 Chronicles 35:10-19).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how this Passover celebration is one of unprecedented grandeur. There is great joy, unity, and obedience among the people as they observe the feast with sincerity (2 Chronicles 35:20-24).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing a tragic event where Josiah confronts Pharaoh Neco of Egypt in battle despite Neco's warning that it is not against him that God has sent him. Josiah is fatally wounded and dies, mourned by all of Judah (2 Chronicles 35:25-27).

In summary, Chapter thirty-five of 2 Chronicles depicts the observance, and tragedy experienced during leadership reign of King Josiah. Highlighting obedience expressed through celebrating Passover, and tragedy faced due to ill-fated battle. Mentioning unity efforts carried out during festivities, and mourning experienced upon Josiah s death. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both King Josiah s choices expressed through devotion towards God while emphasizing fulfillment resulting from obedience exemplified by observance an embodiment representing divine favor an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 35:1 Moreover Josiah kept a passover unto the LORD in Jerusalem: and they killed the passover on the fourteenth day of the first month.

Josiah celebrated the Passover in Jerusalem on the fourteenth day of the first month.

1. Choosing to Celebrate God s Grace in Our Lives

2. Fulfilling God s Commandments with Joy and 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. Psalm 100:2 - Serve the LORD with gladness; come before his presence with singing.

2 Chronicles 35:2 And he set the priests in their charges, and encouraged them to the service of the house of the LORD,

King Josiah of Judah encouraged the priests to serve in the temple of the Lord.

1. The Lord's Work is Not to be Neglected - 2 Chronicles 35:2

2. Serving the Lord with Sacrifice and Dedication - 2 Chronicles 35:2

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 25:14-30 - Jesus tells the parable of the talents, emphasizing that those who serve the Lord faithfully will be rewarded.

2 Chronicles 35:3 And said unto the Levites that taught all Israel, which were holy unto the LORD, Put the holy ark in the house which Solomon the son of David king of Israel did build; it shall not be a burden upon your shoulders: serve now the LORD your God, and his people Israel,

The Levites were instructed to put the Holy Ark in the temple built by Solomon, and to serve the Lord and His people Israel.

1. Serving the Lord: A Call to Holiness

2. The Duty of the Levites: Upholding the Covenant

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. Joshua 24:15 - But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

2 Chronicles 35:4 And prepare yourselves by the houses of your fathers, after your courses, according to the writing of David king of Israel, and according to the writing of Solomon his son.

The people of Israel were instructed to prepare for worship according to the written instructions of King David and King Solomon.

1. Obeying the Fathers: Learning from the Wisdom of David and Solomon

2. Living in Obedience to God's Word

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

2 Chronicles 35:5 And stand in the holy place according to the divisions of the families of the fathers of your brethren the people, and after the division of the families of the Levites.

The people of Israel were instructed to stand in the holy place according to the divisions of their families and the Levites.

1. The Unity of God's People

2. The Holiness of God's 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.

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."

2 Chronicles 35:6 So kill the passover, and sanctify yourselves, and prepare your brethren, that they may do according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

The people of Judah are instructed to prepare and sanctify themselves in order to keep the Passover as commanded by the Lord through Moses.

1. Faithful Obedience: The Power of Keeping God's Commandments

2. The Importance of Sanctification: Learning to Follow God's Ways

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. 1 Peter 1:13-16 "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, since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy. "

2 Chronicles 35:7 And Josiah gave to the people, of the flock, lambs and kids, all for the passover offerings, for all that were present, to the number of thirty thousand, and three thousand bullocks: these were of the king's substance.

Josiah provided 30,000 lambs and 3,000 bullocks to the people for their Passover offerings.

1. God's Generosity: Reflecting on Josiah's Passover Offering.

2. Abundance in Sacrifice: A Study of Josiah's Generosity.

1. Exodus 12:3-4 - 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. 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.

2 Chronicles 35:8 And his princes gave willingly unto the people, to the priests, and to the Levites: Hilkiah and Zechariah and Jehiel, rulers of the house of God, gave unto the priests for the passover offerings two thousand and six hundred small cattle, and three hundred oxen.

Hilkiah, Zechariah, and Jehiel, leaders of the house of God, generously supplied two thousand and six hundred small cattle and three hundred oxen to the priests for the Passover offerings.

1. The Generosity of Leaders: An Example from 2 Chronicles 35:8

2. The Power of Giving: A Study of 2 Chronicles 35:8

1. 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.

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.

2 Chronicles 35:9 Conaniah also, and Shemaiah and Nethaneel, his brethren, and Hashabiah and Jeiel and Jozabad, chief of the Levites, gave unto the Levites for passover offerings five thousand small cattle, and five hundred oxen.

Conaniah, Shemaiah, Nethaneel, Hashabiah, Jeiel and Jozabad, six chief Levites, gave five thousand small cattle and five hundred oxen to the Levites as Passover offerings.

1. Giving with Joy: The Example of the Levites 2. A Heart of Generosity: The Reward 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. 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 Chronicles 35:10 So the service was prepared, and the priests stood in their place, and the Levites in their courses, according to the king's commandment.

The priests and Levites stood in their appointed places for the service according to the king's orders.

1. Be Ready to Serve: Knowing Our Place and Purpose.

2. God's Orders: Our Obedience Brings His Blessing.

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. Ephesians 6:7 - Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people.

2 Chronicles 35:11 And they killed the passover, and the priests sprinkled the blood from their hands, and the Levites flayed them.

The Levites prepared the Passover sacrifice and the priests sprinkled the blood on the altar.

1. The Importance of Sacrifice and Obedience in Worship

2. The Meaning of Communion and What it Gives Us

1. Hebrews 9:7 - But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people:

2. Matthew 26:26-28 - And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

2 Chronicles 35:12 And they removed the burnt offerings, that they might give according to the divisions of the families of the people, to offer unto the LORD, as it is written in the book of Moses. And so did they with the oxen.

The people offered burnt offerings and oxen to the Lord as prescribed in the Book of Moses.

1. Offerings and Sacrifice: Our Worship to God

2. Obedience and Service: Serving God with Heart and Soul

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - You shall slaughter the Passover lamb in the place which the LORD shall choose, and you shall eat it there with your sons and your daughters, and your male and female servants; and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God.

6 Moreover you shall not do as we are doing here today, every man doing whatever is right in his own eyes;

7 for as yet you have not come to the rest and the inheritance which the LORD your God is giving 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.

2 Chronicles 35:13 And they roasted the passover with fire according to the ordinance: but the other holy offerings sod they in pots, and in caldrons, and in pans, and divided them speedily among all the people.

The people of Israel roasted the Passover according to the ordinance, and quickly divided the other holy offerings among all the people.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Ordinances Brings Blessings

2. The Priority of Unity: How Working Together Brings God's Provision

1. Deuteronomy 6:17-19 - "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 give your fathers, to cast out all your enemy from before you, as the Lord has spoken.

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 Chronicles 35:14 And afterward they made ready for themselves, and for the priests: because the priests the sons of Aaron were busied in offering of burnt offerings and the fat until night; therefore the Levites prepared for themselves, and for the priests the sons of Aaron.

1. The importance of diligence in service to God

2. The power of unity in the church

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. 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 Chronicles 35:15 And the singers the sons of Asaph were in their place, according to the commandment of David, and Asaph, and Heman, and Jeduthun the king's seer; and the porters waited at every gate; they might not depart from their service; for their brethren the Levites prepared for them.

The singers, sons of Asaph, and porters were in place and waited at every gate in accordance with the commandment of David, Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun the king's seer.

1. The Importance of Obedience

2. The Blessing of Serving with One's Brethren

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. 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 Chronicles 35:16 So all the service of the LORD was prepared the same day, to keep the passover, and to offer burnt offerings upon the altar of the LORD, according to the commandment of king Josiah.

King Josiah commanded the service of the LORD to keep the passover and offer burnt offerings upon the altar of the LORD.

1. The Power of Obedience - Following God's Commands no Matter the Cost

2. The Heart of a King - The Devotion of Josiah to the LORD

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-6 - Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

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 Chronicles 35:17 And the children of Israel that were present kept the passover at that time, and the feast of unleavened bread seven days.

The children of Israel celebrated the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread for seven days.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the way He directed His people to celebrate the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread.

2. Our faithfulness to God is demonstrated through following His commands and celebrating the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread.

1. Exodus 12:1-14 - God's instructions to the Israelites for celebrating the Passover.

2. Deuteronomy 16:1-8 - God's instructions to the Israelites for celebrating the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

2 Chronicles 35:18 And there was no passover like to that kept in Israel from the days of Samuel the prophet; neither did all the kings of Israel keep such a passover as Josiah kept, and the priests, and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel that were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Josiah's Passover was the most memorable Passover in Israel since the time of Samuel the prophet, as it was celebrated with all of Judah, Israel, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Celebration: How Josiah's Passover Reminds Us of the Importance of Joyful Gatherings

2. Remembering the Past: How Josiah's Passover Teaches Us to Appreciate Our History

1. Deuteronomy 16:3-4 - "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. Matthew 26:17-19 - Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover? He said, Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples. And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

2 Chronicles 35:19 In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah was this passover kept.

Josiah celebrated a Passover in his eighteenth year of reign.

1. The Importance of Keeping God's Commandments

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Exodus 12:14-20 - The original commandment to keep the Passover

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and might

2 Chronicles 35:20 After all this, when Josiah had prepared the temple, Necho king of Egypt came up to fight against Charchemish by Euphrates: and Josiah went out against him.

Josiah, King of Judah, prepared the temple and then confronted Necho, King of Egypt, who was fighting against Charchemish by the Euphrates river.

1. The Power of Preparation: How Josiah's Preparation Led to His Victory

2. The Cost of Courage: How Josiah Was Brave Enough to Face a King

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the armor of God in preparation for spiritual warfare

2. Hebrews 11:32-40 - Examples of those who chose to obey God despite the cost

2 Chronicles 35:21 But he sent ambassadors to him, saying, What have I to do with thee, thou king of Judah? I come not against thee this day, but against the house wherewith I have war: for God commanded me to make haste: forbear thee from meddling with God, who is with me, that he destroy thee not.

Josiah, the king of Judah, sent ambassadors to King Neco of Egypt to inform him that he was not coming to fight him, but was following God's command to make haste to battle against another enemy. He warned Neco to not interfere with God, who was with Josiah, lest he be destroyed.

1. Obey God's Commandments: No matter what, it is essential to obey God's commandments and not to question them.

2. Do Not Interfere with God's Plan: It is important to not interfere with God's plan, as it may cause destruction and suffering.

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 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 Chronicles 35:22 Nevertheless Josiah would not turn his face from him, but disguised himself, that he might fight with him, and hearkened not unto the words of Necho from the mouth of God, and came to fight in the valley of Megiddo.

Josiah refused to obey God's warning from Necho and instead disguised himself to fight in the Valley of Megiddo.

1. Obey God's Commands: An Examination of 2 Chronicles 35:22

2. Listening to God's Voice: A Study of 2 Chronicles 35:22

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. 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 Chronicles 35:23 And the archers shot at king Josiah; and the king said to his servants, Have me away; for I am sore wounded.

King Josiah was shot by archers and instructed his servants to take him away, as he had been wounded.

1. The Power of Prayer in Times of Difficulty - 2 Chronicles 32:20-21

2. The Importance of Obedience to God - 2 Chronicles 34:1-3

1. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

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.

2 Chronicles 35:24 His servants therefore took him out of that chariot, and put him in the second chariot that he had; and they brought him to Jerusalem, and he died, and was buried in one of the sepulchres of his fathers. And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah.

Josiah, the king of Judah, was killed in battle and was brought to Jerusalem to be buried in the sepulchre of his fathers. All of Judah and Jerusalem mourned for him.

1. The consequences of our actions, 2 Chronicles 35:24

2. The importance of mourning for those who have passed, 2 Chronicles 35:24

1. Ecclesiastes 7:1-2 - A time to mourn, a time to dance

2. Romans 12:15 - Grieve with those who grieve.

2 Chronicles 35:25 And Jeremiah lamented for Josiah: and all the singing men and the singing women spake of Josiah in their lamentations to this day, and made them an ordinance in Israel: and, behold, they are written in the lamentations.

Jeremiah mourned for Josiah and the singing men and women spoke of him in their laments, which have been written down and are still remembered to this day.

1. The Legacy of King Josiah: Remembering His Contributions to Israel

2. The Unfading Power of Lamentation: How We Remember the Fallen

1. Jeremiah 9:17-21

2. Romans 8:31-39

2 Chronicles 35:26 Now the rest of the acts of Josiah, and his goodness, according to that which was written in the law of the LORD,

Josiah's acts and goodness were written in the Law of the Lord.

1. The Importance of Living a Life of Faithfulness to God

2. Following God's Law and Doing What is Right

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. 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 Chronicles 35:27 And his deeds, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

This passage tells of the deeds of King Josiah being recorded in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

1. The Legacy of Faith: Finding your Place in God's Story

2. Remembering the Faithful: Honoring the Memory of the Righteous

1. Matthew 25:23 - "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things.'

2. Isaiah 38:3 - "And Hezekiah said, 'What is the sign that I shall go up to the house of the Lord?'"

2 Chronicles chapter 36 describes the final years of the kingdom of Judah, including the reigns of Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, and Zedekiah, the destruction of Jerusalem, and the exile to Babylon.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting Jehoahaz's wicked reign over Judah. He is taken captive by Pharaoh Neco and replaced by his brother Jehoiakim as king (2 Chronicles 36:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Jehoiakim continues in evil ways and faces oppression from Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. He dies during his reign, and his son Jehoiachin becomes king briefly before being taken captive to Babylon (2 Chronicles 36:5-10).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Zedekiah becomes the last king of Judah. Despite warnings from Jeremiah and other prophets to repent and submit to Babylonian rule, he rebels against Nebuchadnezzar (2 Chronicles 36:11-14).

4th Paragraph:The focus turns to describing God's judgment upon Jerusalem due to its persistent disobedience. The city is besieged by Nebuchadnezzar's army, the temple is destroyed, and many people are killed or taken into captivity (2 Chronicles 36:15-21).

5th Paragraph:The account concludes by mentioning Cyrus, king of Persia's decree allowing the exiled Israelites to return to their land after seventy years in captivity. This fulfills God's promise through Jeremiah (2 Chronicles 36:22-23).

In summary, Chapter thirty-six of 2 Chronicles depicts the decline, destruction, and exile experienced during final years end of kingdom reign of Judah. Highlighting disobedience expressed through wicked reigns, and judgment faced due to rebellion. Mentioning captivity efforts carried out by foreign powers, and restoration experienced through divine intervention. This In summary, Chapter provides a historical account showcasing both choices expressed through disobedience while emphasizing consequences resulting from rebellion an embodiment representing divine justice an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

2 Chronicles 36:1 Then the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and made him king in his father's stead in Jerusalem.

The people of the land chose Jehoahaz to be the new king of Jerusalem after his father Josiah died.

1. The importance of serving God faithfully in our lifetime.

2. God will ensure a righteous leader succeeds us.

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. 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 Chronicles 36:2 Jehoahaz was twenty and three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem.

Jehoahaz began his reign of Jerusalem at the age of 23 and reigned for 3 months.

1. The Fragility of Life: How Quickly Things Change

2. Living Each Moment to the Fullest

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. 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 Chronicles 36:3 And the king of Egypt put him down at Jerusalem, and condemned the land in an hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold.

King Pharaoh of Egypt dethroned King Jehoiakim of Judah and fined the land with a hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold.

1. The Price of Rebellion: The Consequences of Rejecting God's Authority

2. God's Sovereignty: Understanding His Providential Rule

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 16:9 - "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps."

2 Chronicles 36:4 And the king of Egypt made Eliakim his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem, and turned his name to Jehoiakim. And Necho took Jehoahaz his brother, and carried him to Egypt.

Pharaoh Necho of Egypt appointed Eliakim, his brother, to be King of Judah and Jerusalem and changed his name to Jehoiakim. He then took his brother Jehoahaz and brought him to Egypt.

1. Do not put your trust in earthly kings but in God alone.

2. God is sovereign and in control of our lives.

1. Jeremiah 17:5-7 - Thus says the Lord: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord.

6 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.

2. Psalm 146:3-4 - Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

4 When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

2 Chronicles 36:5 Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD his God.

Jehoiakim was 25 years old when he began to reign in Jerusalem for 11 years, and he did evil in the sight of the Lord.

1. The Danger of Not Following God's Will: A Study of Jehoiakim

2. The Consequences of Doing Evil: Learning from the Reign of Jehoiakim

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13 - The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.

2 Chronicles 36:6 Against him came up Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and bound him in fetters, to carry him to Babylon.

Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon fought against King Jehoiakim of Judah and captured him, taking him to Babylon.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How God will Always be in Control

2. The Importance of Obedience: Obeying God's Commands Brings Blessing

1. 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

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.

2 Chronicles 36:7 Nebuchadnezzar also carried of the vessels of the house of the LORD to Babylon, and put them in his temple at Babylon.

Nebuchadnezzar took some of the holy vessels of the Lord's House in Jerusalem to Babylon and put them in his temple.

1. God's Sovereignty: How God Uses Bad People and Bad Circumstances for His Good

2. The Sovereignty of God: How His Plans Prevail Despite Our Mistakes

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 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.

2 Chronicles 36:8 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and his abominations which he did, and that which was found in him, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah: and Jehoiachin his son reigned in his stead.

1: The consequences of sin can be felt long after a person has died.

2: The importance of making wise choices and living a life that is pleasing to God.

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 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

2 Chronicles 36:9 Jehoiachin was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.

Jehoiachin's reign was characterized by evil.

1. The Dangers of Sin, Proverbs 14:12

2. The Importance of Righteous Living, Titus 2:12

1. Jeremiah 22:24-30

2. Daniel 1:1-2

2 Chronicles 36:10 And when the year was expired, king Nebuchadnezzar sent, and brought him to Babylon, with the goodly vessels of the house of the LORD, and made Zedekiah his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem.

King Nebuchadnezzar took King Jehoiachin to Babylon and made his brother Zedekiah king of Judah and Jerusalem.

1. God is sovereign and can use difficult times in our lives to bring about his will.

2. God can turn difficult circumstances into something good.

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 33:11 - But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

2 Chronicles 36:11 Zedekiah was one and twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned eleven years in Jerusalem.

Zedekiah became king of Jerusalem at the age of 21 and reigned for 11 years.

1. The importance of a young king's wise decisions.

2. The value of a lifetime of service.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

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 Chronicles 36:12 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD his God, and humbled not himself before Jeremiah the prophet speaking from the mouth of the LORD.

King Jehoiakim of Judah disobeyed the Lord by not humbling himself before Jeremiah the prophet who was speaking on behalf of the Lord.

1. Humble Yourself Before God's Messengers

2. Obey the Word of God

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

2. 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: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee.

2 Chronicles 36:13 And he also rebelled against king Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God: but he stiffened his neck, and hardened his heart from turning unto the LORD God of Israel.

King Jehoiakim of Judah rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar and refused to turn to the Lord God of Israel.

1. God is Sovereign and His Word is Supreme

2. Rebellion is Futile and Submission is Rewarding

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 16:7 When a man s ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

2 Chronicles 36:14 Moreover all the chief of the priests, and the people, transgressed very much after all the abominations of the heathen; and polluted the house of the LORD which he had hallowed in Jerusalem.

The people and chief priests of Jerusalem transgressed against the Lord and defiled the house of the Lord.

1. Don't Defile God's House - 2 Chronicles 36:14

2. Stay Away From Abominations - 2 Chronicles 36:14

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 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.

2 Chronicles 36:15 And the LORD God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place:

God had compassion on his people and sent messengers to them to deliver a message.

1. Compassion: A Call to Action

2. The Mercy of God

1. Isaiah 55:1-3 - "Ho, everyone 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. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live."

2. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy."

2 Chronicles 36:16 But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy.

The people of God mocked, despised and misused his prophets until His wrath could no longer be contained.

1. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Word

2. The Power of God's Wrath

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? 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.

2. Hebrews 3:12-13 - Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. 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.

2 Chronicles 36:17 Therefore he brought upon them the king of the Chaldees, who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion upon young man or maiden, old man, or him that stooped for age: he gave them all into his hand.

The King of the Chaldees brought destruction to the people of Judah, showing no mercy to young or old, male or female.

1. God's Mercy is Unfailing - 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

2. The Consequences of Rebellion - Isaiah 1:19-20

1. Jeremiah 32:18-19 - God's faithfulness and compassion for his people.

2. Ezekiel 18:23 - Every person will be judged according to their own deeds.

2 Chronicles 36:18 And all the vessels of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king, and of his princes; all these he brought to Babylon.

The Babylonians took all of the vessels, treasures, and riches of the house of God and the house of the LORD, as well as the treasures of the king and his princes, when they invaded Judah.

1. The Evils of Greed: How We Can Avoid the Pitfalls of Materialism

2. The Importance of Contentment: Finding Joy in God and Not in 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 6:6-10 - 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.

2 Chronicles 36:19 And they burnt the house of God, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem, and burnt all the palaces thereof with fire, and destroyed all the goodly vessels thereof.

The people of Jerusalem destroyed the temple of God, burnt down the city wall, and burned all the palaces and their possessions.

1. God's House: A Place to Worship and Not Destroy

2. The Lasting Impact of Sin on Our World

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

2. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

2 Chronicles 36:20 And them that had escaped from the sword carried he away to Babylon; where they were servants to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia:

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon defeated King Jehoiakim of Judah and took the survivors into exile in Babylon, where they remained captives until the kingdom of Persia.

1. The Sovereignty of God in All Circumstances

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

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. 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 Chronicles 36:21 To fulfil the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths: for as long as she lay desolate she kept sabbath, to fulfil threescore and ten years.

God's word was fulfilled through Jeremiah, and the land was forced to keep Sabbath for seventy years while it was desolate.

1. The Power of God's Word: How It Changes and Shapes Our Lives

2. The Importance of Sabbath: How Taking a Break Can Transform Us

1. Jeremiah 1:12 - "Then said the LORD unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it."

2. 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 Chronicles 36:22 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD spoken by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

In the first year of Cyrus' reign as king of Persia, the Lord stirred him up to make a proclamation throughout his kingdom so that the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah would be fulfilled.

1. God works in mysterious ways to bring about His plans

2. The power of God's Word and its fulfillment

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 55:11- 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 Chronicles 36:23 Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the LORD God of heaven given me; and he hath charged me to build him an house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? The LORD his God be with him, and let him go up.

Cyrus, the king of Persia, declared that he was given all the kingdoms of the earth by the LORD God of Heaven, and was commanded to build Him a house in Jerusalem. He asked who among his people was willing to go and help.

1. How are we Called to Serve the Lord?

2. The Faithfulness of God in Fulfilling His Promises

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 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."

Ezra chapter 1 describes the decree of Cyrus, the king of Persia, allowing the Israelites to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting how God stirs up the spirit of Cyrus, king of Persia, to issue a proclamation throughout his kingdom. He declares that God has appointed him to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem and allows all Israelites who wish to return for this purpose (Ezra 1:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Cyrus returns the articles of gold and silver that were taken from the temple in Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar. He entrusts them to Sheshbazzar, a prince of Judah, with instructions for their restoration in the rebuilt temple (Ezra 1:5-11).

In summary, Chapter one of Ezra depicts the decree, and restoration experienced during leadership reign of King Cyrus. Highlighting divine intervention expressed through proclamation, and restoration achieved through returning sacred articles. Mentioning opportunity provided for Israelites to rebuild temple, and appointment given towards Sheshbazzar an embodiment representing divine favor an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards prophecy a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Ezra 1:1 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

The Lord stirred the spirit of King Cyrus of Persia and he made a proclamation throughout his kingdom.

1. God is in control of our lives and our future.

2. It is important to be faithful to God and follow His plans.

1. Isaiah 45:1 - "Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed."

2. 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?

Ezra 1:2 Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The LORD God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah.

Cyrus, King of Persia, was given all the kingdoms of the earth by the LORD God of heaven and was charged to build a house for Him in Jerusalem, Judah.

1. Living a Life of Obedience: How Following God's Guidance Brings Blessings

2. A Heart for the House of the LORD: Our Responsibility to Build the Kingdom of Heaven

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 Chronicles 28:2-3 - Then King David rose to his feet and said: Listen to me, my brethren and my people: I had it in my heart to build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and for the footstool of our God, and had made preparations to build it. But God said to me, You shall not build a house for My name, because you have been a man of war and have shed blood.

Ezra 1:3 Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel, (he is the God,) which is in Jerusalem.

God is calling for someone to go up to Jerusalem and build the House of the Lord.

1. The Call to Build God's House: How God Calls Us to Participate in His Plan

2. A House of Hope: How Jerusalem Symbolizes Redemption and Restoration

1. Ephesians 2:19-22 - We are no longer strangers and aliens, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God

2. Isaiah 2:2-3 - In the last days the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it.

Ezra 1:4 And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.

God is encouraging those who remain in a place to help build the house of God in Jerusalem with silver, gold, goods, and beasts, as well as with their own freewill offering.

1. The Power of Generosity: How God Calls Us to Give of Ourselves and Our Possessions

2. The Gift of Giving: What Our Offerings Mean to God and Others

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Ezra 1:5 Then rose up the chief of the fathers of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests, and the Levites, with all them whose spirit God had raised, to go up to build the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem.

The people of Judah and Benjamin, along with the priests, Levites, and others rose up to build the House of the Lord in Jerusalem.

1. Our Obedience to God's Will

2. The Power of Raising Up a People

1. Isaiah 43:5-7 "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; 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."

2. 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."

Ezra 1:6 And all they that were about them strengthened their hands with vessels of silver, with gold, with goods, and with beasts, and with precious things, beside all that was willingly offered.

People who surrounded the Israelites offered silver, gold, goods, animals and other precious items as a sign of support for the rebuilding of the temple.

1. Strengthening Our Hands Through Generosity

2. Supporting God's Work Through Selfless 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. Proverbs 11:25 - "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

Ezra 1:7 Also Cyrus the king brought forth the vessels of the house of the LORD, which Nebuchadnezzar had brought forth out of Jerusalem, and had put them in the house of his gods;

The Lord's vessels were taken by Nebuchadnezzar from Jerusalem and put in the house of his gods, but Cyrus the king restored them to the house of the Lord.

1. Giving back what belongs to the Lord

2. Honoring God's House

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. 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: You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country.

Ezra 1:8 Even those did Cyrus king of Persia bring forth by the hand of Mithredath the treasurer, and numbered them unto Sheshbazzar, the prince of Judah.

Cyrus, the king of Persia, brought out items from the temple in Jerusalem, as commanded by God, to be given to Sheshbazzar, the prince of Judah.

1. God is in control of our lives, even in the midst of chaos and destruction.

2. The importance of trusting God's plan and not our own.

1. Isaiah 45:13 "I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways: he shall build my city, and he shall let go my captives, not for price nor reward, saith the LORD of hosts."

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."

Ezra 1:9 And this is the number of them: thirty chargers of gold, a thousand chargers of silver, nine and twenty knives,

The Lord provided the Jews returning from exile with 30 gold chargers, 1,000 silver chargers, and 29 knives.

1. God provides us with all that we need.

2. Trust in the Lord and He will sustain you.

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. 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."

Ezra 1:10 Thirty basons of gold, silver basons of a second sort four hundred and ten, and other vessels a thousand.

This passage mentions thirty basons of gold, four hundred and ten silver basons, and one thousand other vessels.

1. God desires us to give our best, from our wealth, to honor Him.

2. We should use our resources to give generously to God's work.

1. 2 Corinthians 8:7 - Therefore, as you abound in everything in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us see that you abound in this grace also.

2. 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.

Ezra 1:11 All the vessels of gold and of silver were five thousand and four hundred. All these did Sheshbazzar bring up with them of the captivity that were brought up from Babylon unto Jerusalem.

Sheshbazzar brought five thousand, four hundred gold and silver vessels from Babylon to Jerusalem from those taken captive.

1. The Power of Provision: How God Always Provides

2. God's Faithfulness in Captivity: How God Cares for His People

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Jeremiah 29:11-14 - "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."

Ezra chapter 2 provides a detailed list of the returning exiles from Babylon to Jerusalem, including their ancestral families and the numbers of people in each group.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by listing the leaders of the returning exiles, including Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispar, Bigvai, Rehum and Baanah. It also mentions the number of men from each tribe who returned (Ezra 2:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on providing a comprehensive account of the families and their numbers that returned from exile. It includes details about their towns of origin and how many individuals returned with them (Ezra 2:3-35).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights additional groups that returned but could not prove their genealogies due to missing records. They were excluded from serving as priests until a high priest could consult the Urim and Thummim (Ezra 2:36-63).

In summary, Chapter two of Ezra depicts the record, and enumeration experienced during return restoration of exiles. Highlighting documentation expressed through listing leaders, and enumeration achieved through recording families. Mentioning exclusion efforts carried out due to incomplete genealogies, and anticipation for future clarification an embodiment representing meticulousness an affirmation regarding preservation towards heritage a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Ezra 2:1 Now these are the children of the province that went up out of the captivity, of those which had been carried away, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away unto Babylon, and came again unto Jerusalem and Judah, every one unto his city;

A group of people from the province of Judah who were carried away by Nebuchadnezzar returned to Jerusalem and Judah and each returned to their respective cities.

1. "God Is Faithful Even in Exile"

2. "Returning Home: A New Hope"

1. Isaiah 43:1-7, "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. Psalm 126:1-3, "When the LORD brought back the captivity of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing. Then they said among the nations, 'The LORD has done great things for us!'"

Ezra 2:2 Which came with Zerubbabel: Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mizpar, Bigvai, Rehum, Baanah. The number of the men of the people of Israel:

This passage lists the names of the people who came with Zerubbabel to Jerusalem.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in His faithfulness to keep His covenant and bring His people back to Jerusalem.

2. God's grace is seen in His provision of leaders like Zerubbabel to lead His people in their return.

1. Ezra 2:2

2. Hebrews 11:11-12 - "By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

Ezra 2:3 The children of Parosh, two thousand an hundred seventy and two.

This passage mentions the number of descendants of Parosh, which is two thousand one hundred seventy-two.

1: God has a plan for each and every one of us. He knows the exact number of people who will come from each family and He will provide for us no matter how small or large our family is.

2: We may not know what the future holds, but God does. We can trust in His plan and His provision for us, no matter what our circumstances may be.

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 I will bring about; what I have planned, that I will do.

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.

Ezra 2:4 The children of Shephatiah, three hundred seventy and two.

A record of the children of Shephatiah numbered 372.

1. Count Your Blessings: We should take stock of all the good things God has provided us.

2. Take Heart: We should always remain faithful to God, no matter how overwhelming the odds may seem.

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 9:10 Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you.

Ezra 2:5 The children of Arah, seven hundred seventy and five.

This passage mentions the descendants of Arah, numbering seven hundred seventy and five.

1. God is generous and faithful to His people, as seen through the multitude of descendants of Arah.

2. We should trust in the Lord to provide and keep His promises, as illustrated in the large family of Arah.

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. 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."

Ezra 2:6 The children of Pahathmoab, of the children of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand eight hundred and twelve.

The descendants of Pahathmoab, Jeshua, and Joab numbered 2,812.

1. "The Value of Unity: The Blessing of the Pahathmoab"

2. "The Power of Faith: The Descendants of Jeshua and Joab"

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 one soul..."

Ezra 2:7 The children of Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.

The children of Elam numbered 1,254.

1. God provides for all of His people, no matter their numbers.

2. Even in small numbers, God's people can make a big impact.

1. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

2. Psalm 139:17-18 How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! If I would count them, they are more than the sand. When I awake, I am still with you.

Ezra 2:8 The children of Zattu, nine hundred forty and five.

The children of Zattu numbered nine hundred forty five.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in His provision and protection of His people.

2. We can trust in God's number and His plan.

1. Psalm 33:11 The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

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.

Ezra 2:9 The children of Zaccai, seven hundred and threescore.

This passage mentions that there were 760 members of the family of Zaccai.

1. God numbers each of His children and knows them by name.

2. We are all part of a larger family of faith.

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. 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."

Ezra 2:10 The children of Bani, six hundred forty and two.

The children of Bani numbered six hundred and forty-two.

1: God is faithful to His promises and provides for His people.

2: We find strength and security in the Lord.

1: Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength.

2: Hebrews 13:5-6 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?

Ezra 2:11 The children of Bebai, six hundred twenty and three.

Passage:

The children of Bebai, of the children of Azgad, the children of Kish, six hundred twenty and three.

The passage records the number of descendants of Bebai, Azgad, and Kish, which is 623.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping track of His people.

2. The importance of counting our blessings.

1. Psalm 90:17 - "Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!"

2. Hebrews 11:22 - "By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites and gave instructions concerning his burial."

Ezra 2:12 The children of Azgad, a thousand two hundred twenty and two.

The descendants of Azgad numbered 1,222.

1: God has provided us with an abundance of people, and we should remember to show kindness and generosity to those around us.

2: We should be thankful for the blessings that God has provided us with, including our community of fellow believers.

1: Ephesians 4:32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

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.

Ezra 2:13 The children of Adonikam, six hundred sixty and six.

Ezra and his people had returned to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon, and were rebuilding the temple.

Ezra and his people returned to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon and were rebuilding the temple. The children of Adonikam numbered 666.

1. God's faithfulness to His people despite their exile in Babylon

2. The importance of the rebuilding of the temple

1. Isaiah 43:1-7 - God's promise of deliverance and redemption

2. Psalm 126:1-3 - Praising God for His faithfulness and renewal of His people

Ezra 2:14 The children of Bigvai, two thousand fifty and six.

The passage from Ezra 2:14 states that the children of Bigvai numbered two thousand fifty and six.

1. God always knows the exact number of His people and will faithfully protect them.

2. Our faith in God should lead us to action, trusting in His promises of protection and provision.

1. Psalm 147:4 - He counts the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

2. Deuteronomy 7:7-8 - 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.

Ezra 2:15 The children of Adin, four hundred fifty and four.

The passage describes the number of children from the tribe of Adin as being four hundred and fifty-four.

1. God has a unique plan for each of us.

2. We can trust in the Lord's provision and 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. Psalm 37:25 - I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.

Ezra 2:16 The children of Ater of Hezekiah, ninety and eight.

This passage describes the number of people from the family of Ater of Hezekiah who returned to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon.

1. A Reminder of God's Faithfulness: How God Provides for His People in Every Generation

2. Hope Restored: Reflections on the Return from Exile

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. Psalm 136:1-2 - "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever."

Ezra 2:17 The children of Bezai, three hundred twenty and three.

The children of Bezai numbered 323.

1. God has a plan for each of us, no matter how small or large a number we may be.

2. God's plans are never thwarted, and He will always accomplish what He has set out to do.

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 all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Ezra 2:18 The children of Jorah, an hundred and twelve.

The passage states that the children of Jorah numbered 112.

1. God knows the exact number of His children, and He also knows each of us by name.

2. God is always watching out for His children, and He has a plan for each one of us.

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 their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us."

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 understand my thought from afar. You scrutinize my path and my lying down, and are intimately acquainted with all my ways. Even before there is a word on my tongue, behold, O Lord, You know it all."

Ezra 2:19 The children of Hashum, two hundred twenty and three.

Ezra's record of the return of the Jews from exile lists the descendants of Hashum with an exact count of 223.

1: Our faithfulness is rewarded through the enduring faithfulness of God.

2: God s faithfulness to His promises is seen even in the small details of 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: 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.

Ezra 2:20 The children of Gibbar, ninety and five.

The passage describes the number of children of Gibbar as 95.

1. We can trust that God will provide strength for all our needs.

2. We must strive to be faithful to God even when the task seems impossible.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Matthew 19:26 - Jesus looked at them and said, With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

Ezra 2:21 The children of Bethlehem, an hundred twenty and three.

The verse reveals that there were 123 children of Bethlehem.

1. People come in all shapes and sizes, but God loves us all just the same.

2. We all have a place in God's plan, regardless of our differences.

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. 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.

Ezra 2:22 The men of Netophah, fifty and six.

The men of Netophah numbered fifty and six.

1. Count Your Blessings: A Study On Gratitude Through Ezra 2:22

2. Rejoice in the Little Things: Using Ezra 2:22 to Appreciate Life's Small Joys

1. Psalm 126:3-4 - "The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Restore our fortunes, LORD, like streams in the Negev."

2. Philippians 4:8-9 - "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."

Ezra 2:23 The men of Anathoth, an hundred twenty and eight.

The passage mentions that the men of Anathoth numbered one hundred and twenty-eight.

1. The power of unity: God's people coming together in faith.

2. The importance of counting: God's great number in our lives.

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Acts 2:41-42 - "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers."

Ezra 2:24 The children of Azmaveth, forty and two.

The children of Azmaveth numbered forty-two.

1. The Power of Numbers: How God Uses the Smallest Details to Accomplish His Work

2. The Faithfulness of God: How He Fulfills His Promises Despite Our Limitations

1. 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 lacking."

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. 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."

Ezra 2:25 The children of Kirjatharim, Chephirah, and Beeroth, seven hundred and forty and three.

This passage describes the children of Kirjatharim, Chephirah, and Beeroth numbering seven hundred and forty-three.

1. The Power of God's People: God's providential care for all his children, no matter the number.

2. The Significance of Each One: Everyone has a purpose 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. 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.

Ezra 2:26 The children of Ramah and Gaba, six hundred twenty and one.

The people of Ramah and Gaba numbered six hundred twenty and one.

1. God Knows the Number of His People: Ezra 2:26

2. A Faithful People: Knowing Our Value in God's Eyes

1. Psalm 147:4 - He counts the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

2. Revelation 7:9 - After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands.

Ezra 2:27 The men of Michmas, an hundred twenty and two.

The people of Michmas numbered 122.

1: We should be thankful for the many blessings that God has provided us.

2: God's love and care for us is evident in the numbers of people He has provided.

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: 1 Corinthians 10:31 "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

Ezra 2:28 The men of Bethel and Ai, two hundred twenty and three.

The passage mentions the number of men from Bethel and Ai, which was two hundred twenty and three.

1. How God Works Through Communities to Accomplish His Will

2. Understanding the Significance of Small Numbers

1. Acts 2:41-47 - The early church grew from small numbers to a large community of believers.

2. Revelation 7:9-17 - A great multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language will one day stand before the throne and the Lamb.

Ezra 2:29 The children of Nebo, fifty and two.

Ezra 2:29 records the list of inhabitants of the city of Nebo, which included fifty-two people.

1. The Power of Community: How People Can Come Together in Unity

2. Strength in Numbers: A Reflection on the Value of Being Connected

1. Psalm 133:1 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.

Ezra 2:30 The children of Magbish, an hundred fifty and six.

The people of Magbish numbered 156.

1: Each person counts - God is deeply aware of every single person, even those with seemingly insignificant numbers.

2: Every number matters - Even small numbers have value in God's eyes and can make a big contribution.

1: Luke 12:6-7 - Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

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.

Ezra 2:31 The children of the other Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.

This passage records the number of Israelites who returned from exile in Babylon to the Land of Israel under the leadership of Ezra.

1. God's faithfulness in preserving his people throughout the ages.

2. How the Lord brings hope and restoration to the exiled.

1. Isaiah 11:11-12 - "In that day the Lord will extend his hand yet a second time to recover the remnant that remains of his people, from Assyria, from Egypt, from Pathros, from Cush, from Elam, from Shinar, from Hamath, and from the coastlands of the sea. He will raise a signal for the nations and will assemble the banished of Israel, and gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth."

2. Romans 11:29 - "For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable."

Ezra 2:32 The children of Harim, three hundred and twenty.

The children of Harim numbered three hundred and twenty.

1. God knows and records each and every one of us.

2. The power of numbers: How the collective can bring about great changes.

1. Exodus 28:12-13 - "You shall put the two stones on the shoulder pieces of the ephod, as stones of remembrance for the children of Israel. Aaron shall bear their names before the Lord on his two shoulders for a remembrance.

2. Psalm 139:13-16 - "For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother s womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them.

Ezra 2:33 The children of Lod, Hadid, and Ono, seven hundred twenty and five.

This passage from Ezra 2:33 is about the children of Lod, Hadid, and Ono, numbering seven hundred twenty and five.

1. God Knows Every Person: A on Ezra 2:33

2. The Power of Community: A on Ezra 2:33

1. Exodus 16:16 This is what the Lord has commanded: Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat.

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.

Ezra 2:34 The children of Jericho, three hundred forty and five.

This passage lists the number of children of Jericho as being 345.

1. The importance of keeping track of God's people.

2. The power of God's numbers and the significance of specific numbers.

1. Numbers 3:39 - And the number of all the males, from a month old and upward, even of those that were numbered of them, were 8,600.

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.

Ezra 2:35 The children of Senaah, three thousand and six hundred and thirty.

The passage describes the number of people from the clan of Senaah as being three thousand six hundred and thirty.

1. The power of faith: How believing in God can bring forth great numbers.

2. Sacrifice and dedication: How even a small group of people can make a large impact through dedication and hard work.

1. Mark 12:30 - 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. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 - The body of Christ and the importance of unity.

Ezra 2:36 The priests: the children of Jedaiah, of the house of Jeshua, nine hundred seventy and three.

Ezra 2:36 records the number of priests from the house of Jeshua, which was 973.

1. "Faithful Service: The Example of the Priests from the House of Jeshua"

2. "The Blessing of Obedience: A Look at the Priests of Ezra 2:36"

1. 1 Corinthians 4:2 - "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful."

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."

Ezra 2:37 The children of Immer, a thousand fifty and two.

Passage The Book of Ezra records the number of people in the family of Immer as 1,052.

1. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises - Ezra 2:37

2. The Value of Unity and Community - Ezra 2:37

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. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Ezra 2:38 The children of Pashur, a thousand two hundred forty and seven.

This passage from Ezra 2:38 states that the children of Pashur numbered a thousand two hundred forty and seven.

1. "God's Provision for Every Need"

2. "The Faithfulness of God in Fulfilling His Promises"

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about tomorrow, for God will provide.

2. Romans 4:20-21 - Abraham believed God and it was counted to him as righteousness.

Ezra 2:39 The children of Harim, a thousand and seventeen.

The people of Harim totaled 1,017.

1. Relying on God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises.

2. Believing in the power of unity and community.

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. Acts 2:44-45 - 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.

Ezra 2:40 The Levites: the children of Jeshua and Kadmiel, of the children of Hodaviah, seventy and four.

The passage mentions 74 Levites from the children of Jeshua and Kadmiel, of the children of Hodaviah.

1. God's Provision For His People: The Calling Of The Levites

2. The Faithfulness Of The Levites: A Model To Follow

1. Numbers 3:5-9 - God commands the Levites to be set apart for Him and to serve in the Tabernacle.

2. Deuteronomy 18:1-8 - A reminder of the special role of the Levites and their service to God.

Ezra 2:41 The singers: the children of Asaph, an hundred twenty and eight.

The passage mentions the children of Asaph, who numbered one hundred and twenty-eight.

1. The Power of Dedication: How Dedication to a Cause Can Lead to Great Things

2. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Can Accomplish More Than We Can Alone

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. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

Ezra 2:42 The children of the porters: the children of Shallum, the children of Ater, the children of Talmon, the children of Akkub, the children of Hatita, the children of Shobai, in all an hundred thirty and nine.

The children of the porters are listed in Ezra 2:42, with a total of 139 people.

1. The Importance of Community: A Study of Ezra 2:42

2. God's Faithfulness to His People: Ezra 2:42

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 - "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

Ezra 2:43 The Nethinims: the children of Ziha, the children of Hasupha, the children of Tabbaoth,

The Nethinims were a class of people that were loyal to the service of the temple.

1. The importance of loyalty and dedication to God.

2. The rewards of service to the Lord.

1. Josh. 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.

2. Heb. 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.

Ezra 2:44 The children of Keros, the children of Siaha, the children of Padon,

The children of Judah returned from exile with their families, including the descendants of Keros, Siaha, and Padon.

1: God is always faithful and He will never forsake His people.

2: Even in the midst of trials, God will bring His people home 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: Isaiah 43:1-3 - 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. 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.

Ezra 2:45 The children of Lebanah, the children of Hagabah, the children of Akkub,

The passage mentions the three descendants of Lebanah, Hagabah, and Akkub.

1: The importance of knowing our lineage and the value of our fathers.

2: Recognizing our heritage and the blessings we can receive 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: Ephesians 6:2-3 - Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may be well with you and that you may live long on the earth.

Ezra 2:46 The children of Hagab, the children of Shalmai, the children of Hanan,

The passage lists the children of Hagab, Shalmai, and Hanan.

1: We are all children of God and should be treated with love and respect.

2: Through our faith, we are all members of the same family.

1: 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."

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."

Ezra 2:47 The children of Giddel, the children of Gahar, the children of Reaiah,

The passage mentions the children of Giddel, Gahar, and Reaiah.

1. The Importance of Keeping Faith in Community

2. The Power of Generations Working Together

1. Micah 4:1-5 - Verses discussing the importance of living in harmony with one another.

2. Psalm 133:1-3 - Verses about how good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity.

Ezra 2:48 The children of Rezin, the children of Nekoda, the children of Gazzam,

The passage describes the descendants of Rezin, Nekoda, and Gazzam.

1: Trust in God's plan and be thankful for the blessings He bestows.

2: No matter our origins, we can all be united in the love of God.

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: 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?

Ezra 2:49 The children of Uzza, the children of Paseah, the children of Besai,

The passage is about the descendants of Uzza, Paseah, and Besai.

1. God's faithfulness to his covenant with Israel is demonstrated through the descendants of Uzza, Paseah, and Besai.

2. We should be reminded of the importance of honoring our ancestors and remembering our roots.

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 11:29 - For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

Ezra 2:50 The children of Asnah, the children of Mehunim, the children of Nephusim,

The passage is about the children of Asnah, Mehunim, and Nephusim.

1. The Power of Community: How Unity in Diversity Strengthens us

2. The Importance of Remembering Our Ancestors

1. Acts 17:26-27 - 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, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

2. Psalm 78:3-7 - Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, telling to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. 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, the children who would be born, that they may arise and declare them to their children, that they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments.

Ezra 2:51 The children of Bakbuk, the children of Hakupha, the children of Harhur,

The passage talks about the children of Bakbuk, Hakupha, and Harhur.

1. The Power of Belonging: The Importance of Our Heritage

2. Community Unity: The Strength of Our Connections

1. 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.

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.

Ezra 2:52 The children of Bazluth, the children of Mehida, the children of Harsha,

This verse describes the descendants of the people of the land of Judah.

1: No matter what our backgrounds are, we are all descendants of God's people.

2: We are all united in our faith, even if our backgrounds are different.

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, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us.

2: Galatians 3:28-29 - 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. And if you are Christ s, then you are Abraham s offspring, heirs according to promise.

Ezra 2:53 The children of Barkos, the children of Sisera, the children of Thamah,

The passage mentions the people of Barkos, Sisera and Thamah.

1. The Value of Community: How we can learn from the example of the people of Barkos, Sisera and Thamah.

2. The Power of Togetherness: How the people of Barkos, Sisera and Thamah served as a unified example of strength and resilience.

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. 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.

Ezra 2:54 The children of Neziah, the children of Hatipha.

The passage mentions the children of Neziah and the children of Hatipha.

1. God is always looking out for His people, no matter their background or pedigree.

2. Even in the midst of an overwhelming crowd, God knows each of us individually.

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. Ephesians 2:19-22 - Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God s people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Ezra 2:55 The children of Solomon's servants: the children of Sotai, the children of Sophereth, the children of Peruda,

The passage mentions the children of Solomon's servants.

1: We can learn from Solomon's example of honoring those who serve him and showing kindness to others.

2: We should strive to treat others with respect and kindness, as Solomon did with his servants.

1: Matthew 22:34-40 - Jesus teaching on the greatest commandments to love God and love others.

2: Philippians 2:3-4 - Paul s encouragement to put others needs before our own.

Ezra 2:56 The children of Jaalah, the children of Darkon, the children of Giddel,

The passage mentions the children of Jaalah, Darkon, and Giddel.

1. We are all family: Seeing the importance of unity in our shared lineage.

2. The power of a name: Recognizing the significance of being named after our ancestors.

1. Ephesians 4:1-6 - Unity through the bond of peace.

2. Ruth 4:17-22 - The power of a name in celebrating our heritage.

Ezra 2:57 The children of Shephatiah, the children of Hattil, the children of Pochereth of Zebaim, the children of Ami.

This passage lists the descendants of Shephatiah, Hattil, Pochereth of Zebaim, and Ami.

1. God remembers all of his children, no matter how small or obscure they may seem.

2. We all have a place in God's family and are welcomed with open arms.

1. Luke 15:11-32 - Parable of the Prodigal Son

2. Psalm 103:13 - God's lovingkindness and mercy for his children.

Ezra 2:58 All the Nethinims, and the children of Solomon's servants, were three hundred ninety and two.

This passage records the number of Nethinims and the children of Solomon's servants to be 392 people.

1. God is Faithful: God faithfully records the number of people in His kingdom.

2. The Power of God's Protection: God protects and provides for the people He has called.

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 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."

Ezra 2:59 And these were they which went up from Telmelah, Telharsa, Cherub, Addan, and Immer: but they could not shew their father's house, and their seed, whether they were of Israel:

A record of those who returned from exile to Jerusalem is given, but their heritage could not be identified.

1. The Inevitability of Uncertainty in Our Lives - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. Finding Strength in the Face of Uncertainty - Hebrews 11:1-3

1. Ruth 4:18-22 - Ruth's heritage is found through Boaz

2. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ is found through Joseph

Ezra 2:60 The children of Delaiah, the children of Tobiah, the children of Nekoda, six hundred fifty and two.

This passage from Ezra 2:60 describes the number of children from three separate families, Delaiah, Tobiah, and Nekoda, as being 652.

1. The Importance of Family: Despite our differences, we are all still part of a larger family.

2. The Power of Unity: When we stand together, we can accomplish great things.

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 12:10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Ezra 2:61 And of the children of the priests: the children of Habaiah, the children of Koz, the children of Barzillai; which took a wife of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, and was called after their name:

This passage describes the children of the priests, who are the children of Habaiah, Koz, and Barzillai, and it also mentions that Barzillai's daughter was married to one of the children of the priests.

1. God's Provision for His People: A Study of Ezra 2:61

2. The Power of Love: A Reflection on the Marriage in Ezra 2:61

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. Psalm 68:5-6 - "A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in his holy habitation. God setteth the solitary in families: he bringeth out those which are bound with chains."

Ezra 2:62 These sought their register among those that were reckoned by genealogy, but they were not found: therefore were they, as polluted, put from the priesthood.

A genealogical search was conducted to identify those who were qualified for the priesthood, but some could not be found and were therefore disqualified.

1. The importance of having a spiritual lineage: Ezra 2:62.

2. The consequences of being without a spiritual heritage: Ezra 2:62.

1. Malachi 2:7-8 - For the lips of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, and at his mouth men should seek instruction, for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts.

2. Numbers 16:5 - Then he spoke to Korah and all his company, saying, In the morning the Lord will show who is His and who is holy, and will cause him to come near to Him; that one whom He chooses He will cause to come near to Him.

Ezra 2:63 And the Tirshatha said unto them, that they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up a priest with Urim and with Thummim.

The Tirshatha instructed the people not to eat the most holy things until a priest with Urim and Thummim was appointed.

1. God's Way is the Best Way: How the Urim and Thummim can Guide Us

2. The Power of Appointments: Why We Need Proper Leaders

1. 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."

2. 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."

Ezra 2:64 The whole congregation together was forty and two thousand three hundred and threescore,

The congregation of exiles that returned to Jerusalem after the Babylonian captivity numbered 42,360.

1. The Faithfulness of God in the Fulfillment of His Promises

2. The Strength of Community in Upholding God's Plans

1. Psalm 105:7-11 - He [God] remembered his covenant forever, the word he commanded, for a thousand generations

2. Ezra 3:5 - And afterward they offered great sacrifices and rejoiced, for God had made them rejoice with great joy; the women and children also rejoiced, so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard afar off.

Ezra 2:65 Beside their servants and their maids, of whom there were seven thousand three hundred thirty and seven: and there were among them two hundred singing men and singing women.

There were a total of 7,337 people who accompanied the Israelites on their return to Jerusalem, including 7,000 servants and maids, and 200 singing men and women.

1. The Power of Music to Unite: How Singing People of God Gathered Together to Rebuild Jerusalem

2. The Value of Service: How the Servants and Maids of Israel Helped Rebuild the City.

1. Psalm 98:4 - Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.

2. Nehemiah 7:3-7 - And I said unto them, Let not the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun be hot; and while they stand by, let them shut the doors, and bar them: and appoint watches of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, every one in his watch, and every one to be over against his house.

Ezra 2:66 Their horses were seven hundred thirty and six; their mules, two hundred forty and five;

The people of Judah had 736 horses and 245 mules.

1. The Power of Provision: Trusting God in Times of Need

2. The Importance of Community: Relying on One Another in Difficult Times

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. Acts 2:44-45 - All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

Ezra 2:67 Their camels, four hundred thirty and five; their asses, six thousand seven hundred and twenty.

Ezra 2 records the number of camels and asses of the Israelites as they returned from exile in Babylon.

1. God's Provision - How God provided for the Israelites as they returned to their homeland.

2. The Value of Community - How the Israelites relied on one another to make their journey home.

1. Exodus 16:16 - "This is what the Lord has 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.'"

2. 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."

Ezra 2:68 And some of the chief of the fathers, when they came to the house of the LORD which is at Jerusalem, offered freely for the house of God to set it up in his place:

Some of the leaders of the Israelites offered freely to set up the house of God in Jerusalem.

1. The power of offering and generosity

2. God's presence in Jerusalem

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. Psalm 122:6 - "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee."

Ezra 2:69 They gave after their ability unto the treasure of the work threescore and one thousand drams of gold, and five thousand pound of silver, and one hundred priests' garments.

The people of Israel gave to the treasury for the work of the temple according to their ability, providing sixty-one thousand drams of gold, five thousand pounds of silver, and one hundred priestly garments.

1: God calls us to give sacrificially and generously in support of His work.

2: We should be willing to contribute to the work of the Lord according to our resources.

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: 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.

Ezra 2:70 So the priests, and the Levites, and some of the people, and the singers, and the porters, and the Nethinims, dwelt in their cities, and all Israel in their cities.

The priests, Levites, people, singers, porters, and Nethinims all dwelt in their own cities, and all of Israel lived in their own cities.

1. The Importance of Unity in the Body of Christ

2. The Strength of Living in Community

1. Ephesians 4:1-6

2. Acts 2:42-47

Ezra chapter 3 describes the rebuilding of the altar and the foundation of the temple in Jerusalem, as well as the joyful worship and celebration that accompanies these events.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting how the people of Israel gather together in Jerusalem. They appoint Jeshua, son of Jozadak, and his fellow priests to rebuild the altar on its original site. They offer burnt offerings according to the Law of Moses (Ezra 3:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how they begin laying the foundation for the temple in Jerusalem during the second month of their arrival. Despite opposition from neighboring peoples, they persevere in their work with great joy and singing (Ezra 3:7-13).

In summary, Chapter three of Ezra depicts the rebuilding, and worship experienced during restoration reconstruction of temple. Highlighting dedication expressed through rebuilding altar, and progress achieved through laying foundation. Mentioning opposition faced from neighboring peoples, and joyous worship experienced an embodiment representing determination an affirmation regarding restoration towards sacred space a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Ezra 3:1 And when the seventh month was come, and the children of Israel were in the cities, the people gathered themselves together as one man to Jerusalem.

The people of Israel gathered in Jerusalem in the seventh month.

1: Reaffirming our commitment to faith and community.

2: Working together to bring peace and unity.

1: Acts 2:46-47 - And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts.

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.

Ezra 3:2 Then stood up Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and his brethren the priests, and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and his brethren, and builded the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings thereon, as it is written in the law of Moses the man of God.

Jeshua and the priests, along with Zerubbabel and his brothers, built an altar to the God of Israel, in order to offer burnt offerings as commanded by the law of Moses.

1. The Obedience of Obedience: Building an Altar to the God of Israel

2. Faith in Action: Following the Law of Moses

1. Deuteronomy 27:5-6 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. 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 20:22-24 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. Ye shall not make with me gods of silver, neither shall ye make unto you gods of gold. 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

Ezra 3:3 And they set the altar upon his bases; for fear was upon them because of the people of those countries: and they offered burnt offerings thereon unto the LORD, even burnt offerings morning and evening.

The people of Judah set up an altar and offered burnt offerings to the Lord morning and evening out of fear of the people of the countries around them.

1. The Power of Fear: How We Are Driven to Cling to God in Difficult Times

2. The Sacrifice of Worship: What It Means to Offer Ourselves to God

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear 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 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.

Ezra 3:4 They kept also the feast of tabernacles, as it is written, and offered the daily burnt offerings by number, according to the custom, as the duty of every day required;

The people of Israel celebrated the Feast of Tabernacles and offered daily burnt offerings according to the custom and requirements.

1. A Celebration of God's Provision

2. The Daily Task of Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 16:13-17 - Celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles

2. Leviticus 1:1-17 - Offerings and Sacrifices to the Lord

Ezra 3:5 And afterward offered the continual burnt offering, both of the new moons, and of all the set feasts of the LORD that were consecrated, and of every one that willingly offered a freewill offering unto the LORD.

The Israelites offered the continual burnt offering, new moons, and other set feasts of the Lord, as well as any freewill offerings given to the Lord.

1. Learning to Offer Our Whole Selves to God - Ezra 3:5

2. The Significance of the Continual Burnt Offering - Ezra 3:5

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.

Ezra 3:6 From the first day of the seventh month began they to offer burnt offerings unto the LORD. But the foundation of the temple of the LORD was not yet laid.

On the first day of the seventh month, the Israelites began to offer burnt offerings to the Lord, however the foundation of the temple had not been laid yet.

1. The Importance of Faithful Offering Despite Delayed Blessings

2. Persevering in Obedience despite Difficult Circumstances

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

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."

Ezra 3:7 They gave money also unto the masons, and to the carpenters; and meat, and drink, and oil, unto them of Zidon, and to them of Tyre, to bring cedar trees from Lebanon to the sea of Joppa, according to the grant that they had of Cyrus king of Persia.

The Israelites gave money to the masons and carpenters and provisions to those of Zidon and Tyre to bring cedar trees from Lebanon to Joppa.

1. God's faithfulness in providing the resources necessary to carry out His plans.

2. The importance of working together to accomplish God's 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. 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 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."

Ezra 3:8 Now in the second year of their coming unto the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, began Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the remnant of their brethren the priests and the Levites, and all they that were come out of the captivity unto Jerusalem; and appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to set forward the work of the house of the LORD.

In the second year of their return to Jerusalem, Zerubbabel, Jeshua, and the remainder of their fellow priests and Levites began work on the house of the LORD. They appointed the Levites over 20 years old to oversee the work.

1. God's Faithful Provision for His People - Ezra 3:8

2. The Power of Serving Together - Ezra 3:8

1. Acts 2:42 - And they devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

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.

Ezra 3:9 Then stood Jeshua with his sons and his brethren, Kadmiel and his sons, the sons of Judah, together, to set forward the workmen in the house of God: the sons of Henadad, with their sons and their brethren the Levites.

Jeshua, Kadmiel, Judah and Henadad's sons, along with their brethren the Levites, worked together to help the workmen in the house of God.

1. Working Together in Unity - Ezra 3:9

2. The Power of Cooperation and Community - Ezra 3:9

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.

Ezra 3:10 And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the LORD, after the ordinance of David king of Israel.

The foundation of the temple of the LORD was laid by the builders, and the priests and Levites with their appointed instruments praised the LORD according to the ordinance of King David.

1. The Power of Praise: How music can bring us closer to God

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following the ordinances of God

1. Psalm 150:3-5 - Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

2. 1 Chronicles 16:23-25 - Sing to the Lord, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

Ezra 3:11 And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the LORD; because he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.

The people of Israel praised the Lord because he is good and his mercy endures forever. They celebrated the laying of the foundation of the house of the Lord with a great shout.

1. The Lord's Mercy Endures Forever

2. Rejoicing in the Foundation of the House of the Lord

1. Psalm 107:1 Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

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.

Ezra 3:12 But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, who were ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice; and many shouted aloud for joy:

Ezra's people, a mixture of priests, Levites, and elders, experienced a mix of emotions when laying the foundation for the new temple - some wept while others shouted for joy.

1. Trusting God in Times of Difficult Change

2. Rejoicing and Mourning: Finding Joy in the Midst of Sorrow

1. Psalm 126:3-5

2. Romans 12:15-16

Ezra 3:13 So that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people: for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the noise was heard afar off.

The people of Israel celebrated the rebuilding of the temple with a loud shout that could be heard from afar.

1. Joyful Obedience: The Power of Celebrating God's Work

2. The Value of Community: Celebrating Together in Unity

1. 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!

2. Isaiah 12:6 Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Ezra chapter 4 describes the opposition faced by the Israelites in their efforts to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem, including a letter of complaint sent to King Artaxerxes.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting how the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin, who were living in the land during the exile, approach Zerubbabel and other leaders. They offer to help in rebuilding the temple but are rejected because they are not true worshipers of God (Ezra 4:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how these adversaries then set out to discourage and frustrate the Israelites' work. They hire counselors to work against them and make false accusations, leading to a halt in construction for many years (Ezra 4:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how during the reign of King Artaxerxes, these adversaries write a letter accusing Jerusalem and its people of rebellion. They request that construction be stopped until further investigation is carried out (Ezra 4:6-16).

In summary, Chapter four of Ezra depicts the opposition, and hindrance experienced during restoration reconstruction of temple. Highlighting conflict expressed through rejection, and obstruction achieved through false accusations. Mentioning interference faced from adversaries, and official inquiry initiated an embodiment representing resistance an affirmation regarding perseverance towards sacred task a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Ezra 4:1 Now when the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the children of the captivity builded the temple unto the LORD God of Israel;

The adversaries of Judah and Benjamin were displeased that the children of the captivity were rebuilding the temple of the Lord.

1: God calls us to rebuild even when those around us may be against it.

2: We must remain faithful to God regardless of the opposition we may face.

1: Acts 5:29 - "Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men."

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."

Ezra 4:2 Then they came to Zerubbabel, and to the chief of the fathers, and said unto them, Let us build with you: for we seek your God, as ye do; and we do sacrifice unto him since the days of Esarhaddon king of Assur, which brought us up hither.

People came to the chief of the fathers and Zerubbabel to ask them to build with them as they also sought the same God. They had been sacrificing to Him since the days of Esarhaddon, king of Assyria.

1. Working Together for God: Finding common ground and purpose in the Lord

2. The Power of Sacrifice: Bringing glory to God through our offerings

1. Psalm 34:3 - "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together."

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."

Ezra 4:3 But Zerubbabel, and Jeshua, and the rest of the chief of the fathers of Israel, said unto them, Ye have nothing to do with us to build an house unto our God; but we ourselves together will build unto the LORD God of Israel, as king Cyrus the king of Persia hath commanded us.

This passage from Ezra 4:3 describes Zerubbabel, Jeshua, and other leaders of Israel refusing to let anyone help them build the temple of the LORD God of Israel, as they had been commanded by King Cyrus of Persia.

1. The importance of being obedient to the authority God has placed in our lives.

2. Standing firm in faith against all opposition.

1. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

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."

Ezra 4:4 Then the people of the land weakened the hands of the people of Judah, and troubled them in building,

The people of the land tried to hinder the people of Judah from building.

1. Don't Let Others Stop You from Doing What is Right

2. Persevere in the Face of Opposition

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. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Ezra 4:5 And hired counsellors against them, to frustrate their purpose, all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia.

The people of Judah were opposed by hired counselors during the reign of Cyrus and Darius, kings of Persia, in order to thwart their plans.

1. God's Sovereignty: God can use even the opposition of man to fulfill His plans.

2. God's Faithfulness: God is faithful to His people to protect them and keep His promises.

1. Job 42:2 - "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted."

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."

Ezra 4:6 And in the reign of Ahasuerus, in the beginning of his reign, wrote they unto him an accusation against the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem.

The people of Judah and Jerusalem wrote a formal accusation to the king of Persia, Ahasuerus, at the start of his reign.

1. The importance of speaking up for what is right.

2. How to handle persecution and opposition.

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. Matthew 5:10-12 - "Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 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."

Ezra 4:7 And in the days of Artaxerxes wrote Bishlam, Mithredath, Tabeel, and the rest of their companions, unto Artaxerxes king of Persia; and the writing of the letter was written in the Syrian tongue, and interpreted in the Syrian tongue.

A group of people wrote a letter in the Syrian language to Artaxerxes king of Persia, which was also interpreted in the Syrian language.

1. The Power of Language: How Our Words Shape Our Lives and the Lives of Others

2. The Unity of Diversity: How We Can Appreciate and Celebrate Each Other's Differences

1. Acts 2:4-6 - "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance."

2. 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."

Ezra 4:8 Rehum the chancellor and Shimshai the scribe wrote a letter against Jerusalem to Artaxerxes the king in this sort:

The letter written by Rehum the chancellor and Shimshai the scribe spoke against Jerusalem to Artaxerxes the king.

1) The Danger of Speaking Out Against Others

2) The Power of Words

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 3:5 - So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire!

Ezra 4:9 Then wrote Rehum the chancellor, and Shimshai the scribe, and the rest of their companions; the Dinaites, the Apharsathchites, the Tarpelites, the Apharsites, the Archevites, the Babylonians, the Susanchites, the Dehavites, and the Elamites,

A group of people from various regions wrote a letter to King Artaxerxes of Persia.

1. The Power of Unity: Working Together for the Gospel

2. God Blesses Humility: Learning from Ezra's Example

1. Psalm 133:1-3

2. Ephesians 4:1-6

Ezra 4:10 And the rest of the nations whom the great and noble Asnapper brought over, and set in the cities of Samaria, and the rest that are on this side the river, and at such a time.

The great and noble Asnapper brought over the rest of the nations and set them in the cities of Samaria, and other places on this side of the river.

1. God's sovereign hand at work in the nations

2. God's good intentions for all nations

1. Gen 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. Acts 17:26-27 - "And 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."

Ezra 4:11 This is the copy of the letter that they sent unto him, even unto Artaxerxes the king; Thy servants the men on this side the river, and at such a time.

The men on this side of the river sent a letter to Artaxerxes, the king.

1. God will work through any situation, no matter how unlikely it may seem.

2. The power of prayer is demonstrated through the impact it has on those in authority.

1. 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. James 5:16 The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Ezra 4:12 Be it known unto the king, that the Jews which came up from thee to us are come unto Jerusalem, building the rebellious and the bad city, and have set up the walls thereof, and joined the foundations.

Jews from the king's kingdom have gone to Jerusalem and are rebuilding the city, including its walls and foundations.

1. Building a City on a Solid Foundation - Ezra 4:12

2. Faithfully Pursuing God's Will - Ezra 4:12

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

2. 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.

Ezra 4:13 Be it known now unto the king, that, if this city be builded, and the walls set up again, then will they not pay toll, tribute, and custom, and so thou shalt endamage the revenue of the kings.

The people of Judah refused to pay taxes if the city and walls were rebuilt.

1. We Can Rebuild: The Story of Ezra 4:13

2. Building Up Our Communities: The Example of Judah

1. Hebrews 13:16 - "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

2. Luke 3:11 - "And he answered them, Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.

Ezra 4:14 Now because we have maintenance from the king's palace, and it was not meet for us to see the king's dishonour, therefore have we sent and certified the king;

The people of Judah sent an appeal to the king to protect them from being disgraced.

1: We should always be mindful of our actions and how they will reflect on God.

2: We should always be prepared to stand up for what is right, even when it is not easy.

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: Matthew 5:13-16 - You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. 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.

Ezra 4:15 That search may be made in the book of the records of thy fathers: so shalt thou find in the book of the records, and know that this city is a rebellious city, and hurtful unto kings and provinces, and that they have moved sedition within the same of old time: for which cause was this city destroyed.

In Ezra 4:15, it is revealed that the city is rebellious and hurtful to kings and provinces, and that it had been a source of sedition since ancient times, resulting in its destruction.

1. God's Patience and Judgment: A Study in Ezra 4:15

2. The Sins of the Fathers: Understanding Rebellion and Sedition in Ezra 4:15

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 24:12 - "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?

Ezra 4:16 We certify the king that, if this city be builded again, and the walls thereof set up, by this means thou shalt have no portion on this side the river.

A group of adversaries told King Artaxerxes that if Jerusalem were to be rebuilt, he would have no part in it.

1. God's Will Always Prevails

2. The Power of Community

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. Nehemiah 2:20 - Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build: but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem.

Ezra 4:17 Then sent the king an answer unto Rehum the chancellor, and to Shimshai the scribe, and to the rest of their companions that dwell in Samaria, and unto the rest beyond the river, Peace, and at such a time.

King Artaxerxes sends a message of peace to Rehum the chancellor, Shimshai the scribe, and the other people of Samaria and the people beyond the river.

1. God's peace is available for all who seek it.

2. We can be bearers of peace in an often troubled world.

1. John 14:27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

2. Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Ezra 4:18 The letter which ye sent unto us hath been plainly read before me.

The letter sent to Ezra was clearly understood.

1. God makes His will and plans known to us.

2. We are blessed when we strive to obey God's commands.

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 1:19 - If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land.

Ezra 4:19 And I commanded, and search hath been made, and it is found that this city of old time hath made insurrection against kings, and that rebellion and sedition have been made therein.

An inquiry was conducted and it was discovered that in ancient times, this city had rebelled against kings and committed acts of sedition.

1. Don't fall into the same traps of rebellion and sedition as the people of ancient times.

2. God is sovereign and it is wise to remember that when making decisions.

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. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord s will is.

2. Proverbs 14:16 - The wise are cautious and avoid danger; fools plunge ahead with reckless confidence.

Ezra 4:20 There have been mighty kings also over Jerusalem, which have ruled over all countries beyond the river; and toll, tribute, and custom, was paid unto them.

The mighty kings of Jerusalem have ruled over all surrounding countries and collected toll, tribute and custom.

1. The power of authority and the responsibility of those who exercise it.

2. Serving God through leadership and service to others.

1. Matthew 22:21 - Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.

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.

Ezra 4:21 Give ye now commandment to cause these men to cease, and that this city be not builded, until another commandment shall be given from me.

The people of Israel are commanded to stop building the city of Jerusalem until further instruction is given.

1. The importance of waiting on God's timing

2. Obeying God's commands in faith

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. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Ezra 4:22 Take heed now that ye fail not to do this: why should damage grow to the hurt of the kings?

The kings are warned to take heed and not fail to do what is asked of them, as any damage caused could be to their hurt.

1. Taking heed: the importance of being mindful in our actions

2. Doing our duty: the importance of fulfilling our obligations

1. Proverbs 3:21-22: My son, do not lose sight of these keep sound wisdom and discretion, and they will be life for your soul and adornment for your neck.

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.

Ezra 4:23 Now when the copy of king Artaxerxes' letter was read before Rehum, and Shimshai the scribe, and their companions, they went up in haste to Jerusalem unto the Jews, and made them to cease by force and power.

Rehum, Shimshai the scribe, and their companions received a letter from King Artaxerxes and quickly went to Jerusalem to force the Jews to stop their work.

1. Obeying God in spite of opposition

2. Understanding the relationship between faith and obedience

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.

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.

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? 15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 16 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[a] is that? 17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Ezra 4:24 Then ceased the work of the house of God which is at Jerusalem. So it ceased unto the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.

The work of the house of God in Jerusalem stopped during the second year of the reign of Darius the king of Persia.

1. God's Plan Is Greater Than Man's Plan

2. Trusting God Through Difficult Times

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 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.

Ezra chapter 5 describes the resumption of the temple construction in Jerusalem after a period of opposition, as well as the prophetic encouragement and support received from Haggai and Zechariah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting how the prophets Haggai and Zechariah arise and prophesy to the Jews who had returned from exile. They encourage them to resume building the temple, assuring them of God's presence and blessing (Ezra 5:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Tattenai, governor of Trans-Euphrates, questions the Jews about their authority to rebuild. The Jews respond by providing a letter from King Cyrus that grants them permission to rebuild (Ezra 5:3-6).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Tattenai sends a report to King Darius regarding the Jewish rebuilding efforts. He requests an investigation into their activities (Ezra 5:7-17).

In summary, Chapter five of Ezra depicts the encouragement, and official inquiry experienced during restoration reconstruction of temple. Highlighting prophetic guidance expressed through Haggai and Zechariah, and validation achieved through presenting royal decree. Mentioning scrutiny faced from Tattenai, and request for investigation an embodiment representing divine affirmation an affirmation regarding legitimacy towards sacred project a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Ezra 5:1 Then the prophets, Haggai the prophet, and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied unto the Jews that were in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, even unto them.

Haggai and Zechariah prophesied to the Jews in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel.

1. The Power of Prophecy in Times of Struggles

2. The Importance of Following God's Will

1. Matthew 21:22 - "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

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."

Ezra 5:2 Then rose up Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and began to build the house of God which is at Jerusalem: and with them were the prophets of God helping them.

The prophets of God helped Zerubbabel and Jeshua begin to build the house of God in Jerusalem.

1. God s provision: The power of community and shared purpose

2. Following the call: Courage and faith in times of difficulty

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. Hebrews 10:24, And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.

Ezra 5:3 At the same time came to them Tatnai, governor on this side the river, and Shetharboznai, and their companions, and said thus unto them, Who hath commanded you to build this house, and to make up this wall?

The governor Tatnai and his companions asked the Jews who had commanded them to build the house and wall.

1. The power of obedience to God's commands

2. Learning to trust God's timing

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 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, rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man.

Ezra 5:4 Then said we unto them after this manner, What are the names of the men that make this building?

The people asked the builders of the temple what their names were.

1: We should be proud of the work we do and the contributions we make to society.

2: Everyone has a purpose in life and should strive to fulfill it.

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: 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.

Ezra 5:5 But the eye of their God was upon the elders of the Jews, that they could not cause them to cease, till the matter came to Darius: and then they returned answer by letter concerning this matter.

The Jews were able to continue their building work on the temple despite opposition, as they had the protection and support of their God.

1. The Power of God's Protection

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

Ezra 5:6 The copy of the letter that Tatnai, governor on this side the river, and Shetharboznai, and his companions the Apharsachites, which were on this side the river, sent unto Darius the king:

Tatnai, governor on one side of the river, Shetharboznai, and his companions the Apharsachites sent a letter to Darius the king.

1. The Importance of Communication in Leadership

2. Working Together for a Common Cause

1. Colossians 3:12-17 - 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. 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.

2. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

Ezra 5:7 They sent a letter unto him, wherein was written thus; Unto Darius the king, all peace.

The Jews sent a letter to King Darius expressing their peace.

1. The Power of Peaceful Expression

2. The Importance of Being Respectful to Authority

1. Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 16:7 When the Lord takes pleasure in anyone s way, he causes their enemies to make peace with them.

Ezra 5:8 Be it known unto the king, that we went into the province of Judea, to the house of the great God, which is builded with great stones, and timber is laid in the walls, and this work goeth fast on, and prospereth in their hands.

Two Jewish people reported to the king that they had been to the house of the great God, which was being built with great stones and timber and was progressing rapidly.

1. The Power of God's Work: How God's Projects Flourish No Matter the Circumstances

2. Working Together in Unity: The Benefits of Collaboration and Community

1. Psalm 127:1 "Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders 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."

Ezra 5:9 Then asked we those elders, and said unto them thus, Who commanded you to build this house, and to make up these walls?

The elders in Ezra 5:9 were asked who commanded them to build the house and make up the walls.

1. How to Live With Faithful Obedience

2. The Power of Obeying God's Commands

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 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?

Ezra 5:10 We asked their names also, to certify thee, that we might write the names of the men that were the chief of them.

The people of Israel asked for the names of those who were the leaders of the people in order to record them.

1. Understanding the importance of record-keeping in our lives.

2. The significance of honoring those who lead us.

1. Proverbs 22:28 - "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set."

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."

Ezra 5:11 And thus they returned us answer, saying, We are the servants of the God of heaven and earth, and build the house that was builded these many years ago, which a great king of Israel builded and set up.

This passage recounts the response of the Jews to the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem.

1. The Relevance of Obedience to God's Will Today

2. Honoring the Legacy of Our Ancestors

1. 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.

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.

Ezra 5:12 But after that our fathers had provoked the God of heaven unto wrath, he gave them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, the Chaldean, who destroyed this house, and carried the people away into Babylon.

The people of Israel were punished by God for their disobedience and were taken away into Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar.

1. God is a God of justice who will not tolerate disobedience and wickedness.

2. We must remain faithful to God, no matter the cost, to avoid punishment.

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 28:15-68 - If you do not obey the Lord your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come on you and overtake you.

Ezra 5:13 But in the first year of Cyrus the king of Babylon the same king Cyrus made a decree to build this house of God.

King Cyrus of Babylon issued a decree to build the house of God in the first year of his reign.

1. God is in control of all things, even the unexpected.

2. Our earthly rulers are subservient to God's will.

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.

2. Daniel 4:17 - "The decision is announced by messengers, the holy ones declare the verdict, so that the living may know that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes and sets over them the lowliest of men."

Ezra 5:14 And the vessels also of gold and silver of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple that was in Jerusalem, and brought them into the temple of Babylon, those did Cyrus the king take out of the temple of Babylon, and they were delivered unto one, whose name was Sheshbazzar, whom he had made governor;

King Cyrus allowed Sheshbazzar to take the gold and silver vessels, which Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the Jerusalem temple, out of the temple of Babylon.

1. God's Faithfulness in the Face of Adversity

2. The Power of True Worship Despite Circumstances

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's promise of blessing for obedience and curses for disobedience

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 - God's promise to create a new thing and to make a way in the wilderness.

Ezra 5:15 And said unto him, Take these vessels, go, carry them into the temple that is in Jerusalem, and let the house of God be builded in his place.

The people of Judah were instructed to take the vessels and rebuild the temple in Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Faith: Re-building the Temple in Jerusalem

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Instructions

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.

Ezra 5:16 Then came the same Sheshbazzar, and laid the foundation of the house of God which is in Jerusalem: and since that time even until now hath it been in building, and yet it is not finished.

Ezra's efforts to rebuild the house of God in Jerusalem was ongoing, even though it was not yet complete.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Ezra 5:16 and the Rebuilding of the House of God

2. The Unstoppable Work of God: Ezra 5:16 and the Unfinished House of the Lord

1. Haggai 2:4 - "Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the LORD; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech, the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the LORD, and work: for I am with you, saith the LORD of hosts."

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."

Ezra 5:17 Now therefore, if it seem good to the king, let there be search made in the king's treasure house, which is there at Babylon, whether it be so, that a decree was made of Cyrus the king to build this house of God at Jerusalem, and let the king send his pleasure to us concerning this matter.

King Cyrus had declared that a house of God should be built in Jerusalem, and Ezra requested that the king search the royal treasuries in Babylon to confirm the decree.

1. The Power of Obedience - Obeying God's commands, even when we don't understand His reasons, brings His blessing.

2. The Power of Faith - Trusting God even when we do not see the results of His work brings Him honor.

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.

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.

Ezra chapter 6 describes the decree of King Darius that not only confirms the permission to rebuild the temple but also provides resources and protection for its completion. The chapter concludes with the joyful dedication of the temple.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting how King Darius searches for the original decree of Cyrus and finds it in the archives. He issues a new decree, affirming that the temple should be rebuilt and providing financial support from the royal treasury (Ezra 6:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how King Darius commands Tattenai and his associates to support the Jews in their rebuilding efforts. He warns against any interference or opposition and declares severe consequences for those who disobey (Ezra 6:6-12).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how, as a result of this decree, construction resumes, and with great enthusiasm, they complete the temple according to its specifications. They celebrate its dedication with joyous sacrifices and feasting (Ezra 6:13-22).

In summary, Chapter six of Ezra depicts the confirmation, and dedication experienced during restoration completion of temple. Highlighting royal affirmation expressed through discovery, and support achieved through financial provisions. Mentioning protection provided against interference, and celebration observed an embodiment representing divine intervention an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards sacred task a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Ezra 6:1 Then Darius the king made a decree, and search was made in the house of the rolls, where the treasures were laid up in Babylon.

Darius the king issued a decree to search for the treasures that were stored in Babylon.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: What We Learn from Darius and Ezra

2. The Power of God's Word: How the Treasures Were Found

1. Ezra 6:1

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.

Ezra 6:2 And there was found at Achmetha, in the palace that is in the province of the Medes, a roll, and therein was a record thus written:

God's help brought about a miraculous discovery of a scroll that contained a record.

1. God is always there to provide assistance in times of need.

2. We can trust in God to bring about unexpected blessings.

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?

Ezra 6:3 In the first year of Cyrus the king the same Cyrus the king made a decree concerning the house of God at Jerusalem, Let the house be builded, the place where they offered sacrifices, and let the foundations thereof be strongly laid; the height thereof threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof threescore cubits;

Cyrus the king issued a decree in the first year of his reign to build the house of God in Jerusalem with dimensions of 60 cubits by 60 cubits.

1: God's unconditional love and provision is evident in the decree of Cyrus the king to build the house of God.

2: God uses the most unlikely people to accomplish His will, as demonstrated by the decree of Cyrus the king.

1: Isaiah 41:2-3 "Who has stirred up one from the east, calling him in righteousness to his service? He hands nations over to him and subdues kings before him. He turns them to dust with his sword, to windblown chaff with his bow."

2: Isaiah 44:28 "It is I who says of Cyrus, 'He is my shepherd! He will fulfill all my purposes.' He will say of Jerusalem, 'Let it be rebuilt,' and of the temple, 'Let its foundations be laid.'"

Ezra 6:4 With three rows of great stones, and a row of new timber: and let the expenses be given out of the king's house:

The building of the temple was to be done with three rows of great stones and a row of new timber to be paid from the king's house.

1. God's provision for His people: the importance of using the resources He provides.

2. Building for the Lord: the importance of committing to the work God has called us to do.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.

Ezra 6:5 And also let the golden and silver vessels of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took forth out of the temple which is at Jerusalem, and brought unto Babylon, be restored, and brought again unto the temple which is at Jerusalem, every one to his place, and place them in the house of God.

This passage from Ezra 6:5 instructs that the golden and silver vessels which Nebuchadnezzar took from the temple in Jerusalem and brought to Babylon should be returned to the temple in Jerusalem and placed in the house of God.

1. "The Power of Restoration: Reconnecting with God and Our Spiritual Heritage"

2. "The Blessing of Returning Home: Reestablishing Our Connection with 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. 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 122:1-5, I was glad when they said to me, Let us go to the house of the Lord! Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem! Jerusalem built as a city that is bound firmly together, to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. There thrones for judgment were set, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May they be secure who love you!

Ezra 6:6 Now therefore, Tatnai, governor beyond the river, Shetharboznai, and your companions the Apharsachites, which are beyond the river, be ye far from thence:

Tatnai, Shetharboznai, and the Apharsachites are commanded to stay away from the area of the river.

1. "The Importance of Obeying God's Commands"

2. "Living in Obedience to God's Will"

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."

Ezra 6:7 Let the work of this house of God alone; let the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews build this house of God in his place.

King Darius commanded that the Jewish people rebuild the temple of God in Jerusalem, and instructed that the work of the temple should not be hindered.

1: We must remain diligent in following God's work and commands, even when it is difficult.

2: We must be obedient to the leadership God has put in place, trusting that He can work through them to accomplish His will.

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: Psalm 37:5 "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act."

Ezra 6:8 Moreover I make a decree what ye shall do to the elders of these Jews for the building of this house of God: that of the king's goods, even of the tribute beyond the river, forthwith expenses be given unto these men, that they be not hindered.

The decree of the King was that expenses be given to the elders of the Jews for the building of the temple of God.

1. God calls us to use our resources to further His kingdom.

2. Stewarding resources to build the kingdom of God.

1. Proverbs 3:9 - Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops.

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.

Ezra 6:9 And that which they have need of, both young bullocks, and rams, and lambs, for the burnt offerings of the God of heaven, wheat, salt, wine, and oil, according to the appointment of the priests which are at Jerusalem, let it be given them day by day without fail:

The priests in Jerusalem require daily provisions of young bullocks, rams, lambs, wheat, salt, wine, and oil for the burnt offerings of the God of heaven.

1. God's Provision - The importance of acknowledging and accepting the daily provisions God provides us.

2. The Power of Faith - How faith in the God of heaven can lead to blessings and abundance.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Ezra 6:10 That they may offer sacrifices of sweet savours unto the God of heaven, and pray for the life of the king, and of his sons.

God commands the people to offer sacrifices and to pray for the King and his sons.

1. Sacrificial Obedience: Understanding Our Loyalty to God and Authority

2. Intercessory Prayer: Fulfilling Our Responsibility to Pray for Others

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. 1 Timothy 2:1-4

Ezra 6:11 Also I have made a decree, that whosoever shall alter this word, let timber be pulled down from his house, and being set up, let him be hanged thereon; and let his house be made a dunghill for this.

The decree of Ezra was that anyone who altered his word should be punished by having timber pulled down from their house and set up to hang them, and their house to be made a dunghill.

1: Obey God and His Word - God's word is to be obeyed and any who attempt to alter it will be punished severely.

2: The Consequence of Disobedience - Disobedience of God's word has dire consequences, as those who attempt to alter it will be punished and their house made a dunghill.

1: Proverbs 28:9 - "If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination".

2: 1 John 2:4-6 - "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."

Ezra 6:12 And the God that hath caused his name to dwell there destroy all kings and people, that shall put to their hand to alter and to destroy this house of God which is at Jerusalem. I Darius have made a decree; let it be done with speed.

King Darius decreed that God's house in Jerusalem should not be altered or destroyed.

1. The Importance of Protecting God's House

2. God Deserves Our Respect and Honor

1. Matthew 6:9-10 - Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

2. Proverbs 12:15 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

Ezra 6:13 Then Tatnai, governor on this side the river, Shetharboznai, and their companions, according to that which Darius the king had sent, so they did speedily.

Tatnai, the governor, Shetharboznai, and their companions followed the orders of King Darius and worked quickly to carry them out.

1. Faithful Obedience - Living Out the Commands of God

2. Doing God's Work with Speed and Efficiency

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. 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.

Ezra 6:14 And the elders of the Jews builded, and they prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they builded, and finished it, according to the commandment of the God of Israel, and according to the commandment of Cyrus, and Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia.

The elders of the Jews were successful in rebuilding the temple according to the commands of God and Persian kings Cyrus, Darius, and Artaxerxes.

1. How to Find Success in the Midst of Difficult Tasks

2. God's Sovereignty in the Lives of His People

1. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in 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.

Ezra 6:15 And this house was finished on the third day of the month Adar, which was in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king.

This passage explains how the house of God was completed in the sixth year of King Darius' reign.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. The Power of Dedication - Psalm 127

1. Esther 9:20-22 - The Jews celebrated the completion of the house of God

2. Haggai 2:18-23 - The glory of the Lord filled the house of God

Ezra 6:16 And the children of Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and the rest of the children of the captivity, kept the dedication of this house of God with joy,

The children of Israel celebrated the dedication of the house of God with joy.

1: We must put God first in our lives and celebrate all that He does for us.

2: We should be joyful and thankful for the blessings God gives us.

1: Psalm 100:4 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

2: Psalm 28:7 - The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me.

Ezra 6:17 And offered at the dedication of this house of God an hundred bullocks, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs; and for a sin offering for all Israel, twelve he goats, according to the number of the tribes of Israel.

The dedication of the house of God was celebrated by offering one hundred bullocks, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs, and twelve he goats as a sin offering for all Israel, according to the number of the tribes of Israel.

1. The Dedication of the House of God: Celebrating the Lord's Presence

2. The Significance of Offerings: Sacrificial Atonement and Thanksgiving

1. Leviticus 16:3-4 Thus shall Aaron come into the holy place: with a young bullock for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering. 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.

2. Hebrews 9:22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Ezra 6:18 And they set the priests in their divisions, and the Levites in their courses, for the service of God, which is at Jerusalem; as it is written in the book of Moses.

The priests and Levites were assigned to their divisions for the service of God in Jerusalem, according to the book of Moses.

1. Living to Serve: A Study of Ezra 6:18

2. Working Together for the Glory of God: An Examination of Ezra 6:18

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.

9. Therefore, acknowledge the LORD by name and entreat him by name, for he has done wonderful things.

2. Numbers 3:14-16 - These are the names of the sons of Aaron: Nadab the firstborn, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. These are the names of Aaron s sons who were ordained as priests. But Nadab and Abihu died before the LORD when they offered unauthorized fire before the LORD in the wilderness of Sinai, and they had no children. So Eleazar and Ithamar served as priests in the lifetime of their father Aaron.

Ezra 6:19 And the children of the captivity kept the passover upon the fourteenth day of the first month.

The children of Israel in captivity celebrated the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month.

1. Living in Captivity - How God's People Persevere

2. Celebrating Passover - The Meaning of God's Redemption

1. Exodus 12:1-14 - The Lord's instruction for the celebration of the Passover

2. Deuteronomy 16:1-8 - God's Command to observe the Passover Feast.

Ezra 6:20 For the priests and the Levites were purified together, all of them were pure, and killed the passover for all the children of the captivity, and for their brethren the priests, and for themselves.

The priests and Levites were purified and offered the Passover sacrifice for the children of the captivity and for their own families.

1. The Importance of Purification and Upholding Tradition

2. The Strength of Community and Mutual Support

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. 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.

Ezra 6:21 And the children of Israel, which were come again out of captivity, and all such as had separated themselves unto them from the filthiness of the heathen of the land, to seek the LORD God of Israel, did eat,

The children of Israel, those who had been held captive, and those who had separated themselves from the heathen of the land, all sought the Lord God of Israel and ate.

1. The Pursuit of God: How to Achieve Holiness and Closeness to God

2. The Power of Separation: How to Remain Unswayed by Unholy Influences

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.

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.

Ezra 6:22 And kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days with joy: for the LORD had made them joyful, and turned the heart of the king of Assyria unto them, to strengthen their hands in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel.

The people of Israel kept the feast of unleavened bread joyfully for seven days because the Lord had made them joyful and had turned the heart of the king of Assyria towards them, helping them to strengthen their hands in the work of the Lord's House.

1. The Joy of Serving the Lord

2. The Strength of God's Help in Our Lives

1. Deuteronomy 8:10-11 - When you have eaten and are satisfied, bless the Lord your God for the good land he has given you. Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day.

2. Psalm 33:20-22 - 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.

Ezra chapter 7 introduces Ezra, a priest and scribe who is granted permission by King Artaxerxes to go to Jerusalem and teach the Law of God. The chapter emphasizes Ezra's qualifications, his journey to Jerusalem, and his mission to restore proper worship and governance in the land.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Ezra as a descendant of Aaron, the high priest. He is described as a skilled scribe who has devoted himself to studying and teaching the Law of God (Ezra 7:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how King Artaxerxes grants Ezra's request to go to Jerusalem. The king provides him with resources, including silver and gold, as well as authority over Judah and Jerusalem. He instructs Ezra to appoint magistrates and judges who will enforce the law (Ezra 7:7-28).

In summary, Chapter seven of Ezra depicts the introduction, and commissioning experienced during restoration leadership of priestly authority. Highlighting lineage expressed through Aaronic descent, and scholarly dedication achieved through studying Law. Mentioning authorization received from King Artaxerxes, and instructions given for governance an embodiment representing divine favor an affirmation regarding restoration towards religious practice a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Ezra 7:1 Now after these things, in the reign of Artaxerxes king of Persia, Ezra the son of Seraiah, the son of Azariah, the son of Hilkiah,

Ezra was appointed by King Artaxerxes of Persia to lead the Israelites in their return to Jerusalem.

1. Trusting God's plan even when it takes us out of our comfort zone.

2. The importance of honoring those God has placed in authority over 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. 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."

Ezra 7:2 The son of Shallum, the son of Zadok, the son of Ahitub,

Ezra was a priest of the line of Zadok.

1. God uses all of us, no matter our background or lineage.

2. The Lord will use all of our gifts and talents for His glory.

1. Isaiah 43:7 - "everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

2. 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: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

Ezra 7:3 The son of Amariah, the son of Azariah, the son of Meraioth,

Ezra was a descendant of the priestly line of Amariah, Azariah, and Meraioth.

1. The importance of honoring our ancestors and their legacy.

2. God's faithfulness to His promises to sustain His chosen people.

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. Hebrews 11:13-16 - 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. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

Ezra 7:4 The son of Zerahiah, the son of Uzzi, the son of Bukki,

Ezra is the descendant of four generations of Israelites.

1. Our heritage - Our Identity: Rediscovering our Israelite Roots.

2. Recognizing our Ancestors: Honoring the Lineage of Ezra.

1. Romans 11:17-18 - "But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree, do not be arrogant toward the branches; but if you are arrogant, remember that it is not you who supports the root, but the root supports you."

2. 1 Peter 1:16-17 - "For it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy. And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one s work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear."

Ezra 7:5 The son of Abishua, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the chief priest:

Ezra was a priest descended from Aaron, the first chief priest.

1: As descendants of Aaron, we must strive to live up to his legacy of faith and holiness.

2: We can draw strength and courage from the example of Ezra, the priest descended from Aaron.

1: Hebrews 7:24-25 But because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

2: 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.

Ezra 7:6 This Ezra went up from Babylon; and he was a ready scribe in the law of Moses, which the LORD God of Israel had given: and the king granted him all his request, according to the hand of the LORD his God upon him.

Ezra was a scribe in the law of Moses, and the Lord granted him all his requests.

1. The Lord is Faithful to Those Who Seek Him

2. The Power of the Law of Moses

1. Deuteronomy 31:24-26 When Moses finished writing the words of this law in a book, he commanded the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD,

2. Joshua 1:7-9 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.

Ezra 7:7 And there went up some of the children of Israel, and of the priests, and the Levites, and the singers, and the porters, and the Nethinims, unto Jerusalem, in the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king.

In the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king, some of the children of Israel, priests, Levites, singers, porters, and Nethinims, went up to Jerusalem.

1. The importance of unity and how it can propel us to greater heights.

2. The power of obedience and how it can bring God's blessings.

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. 1 John 2:3-5 - 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.

Ezra 7:8 And he came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, which was in the seventh year of the king.

Ezra left Babylon and arrived in Jerusalem in the fifth month of the seventh year of the king.

1. God's timing is perfect - Ezra 7:8

2. Faithful obedience leads to blessings - Ezra 7:8

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 lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Ezra 7:9 For upon the first day of the first month began he to go up from Babylon, and on the first day of the fifth month came he to Jerusalem, according to the good hand of his God upon him.

Ezra began his journey from Babylon to Jerusalem on the first day of the first month and arrived on the first day of the fifth month, due to the blessing of God upon him.

1. God's Timing Is Perfect - Exploring God's perfect timing in our lives.

2. The Blessing of God - Understanding how God's blessing can empower us in our journey.

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. 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.

Ezra 7:10 For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments.

Ezra dedicated himself to seeking the Lord's guidance, doing His will, and teaching the people God's laws.

1. Dedicate Yourself to Seeking God's Guidance

2. Live and Teach God's Laws

1. 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.

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.

Ezra 7:11 Now this is the copy of the letter that the king Artaxerxes gave unto Ezra the priest, the scribe, even a scribe of the words of the commandments of the LORD, and of his statutes to Israel.

King Artaxerxes issued a letter to Ezra the priest and scribe, who was responsible for writing down the commandments of the Lord and His statutes to Israel.

1. How to Follow the Lord's Commands and Statutes

2. The Importance of Obedience to God

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

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."

Ezra 7:12 Artaxerxes, king of kings, unto Ezra the priest, a scribe of the law of the God of heaven, perfect peace, and at such a time.

Ezra was granted favor by Artaxerxes, king of kings, and was given perfect peace.

1. God's grace is sufficient for all our needs.

2. We can trust in the Lord for His perfect peace and protection.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 26:3 - You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

Ezra 7:13 I make a decree, that all they of the people of Israel, and of his priests and Levites, in my realm, which are minded of their own freewill to go up to Jerusalem, go with thee.

King Darius issued a decree that allowed the people of Israel, priests, and Levites to travel to Jerusalem of their own free will.

1. The importance of free will in our faith journey

2. God's provision for our spiritual needs

1. Joshua 24:15 "Choose this day whom you will serve"

2. Psalm 51:12 "Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit."

Ezra 7:14 Forasmuch as thou art sent of the king, and of his seven counsellors, to enquire concerning Judah and Jerusalem, according to the law of thy God which is in thine hand;

Ezra is sent by the king and his seven counselors to inquire about Judah and Jerusalem according to the laws of God.

1. A Call to Faithful Obedience: Following God's Law in a Faithful Manner

2. The Power of Community: The Importance of Working Together for God's Glory

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

Ezra 7:15 And to carry the silver and gold, which the king and his counsellors have freely offered unto the God of Israel, whose habitation is in Jerusalem,

Ezra willingly accepted the king and counsel s offering of silver and gold to God in Jerusalem.

1. God is worthy of our best offerings.

2. We should give freely and generously to God.

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

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.

Ezra 7:16 And all the silver and gold that thou canst find in all the province of Babylon, with the freewill offering of the people, and of the priests, offering willingly for the house of their God which is in Jerusalem:

Ezra was given authority to collect silver and gold from Babylon for the house of God in Jerusalem and the people and priests were offering willingly.

1. The Power of Free Will: Exploring the Importance of Giving of Ourselves Willingly

2. The Heart of Generosity: How We Can Use Our Resources to Honor God

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.

Ezra 7:17 That thou mayest buy speedily with this money bullocks, rams, lambs, with their meat offerings and their drink offerings, and offer them upon the altar of the house of your God which is in Jerusalem.

Ezra exemplifies true devotion to God by putting His house first.

1. The Priority of God's House - Putting God First in Action

2. Showing Devotion to God through Prioritizing His House

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 22:37-40 - 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.

Ezra 7:18 And whatsoever shall seem good to thee, and to thy brethren, to do with the rest of the silver and the gold, that do after the will of your God.

Ezra instructs the people to use the silver and gold at their disposal according to the will of God.

1. Living according to the will of God - Ezra 7:18

2. The power of obedience to God - Ezra 7:18

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. Ephesians 6:6 - not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

Ezra 7:19 The vessels also that are given thee for the service of the house of thy God, those deliver thou before the God of Jerusalem.

Ezra is instructed to deliver to Jerusalem all of the vessels that were given to him for the service of the house of God.

1. The Power of Faithful Service

2. Obedience to God's Commandments

1. John 14:15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

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.'"

Ezra 7:20 And whatsoever more shall be needful for the house of thy God, which thou shalt have occasion to bestow, bestow it out of the king's treasure house.

Ezra was instructed by God to use the king's treasurehouse to fund the needs of God's house.

1. Trusting God to provide for your needs in any circumstance.

2. The importance of giving to God's house.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink or wear.

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.

Ezra 7:21 And I, even I Artaxerxes the king, do make a decree to all the treasurers which are beyond the river, that whatsoever Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven, shall require of you, it be done speedily,

Artaxerxes the king commands all treasurers beyond the river to swiftly grant anything Ezra the priest and scribe of the law of the God of heaven requires.

1. God's Power to Accomplish Great Things Through His People

2. The Importance of Obeying God'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. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

Ezra 7:22 Unto an hundred talents of silver, and to an hundred measures of wheat, and to an hundred baths of wine, and to an hundred baths of oil, and salt without prescribing how much.

Ezra 7:22 states that the Lord commanded a hundred talents of silver, a hundred measures of wheat, a hundred baths of wine, a hundred baths of oil, and salt without prescribing how much.

1. Starting with Obedience: The Power of God's Command

2. Growing in Faith: The Blessings of Following the Lord's Will

1. Deuteronomy 11:1-2 "Therefore thou shalt love the Lord thy God, and keep his charge, and his statutes, and his judgments, and his commandments, alway. 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."

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."

Ezra 7:23 Whatsoever is commanded by the God of heaven, let it be diligently done for the house of the God of heaven: for why should there be wrath against the realm of the king and his sons?

Ezra encourages the Jews to faithfully obey the commands of God, or else they will suffer the king and his sons' wrath.

1. Obeying the Commands of God Brings Blessing

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14

2. Jeremiah 7:23-28

Ezra 7:24 Also we certify you, that touching any of the priests and Levites, singers, porters, Nethinims, or ministers of this house of God, it shall not be lawful to impose toll, tribute, or custom, upon them.

King Artaxerxes commanded Ezra to travel to Jerusalem with a decree that freed the Levites, priests, singers, Nethinims, and other ministers of the temple from paying any tax or toll.

1. God's Faithfulness: How the Lord Cares for His People

2. The Power of Obedience: Living in Response to God's Word

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 37:25, "I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread."

Ezra 7:25 And thou, Ezra, after the wisdom of thy God, that is in thine hand, set magistrates and judges, which may judge all the people that are beyond the river, all such as know the laws of thy God; and teach ye them that know them not.

Ezra's mission was to appoint magistrates, judges, and teachers to those who did not know the laws of God.

1. The importance of teaching the laws of God to those who do not know them.

2. The responsibility of those in authority to ensure the laws of God are followed.

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. 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.

Ezra 7:26 And whosoever will not do the law of thy God, and the law of the king, let judgment be executed speedily upon him, whether it be unto death, or to banishment, or to confiscation of goods, or to imprisonment.

Ezra instructs that those who disobey the law of God or the law of the king should be swiftly punished, either by death, banishment, confiscation of goods, or imprisonment.

1. The Consequences of Disobeying God's Law

2. Obeying Both God's Law and the King's Law

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. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Ezra 7:27 Blessed be the LORD God of our fathers, which hath put such a thing as this in the king's heart, to beautify the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem:

Ezra praises God for putting it in the king's heart to beautify the house of the Lord in Jerusalem.

1. The Lord's Generous Heart: How God Provides Opportunities for Us to Serve

2. Don't Take God's Grace for Granted: How to Appreciate the Blessings of the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 8:10-18 - God's Loving Provision for His People

2. Ephesians 2:8-10 - God's Riches in Grace for Us

Ezra 7:28 And hath extended mercy unto me before the king, and his counsellors, and before all the king's mighty princes. And I was strengthened as the hand of the LORD my God was upon me, and I gathered together out of Israel chief men to go up with me.

Ezra was strengthened by the Lord and was given mercy by the king, his counselors, and princes. He then gathered leaders from Israel to go with him.

1. The Power of God: How we can be strengthened and sustained by the Lord.

2. God's Mercy: How we can receive grace and favor from unlikely sources.

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 this through him who gives me strength.

Ezra chapter 8 describes Ezra's journey from Babylon to Jerusalem with a group of exiles. The chapter emphasizes the importance of seeking God's protection and guidance during their travels, as well as the safe arrival of the group in Jerusalem.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting how Ezra gathers a group of people, including priests, Levites, and others who are willing to return to Jerusalem. They assemble by the Ahava Canal and prepare for their journey (Ezra 8:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Ezra proclaims a fast before their departure, seeking God's guidance and protection for their journey. He entrusts valuable items to the priests and Levites to be brought safely to Jerusalem (Ezra 8:15-30).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how God answers their prayers by granting them protection throughout their journey. They arrive safely in Jerusalem and deliver the entrusted items into the care of the temple officials (Ezra 8:31-36).

In summary, Chapter eight of Ezra depicts the assembly, and journey experienced during restoration return to sacred city. Highlighting recruitment expressed through gathering volunteers, and spiritual preparation achieved through fasting. Mentioning divine intervention received for protection, and successful arrival observed an embodiment representing divine providence an affirmation regarding fulfillment towards sacred mission a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Ezra 8:1 These are now the chief of their fathers, and this is the genealogy of them that went up with me from Babylon, in the reign of Artaxerxes the king.

Ezra and his companions are recorded in the Bible for their loyalty to God and their faithfulness to His covenant.

1. God always rewards faithfulness and loyalty.

2. The importance of remaining true to our covenant with God.

1. Joshua 24:15 - But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

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.

Ezra 8:2 Of the sons of Phinehas; Gershom: of the sons of Ithamar; Daniel: of the sons of David; Hattush.

Ezra 8:2 lists three descendants of prominent biblical figures: Gershom (son of Phinehas), Daniel (son of Ithamar), and Hattush (son of David).

1. God's Faithfulness to His Promises: The Descendants of Phinehas, Ithamar, and David

2. Living Courageously in Unfavorable Situations: The Example of Gershom, Daniel, and Hattush

1. 2 Chronicles 17:8-9 - "And with them he sent Levites, even Shemaiah, and Nethaniah, and Zebadiah, and Asahel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehonathan, and Adonijah, and Tobijah, and Tobadonijah, Levites; and with them Elishama and Jehoram, priests. And they taught in Judah, and had the book of the law of the Lord with them, and went about throughout all the cities of Judah, and taught the people."

2. 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."

Ezra 8:3 Of the sons of Shechaniah, of the sons of Pharosh; Zechariah: and with him were reckoned by genealogy of the males an hundred and fifty.

Ezra 8:3 records the genealogy of Zechariah, son of Shechaniah, with an estimated male population of 150.

1. God's faithfulness in recording genealogies

2. The power of God's blessing in multiplying a family.

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ

2. Genesis 12:2-3 - The Lord's promise to Abram to make him a great nation

Ezra 8:4 Of the sons of Pahathmoab; Elihoenai the son of Zerahiah, and with him two hundred males.

Elihoenai, the son of Zerahiah, was accompanied by two hundred males from the sons of Pahathmoab.

1. The Strength of Community: Working Together for a Greater Good

2. Faithful Leadership: Following God s Example of Commitment

1. 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.

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.

Ezra 8:5 Of the sons of Shechaniah; the son of Jahaziel, and with him three hundred males.

Shechaniah had a son named Jahaziel and three hundred men.

1. The Power of Men United in One Cause

2. The Strength of Family Ties

1. Proverbs 27:17 - "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."

2. Acts 2: 44-45 - "All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need."

Ezra 8:6 Of the sons also of Adin; Ebed the son of Jonathan, and with him fifty males.

Ezra appointed Ebed and 50 other males from the sons of Adin.

1. The Importance of Appointing and Recognizing Leaders - Ezra 8:6

2. The Power of Unity - Ezra 8:6

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."

Ezra 8:7 And of the sons of Elam; Jeshaiah the son of Athaliah, and with him seventy males.

Ezra 8:7 records that Jeshaiah the son of Athaliah, along with 70 other males, were descendants of Elam.

1. How to Live Up to Our Ancestral Lineage

2. The Power of a Unified Community

1. Proverbs 22:1 - "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold."

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.

Ezra 8:8 And of the sons of Shephatiah; Zebadiah the son of Michael, and with him fourscore males.

Ezra 8:8 describes that Zebadiah, the son of Michael, led 80 males.

1. The Power of Leadership: Zebadiah's example of leading 80 males.

2. Strength in Numbers: How a leader can motivate and bring people together.

1. Proverbs 27:17 "Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another."

2. Galatians 6:2 "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

Ezra 8:9 Of the sons of Joab; Obadiah the son of Jehiel, and with him two hundred and eighteen males.

Ezra 8:9 records the number of males with Obadiah the son of Jehiel from the sons of Joab.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commandments

2. The Power of Faith in God's Plan

1. James 2:17-20 - "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. You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe and shudder! Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?"

2. 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 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. "

Ezra 8:10 And of the sons of Shelomith; the son of Josiphiah, and with him an hundred and threescore males.

The sons of Shelomith were headed by Josiphiah, with a total of one hundred and sixty males.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Can Accomplish Anything

2. The Value of Numbers: The Strength of Community

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."

Ezra 8:11 And of the sons of Bebai; Zechariah the son of Bebai, and with him twenty and eight males.

Ezra 8:11 mentions that Zechariah the son of Bebai is accompanied by 28 other males.

1. God's faithfulness is revealed in the people he chooses to lead his people.

2. God's provision and protection is seen in the companions he provides.

1. 1 Chronicles 16:34 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

2. Psalm 112:1-3 - Praise the Lord. Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands. Their children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

Ezra 8:12 And of the sons of Azgad; Johanan the son of Hakkatan, and with him an hundred and ten males.

Ezra assembled a group of men from the sons of Azgad, led by Johanan, son of Hakkatan, and included one hundred and ten males.

1. The Power of God-Given Leadership: Exploring the Story of Ezra and Johanan

2. The Strength of Community: Finding Strength Through Unity

1. Acts 2:42-47 - The power of community fellowship in the early Church.

2. Ephesians 5:21-33 - Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ezra 8:13 And of the last sons of Adonikam, whose names are these, Eliphelet, Jeiel, and Shemaiah, and with them threescore males.

Ezra 8:13 lists the names of the last sons of Adonikam - Eliphelet, Jeiel, and Shemaiah - and the total number of males in the group, which is sixty.

1. The Power of Small Numbers: How God Can Use Even the Smallest Groups of People to Make a Difference

2. The Beauty of Unity: How Working Together Can Help Us Accomplish Big Goals

1. Matthew 18:20 - "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

2. Romans 12:12 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Ezra 8:14 Of the sons also of Bigvai; Uthai, and Zabbud, and with them seventy males.

Ezra 8 describes the gathering of seventy males, including Uthai and Zabbud, from the sons of Bigvai.

1. The importance of community and collaboration in God's work.

2. Recognizing God's presence and power in times of great need.

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. Acts 2:44-47 - "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."

Ezra 8:15 And I gathered them together to the river that runneth to Ahava; and there abode we in tents three days: and I viewed the people, and the priests, and found there none of the sons of Levi.

Ezra and the people with him gathered together at the river Ahava and stayed in tents for three days. Ezra inspected the people and priests and found none of the sons of Levi.

1. The importance of being faithful to God's call.

2. The power of perseverance and obedience.

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. 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."

Ezra 8:16 Then sent I for Eliezer, for Ariel, for Shemaiah, and for Elnathan, and for Jarib, and for Elnathan, and for Nathan, and for Zechariah, and for Meshullam, chief men; also for Joiarib, and for Elnathan, men of understanding.

Ezra sent for Eliezer, Ariel, Shemaiah, Elnathan, Jarib, Nathan, Zechariah, Meshullam, Joiarib, and Elnathan to join him in his mission.

1. God strengthens us through the people He sends us

2. God will provide us with the people and resources we need to accomplish His will

1. Psalm 68:35 "You, God, are awesome in your sanctuary; the God of Israel gives power and strength to his people. Praise be to God!"

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."

Ezra 8:17 And I sent them with commandment unto Iddo the chief at the place Casiphia, and I told them what they should say unto Iddo, and to his brethren the Nethinims, at the place Casiphia, that they should bring unto us ministers for the house of our God.

Ezra sent a group of people to Iddo, the chief at Casiphia, to ask him to provide ministers for the House of God.

1. The importance of providing ministers for God's house.

2. The need to be obedient to God's commands.

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. Exodus 25:8 - And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst.

Ezra 8:18 And by the good hand of our God upon us they brought us a man of understanding, of the sons of Mahli, the son of Levi, the son of Israel; and Sherebiah, with his sons and his brethren, eighteen;

The sons of Mahli had been brought to Ezra by the good hand of God.

1: We can trust in God's great love and provision for us, even in difficult times.

2: God will provide us with the resources we need to accomplish 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: Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Ezra 8:19 And Hashabiah, and with him Jeshaiah of the sons of Merari, his brethren and their sons, twenty;

Ezra appointed twenty men of Merari to accompany him on his journey to Jerusalem.

1. The importance of choosing companions wisely.

2. The power of God to equip us for any task.

1. Proverbs 13:20 - He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will suffer harm.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Ezra 8:20 Also of the Nethinims, whom David and the princes had appointed for the service of the Levites, two hundred and twenty Nethinims: all of them were expressed by name.

This passage from Ezra describes the appointment of two hundred and twenty Nethinims by David and the princes, for the service of the Levites.

1. The importance of working together for the common good.

2. The power of David and the princes to make decisions for the benefit of the community.

1. Philippians 2:1-4 - 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.

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.

Ezra 8:21 Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river of Ahava, that we might afflict ourselves before our God, to seek of him a right way for us, and for our little ones, and for all our substance.

Ezra proclaimed a fast at the river of Ahava in order to seek God's guidance for himself, his family and his wealth.

1. The importance of prayer and fasting to seek God's guidance.

2. Learning to rely on God in all aspects of life.

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 - "pray without ceasing"

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."

Ezra 8:22 For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy in the way: because we had spoken unto the king, saying, The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him; but his power and his wrath is against all them that forsake him.

The power and wrath of God is against all who forsake Him, but all those who seek Him will receive His hand of good.

1. The Consequences of Forsaking God

2. The Blessings of Seeking God

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

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."

Ezra 8:23 So we fasted and besought our God for this: and he was intreated of us.

The people of Israel fasted and prayed to God and He answered their prayers.

1. The Power of Prayer - How God Responds to Our Requests.

2. The Benefits of Fasting - How It Enhances Our Relationship with God.

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

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?"

Ezra 8:24 Then I separated twelve of the chief of the priests, Sherebiah, Hashabiah, and ten of their brethren with them,

Ezra led a group of priests to offer sacrifices and prayers to God.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Ezra's Faithful Leadership Gave Hope to a Nation

2. Courageous Leadership: How Ezra Led by Example

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. Luke 22:31-32 - Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.

Ezra 8:25 And weighed unto them the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, even the offering of the house of our God, which the king, and his counsellors, and his lords, and all Israel there present, had offered:

The offering of the house of God was weighed and presented by the king, his counselors, lords, and all Israel present.

1. The Power of Giving Generously

2. The Importance of Community and Unity

1. Acts 4:32-37 The power of the early Church's generosity

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 Honor the Lord with your wealth and the firstfruits of all your produce.

Ezra 8:26 I even weighed unto their hand six hundred and fifty talents of silver, and silver vessels an hundred talents, and of gold an hundred talents;

Ezra and his companions brought an offering of silver and gold to the Lord.

1: We should always be generous and give to the Lord, for He has done great things for us.

2: We should not be stingy with our resources, but generously offer our time, talents, and treasures to the Lord.

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 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.

Ezra 8:27 Also twenty basons of gold, of a thousand drams; and two vessels of fine copper, precious as gold.

Ezra 8:27 describes twenty basons of gold and two vessels of fine copper, both of which were precious.

1. The Unseen Blessings of God: How God's Precious Gifts are More Than Meets the Eye

2. Sacrifices of Gratitude: Acknowledging God's Generosity

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 19:10 - More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

Ezra 8:28 And I said unto them, Ye are holy unto the LORD; the vessels are holy also; and the silver and the gold are a freewill offering unto the LORD God of your fathers.

Ezra and the people of Israel offered gold, silver and vessels as a freewill offering to the Lord.

1. Living a Life of Generosity and Worship: Offering Our Possessions to God

2. The Joy of Giving: Expressing Our Gratitude to God with Our Offerings

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. 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."

Ezra 8:29 Watch ye, and keep them, until ye weigh them before the chief of the priests and the Levites, and chief of the fathers of Israel, at Jerusalem, in the chambers of the house of the LORD.

Ezra instructed the Israelites to watch over the items that they were transporting to Jerusalem until they reached the chief of the priests and the Levites.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Word

2. Celebrating the Lord's House with Care and Diligence

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. Psalm 122:1 "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'"

Ezra 8:30 So took the priests and the Levites the weight of the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, to bring them to Jerusalem unto the house of our God.

Priests and Levites took the silver, gold, and vessels to Jerusalem to bring to the House of God.

1. God's House is Worth Our Best

2. Appreciating the Blessings of God

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - 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.

6 Ye shall not do after all the things that we do here this day, every man whatsoever is right in his own eyes.

7 For ye are not as yet come to the rest and to the inheritance, which the LORD your God giveth you.

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:

20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Ezra 8:31 Then we departed from the river of Ahava on the twelfth day of the first month, to go unto Jerusalem: and the hand of our God was upon us, and he delivered us from the hand of the enemy, and of such as lay in wait by the way.

On the twelfth day of the first month, the people of Israel departed from the river of Ahava and journeyed to Jerusalem. God protected them from their enemies and those who sought to ambush them along the way.

1. The Hand of God: How God Protects and Guides Us

2. God's Deliverance: Experiencing his Protection in Difficult Times

1. 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. 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."

Ezra 8:32 And we came to Jerusalem, and abode there three days.

After journeying from Babylon to Jerusalem, the group rested for three days.

1. Don't be Afraid to Take Time for Rest - Ezra 8:32

2. The Journey to Jerusalem is Rewarding - Ezra 8:32

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

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.

Ezra 8:33 Now on the fourth day was the silver and the gold and the vessels weighed in the house of our God by the hand of Meremoth the son of Uriah the priest; and with him was Eleazar the son of Phinehas; and with them was Jozabad the son of Jeshua, and Noadiah the son of Binnui, Levites;

Meremoth, Eleazar, Jozabad, and Noadiah weighed the silver, gold, and vessels in the house of God on the fourth day.

1. The Importance of Faithful Service to the Lord

2. The Responsibility of the Priesthood

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 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.

Ezra 8:34 By number and by weight of every one: and all the weight was written at that time.

Ezra 8 records the details of a shipment of gold and silver, including the amount and the weight of each item.

1. God's Provision in Difficult Times

2. The Benefits of Keeping Accurate Records

1. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights.

2. Proverbs 22:3 - A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

Ezra 8:35 Also the children of those that had been carried away, which were come out of the captivity, offered burnt offerings unto the God of Israel, twelve bullocks for all Israel, ninety and six rams, seventy and seven lambs, twelve he goats for a sin offering: all this was a burnt offering unto the LORD.

This passage records the offerings of the Israelites who had been released from captivity.

1. The importance of sacrificial offerings to God.

2. The power of faith in times of trial.

1. Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your gentleness 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 13:15 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

Ezra 8:36 And they delivered the king's commissions unto the king's lieutenants, and to the governors on this side the river: and they furthered the people, and the house of God.

Ezra 8:36 describes how the kings' orders were given to their lieutenants and governors to help the people and the house of God.

1. Serving the Lord Through Obedience - Demonstrating Faithfulness to God's Will

2. Reaching Out to Others - The Joy of Helping in God's Work

1. 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."

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."

Ezra chapter 9 focuses on Ezra's response to the intermarriage between the Israelites and the surrounding nations. The chapter highlights Ezra's distress over this violation of God's commands and his prayer of confession and repentance.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how Ezra learns about the intermarriage between the Israelites and the people of the land. He is deeply troubled by this disobedience, as it goes against God's command to remain separate from other nations (Ezra 9:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Ezra expresses his grief and anguish before God. He tears his clothes, pulls out hair from his head and beard, and falls to his knees in prayer. He confesses the sins of the people, acknowledging their unfaithfulness (Ezra 9:3-15).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how a large assembly gathers around Ezra as he prays. They too express remorse for their actions and agree to separate themselves from their foreign spouses as a sign of repentance (Ezra 9:16-10:17).

In summary, Chapter nine of Ezra depicts the distress, and repentance experienced during restoration renewal of covenant fidelity. Highlighting concern expressed through discovery, and heartfelt lament achieved through prayer. Mentioning acknowledgment made for transgressions, and commitment demonstrated towards obedience an embodiment representing divine conviction an affirmation regarding restoration towards righteous living a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Ezra 9:1 Now when these things were done, the princes came to me, saying, The people of Israel, and the priests, and the Levites, have not separated themselves from the people of the lands, doing according to their abominations, even of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites.

The princes informed Ezra that the Israelites had not separated themselves from the pagan peoples of the land, and were following their sinful practices.

1. The Danger of Assimilation - How to remain faithful to God in a world full of temptation.

2. The Deceitfulness of Sin - The importance of recognizing and avoiding sin before it takes hold of us.

1. Matthew 15:10-14 - Jesus' teaching on what defiles a person.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Ezra 9:2 For they have taken of their daughters for themselves, and for their sons: so that the holy seed have mingled themselves with the people of those lands: yea, the hand of the princes and rulers hath been chief in this trespass.

The people of Israel have intermarried with the people of the surrounding nations, and their leaders have been complicit in this act of disobedience.

1. The Sin of Intermarriage: Disobedience and Its Consequences

2. Resisting Temptation: The Need to Stand Firm in Our Commitment

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."

Ezra 9:3 And when I heard this thing, I rent my garment and my mantle, and plucked off the hair of my head and of my beard, and sat down astonied.

Ezra was so astonished by the news he had heard that he tore his clothing and pulled out his hair in distress.

1. God's power is greater than our suffering.

2. Thriving in times of adversity.

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. 2 Corinthians 4:17, For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison.

Ezra 9:4 Then were assembled unto me every one that trembled at the words of the God of Israel, because of the transgression of those that had been carried away; and I sat astonied until the evening sacrifice.

The people who were scared of the Lord's words because of their transgressions gathered to Ezra, and he was amazed until the evening sacrifice.

1. God's Word Brings Fear and Awe

2. When We Realize Our Transgressions, We Should Turn to God

1. Isaiah 66:2 - "For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist," says the LORD. "But on this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word.

2. James 4:8-10 - 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.

Ezra 9:5 And at the evening sacrifice I arose up from my heaviness; and having rent my garment and my mantle, I fell upon my knees, and spread out my hands unto the LORD my God,

Ezra expresses his deep sorrow and repentance for his people's sin.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Our Pleas to God Can Lead to Repentance

2. Learning from Ezra: How to Approach God in Humility and Repentance

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

2. James 4:8-10 - "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."

Ezra 9:6 And said, O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to thee, my God: for our iniquities are increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens.

Ezra expresses shame and embarrassment for the sins of Israel, which have become too great to ignore.

1: We don't need to be ashamed of past mistakes, but instead, use them to learn and grow closer to God.

2: God loves us despite our shortcomings; He desires for us to turn away from our sins and come to Him.

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: Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Ezra 9:7 Since the days of our fathers have we been in a great trespass unto this day; and for our iniquities have we, our kings, and our priests, been delivered into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, and to a spoil, and to confusion of face, as it is this day.

The Israelites have committed a great trespass against God and have been delivered into the hand of foreign nations as a result of their iniquities.

1. The Consequences of Sin - Ezra 9:7

2. The Need For Repentance - Ezra 9:7

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.

Ezra 9:8 And now for a little space grace hath been shewed from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a nail in his holy place, that our God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage.

God showed grace to the people of Israel by leaving them a remnant and giving them a nail in his holy place so that they could have a little reviving in their bondage.

1. God's Grace in Difficult Times

2. The Hope of Revival in our Bondage

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..."

2. 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?"

Ezra 9:9 For we were bondmen; yet our God hath not forsaken us in our bondage, but hath extended mercy unto us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to give us a reviving, to set up the house of our God, and to repair the desolations thereof, and to give us a wall in Judah and in Jerusalem.

Despite being in bondage, God has shown mercy to the people of Israel and granted them a reviving, allowing them to repair the desolations of the House of God and giving them a wall in Judah and Jerusalem.

1. God's Mercy: A Source of Strength and Comfort in Times of Bondage

2. Restoring the House of God: God's Plan for Revival

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 145:17-19 - The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works. The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth. He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them.

Ezra 9:10 And now, O our God, what shall we say after this? for we have forsaken thy commandments,

Ezra 9:10 speaks of God's commandments and the consequences of forsaking them.

1: We must not forsake God's commandments, because the consequences could be dire.

2: We must always remember God's commandments and obey them, for our own good.

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: 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.

Ezra 9:11 Which thou hast commanded by thy servants the prophets, saying, The land, unto which ye go to possess it, is an unclean land with the filthiness of the people of the lands, with their abominations, which have filled it from one end to another with their uncleanness.

God requires us to remember that we are to live holy lives that reflect our relationship with Him.

1: We are called to a holy life in the eyes of God.

2: We must pursue holiness in our lives no matter what circumstances we face.

1: 1 Thessalonians 4:7 - For God has not called us to uncleanness, but to holiness.

2: 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 crawls on the ground.

Ezra 9:12 Now therefore give not your daughters unto their sons, neither take their daughters unto your sons, nor seek their peace or their wealth for ever: that ye may be strong, and eat the good of the land, and leave it for an inheritance to your children for ever.

This passage teaches us not to intermarry with the people of the land, so that we can remain strong and pass the blessings of the land on to our children.

1. The Danger of Intermarriage: How Marrying Outside of Our Faith Can Weaken Us

2. The Blessing of Obedience: How Obeying God's Will Can Lead to Strength and Inheritance

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. Psalm 37:25-26 - I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread. He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing.

Ezra 9:13 And after all that is come upon us for our evil deeds, and for our great trespass, seeing that thou our God hast punished us less than our iniquities deserve, and hast given us such deliverance as this;

Despite the evil deeds and great transgressions of the Israelites, God has given them deliverance and has punished them less than their iniquities deserve.

1. Living a Life of Gratitude in the Shadow of God's Mercy

2. Understanding the Power of Forgiveness in Our Everyday Lives

1. Psalm 103:8-14

2. Ephesians 2:4-10

Ezra 9:14 Should we again break thy commandments, and join in affinity with the people of these abominations? wouldest not thou be angry with us till thou hadst consumed us, so that there should be no remnant nor escaping?

God will not tolerate the people's sinful actions and will punish them if they do not repent.

1. Repentance is the Key to God's Forgiveness

2. God is Just and Will Not Tolerate Sin

1. 2 Corinthians 7:10 - For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

2. Isaiah 1:16-18 - Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Ezra 9:15 O LORD God of Israel, thou art righteous: for we remain yet escaped, as it is this day: behold, we are before thee in our trespasses: for we cannot stand before thee because of this.

Ezra acknowledges God's righteousness and confesses his and his people's own sins before Him.

1. The Power of Confession: Acknowledging God's Righteousness and Owning Up to Our Sins

2. God's Mercy and Grace: Understanding Our Need for His Forgiveness

1. 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.

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.

Ezra chapter 10 focuses on the actions taken by Ezra and the Israelites to address the issue of intermarriage with foreign nations. The chapter highlights their commitment to obey God's commands and separate themselves from their foreign spouses.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how Ezra leads a large assembly of people who gather in Jerusalem. They are distressed over the issue of intermarriage and recognize it as a violation of God's law (Ezra 10:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Ezra calls for repentance and urges the people to make a covenant with God, promising to put away their foreign wives and children born from those marriages (Ezra 10:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how an investigation is conducted, and those found in violation of the law are identified. A proclamation is made, commanding them to assemble in Jerusalem within three days or face consequences (Ezra 10:9-17).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with a record of those who gathered in Jerusalem as instructed. They confess their sin, express remorse, and commit to separating themselves from their foreign spouses (Ezra 10:18-44).

In summary, Chapter ten of Ezra depicts the conviction, and resolution experienced during restoration reformation of covenant faithfulness. Highlighting concern expressed through recognition, and decisive action achieved through repentance. Mentioning investigation conducted for accountability, and commitment demonstrated towards obedience an embodiment representing divine correction an affirmation regarding restoration towards righteous living a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Ezra 10:1 Now when Ezra had prayed, and when he had confessed, weeping and casting himself down before the house of God, there assembled unto him out of Israel a very great congregation of men and women and children: for the people wept very sore.

Ezra's prayer and confession of sin brought a huge congregation of men, women, and children together to the house of God, all weeping in sorrow.

1. The Power of Prayer: Ezra's example of humble confession to God.

2. The Power of Repentance: How Ezra's example brought a great multitude together to seek God's help.

1. James 5:16 "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

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."

Ezra 10:2 And Shechaniah the son of Jehiel, one of the sons of Elam, answered and said unto Ezra, We have trespassed against our God, and have taken strange wives of the people of the land: yet now there is hope in Israel concerning this thing.

Shechaniah admits that the Israelites have committed a sin by marrying people from the land they are in, but there is still hope for them.

1. God s mercy and grace are always available to those who seek it.

2. Even in our darkest moments, God is still with us and still offers us hope.

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. Ezekiel 18:21-23 But if the wicked turn away from all their sins that they have committed and keep all my statutes and do what is lawful and right, they shall surely live; they shall not die. None of the transgressions that they have committed shall be remembered against them; for the righteousness that they have done they shall live. Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, says the Lord God, and not rather that they should turn from their ways and live?

Ezra 10:3 Now therefore let us make a covenant with our God to put away all the wives, and such as are born of them, according to the counsel of my lord, and of those that tremble at the commandment of our God; and let it be done according to the law.

In order to obey God's commands, the people agree to put away all foreign wives and those born of them in accordance with the law.

1. The Power of Obeying God's Commands

2. The Necessity of Keeping God's Law

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, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days..."

2. Daniel 3:17-18 - "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.

Ezra 10:4 Arise; for this matter belongeth unto thee: we also will be with thee: be of good courage, and do it.

This passage encourages courage and action in the face of a difficult task.

1. Embracing Courage in Difficult Situations

2. Making the Right Decision in Troubling Times

1. 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 1:9).

2. For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control (2 Timothy 1:7).

Ezra 10:5 Then arose Ezra, and made the chief priests, the Levites, and all Israel, to swear that they should do according to this word. And they sware.

Ezra demonstrated faith and commitment to God by leading the chief priests, Levites, and all Israel to swear an oath to follow the Lord's will.

1. The Power of Faith and Commitment: A Look at Ezra

2. Obeying the Lord s Will: Lessons from Ezra

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. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

Ezra 10:6 Then Ezra rose up from before the house of God, and went into the chamber of Johanan the son of Eliashib: and when he came thither, he did eat no bread, nor drink water: for he mourned because of the transgression of them that had been carried away.

Ezra mourned the transgression of those who had been taken away.

1: We can learn from Ezra's example of mourning the transgression of others.

2: We should be willing to mourn over the sins of others, just as Ezra did.

1: Luke 19:41 42 And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.

2: Romans 12:15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

Ezra 10:7 And they made proclamation throughout Judah and Jerusalem unto all the children of the captivity, that they should gather themselves together unto Jerusalem;

The people of Judah and Jerusalem were called to return to Jerusalem.

1. God calls us to return to Him when we stray away.

2. God's love and faithfulness is greater than our disobedience.

1. Luke 15:11-32 - The Parable of the Prodigal Son.

2. Isaiah 43:25 - I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

Ezra 10:8 And that whosoever would not come within three days, according to the counsel of the princes and the elders, all his substance should be forfeited, and himself separated from the congregation of those that had been carried away.

The princes and elders of Israel gave a decree that anyone who did not return to Jerusalem within three days would have their possessions confiscated and would be separated from the community of exiles.

1. The Power of Obedience: Obeying the counsel of God's appointed leaders.

2. The Blessing of Community: The importance of maintaining relationships with the people of God.

1. Romans 13:1-7: Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.

2. Acts 2:42-47: They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Ezra 10:9 Then all the men of Judah and Benjamin gathered themselves together unto Jerusalem within three days. It was the ninth month, on the twentieth day of the month; and all the people sat in the street of the house of God, trembling because of this matter, and for the great rain.

On the twentieth day of the ninth month, all the men of Judah and Benjamin gathered together in Jerusalem due to a pressing matter and great rain. Everyone was trembling in the street of the house of God.

1. God's Call to Unite in Times of Trouble - Ezra 10:9

2. Finding Comfort in Troubled Times - Ezra 10:9

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. 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.

Ezra 10:10 And Ezra the priest stood up, and said unto them, Ye have transgressed, and have taken strange wives, to increase the trespass of Israel.

Ezra the priest reproves the people of Israel for taking foreign wives and increasing their sin.

1. Knowing Right from Wrong: Understanding What is Sin and How to Avoid It

2. Consequences of Disobedience: Examining the Impact of Our Choices

1. 1 John 1:7-9 - 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.

2. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.

Ezra 10:11 Now therefore make confession unto the LORD God of your fathers, and do his pleasure: and separate yourselves from the people of the land, and from the strange wives.

Ezra instructs the people to confess and repent of their sins, and to separate themselves from the people of the land and their strange wives.

1. "The Power of Repentance"

2. "The Danger of Idolatry and Intermarriage"

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. Exodus 34:14-16 - "For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God: 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; 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."

Ezra 10:12 Then all the congregation answered and said with a loud voice, As thou hast said, so must we do.

The congregation agreed to do what Ezra had said.

1. Following the Lord's Guidance: The Example of Ezra and the Congregation

2. Obeying God: A Lesson from the People of the Old Testament

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. Jeremiah 7:23 - "But this command I gave 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. "

Ezra 10:13 But the people are many, and it is a time of much rain, and we are not able to stand without, neither is this a work of one day or two: for we are many that have transgressed in this thing.

A large group of people have transgressed and they need more time than one or two days to atone for their sins.

1. God is always merciful, and he gives us time to make things right.

2. We all make mistakes, but we must take the time to repent and seek forgiveness.

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. 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."

Ezra 10:14 Let now our rulers of all the congregation stand, and let all them which have taken strange wives in our cities come at appointed times, and with them the elders of every city, and the judges thereof, until the fierce wrath of our God for this matter be turned from us.

Ezra 10:14 instructs the rulers of the congregation to bring those who have taken strange wives to the appointed times with their elders and judges until God's wrath is turned away from them.

1. The Danger of a Strange Wife: A Study of Ezra 10:14

2. God's Wrath and His Mercy: Lessons from Ezra 10:14

1. Proverbs 2:16-19 - To deliver thee from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words;

2. Malachi 2:11-16 - Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the Lord which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god.

Ezra 10:15 Only Jonathan the son of Asahel and Jahaziah the son of Tikvah were employed about this matter: and Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levite helped them.

The Levites Ezra, Jonathan, Jahaziah, Meshullam, and Shabbethai worked together to complete the task.

1. The Power of Collaboration: Working Together To Achieve Great Things

2. The Importance of Working Together: A Biblical Example

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. 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 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.

Ezra 10:16 And the children of the captivity did so. And Ezra the priest, with certain chief of the fathers, after the house of their fathers, and all of them by their names, were separated, and sat down in the first day of the tenth month to examine the matter.

The children of the captivity followed Ezra the priest's instructions and he and the chief of the fathers convened to examine the matter.

1. The importance of following instructions given by those in authority.

2. How we should strive to honor God even in difficult circumstances.

1. 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.

2. 1 Peter 5:5 - Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.

Ezra 10:17 And they made an end with all the men that had taken strange wives by the first day of the first month.

The men who had married foreign women finished the process of ending their marriages by the first day of the first month.

1. God's justice is swift and just: Ezra 10:17

2. Do not compromise your faith: Ezra 10:17

1. Deuteronomy 7:3-4: Do not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons.

2. Romans 12:2: Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

Ezra 10:18 And among the sons of the priests there were found that had taken strange wives: namely, of the sons of Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and his brethren; Maaseiah, and Eliezer, and Jarib, and Gedaliah.

Ezra 10:18 tells of four priests who had taken foreign wives, namely those of Jeshua's sons and their respective brethren.

1. God's Love for All: A Study of Ezra 10:18

2. The Priesthood and Interfaith Marriages: Exploring Ezra 10:18

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. Acts 15:19-21 - Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood. For from ancient generations Moses has had in every city those who proclaim him, for he is read every Sabbath in the synagogues.

Ezra 10:19 And they gave their hands that they would put away their wives; and being guilty, they offered a ram of the flock for their trespass.

Ezra's community agrees to put away their foreign wives to remain faithful to God.

1: We must be willing to make sacrifices for God and remain faithful to His Word.

2: Our lives should reflect God's will and we must be willing to turn away from sin.

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: 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."

Ezra 10:20 And of the sons of Immer; Hanani, and Zebadiah.

Ezra 10:20 speaks of Hanani and Zebadiah, two sons of Immer.

1. We must remember to honor our family and be faithful to God, just as Hanani and Zebadiah did.

2. We are part of a larger legacy, and should respect and build upon the good that our ancestors have done.

1. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaves an inheritance to his children s children.

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.

Ezra 10:21 And of the sons of Harim; Maaseiah, and Elijah, and Shemaiah, and Jehiel, and Uzziah.

This passage from Ezra 10:21 lists the five sons of Harim: Maaseiah, Elijah, Shemaiah, Jehiel, and Uzziah.

1. The Power of Family: Lessons on Faith from the Sons of Harim

2. The Importance of Community: Building a Foundation of Love and Support

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.

Ezra 10:22 And of the sons of Pashur; Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethaneel, Jozabad, and Elasah.

Ezra records the sons of Pashur in 10:22: Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethaneel, Jozabad, and Elasah.

1. The Importance of Family: Exploring Ezra 10:22

2. Faith in the Face of Uncertainty: A Study of Ezra 10:22

1. Genesis 2:24 - Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

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.

Ezra 10:23 Also of the Levites; Jozabad, and Shimei, and Kelaiah, (the same is Kelita,) Pethahiah, Judah, and Eliezer.

Ezra 10:23 lists six Levites, Jozabad, Shimei, Kelaiah, Pethahiah, Judah, and Eliezer.

1. The Faithfulness of the Levites: A Study of Ezra 10:23

2. Dedication to Service: Learning from the Levites in Ezra 10:23

1. 1 Chronicles 9:10-13 - The provision God made for the service of the Levites in the temple.

2. Numbers 8:5-26 - Moses's instructions on how to consecrate the Levites for service.

Ezra 10:24 Of the singers also; Eliashib: and of the porters; Shallum, and Telem, and Uri.

This passage mentions three individuals, Eliashib, Shallum, and Telem, and Uri, who were singers and porters.

1. The Power of Community: The Role of Singers and Porters in the Bible.

2. The Value of Service: A Study of Ezra 10:24.

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. 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.

Ezra 10:25 Moreover of Israel: of the sons of Parosh; Ramiah, and Jeziah, and Malchiah, and Miamin, and Eleazar, and Malchijah, and Benaiah.

This verse from Ezra 10:25 lists seven sons of Parosh from Israel.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in His preservation of the Israelites.

2. We can learn from the examples of faith found in the Bible.

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. 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."

Ezra 10:26 And of the sons of Elam; Mattaniah, Zechariah, and Jehiel, and Abdi, and Jeremoth, and Eliah.

Ezra lists the sons of Elam, which include Mattaniah, Zechariah, Jehiel, Abdi, Jeremoth, and Eliah.

1. "The Faithful Sons of Elam: A Study of Obedience and Sacrifice"

2. "God's Promise of Blessing: The Legacy of Elam's Descendants"

1. Ezra 8:36, "And they delivered the king's commissions unto the king's lieutenants, and to the governors on this side the river: and they furthered the people, and the house of God."

2. Proverbs 10:22, "The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it."

Ezra 10:27 And of the sons of Zattu; Elioenai, Eliashib, Mattaniah, and Jeremoth, and Zabad, and Aziza.

In Ezra 10:27, the sons of Zattu are listed, which are Elioenai, Eliashib, Mattaniah, Jeremoth, Zabad, and Aziza.

1. Turning to God in Times of Trouble: Ezra 10:27

2. The Power of a Godly Heritage: Ezra 10:27

1. 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.

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.

Ezra 10:28 Of the sons also of Bebai; Jehohanan, Hananiah, Zabbai, and Athlai.

Ezra 10:28 mentions four sons of Bebai: Jehohanan, Hananiah, Zabbai, and Athlai.

1. "The Power of Generational Blessings"

2. "Living Faithfully in the Lineage of God's People"

1. Psalm 78:4-7

2. Matthew 28:18-20

Ezra 10:29 And of the sons of Bani; Meshullam, Malluch, and Adaiah, Jashub, and Sheal, and Ramoth.

This passage mentions the sons of Bani: Meshullam, Malluch, Adaiah, Jashub, Sheal, and Ramoth.

1. "The Power of Family: A Look at the Sons of Bani"

2. "Living a Life of Legacy: Learning from the Sons of Bani"

1. Ruth 1:7-8, "Where you go I will go, And where you stay I will stay. Your people shall be my people, And your God, my God."

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."

Ezra 10:30 And of the sons of Pahathmoab; Adna, and Chelal, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattaniah, Bezaleel, and Binnui, and Manasseh.

This passage lists seven sons of Pahathmoab: Adna, Chelal, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattaniah, Bezaleel, and Binnui, and Manasseh.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People: A Study in Ezra 10:30

2. The Power of Faith: How The Sons of Pahathmoab Prove God's Faithfulness

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

Ezra 10:31 And of the sons of Harim; Eliezer, Ishijah, Malchiah, Shemaiah, Shimeon,

Ezra and the people of Israel repent and make a covenant with God.

1. God's grace is sufficient for us, no matter our sins.

2. Repentance is the key to receiving God's mercy.

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. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Ezra 10:32 Benjamin, Malluch, and Shemariah.

The passage mentions three names: Benjamin, Malluch, and Shemariah.

1: "God's Promise of Protection" from Ezra 10:32

2: "The Blessing of Brotherhood" from Ezra 10:32

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 10:23-24 - "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."

Ezra 10:33 Of the sons of Hashum; Mattenai, Mattathah, Zabad, Eliphelet, Jeremai, Manasseh, and Shimei.

In Ezra 10:33, seven sons of Hashum are listed: Mattenai, Mattathah, Zabad, Eliphelet, Jeremai, Manasseh, and Shimei.

1. God is in the details: Small acts make a big impact - Ezra 10:33

2. Investing in relationships: Doing life together - Ezra 10:33

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 13:20 - He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed.

Ezra 10:34 Of the sons of Bani; Maadai, Amram, and Uel,

Ezra was the leader of the people of Israel who led them to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem.

1: We should follow Ezra's example and do what is right in the eyes of God, even when it is difficult.

2: We are all part of God's plan and should use our gifts to glorify Him.

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

Ezra 10:35 Benaiah, Bedeiah, Chelluh,

Ezra led the people in a time of great repentance and dedication to God.

1. Dedication to God Leads to Repentance and Revival

2. Rediscovering Devotion to God in Times of Difficulty

1. 1 Chronicles 28:9 - "And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for the Lord searches every heart and understands every desire and every thought."

2. Psalm 32:5 - "Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord. And you forgave the guilt of my sin."

Ezra 10:36 Vaniah, Meremoth, Eliashib,

Ezra and some of the Israelites returned to Jerusalem from exile and made a covenant with God.

1. God's Covenant Will Never Be Broken

2. Obeying God's Commands is Essential to Worship

1. Isaiah 24:5 - "The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants, because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant."

2. Deuteronomy 11:22 - "For if you carefully keep all these commandments which I command you to do; to love the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, and to hold fast to Him"

Ezra 10:37 Mattaniah, Mattenai, and Jaasau,

Ezra 10:37 emphasizes the need to remain faithful to God, no matter the circumstances.

1. Trusting God in Any Situation

2. Faithfulness to God in Difficult Times

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.

Ezra 10:38 And Bani, and Binnui, Shimei,

The passage mentions four different people - Bani, Binnui, Shimei, and Ezra.

1. The Power of Fellowship: A Study of Ezra 10:38

2. The Importance of Unity: A Reflection on Ezra 10:38

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.

Ezra 10:39 And Shelemiah, and Nathan, and Adaiah,

and Jashub, and Shecaniah, and Hosah, and the sons of Elam, even Mattaniah, and Zechariah, and Zicri, the sons of Ephah,

A group of people led by Shelemiah, Nathan, and Adaiah, among others, are listed in Ezra 10:39.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises, no matter the odds

2. The importance of walking according to the Lord's will

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. 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.

Ezra 10:40 Machnadebai, Shashai, Sharai,

Azareel, Sheerai, Raham, Joram, Shalum, Hillai, and Giddel all of them were leaders of families.

This passage from Ezra 10:40 lists the names of the leaders of various families.

1. God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

2. God has a plan for each of us, no matter our background.

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 created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

Ezra 10:41 Azareel, and Shelemiah, Shemariah,

The passage mentions four people: Azareel, Shelemiah, Shemariah, and Ezra.

1. Trust in the Lord and He will provide guidance in difficult times.

2. Look to the example of Ezra for guidance 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. 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.

Ezra 10:42 Shallum, Amariah, and Joseph.

The passage mentions three names: Shallum, Amariah, and Joseph.

1. God calls us by name and knows us intimately.

2. Our names are part of God's story.

1. 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.

2. Exodus 33:12-17 Moses said to the Lord, See, you say to me, Bring up this people, but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight. Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.

Ezra 10:43 Of the sons of Nebo; Jeiel, Mattithiah, Zabad, Zebina, Jadau, and Joel, Benaiah.

Ezra 10:43 lists the seven sons of Nebo as Jeiel, Mattithiah, Zabad, Zebina, Jadau, Joel, and Benaiah.

1. "The Faithfulness of God's Children: An Example from Ezra 10:43"

2. "God's Faithfulness Through Generations: A Reflection on Ezra 10:43"

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. 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."

Ezra 10:44 All these had taken strange wives: and some of them had wives by whom they had children.

The people of Israel had taken foreign wives and some of them had children with them.

1. The Danger of Interfaith Marriages

2. The Importance of Being Faithful to God

1. Ezra 9:1-2, "When these things were done, the leaders came to me, saying, 'The people of Israel and the priests and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands, with respect to the abominations of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites.'

2. 1 Corinthians 7:39, "A wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord."

Nehemiah chapter 1 introduces Nehemiah and his response upon hearing about the distressing condition of Jerusalem. The chapter highlights his prayer of confession, repentance, and his plea to God for favor in undertaking the task of rebuilding the city.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how Nehemiah, a cupbearer to King Artaxerxes in Babylon, receives news about the broken walls and gates of Jerusalem. He is deeply saddened by this report and mourns for the city (Nehemiah 1:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Nehemiah responds to this distressing news. He fasts, prays to God, confesses the sins of Israel, acknowledges God's faithfulness and promises, and pleads for favor before the king (Nehemiah 1:5-11).

In summary, Chapter one of Nehemiah depicts the concern, and prayer experienced during restoration rebuilding of Jerusalem. Highlighting distress expressed through receiving news, and heartfelt lament achieved through prayer. Mentioning acknowledgment made for transgressions, and plea presented towards divine intervention an embodiment representing divine burden an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 1:1 The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. And it came to pass in the month Chisleu, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the palace,

Nehemiah, the son of Hachaliah, recounts his experience in the palace of Shushan during the twentieth year in the month of Chisleu.

1. How Nehemiah's Faith Shaped His Life

2. The Power of Perseverance in Nehemiah

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. 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."

Nehemiah 1:2 That Hanani, one of my brethren, came, he and certain men of Judah; and I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem.

Nehemiah interacts with his brother Hanani and other men from Judah to inquire about the Jews who had escaped the captivity and the status of Jerusalem.

1. God's Mercy in the Midst of Captivity: A Study of Nehemiah 1

2. Trusting God in Difficult Circumstances: Learning from Nehemiah

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 46:1-3 - 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. Selah.

Nehemiah 1:3 And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire.

The people of Jerusalem faced great affliction and reproach due to the destruction of the city's wall and gates.

1. God's Comfort in Times of Affliction

2. The Strength and Power of Restoration

1. Isaiah 61:7 Instead of your shame you will have a double portion, and instead of disgrace you will rejoice in your inheritance.

2. Psalm 34:18 The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Nehemiah 1:4 And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven,

Nehemiah was deeply moved after hearing of the destruction of Jerusalem and the suffering of his people, so he sat down and wept, mourned, fasted, and prayed to God.

1. Turning to God in Troubled Times

2. The Power of Prayer in Our Lives

1. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2. James 5:13 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms.

Nehemiah 1:5 And said, I beseech thee, O LORD God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments:

Nehemiah prayed to the Lord, asking for mercy and reminding Him of His covenant with those who love Him and obey His commands.

1. God Are Faithful to Those Who Love Him and Obey His Commands

2. The Importance of Loving the Lord and Keeping His Commandments

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. 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.

Nehemiah 1:6 Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned.

Nehemiah prays to God day and night, asking for forgiveness for the sins of himself and his family.

1. God is always listening - Nehemiah 1:6

2. Confessing our sins to God - Nehemiah 1:6

1. Psalm 66:18-19 - If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

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.

Nehemiah 1:7 We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Moses.

Nehemiah realizes that the people of Israel have acted corruptly and have not kept the commandments given to Moses.

1. "Our Obligation to God: Keeping His Commandments"

2. "The Consequences of Corrupt Behavior"

1. Romans 2:12-16 - 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. James 4:17 - Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Nehemiah 1:8 Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst thy servant Moses, saying, If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations:

Nehemiah reminds the people of the promise God made to Moses, that if the people disobeyed Him, He would scatter them among the nations.

1. God's Promises: Fulfillment and Consequence

2. Remembering God's Word: Obedience and Blessing

1. 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.

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?

Nehemiah 1:9 But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.

God promises to save His people if they turn to Him and obey His commandments, even if they have been scattered to the farthest corners of the earth.

1. Obey God and He Will Restore You

2. A Promise of Redemption to the Faithful

1. Deuteronomy 30:2-4 - 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.

3. John 14:15 - If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Nehemiah 1:10 Now these are thy servants and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand.

Nehemiah acknowledges that the people of Israel are God's servants and people, who have been redeemed by His power and strength.

1. Serving God with Gratitude Recognizing the Power of God in our Lives

2. Redeemed by the Hand of God Understanding the Meaning of Redemption

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 103:4 - Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies.

Nehemiah 1:11 O LORD, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name: and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man. For I was the king's cupbearer.

Nehemiah humbly prays to God to listen to the prayers of his servants who desire to fear God's name and grant him mercy in the sight of the king.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Hears and Answers Our Prayers

2. The Importance of Having Fear of the Lord in Our Lives

1. Psalm 65:2 - O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.

2. James 4:6-10 - 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. 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.

Nehemiah chapter 2 continues the story of Nehemiah's mission to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. The chapter highlights Nehemiah's request to King Artaxerxes for permission and resources, as well as his inspection of the city walls and his encouragement to the people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how Nehemiah, after a period of mourning, appears before King Artaxerxes while serving as his cupbearer. The king notices Nehemiah's sadness and asks him about it (Nehemiah 2:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Nehemiah seizes the opportunity and shares his desire to go to Jerusalem to rebuild its walls. He requests letters from the king granting him safe passage and materials for construction (Nehemiah 2:3-8).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how Nehemiah arrives in Jerusalem and inspects the city walls under cover of darkness. He gathers a group of officials and shares with them his plans for rebuilding (Nehemiah 2:9-16).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with Nehemiah encouraging the people by reminding them of God's favor upon their mission. He mobilizes them to begin rebuilding despite opposition from neighboring officials (Nehemiah 2:17-20).

In summary, Chapter two of Nehemiah depicts the authorization, and preparation experienced during restoration rebuilding of Jerusalem. Highlighting interaction expressed through dialogue, and strategic planning achieved through inspection. Mentioning encouragement given for unity, and determination demonstrated towards overcoming obstacles an embodiment representing divine guidance an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 2:1 And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that wine was before him: and I took up the wine, and gave it unto the king. Now I had not been beforetime sad in his presence.

In the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, Nehemiah brought wine before him and found the courage to not be sad.

1: Let us take courage in the Lord, just as Nehemiah did when he brought wine before King Artaxerxes.

2: We must strive to always be honest and sincere, no matter what the situation, just as Nehemiah did when he brought wine before the King.

1: Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

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."

Nehemiah 2:2 Wherefore the king said unto me, Why is thy countenance sad, seeing thou art not sick? this is nothing else but sorrow of heart. Then I was very sore afraid,

Nehemiah was afraid when the king asked him why he was sad.

1: We should not be afraid to express our emotions, as it is natural for us to feel sorrow and other emotions.

2: We should trust in God's plan and not be afraid when we are faced with difficult situations.

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 - 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.

Nehemiah 2:3 And said unto the king, Let the king live for ever: why should not my countenance be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' sepulchres, lieth waste, and the gates thereof are consumed with fire?

Nehemiah expressed sadness to the king about the destruction of Jerusalem, the city of his ancestors' graves.

1. The Power of Grief: Learning to Express Our Sadness and Grieve Well

2. God's Promise of Restoration: Hope in the Midst of Destruction

1. 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;

2. 2 Corinthians 7:10 - For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

Nehemiah 2:4 Then the king said unto me, For what dost thou make request? So I prayed to the God of heaven.

Nehemiah asked the king for something and then prayed to God for help.

1. The power of prayer in our lives

2. Trusting in God in times of need

1. James 5:13-18 (The power of effective prayer)

2. Psalm 62:8 (Trust in Him at all times)

Nehemiah 2:5 And I said unto the king, If it please the king, and if thy servant have found favour in thy sight, that thou wouldest send me unto Judah, unto the city of my fathers' sepulchres, that I may build it.

Nehemiah asked the king to let him go to Judah to rebuild the city of his ancestors.

1. The Power of Restoration: The Story of Nehemiah

2. Seeking Favor and Reaching Goals: How Nehemiah Got His Wish

1. Isaiah 58:12 - "And those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; You will raise up the age-old foundations; And you will be called the repairer of the breach, The restorer of the streets in which to dwell.

2. Luke 4:18-19 - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, Because He anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set free those who are oppressed, To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord."

Nehemiah 2:6 And the king said unto me, (the queen also sitting by him,) For how long shall thy journey be? and when wilt thou return? So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time.

Nehemiah asked the king for permission to travel and the king granted it, setting a time for his return.

1. God is Sovereign: Trusting in Divine Timing

2. Courageous Faith: Stepping Out in Obedience

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 11:8, "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."

Nehemiah 2:7 Moreover I said unto the king, If it please the king, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the river, that they may convey me over till I come into Judah;

Nehemiah asked the king for letters of safe passage to travel to Judah.

1. The importance of courage and faith in moments of uncertainty

2. God's protection 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. 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."

Nehemiah 2:8 And a letter unto Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace which appertained to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into. And the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me.

Nehemiah asked Asaph for timber to build the gates of the palace, wall of the city, and his own house, and the king granted his request.

1. Trust in God to Receive His Good Hand

2. The Provision of God in Difficult Tasks

1. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the Lord.

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.

Nehemiah 2:9 Then I came to the governors beyond the river, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent captains of the army and horsemen with me.

Nehemiah traveled to the governors beyond the river and presented them with letters from the king, which were accompanied by captains of the army and horsemen.

1. The Power of Royal Authority

2. The Importance of Having a Backup Plan

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.

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.

Nehemiah 2:10 When Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, heard of it, it grieved them exceedingly that there was come a man to seek the welfare of the children of Israel.

Nehemiah endeavors to restore the city of Jerusalem, and Sanballat and Tobiah are displeased by the prospect of the Israelites' welfare.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Nehemiah's Example

2. Overcoming Opposition: How Nehemiah Met His Challenges

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 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.

Nehemiah 2:11 So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days.

Nehemiah traveled to Jerusalem and stayed there for three days.

1. The importance of taking time to reflect in our journey of faith.

2. Dedication and perseverance in the face of hardship.

1. Philippians 3:13-14: "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

2. 1 John 4:19: "We love Him because He first loved us."

Nehemiah 2:12 And I arose in the night, I and some few men with me; neither told I any man what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem: neither was there any beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon.

Nehemiah and a few men set out in the night to do something that God had put in his heart to do, without telling anyone or bringing any animals with them except the one Nehemiah rode.

1. The Power of Discipleship - The example of Nehemiah and his few men demonstrates the power of discipleship and trusting God when faced with a difficult task.

2. The Strength of Commitment - Nehemiah exemplifies the strength of commitment and the faith to trust God in the face of adversity.

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. 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."

Nehemiah 2:13 And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung port, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire.

The walls of Jerusalem had been destroyed and its gates burned.

1: The restoration of Jerusalem - Nehemiah s faithfulness and determination to restore the city in the face of destruction.

2: How God can use our circumstances for good - Nehemiah s dedication to rebuilding the city in spite of the destruction.

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 43:19 - 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.

Nehemiah 2:14 Then I went on to the gate of the fountain, and to the king's pool: but there was no place for the beast that was under me to pass.

Nehemiah puts his trust in God and completes a difficult task, despite facing obstacles.

1. Trust in God and remain faithful in the face of adversity.

2. Have courage and persevere despite obstacles.

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 19:26 - Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Nehemiah 2:15 Then went I up in the night by the brook, and viewed the wall, and turned back, and entered by the gate of the valley, and so returned.

Nehemiah went out to view the wall in the night by the brook and returned back through the gate of the valley.

1. The Strength of Nehemiah's Faith

2. The Power of God to Restore

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 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.

Nehemiah 2:16 And the rulers knew not whither I went, or what I did; neither had I as yet told it to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest that did the work.

The rulers were unaware of Nehemiah's plans and he had not yet told them to the Jews or any other people.

1. The Power of Silence: A Study in Nehemiah 2:16

2. The Miraculous Outcome of Discretion: Examining Nehemiah 2:16

1. Proverbs 17:28 - Even a fool is thought wise if he keeps silent, and discerning if he holds his tongue.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:7 - A time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak.

Nehemiah 2:17 Then said I unto them, Ye see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lieth waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire: come, and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach.

The people of Jerusalem were in distress due to the destruction of their city; Nehemiah encourages them to rebuild the wall.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Encouraging Faith in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Adversity Through Unity

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, 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. 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.

Nehemiah 2:18 Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for this good work.

Nehemiah shared the good news of his God's blessings and the king's words of encouragement with the people of his community, which motivated them to rebuild.

1. Let us rise up and build: Motivation for Good Works

2. The Power of Encouragement: How Good Words Can Inspire

1. Hebrews 10:24 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.

2. Proverbs 16:24 - Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

Nehemiah 2:19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, What is this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?

Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian mocked and looked down upon Nehemiah and his people when they heard of their plans to rebuild Jerusalem's walls.

1. God's People Are Always Opposed: Nehemiah 2:19 shows us that even when God's people are faithfully following His will, they will be opposed by those who do not believe.

2. Building Walls of Faith: Through Nehemiah's story, we can learn to build our own walls of faith and trust in God, no matter how much opposition we face.

1. Matthew 5:11-12 Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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.

Nehemiah 2:20 Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build: but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem.

Nehemiah answered the people's questions, declaring that God will prosper them to rebuild the city of Jerusalem, but the people have no right or memorial in the city.

1. God's Plan for Us: Taking Up the Task of Rebuilding in Faith

2. God's Provision: Trusting in His Promises to Prosper Us

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. 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.

Nehemiah chapter 3 provides a detailed account of the individuals and groups who participated in the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem. The chapter highlights their collaborative efforts, dedication, and the specific sections of the wall they worked on.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how Eliashib the high priest and his fellow priests take up their assigned tasks in rebuilding the Sheep Gate. They consecrate it and proceed to repair various sections of the wall (Nehemiah 3:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how different groups from Jerusalem's inhabitants join in the restoration work. Each group is assigned a specific section of the wall, such as repairing gates, towers, and portions near their homes (Nehemiah 3:3-32).

In summary, Chapter three of Nehemiah depicts the collaboration, and construction experienced during restoration rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls. Highlighting participation expressed through involvement, and division achieved through assignment. Mentioning dedication shown for each task, and unity demonstrated towards accomplishing shared goal an embodiment representing collective effort an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 3:1 Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests, and they builded the sheep gate; they sanctified it, and set up the doors of it; even unto the tower of Meah they sanctified it, unto the tower of Hananeel.

The high priest Eliashib and his fellow priests built the Sheep Gate and consecrated it, extending it to the Tower of Meah and the Tower of Hananeel.

1. The Power of Working Together: A Study of Nehemiah 3:1

2. The Value of Dedication to God: A Reflection on Nehemiah 3:1

1. Psalm 127:1; "Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it."

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. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up."

Nehemiah 3:2 And next unto him builded the men of Jericho. And next to them builded Zaccur the son of Imri.

The men of Jericho and Zaccur the son of Imri built next to each other.

1. The importance of working together to build something great.

2. An example of unity and faithfulness from Nehemiah.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor.

10 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.

2. Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Nehemiah 3:3 But the fish gate did the sons of Hassenaah build, who also laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

The sons of Hassenaah built the fish gate and installed its beams, doors, locks, and bars.

1. The Power of Working Together: Learning from the Sons of Hasseenaah

2. The Blessings of Dedication: The Importance of Finishing the Task

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. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.

Nehemiah 3:4 And next unto them repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koz. And next unto them repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabeel. And next unto them repaired Zadok the son of Baana.

The passage details the repair work of three men - Meremoth, Meshullam, and Zadok - on the walls of Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Unity: Working Together to Rebuild

2. God's Faithful Servants: The Example of Meremoth, Meshullam, and Zadok

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. Hebrews 11:38 - "of whom the world was not worthy: they wandered in deserts and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth."

Nehemiah 3:5 And next unto them the Tekoites repaired; but their nobles put not their necks to the work of their LORD.

The Tekoites began to repair the walls of Jerusalem, but their nobles did not help.

1. The importance of working together to serve the Lord

2. The dangers of pride and a lack of humility.

1. Proverbs 13:10 - "Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom."

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."

Nehemiah 3:6 Moreover the old gate repaired Jehoiada the son of Paseah, and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah; they laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, and the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

The old gate was repaired by Jehoiada and Meshullam.

1: God is in the details - how God is faithful in even the smallest of tasks.

2: The importance of teamwork - how God uses others to fulfill His plan.

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: 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.

Nehemiah 3:7 And next unto them repaired Melatiah the Gibeonite, and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon, and of Mizpah, unto the throne of the governor on this side the river.

Melatiah the Gibeonite and Jadon the Meronothite, both men of Gibeon and Mizpah, repaired the throne of the governor on the side of the river.

1. The Power of Unity: Working Together to Accomplish Great Things

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following God's Commands

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. 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. 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!

Nehemiah 3:8 Next unto him repaired Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, of the goldsmiths. Next unto him also repaired Hananiah the son of one of the apothecaries, and they fortified Jerusalem unto the broad wall.

Uzziel and Hananiah repaired a portion of the wall of Jerusalem as part of Nehemiah's efforts to rebuild it.

1. The importance of working together for a common purpose.

2. The power of collaboration to achieve a greater good.

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. 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.

Nehemiah 3:9 And next unto them repaired Rephaiah the son of Hur, the ruler of the half part of Jerusalem.

Rephaiah was part of a group of people who helped to repair the walls of Jerusalem.

1: Working together to achieve a common goal.

2: The importance of taking initiative.

1: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor.

10 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.

11 Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone?

12 Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

2: Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Nehemiah 3:10 And next unto them repaired Jedaiah the son of Harumaph, even over against his house. And next unto him repaired Hattush the son of Hashabniah.

Jedaiah and Hattush repaired the wall of Jerusalem next to each other's homes.

1. The Power of Community: Working Together to Build God's Kingdom

2. The Importance of Working Hard: The Example of Jedaiah and Hattush

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. 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.

Nehemiah 3:11 Malchijah the son of Harim, and Hashub the son of Pahathmoab, repaired the other piece, and the tower of the furnaces.

Two men, Malchijah and Hashub, repaired the tower of the furnaces as part of Nehemiah's great work of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Examining Nehemiah 3:11

2. Working Together to Rebuild: Exploring Nehemiah 3:11

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. Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken"

Nehemiah 3:12 And next unto him repaired Shallum the son of Halohesh, the ruler of the half part of Jerusalem, he and his daughters.

Shallum, the ruler of the half part of Jerusalem, repaired the wall of Jerusalem alongside his daughters.

1. The Power of Working Together: The Story of Shallum and His Daughters

2. The Value of Teamwork: Lessons Learned from Shallum and His Daughters

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. Colossians 3:23, And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.

Nehemiah 3:13 The valley gate repaired Hanun, and the inhabitants of Zanoah; they built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and a thousand cubits on the wall unto the dung gate.

Hanun and the people of Zanoah repaired the valley gate, setting up its doors, locks, bars and extending the wall for a thousand cubits to the dung gate.

1. The Importance of Working Together to Build God's Kingdom

2. The Blessing of Obedience to God's Commands

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. Isaiah 58:12 - Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

Nehemiah 3:14 But the dung gate repaired Malchiah the son of Rechab, the ruler of part of Bethhaccerem; he built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

Malchiah, the ruler of part of Bethhaccerem, repaired the dung gate and set up its doors, locks, and bars.

1. The Power of Restoration

2. God's Provision Through People

1. Ephesians 2:20-22 - Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the cornerstone; in whom all the building fitly framed together grows unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom you also are built together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - Therefore whosoever hears these sayings of mine, and does 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. And every one that hears these sayings of mine, and does them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Nehemiah 3:15 But the gate of the fountain repaired Shallun the son of Colhozeh, the ruler of part of Mizpah; he built it, and covered it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and the wall of the pool of Siloah by the king's garden, and unto the stairs that go down from the city of David.

Shallun, the ruler of part of Mizpah, repaired the gate of the fountain and built it, covering it and setting up the doors, locks, and bars. He also built the wall of the pool of Siloah by the king's garden and the stairs that go down from the city of David.

1. The Strength of Nehemiah's Faith: How Nehemiah's trust in God provided guidance and strength throughout his rebuilding of the city and its walls.

2. The Power of Building Together: How Nehemiah's example of building together with faith and diligence can bring about positive change in our own lives.

1. Psalm 127:1-2 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.

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

Nehemiah 3:16 After him repaired Nehemiah the son of Azbuk, the ruler of the half part of Bethzur, unto the place over against the sepulchres of David, and to the pool that was made, and unto the house of the mighty.

Nehemiah repaired the wall of Jerusalem and directed its completion to the sepulchres of David and the pool and house of the mighty.

1. The Power of Unity: Nehemiah and the Wall of Jerusalem

2. The Strength of Perseverance: Nehemiah and the Restoration of Jerusalem

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

Nehemiah 3:17 After him repaired the Levites, Rehum the son of Bani. Next unto him repaired Hashabiah, the ruler of the half part of Keilah, in his part.

The Levites, Rehum the son of Bani, and Hashabiah the ruler of the half part of Keilah repaired the city of Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Rehum and Hashabiah: How their Service Built the City of Jerusalem

2. The Power of Collaboration: Working Together to Accomplish Great Things

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. 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.

Nehemiah 3:18 After him repaired their brethren, Bavai the son of Henadad, the ruler of the half part of Keilah.

Bavai, the son of Henadad, repaired a part of Keilah after his brethren.

1. The Power of Working Together as a Team

2. The Role of Team Leaders in Uniting People

1. Nehemiah 3:18

2. Ephesians 4:11-16

Nehemiah 3:19 And next to him repaired Ezer the son of Jeshua, the ruler of Mizpah, another piece over against the going up to the armoury at the turning of the wall.

The wall of Jerusalem was being repaired and Ezer the son of Jeshua was in charge of repairing another piece of the wall.

1. The importance of working together to accomplish great tasks.

2. Everyone has a role to play in God's work.

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?

2. Philippians 2:1-4 - 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. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

Nehemiah 3:20 After him Baruch the son of Zabbai earnestly repaired the other piece, from the turning of the wall unto the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest.

The people of Jerusalem repaired the walls of the city, with Baruch the son of Zabbai helping to repair the other piece from the turning of the wall to the house of Eliashib the high priest.

1. The Value of Hard Work and Diligence

2. The Power of Working Together

1. Proverbs 14:23 - All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

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.

Nehemiah 3:21 After him repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah the son of Koz another piece, from the door of the house of Eliashib even to the end of the house of Eliashib.

This passage reveals the work of Meremoth, son of Urijah, son of Koz, who repaired a section of the house of Eliashib.

1. The Importance of Faithful Service - Nehemiah 3:21

2. The Legacy of a Faithful Father - Nehemiah 3:21

1. Colossians 3:23 - "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men"

2. Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

Nehemiah 3:22 And after him repaired the priests, the men of the plain.

The priests of the plain repaired the wall of Jerusalem after Nehemiah.

1. The Power of Unity: Working Together to Build a Better Future

2. The Priesthood of Believers: Everyone is Called to Work for God's 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."

Nehemiah 3:23 After him repaired Benjamin and Hashub over against their house. After him repaired Azariah the son of Maaseiah the son of Ananiah by his house.

Nehemiah and his followers repaired the wall of Jerusalem, with Benjamin and Hashub working on one section and Azariah the son of Maaseiah and Ananiah working on another.

1. The Power of Working Together: Nehemiah 3:23

2. The Importance of Community: Nehemiah 3:23

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; they get a good wage 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. 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.

Nehemiah 3:24 After him repaired Binnui the son of Henadad another piece, from the house of Azariah unto the turning of the wall, even unto the corner.

Binnui, the son of Henadad, repaired a piece of the wall of Jerusalem from the house of Azariah to the corner.

1. The importance of obedience to God through service

2. The power of community in times of adversity

1. 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.

2. 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.

Nehemiah 3:25 Palal the son of Uzai, over against the turning of the wall, and the tower which lieth out from the king's high house, that was by the court of the prison. After him Pedaiah the son of Parosh.

Palal and Pedaiah were assigned to work on the wall near the king's high house and the court of the prison.

1. The Power of Working Together - Nehemiah 3:25

2. God's Provision in Difficult Times - Nehemiah 3:25

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor.

2. James 5:16 - Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.

Nehemiah 3:26 Moreover the Nethinims dwelt in Ophel, unto the place over against the water gate toward the east, and the tower that lieth out.

The Nethinims lived near the eastern gate of Jerusalem, near the tower outside the city.

1. Living in God's Protection: A Study of Nehemiah 3:26

2. Dwelling in Faith: A Look at the Nethinims in Nehemiah 3:26

1. Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe.

2. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

Nehemiah 3:27 After them the Tekoites repaired another piece, over against the great tower that lieth out, even unto the wall of Ophel.

The Tekoites repaired a piece of the wall that stretched from the great tower to the wall of Ophel.

1: We are called to be like the Tekoites and work together to repair and maintain our communities.

2: The Tekoites showed us that no task is too great when we work 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 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: Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

Nehemiah 3:28 From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every one over against his house.

The priests repaired the horse gate above.

1. The Importance of Repairing What is Broken

2. The Priests' Commitment to God's Work

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. 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."

Nehemiah 3:29 After them repaired Zadok the son of Immer over against his house. After him repaired also Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah, the keeper of the east gate.

Zadok the son of Immer and Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah repaired the walls and gates of Jerusalem.

1. The Importance of Working Together for a Common Goal

2. The Power of Faithful Service

1. Matthew 18:20 - "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

2. Colossians 3:23 - "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men."

Nehemiah 3:30 After him repaired Hananiah the son of Shelemiah, and Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph, another piece. After him repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah over against his chamber.

Hananiah, Hanun, and Meshullam repaired portions of the city wall of Jerusalem during Nehemiah's rebuilding project.

1. The Power of Working Together: A Study Through Nehemiah 3:30

2. Building Beyond Expectations: An Analysis of Nehemiah 3:30

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

10 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!

11 Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone?

12 And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

Nehemiah 3:31 After him repaired Malchiah the goldsmith's son unto the place of the Nethinims, and of the merchants, over against the gate Miphkad, and to the going up of the corner.

This passage describes the work of a goldsmith's son to repair a section of the city outside of the gate of Miphkad.

1: God calls us to work diligently and with excellence in all that we do.

2: We should use our gifts and abilities to serve and build up our communities.

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: 1 Peter 4:10 - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

Nehemiah 3:32 And between the going up of the corner unto the sheep gate repaired the goldsmiths and the merchants.

The goldsmiths and merchants repaired the sheep gate between the corner and the going up.

1. Proverbs 28:19 He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread, but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough.

2. Proverbs 16:8 Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right.

1. Proverbs 27:23-24 Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds. For riches are not for ever: and doth the crown endure to every generation?

2. Ecclesiastes 11:1-2 Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days. Give a portion to seven, and also to eight; for thou knowest not what evil shall be upon the earth.

Nehemiah chapter 4 focuses on the opposition and challenges faced by Nehemiah and the builders as they continue the work of rebuilding Jerusalem's walls. The chapter highlights their perseverance, prayer, and strategies to overcome obstacles.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how Sanballat, Tobiah, and other enemies of Israel become furious upon hearing about the progress in rebuilding the walls. They mock and plot against Nehemiah and the builders (Nehemiah 4:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Nehemiah responds to the opposition. He prays to God for strength and places guards to protect against attacks. He encourages the people to continue their work with determination (Nehemiah 4:4-9).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how the threats intensify, causing fear among the workers. Nehemiah organizes a strategy where half of them engage in construction while others stand guard with weapons for protection (Nehemiah 4:10-15).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with Nehemiah's reminder to the people that God is fighting for them. He urges them not to be afraid but instead trust in God's deliverance as they continue their work (Nehemiah 4:16-23).

In summary, Chapter four of Nehemiah depicts the opposition, and resilience experienced during restoration rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls. Highlighting hostility expressed through resistance, and determination achieved through prayer. Mentioning strategic planning done for protection, and reliance demonstrated towards divine intervention an embodiment representing perseverance an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 4:1 But it came to pass, that when Sanballat heard that we builded the wall, he was wroth, and took great indignation, and mocked the Jews.

The building of the wall caused Sanballat to become angry and mock the Jews.

1. Overcoming opposition in the face of adversity

2. The importance of perseverance

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."

Nehemiah 4:2 And he spake before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said, What do these feeble Jews? will they fortify themselves? will they sacrifice? will they make an end in a day? will they revive the stones out of the heaps of the rubbish which are burned?

Nehemiah asked why the Jews were attempting a difficult task of rebuilding the wall when they were so weak and feeble.

1. God is Able to Accomplish the Impossible

2. Trust in the Lord s Strength and Provision

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Nehemiah 4:3 Now Tobiah the Ammonite was by him, and he said, Even that which they build, if a fox go up, he shall even break down their stone wall.

The Ammonite Tobiah was trying to discourage Nehemiah from rebuilding the wall.

1: God will always provide strength and guidance when faced with opposition.

2: Surround yourself with people who will encourage and support you in your work.

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."

Nehemiah 4:4 Hear, O our God; for we are despised: and turn their reproach upon their own head, and give them for a prey in the land of captivity:

Nehemiah calls on God to turn the reproach of their enemies back upon them and make them a prey in the land of captivity.

1. Turning Our Enemies' Reproach into Praise

2. From Despised to Victorious: Our God is Our Redeemer

1. Psalm 44:5 Through thee will we push down our enemies: through thy name will we tread them under that rise up 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.

Nehemiah 4:5 And cover not their iniquity, and let not their sin be blotted out from before thee: for they have provoked thee to anger before the builders.

Nehemiah warns God not to forgive the enemies of the people because they have angered God.

1. The Danger of Provoking the Lord - Nehemiah 4:5

2. The Necessity of Righteousness - Nehemiah 4:14

1. Proverbs 17:15 - "He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous, both of them alike are an abomination to the Lord."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

Nehemiah 4:6 So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.

The people of Israel worked together to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and it was completed halfway.

1. The Power of Working Together - Nehemiah 4:6

2. The Value of Perseverance - Nehemiah 4:6

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - "And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

Nehemiah 4:7 But it came to pass, that when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were made up, and that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth,

When Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabians, Ammonites, and Ashdodites heard that the walls of Jerusalem were being rebuilt and the breaches were being repaired, they were very angry.

1. God's people will face opposition when they do his will.

2. Don't be discouraged when facing opposition for doing what is right.

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.

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.

Nehemiah 4:8 And conspired all of them together to come and to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder it.

Enemies of Jerusalem conspired together to fight against and hinder it.

1. The Power of Unity in Resistance

2. Overcoming Adversity in the Face of Opposition

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. 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.)

Nehemiah 4:9 Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them.

We prayed to God for protection and kept a vigilant watch for our enemies.

1. The Power of Prayer: Why We Should Pray for Protection

2. The Importance of Vigilance: Why We Should Always Be Watchful

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. 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?"

Nehemiah 4:10 And Judah said, The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and there is much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall.

The people of Judah had grown too weak to continue building the wall, and there was a great amount of rubbish in the way.

1. The Strength of Faith: Overcoming Obstacles in Difficult Times

2. Persevering Through Adversity: Working Hard Despite Setbacks

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. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Nehemiah 4:11 And our adversaries said, They shall not know, neither see, till we come in the midst among them, and slay them, and cause the work to cease.

The enemies of the Israelites threatened to come and stop the rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls.

1. Be prepared for opposition and challenges in life, but never give up on your goals.

2. With faith and determination, you can overcome any obstacle.

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. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

Nehemiah 4:12 And it came to pass, that when the Jews which dwelt by them came, they said unto us ten times, From all places whence ye shall return unto us they will be upon you.

The Jews were warned that their enemies would attack them from all directions if they attempted to return to their homeland.

1. "Be Bold in the Face of Opposition"

2. "God Gives Us Strength in Difficult Times"

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 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Nehemiah 4:13 Therefore set I in the lower places behind the wall, and on the higher places, I even set the people after their families with their swords, their spears, and their bows.

The people of Nehemiah were instructed to defend the city walls from their attackers, by stationing themselves in strategic locations with their weapons.

1. The Power of Preparation: How Nehemiah's People Defended the City Walls

2. Working Together: A Study of Nehemiah's Leadership

1. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

2. 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.

Nehemiah 4:14 And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be not ye afraid of them: remember the LORD, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses.

Nehemiah encourages the people not to be afraid of their enemies and to fight for their loved ones, reminding them to remember the greatness and terror of the Lord.

1: Do not be afraid of your enemies, for the Lord is greater and more powerful than anything they can do.

2: Never forget the greatness and terror of the Lord. He can help you fight for your family and your home.

1: Deuteronomy 3:22 - You shall not fear them, for it is the Lord your God who fights for 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.

Nehemiah 4:15 And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work.

The enemies of the people of Israel heard that their plans had been thwarted by God and the people returned to their work on the wall.

1. The Power of God: How Nothing Can Stand Against His Will

2. Perseverance in Our Work Despite Opposition

1. Isaiah 43:13 "Even from eternity I am He. No one can deliver out of My hand. When I act, who can reverse it?"

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

Nehemiah 4:16 And it came to pass from that time forth, that the half of my servants wrought in the work, and the other half of them held both the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the habergeons; and the rulers were behind all the house of Judah.

1: We must be prepared for any adversity that comes our way and be willing to defend ourselves and our faith.

2: We must be strong in our convictions and be willing to put forth effort to protect the things we hold dear.

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: 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.

Nehemiah 4:17 They which builded on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other hand held a weapon.

The people of Jerusalem worked together to rebuild the wall, while still keeping their weapons handy.

1. The Strength of Unity: Working Together While Being Prepared for Anything.

2. The Power of Preparation: Readiness for Any Occasion.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - "And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

2. Romans 12:18 - "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

Nehemiah 4:18 For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and so builded. And he that sounded the trumpet was by me.

Nehemiah and his team of builders had swords at their sides and a trumpet to sound as they worked to build.

1. The Power of Preparedness: How Nehemiah's Team Was Ready for Anything

2. The Value of Unity: How Nehemiah and His Team Worked Together

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 133:1 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

Nehemiah 4:19 And I said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, The work is great and large, and we are separated upon the wall, one far from another.

Nehemiah encouraged the people to work together on the wall, despite being separated from one another.

1. Working Together: The Power of Unity in Service

2. Building Walls: The Power of Faith in Action

1. Galatians 6:2 - Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

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.

Nehemiah 4:20 In what place therefore ye hear the sound of the trumpet, resort ye thither unto us: our God shall fight for us.

Our God will fight for us if we take refuge in Him.

1. In Times of Trouble, Turn to God

2. Strength in God's Promises

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. 2 Chronicles 32:7-8 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or dismayed before the king of Assyria and all the horde that is with him, for there are more with us than with him. With him is an arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God, to help us and to fight our battles."

Nehemiah 4:21 So we laboured in the work: and half of them held the spears from the rising of the morning till the stars appeared.

The people of Jerusalem worked hard and kept watch against their enemies.

1. The importance of hard work and vigilance

2. Unity in the face of adversity

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armor of God

2. Proverbs 24:10-12 - If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small.

Nehemiah 4:22 Likewise at the same time said I unto the people, Let every one with his servant lodge within Jerusalem, that in the night they may be a guard to us, and labour on the day.

The people were encouraged to stay in Jerusalem and take turns to guard the city and work during the day.

1. The importance of keeping watch and working together for the common good.

2. Embracing the responsibility of looking out for one another.

1. 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.

2. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Nehemiah 4:23 So neither I, nor my brethren, nor my servants, nor the men of the guard which followed me, none of us put off our clothes, saving that every one put them off for washing.

Nehemiah and his followers did not change out of their clothes, except when they needed to be washed.

1. God's guidance helps us remain focused on the task at hand.

2. Faithfulness can be demonstrated through even the smallest of actions.

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. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

Nehemiah chapter 5 addresses the internal conflicts and social injustices that arise among the people of Jerusalem during the rebuilding process. The chapter highlights Nehemiah's efforts to address these issues and promote fairness and unity among the community.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how a great outcry arises among the people, highlighting their grievances against their fellow Jews. They express concerns about economic exploitation, debt burdens, and famine (Nehemiah 5:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Nehemiah responds to these complaints. He gathers a large assembly of people and confronts the nobles and officials who have been exploiting their own countrymen. He rebukes them for their actions (Nehemiah 5:6-9).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights Nehemiah's personal example of integrity as he refuses to take advantage of his position as governor. He encourages others to follow his lead in lending money without interest or taking advantage of those in need (Nehemiah 5:10-13).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with Nehemiah's call for repentance and reconciliation. He emphasizes the importance of restoring unity among the people and calls upon God to judge those who have acted unjustly (Nehemiah 5:14-19).

In summary, Chapter five of Nehemiah depicts the conflict, and restoration experienced during rebuilding reconstruction of Jerusalem. Highlighting grievances expressed through outcry, and accountability achieved through confrontation. Mentioning leadership shown for equitable practices, and emphasis placed on unity an embodiment representing social justice an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 5:1 And there was a great cry of the people and of their wives against their brethren the Jews.

The people of Jerusalem and their wives were in great distress because of the burden placed on them by their fellow Jews.

1. Bearing One Another's Burdens - Galatians 6:2

2. Overcoming Difficulties - James 1:2-4

1. Exodus 1:9-14 - The Israelites' cry for help in their oppression

2. Esther 4:1-17 - The Jews' distress and Nehemiah's call to action

Nehemiah 5:2 For there were that said, We, our sons, and our daughters, are many: therefore we take up corn for them, that we may eat, and live.

People in Nehemiah's time were struggling to provide food for their families.

1. God Provides, Even In The Hardest Times.

2. The Power of Faithful Community.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Acts 2:44-45 - All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

Nehemiah 5:3 Some also there were that said, We have mortgaged our lands, vineyards, and houses, that we might buy corn, because of the dearth.

People in Jerusalem mortgaged their properties to buy grain due to a famine.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Learning to Trust God in Times of Need

2. The Necessity of Community: Working Together to Overcome Hardship

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. 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?

Nehemiah 5:4 There were also that said, We have borrowed money for the king's tribute, and that upon our lands and vineyards.

Some people had borrowed money to pay the King's tribute and it was secured against their lands and vineyards.

1. The Consequences of Debt: Learning from Nehemiah 5:4

2. The Value of Hard Work: Nehemiah 5:4 as a Guide

1. Proverbs 22:7 - The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

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.

Nehemiah 5:5 Yet now our flesh is as the flesh of our brethren, our children as their children: and, lo, we bring into bondage our sons and our daughters to be servants, and some of our daughters are brought unto bondage already: neither is it in our power to redeem them; for other men have our lands and vineyards.

Nehemiah and his people are in a difficult situation, where they have to sell their children into slavery in order to pay off debts and survive.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - Luke 7:36-50

2. The Cost of Redemption - Isaiah 52:1-2

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. 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.

Nehemiah 5:6 And I was very angry when I heard their cry and these words.

Nehemiah was angry when he heard the people's complaints.

1. What can we learn from Nehemiah's righteous anger?

2. How can we practice godly anger in our lives?

1. James 1:20 - for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Ephesians 4:26 - Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger.

Nehemiah 5:7 Then I consulted with myself, and I rebuked the nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, Ye exact usury, every one of his brother. And I set a great assembly against them.

The people of Jerusalem were being mistreated, so Nehemiah took action to rebuke the nobles and rulers for exacting usury from their brothers.

1. "The Power of Righteous Rebuke"

2. "God's Call for Justice"

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

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.

Nehemiah 5:8 And I said unto them, We after our ability have redeemed our brethren the Jews, which were sold unto the heathen; and will ye even sell your brethren? or shall they be sold unto us? Then held they their peace, and found nothing to answer.

1: We must rise up and fight against those who would oppress our brothers and sisters.

2: We are called to compassionately and sacrificially love our brothers and sisters.

1: Galatians 6:2, "Bear one another s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

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."

Nehemiah 5:9 Also I said, It is not good that ye do: ought ye not to walk in the fear of our God because of the reproach of the heathen our enemies?

This passage speaks of the importance of walking in the fear of God despite the mockery of enemies.

1. The Courage to Stand Against All Odds

2. The Power of Living a Godly Life

1. Proverbs 3:5-7 - 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. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

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.

Nehemiah 5:10 I likewise, and my brethren, and my servants, might exact of them money and corn: I pray you, let us leave off this usury.

Nehemiah and his brethren and servants were asking for money and corn from others, but he asked that they leave off the usury.

1. The Mercy of Nehemiah: How He Showed Restraint in Times of Need

2. The Power of Kindness and Sacrifice: Seeing Beyond Our Own Needs

1. Exodus 22:25-27 - If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be to him as a creditor, and you shall not exact interest from him.

2. Proverbs 28:8 - Whoever multiplies his wealth by interest and profit gathers it for him who is generous to the poor.

Nehemiah 5:11 Restore, I pray you, to them, even this day, their lands, their vineyards, their oliveyards, and their houses, also the hundredth part of the money, and of the corn, the wine, and the oil, that ye exact of them.

1. Giving back to those in need and helping to restore what has been taken from them.

2. Taking care of our fellow man and seeing the value of the things that God has provided for 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. 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?

Nehemiah 5:12 Then said they, We will restore them, and will require nothing of them; so will we do as thou sayest. Then I called the priests, and took an oath of them, that they should do according to this promise.

Nehemiah called the priests and asked them to help with his mission, and they agreed to do so without asking for anything in return. As a show of commitment, Nehemiah asked them to swear an oath.

1. The Power of an Oath

2. The Blessing of Selfless Service

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, 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.

Nehemiah 5:13 Also I shook my lap, and said, So God shake out every man from his house, and from his labour, that performeth not this promise, even thus be he shaken out, and emptied. And all the congregation said, Amen, and praised the LORD. And the people did according to this promise.

The people of Nehemiah's time made a promise to God to not exploit each other, and they fulfilled it.

1: God expects us to keep our promises and through His help, we can do it.

2: We can trust God to help us fulfill our promises and bring us closer to Him.

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: Isaiah 59:1 - Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear.

Nehemiah 5:14 Moreover from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even unto the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that is, twelve years, I and my brethren have not eaten the bread of the governor.

Nehemiah was appointed governor of Judah and served in that role for twelve years, during which time he and his brothers did not eat the bread of the governor.

1. Living humbly and honoring God in all aspects of life

2. Stewardship of our time and resources

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. 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.

Nehemiah 5:15 But the former governors that had been before me were chargeable unto the people, and had taken of them bread and wine, beside forty shekels of silver; yea, even their servants bare rule over the people: but so did not I, because of the fear of God.

Nehemiah, unlike the governors before him, chose not to take advantage of the people for his own gain out of reverence for God.

1. The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom

2. Do Not Follow the Crowd--Be Fearless in Following God

1. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Acts 5:29 - "But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: We ought to obey God rather than men."

Nehemiah 5:16 Yea, also I continued in the work of this wall, neither bought we any land: and all my servants were gathered thither unto the work.

The work of the wall continued without any land being bought. All of Nehemiah's servants were gathered to help with the work.

1. Working together: The Power of Unity

2. The Benefits of Selfless Service

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. Philippians 1:27-30 - Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Nehemiah 5:17 Moreover there were at my table an hundred and fifty of the Jews and rulers, beside those that came unto us from among the heathen that are about us.

Nehemiah had a large gathering of Jewish rulers and people from nearby heathen nations at his table.

1. The Power of Inclusion: Reaching Out to Those of Different Faiths

2. The Blessing of Fellowship: The Joy of Gatherings

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 15:7 - "Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."

Nehemiah 5:18 Now that which was prepared for me daily was one ox and six choice sheep; also fowls were prepared for me, and once in ten days store of all sorts of wine: yet for all this required not I the bread of the governor, because the bondage was heavy upon this people.

The people of Israel were heavily burdened with the bondage of their captors, yet despite this, Nehemiah was provided with an abundance of food and wine.

1. God's provision in times of hardship

2. The importance of maintaining faith in God despite difficult circumstances

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

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.

Nehemiah 5:19 Think upon me, my God, for good, according to all that I have done for this people.

Nehemiah expressed a prayer to God, asking for Him to think upon him kindly for all the work he had done for the people.

1. "God's Gracious Consideration" - a on God's gracious consideration of those who strive to serve Him.

2. "The Power of Prayer" - a on the power of prayer to bring about God's will.

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. 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."

Nehemiah chapter 6 portrays the various attempts made by Nehemiah's enemies to hinder the progress of rebuilding Jerusalem's walls. The chapter highlights Nehemiah's discernment, courage, and determination to stay focused on completing the task.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem send messages to Nehemiah, inviting him to meet them in different locations outside Jerusalem. Their intention is to harm him or distract him from his work (Nehemiah 6:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Nehemiah perceives their schemes and refuses their invitations. He recognizes that they aim to intimidate and discredit him. Instead, he remains committed to his mission of rebuilding (Nehemiah 6:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights a false prophet named Shemaiah who tries to deceive Nehemiah into seeking refuge in the temple for his safety. However, Nehemiah discerns this as a ploy and continues with his work (Nehemiah 6:10-14).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with an account of how the wall construction is completed despite ongoing opposition from their enemies. Even surrounding nations acknowledge that it is God's doing and that their plans against Jerusalem have failed (Nehemiah 6:15-19).

In summary, Chapter six of Nehemiah depicts the opposition, and steadfastness experienced during rebuilding reconstruction of Jerusalem's walls. Highlighting deception expressed through false invitations, and discernment achieved through wisdom. Mentioning determination shown for staying focused, and recognition given for divine intervention an embodiment representing resilience an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 6:1 Now it came to pass, when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and Geshem the Arabian, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had builded the wall, and that there was no breach left therein; (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates;)

When Nehemiah had completed the wall, his enemies heard of it and were filled with jealousy.

1. The Power of Perseverance: How Nehemiah Overcame His Enemies

2. Overcoming Jealousy: Lessons from Nehemiah's Story

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 14:30 "A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones."

Nehemiah 6:2 That Sanballat and Geshem sent unto me, saying, Come, let us meet together in some one of the villages in the plain of Ono. But they thought to do me mischief.

Sanballat and Geshem attempted to lure Nehemiah into a dangerous situation.

1. The Danger of Being Lured by Unwise Words - Nehemiah 6:2

2. The Importance of Being Wary of Unwise Counsel - Nehemiah 6:2

1. Proverbs 12:15 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

2. 2 Corinthians 11:3 - But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

Nehemiah 6:3 And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?

Nehemiah was working on a great task and he sent messengers to explain why he could not leave the task to come down to them.

1. The Value of Hard Work: Nehemiah 6:3

2. The Importance of Focusing on the Task at Hand: Nehemiah 6:3

1. 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.

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.

Nehemiah 6:4 Yet they sent unto me four times after this sort; and I answered them after the same manner.

Nehemiah received a request four times and responded each time in the same manner.

1. Learning to Respond with Patience in Difficult Situations

2. Living a Consistent Life in the Midst of Adversity

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. Philippians 1:27 Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel.

Nehemiah 6:5 Then sent Sanballat his servant unto me in like manner the fifth time with an open letter in his hand;

Sanballat was trying to stop Nehemiah from rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem.

1. Let us remember and be encouraged by Nehemiah's faithfulness and perseverance in the face of opposition.

2. In the face of adversity, let us remain steadfast in our mission and trust in God's protection.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6-7 - 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 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.

Nehemiah 6:6 Wherein was written, It is reported among the heathen, and Gashmu saith it, that thou and the Jews think to rebel: for which cause thou buildest the wall, that thou mayest be their king, according to these words.

Reports were circulating among the heathen, promoted by a man named Gashmu, that Nehemiah and the Jews were planning to rebel. Nehemiah was accused of building the wall in order to become their king.

1. "The Mission of Nehemiah: Rebuilding the Wall and Reforming the People"

2. "The Power of Rumors and Gossip: How to Overcome Them"

1. Proverbs 18:8 "The words of a gossip are like delicious morsels; they go down to a person's innermost being."

2. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 "For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 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."

Nehemiah 6:7 And thou hast also appointed prophets to preach of thee at Jerusalem, saying, There is a king in Judah: and now shall it be reported to the king according to these words. Come now therefore, and let us take counsel together.

Summarize Passage: Nehemiah appoints prophets to preach in Jerusalem about a king in Judah, and then suggests they take counsel together.

1. The Power of Counsel: Learning the Importance of Working Together

2. The Call to Preach: Understanding Our Role As Prophets of God

1. Proverbs 15:22 Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

2. Jeremiah 23:22 But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.

Nehemiah 6:8 Then I sent unto him, saying, There are no such things done as thou sayest, but thou feignest them out of thine own heart.

Nehemiah did not believe the accusations made against him and sent a message to refute them.

1. God will always be with us to help us refute false accusations.

2. When facing false accusations, be sure to stand up for yourself and trust in God's guidance.

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

2. Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

Nehemiah 6:9 For they all made us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done. Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands.

Nehemiah was facing opposition in his work and he prayed to God to strengthen his hands.

1. The Power of Prayer: How to Overcome Opposition and Challenges

2. The Strength of Faith: Trusting in God to Lead the Way

1. James 1:2-5 - 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 40:29-31 - 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.

Nehemiah 6:10 Afterward I came unto the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah the son of Mehetabeel, who was shut up; and he said, Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple, and let us shut the doors of the temple: for they will come to slay thee; yea, in the night will they come to slay thee.

Shemaiah warns Nehemiah that his enemies are coming to kill him and tells him to hide in the temple.

1. The Faithfulness of God: Even When We Are Afraid

2. Standing in the Face of Adversity: Courage 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 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?

Nehemiah 6:11 And I said, Should such a man as I flee? and who is there, that, being as I am, would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in.

Nehemiah refuses to flee from danger and instead chooses to bravely enter the temple in order to save his life.

1. Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity

2. How to Find Strength in Difficult Situations

1. Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

Nehemiah 6:12 And, lo, I perceived that God had not sent him; but that he pronounced this prophecy against me: for Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him.

Nehemiah realized that God had not sent a prophet to him, but that Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him to pronounce a prophecy against him.

1. The Danger of False Prophets

2. The Power of Discernment

1. Jeremiah 23:32 - "Behold, I am against those who prophesy false dreams," declares the Lord, "and relate them and lead My people astray by their falsehoods and reckless boasting; yet I did not send them or command them, nor do they furnish this people the slightest benefit," declares the Lord.

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.

Nehemiah 6:13 Therefore was he hired, that I should be afraid, and do so, and sin, and that they might have matter for an evil report, that they might reproach me.

Nehemiah was warned by his enemies to be afraid and to sin, so that they would have something to reproach him for.

1. We must not give in to fear and be tempted to sin.

2. We should remain steadfast in the face of evil reports and reproach.

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. 1 Peter 3:14 - But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled.

Nehemiah 6:14 My God, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, that would have put me in fear.

Nehemiah is asking God to remember the works of Tobiah, Sanballat, Noadiah, and the other prophets that tried to intimidate him.

1. The Power of Fear: Don't Be Intimidated by the Opposition

2. Overcoming Fear: Relying on God's Strength 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. 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."

Nehemiah 6:15 So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days.

Nehemiah and the people of Jerusalem worked together to complete the wall in 52 days.

1. The Power of Unity - Nehemiah 6:15

2. The Strength of Working Together - Nehemiah 6:15

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor.

2. Colossians 3:12-17 - Put on then, as God s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Nehemiah 6:16 And it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard thereof, and all the heathen that were about us saw these things, they were much cast down in their own eyes: for they perceived that this work was wrought of our God.

God's miraculous work can bring even our enemies to shame.

1. The Power of God's Miracles

2. All Men Will See God's Work

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 2:22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know.

Nehemiah 6:17 Moreover in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters unto Tobiah, and the letters of Tobiah came unto them.

Nehemiah was warned of the deceit and false letters from the nobles of Judah sent to Tobiah.

1. We must be cautious and aware of the deceit and lies of others.

2. Do not trust in the words of those who are set on deceiving us.

1. Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

2. Ephesians 4:14 - so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

Nehemiah 6:18 For there were many in Judah sworn unto him, because he was the son in law of Shechaniah the son of Arah; and his son Johanan had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah.

Nehemiah was well liked in Judah due to his being the son-in-law of Shechaniah and his son Johanan marrying Meshullam's daughter.

1. God can use our relationships to bring us closer to Him.

2. Marriages can be used to build relationships that bring people together.

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.

Nehemiah 6:19 Also they reported his good deeds before me, and uttered my words to him. And Tobiah sent letters to put me in fear.

Tobiah attempted to intimidate Nehemiah by sending him threatening letters, but the people reported Nehemiah's good deeds to him, and encouraged him with God's words.

1. God is always on our side and will protect us from those who seek to do us harm.

2. We should always be ready to report the good deeds of others and encourage them with God's words.

1. Psalm 91:11 - "For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways."

2. Romans 8:31 - "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Nehemiah chapter 7 focuses on the importance of securing and organizing the population of Jerusalem after the completion of the wall. The chapter highlights Nehemiah's efforts to establish order, protect the city, and trace the genealogy of its inhabitants.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Nehemiah appointing Hanani and Hananiah as commanders to oversee security measures in Jerusalem. He emphasizes the need to guard the city gates and ensure that they are only opened at specific times (Nehemiah 7:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative shifts to Nehemiah's decision to gather a register of the returned exiles. He assigns this task to a trusted individual named Iddo, who carefully records information about each family's genealogy (Nehemiah 7:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: The account describes how Nehemiah finds a list containing names of those who had returned from Babylon with Zerubbabel years earlier. This list serves as a reference point for establishing Jerusalem's population (Nehemiah 7:6-73).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes by highlighting Nehemiah's commitment to repopulating Jerusalem. He encourages people from various towns and villages to settle in the city, ensuring its growth and development (Nehemiah 7:73b-73c).

In summary, Chapter seven of Nehemiah depicts the organization, and preservation experienced after rebuilding reconstruction of Jerusalem's walls. Highlighting security expressed through appointment, and documentation achieved through registration. Mentioning historical record obtained for reference, and invitation extended for repopulation an embodiment representing stability an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 7:1 Now it came to pass, when the wall was built, and I had set up the doors, and the porters and the singers and the Levites were appointed,

Nehemiah and the people of God completed their task of rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem.

1: God s people can do great things when they work together in unity.

2: God calls us to use our gifts and talents to serve His purpose.

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: 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.

Nehemiah 7:2 That I gave my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the ruler of the palace, charge over Jerusalem: for he was a faithful man, and feared God above many.

The author praises the faithfulness and fear of God of his brother Hanani and his ruler Hananiah.

1. God Is Looking for Faithful Men and Women Who Fear Him

2. The Rewards of Fearing God

1. Proverbs 14:26-27 "Whoever fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for their children it will be a refuge. The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning a person from the snares of death.

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.

Nehemiah 7:3 And I said unto them, Let not the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun be hot; and while they stand by, let them shut the doors, and bar them: and appoint watches of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, every one in his watch, and every one to be over against his house.

The inhabitants of Jerusalem were to be appointed as watchmen, each assigned to stand guard over their own house.

1. The Importance of Being Vigilant

2. The Power of Community and Unity

1. Matthew 24:43 - But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.

2. Proverbs 3:21-22 - My son, do not lose sight of these keep sound wisdom and discretion, and they will be life for your soul and adornment for your neck.

Nehemiah 7:4 Now the city was large and great: but the people were few therein, and the houses were not builded.

The city was large and great, but there were few people living there and the houses were not built.

1: God calls us to build His Kingdom, no matter how daunting the task may seem.

2: Our faith can be strengthened when we come together for a common purpose.

1: 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.

2: Psalm 127:1 Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

Nehemiah 7:5 And my God put into mine heart to gather together the nobles, and the rulers, and the people, that they might be reckoned by genealogy. And I found a register of the genealogy of them which came up at the first, and found written therein,

Nehemiah found a register of the genealogy of the people who had come to him and God put it into his heart to gather them together.

1. Examining our Heritage: A Study of Nehemiah 7:5

2. Understanding Our Roots: A Look at Nehemiah 7:5

1. Matthew 1:1-17 - The Genealogy of Jesus Christ

2. Acts 17:26 - From One Man He Made Every Nation of Men

Nehemiah 7:6 These are the children of the province, that went up out of the captivity, of those that had been carried away, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away, and came again to Jerusalem and to Judah, every one unto his city;

After the captivity of the Babylonians, the children of the province returned to their respective cities, in Jerusalem and Judah.

1. The Hope of a Return: Learning from the Captivity of the Babylonians

2. The Power of God's People: Reestablishing the City of Jerusalem

1. Jeremiah 29:4-14

2. Psalm 126:1-6

Nehemiah 7:7 Who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah. The number, I say, of the men of the people of Israel was this;

This passage lists the names of the individuals who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, and Nehemiah to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

1. God's Timing: Preparing for the Rebuild - Nehemiah 7:7

2. Working Together for a Common Cause - Nehemiah 7:7

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

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.

Nehemiah 7:8 The children of Parosh, two thousand an hundred seventy and two.

This passage states that the children of Parosh numbered two thousand an hundred seventy and two.

1. The importance of counting: the story of the children of Parosh.

2. Our God is a God of numbers: understanding the significance of Nehemiah 7:8.

1. Numbers 3:14-39 - The LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, saying: Take a census of all the congregation of the children of Israel, by their families, by their fathers houses, according to the number of names, every male individually.

2. Luke 2:1-7 - And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city.

Nehemiah 7:9 The children of Shephatiah, three hundred seventy and two.

This passage refers to the people of Shephatiah, numbering 372.

1: God s love is amazing and all encompassing. He knows all of us, even those who are seemingly insignificant in number.

2: God is a God of numbers and details. He knows the exact number of Shephatiah s descendants, and He cares for them.

1: Psalm 147:4 He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

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.

Nehemiah 7:10 The children of Arah, six hundred fifty and two.

Nehemiah recorded a list of people and their families in which the children of Arah numbered 652.

1. God's Faithfulness: Nehemiah recorded that the children of Arah numbered 652, showing God's faithfulness in keeping track of His people.

2. God's Care: Nehemiah recorded that even the smallest of families were accounted for, showing God's care and attention to detail.

1. Psalm 147:4 - He counts the number of the stars; He gives names to all of them.

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.

Nehemiah 7:11 The children of Pahathmoab, of the children of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand and eight hundred and eighteen.

Nehemiah 7:11 records that the children of Pahathmoab, the children of Jeshua and Joab, numbered two thousand and eight hundred and eighteen.

1. Count Your Blessings: Looking at Nehemiah 7:11 as an Example of God's Faithfulness.

2. The Power of Legacy: Examining the Lineage of Pahathmoab, Jeshua, and Joab.

1. Psalm 103:2-4 - Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion.

2. Deuteronomy 7:13 - He will love you and 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.

Nehemiah 7:12 The children of Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.

The people of Elam numbered 1254 in Nehemiah's time.

1. Count Your Blessings: A Message On Contentment From Nehemiah 7:12

2. The Value Of Unity: God's People In Nehemiah's Time

1. Psalm 48:14 For this God is our God forever and ever; He will be our guide even to death.

2. Acts 2:44-45 And all who believed were together and had all things in common; and they sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, as any had need.

Nehemiah 7:13 The children of Zattu, eight hundred forty and five.

This passage describes the number of children of Zattu as 845.

1. We should be thankful for all the blessings God has given us, even when it may not seem like much. 2. God's love and care for us is seen in even the smallest of details.

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 139:17-18 - How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with you.

Nehemiah 7:14 The children of Zaccai, seven hundred and threescore.

This passage describes the number of descendants of Zaccai, which is 760.

1. God has a plan for every single one of us and entrusts us with a mission.

2. Although our numbers may seem small, we can make a big difference in the world.

1. 1 Corinthians 12:22-27 - God has given each of us different gifts so that we can work together to build His Kingdom.

2. Matthew 21:16 - Even the children praising Jesus showed that small numbers can make a big impact.

Nehemiah 7:15 The children of Binnui, six hundred forty and eight.

Nehemiah records that the children of Binnui numbered 648.

1. God's Faithfulness in Keeping His Promises - Nehemiah 7:15

2. The Importance of Obedience in the Life of a Believer - Nehemiah 7:15

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.

Nehemiah 7:16 The children of Bebai, six hundred twenty and eight.

This passage states that the children of Bebai numbered 608.

1. The importance of counting and recognizing each individual in the community.

2. The power of God's faithfulness to his people, even in small numbers.

1. Numbers 3:14-16 - God commands Moses to count the number of the Israelites.

2. Psalm 46:11 - God is a refuge for his people.

Nehemiah 7:17 The children of Azgad, two thousand three hundred twenty and two.

Nehemiah records the number of the children of Azgad as two thousand three hundred twenty two.

1. The Power of Faithful Record Keeping - Nehemiah 7:17

2. The Importance of Taking Care of the Faithful - Nehemiah 7:17

1. Jeremiah 9:23-24 - Thus says the Lord: Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, let not the mighty man glory in his might, nor let the rich man glory in his riches; but let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight, says the Lord.

2. Romans 12:9-10 - Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving p to one another.

Nehemiah 7:18 The children of Adonikam, six hundred threescore and seven.

The passage states that the number of children of Adonikam was 667.

1. The Power of Numbers: How God Uses Numbers to Reveal His Plan

2. Obedience and Faithfulness: How God Rewards Those Who Walk in His Ways

1. Luke 12:32, "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

2. Galatians 6:9, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Nehemiah 7:19 The children of Bigvai, two thousand threescore and seven.

This passage states that Bigvai's children numbered two thousand, three hundred and seventy.

1. God has a plan for each of us, no matter how big or small our family may be.

2. We must trust in God's plan to provide for us, no matter what our situation may be.

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."

Nehemiah 7:20 The children of Adin, six hundred fifty and five.

The passage states that the children of Adin numbered 655.

1: The power of God's faithfulness is shown in the number of children of Adin.

2: God's promise of a great nation was fulfilled through the children of Adin.

1: Deuteronomy 7:7-9 - "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. 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: Genesis 22:17-18 - "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; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice."

Nehemiah 7:21 The children of Ater of Hezekiah, ninety and eight.

This passage mentions the number of descendants of Ater of Hezekiah: ninety-eight.

1. The Faithfulness of Hezekiah: Examining God's Provision for His People.

2. The Legacy of Hezekiah: The Blessings of Faith and Obedience.

1. Isaiah 38:1-5, Hezekiah's faith and humbling before God in the face of death.

2. 2 Chronicles 32:1-23, Hezekiah's faith and courage in the face of Assyrian invasion.

Nehemiah 7:22 The children of Hashum, three hundred twenty and eight.

The people of Hashum numbered three hundred twenty and eight.

1: No matter what our number, we are all valuable in God's eyes.

2: Strength comes from God, not in numbers.

1: Luke 12:4-7 - "I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after your body has been killed, has authority to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

2: Psalm 139:13-15 - 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.

Nehemiah 7:23 The children of Bezai, three hundred twenty and four.

The population of Bezai was 324.

1: God's plans are perfect and complete. Nothing is left to chance.

2: Every person is valuable in God's eyes.

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 8:4-5 - What is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.

Nehemiah 7:24 The children of Hariph, an hundred and twelve.

Nehemiah 7:24 records that there were 112 children of Hariph.

1. God numbers us all and knows us each by name.

2. We are not forgotten or insignificant in God's eyes.

1. Psalm 139:16 - 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. Luke 12:7 - Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Nehemiah 7:25 The children of Gibeon, ninety and five.

Nehemiah records the number of Gibeonites as ninety-five.

1. The Power of Numbers: Understanding the Significance of Nehemiah 7:25

2. The Faithfulness of God: How Nehemiah 7:25 Demonstrates His Faithfulness

1. Psalm 105:34-35 He spoke, and the locusts came, grasshoppers without number. He made them settle in the depths of the earth, in the furrows of the fields.

2. Exodus 12:37-38 The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, aside from children. A crowd of mixed company also went up with them, and flocks and herds, even very much livestock.

Nehemiah 7:26 The men of Bethlehem and Netophah, an hundred fourscore and eight.

Nehemiah lists the men of Bethlehem and Netophah, which totaled 188.

1. The Power of Unification - how individual strengths come together to form a strong community

2. God's Faithfulness - how God fulfills His promises to His people

1. Acts 2:44-47 - The community of believers in the early church shared all their resources together.

2. Ephesians 4:1-6 - Paul encourages believers to be unified, humble, and gentle in their interactions with one another.

Nehemiah 7:27 The men of Anathoth, an hundred twenty and eight.

Nehemiah recorded that the men of Anathoth numbered 128.

1. God's Faithfulness in Numbers - Reflecting on Nehemiah 7:27

2. God's Care for Every Individual - Examining Nehemiah 7:27

1. Exodus 30:12-16 - God's instructions for the census of Israel

2. Jeremiah 1:1-3 - God's call of Jeremiah by name and mission

Nehemiah 7:28 The men of Bethazmaveth, forty and two.

This passage mentions that there were forty-two men of Bethazmaveth.

1. The Faithful Few: The Power of a Small Group

2. The Importance of Community: Working Together to Achieve a Common Goal

1. Proverbs 27:17 - As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

2. Acts 2:44-45 - All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

Nehemiah 7:29 The men of Kirjathjearim, Chephirah, and Beeroth, seven hundred forty and three.

The people of Kirjathjearim, Chephirah, and Beeroth had a total of 743 men.

1. God's Blessing is in the Power of Numbers

2. The Strength of Unity

1. 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.

2. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

Nehemiah 7:30 The men of Ramah and Gaba, six hundred twenty and one.

The people of Ramah and Gaba numbered six hundred twenty and one.

1: God uses people of all sizes and numbers to serve His purpose.

2: We can trust in God's power even in the most seemingly insignificant 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: 1 Corinthians 1:26-27 - Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. 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.

Nehemiah 7:31 The men of Michmas, an hundred and twenty and two.

This passage mentions the men of Michmas numbering 122.

1: We are reminded of God's faithfulness in preserving His people even when they are few in number.

2: Our lives can be used to serve God and accomplish His purposes no matter the size of our numbers.

1: Acts 4:4 - "And many of them that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds."

2: Romans 8:31 - "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

Nehemiah 7:32 The men of Bethel and Ai, an hundred twenty and three.

The men of Bethel and Ai numbered 123.

1: God's Perfect Provision - God has provided us with exactly what we need.

2: God's Perfect Number - God's perfect number is seen in the passage.

1: Matthew 10:30 - "And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

2: Psalm 147:4 - "He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names."

Nehemiah 7:33 The men of the other Nebo, fifty and two.

The men of the other Nebo numbered fifty-two.

1: We should strive to be counted among the righteous, no matter how difficult the journey may be.

2: As a community, we should strive to come together in order to accomplish our goals.

1: 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.

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.

Nehemiah 7:34 The children of the other Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.

Nehemiah records the number of people from the Elamite people group as being 1,254.

1. "God's Faithful Provision: Counting Every Blessing"

2. "God's Perfect Order: A Story of Numbers"

1. Psalm 128:1-2 - "Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of your labor; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you."

2. John 10:10 - "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

Nehemiah 7:35 The children of Harim, three hundred and twenty.

The Passage highlights the importance of the children of Harim, numbering 320.

1. "God's Unfailing Love: The Case of the Children of Harim"

2. "The Hope of the Children of Harim: A Parable of God's Promises"

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. Isaiah 49:25 "For thus says the Lord: Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken, and the prey of the tyrant be rescued, for I will contend with those who contend with you, and I will save your children."

Nehemiah 7:36 The children of Jericho, three hundred forty and five.

Nehemiah 7:36 records the number of people from Jericho as 345.

1. God's Faithfulness: Even in the midst of chaos, God is faithful and can be trusted to keep His promises.

2. The Power of Unity: Nehemiah's rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem demonstrates the power of unity and collaboration.

1. 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.

2. Daniel 3:8-18 - Therefore at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and maliciously accused the Jews. They declared to King Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live forever! You, O king, have made a decree, that every man who hears the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, shall fall down and worship the golden image. And whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast into a burning fiery furnace.

Nehemiah 7:37 The children of Lod, Hadid, and Ono, seven hundred twenty and one.

Nehemiah records the number of people from Lod, Hadid, and Ono as seven hundred twenty and one.

1. The Power of Unity: How the People of Lod, Hadid, and Ono Showed the Strength of a United Community

2. The Miraculous Provision of God: How Nehemiah's Faithful Recording of the People of Lod, Hadid, and Ono Revealed God's Generous Provision

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

2. Numbers 1:46 - So all those listed were 603,550.

Nehemiah 7:38 The children of Senaah, three thousand nine hundred and thirty.

Passage Nehemiah 7:38 mentions that the number of people from the tribe of Senaah was 3,930.

1. The Importance of Being Counted: A Study of Nehemiah 7:38.

2. The Value of Every Soul: An Examination of Nehemiah 7:38.

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. Matthew 18:10-14 See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. 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.

Nehemiah 7:39 The priests: the children of Jedaiah, of the house of Jeshua, nine hundred seventy and three.

Nehemiah records the number of priests of the house of Jeshua, which is 973.

1. The Faithfulness of the Priests - A look into the steadfastness of the priests of the house of Jeshua.

2. The Significance of Numbers - Exploring the meaning behind the number 973.

1. Exodus 28:41 - "And you shall put them on Aaron your brother, and on his sons with him, and shall anoint them and ordain them and consecrate them, that they may serve me as priests."

2. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brothers to dwell together in unity!"

Nehemiah 7:40 The children of Immer, a thousand fifty and two.

The passage refers to the number of children of Immer, which was 1,052.

1. The importance of counting blessings from God - Nehemiah 7:40

2. Trusting in God's faithfulness - Nehemiah 7:40

1. Psalm 103:2 - Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits

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.

Nehemiah 7:41 The children of Pashur, a thousand two hundred forty and seven.

Nehemiah 7:41 describes the number of children of Pashur, which is 1,247.

1. The Power of Numbers: An Examination of Nehemiah 7:41

2. Relying on God in Times of Difficulty: Lessons from Nehemiah 7:41

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. John 14:1 - "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me."

Nehemiah 7:42 The children of Harim, a thousand and seventeen.

The children of Harim numbered one thousand and seventeen.

1. The Value of Unity: Looking at Nehemiah 7:42

2. The Strength of Numbers: Exploring the Significance of Nehemiah 7:42

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

2. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Nehemiah 7:43 The Levites: the children of Jeshua, of Kadmiel, and of the children of Hodevah, seventy and four.

Nehemiah recorded a list of Levites and their families, listing 74 individuals.

1. "God's Care for His People: The Levites of Nehemiah 7:43"

2. "The Blessings and Privileges of the Levites"

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. Numbers 8:5-7 - "The Lord said to Moses: 'Bring the tribe of Levi and present them to Aaron the priest to assist him. They are to perform duties for him and for the whole community at the tent of meeting by doing the work of the tabernacle. They are to take care of all the furnishings of the tent of meeting, fulfilling the obligations of the Israelites by doing the work of the tabernacle.'"

Nehemiah 7:44 The singers: the children of Asaph, an hundred forty and eight.

Nehemiah 7:44 mentions the singers appointed to serve in the temple, which were the children of Asaph and numbered 148.

1. The Power of Music: How Music Unites Us to God and One Another

2. The Importance of Service: What It Means to Serve God in the Temple

1. Psalm 98:1 Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

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.

Nehemiah 7:45 The porters: the children of Shallum, the children of Ater, the children of Talmon, the children of Akkub, the children of Hatita, the children of Shobai, an hundred thirty and eight.

Nehemiah 7:45 lists a total of 138 people who were assigned to be porters.

1. God calls us to serve in His kingdom, no matter what our role or station.

2. God's blessings come in many forms, and even the smallest service is invaluable to His kingdom.

1. Matthew 20:25-28 - But Jesus called them to him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:9 - For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

Nehemiah 7:46 The Nethinims: the children of Ziha, the children of Hashupha, the children of Tabbaoth,

The Nethinims were descendants of Gibeonites who served in the house of God.

1: We should all be thankful for the Nethinims, who gave of their time and service to the house of God.

2: We are all descendants of Gibeonites, and should strive to serve God as they did.

1: Joshua 9:17-27 - The Gibeonites made a covenant with the Israelites to serve them.

2: Matthew 20:25-28 - Jesus teaches us to be humble and serve one another.

Nehemiah 7:47 The children of Keros, the children of Sia, the children of Padon,

The passage mentions the children of Keros, Sia, and Padon.

1. God's Plan of Redemption for All: An Examination of Nehemiah 7:47

2. The Faithfulness of God in Blessing His People: A Study of Nehemiah 7:47

1. Exodus 12:38 - And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle.

2. Psalm 136:4 - To him who alone doeth great wonders: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Nehemiah 7:48 The children of Lebana, the children of Hagaba, the children of Shalmai,

The passage is about the mention of the children of Lebana, the children of Hagaba, and the children of Shalmai.

1. The Importance of Community: Examining the Unity of the Children of Lebana, Hagaba, and Shalmai

2. Appreciating the Value of Our Ancestors: Learning from the Children of Lebana, Hagaba, and Shalmai

1. Romans 12:5 - "so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."

2. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!"

Nehemiah 7:49 The children of Hanan, the children of Giddel, the children of Gahar,

The passage mentions three Israelite families: the children of Hanan, the children of Giddel, and the children of Gahar.

1. The importance of family in God's eyes

2. God remembers us, no matter how small we are

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 103:13-14 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.

Nehemiah 7:50 The children of Reaiah, the children of Rezin, the children of Nekoda,

The children of Reaiah, Rezin, and Nekoda are mentioned in Nehemiah 7:50.

1. God s Preservation of His People in the Bible

2. The Faithful Resilience of God s People in Nehemiah

1. Deuteronomy 4:31 - For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your ancestors, which he confirmed to them by oath.

2. Psalm 105:8 - He remembers his covenant forever, the promise he made, for a thousand generations.

Nehemiah 7:51 The children of Gazzam, the children of Uzza, the children of Phaseah,

The children of Gazzam, the children of Uzza, and the children of Phaseah are mentioned in Nehemiah 7:51.

1: God's Unconditional Love - How God's love for us is always present, no matter who we are or where we come from.

2: Strength in Community - How we can be strengthened through our shared faith and the support of one another.

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: Galatians 6:2 - "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Nehemiah 7:52 The children of Besai, the children of Meunim, the children of Nephishesim,

The passage discusses various groups of people.

1. The Power of Community: Celebrating the Rich Diversity of God's People.

2. God's Love and Provision for All People.

1. Psalm 147:3 - "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."

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."

Nehemiah 7:53 The children of Bakbuk, the children of Hakupha, the children of Harhur,

The passage recounts the names of three Israelite clans.

1. God's Blessing On His People: The Story Of The Israelite Clans

2. The Meaning of Lineage: How Knowing Our Ancestors Can Help Us Find Our Way

1. Deuteronomy 6:20-25 - Teaching children to remember God's commandments.

2. Ruth 4:13-17 - Exploring the significance of family ancestry.

Nehemiah 7:54 The children of Bazlith, the children of Mehida, the children of Harsha,

The passage mentions three groups of people: the children of Bazlith, the children of Mehida, and the children of Harsha.

1. God's Provision for His People: A Look at Nehemiah 7

2. God's Faithfulness to His People: The Example of Nehemiah 7

1. Ruth 4:18-22 - Ruth and Boaz's marriage as an example of God's faithfulness to His people.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - God's promise to never forsake His people.

Nehemiah 7:55 The children of Barkos, the children of Sisera, the children of Tamah,

The passage is about the children of Barkos, Sisera, and Tamah.

1. The Power of Generations: Celebrating the Legacy of Faithful Ancestors

2. Family Matters: The Blessing of Being Rooted in a Faithful Heritage

1. 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.

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.

Nehemiah 7:56 The children of Neziah, the children of Hatipha.

The passage describes the descendants of Neziah and Hatipha.

1. A Reminder of God's Faithfulness: Celebrating the Legacy of Neziah and Hatipha

2. Honor Your Heritage: Learning from the Lives of Neziah and Hatipha

1. Deuteronomy 4:9 - "Only take heed to yourself, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things 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. Proverbs 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it."

Nehemiah 7:57 The children of Solomon's servants: the children of Sotai, the children of Sophereth, the children of Perida,

The children of Solomon's servants were Sotai, Sophereth, and Perida.

1. The Power of God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises

2. The Importance of Family and Heritage

1. Ruth 4:18-22

2. Romans 9:7-8

Nehemiah 7:58 The children of Jaala, the children of Darkon, the children of Giddel,

This passage mentions three families from the tribe of Benjamin: Jaala, Darkon, and Giddel.

1. We can learn from the faith of the people of Benjamin, that even in the face of difficult circumstances, they remained true to God.

2. We can be inspired by the example of the Jaala, Darkon, and Giddel to be faithful in following God's will.

1. Romans 2:17-20 - But if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast in God and know his will and approve what is excellent, because you are instructed from the law; and if you are sure that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of children, having in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth you then who teach others, do you not teach yourself?

2. 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.

Nehemiah 7:59 The children of Shephatiah, the children of Hattil, the children of Pochereth of Zebaim, the children of Amon.

Nehemiah 7:59 lists four families: Shephatiah, Hattil, Pochereth of Zebaim, and Amon.

1. The Importance of Knowing Our Roots: An Exploration of Nehemiah 7:59

2. Following Family Traditions: How Nehemiah 7:59 Inspires Us To Do Right

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. 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."

Nehemiah 7:60 All the Nethinims, and the children of Solomon's servants, were three hundred ninety and two.

This passage states that the Nethinims and the children of Solomon's servants totaled 392.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for His people.

2. The importance of counting the number of people in a community.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - God will provide for His people.

2. Acts 6:1-7 - The importance of counting the number of people in a community.

Nehemiah 7:61 And these were they which went up also from Telmelah, Telharesha, Cherub, Addon, and Immer: but they could not shew their father's house, nor their seed, whether they were of Israel.

A group of people from Telmelah, Telharesha, Cherub, Addon, and Immer went up, but were unable to prove their Israelite descent.

1. God's faithfulness in preserving His chosen people

2. The importance of identity in the eyes of God

1. Romans 9:4-5 - "who are Israelites, to whom belongs the adoption as sons, and the glory and the covenants and the giving of the Law and the temple service and the promises, whose are the fathers, and from whom is the Christ according to the flesh, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen."

2. Ezra 2:59-62 - "All these were the sons of the servants of Solomon who came to Jerusalem in the days of Zerubbabel and in the days of Nehemiah the governor, and in the days of Artaxerxes king of Persia. The sons of the servants of Solomon who came to Jerusalem were: of the sons of Sotai, the sons of Sophereth, the sons of Perida, the sons of Jaala, the sons of Darkon, the sons of Giddel, the sons of Shephatiah, the sons of Hattil, the sons of Pochereth-hazzebaim, and the sons of Ami. All these were the sons of the servants of Solomon who came to Jerusalem and to the cities of Judah, each to his own city."

Nehemiah 7:62 The children of Delaiah, the children of Tobiah, the children of Nekoda, six hundred forty and two.

This passage describes the number of descendants of Delaiah, Tobiah, and Nekoda, which is 642.

1. God's faithfulness to His people is evident in His keeping track of every single descendant.

2. It's never too late to come back to God and find new purpose and meaning in life.

1. Numbers 26:5-6 "All those who were listed in the records from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go out to war in Israel all those listed in the records were 603,550.

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.

Nehemiah 7:63 And of the priests: the children of Habaiah, the children of Koz, the children of Barzillai, which took one of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite to wife, and was called after their name.

Nehemiah records the genealogies of the priests, mentioning the children of Habaiah, Koz, and Barzillai, who married a daughter of Barzillai the Gileadite.

1. The Power of a Good Name - Proverbs 22:1

2. God's Promise to His People - Isaiah 54:10

1. Ruth 4:18-22

2. Ezra 2:61-63

Nehemiah 7:64 These sought their register among those that were reckoned by genealogy, but it was not found: therefore were they, as polluted, put from the priesthood.

Nehemiah 7:64 tells the story of certain people who were not found in the genealogical records and were therefore excluded from the priesthood.

1. God's Purposes in Exclusion: Examining Nehemiah 7:64

2. The Power of Genealogies: Finding Our Place in the Story of Nehemiah 7:64

1. Genesis 12:2-3 - God's promise to Abram that he will become a great nation and be a blessing to all peoples.

2. Matthew 22:23-33 - The parable of the wedding feast and the importance of invitation.

Nehemiah 7:65 And the Tirshatha said unto them, that they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up a priest with Urim and Thummim.

Nehemiah commanded that the people should not partake of the holy offerings until a priest with the Urim and Thummim is appointed.

1. The importance of having a priest with the Urim and Thummim to serve the people.

2. How God's people are called to keep holy offerings and follow the commands of the priest.

1. 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.

2. 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.

Nehemiah 7:66 The whole congregation together was forty and two thousand three hundred and threescore,

The total number of people present was 42,360.

1. The Importance of Coming Together: Nehemiah 7:66

2. God's Faithfulness in Gathering His People: Nehemiah 7:66

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Acts 2:44-47 - "And all who believed were together and had all things in common; and they sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, as anyone might have need."

Nehemiah 7:67 Beside their manservants and their maidservants, of whom there were seven thousand three hundred thirty and seven: and they had two hundred forty and five singing men and singing women.

Nehemiah records the number of people in his company, including 7,337 servants, 245 singing men and women.

1. Cultivating a Heart of Gratitude for God's Provision

2. The Beauty of Worship and Service

1. Psalm 107:1-2 - 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. Colossians 3:16-17 - 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.

Nehemiah 7:68 Their horses, seven hundred thirty and six: their mules, two hundred forty and five:

The Israelites had 736 horses and 245 mules.

1. God blesses those who are faithful to Him with abundance.

2. Even in the midst of difficulty, God provides.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God promises to bless those who obey Him.

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.

Nehemiah 7:69 Their camels, four hundred thirty and five: six thousand seven hundred and twenty asses.

Nehemiah recorded the possessions of the Jewish people who had returned to Jerusalem, including 435 camels and 6720 asses.

1. "Don't Forget Your Blessings"

2. "The Power of Possessions"

1. Psalm 24:1, The earth is the LORD s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

2. Deuteronomy 8:17-18, You may say to yourself, 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.

Nehemiah 7:70 And some of the chief of the fathers gave unto the work. The Tirshatha gave to the treasure a thousand drams of gold, fifty basons, five hundred and thirty priests' garments.

The chief of the fathers gave to the work of the temple and the Tirshatha gave a thousand drams of gold, fifty basons, and five hundred and thirty priests' garments.

1. Generosity in Giving - how God desires us to give generously and sacrificially to His work.

2. Working Together - how the chief of the fathers worked together to give to the work of the temple.

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. 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."

Nehemiah 7:71 And some of the chief of the fathers gave to the treasure of the work twenty thousand drams of gold, and two thousand and two hundred pound of silver.

Some of the chief of the fathers gave a large amount of gold and silver to the treasury for the work.

1. God's Generosity in Giving

2. The Power of Sacrifice

1. 2 Corinthians 8:2-5

2. Philippians 4:19

Nehemiah 7:72 And that which the rest of the people gave was twenty thousand drams of gold, and two thousand pound of silver, and threescore and seven priests' garments.

The Israelites offered an offering to God which included 20,000 drams of gold, 2,000 pounds of silver and 67 priests' garments.

1. The Power of Sacrificial Giving

2. The Benefits of Serving God

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. 2 Corinthians 8:3-5 - For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability they gave of their own accord, begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints.

Nehemiah 7:73 So the priests, and the Levites, and the porters, and the singers, and some of the people, and the Nethinims, and all Israel, dwelt in their cities; and when the seventh month came, the children of Israel were in their cities.

The priests, Levites, porters, singers, some of the people, Nethinims, and all of Israel settled in their cities and when the seventh month arrived, all of Israel was in their respective cities.

1. Faithfulness in Settling: Learning to be content with the place God has given us

2. Trusting in God's Timing: Living in the moment and letting Him guide our lives

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.

10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

2. Psalm 37:3-6 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

4 Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

5 Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

Nehemiah chapter 8 describes a significant event in Jerusalem where the people gather to hear the reading and explanation of the Book of the Law by Ezra the scribe. The chapter highlights their response, repentance, and celebration as they rediscover God's Word.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with all the people assembling at the Water Gate to hear Ezra read from the Book of the Law. They express a strong desire to understand its meaning and apply it to their lives (Nehemiah 8:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on how Ezra reads aloud from daybreak until midday, while Levites assist in explaining and interpreting the Scriptures. The people listen attentively, responding with reverence and understanding (Nehemiah 8:4-8).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how hearing God's Word causes an emotional response among the people. They weep upon realizing their failure to follow His commands but are encouraged by Nehemiah and other leaders not to grieve excessively (Nehemiah 8:9-12).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with Nehemiah instructing them not to mourn but instead celebrate because it is a holy day dedicated to God. They joyfully observe the Feast of Tabernacles, following instructions from Scripture (Nehemiah 8:13-18).

In summary, Chapter eight of Nehemiah depicts the rediscovery, and transformation experienced after rebuilding reconstruction of Jerusalem's walls. Highlighting revelation expressed through Scripture reading, and understanding achieved through interpretation. Mentioning repentance shown for past disobedience, and celebration embraced for renewed commitment an embodiment representing spiritual renewal an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 8:1 And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the water gate; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded to Israel.

The people of Israel gathered together in the street before the water gate and asked Ezra to bring out the law of Moses that God had commanded.

1. Taking Time to Reflect on God's Word

2. The Power of Community in Following God's Word

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.

Nehemiah 8:2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month.

On the first day of the seventh month, Ezra the priest shared the law with the congregation, including both men and women, who were able to understand it.

1. The Power of Listening: Learning from the People of Nehemiah 8

2. Following the Law: A Call to Obedience for All People

1. James 1:19-20 - So then, my beloved brothers, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

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.

Nehemiah 8:3 And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law.

He read the book of the law aloud in a public area for all to hear.

1: We should be attentive to the word of God and strive to understand it.

2: We should be open to the word of God and share it with others.

1: Deuteronomy 6:7 - "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 119:9-11 - "How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

Nehemiah 8:4 And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, and Shema, and Anaiah, and Urijah, and Hilkiah, and Maaseiah, on his right hand; and on his left hand, Pedaiah, and Mishael, and Malchiah, and Hashum, and Hashbadana, Zechariah, and Meshullam.

Ezra the scribe and eight other individuals stood on a platform of wood that had been constructed for the occasion.

1. The Power of Community: How Working Together Can Accomplish Great Things

2. The Importance of Having a Solid Foundation: How Nehemiah 8:4 Can Teach Us to Build a Stronger Future

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. Matthew 18:19-20 "Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

Nehemiah 8:5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up:

Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, and when he did, they all stood up.

1. The Power of God's Word - How God's Word can transform lives and bring people together.

2. The Importance of Unity - How recognizing our common bond in God can bring us together.

1. Psalm 1:2 - "But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night."

2. Ephesians 4:3 - "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

Nehemiah 8:6 And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

The people of Israel praised and worshipped the Lord.

1: We should always give God the highest praise and worship Him with our whole hearts.

2: Worship God with reverence and humility, and remember He is the great and powerful God.

1: Psalm 95:6-7 - "Oh come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand."

2: Revelation 4:11 - "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."

Nehemiah 8:7 Also Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, caused the people to understand the law: and the people stood in their place.

The people of Israel were instructed in God's law by the Levites.

1. God's Law: The Foundation of Obedience and Righteousness

2. The Importance of Understanding God's Word

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."

Nehemiah 8:8 So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.

The people of Israel gathered together and read from the book of the law of God, and the scribes explained the meaning of the passages to help them understand.

1. God's Word Is Alive and Powerful

2. Understanding the Bible: Going Deeper than the Surface

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. 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.

Nehemiah 8:9 And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Levites that taught the people, said unto all the people, This day is holy unto the LORD your God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law.

Nehemiah, Ezra, and the Levites instructed the people to not mourn or weep, as they were all weeping when they heard the words of the law.

1. The Holiness of the Lord: Why We Should Celebrate God's Goodness

2. Comfort in Times of Grief: Finding Strength in God's Word

1. Matthew 5:3-5 - Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted

2. Psalm 119:50 - This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life.

Nehemiah 8:10 Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our LORD: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.

This passage encourages us to share joy with others in celebration of the Lord.

1: Discovering Joy in God's Presence

2: Rejoicing Together in the Lord

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: Philippians 4:4-5 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand.

Nehemiah 8:11 So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, Hold your peace, for the day is holy; neither be ye grieved.

The people of Israel gathered to hear the words of the law of God, and were encouraged to remain joyful.

1: Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice! Philippians 4:4

2: Seek the Lord and His strength. 1 Chronicles 16:11

1: Be still, and know that I am God. Psalm 46:10

2: This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24

Nehemiah 8:12 And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared unto them.

The people of Israel were joyful and shared their food with each other after understanding the word of God.

1. The Joy of Understanding the Word of God

2. The Power of Community in Celebrating God's Word

1. Acts 2:42-47 - The early church shared all things in common and devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching.

2. 1 Corinthians 11:17-22 - Paul's teaching on the importance of celebrating the Lord's Supper in an orderly manner.

Nehemiah 8:13 And on the second day were gathered together the chief of the fathers of all the people, the priests, and the Levites, unto Ezra the scribe, even to understand the words of the law.

On the second day, the leaders of the people, priests, and Levites gathered to hear Ezra the scribe read the law of God.

1. The Power of Listening to God's Word

2. The Importance of Gathering Together for Mutual Encouragement

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. 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.

Nehemiah 8:14 And they found written in the law which the LORD had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month:

The Children of Israel were commanded by God through Moses to dwell in booths during the Feast of the Seventh Month.

1. Living in Obedience to God's Commands

2. Rejoicing in God's Presence During the Feast

1. Deuteronomy 16:13-15 - Observe the Feast of Booths and rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days.

2. Leviticus 23:33-43 - The Feast of Booths is a time of joyous celebration and offering sacrifices to the Lord.

Nehemiah 8:15 And that they should publish and proclaim in all their cities, and in Jerusalem, saying, Go forth unto the mount, and fetch olive branches, and pine branches, and myrtle branches, and palm branches, and branches of thick trees, to make booths, as it is written.

The people were to go to the mountains to collect branches to make booths as the scripture had said.

1. "Lessons from Nehemiah 8:15: Obedience to God's Word"

2. "Going to the Mountains to Fulfill God's Commands: A Study of Nehemiah 8:15"

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. Leviticus 23:39-43 On the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the produce of the land, you shall celebrate the feast of the Lord seven days. On the first day shall be a solemn rest, and on the eighth day shall be a solemn rest. And you shall take on the first day the fruit of splendid trees, branches of palm trees and boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God seven days. You shall celebrate it as a feast to the Lord for seven days in the year. It is a statute forever throughout your generations; you shall celebrate it in the seventh month. You shall dwell in booths for seven days. All that are native in Israel shall dwell in booths, that your generations may know that I made the people of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

Nehemiah 8:16 So the people went forth, and brought them, and made themselves booths, every one upon the roof of his house, and in their courts, and in the courts of the house of God, and in the street of the water gate, and in the street of the gate of Ephraim.

The people made booths for themselves on their own roofs, in their own courts, in the courts of the house of God, and in the streets.

1: God calls us to be a blessing to others and to be generous with our time and resources.

2: We can find joy and connection with God and others by taking part in activities that are meaningful to us and those around us.

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: Romans 12:9-13 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

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.

The Israelites celebrated the return of their exiles with joy and excitement, setting up booths to commemorate the occasion.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord's Faithfulness

2. The Blessing of a Fresh Start

1. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

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.

Nehemiah 8:18 Also day by day, from the first day unto the last day, he read in the book of the law of God. And they kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day was a solemn assembly, according unto the manner.

Nehemiah read from the book of the law of God for a full week, and on the eighth day, the people gathered together for a solemn assembly.

1. The Power of Dedication: Learning from Nehemiah's example of reading God's Word every day

2. The Joy of Obedience: Celebrating the Lord through festive assemblies

1. Deuteronomy 6:6-9 - 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. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Nehemiah chapter 9 focuses on a solemn assembly where the people of Israel gather to confess their sins, acknowledge God's faithfulness, and renew their covenant with Him. The chapter highlights their reflection on Israel's history, God's deliverance, and His mercy.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the people fasting and wearing sackcloth as a sign of repentance. They separate themselves from foreign influences and gather to confess their sins and the iniquities of their ancestors (Nehemiah 9:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative shifts to the Levites leading a prayer of confession, recounting Israel's history from Abraham to the present. They acknowledge God's faithfulness despite the people's rebellion and express gratitude for His mercy (Nehemiah 9:4-31).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how they recall God's provision in the wilderness, His guidance through leaders like Moses, Aaron, and Joshua, as well as His patience in spite of their disobedience (Nehemiah 9:32-38).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with an affirmation by the people to make a binding agreement with God. They commit themselves to follow His commandments and seek His favor for prosperity in the land He has given them (Nehemiah 9:38).

In summary, Chapter nine of Nehemiah depicts the repentance, and covenant renewal experienced after rebuilding reconstruction of Jerusalem. Highlighting confession expressed through fasting, and remembrance achieved through recounting. Mentioning acknowledgment given for divine faithfulness, and commitment embraced for obedience an embodiment representing spiritual reconnection an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 9:1 Now in the twenty and fourth day of this month the children of Israel were assembled with fasting, and with sackclothes, and earth upon them.

The children of Israel gathered for a day of fasting and repentance, wearing sackcloth and covering themselves with dust.

1. A Call to Repentance: The Necessity of Turning Away from Sin

2. The Power of Assembling Together: The Strength of Community

1. Joel 2:12-13 - "Even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your heart 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 faithfulness.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Nehemiah 9:2 And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers.

The descendants of Israel separated themselves from foreigners and confessed their sins and the sins of their fathers.

1. Confessing Our Sins Before God

2. The Legacy of Our Fathers

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 to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Nehemiah 9:3 And they stood up in their place, and read in the book of the law of the LORD their God one fourth part of the day; and another fourth part they confessed, and worshipped the LORD their God.

The people of Israel stood up in their place and read from the book of the Lord s law for a fourth of the day, and devoted another fourth to confessing and worshipping the Lord.

1. The Power of Dedication: Learning from the People of Israel

2. Growing in Spiritual Maturity through Time in God s Word

1. Deuteronomy 17:18-19 And it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes

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.

Nehemiah 9:4 Then stood up upon the stairs, of the Levites, Jeshua, and Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani, and cried with a loud voice unto the LORD their God.

The Levites stood up upon the stairs and cried out to the Lord with a loud voice.

1. Remembering to Pray: The Power of Crying Out to the Lord

2. The Strength of Community: Standing Together and Praying

1. 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. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 - Pray without ceasing.

Nehemiah 9:5 Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, Stand up and bless the LORD your God for ever and ever: and blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.

The Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, called on the people to stand up and bless the Lord for ever and ever.

1. "The Power of Praise: Blessing the Lord in Every Situation"

2. "The Blessing of God's Glorious Name"

1. 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:"

2. Psalm 150:1-2 - "Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness."

Nehemiah 9:6 Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

Nehemiah acknowledges God as the Lord of all, Creator of heaven and earth, and the one who preserves all things.

1. God's Sovereignty: Seeing God as the Lord of All

2. Trusting God's Preservation: Remaining Confident in God's Care

1. Psalm 95:3-5 - "For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land."

2. Psalm 121:2-4 - "My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep."

Nehemiah 9:7 Thou art the LORD the God, who didst choose Abram, and broughtest him forth out of Ur of the Chaldees, and gavest him the name of Abraham;

God chose Abram, brought him out of Ur of the Chaldees, and renamed him Abraham.

1. The Power of Choice: God's Decisions and Our Own

2. God's Faithful Provision: Abraham's Story

1. Genesis 12:1-9 - The call of Abram from God to leave his homeland and journey to a new land.

2. Romans 4:1-8 - Abraham's faith and how it contributed to his journey of obedience.

Nehemiah 9:8 And foundest his heart faithful before thee, and madest a covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Jebusites, and the Girgashites, to give it, I say, to his seed, and hast performed thy words; for thou art righteous:

God made a covenant with Abraham to give the land of Canaan to his descendants, and God fulfilled His promise because He is righteous.

1. God's Faithfulness: A Call to Remember His Promises

2. God's Righteousness: A Testimony of His Trustworthiness

1. Hebrews 6:17-20 - God's Unchangeable Purpose and Oath

2. Psalm 103:17-18 - The Lord is Compassionate and Gracious

Nehemiah 9:9 And didst see the affliction of our fathers in Egypt, and heardest their cry by the Red sea;

God heard and answered his people's cry for help.

1. God hears our cries and will answer.

2. Do not be afraid to call on God in times of need.

1. Psalm 34:17 When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

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.

Nehemiah 9:10 And shewedst signs and wonders upon Pharaoh, and on all his servants, and on all the people of his land: for thou knewest that they dealt proudly against them. So didst thou get thee a name, as it is this day.

God performed signs and wonders to demonstrate His power and authority to Pharaoh and his people. As a result, God became known and celebrated.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Power of God's Miracles

2. Demonstrating Humility in the Face of Pride

1. 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.

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.

Nehemiah 9:11 And thou didst divide the sea before them, so that they went through the midst of the sea on the dry land; and their persecutors thou threwest into the deeps, as a stone into the mighty waters.

God protected his people by parting the Red Sea and sending their persecutors into the depths of the sea.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of God's Redemption

1. Exodus 14:15-31 - The parting of the Red Sea

2. Romans 8:31-39 - God's protection and power in our lives

Nehemiah 9:12 Moreover thou leddest them in the day by a cloudy pillar; and in the night by a pillar of fire, to give them light in the way wherein they should go.

The Israelites were guided by God with a pillar of cloud and a pillar of fire by day and night.

1: God's guidance is ever-present, even in our darkest moments.

2: It is a comfort to know that God is a constant companion on our journey.

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.

Nehemiah 9:13 Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments:

God came down to Mount Sinai and spoke to the Israelites from Heaven, giving them just laws and commandments.

1. An Unfailing Guide: How God's Word is Our Ultimate Source of Direction

2. Hearken to the Voice of the Lord: Understanding the Power of God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 4:1-14 - The Lord spoke all these commandments to the people from Mount Sinai

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

Nehemiah 9:14 And madest known unto them thy holy sabbath, and commandedst them precepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Moses thy servant:

God revealed the importance of the holy Sabbath and gave the Israelites precepts, statutes, and laws through Moses.

1. The Power and Authority of God's Word

2. Keeping God's Commandments: The Path to True Blessing

1. Romans 3:20-22 - For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. 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.

2. Exodus 20:8 - "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Nehemiah 9:15 And gavest them bread from heaven for their hunger, and broughtest forth water for them out of the rock for their thirst, and promisedst them that they should go in to possess the land which thou hadst sworn to give them.

God provided the Israelites with manna and water, and promised them the land of Canaan.

1. God's Faithfulness in Keeping His Promises

2. The Power of God in Meeting Our Needs

1. Exodus 16:4-15 - Manna from heaven

2. Numbers 20:11 - Water from the rock

Nehemiah 9:16 But they and our fathers dealt proudly, and hardened their necks, and hearkened not to thy commandments,

The people and their fathers refused to obey God's commands and showed pride instead.

1. God's Commands are Not Optional

2. The Danger of Arrogance

1. 1 John 2:3-6 - And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

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

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.

Despite experiencing God's wonders, the people hardened their necks and rebelled against Him, choosing to return to bondage. However, God is ready to pardon them, being gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness.

1. God's Mercy and Patience: The Story of Nehemiah 9:17

2. The Power of Forgiveness: A Lesson from Nehemiah 9:17

1. Exodus 34:6-7 - "And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Nehemiah 9:18 Yea, when they had made them a molten calf, and said, This is thy God that brought thee up out of Egypt, and had wrought great provocations;

The people of Israel had created a molten calf and had said that it was the god who brought them up from Egypt, despite all the signs that God had given them to show his power and greatness.

1. We must be careful to not take God's goodness and power for granted, and instead remember how he has blessed us and shown us his greatness.

2. We should be grateful to God for his love and mercy, and seek to live our lives in a way that honors and honors him.

1. Exodus 20:2-3 - 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.

2. Deuteronomy 6:12-13 - Then beware lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall fear the Lord your God and serve him.

Nehemiah 9:19 Yet thou in thy manifold mercies forsookest them not in the wilderness: the pillar of the cloud departed not from them by day, to lead them in the way; neither the pillar of fire by night, to shew them light, and the way wherein they should go.

God's mercies were abundant in the wilderness as He guided the Israelites by a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire during the night.

1. God's Guidance is Constant

2. God's Mercy is Unfailing

1. Exodus 13:21-22 - The Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud by day to guide them on their way and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night.

2. Psalm 78:14 - In the daytime he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a fiery light.

Nehemiah 9:20 Thou gavest also thy good spirit to instruct them, and withheldest not thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst.

You have provided spiritual guidance and physical sustenance to your people.

1: God's provision is comprehensive and ever-present.

2: We must be thankful for all that God provides.

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.

Nehemiah 9:21 Yea, forty years didst thou sustain them in the wilderness, so that they lacked nothing; their clothes waxed not old, and their feet swelled not.

God sustained the Israelites for 40 years in the wilderness, providing for all their needs.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for our needs

2. Cultivating a lifestyle of thankfulness and trust in God

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. 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."

Nehemiah 9:22 Moreover thou gavest them kingdoms and nations, and didst divide them into corners: so they possessed the land of Sihon, and the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og king of Bashan.

God gave the Israelites kingdoms and nations, and divided them into corners, granting them the land of Sihon, Heshbon, and Bashan.

1. The Lord's Faithfulness in Providing for Our Needs

2. The Blessing of Obedience to God's Word

1. 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."

2. Psalm 37:3 - "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed."

Nehemiah 9:23 Their children also multipliedst thou as the stars of heaven, and broughtest them into the land, concerning which thou hadst promised to their fathers, that they should go in to possess it.

God multiplied the children of Israel and brought them into the land He had promised to their fathers.

1. The Faithfulness of God: Celebrating God's Promise-Keeping Nature

2. The Blessings of Obedience: Experiencing the Benefits of Faithful Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 1:8-9 - 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. 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.

Nehemiah 9:24 So the children went in and possessed the land, and thou subduedst before them the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, and gavest them into their hands, with their kings, and the people of the land, that they might do with them as they would.

God gave the children of Israel the land of Canaan and the people that lived there, allowing them to do with them as they pleased.

1: God's faithfulness in fulfilling his promises to his people.

2: Doing God's will in all circumstances despite the difficulty.

1: Joshua 24:13-15 "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. 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.

2: Isaiah 43:20-21 "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, the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise."

Nehemiah 9:25 And they took strong cities, and a fat land, and possessed houses full of all goods, wells digged, vineyards, and oliveyards, and fruit trees in abundance: so they did eat, and were filled, and became fat, and delighted themselves in thy great goodness.

The people of Israel took strong cities and a fat land, and filled their houses with all good things. They ate, were filled, became fat and took delight in God's great goodness.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: How God's Favour Rewards Faithfulness

2. The Abundance of God's Goodness: How We Can Rejoice in His Provision

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. 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."

Nehemiah 9:26 Nevertheless they were disobedient, and rebelled against thee, and cast thy law behind their backs, and slew thy prophets which testified against them to turn them to thee, and they wrought great provocations.

The people of Israel disobeyed God, rejected His law, and killed His prophets who warned them to turn back to Him.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

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.

Nehemiah 9:27 Therefore thou deliveredst them into the hand of their enemies, who vexed them: and in the time of their trouble, when they cried unto thee, thou heardest them from heaven; and according to thy manifold mercies thou gavest them saviours, who saved them out of the hand of their enemies.

God heard the cries of His people and, out of His mercy, gave them saviors to save them from their enemies.

1. God's Mercy is Enduring

2. Our Salvation is Found in the Lord

1. Psalm 34:17-19 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

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.

Nehemiah 9:28 But after they had rest, they did evil again before thee: therefore leftest thou them in the hand of their enemies, so that they had the dominion over them: yet when they returned, and cried unto thee, thou heardest them from heaven; and many times didst thou deliver them according to thy mercies;

Despite God's mercy and deliverance, the Israelites often returned to their sinful ways.

1. "God's Mercy and Forgiveness"

2. "The Danger of Returning to Sin"

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. 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."

Nehemiah 9:29 And testifiedst against them, that thou mightest bring them again unto thy law: yet they dealt proudly, and hearkened not unto thy commandments, but sinned against thy judgments, (which if a man do, he shall live in them;) and withdrew the shoulder, and hardened their neck, and would not hear.

Despite the warnings from God, the people of Israel refused to listen and instead chose to sin against God's commands and harden their hearts towards Him.

1. The Danger of Refusing to Listen to God

2. Obeying God's Commands - The Key to Life

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 loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days."

2. 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 in trust shall be your strength.

Nehemiah 9:30 Yet many years didst thou forbear them, and testifiedst against them by thy spirit in thy prophets: yet would they not give ear: therefore gavest thou them into the hand of the people of the lands.

Despite God's attempts to warn the Israelites of the consequences of their wrongdoings, they did not listen and were eventually handed over to foreign nations.

1. We must listen to the warnings of God and heed His advice to avoid similar consequences

2. We should depend on God to lead us through difficult times, instead of relying solely on our own understanding

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 thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Nehemiah 9:31 Nevertheless for thy great mercies' sake thou didst not utterly consume them, nor forsake them; for thou art a gracious and merciful God.

Despite the people's disobedience, God showed them mercy and did not utterly destroy them.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever

2. The Power of God's Grace

1. Lamentations 3:22-24 - "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 5:20-21 - "Now the law came in to increase the trespass, 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."

Nehemiah 9:32 Now therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the terrible God, who keepest covenant and mercy, let not all the trouble seem little before thee, that hath come upon us, on our kings, on our princes, and on our priests, and on our prophets, and on our fathers, and on all thy people, since the time of the kings of Assyria unto this day.

The people of Israel are asking God to take notice of the troubles that have come upon them since the time of the kings of Assyria.

1. The Power of God's Mercy

2. A Call to Repentance and Faith

1. Psalm 103:8-14

2. Jeremiah 31:31-34

Nehemiah 9:33 Howbeit thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly:

God's justice is undeniable.

1. Even when we sin, God remains just.

2. We are accountable for our actions, but God is the ultimate judge.

1. Isaiah 45:21 - Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together! Who has declared this from of old? Who has told it from then? Is it not I, the Lord?

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Nehemiah 9:34 Neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor our fathers, kept thy law, nor hearkened unto thy commandments and thy testimonies, wherewith thou didst testify against them.

Our ancestors have not kept God's law or obeyed His commandments and testimonies.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Law

2. The Power of Following God's Testimonies

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

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."

Nehemiah 9:35 For they have not served thee in their kingdom, and in thy great goodness that thou gavest them, and in the large and fat land which thou gavest before them, neither turned they from their wicked works.

Despite the great goodness God showed His people by giving them a large and prosperous land, they still chose to disobey Him.

1: God's Love and Mercy despite Disobedience

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: 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.

Nehemiah 9:36 Behold, we are servants this day, and for the land that thou gavest unto our fathers to eat the fruit thereof and the good thereof, behold, we are servants in it:

The people of Israel are servants of God, serving in the land which He has given to their ancestors.

1. The Gift of God and the Responsibility of Serving Him

2. A Grateful Heart - Learning to Serve with Joy and Humility

1. Deuteronomy 10:12 - "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 7:21 - "Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter."

Nehemiah 9:37 And it yieldeth much increase unto the kings whom thou hast set over us because of our sins: also they have dominion over our bodies, and over our cattle, at their pleasure, and we are in great distress.

The people of Israel have been subjected to the rule of foreign kings as a result of their sins, and this rule has caused them much distress.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Study of Nehemiah 9:37

2. Submission to God's Rule: An Examination of Nehemiah 9:37

1. Daniel 4:25 - And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

2. 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.

Nehemiah 9:38 And because of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it; and our princes, Levites, and priests, seal unto it.

Nehemiah and the people of Israel make a covenant with God and seal it with their leaders.

1. The Power of a Covenant: Making an Agreement with God

2. Commitment to God: Sealing the Deal

1. Joshua 24:21-24 - Joshua's covenant with God

2. Psalm 111:5 - God's faithfulness in keeping his covenant

Nehemiah chapter 10 focuses on the commitment made by the people of Jerusalem to follow God's law and live in obedience. The chapter highlights their agreement to specific provisions, including the observance of various laws and regulations.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a list of those who sign the covenant, including priests, Levites, leaders, and common people. They affix their seals as a symbol of their commitment to uphold God's law (Nehemiah 10:1-27).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights some key provisions of the covenant. The people commit to separate themselves from foreign influences, observe the Sabbath and other appointed times, support the temple financially, and avoid intermarriage with non-Israelites (Nehemiah 10:28-39).

3rd Paragraph: The account emphasizes their dedication to offering tithes for the service of God's house and providing for the needs of priests and Levites. They also pledge not to neglect or abandon the temple worship (Nehemiah 10:32-39).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes by affirming that all these commitments were made willingly and with sincerity. They acknowledge that by following these provisions, they are seeking God's favor upon themselves as a community (Nehemiah 10:39).

In summary, Chapter ten of Nehemiah depicts the commitment, and obedience experienced after rebuilding reconstruction of Jerusalem. Highlighting dedication expressed through covenant signing, and adherence achieved through specific provisions. Mentioning separation shown for foreign influences, and support embraced for temple worship an embodiment representing spiritual discipline an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 10:1 Now those that sealed were, Nehemiah, the Tirshatha, the son of Hachaliah, and Zidkijah,

The people of Israel sealed a covenant in the presence of their God.

1: We must be faithful to our covenant with God and remain steadfast in our commitment to Him.

2: We must strive to be faithful to the Lord and show our devotion by obeying His commands.

1: Deuteronomy 26:16-19 - "This day the Lord your God commands you to do these statutes and rules. You shall therefore be careful to do them with all your heart and with all your soul. You have declared today that the Lord is your God, and that you will walk in his ways, and keep his statutes and his commandments and his rules, and will obey his voice. And the Lord has declared today that you are a people for his treasured possession, as he has promised you, and that you are to keep all his commandments, and that he will set you in praise and in fame and in honor high above all nations that he has made, and that you shall be a people holy to the Lord your God, as he promised.

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.

Nehemiah 10:2 Seraiah, Azariah, Jeremiah,

The passage mentions four people: Seraiah, Azariah, Jeremiah, and Pashhur.

1. Trusting in God's Promise - Nehemiah 10:2

2. The Power of Unity - Nehemiah 10:2

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. 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.

Nehemiah 10:3 Pashur, Amariah, Malchijah,

Hattush,

We, the people of Israel, reaffirm our Covenant with God and vow to obey His commands.

1: We should strive to make our commitment to God a priority and follow His commands.

2: Our Covenant with God is something to be taken seriously and we should honour it in our lives.

1: Deuteronomy 30:20 - Love the Lord your God, obey his voice, and cling to him.

2: Joshua 24:15 - But if you refuse to serve the Lord, choose today whom you will serve.

Nehemiah 10:4 Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluch,

The people of Judah bind themselves to uphold the Law of God.

1: We must remain committed to God and His commands in order to be faithful followers of His will.

2: It is our responsibility to uphold the Law of God and remain faithful to His teachings.

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 1:22-25 - "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."

Nehemiah 10:5 Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah,

The passage lists four names - Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah, and Meshullam.

1. The Power of Friendship: Examining the relationships between Nehemiah and his friends.

2. Biblical Leadership: Exploring the qualities of leadership exemplified by Nehemiah and his associates.

1. Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

2. Acts 6:3 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.

Nehemiah 10:6 Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch,

The people of Israel take an oath to follow the commandments of God and to not intermarry with other nations.

The people of Israel pledge to obey God's commands and to not intermarry with outside nations, specifically mentioning Daniel, Ginnethon, and Baruch.

1. The Power of Community: How Uniting as a People Can Strengthen Your Faith

2. The Need for Commitment: Upholding Our Obligation to God

1. Matthew 5:33-37 - Jesus teaching on the importance of keeping our word and oaths

2. James 5:12 - The power of prayer and how it can help us stay committed to our oaths.

Nehemiah 10:7 Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin,

Maaziah, Bilgai, and Shemaiah these were the priests.

Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin, Maaziah, Bilgai, and Shemaiah were priests that were mentioned in Nehemiah 10:7.

1. The Faithfulness of Priestly Service

2. The Power of Biblical Obedience

1. Leviticus 10:11, "And that you may teach the children of Israel all the statutes which the Lord has spoken to them by the hand of Moses."

2. 1 Peter 5:1-4, "The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away."

Nehemiah 10:8 Maaziah, Bilgai, Shemaiah: these were the priests.

The priests in Nehemiah 10:8 were Maaziah, Bilgai, and Shemaiah.

1. The Importance of Faithful Priesthood

2. The Role of Priests in God's Kingdom

1. Hebrews 5:1-4 - Concerning Jesus as a faithful high priest

2. 1 Peter 5:1-4 - Concerning the duty of elders and priests as examples to the flock

Nehemiah 10:9 And the Levites: both Jeshua the son of Azaniah, Binnui of the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel;

The Levites are Jeshua, Binnui, and Kadmiel.

1: Living a life of dedication and faithfulness to God as demonstrated by the Levites.

2: Serving God faithfully even when the task is difficult, just as the Levites did.

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 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.

Nehemiah 10:10 And their brethren, Shebaniah, Hodijah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan,

We should be obedient to God's commands and honor him with our lives.

1: We should be obedient to God's commands and honor Him with our lives, just as the brethren Shebaniah, Hodijah, Kelita, Pelaiah, and Hanan did.

2: We should strive to follow the example of Shebaniah, Hodijah, Kelita, Pelaiah, and Hanan and honor God with 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: Luke 6:46 Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and not do what I tell you?

Nehemiah 10:11 Micha, Rehob, Hashabiah,

Nehemiah and the people of Israel commit to regularly observe the commandments and law of God.

1: We should never forget the commitment to obey God's commandments and laws.

2: We should strive to honor God's Word in all that we do.

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 - 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 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.

Nehemiah 10:12 Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah,

The passage speaks about four people: Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah, and Hodiah.

1: We are all called to do great things, just like Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah, and Hodiah.

2: God uses people of all backgrounds and abilities to fulfill His will.

1: Philippians 4:13 - 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 to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Nehemiah 10:13 Hodijah, Bani, Beninu.

The passage is about three individuals named Hodijah, Bani, and Beninu.

1. The Power of Commitment: The Lives of Hodijah, Bani, and Beninu

2. The Impact of Dedication: Examples from Nehemiah 10

1. Philippians 3:13-14 Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

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.

Nehemiah 10:14 The chief of the people; Parosh, Pahathmoab, Elam, Zatthu, Bani,

The people of Nehemiah were led by Parosh, Pahathmoab, Elam, Zatthu, and Bani.

1. God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

2. The power of community in God's work.

1. Romans 12:4-8 - "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. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them...

2. Acts 4:32-33 - "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."

Nehemiah 10:15 Bunni, Azgad, Bebai,

The people of Jerusalem commit to following God's commandments.

1. The Power of Commitment: Staying True to God's Promises

2. Faithfully Serving God: An Example from Jerusalem

1. Deuteronomy 10:12 - 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.

2. Psalm 78:7 - That they might set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

Nehemiah 10:16 Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin,

The people of Judah pledged to keep the covenant with God.

1: God's covenant is a commitment that we should keep.

2: Our loyalty to God is essential in upholding His covenant.

1: Deuteronomy 29:12-15 - "You stand today, all of you, before the Lord your God...that you may enter into the covenant with the Lord your God, and into his oath, which the Lord your God makes with you today...

2: Psalm 25:10 - All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Nehemiah 10:17 Ater, Hizkijah, Azzur,

The people of Israel make a covenant to keep the commandments of God and observe his laws.

1: We must be obedient to God's commandments and laws, and keep our covenant with the Lord.

2: Doing what is right in the eyes of the Lord brings great rewards and blessings.

1: Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - The blessings of obedience to the Lord.

2: James 4:7-10 - Submission to God and His will brings peace and joy.

Nehemiah 10:18 Hodijah, Hashum, Bezai,

Hariph, Anathoth,

We are to make a covenant with God to keep His commandments, His statutes and His laws.

1: We must come before the Lord with a commitment to follow His commandments, statutes, and laws.

2: We must make a covenant with the Lord to faithfully obey His will.

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: Matthew 16:24-26 - 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. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?

Nehemiah 10:19 Hariph, Anathoth, Nebai,

The passage is about four cities mentioned in Nehemiah 10:19.

1. God's Promises: Finding Comfort in the City of Refuge

2. Celebrating the Faithfulness of God in Rebuilding the Walls

1. Nehemiah 10:19

2. Joshua 20:2-3, "Speak to the people of Israel, saying, Appoint out for you cities of refuge, of which I spoke to you through Moses, that the manslayer who strikes any person without intent or unknowingly may flee there. They shall be for you a refuge from the avenger of blood."

Nehemiah 10:20 Magpiash, Meshullam, Hezir,

Heber,

We are committed to follow the Lord our God and to obey his laws and commands.

1. Obeying the Lord's Commands is an Act of Worship

2. Living a Life of Commitment to God

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. Psalm 119:4 - You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.

Nehemiah 10:21 Meshezabeel, Zadok, Jaddua,

Pelatiah, Hanan, Anaiah, Hoshea, Hananiah, Hashub, Hallohesh, Pilha, Shobek, Rehum, Hashabneiah

The people of Israel pledge before God to faithfully obey His laws.

1: We must all remain obedient to God's laws if we want to live in harmony with Him.

2: We must follow God's laws, as He knows what is best for us.

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: Deuteronomy 5:29-30 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! Go and say to them, Return to your tents.

Nehemiah 10:22 Pelatiah, Hanan, Anaiah,

The passage describes the names of four men: Pelatiah, Hanan, Anaiah, and Malik.

1: God has a purpose for each of us. No matter what our name is, God has something special planned for us.

2: We are all part of a larger family. Just as Pelatiah, Hanan, Anaiah, and Malik were part of a group in Nehemiah 10:22, we are all part of a community of faith.

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. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son.

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.

Nehemiah 10:23 Hoshea, Hananiah, Hashub,

The people of Israel take a covenant to commit to following God's commandments.

1: The power of committing to God's laws and the importance of following them.

2: The significance of the covenant and the promises of God.

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 10:12-13 And now, O 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?

Nehemiah 10:24 Hallohesh, Pileha, Shobek,

The leaders of the Jews made a covenant to obey the Lord's commands and statutes.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

2. Keeping the Covenants We Make with God

1. Joshua 24:24-25 - And the people said to Joshua, The Lord our God we will serve, and his voice we will obey.

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.

Nehemiah 10:25 Rehum, Hashabnah, Maaseiah,

and the rest of the leaders of the people, along with the rest of the people of Israel, and the priests and Levites, all the others who separated themselves from the people of the lands to the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, everyone who had knowledge and understanding.

Rehum, Hashabnah, Maaseiah, and other leaders of the people of Israel, along with the priests and Levites, separated themselves from the people of the lands to follow the law of God, with their families.

1. The Power of Separation: Taking a Stand for Faith

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Embracing God's Law

1. Joshua 24:14-15 - "Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. 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. 1 John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome."

Nehemiah 10:26 And Ahijah, Hanan, Anan,

Malluch, Harim, Baanah.

This passage from Nehemiah 10:26 names six individuals among those who agreed to keep the covenant between God and the people.

1. A Covenant with God: Living out your Promises

2. Making Room at the Table: All are Welcome

1. Matthew 5:19 - 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. Jeremiah 11:3-4 - You shall say to them, Thus says the Lord God of Israel: Cursed be the man who does not heed the words of this covenant that I commanded your fathers when I brought them out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, Listen to my voice, and do all that I command you.

Nehemiah 10:27 Malluch, Harim, Baanah.

The passage describes the names of three people Malluch, Harim, and Baanah.

1. "The Strength of Community: Trust in the Names of Others"

2. "The Power of Unity: Working Together in the Name of God"

1. Proverbs 27:17, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."

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."

Nehemiah 10:28 And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters, the singers, the Nethinims, and all they that had separated themselves from the people of the lands unto the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, every one having knowledge, and having understanding;

The people of Israel separated themselves from the people of the lands to follow the law of God.

1. Separating ourselves from the world and living according to God's law.

2. The importance of being devoted to God and His law.

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.

Nehemiah 10:29 They clave to their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse, and into an oath, to walk in God's law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord, and his judgments and his statutes;

The people of Nehemiah made a promise to obey all the commands of God given to Moses.

1. The Power of Covenant and Promise

2. Keeping the Faith in an Unfaithful World

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. 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."

Nehemiah 10:30 And that we would not give our daughters unto the people of the land, nor take their daughters for our sons:

The people of Israel vowed not to intermarry with the people of the land in order to remain faithful to God.

1. "The Danger of Intermarriage: How to Stay True to God in a Fallen World"

2. "God's Covenant and Its Impact on Our Everyday Decisions"

1. Genesis 28:20-22 - Jacob's vow to serve the Lord in exchange for God's faithfulness

2. Psalm 106:34-36 - God's people intermarrying with foreign people and worshipping their gods

Nehemiah 10:31 And if the people of the land bring ware or any victuals on the sabbath day to sell, that we would not buy it of them on the sabbath, or on the holy day: and that we would leave the seventh year, and the exaction of every debt.

Nehemiah 10:31 outlines that the people of the land should not sell wares or food on the Sabbath or holy days, and that the seventh year and all debts must be left alone.

1. The importance of honoring the Sabbath and holy days

2. The power of leaving debt and the seventh year behind

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, 14 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. Matthew 6:12-13 "And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Nehemiah 10:32 Also we made ordinances for us, to charge ourselves yearly with the third part of a shekel for the service of the house of our God;

Nehemiah and his people instituted ordinances to pay a yearly tithe to the House of God.

1. The Blessing of Tithing Exploring the benefits of tithing and the importance of stewardship of God s gifts.

2. The Obligation of Tithing Understanding the importance of honoring God with our tithes and offerings.

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 you will not have room enough for it.

2. Deuteronomy 14:22-23 Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year. Eat the tithe of your grain, new wine and olive oil, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks in the presence of the Lord your God at the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name, so that you may learn to revere the Lord your God always.

Nehemiah 10:33 For the shewbread, and for the continual meat offering, and for the continual burnt offering, of the sabbaths, of the new moons, for the set feasts, and for the holy things, and for the sin offerings to make an atonement for Israel, and for all the work of the house of our God.

This verse speaks of the need for offerings for atonement, holiness, and the work of the House of God.

1. The Importance of Offering Atonement and Holiness to God

2. The Role of Obedience in the Work of the House of God

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. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Nehemiah 10:34 And we cast the lots among the priests, the Levites, and the people, for the wood offering, to bring it into the house of our God, after the houses of our fathers, at times appointed year by year, to burn upon the altar of the LORD our God, as it is written in the law:

We cast lots to bring wood offerings to God's house year by year, according to the law.

1. God's House Is Always Open: The Importance of Being Faithful To Our Offering

2. The Joy of Giving: Gratefulness and Obedience To God's Laws

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. 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.

Nehemiah 10:35 And to bring the firstfruits of our ground, and the firstfruits of all fruit of all trees, year by year, unto the house of the LORD:

A summarization of Nehemiah 10:35: The Israelites were commanded to bring the firstfruits of their land and the fruit of all trees to the LORD's house each year.

1. The Fruits of the Harvest: How to Cultivate Gratitude in our Lives

2. Cultivating Generosity: The Blessings of Giving to God

1. Deuteronomy 8:10-14; 18; When we remember the LORD our God it keeps us from pride and reminds us that all we have is from Him.

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.

Nehemiah 10:36 Also the firstborn of our sons, and of our cattle, as it is written in the law, and the firstlings of our herds and of our flocks, to bring to the house of our God, unto the priests that minister in the house of our God:

The Israelites are to bring the firstborn of their sons and cattle to the house of God, to be given to the priests.

1. The Call to Worship: Fulfilling the Law with Gratitude

2. The Power of Generosity: Blessing Others Through Obedience

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. 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.

Nehemiah 10:37 And that we should bring the firstfruits of our dough, and our offerings, and the fruit of all manner of trees, of wine and of oil, unto the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God; and the tithes of our ground unto the Levites, that the same Levites might have the tithes in all the cities of our tillage.

This passage talks about the Israelites offering the firstfruits of their dough, offerings, and fruit from trees, wine, and oil to the priests, and tithes of their ground to the Levites.

2

1. The Blessing of Giving: Encouraging Generosity and Gratitude

2. The Power of Partnership: Living in Righteous Community

2

1. Deuteronomy 26:1-11 - A call to give the firstfruits of the harvest to the Lord as a sign of gratitude.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Jesus's teaching about storing up treasures in heaven rather than on earth.

Nehemiah 10:38 And the priest the son of Aaron shall be with the Levites, when the Levites take tithes: and the Levites shall bring up the tithe of the tithes unto the house of our God, to the chambers, into the treasure house.

The Levites will take tithes from the people and bring them to the house of God, to be stored in the treasury.

1. "The Gift of Giving: Why We Tithe"

2. "The Joy of Generosity: Why We Offer Our Best to God"

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 3:10 - "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 you will not have room enough for it.

Nehemiah 10:39 For the children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the offering of the corn, of the new wine, and the oil, unto the chambers, where are the vessels of the sanctuary, and the priests that minister, and the porters, and the singers: and we will not forsake the house of our God.

The children of Israel and Levi are responsible for bringing the offering of corn, new wine, and oil to the temple chambers, where the vessels, priests, porters, and singers are located. They must not forsake the house of God.

1. God's House is Worth Defending: A Study of Nehemiah 10:39

2. The Significance of Offerings: A Study of Nehemiah 10:39

1. Deuteronomy 12:5 7,11 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: 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: 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. 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:

2. 1 Chronicles 16:36 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel for ever and ever. And all the people said, Amen, and praised the Lord.

Nehemiah chapter 11 focuses on the repopulation of Jerusalem and the allocation of residents to live within its walls. The chapter highlights the dedication of individuals who willingly volunteered to reside in Jerusalem, ensuring its vitality and security.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a description of how the leaders cast lots to determine which families would settle in Jerusalem. One out of every ten people would relocate to the city while the others remained in their towns (Nehemiah 11:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative provides a list of those who volunteered to live in Jerusalem. It includes both prominent leaders and ordinary citizens who were willing to make sacrifices for the sake of the city's well-being (Nehemiah 11:3-24).

3rd Paragraph: The account mentions various responsibilities assigned to specific individuals, such as overseeing different aspects of worship, managing public affairs, and maintaining order within Jerusalem (Nehemiah 11:25-36).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes by highlighting the overall purpose behind this repopulation effort to ensure that Jerusalem remained a vibrant city with inhabitants dedicated to God's law (Nehemiah 11:36b).

In summary, Chapter eleven of Nehemiah depicts the repopulation, and dedication experienced after rebuilding reconstruction of Jerusalem. Highlighting relocation expressed through voluntary commitment, and allocation achieved through casting lots. Mentioning responsibility given for various roles, and emphasis placed on spiritual vitality an embodiment representing communal sacrifice an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 11:1 And the rulers of the people dwelt at Jerusalem: the rest of the people also cast lots, to bring one of ten to dwell in Jerusalem the holy city, and nine parts to dwell in other cities.

The rulers of the people lived in Jerusalem, and the rest of the people cast lots to determine which ones of them would live in Jerusalem and which ones would live in other cities.

1. The importance of living in a holy city

2. The power of casting lots to make decisions

1. Galatians 6:2 - Bear one another s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

2. Acts 1:26 - And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias.

Nehemiah 11:2 And the people blessed all the men, that willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem.

The people blessed all those who willingly offered to dwell in Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Willingness: How a Positive Attitude Can Bring Blessing

2. Taking Up the Mantle: Making Sacrifices to Serve God

1. Philippians 2:13 - For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good 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.

Nehemiah 11:3 Now these are the chief of the province that dwelt in Jerusalem: but in the cities of Judah dwelt every one in his possession in their cities, to wit, Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and the Nethinims, and the children of Solomon's servants.

Nehemiah 11:3 describes the people who lived in Jerusalem, including Israelites, priests, Levites, Nethinims, and the children of Solomon's servants.

1. God's Provision for His People: Reflecting on Nehemiah 11:3.

2. The Provision of God: Drawing Strength and Hope from Nehemiah 11:3.

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 to dwell in it; and thither 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. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.

Nehemiah 11:4 And at Jerusalem dwelt certain of the children of Judah, and of the children of Benjamin. Of the children of Judah; Athaiah the son of Uzziah, the son of Zechariah, the son of Amariah, the son of Shephatiah, the son of Mahalaleel, of the children of Perez;

Jerusalem was inhabited by the children of Judah and Benjamin, and the head of the family of Judah was Athaiah, son of Uzziah.

1. "A City of Opportunity"

2. "God's Faithful People"

1. Hebrews 11:10 - "For he [Abraham] looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

2. Isaiah 2:2-4 - "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. 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."

Nehemiah 11:5 And Maaseiah the son of Baruch, the son of Colhozeh, the son of Hazaiah, the son of Adaiah, the son of Joiarib, the son of Zechariah, the son of Shiloni.

Maaseiah was the son of Baruch, son of Colhozeh, son of Hazaiah, son of Adaiah, son of Joiarib, son of Zechariah, and son of Shiloni.

1. A Godly Heritage: The Blessing of a Faithful Ancestry

2. Abiding Faith: The Legacy of Our Forefathers

1. Romans 5:17-18 - 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.

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.

Nehemiah 11:6 All the sons of Perez that dwelt at Jerusalem were four hundred threescore and eight valiant men.

There were 468 valiant men from the family of Perez who lived in Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Community: The Importance of Solidarity and Unity

2. Overcoming Adversity: Drawing Strength from Our Ancestors

1. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

2. Romans 12:5 - so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Nehemiah 11:7 And these are the sons of Benjamin; Sallu the son of Meshullam, the son of Joed, the son of Pedaiah, the son of Kolaiah, the son of Maaseiah, the son of Ithiel, the son of Jesaiah.

The passage lists the sons of Benjamin in the lineage of Sallu.

1. God's Faithfulness in Preserving the Lineage of His People

2. The Importance of Knowing Our Roots

1. Psalm 78:3-7 - "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."

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."

Nehemiah 11:8 And after him Gabbai, Sallai, nine hundred twenty and eight.

This passage records the names of the people of Jerusalem in the time of Nehemiah.

1. The Importance of Names in Scripture

2. The Power of Community in the Bible

1. Acts 4:32-37 - The Early Church's Sharing of Resources

2. Romans 12:4-8 - The Body of Christ and Unity in the Church

Nehemiah 11:9 And Joel the son of Zichri was their overseer: and Judah the son of Senuah was second over the city.

Joel the son of Zichri was the overseer of Jerusalem, and Judah the son of Senuah was second in command.

1. The Importance of Following God's Leadership

2. The Power of Unity and Working Together for God's Glory

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 4:11-16 - 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, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

Nehemiah 11:10 Of the priests: Jedaiah the son of Joiarib, Jachin.

Nehemiah lists Jedaiah and Jachin as two of the priests.

1. The Importance of Faithful Priests in the House of God

2. The Blessing of Serving the Lord Through Priesthood

1. Hebrews 13:7-8 Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13 The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.

Nehemiah 11:11 Seraiah the son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, was the ruler of the house of God.

The Seraiah was a ruler of the house of God.

1. God calls us to lead and glorify His house.

2. We can learn from the example of Seraiah and strive to grow in our faith and leadership.

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. 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."

Nehemiah 11:12 And their brethren that did the work of the house were eight hundred twenty and two: and Adaiah the son of Jeroham, the son of Pelaliah, the son of Amzi, the son of Zechariah, the son of Pashur, the son of Malchiah,

822 Levites volunteered to serve in the temple in Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Community: How Serving Together Brings Blessings

2. The Value of Service: How Giving Our Time Benefits Others

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. Luke 12:48 - For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.

Nehemiah 11:13 And his brethren, chief of the fathers, two hundred forty and two: and Amashai the son of Azareel, the son of Ahasai, the son of Meshillemoth, the son of Immer,

Nehemiah lists the names of two hundred and forty-two of his brethren, chief of the fathers. Amashai, the son of Azareel, is the last to be mentioned.

1. The Importance of Appreciating and Honoring our Ancestors

2. The Power of Legacy and How it Impacts our Lives

1. Romans 11:36 - For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

2. 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.

Nehemiah 11:14 And their brethren, mighty men of valour, an hundred twenty and eight: and their overseer was Zabdiel, the son of one of the great men.

Nehemiah appointed 128 mighty men of valor in Jerusalem to serve as overseers, with Zabdiel, the son of a prominent leader, as their leader.

1. The Power of Leadership: Learning from Nehemiah's Example

2. Wisdom in Choosing Leaders: The Value of Courage and Character

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

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: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

Nehemiah 11:15 Also of the Levites: Shemaiah the son of Hashub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Bunni;

Shemaiah, son of Hashub, was one of the Levites.

1. The Faithful Levite: Shemaiah's example of faith and obedience.

2. The Legacy of the Levites: How their faithfulness blesses generations.

1. Ephesians 2:19-22 - You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

20 Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

2. 1 Corinthians 3: 9-10 - For we are God s fellow workers. You are God s field, God s building. 10 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.

Nehemiah 11:16 And Shabbethai and Jozabad, of the chief of the Levites, had the oversight of the outward business of the house of God.

Shabbethai and Jozabad were two Levites assigned to be overseers of the temple of God.

1. The Importance of Dedicated Service to God

2. The Responsibility of Leadership in the Church

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. Ephesians 6:7 "Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people."

Nehemiah 11:17 And Mattaniah the son of Micha, the son of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, was the principal to begin the thanksgiving in prayer: and Bakbukiah the second among his brethren, and Abda the son of Shammua, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun.

Mattaniah and Bakbukiah, both sons of the Asaph family, began the thanksgiving in prayer with Abda also present.

1. The Power of Prayer: Learning from Nehemiah 11:17

2. The Blessing of Family: Finding Strength in Unity

1. Luke 11:1-13 - Jesus teaches the disciples how to pray

2. Psalm 127:1-2 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain

Nehemiah 11:18 All the Levites in the holy city were two hundred fourscore and four.

The number of Levites residing in Jerusalem was two hundred eighty-four.

1. The Strength of Unity: How Community Can Help Us Succeed

2. Faithful Living: The Holiness of the Levites

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. 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."

Nehemiah 11:19 Moreover the porters, Akkub, Talmon, and their brethren that kept the gates, were an hundred seventy and two.

This passage states that there were 172 porters who guarded the gates.

1. The Importance of Dedicated Service: Lessons from the Porters of Nehemiah 11

2. The Power of Unity: Working Together for a Common Goal

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. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up. Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone? And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart.

Nehemiah 11:20 And the residue of Israel, of the priests, and the Levites, were in all the cities of Judah, every one in his inheritance.

The remaining Israelites, priests, and Levites were scattered throughout Judah in their respective locations.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for His people - Nehemiah 11:20

2. The importance of living in community - Nehemiah 11:20

1. Acts 2:44-45 - All the believers were together and had everything in common.

2. Psalm 133:1 - How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

Nehemiah 11:21 But the Nethinims dwelt in Ophel: and Ziha and Gispa were over the Nethinims.

Nethinims, a group of temple servants, lived in Ophel and were managed by Ziha and Gispa.

1: God's people care for the least among us.

2: Our faithfulness to God is demonstrated in how we care for others.

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.

40 And the King will answer and say to them, Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.

2: Proverbs 19:17 - He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord, And He will pay back what he has given.

Nehemiah 11:22 The overseer also of the Levites at Jerusalem was Uzzi the son of Bani, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Micha. Of the sons of Asaph, the singers were over the business of the house of God.

Uzzi, the son of Bani, was appointed as overseer of the Levites in Jerusalem. The sons of Asaph were appointed to lead the singing in the house of God.

1. The Importance of Leadership in the Church - Nehemiah 11:22

2. God's Appointed Leaders - Nehemiah 11:22

1. Psalm 33:3 - "Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy."

2. 1 Corinthians 14:15 - "What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also."

Nehemiah 11:23 For it was the king's commandment concerning them, that a certain portion should be for the singers, due for every day.

Nehemiah 11:23 states that the King commanded the singers to receive a certain portion of their daily wages.

1. A Heart of Obedience: Learning to Listen to Authority

2. The Blessing of Generosity: God's Provision for His People

1. Colossians 3:22-24 "Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God: 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."

2. 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."

Nehemiah 11:24 And Pethahiah the son of Meshezabeel, of the children of Zerah the son of Judah, was at the king's hand in all matters concerning the people.

Pethahiah was the son of Meshezabeel of the children of Zerah the son of Judah and was the king's advisor for all matters regarding the people.

1. The importance of being an advisor to the king.

2. The power of counsel to lead with wisdom.

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.

Nehemiah 11:25 And for the villages, with their fields, some of the children of Judah dwelt at Kirjatharba, and in the villages thereof, and at Dibon, and in the villages thereof, and at Jekabzeel, and in the villages thereof,

The children of Judah lived in villages such as Kirjatharba, Dibon, and Jekabzeel, and the villages connected to them.

1. God's Faithfulness and His Provision for His People

2. How to Live a Life of Faith and Obedience

1. 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.

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.

Nehemiah 11:26 And at Jeshua, and at Moladah, and at Bethphelet,

Nehemiah organized a group of people to live in Jerusalem and rebuild the walls.

1: We should follow in Nehemiah's example to rebuild our lives and communities.

2: Nehemiah's example of commitment and perseverance is an inspiration to us all.

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 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.

Nehemiah 11:27 And at Hazarshual, and at Beersheba, and in the villages thereof,

Nehemiah oversaw the rebuilding of Jerusalem, instructing the people to live in the city and its nearby villages.

1. The importance of living in community and supporting one another.

2. The importance of following Nehemiah's example of determination and dedication.

1. Acts 2:42-47, the early church living in community and supporting one another.

2. Philippians 3:13-14, Paul's example of pressing on toward the goal.

Nehemiah 11:28 And at Ziklag, and at Mekonah, and in the villages thereof,

The passage describes various places in the region of Judah.

1. "The Power of Unity: Finding Strength in Our Connections"

2. "From Ziklag to Mekonah: The Lord's Faithfulness in Every Place"

1. Psalm 133:1 3

2. Joshua 24:15

Nehemiah 11:29 And at Enrimmon, and at Zareah, and at Jarmuth,

The passage describes three places in Israel during Nehemiah's time: Enrimmon, Zareah, and Jarmuth.

1. God's Faithfulness in a Divided Land: A Study of Nehemiah 11:29

2. The Unity of God's People: A Reflection on Nehemiah 11:29

1. Zechariah 2:4-5 - Be silent, all people, before the Lord, for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.

2. Psalm 133:1 - How good and pleasant it is when God s people live together in unity!

Nehemiah 11:30 Zanoah, Adullam, and in their villages, at Lachish, and the fields thereof, at Azekah, and in the villages thereof. And they dwelt from Beersheba unto the valley of Hinnom.

The people of Israel dwelt from Beersheba to the valley of Hinnom, including in the cities of Zanoah, Adullam, Lachish, and Azekah as well as their respective villages.

1. God's Faithfulness: A Study of Nehemiah 11:30

2. Finding Contentment: A Study of Nehemiah 11:30

1. Joshua 15:35 - "And the fortified cities are Ziddim, Zer, and Hammath, Rakkath, and Chinnereth,"

2. 1 Chronicles 4:43 - "And they smote the rest of the Amalekites that were escaped, and dwelt there unto this day."

Nehemiah 11:31 The children also of Benjamin from Geba dwelt at Michmash, and Aija, and Bethel, and in their villages,

The children of Benjamin lived in Geba, Michmash, Aija, Bethel, and their surrounding villages.

1. The importance of setting up a strong foundation in faith and community.

2. Staying rooted and connected to a spiritual home.

1. Luke 6:47-49 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. But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.

2. Matthew 21:43-44 Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.

Nehemiah 11:32 And at Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah,

The people of Anathoth, Nob, and Ananiah had a significant presence in Jerusalem.

1: We must recognize the importance of our presence in the world and use it to bring glory to God.

2: We should use our resources to build up and serve our communities and glorify God.

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: 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.

Nehemiah 11:33 Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim,

The people of Israel settled in Hazor, Ramah, and Gittaim.

1. God shows His grace by leading us to a safe place.

2. We should always remember to give thanks for the good things He has given us.

1. Psalm 107:1 - "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!"

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."

Nehemiah 11:34 Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat,

The people of Judah lived in Hadid, Zeboim, and Neballat.

1: We must be courageous and faithful in our dedication to God.

2: God's people should always stay true to their roots and remember where they come from.

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.

Nehemiah 11:35 Lod, and Ono, the valley of craftsmen.

This passage describes the cities of Lod and Ono, which were located in the valley of craftsmen.

1. God's Work in the Valley of Craftsmen

2. Nehemiah's Faithfulness in Establishing Cities

1. Exodus 35:30-33 - Moses appoints Bezalel to lead craftsmen in building the Tabernacle

2. 2 Chronicles 2:14 - Solomon employs craftsmen from Tyre to build the Temple

Nehemiah 11:36 And of the Levites were divisions in Judah, and in Benjamin.

Nehemiah 11:36 records the divisions of the Levites in Judah and Benjamin.

1. The Importance of Unity in the Church

2. The Role of the Levites in Biblical Times

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 selfish ambition 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.

Nehemiah chapter 12 focuses on the dedication of the rebuilt wall of Jerusalem and the joyful celebration that accompanies it. The chapter highlights the procession of priests and Levites, as well as their roles in worship and thanksgiving.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a list of priests and Levites who returned to Jerusalem during the time of Zerubbabel and Jeshua. It mentions their leaders, divisions, and responsibilities (Nehemiah 12:1-26).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative describes the dedication ceremony for the wall. Nehemiah appoints two large choirs that proceed in opposite directions on top of the wall, offering songs of thanksgiving. They gather at the Temple to continue their joyful worship (Nehemiah 12:27-43).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how they celebrate with great joy, offering sacrifices and rejoicing together. They also reinstate various musical traditions established by King David and his officials (Nehemiah 12:44-47).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes by mentioning individuals who are responsible for maintaining provisions for priests, Levites, singers, gatekeepers, and other temple workers. Their duties are outlined to ensure proper care for those involved in temple service (Nehemiah 12:44b-47).

In summary, Chapter twelve of Nehemiah depicts the dedication, and celebration experienced after rebuilding reconstruction of Jerusalem. Highlighting procession expressed through priestly roles, and jubilation achieved through worshipful singing. Mentioning reinstatement shown for musical traditions, and provision embraced for temple workers an embodiment representing gratitude an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 12:1 Now these are the priests and the Levites that went up with Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua: Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra,

1: We should honor our spiritual leaders, for they were called by God to lead us in righteousness.

2: As we look to the example of Nehemiah, Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Seraiah, Jeremiah, and Ezra, we are reminded of the importance of honoring our spiritual leaders, who were called by God to lead us in righteousness.

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. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

2: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 We ask you, brothers, to respect 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. Be at peace among yourselves.

Nehemiah 12:2 Amariah, Malluch, Hattush,

The passage mentions four individuals: Amariah, Malluch, Hattush, and Shecaniah.

1. We need to be like Amariah, Malluch, Hattush, and Shecaniah - steadfast in our faith in God, no matter what challenges come our way.

2. We should remain devoted to the Lord, just like Amariah, Malluch, Hattush, and Shecaniah.

1. Joshua 24:15 - 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.

Nehemiah 12:3 Shechaniah, Rehum, Meremoth,

The passage introduces four people: Shechaniah, Rehum, Meremoth, and Hashabiah.

1. The Power of Unity: How the Presence of Shechaniah, Rehum, Meremoth, and Hashabiah Can Help Us Unite

2. The Faithfulness of Shechaniah, Rehum, Meremoth, and Hashabiah: A Reminder of What It Takes to Build a Community

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

2. 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.

Nehemiah 12:4 Iddo, Ginnetho, Abijah,

This passage mentions four names: Iddo, Ginnetho, Abijah, and Maaziah.

1. The Power of Names: How God Uses Names to Show His Faithfulness

2. The Significance of a Legacy: What We Can Learn from Biblical Names

1. Isaiah 9:6 - 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. 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.

Nehemiah 12:5 Miamin, Maadiah, Bilgah,

The passage lists four names: Miamin, Maadiah, Bilgah, and Shemaiah.

1. The Power of Names: Exploring the Impact of Our Identity

2. Unity in Diversity: Embracing Our Differences in the Body of Christ

1. 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.

20 Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

2. Romans 12:4-5 - For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Nehemiah 12:6 Shemaiah, and Joiarib, Jedaiah,

The passage mentions four people: Shemaiah, Joiarib, Jedaiah, and Nehemiah.

1. The importance of community - how the presence of other, godly people can help us in our spiritual journeys.

2. The power of example - how the example of people like Nehemiah can inspire us to live out our faith.

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 12:4-5 - 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.

Nehemiah 12:7 Sallu, Amok, Hilkiah, Jedaiah. These were the chief of the priests and of their brethren in the days of Jeshua.

In Nehemiah 12:7, Jeshua is mentioned as the chief of the priests, and is accompanied by Sallu, Amok, Hilkiah, and Jedaiah.

1. The Importance of Leadership: A Study of Jeshua in Nehemiah 12:7

2. The Power of Unity: A Reflection on the Priesthood in Nehemiah 12:7

1. 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."

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."

Nehemiah 12:8 Moreover the Levites: Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, and Mattaniah, which was over the thanksgiving, he and his brethren.

This passage describes the Levites who were responsible for the thanksgiving to God in the temple.

1. The Power of a Grateful Heart: How Gratitude Can Change Your Life

2. The Importance of Thanksgiving: Understanding the Necessity of Being Thankful

1. Colossians 3:16-17 - 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. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 - In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Nehemiah 12:9 Also Bakbukiah and Unni, their brethren, were over against them in the watches.

Bakbukiah and Unni, two of Nehemiah's brethren, were in charge of watching the work being done.

1. The Power of Working Together: A Study of Nehemiah 12:9

2. The Importance of Vigilance: Nehemiah 12:9 in Focus

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

2. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

Nehemiah 12:10 And Jeshua begat Joiakim, Joiakim also begat Eliashib, and Eliashib begat Joiada,

The passage recounts the genealogy of Joiada from Jeshua.

1. The importance of lineage and the power of God in continuing the legacy of his chosen people.

2. Learning from the examples of previous generations and how to apply them to our own lives.

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. Matthew 1:1-17 - 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; And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram; And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon; And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse; And Jesse begat David the king; and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias; And Solomon begat Roboam; and Roboam begat Abia; and Abia begat Asa; And Asa begat Josaphat; and Josaphat begat Joram; and Joram begat Ozias; And Ozias begat Joatham; and Joatham begat Achaz; and Achaz begat Ezekias; And Ezekias begat Manasses; and Manasses begat Amon; and Amon begat Josias; And Josias begat Jechonias and his brethren, about the time they were carried away to Babylon: And after they were brought to Babylon, Jechonias begat Salathiel; and Salathiel begat Zorobabel; And Zorobabel begat Abiud; and Abiud begat Eliakim; and Eliakim begat Azor; And Azor begat Sadoc; and Sadoc begat Achim; and Achim begat Eliud; And Eliud begat Eleazar; and Eleazar begat Matthan; and Matthan begat Jacob; And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

Nehemiah 12:11 And Joiada begat Jonathan, and Jonathan begat Jaddua.

This passage tells us about the lineage of Joiada and his descendants.

1: God will bless us if we remain faithful to Him.

2: We should always strive to honor our ancestors.

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: Hebrews 11:20-21 - By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future. He even blessed Esau in regard to things to come. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph s sons and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.

Nehemiah 12:12 And in the days of Joiakim were priests, the chief of the fathers: of Seraiah, Meraiah; of Jeremiah, Hananiah;

The passage mentions three priests from the days of Joiakim.

1: The Power of Priestly Families: Joiakim's priests show us the importance of the power of priestly families in biblical times.

2: God's Care for His People: Joiakim's priests remind us of God's care for his people, as he provided them with wise and experienced leaders.

1: Exodus 19:6, And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation.

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.

Nehemiah 12:13 Of Ezra, Meshullam; of Amariah, Jehohanan;

The passage mentions two people, Ezra and Amariah, and their respective associates, Meshullam and Jehohanan.

1. The Power of Connections: How God Uses Our Friendships to Work His Will

2. The Importance of Mentorship: Learning from the Faith of Our Elders

1. Proverbs 13:20, "Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm."

2. Acts 17:11, "Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so."

Nehemiah 12:14 Of Melicu, Jonathan; of Shebaniah, Joseph;

The passage mentions two names, Melicu and Shebaniah, and their respective associates, Jonathan and Joseph.

1. The Power of Mentorship: Learning from Others and Working Together

2. God's Providential Care: Finding Strength in Unexpected Places

1. Proverbs 13:20: "Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm."

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!"

Nehemiah 12:15 Of Harim, Adna; of Meraioth, Helkai;

This passage mentions two priests, Harim and Meraioth, and their respective sons, Adna and Helkai.

1. God has given us the gift of community and the importance of passing on our faith to the next generation.

2. Our families are a blessing from God and should be used to honor and spread His love.

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 6:5-7 - 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.

Nehemiah 12:16 Of Iddo, Zechariah; of Ginnethon, Meshullam;

This passage mentions three people - Iddo, Zechariah, and Ginnethon - and their respective fathers, Meshullam.

1. The importance of honoring our fathers.

2. The legacy of passing faith down through generations.

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 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it".

Nehemiah 12:17 Of Abijah, Zichri; of Miniamin, of Moadiah, Piltai;

The passage mentions the names of Abijah, Zichri, Miniamin, Moadiah, and Piltai.

1. The Power of a Name: How Each Name in the Bible Represents a Unique Gift from God

2. God s Faithfulness in Difficult Times: The Story of Nehemiah

1. Isaiah 7:14 - "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Nehemiah 12:18 Of Bilgah, Shammua; of Shemaiah, Jehonathan;

The passage mentions four people: Bilgah, Shammua, Shemaiah, and Jehonathan.

1. God is always at work to accomplish his plans, even through ordinary people.

2. God's faithfulness is seen in the generations of his people.

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.

12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. 13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

2. Psalm 145:4 - One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

Nehemiah 12:19 And of Joiarib, Mattenai; of Jedaiah, Uzzi;

The passage mentions four names: Joiarib, Mattenai, Jedaiah, and Uzzi.

1. The importance of remembering the names of those who have served the Lord faithfully

2. The power of having a good name in the Lord's sight

1. Proverbs 22:1 "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, Loving favor rather than silver and gold."

2. Romans 12:10 "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Nehemiah 12:20 Of Sallai, Kallai; of Amok, Eber;

Nehemiah appointed leaders to help him in his mission to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

1. God calls us to be courageous leaders in fulfilling His mission.

2. We can find strength in coming together to build up God's Kingdom.

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 133:1 - "How good and pleasant it is when God s people live together in unity!"

Nehemiah 12:21 Of Hilkiah, Hashabiah; of Jedaiah, Nethaneel.

This passage lists four people: Hilkiah, Hashabiah, Jedaiah, and Nethaneel.

1. God calls us all to serve Him, no matter our station in life.

2. We should recognize God's will for our lives and follow it faithfully.

1. Matthew 28:19 - "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. 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 as 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."

Nehemiah 12:22 The Levites in the days of Eliashib, Joiada, and Johanan, and Jaddua, were recorded chief of the fathers: also the priests, to the reign of Darius the Persian.

The Levites were recorded as the chief of the fathers from the days of Eliashib to the reign of Darius the Persian.

1: We can learn from the Levites and their faithfulness across many generations, from Eliashib to Darius the Persian.

2: God is faithful and His work is not in vain. We can look to the Levites as an example of faithfulness and perseverance.

1: 2 Timothy 3:14-15 - 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.

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.

Nehemiah 12:23 The sons of Levi, the chief of the fathers, were written in the book of the chronicles, even until the days of Johanan the son of Eliashib.

The sons of Levi were recorded in a book of chronicles from Eliashib's time until Johanan's time.

1. The faithfulness of God in preserving the lineage of the Levites

2. The importance of documenting God's work in our lives

1. Luke 1:5-7 - In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord.

2. Romans 1:1-7 - Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations.

Nehemiah 12:24 And the chief of the Levites: Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua the son of Kadmiel, with their brethren over against them, to praise and to give thanks, according to the commandment of David the man of God, ward over against ward.

The Levite chiefs- Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua- and their brethren were commanded by David the man of God to praise and give thanks, alternating in groups.

1. The Power of Praise: Learning to Appreciate and Give Thanks

2. A Called to Worship: Following the Example of David the Man of God

1. Psalm 100:4 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 - Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Nehemiah 12:25 Mattaniah, and Bakbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon, Akkub, were porters keeping the ward at the thresholds of the gates.

The people of Nehemiah were keeping watch on the city gates.

1: We can all be watchmen in our day and age, being vigilant in prayer and standing firm in faith against the spiritual forces of evil.

2: God calls us to be watchful, faithful and obedient servants of Him, just as Mattaniah, Bakbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon, and Akkub were watchmen at the gate of Jerusalem.

1: 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."

2: Colossians 4:2, "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."

Nehemiah 12:26 These were in the days of Joiakim the son of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, and in the days of Nehemiah the governor, and of Ezra the priest, the scribe.

Nehemiah 12 recounts the days of Joiakim, Jeshua, Jozadak, Nehemiah the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe.

1. The Power of People in Leadership: Examining the Lives of Joiakim, Jeshua, Jozadak, Nehemiah, and Ezra

2. Working Together to Move Forward: The Impact of Cooperation in Leadership

1. Philippians 2:3 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves."

2. Proverbs 15:22 - "Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established."

Nehemiah 12:27 And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites out of all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem, to keep the dedication with gladness, both with thanksgivings, and with singing, with cymbals, psalteries, and with harps.

The Levites were sought out of their places and brought to Jerusalem to celebrate the dedication of the wall with gladness, thanksgivings, singing, and musical instruments.

1. Joyfully Celebrating God's Blessings

2. Fulfilling Our Obligations to the Lord

1. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

2. Philippians 4:4 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Nehemiah 12:28 And the sons of the singers gathered themselves together, both out of the plain country round about Jerusalem, and from the villages of Netophathi;

The singers of Jerusalem and its surrounding villages gathered together.

1. The Power of Music to Unite and Inspire

2. The Importance of Community and Togetherness

1. 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!

2. Acts 2:31 32: He foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.

Nehemiah 12:29 Also from the house of Gilgal, and out of the fields of Geba and Azmaveth: for the singers had builded them villages round about Jerusalem.

The singers had built villages around Jerusalem, specifically from the house of Gilgal, and the fields of Geba and Azmaveth.

1. Establishing a Place for Praise: What We Can Learn from Nehemiah 12:29

2. Building with Purpose: Being Intentional in our Praise and Worship

1. Psalm 134:1 - "Praise the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, who stand by night in the house of the Lord!"

2. Psalm 122:6 - "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you."

Nehemiah 12:30 And the priests and the Levites purified themselves, and purified the people, and the gates, and the wall.

The priests and Levites purified themselves and the people, as well as the gates and wall.

1: The Power of Purification - How God s people can cleanse themselves from sin and be made whole.

2: The Importance of the Walls - Why it s necessary to build up a spiritual defense against the world.

1: Titus 2:11-14 - The grace of God teaches us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world.

2: 1 Thessalonians 5:22-24 - Abstain from all appearance of evil.

Nehemiah 12:31 Then I brought up the princes of Judah upon the wall, and appointed two great companies of them that gave thanks, whereof one went on the right hand upon the wall toward the dung gate:

Nehemiah led the princes of Judah upon the wall and organized two groups to give thanks.

1. The Power of Praise: Giving Thanks in Difficult Times

2. Nehemiah's Courageous Leadership

1. Psalm 100:4 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

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.

Nehemiah 12:32 And after them went Hoshaiah, and half of the princes of Judah,

The leaders of Judah followed Hoshaiah.

1: Following in the footsteps of great leaders.

2: Being an example for others to follow.

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: Philippians 3:17 - "Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do."

Nehemiah 12:33 And Azariah, Ezra, and Meshullam,

The priests and Levites helped Nehemiah by leading the people in praise and thanksgiving.

1. The Power of Gratitude: How Giving Thanks Can Transform Your Life

2. The Priestly Role of Leading People in Worship

1. Colossians 3:15-17 - 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 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!

Nehemiah 12:34 Judah, and Benjamin, and Shemaiah, and Jeremiah,

The four people mentioned in this passage are Judah, Benjamin, Shemaiah, and Jeremiah.

1. The importance of unity among God's people.

2. The power of community in faith.

1. 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."

2. Romans 12:5 - "so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."

Nehemiah 12:35 And certain of the priests' sons with trumpets; namely, Zechariah the son of Jonathan, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Michaiah, the son of Zaccur, the son of Asaph:

The priests' sons in Nehemiah's time were led by Zechariah, the son of Jonathan, son of Shemaiah, son of Mattaniah, Michaiah, Zaccur, and Asaph.

1. The Power of Generational Faithfulness

2. The Legacy of Spiritual Leadership

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. Hebrews 11:1-2 - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report."

Nehemiah 12:36 And his brethren, Shemaiah, and Azarael, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethaneel, and Judah, Hanani, with the musical instruments of David the man of God, and Ezra the scribe before them.

Nehemiah was joined by his brothers, Shemaiah, Azarael, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethaneel, and Judah, Hanani, and Ezra the scribe, all playing musical instruments according to the instructions of David the man of God.

1. The Power of Unity: Working Together to Accomplish the Will of God

2. The Importance of Music in Worship

1. Psalm 33:3 - "Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy."

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."

Nehemiah 12:37 And at the fountain gate, which was over against them, they went up by the stairs of the city of David, at the going up of the wall, above the house of David, even unto the water gate eastward.

Summarize Passage: Nehemiah and the people of Israel went up the stairs of the city of David, from the fountain gate to the water gate eastward, over the house of David.

1. The Journey of Faith: Walking the Steps of Nehemiah

2. The Power of Obedience: Following the Path of Nehemiah

1. Psalm 122:1, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."

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."

Nehemiah 12:38 And the other company of them that gave thanks went over against them, and I after them, and the half of the people upon the wall, from beyond the tower of the furnaces even unto the broad wall;

The people of Jerusalem express their thanksgiving by taking turns going around the wall, from the tower of the furnaces to the broad wall.

1. Taking Time to Give Thanks

2. How We Should Express Gratitude

1. Colossians 4:2 - Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

2. Psalm 100:4-5 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Nehemiah 12:39 And from above the gate of Ephraim, and above the old gate, and above the fish gate, and the tower of Hananeel, and the tower of Meah, even unto the sheep gate: and they stood still in the prison gate.

Nehemiah and the people of Israel stood still in the prison gate, which was located near several towers and gates in the city.

1. The Power of Standing Still in Prayer

2. The Strength of Standing Together in Unity

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. Acts 4:31-32, After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

Nehemiah 12:40 So stood the two companies of them that gave thanks in the house of God, and I, and the half of the rulers with me:

The two companies of people gave thanks in the house of God, with Nehemiah and half of the rulers.

1. Give thanks in the House of God

2. Show Gratitude to God for his Blessings

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 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.

Nehemiah 12:41 And the priests; Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Michaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, and Hananiah, with trumpets;

This passage describes the priests who accompanied Nehemiah to the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem with trumpets.

1. The Power of Praise and Worship - how praise and worship can help bring about miracles, such as the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem.

2. The Role of Leadership - how Nehemiah's leadership guided the priests and people of Israel to fulfill God's mission.

1. Psalm 150:3-6 - Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

2. Joshua 1:7-9 - 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. 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. 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.

Nehemiah 12:42 And Maaseiah, and Shemaiah, and Eleazar, and Uzzi, and Jehohanan, and Malchijah, and Elam, and Ezer. And the singers sang loud, with Jezrahiah their overseer.

This passage reflects the joy and dedication of the singers in the Temple of Jerusalem.

1. Rejoice in the Lord and always give Him your best.

2. No matter the task, give it your all and dedicate it to the Lord.

1. Psalm 100:2 - "Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing."

2. Colossians 3:23 - "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men."

Nehemiah 12:43 Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for God had made them rejoice with great joy: the wives also and the children rejoiced: so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off.

On the day of the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem, the people offered great sacrifices and rejoiced with great joy, and the joy was heard from far away.

1. The power of joy in the Lord

2. The joy of celebrating God's goodness

1. Philippians 4:4-7 Rejoice in the Lord always: 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. 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.

Nehemiah 12:44 And at that time were some appointed over the chambers for the treasures, for the offerings, for the firstfruits, and for the tithes, to gather into them out of the fields of the cities the portions of the law for the priests and Levites: for Judah rejoiced for the priests and for the Levites that waited.

Appointments were made to collect and store offerings and tithes from the fields of the cities to be given to the priests and Levites, and Judah rejoiced for them.

1. Giving Joyfully: The Example of the People of Judah

2. Appreciating and Supporting God's Servants

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. 1 Timothy 5:17-18 - Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain, and, The laborer deserves his wages.

Nehemiah 12:45 And both the singers and the porters kept the ward of their God, and the ward of the purification, according to the commandment of David, and of Solomon his son.

This passage describes how the singers and the porters kept the ward of their God and the ward of the purification according to the commandment of David and Solomon.

1. The Power of Obedience to God's Commandments

2. The Importance of Keeping the Ward of God

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind

2. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments.

Nehemiah 12:46 For in the days of David and Asaph of old there were chief of the singers, and songs of praise and thanksgiving unto God.

The passage speaks of the importance of singing songs of praise and thanksgiving to God in the days of David and Asaph.

1. Cultivating Joyful Praise: The Power of Worship

2. The Heart of Worship: Giving Thanks to God

1. Psalm 100:4 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise 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.

Nehemiah 12:47 And all Israel in the days of Zerubbabel, and in the days of Nehemiah, gave the portions of the singers and the porters, every day his portion: and they sanctified holy things unto the Levites; and the Levites sanctified them unto the children of Aaron.

The people of Israel provided resources to the Levites and the children of Aaron every day.

1. Living Generously: The Example of the People of Israel

2. The Power of Holiness: Setting Apart God's Portion

1. Deuteronomy 14:22-29 Instructions for Israelite Tithe and Offerings

2. Hebrews 13:16 Giving Sacrifices as a Spiritual Act of Worship

Nehemiah chapter 13 describes Nehemiah's return to Jerusalem after a period of absence and his efforts to address various issues of disobedience and neglect among the people. The chapter highlights his actions to restore order, enforce Sabbath observance, and purify the priesthood.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Nehemiah returning to Jerusalem and discovering that Tobiah, an Ammonite, had been given a room in the temple. He immediately removes Tobiah's belongings from the temple chambers and cleanses them (Nehemiah 13:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Nehemiah's efforts to reinstate proper Sabbath observance. He confronts merchants who were selling goods on the Sabbath day outside Jerusalem's walls and commands them to cease their activities (Nehemiah 13:15-22).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights Nehemiah's response to intermarriage between Israelites and foreigners. He rebukes those who had married foreign women, reminding them of Solomon's sin in this regard. He forcefully separates those involved in such marriages (Nehemiah 13:23-27).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with Nehemiah purifying the priesthood by removing Eliashib, who had allowed Tobiah access to the temple chambers. He appoints trustworthy priests and Levites to oversee temple duties diligently (Nehemiah 13:28-31).

In summary, Chapter thirteen of Nehemiah depicts the restoration, and enforcement experienced after rebuilding reconstruction of Jerusalem. Highlighting purification expressed through removal of foreign influences, and restoration achieved through reinstating Sabbath observance. Mentioning separation shown for intermarriage practices, and reestablishment embraced for priestly responsibilities an embodiment representing spiritual discipline an affirmation regarding restoration towards rebuilding a testament illustrating commitment towards honoring covenant relationship between Creator-God and chosen people-Israel

Nehemiah 13:1 On that day they read in the book of Moses in the audience of the people; and therein was found written, that the Ammonite and the Moabite should not come into the congregation of God for ever;

1: Do not be disobedient to God and reject His laws, but rather remain faithful and obedient.

2: Do not allow those who break God's laws into the congregation of God.

1: Deuteronomy 23:3-4 No Ammonite or Moabite shall be admitted into the assembly of the LORD. Even to the tenth generation, none of them shall be admitted into the assembly of the LORD forever, because they did not meet you with bread and water on the way when you came out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse you.

2: Joshua 23:12-13 Else, 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.

The book of Moses was read to the people and it was found written that the Ammonite and Moabite should not be allowed into the congregation of God forever.

Nehemiah 13:2 Because they met not the children of Israel with bread and with water, but hired Balaam against them, that he should curse them: howbeit our God turned the curse into a blessing.

God's love and faithfulness is seen when He turns curses into blessings.

1: God's Love Always Wins

2: How Faithfulness Sees Us Through

Psalm 91:2 "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

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."

Nehemiah 13:3 Now it came to pass, when they had heard the law, that they separated from Israel all the mixed multitude.

After hearing the law, the mixed multitude was separated from Israel.

1. Abiding by the Law: How to Follow God's Commandments

2. The Unity of God's People: The Value of Separation

1. Deuteronomy 7:3-4 - "You shall 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."

2. Ephesians 2:14 - "For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility."

Nehemiah 13:4 And before this, Eliashib the priest, having the oversight of the chamber of the house of our God, was allied unto Tobiah:

Eliashib the priest was allied with Tobiah, and had the oversight of the chamber of the house of God.

1. "The Danger of Associating with the Wrong People"

2. "The Importance of Upholding God's House"

1. James 4:4 - "You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."

2. 1 Timothy 3:15 - "if I am delayed, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth."

Nehemiah 13:5 And he had prepared for him a great chamber, where aforetime they laid the meat offerings, the frankincense, and the vessels, and the tithes of the corn, the new wine, and the oil, which was commanded to be given to the Levites, and the singers, and the porters; and the offerings of the priests.

Nehemiah prepared a great chamber for the Levites, singers, porters, and priests in which they could store their offerings.

1. The Power of Generosity: How to Give Joyfully and Abundantly

2. A Deeper Look at Sacrifice: How Sacrifice Helps Us Worship God

1. 1 Corinthians 16:2 - On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerfuly giver.

Nehemiah 13:6 But in all this time was not I at Jerusalem: for in the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon came I unto the king, and after certain days obtained I leave of the king:

Nehemiah was not in Jerusalem for two and a half years, as he was granted leave to go to the King of Babylon.

1. Maintaining Faithful Commitment in Difficult Times

2. Fulfilling God's Calling Despite Challenges

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 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.

Nehemiah 13:7 And I came to Jerusalem, and understood of the evil that Eliashib did for Tobiah, in preparing him a chamber in the courts of the house of God.

Nehemiah discovered that Eliashib had prepared a chamber in the house of God for Tobiah.

1. God's House is Sacred: The Importance of Keeping it Holy.

2. The Consequences of Not Taking God's House Seriously.

1. Matthew 21:13 - "And he said to them, 'It is written, "My house shall be called a house of prayer," but you make it a den of robbers.'"

2. 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.

Nehemiah 13:8 And it grieved me sore: therefore I cast forth all the household stuff of Tobiah out of the chamber.

Nehemiah was greatly angered by the presence of Tobiah in the temple chambers and he cast out all the household stuff of Tobiah in response.

1. Seeing the Unacceptable in God's House: How Nehemiah Responded

2. Taking a Stand: The Example of Nehemiah

1. Ephesians 5:11-12 - Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.

2. Psalm 24:3-4 - Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart.

Nehemiah 13:9 Then I commanded, and they cleansed the chambers: and thither brought I again the vessels of the house of God, with the meat offering and the frankincense.

Nehemiah commanded the people to cleanse the chambers and restore the vessels of the house of God, along with the meat offering and frankincense.

1. The Need for Obedience to God's Commandments

2. The Importance of Restoring God's House

1. John 14:15 ESV - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

2. Isaiah 56:7 ESV - These I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

Nehemiah 13:10 And I perceived that the portions of the Levites had not been given them: for the Levites and the singers, that did the work, were fled every one to his field.

Nehemiah noticed that the Levites had not been given their proper portions, and that the singers and Levites responsible for the work had all gone back to their fields.

1. God's Work Must Not Go Unrewarded

2. The Responsibility of Leaders to Care for Their Followers

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. 1 Timothy 5:17-18 - Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain, and, The laborer deserves his wages.

Nehemiah 13:11 Then contended I with the rulers, and said, Why is the house of God forsaken? And I gathered them together, and set them in their place.

Nehemiah questioned the leaders why the house of God was neglected and then organized them to fix it.

1. God's house should be kept sacred and its care should be taken seriously.

2. We should take responsibility for our actions and prioritize God's house.

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. 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."

Nehemiah 13:12 Then brought all Judah the tithe of the corn and the new wine and the oil unto the treasuries.

The people of Judah brought their tithes of the corn, new wine, and oil to the treasuries.

1: We should be generous with our offerings, recognizing that all we have is a gift from God.

2: We should give to the Lord from the abundance of our blessings, as a token of our trust in His provision.

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: 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."

Nehemiah 13:13 And I made treasurers over the treasuries, Shelemiah the priest, and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah: and next to them was Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah: for they were counted faithful, and their office was to distribute unto their brethren.

Nehemiah appointed Shelemiah the priest, Zadok the scribe, and Pedaiah of the Levites, as well as Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah, as treasurers over the treasuries, because they were considered faithful and were responsible for distributing to their brethren.

1. The Importance of Faithful Leadership - Nehemiah 13:13

2. Serving God and Serving Others - Nehemiah 13:13

1. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

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.

Nehemiah 13:14 Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof.

Nehemiah pleads with God to remember the good deeds he has done for the House of God.

1. The Importance of Serving God with a Heart of Love

2. Faithful Service: Doing Good for the House of God

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. Psalm 37:3 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

Nehemiah 13:15 In those days saw I in Judah some treading wine presses on the sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, and figs, and all manner of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the sabbath day: and I testified against them in the day wherein they sold victuals.

Nehemiah saw people in Judah working and carrying burdens on the Sabbath which was against the laws of God.

1. "The Power of Obedience" - A emphasizing the importance of following God's laws.

2. "Living in the Presence of God" - A addressing the need to live our lives with God in mind.

1. Exodus 20:8-10 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

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.

Nehemiah 13:16 There dwelt men of Tyre also therein, which brought fish, and all manner of ware, and sold on the sabbath unto the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem.

Tyrian traders were living in Jerusalem and selling their wares on the Sabbath to the people of Judah.

1. God's Word is Clear: Don't Break the Sabbath

2. Working on the Sabbath: Is it Worth It?

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

2. Mark 2:23-28 - And it came to pass, that he went through the corn fields on the sabbath day; and his disciples began, as they went, to pluck the ears of corn.

Nehemiah 13:17 Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said unto them, What evil thing is this that ye do, and profane the sabbath day?

Nehemiah confronted the nobles of Judah for their profaning of the Sabbath.

1. Keep the Sabbath Holy

2. Holy Living is a Sign of Obedience to God

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

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God.

Nehemiah 13:18 Did not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? yet ye bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the sabbath.

Nehemiah warns against profaning the Sabbath, reminding the people of how their actions can bring more evil upon Israel.

1: We need to remember our fathers and our God and refrain from profaning the Sabbath.

2: We need to take responsibility for our actions and be mindful of how our decisions impact the world around us.

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

2: Colossians 2:16-17 - 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.

Nehemiah 13:19 And it came to pass, that when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the sabbath: and some of my servants set I at the gates, that there should no burden be brought in on the sabbath day.

1: We should be careful to observe God's laws and commandments.

2: We should strive to honor the Sabbath day.

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

2: Matthew 12:1-14 - Jesus and his disciples picked grain to eat on the Sabbath.

Nehemiah 13:20 So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jerusalem once or twice.

Merchants and sellers from all types of businesses traveled to Jerusalem to conduct their business.

1. The importance of business in the life of a Christian.

2. Following God's plan despite opposition.

1. Proverbs 13:11 - Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it.

2. Nehemiah 4:14 - In the night I went out with my servants by the Valley Gate as far as the Dragon Spring and the Dung Gate, and I inspected the walls of Jerusalem that had been broken down and its gates that had been destroyed by fire.

Nehemiah 13:21 Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the wall? if ye do so again, I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they no more on the sabbath.

Nehemiah confronted the people for loitering by the wall on the Sabbath and warned them not to do so again.

1. Living in Obedience to God's Law

2. Choosing to Commit to God's Word

1. Deuteronomy 5:12-15, Keep the Sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee. Six days thou shalt 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, 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. 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.

2. 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.

Nehemiah 13:22 And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should come and keep the gates, to sanctify the sabbath day. Remember me, O my God, concerning this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.

Nehemiah emphasizes the importance of observing the Sabbath day and entreats God to remember him in his petition.

1. Keeping God's Commandments: The Importance of the Sabbath

2. God's Mercy: Praying for His Blessing

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 in triumph on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob.

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.

Nehemiah 13:23 In those days also saw I Jews that had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab:

1: We are called to be holy and to not be entangled with unbelievers.

2: We must seek to honor God with our lives no matter what the cost.

1: 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? 15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 16 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."

2: 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. 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."

Nehemiah 13:24 And their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people.

The children of Nehemiah's people were speaking the language of Ashdod and not the language of the Jews.

1. The Power of Language in Uniting or Dividing Us

2. Keeping Our Language Alive

1. Acts 2:4- 11 - The Holy Spirit coming down, with all present able to understand what is said in their own language.

2. Genesis 11:1-9 - The Tower of Babel and the confusion of languages.

Nehemiah 13:25 And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, saying, Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves.

Nehemiah contended with those who disobeyed God's commandment to not intermarry with foreign nations and punished them by cursing, smiting, and plucking off their hair, making them swear to God to not disobey.

1. Nehemiah's Boldness in Upholding God's Commandments

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God's Word

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. 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."

Nehemiah 13:26 Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? yet among many nations was there no king like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless even him did outlandish women cause to sin.

Solomon was a beloved king of Israel who was favored by God, but he still sinned due to the influence of foreign women.

1. God's Favor Does Not Imply Immortality: Lessons from the Life of Solomon

2. Temptation: The Need to Stay Vigilant in Faith

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. Romans 6:12-14 - Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Nehemiah 13:27 Shall we then hearken unto you to do all this great evil, to transgress against our God in marrying strange wives?

Nehemiah reprimands the people of Israel for their disobedience in marrying foreign wives.

1. Learning to Listen and Obey God's Word

2. The Power of Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 7:1-4

2. Ephesians 5:22-33

Nehemiah 13:28 And one of the sons of Joiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, was son in law to Sanballat the Horonite: therefore I chased him from me.

Nehemiah chased away one of Joiada's sons-in-law, Sanballat, who was a Horonite, from his presence.

1. Guarding Your Heart: The Power of Nehemiah's Action

2. Remaining Faithful Despite Temptation: A Study of Nehemiah 13:28

1. Acts 20:28-29, "Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock.

2. Proverbs 4:23, "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."

Nehemiah 13:29 Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood, and the covenant of the priesthood, and of the Levites.

God's people must remain devoted to Him and His covenant.

1: We must remain devoted to God and His covenant, no matter the cost.

2: We must be willing to pay the price of obedience to God and His covenant.

1: Hebrews 13:20-21 - Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

2: Ezekiel 11:19-20 - Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

Nehemiah 13:30 Thus cleansed I them from all strangers, and appointed the wards of the priests and the Levites, every one in his business;

The people of Israel were cleansed from all strangers and the duties of the priests and Levites were assigned.

1. The importance of recognizing and appreciating the roles of each person in the church.

2. How the church is strengthened through following God's commands.

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 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."

Nehemiah 13:31 And for the wood offering, at times appointed, and for the firstfruits. Remember me, O my God, for good.

Nehemiah reminds God of his faithfulness by offering wood, firstfruits, and other offerings at appointed times.

1. The Power of Faithful Offering: Nehemiah's Example

2. Remembering God for Good: A Life of Gratitude

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. Psalm 100:4-5: "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

Esther chapter 1 introduces the story of Queen Esther and sets the stage for the events that follow. The chapter focuses on a grand banquet hosted by King Ahasuerus (Xerxes) in his palace, showcasing his wealth and power.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with King Ahasuerus organizing a lavish banquet that lasts for 180 days, displaying his riches and splendor to his officials and nobles from all over his kingdom (Esther 1:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative describes a separate feast held for the people of Susa, where the king's palace is located. During this time, Queen Vashti also hosts a banquet for women in her own quarters (Esther 1:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights an incident during the king's feast when he becomes drunk and orders Queen Vashti to appear before him wearing her royal crown. However, she refuses to obey his command (Esther 1:10-12).

4th Paragraph: The narrative depicts the king's response to Vashti's refusal as one of anger and humiliation. His advisors suggest deposing Vashti as queen and finding a replacement who would be more obedient (Esther 1:13-22).

In summary, Chapter one of Esther depicts the extravagant banquet, and conflict experienced within King Ahasuerus' court. Highlighting opulence expressed through extended feasting, and tension achieved through Queen Vashti's defiance. Mentioning consequences shown for disobedience, and consideration given for selecting a new queen an embodiment representing power dynamics an introduction setting the stage for subsequent events in the story of Esther

Esther 1:1 Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus, (this is Ahasuerus which reigned, from India even unto Ethiopia, over an hundred and seven and twenty provinces:)

In the days of Ahasuerus, who reigned over 127 provinces from India to Ethiopia, an event happened.

1. God is in control of history.

2. God can work through any circumstance.

1. Daniel 2:21 He [God] changes times and seasons; He removes kings and sets up kings.

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.

Esther 1:2 That in those days, when the king Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in Shushan the palace,

The story of Esther begins with King Ahasuerus sitting on the throne of his kingdom in Shushan the palace.

1: God gives us all a place to serve Him and lead others.

2: God puts us in positions of authority to be used for His glory.

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: 1 Peter 2:13-14 "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."

Esther 1:3 In the third year of his reign, he made a feast unto all his princes and his servants; the power of Persia and Media, the nobles and princes of the provinces, being before him:

King Ahasuerus held a lavish feast for his princes, servants, and nobility from Persia and Media.

1. God's Sovereignty and Man's Responsibility

2. Abundance in Generosity

1. Proverbs 13:7 - "One person pretends to be rich, yet has nothing; another pretends to be poor, yet has great wealth."

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."

Esther 1:4 When he shewed the riches of his glorious kingdom and the honour of his excellent majesty many days, even an hundred and fourscore days.

King Ahasuerus displayed the riches of his kingdom and the glory of his majesty for a total of 180 days.

1. Living in the Splendor of God's Glory

2. Living in the Generosity of God's Kingdom

1. 2 Corinthians 4:6-7 - For God, who said, Let light shine out of darkness, has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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. As it is written, He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.

Esther 1:5 And when these days were expired, the king made a feast unto all the people that were present in Shushan the palace, both unto great and small, seven days, in the court of the garden of the king's palace;

The King of Persia held a seven day feast for all people in his palace.

1: God shows us through the example of the King of Persia that we should always be generous with our resources.

2: We can learn from the King of Persia that hospitality is an important quality for all people to have.

1: Luke 14:12-14 - Jesus tells a parable about a great banquet and instructs people to invite the poor and disabled.

2: Romans 12:13 - Paul instructs believers to show hospitality to one another without grumbling.

Esther 1:6 Where were white, green, and blue, hangings, fastened with cords of fine linen and purple to silver rings and pillars of marble: the beds were of gold and silver, upon a pavement of red, and blue, and white, and black, marble.

King Ahasuerus of Persia hosted a grand banquet for his courtiers, decorating the banqueting hall with white, green, and blue hangings that were fastened with cords of fine linen and purple to silver rings and marble pillars. The beds in the hall were made of gold and silver, on a pavement of red, blue, white, and black marble.

1. God's Splendor and Majesty Revealed in the Banquet of Esther

2. The Joys of Hospitality and Generosity: Lessons from Esther 1

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.

Esther 1:7 And they gave them drink in vessels of gold, (the vessels being diverse one from another,) and royal wine in abundance, according to the state of the king.

The King of Persia hosted a grand banquet for his nobles and provided them with a variety of gold vessels to drink from, as well as an abundance of royal wine.

1. God's Generosity: Reflecting on the Generosity of the King of Persia

2. God's Provisions: Appreciating the Abundance of God's Blessings

1. Psalm 34:10 - "The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing."

2. Ephesians 3:20-21 - "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, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

Esther 1:8 And the drinking was according to the law; none did compel: for so the king had appointed to all the officers of his house, that they should do according to every man's pleasure.

King Ahasuerus provided his officers with freedom to drink as much as they pleased, without any compulsion, as per the law.

1. The Power of Choice: How God Empowers Us to Make Our Own Decisions

2. God's Grace and Mercy: How God Extends Unconditional Love to Us

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 6:12-14 - Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Esther 1:9 Also Vashti the queen made a feast for the women in the royal house which belonged to king Ahasuerus.

Queen Vashti hosted a feast for the women in King Ahasuerus's royal house.

1. God's Sovereignty: Recognizing the Power of the Lord in Our Everyday Lives

2. Serving Others: Understanding the Power of Humility and Love

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. 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."

Esther 1:10 On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha, and Abagtha, Zethar, and Carcas, the seven chamberlains that served in the presence of Ahasuerus the king,

On the seventh day, King Ahasuerus commanded seven of his chamberlains to serve him while he was merry with wine.

1. The Danger of Drunkenness

2. The Blessing of Obedience

1. Ephesians 5:18 - And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit.

2. Proverbs 21:17 - Whoever loves pleasure will be a poor man; he who loves wine and oil will not be rich.

Esther 1:11 To bring Vashti the queen before the king with the crown royal, to shew the people and the princes her beauty: for she was fair to look on.

The King commanded Vashti the Queen to be brought before him, wearing a royal crown, to be admired by his people and the princes for her beauty.

1. Beauty is fleeting, but God's love is everlasting.

2. Our outward appearance can be deceiving and does not define us.

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

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.

Esther 1:12 But the queen Vashti refused to come at the king's commandment by his chamberlains: therefore was the king very wroth, and his anger burned in him.

The Queen Vashti refused to obey the King's command, which made him very angry.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Submit to God's Authority

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Understanding the Cost of Not Obeying God

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. Colossians 3:18-19 - Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them.

Esther 1:13 Then the king said to the wise men, which knew the times, (for so was the king's manner toward all that knew law and judgment:

The king consulted wise men to advise on his legal matters.

1. The importance of seeking Godly counsel

2. The power of wisdom in decision making

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.

Esther 1:14 And the next unto him was Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, the seven princes of Persia and Media, which saw the king's face, and which sat the first in the kingdom;)

The seven princes of Persia and Media, Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, were granted the privilege of seeing the king's face and sitting first in the kingdom.

1. The Power of Humility

2. The Strength of Unity

1. Philippians 4:13- I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

2. Proverbs 15:33- The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

Esther 1:15 What shall we do unto the queen Vashti according to law, because she hath not performed the commandment of the king Ahasuerus by the chamberlains?

King Ahasuerus issued a command to Queen Vashti which she did not obey, and the officials ask what should be done to her according to the law.

1. Choosing Obedience: Lessons from Esther

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study of Vashti

1. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

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.

Esther 1:16 And Memucan answered before the king and the princes, Vashti the queen hath not done wrong to the king only, but also to all the princes, and to all the people that are in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus.

Memucan argued that Vashti, the queen, had wronged not only the king, but also all the princes and people of all the provinces of Ahasuerus.

1. The Power of Unity: Exploring the Power of Working Together

2. Responsibility of Leaders: Understanding the Effects of Poor Leadership

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. Isaiah 3:1-4 - For behold, the Lord GOD of hosts is taking away from Jerusalem and from Judah support and supply, all support of bread, and all support of water; the mighty man and the soldier, the judge and the prophet, the diviner and the elder, the captain of fifty and the man of rank, the counselor and the skillful magician and the expert in charms.

Esther 1:17 For this deed of the queen shall come abroad unto all women, so that they shall despise their husbands in their eyes, when it shall be reported, The king Ahasuerus commanded Vashti the queen to be brought in before him, but she came not.

Queen Vashti refused to appear before King Ahasuerus, and her disobedience sparked fear among the women of the kingdom that their husbands would be disrespected.

1. The Fear of Disobedience: Understanding the Fear of Vashti

2. Finding Strength in Disobedience: How Vashti Found Courage

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives be subject to your own husbands

2. Proverbs 31:25-31 - The virtuous woman and her qualities

Esther 1:18 Likewise shall the ladies of Persia and Media say this day unto all the king's princes, which have heard of the deed of the queen. Thus shall there arise too much contempt and wrath.

The queen's actions resulted in too much contempt and wrath.

1. Remember to act with humility and wisdom in your decision-making.

2. Be mindful of the impact of your words and deeds.

1. Proverbs 14:15, The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

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.

Esther 1:19 If it please the king, let there go a royal commandment from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes, that it be not altered, That Vashti come no more before king Ahasuerus; and let the king give her royal estate unto another that is better than she.

King Ahasuerus issues a royal commandment that Vashti no longer appears before him and that he gives her royal estate to someone better than her.

1. God is Sovereign and His Will is Supreme

2. Submission to Authority Brings Blessing

1. Isaiah 45:7 - "I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things."

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."

Esther 1:20 And when the king's decree which he shall make shall be published throughout all his empire, (for it is great,) all the wives shall give to their husbands honour, both to great and small.

King Xerxes issued a decree that all wives should honor their husbands, regardless of their social status.

1. The Power of Honor: How to Respect and Show Appreciation to Your Spouse

2. The Blessing of Obedience: The Rewards of Following God's Word

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. Colossians 3:18-19 - "Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them."

Esther 1:21 And the saying pleased the king and the princes; and the king did according to the word of Memucan:

The king and the princes were pleased with the words of Memucan and the king followed through with his advice.

1. The Power of Good Advice - How to Listen and Take Action

2. Obedience to Authority - When to Follow and When to Lead

1. Proverbs 18:15 - "The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge."

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."

Esther 1:22 For he sent letters into all the king's provinces, into every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language, that every man should bear rule in his own house, and that it should be published according to the language of every people.

King Ahasuerus issued a decree to all the provinces in the kingdom to have the men of each province rule their own households.

1. Understanding our role in the home as Christian men

2. The importance of leadership in the home

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord

2. Colossians 3:18-21 - Husbands, love your wives and children, and do not be harsh with them.

Esther chapter 2 continues the story by focusing on the selection of a new queen to replace Vashti. The chapter introduces Esther, a young Jewish woman who becomes a central figure in the narrative.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with King Ahasuerus' advisors suggesting that he gather beautiful young virgins from throughout the kingdom to be considered as potential candidates for queen. Esther, a Jewish orphan raised by her cousin Mordecai, is among those taken to the king's palace (Esther 2:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights Esther's beauty and her favor with Hegai, the custodian of women. She undergoes twelve months of beauty treatments before being presented to King Ahasuerus (Esther 2:5-12).

3rd Paragraph: The account describes how each candidate spends one night with the king, and afterward is sent to a separate harem where they would not return unless summoned by name (Esther 2:13-14).

4th Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Esther's turn with the king. She finds favor in his eyes, and he crowns her as queen in place of Vashti. Meanwhile, Mordecai uncovers a plot against the king's life and informs Esther, who reports it to Ahasuerus (Esther 2:15-23).

In summary, Chapter two of Esther depicts the selection process, and rise experienced by Queen Esther within King Ahasuerus' court. Highlighting recruitment expressed through gathering of potential queens, and distinction achieved through Esther's exceptional beauty. Mentioning separation shown for candidates after their encounters, and revelation embraced for an assassination plot an embodiment representing providential circumstances an advancement in the unfolding story of Esther

Esther 2:1 After these things, when the wrath of king Ahasuerus was appeased, he remembered Vashti, and what she had done, and what was decreed against her.

The king's wrath was appeased and he remembered Vashti and the consequences of her actions.

1. The Power of a King's Grace: Learning from the Story of Vashti

2. The Value of Humility: A Lesson from the Life of Vashti

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

2. Proverbs 15:33 The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

Esther 2:2 Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, Let there be fair young virgins sought for the king:

The king's servants were looking for fair young virgins for the king.

1: God calls us to show respect and honor to those in authority. Romans 13:1-7

2: God calls us to be discerning in our decisions and actions. Proverbs 4:23-27

1: 1 Peter 2:13-17

2: Titus 2:1-10

Esther 2:3 And let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather together all the fair young virgins unto Shushan the palace, to the house of the women, unto the custody of Hege the king's chamberlain, keeper of the women; and let their things for purification be given them:

The King appoints officers in his provinces to bring young virgins to the palace and provide them with purification items.

1. The Power of Appointing Leaders: How God's Sovereignty Empowers Us

2. God's Grace: How the King of Persia Showed Us Mercy

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.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

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?

Esther 2:4 And let the maiden which pleaseth the king be queen instead of Vashti. And the thing pleased the king; and he did so.

The king of Persia decreed that a maiden should be appointed queen instead of Vashti in order to please him.

1. God s Plan for Women: Understanding Esther 2:4

2. The Power of Obedience: Vashti and Esther in Esther 2:4

1. Proverbs 31:30 - Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

2. Colossians 3:18 - Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

Esther 2:5 Now in Shushan the palace there was a certain Jew, whose name was Mordecai, the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, a Benjamite;

Mordecai, a Benjamite Jew, lived in the palace in Shushan.

1. The Significance of Mordecai: Exploring the Character of a Benjamite Jew

2. The Story of Mordecai: A Lesson in Faithfulness

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. Genesis 12:2-3 - 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.

Esther 2:6 Who had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captivity which had been carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away.

Esther was taken by Nebuchadnezzar in the captivity of Jeconiah King of Judah.

1. Trusting God in Difficult Times: Esther 2:6

2. Overcoming Adversity: The Example of Esther

1. Jeremiah 24:1-10

2. Romans 8:28-39

Esther 2:7 And he brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter: for she had neither father nor mother, and the maid was fair and beautiful; whom Mordecai, when her father and mother were dead, took for his own daughter.

Mordecai adopted his uncle's daughter, Esther, after her parents had passed away. Esther was beautiful and fair.

1. The Beauty of Adoption: Celebrating the Love of Family

2. The Power of Love: Mordecai's Example of Compassion

1. Ephesians 1:5 - "he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will"

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."

Esther 2:8 So it came to pass, when the king's commandment and his decree was heard, and when many maidens were gathered together unto Shushan the palace, to the custody of Hegai, that Esther was brought also unto the king's house, to the custody of Hegai, keeper of the women.

Many maidens were gathered to the palace in Shushan and Esther was brought to the king's house, under the care of Hegai.

1. The Power of Obedience - Esther's example of obedience to the king's commandment

2. The Call to Courage - Esther's courage 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 acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

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. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Esther 2:9 And the maiden pleased him, and she obtained kindness of him; and he speedily gave her her things for purification, with such things as belonged to her, and seven maidens, which were meet to be given her, out of the king's house: and he preferred her and her maids unto the best place of the house of the women.

The maiden pleased the king and he gave her what she needed for purification and seven maidens from the king's house. He showed her favor and gave her the best place in the house of the women.

1. God shows his favor to those who please him.

2. We should strive to be pleasing to God and receive his blessings.

1. Luke 12:32 - "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

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."

Esther 2:10 Esther had not shewed her people nor her kindred: for Mordecai had charged her that she should not shew it.

Esther faithfully obeyed Mordecai's instructions and kept her identity a secret.

1: Obeying God's instructions even when it is not easy is an essential part of living faithfully.

2: We must always be willing to trust and obey God, even when it may seem difficult to do so.

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

2: 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.

Esther 2:11 And Mordecai walked every day before the court of the women's house, to know how Esther did, and what should become of her.

Mordecai's faithfulness to God is demonstrated through his care for Esther.

1. The Power of Faithfulness: Drawing Strength from Mordecai's Example

2. The Value of Commitment: Emulating Mordecai's Loyalty

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. 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.

Esther 2:12 Now when every maid's turn was come to go in to king Ahasuerus, after that she had been twelve months, according to the manner of the women, (for so were the days of their purifications accomplished, to wit, six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with sweet odours, and with other things for the purifying of the women;)

Every twelve months, young women were chosen to go to King Ahasuerus according to a purification process that included oil of myrrh and sweet odours for six months each.

1. The Importance of Holiness and Self-Purification

2. The Beauty and Majesty of God's 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. Isaiah 61:10 - "I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness."

Esther 2:13 Then thus came every maiden unto the king; whatsoever she desired was given her to go with her out of the house of the women unto the king's house.

Every maiden was given anything she desired in order to go to the King's house.

1. The Blessings of Faith: God grants us the desires of our hearts when we trust in Him.

2. Living with Purpose: We must strive to fulfill God's will for our lives.

1. Psalm 37:4 - Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

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

Esther 2:14 In the evening she went, and on the morrow she returned into the second house of the women, to the custody of Shaashgaz, the king's chamberlain, which kept the concubines: she came in unto the king no more, except the king delighted in her, and that she were called by name.

Esther went to the second house of the women and was supervised by Shaashgaz, the king's chamberlain. She was only allowed to come to the king if he wanted her to.

1. God's grace and mercy are available to us in all circumstances.

2. God is sovereign and works all things according to His 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. Esther 4:14 - For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise 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?

Esther 2:15 Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king, she required nothing but what Hegai the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her.

Esther, Mordecai's niece, was chosen to go to the King and was given everything she needed by Hegai, the King's chamberlain. She was well-liked by all who saw her.

1. God's Faithfulness in Unexpected Circumstances - Esther 2:15

2. God's Provision in the Midst of Difficulty - Esther 2:15

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. Philippians 4:19 - But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Esther 2:16 So Esther was taken unto king Ahasuerus into his house royal in the tenth month, which is the month Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign.

Esther was taken to marry King Ahasuerus in the tenth month of his seventh year of his reign.

1. God s Timing Is Always Perfect

2. Recognizing God s Plan 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. 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.

Esther 2:17 And the king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti.

Esther was chosen by the king to be queen in the place of Vashti, and she was loved and favored more than any other woman.

1. The Love of the King: A Study in Esther 2:17

2. God s Grace and Favor: Understanding Esther 2:17

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 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 whose walk is blameless.

Esther 2:18 Then the king made a great feast unto all his princes and his servants, even Esther's feast; and he made a release to the provinces, and gave gifts, according to the state of the king.

The King held a great feast for all his princes, servants and Esther, and he also gave gifts to the provinces according to his state.

1. The Generosity of the King - Exploring the King's graciousness in his giving to others.

2. The Power of Gratitude - Examining how the King's gratitude was demonstrated in his 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. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

Esther 2:19 And when the virgins were gathered together the second time, then Mordecai sat in the king's gate.

In Esther 2:19, it is mentioned that when the virgins were gathered a second time, Mordecai was present at the king's gate.

1. The Faithfulness of Mordecai: Examining the importance of steadfastness in our lives.

2. The Power of Gathering: Exploring the impact of communal connections in our lives.

1. Hebrews 10:23-25 - Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

2. Acts 2:42-47 - They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Esther 2:20 Esther had not yet shewed her kindred nor her people; as Mordecai had charged her: for Esther did the commandment of Mordecai, like as when she was brought up with him.

Esther obeyed Mordecai's command not to reveal her identity to her people.

1: Obeying Authority Esther 2:20

2: Respect and Obedience Esther 2:20

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: Colossians 3:20 Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

Esther 2:21 In those days, while Mordecai sat in the king's gate, two of the king's chamberlains, Bigthan and Teresh, of those which kept the door, were wroth, and sought to lay hand on the king Ahasuerus.

In the days of King Ahasuerus, two of his chamberlains, Bigthan and Teresh, were angry and sought to harm him.

1. Never forget to guard your heart against anger and bitterness

2. The consequences of a heart filled with bitterness and anger can be dire

1. Proverbs 4:23 Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

2. Psalm 37:8 Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret it leads only to evil.

Esther 2:22 And the thing was known to Mordecai, who told it unto Esther the queen; and Esther certified the king thereof in Mordecai's name.

This passage describes how Mordecai informed Queen Esther of a certain incident, and she then reported it to the king in Mordecai's name.

1. The importance of loyalty and obedience towards God's anointed leaders.

2. God will reward those who are faithful to Him and His servants.

1. Ecclesiastes 8:2-4 I say, keep the king s command, because of God s oath to him. Do not be hasty to leave 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?

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.

Esther 2:23 And when inquisition was made of the matter, it was found out; therefore they were both hanged on a tree: and it was written in the book of the chronicles before the king.

Two people were found guilty of a crime and were consequently hanged on a tree, and it was recorded in the book of the chronicles.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Examining the Story of Esther 2:23

2. The Power of God's Judgment: A Study of Esther 2:23

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. 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.

Esther chapter 3 introduces the main antagonist of the story, Haman, and his plot to destroy the Jewish people. The chapter highlights Haman's rise to power and his plan to annihilate Mordecai and all Jews throughout the Persian Empire.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with King Ahasuerus promoting Haman, an Agagite, to a position of high authority in his kingdom. The king commands all his servants to bow down and pay homage to Haman, but Mordecai refuses to do so (Esther 3:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative focuses on Haman's reaction to Mordecai's refusal. He becomes filled with rage and seeks revenge not only against Mordecai but against all Jews throughout the empire. He devises a plan by casting lots (pur) to determine the date for their destruction (Esther 3:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: The account depicts Haman approaching King Ahasuerus and presenting a proposal for annihilating an unnamed group of people who are described as not following the king's laws. Haman offers a large sum of money as payment for carrying out this plan (Esther 3:8-9).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with Ahasuerus granting permission for Haman's plan without knowing that it targets Esther's people, the Jews. Letters are sent throughout the empire commanding their destruction on a specific day chosen by casting lots (Esther 3:10-15).

In summary, Chapter three of Esther depicts the rise, and malevolent scheme executed by Haman within King Ahasuerus' court. Highlighting promotion expressed through elevation in rank, and animosity achieved through Mordecai's refusal. Mentioning plot shown for mass extermination, and decree embraced for destruction an embodiment representing escalating conflict an intensification in tension within the story of Esther

Esther 3:1 After these things did king Ahasuerus promote Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him, and set his seat above all the princes that were with him.

King Ahasuerus promotes Haman to a position of power in the royal court, above all the other princes.

1. The Danger of Pride - Proverbs 16:18

2. The Power of Humility - James 4:6-10

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

2. James 4:6-10 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Esther 3:2 And all the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, bowed, and reverenced Haman: for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence.

Mordecai refused to bow to Haman, despite the king's command.

1. Obeying God Rather Than Man - Esther 3:2

2. The Courage of Mordecai - Esther 3:2

1. Acts 5:29 - "Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men."

2. Hebrews 11:23-27 - "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."

Esther 3:3 Then the king's servants, which were in the king's gate, said unto Mordecai, Why transgressest thou the king's commandment?

Mordecai was asked by the king's servants why he had disobeyed the king's command.

1. The importance of obeying authority

2. The consequences of disobeying God

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. James 4:17: So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Esther 3:4 Now it came to pass, when they spake daily unto him, and he hearkened not unto them, that they told Haman, to see whether Mordecai's matters would stand: for he had told them that he was a Jew.

The people spoke to the king daily, but he did not listen, so they consulted Haman to determine the fate of Mordecai, a Jew who had revealed to them his identity.

1. The importance of listening to the perspectives of others

2. God's protection of the persecuted minority

1. James 1:19 - Be quick to hear, slow to speak

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?

Esther 3:5 And when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence, then was Haman full of wrath.

Haman s pride was hurt when Mordecai refused to bow down to him.

1. The Danger of Pride: Why We Should Humble Ourselves

2. The Power of Humility: How to Resist the Temptations of Pride

1. James 4:6-7 - "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."

Esther 3:6 And he thought scorn to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had shewed him the people of Mordecai: wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.

The decree was issued to exterminate all the Jews, not just Mordecai, throughout the kingdom of Ahasuerus.

1. God's Sovereignty in the Face of Persecution

2. The Power of Unity and Community

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 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.

Esther 3:7 In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of king Ahasuerus, they cast Pur, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar.

In the twelfth year of King Ahasuerus, lots were drawn from day to day and from month to month until the twelfth month, which was Adar.

1. God has a purpose for each day and each month

2. We are not powerless in our circumstances

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps.

2. Isaiah 14:24 - The LORD of hosts has sworn, saying, Surely, as I have thought, so it shall come to pass, and as I have purposed, so it shall stand.

Esther 3:8 And Haman said unto king Ahasuerus, There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse from all people; neither keep they the king's laws: therefore it is not for the king's profit to suffer them.

Haman's advice to Ahasuerus reveals that prejudice and discrimination has no place in God's kingdom.

1. God calls us to love and accept everyone, no matter their differences.

2. We must treat all people with respect, as we are all equal in God's eyes.

1. Romans 12:10 - "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

2. Colossians 3:14 - "And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."

Esther 3:9 If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed: and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver to the hands of those that have the charge of the business, to bring it into the king's treasuries.

Haman proposes to King Xerxes to write an edict that would result in the destruction of the Jews, offering to pay a large sum of money for it.

1. The Danger of Greed: What We Can Learn from Haman's Offer

2. Standing Up for What Is Right: The Example of Esther

1. James 5:1-6 - The Danger of Riches

2. Esther 4:14 - Standing Up for What Is Right

Esther 3:10 And the king took his ring from his hand, and gave it unto Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the Jews' enemy.

The king gave his ring to Haman, the enemy of the Jews.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How Esther Showed Us How to Overcome Adversity

2. God's Provision in Times of Difficulty: Esther's Story of Hope

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 12:17-21: "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."

Esther 3:11 And the king said unto Haman, The silver is given to thee, the people also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee.

The King gives Haman silver and allows him to do whatever he wishes with the people.

1. The Danger of Power: A Warning From Esther 3:11

2. The Power of Choice: Using Our Resources Wisely According to Esther 3:11

1. Matthew 10:29 ( Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father s care. )

2. Proverbs 22:2 ( Rich and poor have this in common: The Lord is the Maker of them all. )

Esther 3:12 Then were the king's scribes called on the thirteenth day of the first month, and there was written according to all that Haman had commanded unto the king's lieutenants, and to the governors that were over every province, and to the rulers of every people of every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language; in the name of king Ahasuerus was it written, and sealed with the king's ring.

The king's scribes were called on the thirteenth day of the first month to write according to Haman's commandment and to seal it with the king's ring.

1. God's Sovereignty Over All: A Study of Esther 3:12

2. The Power of Persuasion: Lessons from Esther 3:12

1. 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 honored him that liveth forever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation.

2. Isaiah 40:15 - 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.

Esther 3:13 And the letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, even upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to take the spoil of them for a prey.

Letters were sent by posts to all the provinces of the king to kill all Jews on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, Adar, and take their spoils.

1. The Power of Words: How the Words We Speak Can Directly Impact Others

2. Resilience in the Face of Adversity: Learning to Persevere Through Difficult Times

1. Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

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.

Esther 3:14 The copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published unto all people, that they should be ready against that day.

The edict of King Ahasuerus was published throughout the kingdom, commanding all people to prepare for a certain day.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - Esther 3:14

2. The Importance of Preparation - Esther 3:14

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. Isaiah 55:8-9

Esther 3:15 The posts went out, being hastened by the king's commandment, and the decree was given in Shushan the palace. And the king and Haman sat down to drink; but the city Shushan was perplexed.

The king commanded the posts to be sent out with a decree, and he and Haman sat down to drink. Shushan was left in confusion.

1. The Power of the King's Commandment

2. The Fearful Reverberations of Decrees

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. 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.

Esther chapter 4 focuses on the response of Mordecai and Esther to Haman's decree to annihilate the Jews. The chapter highlights their concern, their communication, and Esther's decision to approach the king despite the risks involved.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Mordecai mourning and expressing his distress over Haman's decree. He tears his clothes and puts on sackcloth and ashes, a sign of mourning. This prompts many Jews in Susa to do the same (Esther 4:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative depicts Esther learning about Mordecai's actions and sending her servant Hathach to find out what is happening. Mordecai informs Hathach about Haman's plan and urges Esther to go before the king to plead for her people (Esther 4:4-9).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights Esther's initial reluctance due to the danger involved in approaching the king without being summoned. She sends a message back through Hathach, expressing her concerns about entering the king's presence uninvited (Esther 4:10-12).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with Mordecai challenging Esther by reminding her that she herself is not exempt from Haman's decree, even as queen. He encourages her to consider that perhaps she was placed in her position for such a time as this, urging her to take action (Esther 4:13-17).

In summary, Chapter four of Esther depicts the distress, and pivotal decision faced by Mordecai and Queen Esther. Highlighting mourning expressed through public displays of grief, and communication achieved through messages exchanged. Mentioning hesitation shown for approaching the king, and realization embraced for taking a stand an embodiment representing personal sacrifice an escalation towards a critical turning point within the story of Esther

Esther 4:1 When Mordecai perceived all that was done, Mordecai rent his clothes, and put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a loud and a bitter cry;

Mordecai grieves the persecution of his people and turns to God for help.

1. God will always be there to provide comfort and help in times of distress.

2. We must turn to God in times of adversity and sorrow.

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 55:22 - "Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved."

Esther 4:2 And came even before the king's gate: for none might enter into the king's gate clothed with sackcloth.

Mordecai mourned and showed his grief by wearing sackcloth and sitting at the king's gate.

1. The Power of Making Sacrifices for the Sake of God

2. The Strength of Mourning for the Righteous

1. Matthew 10:37-38 - "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. Philippians 3:7-8 - "But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ."

Esther 4:3 And in every province, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

The Jews in every province mourned, fasted, wept, and wailed in response to the king's commandment and decree.

1. The Power of Obedience: Responding to God's Will

2. The Strength of Mourning: Understanding Grief and Loss

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. Matthew 5:4 - Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Esther 4:4 So Esther's maids and her chamberlains came and told it her. Then was the queen exceedingly grieved; and she sent raiment to clothe Mordecai, and to take away his sackcloth from him: but he received it not.

Esther was deeply troubled when she heard of Mordecai's distress.

1. God works through our pain to bring comfort and peace.

2. When we are faced with trials, God's love will guide us.

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."

Esther 4:5 Then called Esther for Hatach, one of the king's chamberlains, whom he had appointed to attend upon her, and gave him a commandment to Mordecai, to know what it was, and why it was.

Esther sends her servant, Hatach, to Mordecai to find out why he is so upset.

1. God's Plan: How God Uses Unexpected People to Accomplish His Purposes

2. Trusting 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. Philippians 4:4-6- Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 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.

Esther 4:6 So Hatach went forth to Mordecai unto the street of the city, which was before the king's gate.

Hatach was instructed by Esther to go to Mordecai at the street of the city which was located in front of the king's gate.

1. The Importance of Obedience: A Study of Esther 4:6

2. Faithful Servants: The Story of Hatach in Esther 4:6

1. Ephesians 6:5-8 - Servants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ

2. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Esther 4:7 And Mordecai told him of all that had happened unto him, and of the sum of the money that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the Jews, to destroy them.

Mordecai and Esther trusted in God and had faith in Him despite the difficult situation they were in.

1. God is always with us, even in the most challenging circumstances.

2. Have faith and trust in God, no matter the situation.

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 41:10, "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."

Esther 4:8 Also he gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given at Shushan to destroy them, to shew it unto Esther, and to declare it unto her, and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him for her people.

This passage tells of Mordecai's instructions to Esther, to make a plea to the king on behalf of her people.

1: We have a responsibility to stand up for the oppressed and speak out on their behalf, just as Esther did.

2: We must show courage in the face of difficult circumstances and trust in God's faithfulness, as Esther did.

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: Hebrews 11:23-27 "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king s edict. By faith Moses, when he grew up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh s daughter, because he preferred to be mistreated with God s people 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. By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king s anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel."

Esther 4:9 And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai.

Esther was informed of Mordecai's words by Hatach.

1. The Power of Communication: How Esther was Informed of Mordecai's Words.

2. The Importance of Obedience: Why Esther Listened to Mordecai.

1. Proverbs 15:23 - "A person finds joy in giving an apt reply and how good is a timely word!"

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."

Esther 4:10 Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai;

Esther urges Hatach to deliver a message to Mordecai.

1. The Power of the Spoken Word: Faithful Communication in Difficult Circumstances

2. Commitment to Obedience: Following Through on God's Instructions

1. James 3:5 - 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. Luke 8:21 - But he answered them, My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.

Esther 4:11 All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live: but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.

The king's servants know that anyone who enters the inner court without being called faces death, unless they are spared by the king's golden scepter.

1: God's mercy is a reminder of our own mortality.

2: We can still be saved in the midst 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 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.

Esther 4:12 And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

Mordecai was told about Esther's words.

1. God will provide a way when all other paths seem blocked.

2. God's plans can often be revealed in unexpected ways.

1. Esther 4:12-14

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."

Esther 4:13 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.

Mordecai encourages Esther to put aside her fear and remember that the Jews are all in the same danger.

1. God's Power in the Face of Fear

2. Courage in the Midst 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."

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?

Esther warns her cousin Mordecai to speak up and take action, or else deliverance and protection for the Jewish people will come from another source, while Mordecai and his family will be destroyed.

1. The Power of Speaking Up in Faith

2. The Time is Now: Seizing Opportunities for God's Purposes

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. 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.

Esther 4:15 Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer,

Esther shows her courage and faith in God by responding to Mordecai's request.

1. The Power of Faith: Examining Esther's Courage in Challenging Times

2. Taking Up the Challenge: Following Esther's Example of Courage and Faith

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 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Esther 4:16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.

Esther calls upon the Jews of Shushan to fast for three days, night and day, and she and her maidens will fast likewise. She is going to the king, even though it is against the law, and she declares that if she perishes, she perishes.

1. What is the cost of living faithfully?

2. The power of courageous faith in the face of adversity.

1. 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.

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.

Esther 4:17 So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

Mordecai followed the instructions given to him by Esther.

1. The importance of obedience to authority

2. Following God's will through submission

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Ephesians 5:21-33

Esther chapter 5 focuses on Esther's courageous decision to approach King Ahasuerus and her strategic planning for the upcoming banquet. The chapter highlights her request to have a banquet with the king and Haman, setting the stage for a significant turn of events.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Esther putting on her royal robes and entering the inner court of the king's palace. She finds favor in his eyes, and he extends his golden scepter, indicating his acceptance of her presence (Esther 5:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative depicts Ahasuerus asking Esther what she desires, offering to grant her up to half of his kingdom. Instead of making an immediate request, she invites him and Haman to a banquet that she will prepare for them (Esther 5:4-8).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights Haman's delight at being invited to dine with the king and queen. However, his joy is overshadowed by Mordecai's refusal to bow down before him as he leaves the palace (Esther 5:9-14).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with Haman sharing his grievances with his wife and friends about Mordecai's insolence. They suggest that he builds a gallows seventy-five feet high on which Mordecai can be hanged, providing a solution to Haman's frustration (Esther 5:14).

In summary, Chapter five of Esther depicts the boldness, and strategic planning demonstrated by Queen Esther within King Ahasuerus' court. Highlighting acceptance expressed through finding favor in the king's eyes, and invitation achieved through extending an offer for a banquet. Mentioning tension shown for Mordecai's refusal, and scheme embraced for seeking revenge an embodiment representing escalating conflict an anticipation towards significant developments within the story of Esther

Esther 5:1 Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house: and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the gate of the house.

On the third day, Queen Esther prepared herself and presented herself to the King in the inner court of the palace.

1. The Power of Preparation: How Taking Time to Prepare Can Lead to Success

2. The Power of Courageous Faith: How Esther Modeled Boldness in the Face of Fear

1. Luke 12:35-38 - Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit.

2. James 1:22 - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Esther 5:2 And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight: and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre.

Esther approached the king and was granted favor in his sight, and he held out a golden scepter to her which she touched.

1. God's Favor: How to Receive and Remain in God's Favor

2. The Power of Obedience: Responding to God's Call

1. Isaiah 45:2-3 - "I will go before you and level the exalted mountains, I will break down gates of bronze and cut through 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."

2. Psalm 5:12 - "For you bless the righteous, O Lord; you cover him with favor as with a shield."

Esther 5:3 Then said the king unto her, What wilt thou, queen Esther? and what is thy request? it shall be even given thee to the half of the kingdom.

Esther bravely asked the king for her people to be saved from destruction.

1: We can learn from Esther's courage and faithfulness to stand up for her people.

2: Esther's example of trusting in God and His power can provide us with hope in difficult times.

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 19:26 But Jesus looked at them and said, With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

Esther 5:4 And Esther answered, If it seem good unto the king, let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him.

Esther invites the king and Haman to a banquet that she has prepared.

1. God uses the least likely people to accomplish His will.

2. We must be willing to step out in faith and trust God to provide.

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.

Esther 5:5 Then the king said, Cause Haman to make haste, that he may do as Esther hath said. So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared.

Esther courageously risked her life to save her people, showing great faith and trust in God.

1. The Power of Faith: Demonstrating Courage in Difficult Circumstances

2. Letting Go and Letting God: A Study of Queen Esther

1. Hebrews 11:1-3

2. Luke 18:1-8

Esther 5:6 And the king said unto Esther at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? even to the half of the kingdom it shall be performed.

At a banquet, King Ahasuerus asked Queen Esther what she wanted, assuring her that anything she asked for would be granted, even up to half of the kingdom.

1) The Power of Prayer: How Esther's Request Changed History

2) The Faithfulness of God: Trustworthy to Fulfill His Promises

1) James 1:5-7 - 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) Matthew 6:7-8 - And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Esther 5:7 Then answered Esther, and said, My petition and my request is;

Esther courageously stands before the king to save her people.

1. The Power of Courage in Faith

2. Standing Up for What You Believe In

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.

Esther 5:8 If I have found favour in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my petition, and to perform my request, let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I shall prepare for them, and I will do to morrow as the king hath said.

Esther invites the king and Haman to a banquet she has prepared.

1. The Obedience of Esther - How Esther's willingness to obey the will of God led to the salvation of God's people.

2. The Power of Kindness - How God's grace and mercy can be seen in Esther's kindness to her enemies.

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

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."

Esther 5:9 Then went Haman forth that day joyful and with a glad heart: but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he stood not up, nor moved for him, he was full of indignation against Mordecai.

Haman was filled with joy and had a cheerful heart until he saw Mordecai at the king's gate and noticed he was not paying him any respect.

1: We should always treat others with respect and honor, regardless of their position or our own.

2: The way we treat others reflects the condition of our hearts.

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 2:8 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well.

Esther 5:10 Nevertheless Haman refrained himself: and when he came home, he sent and called for his friends, and Zeresh his wife.

Haman, despite his anger, showed restraint and invited his friends and wife Zeresh when he returned home.

1. The Power of Self-Restraint

2. The Importance of Spending Time With Loved Ones

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 17:27 - Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding.

Esther 5:11 And Haman told them of the glory of his riches, and the multitude of his children, and all the things wherein the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the princes and servants of the king.

Haman boasted to those gathered about his riches, his numerous children, and the way the king had elevated him above the other princes and servants.

1. The Danger of Pride: A Study in Esther 5:11

2. The Blessing of True Humility: A Study in Esther 5:11

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

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

Esther 5:12 Haman said moreover, Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself; and to morrow am I invited unto her also with the king.

Haman was given a special privilege to be the only one to attend the banquet Esther had prepared for the king.

1. The Danger of Pride: Using the story of Haman in Esther 5, this explores the implications of pride and how it can lead us away from God.

2. The Power of Humility: Using the story of Esther in Esther 5, this examines the power of humility and how it can bring us closer to God.

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 exalt you.

Esther 5:13 Yet all this availeth me nothing, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.

Queen Esther is unhappy that Mordecai is still at the king's gate despite her pleas to the king.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity

2. From Resentment to Redemption: Overcoming Jealousy in Our Lives

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, and hope does not put us to shame..."

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."

Esther 5:14 Then said Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him, Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and to morrow speak thou unto the king that Mordecai may be hanged thereon: then go thou in merrily with the king unto the banquet. And the thing pleased Haman; and he caused the gallows to be made.

Haman's wife Zeresh and his friends suggest to Haman that a gallows be built to hang Mordecai, and Haman agrees.

1. Our pride and envy can lead us to make decisions that have dire consequences.

2. God can use even the worst of circumstances to bring about good.

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. 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.

Esther chapter 6 reveals a pivotal moment in the story where Mordecai's loyalty to the king is recognized and Haman's downfall begins to unfold. The chapter highlights a series of events that ultimately lead to Haman's humiliation.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with King Ahasuerus experiencing insomnia and requesting that the book of records be read to him. It is brought to his attention that Mordecai had previously uncovered a plot against his life, but no reward was given for his act of loyalty (Esther 6:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative depicts Haman arriving at the king's court early in the morning, intending to request permission to have Mordecai hanged on the gallows he had prepared. However, before he can speak, Ahasuerus asks for advice on how to honor someone deserving (Esther 6:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights Haman assuming that he himself is being honored and suggests an extravagant display of royal appreciation. To his shock and dismay, the king instructs him to carry out those honors for Mordecai instead (Esther 6:6-11).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with Haman reluctantly obeying the king's command by leading Mordecai through the city streets on horseback while proclaiming his greatness. Humiliated and filled with despair, Haman returns home where his wife and advisors predict his impending downfall (Esther 6:12-14).

In summary, Chapter six of Esther depicts the recognition, and beginning of downfall experienced by Mordecai and Haman within King Ahasuerus' court. Highlighting discovery expressed through reading of records, and reversal achieved through honoring one deserving. Mentioning humiliation shown for Haman's role reversal, and foreshadowing embraced for impending consequences an embodiment representing divine intervention an escalation towards a critical turning point within the story of Esther

Esther 6:1 On that night could not the king sleep, and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king.

The king was unable to sleep and instead commanded his servants to read the book of records.

1. Godly Leadership - The importance of staying informed and making wise decisions.

2. God's Sovereignty - Even in times of rest, God is in control.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps."

2. Psalm 127:2 - "It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep."

Esther 6:2 And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who sought to lay hand on the king Ahasuerus.

Mordecai revealed to the king that two of his chamberlains, Bigthana and Teresh, had plotted to kill him.

1. The Power of Truth: Mordecai's example of courage and faithfulness

2. The Blessing of Obedience: God's protection through Mordecai's faithfulness

1. Proverbs 24:3-4 - Through wisdom is a house builded; and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

2. Proverbs 12:17 - He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit.

Esther 6:3 And the king said, What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this? Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, There is nothing done for him.

The king asked what honor had been given to Mordecai for his service, and his servants said nothing had been done.

1. The True Rewards of Faithfulness - What does it mean to serve God faithfully even when our service may go unrecognized?

2. The Value of Sacrifice - What does it take to make a true sacrifice in service to God?

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. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others."

Esther 6:4 And the king said, Who is in the court? Now Haman was come into the outward court of the king's house, to speak unto the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him.

Haman came to the court of the king to ask permission to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared.

1. The Dangers of Pride: Examining the Story of Haman in Esther 6:4

2. The Power of Humility: Learning from Mordecai in Esther 6:4

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

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

Esther 6:5 And the king's servants said unto him, Behold, Haman standeth in the court. And the king said, Let him come in.

The king's servants inform him that Haman is waiting in the court, and the king instructs them to let him enter.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning from Esther 6:5

2. Obedience and Respect: Navigating the Court of Esther 6:5

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

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."

Esther 6:6 So Haman came in. And the king said unto him, What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour? Now Haman thought in his heart, To whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself?

The king asked Haman to suggest what should be done to honor someone, and Haman assumed the king would honor him more than anyone else.

1. Pride Comes Before Destruction - Proverbs 16:18

2. The Power of Humility - Matthew 18:4

1. Proverbs 29:23 - "A man's pride shall bring him low, but honor shall uphold the humble in spirit."

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

Esther 6:7 And Haman answered the king, For the man whom the king delighteth to honour,

8 Let the royal apparel be brought which the king useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth upon, and the crown royal which is set upon his head: 9 And let this apparel and horse be delivered to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man withal whom the king delighteth to honour, and bring him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him, Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

Haman's pride leads to his downfall as he is humiliated in the streets of the city.

1: Pride goes before a fall - Esther 6:7-9

2: Humility is the path to honour - Esther 6:7-9

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

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

Esther 6:8 Let the royal apparel be brought which the king useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth upon, and the crown royal which is set upon his head:

The king commanded for his royal apparel, his horse and crown to be brought.

1. The Significance of Royal Apparel - What does it mean to clothe ourselves in regal attire?

2. The Power of a Crown - The implications of wearing a physical crown of authority.

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. Philippians 3:20 - "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:"

Esther 6:9 And let this apparel and horse be delivered to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man withal whom the king delighteth to honour, and bring him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him, Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

The King commands a noble prince to honor a man of his choosing by delivering him apparel and a horse, and riding him through the streets of the city.

1. Honoring Others: Living Out Our Calling as Followers of Christ

2. Giving Our Best to Serve Others: A Lesson from Esther 6:9

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. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.

2. Matthew 25:40 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.

Esther 6:10 Then the king said to Haman, Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the king's gate: let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken.

The King commanded Haman to fulfill his promise to Mordecai, the Jew, by giving him clothing and a horse.

1. The Power of Obedience: God's Blessing Follows Our Obedience

2. The Power of Generosity: Practical Ways to Show Kindness

1. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2. Proverbs 19:17 - Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

Esther 6:11 Then took Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and brought him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaimed before him, Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

Mordecai was given a royal apparel and horse and was paraded through the city streets to honor him.

1. God's Plan for Our Lives: How God Honors Those Who Seek Him

2. Showing Honor to Those Who Deserve It - Lessons from the Book of Esther

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.

Esther 6:12 And Mordecai came again to the king's gate. But Haman hasted to his house mourning, and having his head covered.

Mordecai returned to the king's gate, while Haman hurried home, covering his head in sorrow.

1. The Power of Humility: Mordecai's Example

2. The Danger of Pride: Haman's Fall

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

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

Esther 6:13 And Haman told Zeresh his wife and all his friends every thing that had befallen him. Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him, If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him.

Haman told his wife and friends about his misfortune of losing to Mordecai, his wise men and wife advised him that he would not be successful in defeating Mordecai, as he was of Jewish descent.

1. God is in control of our circumstances - Esther 6:13

2. Trust God's wisdom - Esther 6:13

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. 2 Corinthians 4:7 - But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

Esther 6:14 And while they were yet talking with him, came the king's chamberlains, and hasted to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared.

Haman was invited to the banquet that Queen Esther had prepared.

1. God's providence is evident in the story of Esther as He brings about redemption through Queen Esther's actions.

2. We must trust God's timing and rely on His guidance in our own lives.

1. Esther 6:14

2. 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.

Esther chapter 7 marks a crucial turning point in the story as Esther reveals her identity and exposes Haman's evil intentions. The chapter highlights the confrontation between Esther, Haman, and King Ahasuerus, leading to Haman's ultimate downfall.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Esther inviting King Ahasuerus and Haman to a second banquet that she has prepared. During the banquet, the king asks Esther what her request is and promises to grant it (Esther 7:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative depicts Esther revealing her Jewish identity for the first time and pleading with the king to spare her life and the lives of her people. She accuses Haman of plotting their destruction (Esther 7:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights King Ahasuerus' anger upon hearing Esther's accusation against Haman. In his fury, he leaves the room momentarily, while Haman pleads with Esther for his life (Esther 7:5-7).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with King Ahasuerus returning to find Haman falling on Queen Esther's couch in desperation. He misinterprets this as an attempt by Haman to harm her further, which intensifies his rage. One of the king's attendants suggests hanging Haman on the gallows he had prepared for Mordecai (Esther 7:8-10).

In summary, Chapter seven of Esther depicts the revelation, and downfall experienced by Queen Esther and Haman within King Ahasuerus' court. Highlighting disclosure expressed through exposing one's identity, and confrontation achieved through accusing a perpetrator. Mentioning anger shown for King Ahasuerus' response, and poetic justice embraced for retribution an embodiment representing divine justice an escalation towards a critical turning point within the story of Esther

Esther 7:1 So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen.

The King and Haman attend a banquet at Queen Esther's palace.

1. The Power of Invitation: How Esther Welcomed the King and Haman

2. The Wisdom of Esther: How a Queen Used Her Influence for Good

1. Proverbs 31:25 26: She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

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.

Esther 7:2 And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition, queen Esther? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom.

On the second day of the banquet of wine, the king asked Queen Esther what her petition and request were, promising to grant them both, even to the half of the kingdom.

1. God is good and generous, even to those who have little or no power.

2. In moments of fear, courage can come from trusting in God's faithfulness.

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. 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?

Esther 7:3 Then Esther the queen answered and said, If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request:

Queen Esther appeals to the King for the lives of her people.

1. The Power of Faithful Prayer - Exploring how Esther's prayer for her people is an example of the power of faithful prayer.

2. Standing in the Gap - Examining Esther's willingness to risk her life for her people and how courage in prayer can be a powerful testimony.

1. Luke 18:1-8 - The Parable of the Persistent Widow

2. James 5:16 - The Power of Prayer and Confession

Esther 7:4 For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my tongue, although the enemy could not countervail the king's damage.

Queen Esther reveals to the king that she and her people are in danger of being killed, but she would have kept silent if they were only to be sold into slavery.

1. How do we face danger?

2. The courage of Queen Esther.

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 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."

Esther 7:5 Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so?

Queen Esther courageously speaks out against the wicked plans of Haman, leading to his downfall.

1: We must have the courage to speak out against injustice.

2: God will protect those who stand up for what is right.

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 31:8-9 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.

Esther 7:6 And Esther said, The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman. Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen.

Esther courageously stood up to the wicked Haman and declared him her enemy in the presence of the King and Queen.

1. Standing up for what is right despite the odds

2. Courage to speak the truth 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. Matthew 10:28-31 - 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. 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.

Esther 7:7 And the king arising from the banquet of wine in his wrath went into the palace garden: and Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.

The king was angry and left the banquet of wine. Haman then begged for his life to Queen Esther, realizing that the king had decided to punish him.

1. God's grace is more powerful than any evil determined against us.

2. How to respond to anger with humility and trust in God.

1. Ephesians 2:4-9 - God's amazing grace that saves us.

2. Proverbs 15:1 - A gentle answer turns away wrath.

Esther 7:8 Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the bed whereon Esther was. Then said the king, Will he force the queen also before me in the house? As the word went out of the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.

The King of Persia was outraged when he saw Haman fallen on the bed where Esther was. He asked if Haman was trying to force the queen in his presence. As soon as the king spoke, Haman's face was covered.

1. God's Protection of the Vulnerable - Esther 7:8

2. The Power of Words - Esther 7:8

1. 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."

2. Proverbs 18:21 - The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences.

Esther 7:9 And Harbonah, one of the chamberlains, said before the king, Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai, who had spoken good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman. Then the king said, Hang him thereon.

The King responded to Harbonah's suggestion to hang Mordecai on the gallows that Haman had built for him.

1. The Power of Forgiveness

2. The Power of a Changed Heart

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 18:21-35 - Jesus taught a parable about a man who forgave his servant a large debt.

Esther 7:10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified.

The wrath of the king was pacified when Haman was hanged on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai.

1. The Lord is Just: Understanding the Justice of God in Esther 7:10

2. A Lesson in Humility: The Humility of Mordecai in Esther 7:10

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. 1 Peter 2:23 - When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

Esther chapter 8 focuses on the aftermath of Haman's downfall and the actions taken to counteract his decree. The chapter highlights the empowerment of Mordecai, the issuing of a new decree, and the Jews' newfound hope.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with King Ahasuerus giving his signet ring to Queen Esther, symbolizing his trust and authority. Esther then grants Mordecai permission to write a new decree that would counteract Haman's previous order for the destruction of the Jews (Esther 8:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative depicts Mordecai drafting the new decree in the king's name, sealed with his ring. This edict allows Jews throughout the empire to defend themselves against their enemies on a specified day (Esther 8:3-9).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights messengers being sent throughout all provinces with copies of the new decree, bringing hope and relief to many Jewish communities who were previously living in fear (Esther 8:10-14).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with Mordecai being honored by King Ahasuerus, wearing royal garments and a golden crown. Celebrations take place among the Jews as they rejoice over their newfound security (Esther 8:15-17).

In summary, Chapter eight of Esther depicts the empowerment, and reversal experienced by Mordecai and the Jewish people within King Ahasuerus' court. Highlighting authority expressed through granting a signet ring, and counteraction achieved through issuing a new decree. Mentioning relief shown for Jewish communities, and celebration embraced for newfound security an embodiment representing divine intervention an escalation towards resolution within the story of Esther

Esther 8:1 On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her.

The King Ahasuerus gave the house of Haman to Esther, the queen, after she revealed Mordecai's identity to the king.

1. God will reward those who are faithful

2. God will provide in times of need

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. 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.

Esther 8:2 And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

The King removed his ring given to Haman and gave it to Mordecai, and Esther made Mordecai the head of Haman's house.

1. God's faithfulness to His people: Esther 8:2

2. Doing justice and humbling the proud: Esther 8:2

1. Psalm 37:7-9 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! 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. James 4:6-10 But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. 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.

Esther 8:3 And Esther spake yet again before the king, and fell down at his feet, and besought him with tears to put away the mischief of Haman the Agagite, and his device that he had devised against the Jews.

Esther begged the king with tears to save the Jews from the danger posed by Haman the Agagite.

1. The Power of Persistence: A Study of Esther 8:3

2. The Power of Prayer: Learning from Esther's Intercession

1. James 5:16b - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. Luke 18:1-8 - The Parable of the Persistent Widow.

Esther 8:4 Then the king held out the golden sceptre toward Esther. So Esther arose, and stood before the king,

Esther courageously stands before the king despite his fury.

1: In Esther 8:4, we learn how Esther courageously stood before the king despite his fury. Though we may be fearful in the face of our adversaries, we can find courage and strength through our faith in God.

2: Esther 8:4 shows us how Esther was willing to bravely stand before the king even when he was in a rage. We can be reminded of the courage we can find through our faith in God in the face of challenging situations.

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: 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."

Esther 8:5 And said, If it please the king, and if I have found favour in his sight, and the thing seem right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews which are in all the king's provinces:

Mordecai requests the king to reverse the letters that Haman had written to destroy the Jews throughout the kingdom.

1. The Power of Faith: How Mordecai's Faithful Plea Saved the Jewish People

2. Setting the Record Straight: The Righteousness of Reversing Haman's Evil Plans

1. Matthew 21:22 - And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.

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.

Esther 8:6 For how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?

Queen Esther expresses her distress at the danger her people and her family are in.

1. God can turn any situation around: Esther 8:6

2. Don't give up hope in times of adversity: Esther 8:6

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.

Esther 8:7 Then the king Ahasuerus said unto Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the gallows, because he laid his hand upon the Jews.

King Ahasuerus grants Esther the house of Haman, who had previously tried to attack the Jews, and is subsequently hanged because of his actions.

1. God's protection: No matter how dark the circumstances may seem, God will always protect His people.

2. Mercy: God is merciful, even to those who are undeserving.

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth 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.

Esther 8:8 Write ye also for the Jews, as it liketh you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring: for the writing which is written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse.

The King of Persia commanded his people to write documents in his name and seal them with his ring, as no one could reverse it.

1. The importance of having authority and power to make decisions and how it can affect lives.

2. The power of words and how they can impact other people's lives.

1. Philippians 2:9-11 - Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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.

Esther 8:9 Then were the king's scribes called at that time in the third month, that is, the month Sivan, on the three and twentieth day thereof; and it was written according to all that Mordecai commanded unto the Jews, and to the lieutenants, and the deputies and rulers of the provinces which are from India unto Ethiopia, an hundred twenty and seven provinces, unto every province according to the writing thereof, and unto every people after their language, and to the Jews according to their writing, and according to their language.

King's scribes were called in the third month, and it was written according to Mordecai's command to the Jews, their lieutenants, deputies and rulers of the provinces from India to Ethiopia, according to their writing and language.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People: Esther 8:9

2. The Power of Unity: Esther 8:9

1. Nehemiah 8:8 - So they read distinctly from the book, in the law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to understand the reading.

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

Esther 8:10 And he wrote in the king Ahasuerus' name, and sealed it with the king's ring, and sent letters by posts on horseback, and riders on mules, camels, and young dromedaries:

The king Ahasuerus sent letters by posts on horseback and riders on mules, camels, and young dromedaries.

1. The Power of God's Word: How Esther's Letter Changed a Nation

2. The Power of Empowerment: How Esthers Courage Influenced a King

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:

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?

Esther 8:11 Wherein the king granted the Jews which were in every city to gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish, all the power of the people and province that would assault them, both little ones and women, and to take the spoil of them for a prey,

The king granted the Jews in every city the right to defend themselves against attackers, regardless of age or gender.

1. The Power of Self-Defense: A lesson from Esther 8:11

2. Protecting the Vulnerable: A message from Esther 8:11

1. Exodus 22:2-3 "If a thief is caught breaking in at night and is struck a fatal blow, the defender is not guilty of bloodshed; but if it happens after sunrise, the defender is guilty of bloodshed."

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."

Esther 8:12 Upon one day in all the provinces of king Ahasuerus, namely, upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.

The thirteenth day of the twelfth month, Adar, was declared a day of celebration throughout the provinces of King Ahasuerus.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord: Celebrating God's Providence.

2. God's Love and Care: Celebrating His Unfailing Mercy.

1. Psalm 118:24: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in 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.

Esther 8:13 The copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published unto all people, and that the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies.

The Jews were commanded to prepare themselves for a day of vengeance against their enemies in every province of the empire.

1. The Strength of Unity: Learning from the Example of Esther

2. Overcoming Adversity: Lessons from the Book of Esther

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. 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.

Esther 8:14 So the posts that rode upon mules and camels went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king's commandment. And the decree was given at Shushan the palace.

The king commanded that the decree be sent out across the kingdom as quickly as possible.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Brings Blessing

2. The Authority of God's Word: How Following His Decree Brings Success

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 1:8-9 - "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."

Esther 8:15 And Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a garment of fine linen and purple: and the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad.

The people of Shushan rejoiced when Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel.

1. Following God's Calling: The Example of Mordecai

2. The Blessings of Trusting God and Doing What is Right

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 11:24-26 - 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.

Esther 8:16 The Jews had light, and gladness, and joy, and honour.

The Jews experienced joy, gladness, light and honor.

1. Rejoice in God's Presence

2. The Privilege of Being God's People

1. Psalm 97:11 - Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart.

2. Isaiah 60:1-3 - Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Esther 8:17 And in every province, and in every city, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a good day. And many of the people of the land became Jews; for the fear of the Jews fell upon them.

The Jews experienced joy and gladness in every province and city due to the King's decree, and the fear of the Jews caused many of the people of the land to become Jews.

1. The Power of Fear: How Fear of God Can Bring Us Closer to Him

2. The Joy of Obedience: The Blessings of Following God's Commandments

1. Luke 6:46: "Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and not do what I tell 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."

Esther chapter 9 portrays the culmination of the Jews' struggle for survival and their victory over their enemies. The chapter highlights the Jews' self-defense, the defeat of their adversaries, and the establishment of a yearly commemoration.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the arrival of the day specified in Haman's decree for the destruction of the Jews. However, instead of being defenseless victims, the Jews gather together to defend themselves against their enemies (Esther 9:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative depicts how throughout all provinces, Jews successfully overcome those who sought to harm them. They not only defend themselves but also strike back against their adversaries with great force (Esther 9:3-16).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights how in Susa alone, five hundred men are killed by the Jews, including Haman's ten sons. Additionally, they hang Haman's bodies on gallows as a symbolic act (Esther 9:7-14).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with Mordecai recording these events and sending letters to all Jewish communities throughout King Ahasuerus' empire. He establishes an annual celebration called Purim to commemorate their deliverance from destruction (Esther 9:20-32).

In summary, Chapter nine of Esther depicts the triumph, and establishment experienced by the Jewish people within King Ahasuerus' empire. Highlighting self-defense expressed through overcoming adversaries, and retaliation achieved through striking back. Mentioning victory shown for Jewish communities, and commemoration embraced for deliverance an embodiment representing divine providence an escalation towards resolution and celebration within the story of Esther

Esther 9:1 Now in the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar, on the thirteenth day of the same, when the king's commandment and his decree drew near to be put in execution, in the day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to have power over them, (though it was turned to the contrary, that the Jews had rule over them that hated them;)

On the thirteenth day of the twelfth month (Adar) of the Jewish calendar, the Jews were victorious over their enemies, despite the enemy's expectations of having power over them.

1. Victory in Adversity: God's Miraculous Intervention

2. The Power of Unity: Standing Together Against Oppression

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.

Esther 9:2 The Jews gathered themselves together in their cities throughout all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, to lay hand on such as sought their hurt: and no man could withstand them; for the fear of them fell upon all people.

The Jews defended themselves against their enemies with collective strength and courage, instilling a sense of fear in those who sought to harm them.

1. Overcoming Fear Through Unity

2. Courage in the Face of Oppression

1. Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

2. Hebrews 13:6 - So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

Esther 9:3 And all the rulers of the provinces, and the lieutenants, and the deputies, and officers of the king, helped the Jews; because the fear of Mordecai fell upon them.

The rulers and officers of the king helped the Jews because they feared Mordecai.

1. God is in Control: How Mordecai's Fear Reminds Us of God's Sovereignty

2. Overcoming Fear: What We Can Learn from Mordecai

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 112:7 - "He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord."

Esther 9:4 For Mordecai was great in the king's house, and his fame went out throughout all the provinces: for this man Mordecai waxed greater and greater.

Mordecai s faithfulness to his commitment to serve the king despite his humble origins was rewarded by God, resulting in his great fame.

1. God rewards faithfulness with greatness.

2. From the least to the greatest, God uses everyone for His glory.

1. Psalms 75:6-7 - For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

7. Proverbs 16:9 - A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.

Esther 9:5 Thus the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, and slaughter, and destruction, and did what they would unto those that hated them.

The Jews fought back against their enemies with victory.

1. God will always be with those who trust in Him.

2. We can overcome our enemies through faith in God.

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.

Esther 9:6 And in Shushan the palace the Jews slew and destroyed five hundred men.

The Jews killed 500 men in Shushan the palace.

1: We should remember the Lord s faithfulness even in difficult times.

2: We should be mindful of our actions and how they can affect others.

1: 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.

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.

Esther 9:7 And Parshandatha, and Dalphon, and Aspatha,

The Jewish people celebrated the day of Purim, in which they remembered how Mordecai and Esther saved them from the wicked Haman.

1: We should be thankful to God for His faithfulness to His people, as seen in the story of Purim.

2: We should be mindful of the faithful actions of Mordecai and Esther, and use them as an example of faith and courage.

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 the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Esther 9:8 And Poratha, and Adalia, and Aridatha,

and Parmashta, and Arisai, and Aridai, and Vaizatha,

The story of Esther recounts the courage and bravery of Mordecai and Esther in saving the Jewish people from Haman's wicked plot.

1. Courage in the Face of Adversity: Lessons from Mordecai and Esther

2. The Power of Divine Intervention: God's Protection in Esther's Story

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.

Esther 9:9 And Parmashta, and Arisai, and Aridai, and Vajezatha,

The Book of Esther recounts the story of Queen Esther, who saved the Jewish people from Haman's plot to exterminate them.

The Book of Esther tells the story of Queen Esther's successful effort to save the Jewish people from destruction.

1. God's Faithful Protection: Learning from the Story of Queen Esther

2. Overcoming Evil with Good: Esther's Example of Courage

1. Rom. 12:21 - Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Esther 9:10 The ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the Jews, slew they; but on the spoil laid they not their hand.

The Jews defeated their enemy, Haman, and his ten sons without taking the spoils.

1. The Lord rewards those who trust in Him.

2. Victory comes from the Lord, not from our own strength.

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 Corinthians 10:4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

Esther 9:11 On that day the number of those that were slain in Shushan the palace was brought before the king.

The number of people killed in the palace of Shushan was reported to the king.

1. God is in Control: The Sovereignty of God in Esther 9:11

2. Overcoming Adversity: Finding Strength in the Face of Fear in Esther 9:11

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.

Esther 9:12 And the king said unto Esther the queen, The Jews have slain and destroyed five hundred men in Shushan the palace, and the ten sons of Haman; what have they done in the rest of the king's provinces? now what is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee: or what is thy request further? and it shall be done.

King Ahasuerus asks Queen Esther what her request is after the Jews have slain 500 people in Shushan the palace.

1. The Power of Faith: Esther and the Jews in Shushan

2. Answering the Call: God's Work Through Esther

1. Hebrews 11:32-40 - The examples of faith of those in the Bible

2. James 2:14-19 - Justifying faith by works of obedience

Esther 9:13 Then said Esther, If it please the king, let it be granted to the Jews which are in Shushan to do to morrow also according unto this day's decree, and let Haman's ten sons be hanged upon the gallows.

After the decree to kill Jews is passed, Queen Esther requests the king to allow Jews in Shushan to defend themselves and for Haman's ten sons to be hanged.

1. God's divine protection in times of persecution.

2. The power of faith and prayer.

1. Proverbs 18:10: The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

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.

Esther 9:14 And the king commanded it so to be done: and the decree was given at Shushan; and they hanged Haman's ten sons.

Esther's faith and courage led to the salvation of her people from the wicked Haman and his sons.

1. God uses the faithful to accomplish His divine plan.

2. Faith in God will ultimately be rewarded.

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: 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.

2. John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Esther 9:15 For the Jews that were in Shushan gathered themselves together on the fourteenth day also of the month Adar, and slew three hundred men at Shushan; but on the prey they laid not their hand.

The Jews in Shushan gathered together and killed three hundred men on the fourteenth day of Adar but did not take anything from the slain.

1. How to respond to persecution with grace and mercy

2. The power of unity in a time of trouble

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 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. 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. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ... Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

Esther 9:16 But the other Jews that were in the king's provinces gathered themselves together, and stood for their lives, and had rest from their enemies, and slew of their foes seventy and five thousand, but they laid not their hands on the prey,

The Jews that were in the King's provinces gathered together, fought against their enemies, and killed seventy-five thousand of them. However, they did not take any of the spoils.

1. God protects His people and provides a way for them to stand against their enemies.

2. Our faith gives us strength to fight against our spiritual enemies.

1. Romans 8:31-39 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.

Esther 9:17 On the thirteenth day of the month Adar; and on the fourteenth day of the same rested they, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.

The Jews celebrated the thirteenth and fourteenth day of Adar with feasting and gladness.

1. The Joy of Remembering: Celebrating God's Faithfulness

2. The Value of Festive Celebrations: Rejoicing in God's Presence

1. Isaiah 12:2-3 - Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

2. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Esther 9:18 But the Jews that were at Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth day thereof, and on the fourteenth thereof; and on the fifteenth day of the same they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.

The Jews at Shushan celebrated the fifteenth day of the month with feasting and gladness.

1. The Joy of Celebrating: How to Rejoice in God's Goodness

2. The Power of Unity: Discovering Strength in Community

1. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

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.

Esther 9:19 Therefore the Jews of the villages, that dwelt in the unwalled towns, made the fourteenth day of the month Adar a day of gladness and feasting, and a good day, and of sending portions one to another.

On the fourteenth day of the month of Adar, the Jews in villages and unwalled towns celebrated with feasting and exchanging gifts.

1. The Joy of Joyful Giving: Celebrating the Blessings of Generosity.

2. Celebrate God's Goodness in the Midst of Difficult Circumstances.

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. 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.

Esther 9:20 And Mordecai wrote these things, and sent letters unto all the Jews that were in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, both nigh and far,

Esther's brave stand against Haman's plot to exterminate the Jews inspired Mordecai to write a letter to all the Jews in every region of the king's domain.

1. Courage in the Face of Adversity: Lessons from Esther

2. God's Faithfulness in Times of Trial: A Study of Esther

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.

Esther 9:21 To stablish this among them, that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar, and the fifteenth day of the same, yearly,

Esther 9:21 teaches us that God is in control of all events and calls us to trust in Him.

1: Trusting God in Uncertain Times

2: Rejoicing in God's Goodness

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."

Esther 9:22 As the days wherein the Jews rested from their enemies, and the month which was turned unto them from sorrow to joy, and from mourning into a good day: that they should make them days of feasting and joy, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor.

The Jews celebrated a month of rest from their enemies with feasting and joy, and giving gifts to the poor.

1. The Joy of Generosity: Celebrating the Joys of Giving

2. Resting in the Comfort of God's Protection

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 19:17 - "He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and He will reward him for what he has done."

Esther 9:23 And the Jews undertook to do as they had begun, and as Mordecai had written unto them;

The Jews followed through with the plans Mordecai had written for them.

1. The Power of Perseverance: How Following Through with Plans Can Lead to Success

2. The Value of Community: What We Can Accomplish When We Work Together

1. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

Esther 9:24 Because Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had devised against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast Pur, that is, the lot, to consume them, and to destroy them;

Haman, the enemy of all the Jews, planned to destroy them through a lottery, Pur.

1. God's Power Over Evil Plans: Esther 9:24

2. God's Protection of His People: Esther 9:24

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 4:8 - In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Esther 9:25 But when Esther came before the king, he commanded by letters that his wicked device, which he devised against the Jews, should return upon his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows.

The King of Persia commanded that the wicked plan devised against the Jews should be turned against himself and his sons and that they should be hanged.

1. God's justice is swift and sure - don't be fooled into thinking sin will go unpunished.

2. God will always come to the aid of His people - even when faced with seemingly insurmountable odds.

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. 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. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Esther 9:26 Wherefore they called these days Purim after the name of Pur. Therefore for all the words of this letter, and of that which they had seen concerning this matter, and which had come unto them,

The Jews celebrated Purim in remembrance of their deliverance from destruction.

1: God's protection is always available to His people.

2: The Lord's faithfulness is seen through His deliverance of His people.

1: Exodus 14:14 - "The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

2: Psalm 34:7 - "The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them."

Esther 9:27 The Jews ordained, and took upon them, and upon their seed, and upon all such as joined themselves unto them, so as it should not fail, that they would keep these two days according to their writing, and according to their appointed time every year;

The Jews established a tradition to celebrate two days every year according to their writing and time.

1. The Significance of Celebrating Traditions

2. The Impact of Following God's Commandments

1. Deuteronomy 6:17-19 - 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 take possession of the good land that the Lord swore to your fathers. Keep his statutes and his commandments, which I command you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may prolong your days in the land that the Lord your God is giving you for all time.

2. Ecclesiastes 8:5 - Whoever keeps the commandment will know no evil thing, and the wise heart will know the proper time and the just way.

Esther 9:28 And that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city; and that these days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the memorial of them perish from their seed.

The Jews were commanded to remember and keep the days of Purim throughout every generation.

1. Remembering God's faithfulness in the midst of trials and tribulations

2. Learning the importance of honoring God's special days and celebrations

1. Psalm 136:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - 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. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Esther 9:29 Then Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew, wrote with all authority, to confirm this second letter of Purim.

The Book of Esther records Mordecai and Queen Esther confirming a second letter of Purim.

1: God's providence is always at work in our lives.

2: We must trust in God's plan for our lives and act with courage and 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: 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.

Esther 9:30 And he sent the letters unto all the Jews, to the hundred twenty and seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth,

The king of Ahasuerus sent letters of peace and truth to all of his provinces.

1. "The Power of Peace and Truth"

2. "Living in the Kingdom of Ahasuerus"

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. Isaiah 9:6 - "For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Esther 9:31 To confirm these days of Purim in their times appointed, according as Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had enjoined them, and as they had decreed for themselves and for their seed, the matters of the fastings and their cry.

The Jews of Persia established the days of Purim and decreed that it should be observed with fasting and prayer.

1. How We Can Celebrate Purim in Our Times

2. The Power of Prayer and Fasting

1. Matthew 17:21 - "Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting."

2. Psalm 107:19 - "Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and he saveth them out of their distresses."

Esther 9:32 And the decree of Esther confirmed these matters of Purim; and it was written in the book.

The book of Esther records the events of Purim and the decree of Esther that confirms them.

1. The Power of Unity: How Esther's Decree of Purim Can Change Our Lives

2. The Significance of Purim: Esther's Decree and the Impact on Our World

1. Ephesians 4:3 - "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

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."

Esther chapter 10 serves as a brief conclusion to the Book of Esther, highlighting the greatness and authority of King Ahasuerus. The chapter acknowledges his reign and the impact of his rule.

The entire chapter is composed of a single verse, Esther 10:1, which states:

"And King Ahasuerus imposed tribute on the land and on the islands of the sea."

In summary, Chapter ten of Esther acknowledges the imposition, and reach of King Ahasuerus' authority within his kingdom. Highlighting dominion expressed through imposing tribute, and influence achieved through extending authority. Mentioning governance shown for King Ahasuerus' reign an embodiment representing his power an affirmation concluding the story of Esther.

Esther 10:1 And the king Ahasuerus laid a tribute upon the land, and upon the isles of the sea.

King Ahasuerus imposed a tax upon his kingdom.

1. The Blessing of God's Provision: Learning to Rely on God's Resources

2. Generosity and Contentment: Finding Joy in Giving

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. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing.

2. Proverbs 22:7 - The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.

Esther 10:2 And all the acts of his power and of his might, and the declaration of the greatness of Mordecai, whereunto the king advanced him, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia?

Mordecai was greatly rewarded by the king for his power and might, and these rewards were recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia.

1: God rewards us for our faithfulness to Him.

2: We can all learn from Mordecai's example of faithfulness.

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: 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."

Esther 10:3 For Mordecai the Jew was next unto king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and accepted of the multitude of his brethren, seeking the wealth of his people, and speaking peace to all his seed.

Mordecai was highly esteemed among his people and was devoted to protecting and providing for them, promoting peace and unity.

1. The Power and Responsibility of Influence

2. Seeking the Wealth of our People

Cross-

1. Proverbs 21:21 - He who pursues righteousness and loyalty finds life, prosperity and honor.

2. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Job chapter 1 introduces the character of Job and sets the stage for his profound suffering and subsequent search for meaning. The chapter highlights Job's righteousness, Satan's challenge against him, and the tragic events that befall him.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Job, a wealthy and righteous man who lived in the land of Uz. It emphasizes his blameless character, his fear of God, and his commitment to avoiding evil (Job 1:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative shifts to a heavenly scene where God holds a meeting with angels. Satan appears among them, and God asks if he has considered Job's righteousness. Satan questions Job's motives, suggesting that he only serves God because of the blessings he receives (Job 1:6-11).

3rd Paragraph: The account depicts Satan receiving permission from God to test Job's faithfulness by taking away his possessions but sparing his life. In rapid succession, messengers bring news of calamities raiders stealing livestock, fire destroying sheep and all of Job's wealth is lost (Job 1:12-17).

4th Paragraph: The narrative concludes with another messenger delivering devastating news lightning striking and killing all ten of Job's children while they were gathered together in one location. Despite these tragedies, Job responds by tearing his robe in grief but still worshiping God (Job 1:18-22).

In summary, Chapter one of Job introduces the righteous, and faithful character named Job, and establishes the foundation for his subsequent suffering. Highlighting righteousness expressed through Job's blameless life, and challenge achieved through Satan questioning his faith. Mentioning tragedy shown through loss experienced by Job, and steadfastness embraced as he continues to worship an embodiment representing human resilience an initiation towards an exploration of suffering within the book of Job.

Job 1:1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

This passage describes the man Job, who was perfect, upright, and reverent of God.

1. God rewards those who are faithful and reverent to Him.

2. We can learn from Job's example of perfect and upright living.

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 1:1-2 - "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."

Job 1:2 And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters.

Job had seven sons and three daughters.

1. The importance of family in the life of Job

2. The blessings of having a large 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. 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.

Job 1:3 His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

This passage describes Job's wealth and success, making him the greatest of all the men of the east.

1. We can learn from the example of Job, a man of great faith and success.

2. It is possible to have faith and success in this world.

1. Proverbs 10:22 - The blessing of the Lord brings wealth, without painful toil for 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.

Job 1:4 And his sons went and feasted in their houses, every one his day; and sent and called for their three sisters to eat and to drink with them.

Job's sons and daughters shared meals and feasted together.

1: The importance of family gatherings and feasts in times of joy.

2: The value of spending time with those who are close to us.

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 though a man might prevail against him that is alone, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2: Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

Job 1:5 And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually.

Job's continual dedication to God and his family's wellbeing despite the testing of his faith.

1. God's steadfast faithfulness in the midst of adversity

2. The power of prayer and dedication 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. 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.

Job 1:6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.

The sons of God and Satan came before the Lord on a certain day.

1. God's Sovereignty and Man's Free Will: How to Balance Both

2. The Reality of Spiritual Warfare: How to Stand Firm

1. Isaiah 45:7 - I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the Lord, do all these things.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Job 1:7 And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

Satan is confronted by God and reveals that he is travelling around the earth.

1. Understanding the Wickedness of Satan

2. Knowing our Enemy: An Exploration of Satan

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. Ezekiel 28:12-15 - Son of man, take up a lament concerning the king of Tyre and say to him: This is what the Sovereign Lord says: You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

Job 1:8 And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

Job is commended by the Lord for his faith and righteousness.

1: We can strive to be like Job, a faithful and righteous servant of the Lord.

2: We can work on our faith and righteousness to be a model of God s love.

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: 1 Peter 1:13-17 - 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. 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.

Job 1:9 Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought?

Job trusted God despite difficult circumstances.

1: We should trust God in all circumstances, no matter how difficult.

2: God's love for us is unconditional and unwavering, even in the face of adversity.

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 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.

Job 1:10 Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

God has blessed Job and provided a hedge of protection for him, his family, and possessions, resulting in abundance and prosperity.

1. The Blessings of God s Protection

2. Trust in God s Provision

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. Psalm 16:8 - I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Job 1:11 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.

Satan challenges God that Job will curse Him if He takes away all of his possessions.

1: God's power and faithfulness will never be shaken by the schemes of the enemy.

2: No matter how difficult our circumstances become, our faith in God can never be broken.

1: Isaiah 54:17 "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn."

2: 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: Whom resist stedfast in the faith..."

Job 1:12 And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

God allowed Satan to test Job by taking away his possessions, but warned Satan not to harm Job himself.

1. The strength of Job in the face of adversity

2. God's protection over us in the midst of trial

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."

Job 1:13 And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house:

Job's children were having a celebration at their eldest brother's house.

1. The Power of Family: Celebrating Joyous Occasions Together

2. Gratitude: Appreciating the Little Things in Life

1. Ephesians 5:20 - Giving Thanks Always for All Things Unto God and the Father in the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ

2. Proverbs 17:17 - A Friend Loves at All Times, and a Brother is Born for Adversity

Job 1:14 And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them:

A messenger informs Job that his oxen and asses were plowing and feeding.

1. Trusting God in Difficult Times - Job 1:14

2. The Value of Work - Job 1:14

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus encourages us to not worry about our needs, because God will take care of us.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Paul encourages us to not worry, but to bring our requests to God in prayer with thanksgiving.

Job 1:15 And the Sabeans fell upon them, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

Job's servants were attacked and killed by the Sabeans, but Job was the only one who escaped.

1. No matter how difficult life gets, God will always be with us.

2. God can provide strength and courage to overcome any 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. 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.

Job 1:16 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

Job experienced a great tragedy when a fire from God consumed his servants and sheep.

1: No matter how dark the day, God will carry us through.

2: The Lord gives and the Lord takes away, but blessed be the name of the Lord.

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: 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.

Job 1:17 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

A servant reported to Job that a group of Chaldeans had attacked his camels and killed his servants, and that he was the only survivor.

1. God is in control, even in the midst of tragedy.

2. Suffering can bring us closer to 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. 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."

Job 1:18 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house:

Job's children were enjoying themselves at their eldest brother's house while Job was speaking.

1. The importance of family and cherishing the time we have with them.

2. The blessings and joys that come from having a close relationship with siblings.

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."

Job 1:19 And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

Job s great faith and trust in God despite the loss of his family and possessions.

1: God tests us to grow our faith and trust in Him.

2: God is with us in our trials, and He will never leave us.

1: Romans 5:3-5 - "We 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 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."

Job 1:20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped,

Job displays his faith in God despite the difficult circumstances he is enduring.

1. God is sovereign, and His will is beyond our understanding.

2. Even in times of suffering, we should trust in the Lord.

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.

Job 1:21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.

Job acknowledges God's power and sovereignty over his life, declaring that the Lord gives and takes away and is therefore worthy of praise.

1. "The Sovereignty of God: Praising Him in All Circumstances"

2. "The Faith of Job: Trusting God 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. 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.

Job 1:22 In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

Job suffered many tragedies and trials, but in the midst of it all, he maintained his faith in God and did not accuse God of wrongdoing.

1. "The Strength of Faith in the Midst of Suffering"

2. "God's Faithfulness 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 1:2-4, "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."

Job chapter 2 continues the narrative of Job's suffering and introduces additional challenges he faces. The chapter highlights Job's unwavering faith, his physical affliction, and the arrival of his friends who come to offer comfort.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with another heavenly gathering where God brings up Job's faithfulness once again. Satan argues that if Job were afflicted physically, he would surely curse God. God grants Satan permission to harm Job but spares his life (Job 2:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative shifts to Job being struck with painful sores from head to toe. He sits in ashes and scrapes himself with broken pottery as a sign of mourning and distress (Job 2:7-8).

3rd Paragraph: The account depicts the arrival of three friends Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar who come to console Job. They are initially shocked by his appearance but sit silently with him for seven days and nights out of respect for his suffering (Job 2:11-13).

In summary, Chapter two of Job continues the depiction, and intensification of Job's suffering. Highlighting faith expressed through Job's unwavering devotion, and affliction achieved through physical sores. Mentioning companionship shown by the arrival of his friends an embodiment representing human solidarity an exploration into the complexities of suffering within the book of Job.

Job 2:1 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD.

Job is tested by God and Satan.

1. Trusting in God's Sovereignty - Romans 8:28

2. The Nature of Temptation - James 1:12-15

1. Psalm 37:5-6 - Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

Job 2:2 And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

Satan appears before the Lord and is asked where he has been, to which he responds that he has been roaming the earth.

1. God's omniscience and omnipresence, and the need for us to recognize and submit to His authority.

2. The dangers of allowing evil to control our lives and the need to remain vigilant against it.

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

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

Job 2:3 And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause.

Job was a perfect and upright man who feared God and turned away from evil. Despite Satan's efforts to destroy him, Job held onto his integrity.

1. God is always looking out for us, regardless of the temptations and attacks of evil that try to pull us away from Him.

2. When we remain faithful to God, He will always stand by us and 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. 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.

Job 2:4 And Satan answered the LORD, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life.

The Lord and Satan have a dialogue where Satan claims that a man would give anything for his life.

1: We must consider our eternal life with God above all else.

2: We must not be so attached to our physical lives that we forget our spiritual lives.

1: Proverbs 23:4-5 "Do not overwork to be rich; because of your own understanding, cease! Will you set your eyes on that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away like an eagle toward heaven."

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.

Job 2:5 But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face.

The Lord tests Job s faith by asking him to curse God despite his affliction.

1. The Power of Faith: How to Overcome Difficult Times

2. The Strength of Perseverance: How to Remain True to God Despite 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 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.

Job 2:6 And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life.

The Lord permits Satan to afflict Job, but orders him to spare his life.

1. The Sovereignty and Wisdom of God in Allowing Suffering

2. God's Faithfulness to Us in Sparing Our Lives

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 - 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. 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.

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.

Satan smote Job with boils from head to toe.

1. The Power of Perseverance - Job persevered through suffering and persevered in faith despite the trials he faced.

2. The Faithfulness of God - Even in the midst of tragedy and suffering, God is faithful to His promises.

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.

Job 2:8 And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself withal; and he sat down among the ashes.

Job is suffering from a terrible affliction and is sitting in ashes, scraping himself with a pottery shard.

1. "Suffering and Healing: Finding Comfort in Pain"

2. "The Ashes of Life: Finding Strength in Weakness"

1. Isaiah 53:3 "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."

2. James 5:11 "Behold, we consider those blessed who remain steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful."

Job 2:9 Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die.

Job refuses to renounce his faith in God despite his extreme suffering, even when encouraged to do so by his wife.

1. The Power of Faith in the Face of Suffering

2. Standing Firm in the Midst of Adversity

1. Hebrews 11:1-2 "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report."

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."

Job 2:10 But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.

Job was unwavering in his faith even in the face of great suffering: 1: Our faith should remain strong even when we are suffering. Romans 5:3-5

2: God tests us to make us more faithful and resilient. James 1:2-4

1: James 5:11 - Behold, we count them happy which endure.

2: Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Job 2:11 Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that was come upon him, they came every one from his own place; Eliphaz the Temanite, and Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite: for they had made an appointment together to come to mourn with him and to comfort him.

Job's three friends heard of his misfortune and came to console him.

1. The Power of Friendship: How Friendships Make Us Stronger in Difficult Times

2. The Comfort of Community: The Value of Finding Comfort in Others

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. Philippians 4:7-9 - And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 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. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Job 2:12 And when they lifted up their eyes afar off, and knew him not, they lifted up their voice, and wept; and they rent every one his mantle, and sprinkled dust upon their heads toward heaven.

Two of Job's friends, upon seeing him in his dire state, wept and tore their mantles before sprinkling dust on their heads towards the sky.

1. The power of friendship and the importance of grieving together.

2. The importance of self-reflection and acknowledging our own feelings in difficult times.

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 12:15 - Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

Job 2:13 So they sat down with him upon the ground seven days and seven nights, and none spake a word unto him: for they saw that his grief was very great.

Job's friends saw his immense grief and decided to sit with him in silence for seven days and nights.

1. Being there: How we can show support without words.

2. The Power of Silence: Finding comfort in times of sorrow.

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.

Job chapter 3 portrays Job's deep anguish and his lamentation over his suffering. The chapter highlights Job's desire for death, his questioning of the purpose of life, and his longing for relief from his pain.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Job cursing the day of his birth. He expresses intense despair and bitterness, longing for the day he was conceived to be erased from existence (Job 3:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative depicts Job questioning why he was allowed to live if he would only experience such profound suffering. He laments the fact that he did not die at birth or in the womb, as it would have spared him from this immense pain (Job 3:11-19).

3rd Paragraph: The account highlights Job's reflection on how death is a place of rest where the weary find peace. He sees death as an escape from suffering and wonders why it eludes him (Job 3:20-26).

In summary, Chapter three of Job presents: the deep anguish, and lamentation expressed by Job in response to his suffering. Highlighting despair through cursing the day of his birth, and existential questioning achieved through pondering life's purpose. Mentioning longing shown for relief from pain an embodiment representing human vulnerability an exploration into the depths of suffering within the book of Job.

Job 3:1 After this opened Job his mouth, and cursed his day.

Job expressed his despair and suffering in the form of a curse against the day of his birth.

1. Finding Hope in Suffering: How to Cope with Life s Difficulties

2. The Power of Words: Using Our Speech for Good

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 3:2-10 - 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. When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. 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.

Job 3:2 And Job spake, and said,

Job expresses his desire for death in this passage.

1: We should not be so quick to wish for death, for we do not know the plans God has for us.

2: We should learn to trust in the Lord, even in times of sorrow and despair.

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."

Job 3:3 Let the day perish wherein I was born, and the night in which it was said, There is a man child conceived.

Job wishes for the day and night of his birth to be erased: Job 3:3 reveals his deep despair over his suffering.

1. God's Providence in the Midst of Suffering: Finding Hope in the Lowest Times

2. Trust in God's Plan: The Power of Gratitude in Difficult Times

1. Lamentations 3:19-23 - The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. Yet this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: 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.

Job 3:4 Let that day be darkness; let not God regard it from above, neither let the light shine upon it.

Job curses the day of his birth, asking God to not regard it from above and to not let the light shine upon it.

1. The Power of Our Words - How our words shape our lives

2. Turning to God in Pain - Finding comfort in our suffering

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 62:8 - Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.

Job 3:5 Let darkness and the shadow of death stain it; let a cloud dwell upon it; let the blackness of the day terrify it.

This passage from Job 3 is a plea for darkness and desolation.

1: The Power of Darkness in our Lives: How to Find Strength in the Shadow of Death

2: Overcoming Fear in the Face of Darkness: Learning to Find Comfort in the Unknown

1: Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, 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 when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.

Job 3:6 As for that night, let darkness seize upon it; let it not be joined unto the days of the year, let it not come into the number of the months.

Job expresses his desire for the night of his birth to be erased from the calendar.

1: The power of lament and how God hears our cries.

2: How we can accept our suffering and still retain hope in God.

1: Lamentations 3:19-24 - "Remember my affliction and my wandering, the wormwood and the gall! My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me."

2: Isaiah 53:3-5 - "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."

Job 3:7 Lo, let that night be solitary, let no joyful voice come therein.

This passage from Job 3:7 speaks of a solitary night with no joyful voices.

1. Finding Joy in Solitude - Exploring how God can bring us joy even in the darkest of times.

2. The Comfort of Grief - Examining how grief can lead to comfort and peace.

1. Psalm 34:18 "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

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."

Job 3:8 Let them curse it that curse the day, who are ready to raise up their mourning.

Job expresses his distress and frustration, wishing for those who curse the day to raise up their mourning.

1. The Power of Anger and Frustration in the Face of Adversity

2. Finding Strength in the Pain of Grief

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds.

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.

Job 3:9 Let the stars of the twilight thereof be dark; let it look for light, but have none; neither let it see the dawning of the day:

Job wishes for darkness and despair in the midst of his suffering.

1. Finding Hope in the Dark: Learning to Live in the Shadow of Pain

2. Turning to God in Suffering: Recognizing the Depths of Our Desperation

1. John 16:33 - "In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

2. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Job 3:10 Because it shut not up the doors of my mother's womb, nor hid sorrow from mine eyes.

Job was lamenting the fact that he was born, wishing he had never been born due to the sorrow he had experienced in life.

1. Learning to Accept the Pain of Life

2. Where is God in 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. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Job 3:11 Why died I not from the womb? why did I not give up the ghost when I came out of the belly?

This passage expresses Job's anguish over his suffering and longing for death.

1. "Living With Hope in Suffering: Lessons from Job"

2. "The Paradox of Pain: Embracing Suffering for Growth"

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."

Job 3:12 Why did the knees prevent me? or why the breasts that I should suck?

Job questions why he was born, why he was not stillborn, and why he was not brought up in the arms of his mother.

1. The Power of Perspective: How to Overcome Adversity

2. A Lesson from Job: Finding Strength in Weakness

1. 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."

2. Romans 8:18-19 - "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God."

Job 3:13 For now should I have lain still and been quiet, I should have slept: then had I been at rest,

Job was wishing that he had stayed quiet and gone to sleep instead of complaining to God.

1. Learning to rest in God's timing.

2. Patience in the midst of suffering.

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Job 3:14 With kings and counsellors of the earth, which built desolate places for themselves;

This passage speaks of the vanity of earthly power and glory, as those who seek it will one day be forgotten, leaving only desolation behind.

1: Don't build your life on the sand of worldly power and glory, for it will soon fade away. Instead, build your life on the rock of Jesus Christ and the promises of His Word.

2: Do not strive for earthly power and glory, for it is fleeting and will leave only desolation behind. Seek instead the Kingdom of God and the eternal glory that comes from living in His grace.

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

Job 3:15 Or with princes that had gold, who filled their houses with silver:

Job laments the day of his birth, but compares himself to those with more wealth and power.

1. God's blessings are not measured in earthly wealth and power.

2. Rejoice in the day of your birth, for it is a gift from God.

1. Psalm 127:3 - "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward."

2. Ecclesiastes 7:1 - "A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of birth."

Job 3:16 Or as an hidden untimely birth I had not been; as infants which never saw light.

Job laments his life, wishing he had never been born and that he had never seen the light of day.

1: We must be thankful for the life we have been given and the blessings that come with it.

2: We can take comfort in knowing that God always has a purpose for our lives, even in the midst of difficulty and despair.

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 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.

Job 3:17 There the wicked cease from troubling; and there the weary be at rest.

The wicked are punished and the weary can find rest in death.

1. Finding Rest in the Lord - How to trust in the Lord even during times of trouble and find true and lasting rest.

2. The Reward of the Wicked - Understanding why and how the wicked are punished and brought to justice.

1. Matthew 11:28-29 - "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."

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."

Job 3:18 There the prisoners rest together; they hear not the voice of the oppressor.

This passage from Job 3:18 speaks of a place where prisoners can find solace and freedom from the oppressor.

1. The Freedom of God s Comfort

2. The Enduring Hope of God s Redemption

1. 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.

2. 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.

Job 3:19 The small and great are there; and the servant is free from his master.

This passage highlights the fact that death is the great equalizer, as it does not discriminate between the small and great, nor does it set one free from servitude.

1. "The Great Equalizer: A Reflection on Job 3:19"

2. "Death: A Level Playing Field"

1. Isaiah 25:8 - 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. John 11:25-26 - Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?

Job 3:20 Wherefore is light given to him that is in misery, and life unto the bitter in soul;

This passage questions why life is given to those who are in misery and bitterness.

1. The Power of Endurance: Finding Strength in the midst of Misery

2. Hope in the Midst of Darkness: Seeing Beyond the Pain

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.

Job 3:21 Which long for death, but it cometh not; and dig for it more than for hid treasures;

This passage speaks of those who long for death, but it never comes, and are willing to search for it more so than they would for hidden treasures.

1: We should not become so desperate in our search for death that it takes precedence over our search for life.

2: Even in our darkest moments, we should remember to stay faithful and trust that God's timing is perfect.

1: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.

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.

Job 3:22 Which rejoice exceedingly, and are glad, when they can find the grave?

Job asks why people rejoice and are glad when they can find a grave.

1. A Joyful Life in Christ: Finding Peace and Contentment Despite Difficult Circumstances

2. Life After Death: Embracing the Hope of Eternal 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. 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.

Job 3:23 Why is light given to a man whose way is hid, and whom God hath hedged in?

Job is asking why God provides light to a person whose way is hidden to them and who has been restricted by God.

1. Living in the Light of God's Providence

2. The Blessing of God's Guidance

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

2. Isaiah 42:16 - I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth.

Job 3:24 For my sighing cometh before I eat, and my roarings are poured out like the waters.

Job expresses his sorrow over his suffering and laments his misery.

1: God is with us even in our darkest times.

2: We can trust God when we don't understand why we suffer.

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: 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.

Job 3:25 For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.

The passage discusses the fear that Job had about the things that he was expecting to come upon him.

1. "Living in Fear: Overcoming Anxiety in Difficult Times"

2. "The Power of Faith in the Face of Adversity"

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. 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.

Job 3:26 I was not in safety, neither had I rest, neither was I quiet; yet trouble came.

This passage speaks of Job's suffering and his lack of peace, safety, and rest.

1. The Inevitability of Suffering: How We Can Persevere in the Face of Trials

2. The Paradox of Peace: Finding Comfort in the Midst of Trouble

1. Isaiah 53:3-4: 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. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

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.

Job chapter 4 focuses on the response of one of Job's friends, Eliphaz, to Job's lamentation. The chapter highlights Eliphaz's attempt to offer wisdom and understanding, his belief in divine justice, and his suggestion that Job must have committed some wrongdoing to deserve his suffering.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Eliphaz responding to Job's words by expressing his desire to speak. He urges Job to be patient and listen as he believes he has wisdom to share (Job 4:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Eliphaz shares a vision or a spiritual experience he had during the night. In this vision, a spirit or an angel appears before him and imparts knowledge about human frailty and God's justice (Job 4:7-11).

3rd Paragraph: Eliphaz suggests that suffering is often a consequence of sin or wrongdoing. He questions if Job has truly been innocent throughout his life since calamity has befallen him. Eliphaz implies that God punishes the wicked but rewards the righteous (Job 4:12-21).

In summary, Chapter four of Job presents: the response, and perspective offered by Eliphaz in reaction to Job's lamentation. Highlighting wisdom expressed through offering insight, and belief in divine justice achieved through emphasizing cause and effect. Mentioning questioning shown regarding the righteousness of Job an embodiment representing theological reflection an exploration into different perspectives on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 4:1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said,

Eliphaz the Temanite responds to Job's lamentation.

1. God's love is ever present even in the midst of great suffering.

2. We can find hope in God's promises even in the darkest of times.

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. 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."

Job 4:2 If we assay to commune with thee, wilt thou be grieved? but who can withhold himself from speaking?

This passage suggests that we should not be afraid to speak our minds to God, as He will not be grieved by it.

1. "The Power of Speaking Up: How Communing with God Can Strengthen Your Faith"

2. "God's Love: Why We Should Not Fear to Speak Our Minds to Him"

1. John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

2. Jeremiah 29:12 - Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.

Job 4:3 Behold, thou hast instructed many, and thou hast strengthened the weak hands.

Job was commended for his teaching and encouragement of others.

1. The Power of Encouragement: How We Can Build Up One Another

2. The Strength of Instruction: How We Can Help Others Grow

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:11: "Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

2. Proverbs 15:22: "Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed."

Job 4:4 Thy words have upholden him that was falling, and thou hast strengthened the feeble knees.

Job's words have provided support and comfort to those going through difficult times.

1. "The Power of Words: How to Make a Difference in Someone Else's Life"

2. "The Blessing of Comfort: How God Uses Others to Bring Us Closer to Him"

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. Romans 15:5 - Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus.

Job 4:5 But now it is come upon thee, and thou faintest; it toucheth thee, and thou art troubled.

Job's suffering is causing him to become overwhelmed and anxious.

1: God gives us strength in times of trial.

2: Knowing God's love helps us overcome our suffering.

1: Romans 8:31-39 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2: Psalm 34:17-19 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

Job 4:6 Is not this thy fear, thy confidence, thy hope, and the uprightness of thy ways?

The passage reflects on Job's trust in God despite his suffering.

1. "God is Always Faithful in the Midst of Suffering"

2. "The Hope of the Upright"

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, and hope does not put us to shame..."

2. Psalm 25:21 - "May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope is in you."

Job 4:7 Remember, I pray thee, who ever perished, being innocent? or where were the righteous cut off?

This passage emphasizes the importance of innocence and righteousness, and questions why God would punish the innocent and righteous.

1. The Paradox of Innocence: Examining God's Justice in Punishing the Righteous

2. Trusting in the Lord: How to Persevere in Difficult Times When We Don't Understand God's Plan

1. Psalm 37:39 But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

2. Isaiah 45:21 Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the Lord? and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me.

Job 4:8 Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same.

This passage teaches that those who do wrong will experience the consequences of their actions.

1. We reap what we sow - Galatians 6:7-9

2. Choose wisely, for the consequences are real - Proverbs 24:12

1. 2 Corinthians 5:10 - for we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ

2. Romans 2:6-8 - God will render to each one according to his deeds

Job 4:9 By the blast of God they perish, and by the breath of his nostrils are they consumed.

God's power is absolute and unstoppable.

1. The Power of God is Unstoppable

2. Rely on God's Unstoppable Power

1. Isaiah 11:4 - "But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked."

2. Revelation 1:8 - "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty."

Job 4:10 The roaring of the lion, and the voice of the fierce lion, and the teeth of the young lions, are broken.

Job's suffering is compared to a lion's roaring being silenced.

1: God can bring peace and hope even in the midst of suffering.

2: In the face of adversity, faith in God will bring us strength and courage.

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.

Job 4:11 The old lion perisheth for lack of prey, and the stout lion's whelps are scattered abroad.

The lack of resources can cause even the mightiest of creatures to suffer.

1: God is our provider, and we can always trust Him to provide for us in times of need.

2: We can take strength from Job's story, and never give up hope even in our darkest 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 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.

Job 4:12 Now a thing was secretly brought to me, and mine ear received a little thereof.

This passage describes a mysterious thing that was secretly brought to Job, and that he heard only a little of it.

1. The Mysterious Providence of God - Exploring the unknowable ways that God works in our lives.

2. Finding Strength in the Midst of Suffering - Drawing courage and hope from the example of Job.

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. 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.

Job 4:13 In thoughts from the visions of the night, when deep sleep falleth on men,

Job was reflecting on his experience of visions and dreams in the night, when deep sleep falls on men.

1: In times of distress, God can still reach us through our dreams.

2: Take comfort in the fact that God is with us even during our deepest sleep.

1: John 14:18-19 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.

2: Psalm 127:2 It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep.

Job 4:14 Fear came upon me, and trembling, which made all my bones to shake.

Job is expressing fear and trembling and how it affected his body.

1. Fear Can Lead to Destruction - Job 4:14

2. How to Overcome Fear - Job 4:14

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 4:6-7 - "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."

Job 4:15 Then a spirit passed before my face; the hair of my flesh stood up:

A spirit passed before Job's face, causing the hair on his skin to stand up.

1. God often communicates to us in ways that are mysterious and powerful.

2. Even when we feel insignificant, God is still present and actively speaking to 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. Job 4:15-16 - Then a spirit passed before my face; the hair of my flesh stood up: It stood still, but I could not discern the form thereof: an image was before mine eyes, there was silence, and I heard a voice.

Job 4:16 It stood still, but I could not discern the form thereof: an image was before mine eyes, there was silence, and I heard a voice, saying,

Job encounters an apparition whose form he cannot discern, and receives a message from a disembodied voice.

1: In times of difficulty and uncertainty, God's presence can be found in unexpected ways.

2: We must remain open to all possibilities when seeking God's guidance.

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 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.

Job 4:17 Shall mortal man be more just than God? shall a man be more pure than his maker?

This passage speaks of the impossibility of a human being becoming more just and pure than God.

1. We must come to terms with the fact that our righteousness is not equal to God's.

2. We must strive to be just and pure, but never forget that our righteousness will never exceed that of God.

1. Isaiah 64:6 - But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

2. Philippians 3:9 - And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.

Job 4:18 Behold, he put no trust in his servants; and his angels he charged with folly:

Job's lack of trust in his servants and angels reveals his pride and lack of faith.

1. Pride comes before a fall: A lesson from Job

2. Learning to trust in God: A lesson from Job

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

2. Isaiah 26:3, You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

Job 4:19 How much less in them that dwell in houses of clay, whose foundation is in the dust, which are crushed before the moth?

The fragility of humanity is highlighted by comparing people to houses of clay with a foundation in the dust.

1: We are but dust and to dust we shall return, so let us appreciate the time we have and strive to make the most of it.

2: We are weak and vulnerable, let us turn to God for strength and protection.

1: Psalm 103:14 - For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

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.

Job 4:20 They are destroyed from morning to evening: they perish for ever without any regarding it.

Job's suffering is so great that it is as if his life is being destroyed from morning to evening.

1: We must remember that our suffering is not in vain, but can be used to draw us closer to God.

2: In times of suffering, we must remember to trust in the Lord and have faith that He will guide 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: Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Job 4:21 Doth not their excellency which is in them go away? they die, even without wisdom.

This passage speaks of the fragility of life and how death is inevitable, regardless of how wise or noble a person is.

1. Proverbs 16:31 Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life.

2. 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.

1. Job 14:1-2 Mortals, born of woman, are of few days and full of trouble. They spring up like flowers and wither away; like fleeting shadows, they do not endure.

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.

Job chapter 5 continues the dialogue between Job and his friend Eliphaz. In this chapter, Eliphaz offers his perspective on the nature of suffering, emphasizing God's justice and the importance of seeking Him for wisdom and restoration.

1st Paragraph: Eliphaz begins by urging Job to call upon God for help since no one can challenge or withstand His power. He asserts that God helps those who are humble and righteous (Job 5:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: Eliphaz reflects on his own experiences, sharing how he has witnessed that those who sow trouble and wickedness eventually reap destruction. He emphasizes that it is God who brings about these consequences (Job 5:8-16).

3rd Paragraph: Eliphaz encourages Job not to despise God's discipline or lose hope in His ability to heal and restore. He speaks of how God blesses the humble and frustrates the plans of the wise so that they may recognize His sovereignty (Job 5:17-27).

In summary,

Chapter five of Job presents:

the perspective,

and advice offered by Eliphaz in response to Job's suffering.

Highlighting reliance on God expressed through urging Job to seek Him,

and belief in divine justice achieved through emphasizing cause and effect.

Mentioning encouragement shown regarding restoration an embodiment representing human resilience an exploration into different perspectives on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 5:1 Call now, if there be any that will answer thee; and to which of the saints wilt thou turn?

This passage is a rhetorical question, asking if there is anyone who can answer Job's questions and to which of the saints will he turn to for help.

1. Trusting God Through Difficult Times - Job 5:1

2. Turning to God in Times of Trouble - Job 5:1

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 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."

Job 5:2 For wrath killeth the foolish man, and envy slayeth the silly one.

This verse speaks of the dangers of anger and envy, warning that they can lead to death.

1. "The Dangers of Wrath and Envy"

2. "The Power of Self-Control"

1. Proverbs 15:1 "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger."

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."

Job 5:3 I have seen the foolish taking root: but suddenly I cursed his habitation.

Job laments the foolishness of those who act without thought, and the consequences that can follow.

1: We must use wisdom when making decisions, and trust in God s guidance to lead us in the right direction.

2: We must strive to make wise choices and not be led astray by foolishness.

1: Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believe anything, but the prudent give thought to their steps.

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.

Job 5:4 His children are far from safety, and they are crushed in the gate, neither is there any to deliver them.

God chastises us to bring us closer to Him.

1: We must always trust in God's perfect plan even when times are hard.

2: God's discipline is evidence of His love and mercy.

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 12:6-7, "For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son. Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father?"

Job 5:5 Whose harvest the hungry eateth up, and taketh it even out of the thorns, and the robber swalloweth up their substance.

This verse speaks of how those in poverty often face exploitation by those with more resources, leading to further deprivation.

1: Jesus' call for us to take care of the poor and vulnerable (Matthew 25:31-46).

2: God's provision for the needy and how we can trust Him to provide for us (Philippians 4:19).

1: Psalm 12:5 - "Because the poor are plundered and the needy groan, I will now arise," says the Lord. "I will protect them from those who malign them."

2: Proverbs 14:31 - "Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God."

Job 5:6 Although affliction cometh not forth of the dust, neither doth trouble spring out of the ground;

Affliction does not come from the earth, nor does trouble come from the ground.

1. God is in Control of Our Suffering - Romans 8:28

2. Trusting God in Difficult Times - Isaiah 41:10

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 41:10 - 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.

Job 5:7 Yet man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward.

Man is born with suffering and difficulties.

1. Our Life is a Reflection of God's Plan: Understanding the Difficulties We Encounter

2. Overcoming Adversity: Finding Strength and Comfort in the Lord

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. 1 Peter 5:10 - "And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you."

Job 5:8 I would seek unto God, and unto God would I commit my cause:

The passage encourages us to seek God and to trust Him with our troubles.

1. Trusting God in Troubled Times

2. Rely on God in Your Struggles

1. Psalm 55:22 - Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

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.

Job 5:9 Which doeth great things and unsearchable; marvellous things without number:

God performs great and mysterious works, beyond human comprehension.

1. God's mighty works are beyond our understanding - Psalm 139:6-12

2. Acknowledging the greatness of God - Isaiah 40:18-25

1. Job 36:22-23 - "Behold, God exalteth by his power: who teacheth like him? Who hath enjoined him his way?"

2. Psalm 111:2-3 - "The works of the LORD are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein. His work is honourable and glorious: and his righteousness endureth for ever."

Job 5:10 Who giveth rain upon the earth, and sendeth waters upon the fields:

God is the provider of all things, including sustenance for the earth.

1. God's Faithfulness in Providing for His Creation

2. The Blessing of God's Provision

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. 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?

Job 5:11 To set up on high those that be low; that those which mourn may be exalted to safety.

God is able to bring low people to a place of safety and joy, and can take those who mourn and exalt them to safety.

1. God is always faithful in bringing us to safety.

2. We can trust in God to exalt us even in the midst of our mourning.

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 9:9 - The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

Job 5:12 He disappointeth the devices of the crafty, so that their hands cannot perform their enterprise.

This verse teaches that God is powerful enough to thwart the plans of those who try to work against Him.

1. God is All-Powerful and Nothing is Beyond His Reach

2. Don't Underestimate the Power of God

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. Isaiah 55:8-9: "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says 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."

Job 5:13 He taketh the wise in their own craftiness: and the counsel of the froward is carried headlong.

God can even use our own craftiness to teach us a lesson.

1: God works in mysterious ways and can use even our own mistakes to bring about good.

2: We should be careful to not be too proud of our own wisdom and remember that God can use it against us.

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.

Job 5:14 They meet with darkness in the day time, and grope in the noonday as in the night.

People experience darkness in the day and confusion in the day as if it were night.

1. The Hope of Light in the Darkness

2. Overcoming Confusion in the Day

1. Psalm 30:5 - For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

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.

Job 5:15 But he saveth the poor from the sword, from their mouth, and from the hand of the mighty.

God delivers the poor from those who would oppress them.

1. God is our Protector and Deliverer

2. The Power of God to Save the Poor

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, 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.

Job 5:16 So the poor hath hope, and iniquity stoppeth her mouth.

This passage speaks of the hope that the poor have, and how their iniquity is silenced.

1. God is faithful to provide for the least of these, and we must trust in His provision.

2. Iniquity will be silenced when we trust in God's hope for the poor.

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. Psalm 33:18 - But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love.

Job 5:17 Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty:

God's discipline is a blessing for those who are corrected by Him.

1. Understanding God's Discipline: The Blessing of His Correction

2. Embracing the Chastening of the Almighty

1. Hebrews 12:5-11

2. Proverbs 3:11-12

Job 5:18 For he maketh sore, and bindeth up: he woundeth, and his hands make whole.

God heals and binds up those who are afflicted and wounded.

1. God's Healing Hands - Healing and Restoration through God's Grace

2. The Lord Binds Up - How God Comforts Us in Times of Trouble

1. 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.

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.

Job 5:19 He shall deliver thee in six troubles: yea, in seven there shall no evil touch thee.

God will protect us from evil in times of trouble.

1. God will always be there for us in our time of need.

2. Even in the midst of darkness, God will guide us and protect us from evil.

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. 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."

Job 5:20 In famine he shall redeem thee from death: and in war from the power of the sword.

God will protect his people in times of famine and war.

1. God Is Our Protector - Trusting in God's protection during times of famine and war.

2. Rely on the Lord - Letting God be our strength and refuge in hard 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 26:3 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Job 5:21 Thou shalt be hid from the scourge of the tongue: neither shalt thou be afraid of destruction when it cometh.

The passage speaks of protection from the harm caused by others' words, and from destruction.

1. "The Power of Our Words"

2. "Perseverance Through Suffering"

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

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.

Job 5:22 At destruction and famine thou shalt laugh: neither shalt thou be afraid of the beasts of the earth.

God promises protection even during difficult times.

1. God is in control even in times of destruction and famine.

2. We can trust God to provide safety and security no matter what 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 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Job 5:23 For thou shalt be in league with the stones of the field: and the beasts of the field shall be at peace with thee.

God can bring peace to all living things: 1- God's power brings peace to all realms of life. 2- Know that God is in control of all things and will bring peace in every situation.

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- Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Job 5:24 And thou shalt know that thy tabernacle shall be in peace; and thou shalt visit thy habitation, and shalt not sin.

God promises His people that they can live in peace if they follow His commandments and refrain from sin.

1. The Peace of God: An Invitation to Live Righteously

2. The Blessing of a Tabernacle of Peace

1. Philippians 4:7 - "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

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."

Job 5:25 Thou shalt know also that thy seed shall be great, and thine offspring as the grass of the earth.

God promises that Job's descendants will be numerous and abundant.

1. God's Promises are Always Reliable - Job 5:25

2. The Blessings of a Multitude of Descendants - Job 5:25

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 115:14 - The Lord shall increase you more and more, you and your children.

Job 5:26 Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season.

This verse speaks of the end of life and how it will come at its appointed time.

1. Knowing God's Timing: Finding Peace in the End

2. Living a Full Life: Making the Most of Our Time

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

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

Job 5:27 Lo this, we have searched it, so it is; hear it, and know thou it for thy good.

Job states that it is important to search for the truth and to understand it for one's own benefit.

1. Understanding the Truth: The Power of Knowledge in Our Lives

2. Learning to Seek Wisdom: Applying the Wisdom of Job to Our Everyday Lives

1. Proverbs 4:5-7 Get wisdom; get insight; do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you. The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight.

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!

Job chapter 6 continues Job's response to his friends' attempts to comfort him. In this chapter, Job expresses his deep anguish and desires for death, while also questioning the sincerity and effectiveness of his friends' words.

1st Paragraph: Job begins by expressing the weight of his suffering and longing for relief. He compares his anguish to the heaviness of the desert winds and the barrenness of dried-up streams (Job 6:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: Job questions the value of his friends' words, criticizing them for offering empty platitudes instead of genuine comfort. He suggests that their attempts at consolation are as futile as tasteless food (Job 6:8-13).

3rd Paragraph: Job expresses his desperation and desire for death, believing it would bring an end to his pain. He describes how he has lost all hope and feels abandoned by both God and humanity (Job 6:14-23).

4th Paragraph: Despite his despair, Job pleads with his friends to show him where he has gone wrong so that he may understand why he is suffering. He asks them to point out any wrongdoing on his part but also acknowledges that their understanding may be limited (Job 6:24-30).

In summary,

Chapter six of Job presents:

the continued lamentation,

and questioning expressed by Job in response to his suffering.

Highlighting anguish through vivid imagery,

and skepticism achieved through critiquing the words of his friends.

Mentioning desperation shown in desiring death an embodiment representing human vulnerability an exploration into the depths of suffering within the book of Job.

Job 6:1 But Job answered and said,

Job expresses his frustration about his suffering and laments the lack of comfort from his friends.

1. God often uses suffering to bring us closer to Him.

2. God allows suffering to teach us valuable lessons.

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 12:11 - No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Job 6:2 Oh that my grief were throughly weighed, and my calamity laid in the balances together!

This passage expresses Job's wish for his grief to be weighed and his calamity to be measured.

1. God knows our pain and is able to provide us with the comfort we need in times of distress.

2. We can trust in God to bring us through our trials and tribulations.

1. 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.

2. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 - For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Job 6:3 For now it would be heavier than the sand of the sea: therefore my words are swallowed up.

Job is expressing the weight of his suffering and how it is so heavy that it has swallowed up his words.

1. God s Strength in Suffering Exploring how God is present in our suffering and how we can rely on His strength to get us through.

2. Hope in the Midst of Troubles Recognizing the hope that exists in the midst of our struggles and how to access it.

1. Romans 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

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.

Job 6:4 For the arrows of the Almighty are within me, the poison whereof drinketh up my spirit: the terrors of God do set themselves in array against me.

Job is suffering from the wrath of God.

1: God's wrath is a reality we must all face.

2: No one can escape the consequences of their actions.

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: Hebrews 10:31 - It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Job 6:5 Doth the wild ass bray when he hath grass? or loweth the ox over his fodder?

Job questions whether animals are so content with their food that they express themselves in joy.

1. Contentment in the Lord: The example of the animals

2. Finding Joy in Everyday Life

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. 1 Timothy 6:6-8 - But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

Job 6:6 Can that which is unsavoury be eaten without salt? or is there any taste in the white of an egg?

This passage speaks of the lack of flavor in bland food, questioning whether it can be eaten without salt or any other flavorings.

1: Don't let life become bland and tasteless - God has given us so many flavors and opportunities to explore!

2: Consider the importance of salt in our lives - it is a simple seasoning that can add so much flavor.

1: Matthew 5:13 - "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot."

2: Colossians 4:6 - "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."

Job 6:7 The things that my soul refused to touch are as my sorrowful meat.

The sorrow of Job is so deep that he can no longer take pleasure in anything.

1: In times of sorrow, we must turn to God for comfort.

2: Struggling with grief is a normal part of the human experience, but God can bring us joy even in the worst of times.

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."

2: Psalm 30:5 "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning."

Job 6:8 Oh that I might have my request; and that God would grant me the thing that I long for!

Job expresses his desire to have his request fulfilled by God.

1. The Strength of Perseverance in Prayer - How Job's willingness to keep bringing his request to God can be an example to us all.

2. Facing Difficult Times with Faith - How Job's trust in God despite his suffering can be an example to us all.

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 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."

Job 6:9 Even that it would please God to destroy me; that he would let loose his hand, and cut me off!

Job expresses his despair over his suffering and wishes for death, even if it would displease God.

1. The Hope of Redemption: Learning to Trust God in Suffering

2. Persevering Through Trial: Finding Strength in God

1. Isaiah 43:1-2 - "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. 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. 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.

Job 6:10 Then should I yet have comfort; yea, I would harden myself in sorrow: let him not spare; for I have not concealed the words of the Holy One.

Job finds comfort in not concealing the words of the Holy One, even in sorrow.

1: God always provides comfort in times of sorrow, even if it may not be immediately apparent.

2: God's words are to be treasured and remembered, even in times of suffering.

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 94:19 - "When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul."

Job 6:11 What is my strength, that I should hope? and what is mine end, that I should prolong my life?

Job expresses his despair due to his suffering as he questions the purpose of his life.

1: In times of suffering, we must remember that God is our strength and hope, and He will guide us in our lives.

2: Even when we feel like giving up, it is important to remember that God's plans are far greater than our plans and to remain faithful to 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 145:14 - The LORD upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down.

Job 6:12 Is my strength the strength of stones? or is my flesh of brass?

Job questions whether he has the strength of stones or a body of brass.

1. The Strength to Persevere: How Job's Strength in Suffering Can Inspire Us

2. The Strength in Weakness: How Job's Vulnerability Can Teach Us to Lean on God

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.

10. 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.

Job 6:13 Is not my help in me? and is wisdom driven quite from me?

The passage questions whether help and wisdom have been completely taken away.

1: The Hope of Relying on God for Help and Wisdom

2: The Danger of Turning Away from God for Help and Wisdom

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: 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.

Job 6:14 To him that is afflicted pity should be shewed from his friend; but he forsaketh the fear of the Almighty.

This passage suggests that those who are suffering should be shown compassion by their friends, and not be forsaken by the Almighty.

1. Comfort in Times of Suffering: How to Find Strength in Hard Times

2. The Power of Compassion: Encouraging Each Other Through Difficult Times

1. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

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.

Job 6:15 My brethren have dealt deceitfully as a brook, and as the stream of brooks they pass away;

Job's brethren have acted deceitfully like a river, quickly fading away.

1: We must strive to act with integrity in our relationships and not be like a fleeting river.

2: We must be careful to not be deceived by those who appear to behave in a trustworthy manner.

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 24:1-2 - "Be not envious of evil men, nor desire to be with them, for their hearts devise violence, and their lips talk of trouble."

Job 6:16 Which are blackish by reason of the ice, and wherein the snow is hid:

Job is describing a desolate landscape of frozen mud and snow.

1. God's Creation: Appreciating the Beauty of Nature

2. Overcoming Adversity: Finding Strength in Difficult Situations

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

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."

Job 6:17 What time they wax warm, they vanish: when it is hot, they are consumed out of their place.

Job laments that his friends' comfort and support have faded away, just as warmth and heat lead to things vanishing and being consumed.

1. "The Disappearing Comfort of Friends"

2. "The Fleeting Nature of Support"

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. Proverbs 14:20 - "The poor is disliked even by his neighbor, but the rich has many friends."

Job 6:18 The paths of their way are turned aside; they go to nothing, and perish.

Job laments his suffering and affliction and how his paths have been turned aside.

1. God's Plans and Paths for Our Lives: Understanding the Unexpected

2. Perseverance in Trials: Trusting God Despite the Challenges

1. Jeremiah 29:11-14 - 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.

Job 6:19 The troops of Tema looked, the companies of Sheba waited for them.

This passage describes the people of Tema and Sheba waiting for Job's troops to arrive.

1. Waiting on God: Patience in Adversity

2. The Power of Community: Working Together

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. 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!"

Job 6:20 They were confounded because they had hoped; they came thither, and were ashamed.

People came to Job with expectations of success but they were disappointed and ashamed.

1. Letting Go of Unfulfilled Expectations - Job 6:20

2. Overcoming Disappointment and Shame - Job 6:20

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 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."

Job 6:21 For now ye are nothing; ye see my casting down, and are afraid.

Job laments the lack of support from his friends in his time of sorrow and desperation.

1: In times of sorrow, we should take comfort in knowing that God will never leave us alone.

2: Even when we feel like we have been abandoned, God's love and mercy 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: 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."

Job 6:22 Did I say, Bring unto me? or, Give a reward for me of your substance?

This passage from Job 6:22 questions why Job should have to ask for help, or be rewarded for his suffering.

1. "The Power of Perseverance: Examining Job's Faith in Suffering"

2. "The Gift of Grace: Learning to Receive Help from Others"

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. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

Job 6:23 Or, Deliver me from the enemy's hand? or, Redeem me from the hand of the mighty?

Job pleads to be delivered from his enemies and those with power over him.

1. God is our refuge and strength in times of need

2. God is our deliverer and redeemer

1. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

2. Isaiah 43:1 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.

Job 6:24 Teach me, and I will hold my tongue: and cause me to understand wherein I have erred.

Job expresses his desire to learn from God and understand his errors.

1. Let us learn to be humble and seek knowledge from God.

2. It is through seeking God's wisdom that we can find understanding.

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

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.

Job 6:25 How forcible are right words! but what doth your arguing reprove?

Job questions how effective words can be when people are arguing.

1. The Power of Righteous Words: How our Words Can Make a Difference

2. The Importance of Kindness in Conflict: How We Can Reach Resolution Without Argument

1. Proverbs 15:1 - "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

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."

Job 6:26 Do ye imagine to reprove words, and the speeches of one that is desperate, which are as wind?

Job expresses his frustration that his friends are trying to correct his words even though his words are like blowing wind.

1. The Power of Words: How to Use Our Words Wisely

2. The Importance of Compassion: Finding Strength Through Support

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 12:18 - There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Job 6:27 Yea, ye overwhelm the fatherless, and ye dig a pit for your friend.

Job accuses his friends of mistreating the fatherless and digging a pit for their friend.

1. The Power of Friendship: How Our Actions Impact Those Closest to Us

2. Caring for the Fatherless: Our Responsibility as Believers

1. Proverbs 17:17: A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

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.

Job 6:28 Now therefore be content, look upon me; for it is evident unto you if I lie.

Job pleads with his friends to accept his words, as he has made it clear that he speaks truthfully.

1. We can find comfort in God's promises even in the midst of suffering.

2. We should be patient and show grace when listening to others.

1. Psalm 119:76 - "Let your unfailing love be my comfort, according to your promise to your servant."

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.

Job 6:29 Return, I pray you, let it not be iniquity; yea, return again, my righteousness is in it.

Job pleads for God to forgive him and restore his righteousness.

1. The Power of Repentance: Returning to God's Grace

2. The Joy of Righteousness: Restoring Our Faith

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. Psalm 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Job 6:30 Is there iniquity in my tongue? cannot my taste discern perverse things?

Job questions the correctness of his words and actions and wonders if he has been wrong in his judgement.

1. The Power of Discernment - How to recognize right and wrong in life.

2. The God-Given Gift of Discretion - How to use wisdom in everyday life.

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 1:5-6 - 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.

Job chapter 7 continues Job's anguished response to his suffering. In this chapter, Job reflects on the brevity and hardship of human life, expressing his deep despair and longing for relief.

1st Paragraph: Job begins by acknowledging the fleeting nature of human life, comparing it to the hard labor of a hired worker and the restlessness of a servant longing for evening (Job 7:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: Job expresses his intense suffering and describes his nights as filled with restlessness and torment. He feels overwhelmed by physical pain and plagued by troubling dreams (Job 7:6-10).

3rd Paragraph: Job questions God's attention to human beings, wondering why He scrutinizes them so closely. He pleads with God to leave him alone even for a moment so that he may find some respite from his anguish (Job 7:11-16).

4th Paragraph: Job contemplates the brevity of human life, likening it to a fading shadow that quickly disappears. He laments the lack of hope in his situation, feeling trapped in a cycle of suffering without relief (Job 7:17-21).

In summary,

Chapter seven of Job presents:

the continued lamentation,

and questioning expressed by Job in response to his suffering.

Highlighting reflection on human frailty through vivid imagery,

and plea for relief achieved through questioning God's attention.

Mentioning despair shown regarding the brevity and hardship of life an embodiment representing human vulnerability an exploration into the depths of suffering within the book of Job.

Job 7:1 Is there not an appointed time to man upon earth? are not his days also like the days of an hireling?

The passage reflects on the transient nature of life, asking if there is an appointed time for humans and if our days are like those of a hired worker.

1. "Embracing the Transience of Life"

2. "Making the Most of Our Time on Earth"

1. 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."

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;"

Job 7:2 As a servant earnestly desireth the shadow, and as an hireling looketh for the reward of his work:

Job longs for rest from his suffering and yearns for the reward of his hard work.

1. The Comfort of Rest: Finding Contentment in Weariness

2. The Reward of Faithfulness: God's Promise of Provision

1. Psalm 23:2-3 "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. 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."

Job 7:3 So am I made to possess months of vanity, and wearisome nights are appointed to me.

Job expresses his frustration over the seemingly endless suffering he has been enduring.

1. We have no control over the struggles we face in life, but we can take comfort in God's unfailing love and presence during these times.

2. God has a greater purpose for our suffering, even if we cannot see it at the moment.

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 34:18 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Job 7:4 When I lie down, I say, When shall I arise, and the night be gone? and I am full of tossings to and fro unto the dawning of the day.

This verse is about Job's longing to be free from his suffering, expressed through his sleeplessness.

1: We can trust in God even when we feel overwhelmed by our trials in life.

2: We can rely on God's promises of comfort in times of distress.

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 55:22 - "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."

Job 7:5 My flesh is clothed with worms and clods of dust; my skin is broken, and become loathsome.

Job's suffering is so great that his body is covered in worms and clumps of dust.

1. When Life Gets Hard: Finding Strength in Our Weakness

2. Overcoming the Struggles in Life: Finding Hope in the Midst of Suffering

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. 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. Psalm 77:1-2 - I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, and he will hear me. In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted.

Job 7:6 My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle, and are spent without hope.

Job reflects on the brevity of life and the lack of hope he feels.

1. The Transience of Life - A on the fleeting nature of life and the importance of making the most of the time we have.

2. Hope in the Midst of Despair - A on finding hope and joy in life even in the midst of pain and sorrow.

1. Hebrews 4:7-11 - A reminder of the importance of making the most of our time on earth.

2. Romans 12:12 - The importance of rejoicing in hope, being patient in affliction, and continuing to pray.

Job 7:7 O remember that my life is wind: mine eye shall no more see good.

This passage speaks of Job's realization that his life is but a fleeting moment and that he will no longer be able to experience the good things.

1. "The Transience of Life: Trusting in God's Love in the Face of Uncertainty"

2. "Living in the Moment: Appreciating Life's Gifts"

1. Ecclesiastes 1:2 - Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

2. Isaiah 40:6-8 - A voice says, Cry! And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Job 7:8 The eye of him that hath seen me shall see me no more: thine eyes are upon me, and I am not.

Job reflects on his life and how he is no longer able to be seen by those who have seen him before.

1: We can all take comfort in the knowledge that God is always watching over us, even when we can no longer be seen by the people we love.

2: We should not take our lives for granted, as they can be taken away from us at any time.

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 15:3 "The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good."

Job 7:9 As the cloud is consumed and vanisheth away: so he that goeth down to the grave shall come up no more.

Man is mortal and his life on earth is brief.

1: We must make the most of our time on earth and serve God with all our hearts.

2: Though life on earth is brief, we have the hope of an eternal life with God.

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 - So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Job 7:10 He shall return no more to his house, neither shall his place know him any more.

Job reflects on the brevity of life, recognizing that he will die and not return to his home nor will his place remember him.

1. The Fragility of Life: Cherish the Moments We Have

2. The Power of Legacy: How We Impact the World After We Are Gone

1. Psalm 103:15-16 As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:2 A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.

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

Job expresses his inner turmoil and frustration.

1: Trusting God through Difficult Times

2: Finding Hope in the Midst of Suffering

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 them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Job 7:12 Am I a sea, or a whale, that thou settest a watch over me?

Job questions God's constant surveillance over him, asking if he is a sea or a whale that would require such watchful care.

1. God's Unfailing Watch: A Study of Job 7:12

2. The Blessing of God's Constant Presence

1. Psalm 139:1-12

2. Romans 8:28-39

Job 7:13 When I say, My bed shall comfort me, my couch shall ease my complaint;

Job is questioning God's justice and expressing his distress.

1: Trusting in God's Justice despite our Suffering

2: Relying on God's Comfort in Adversity

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 34:18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Job 7:14 Then thou scarest me with dreams, and terrifiest me through visions:

Job's lament about the harshness of his suffering and the sense of being overwhelmed by God.

1. God Does Not Intend to Overwhelm Us - reminding us that God does not intend to terrify us with visions and dreams, but rather to lead us into a place of peace and hope.

2. Embracing Suffering - teaching us to accept our suffering as a part of God s plan and learn how to find peace, joy, and hope in the midst of it.

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. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

Job 7:15 So that my soul chooseth strangling, and death rather than my life.

This passage from Job reflects the despair and hopelessness he felt, wishing for death instead of life.

1. "Life in the Valley of Despair: Finding Hope in Job 7:15"

2. "When Death Seems Better than Life: Comfort in Job 7:15"

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. 1 Corinthians 15:55-57 - "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

Job 7:16 I loathe it; I would not live alway: let me alone; for my days are vanity.

Job expresses his frustration with life and his desire to be left alone due to the vanity of his days.

1. "Vanity of Life: Finding Contentment in the Moment"

2. "Learning to Let Go of Life's Struggles"

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. Psalm 37:7-11

Job 7:17 What is man, that thou shouldest magnify him? and that thou shouldest set thine heart upon him?

Man is insignificant in comparison to God, and yet God loves and cherishes him.

1. God's Unfathomable Love: Understanding the Depths of God's Care for Man

2. The Wonder of Worth: Appreciating Man's Significance Despite His Insignificance

1. Psalm 8:3-4, "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?"

2. 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."

Job 7:18 And that thou shouldest visit him every morning, and try him every moment?

God visits us every morning and tests us in every moment.

1. God's Daily Visitation: Looking to God for Strength in Every Moment

2. Trusting God in Times of Testing: Finding Comfort in God's Unfailing Love

1. Psalm 121:1-2 "I lift up my eyes to the hills from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 "He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those 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."

Job 7:19 How long wilt thou not depart from me, nor let me alone till I swallow down my spittle?

Job longs for God to take away his suffering and leave him be.

1. God is with us in our suffering - Job 7:19

2. Releasing our burdens to God - Job 7:19

1. 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.

2. 2 Corinthians 4:17 - For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison.

Job 7:20 I have sinned; what shall I do unto thee, O thou preserver of men? why hast thou set me as a mark against thee, so that I am a burden to myself?

The passage speaks of Job's recognition of his sins and his questioning of why God has put him through such suffering.

1. The Trials of Life: Recognizing and Overcoming Our Struggles

2. Bearing the Burdens of Our Sins: Finding Strength in the Lord

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"

2. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience"

Job 7:21 And why dost thou not pardon my transgression, and take away mine iniquity? for now shall I sleep in the dust; and thou shalt seek me in the morning, but I shall not be.

Job questions why God will not pardon his transgression and take away his iniquity, and he realizes that ultimately he will die and God will look for him in the morning.

1. Recognizing That Life Is Short: The Need to Make Amends

2. God's Invitation for Forgiveness: The Opportunity for Redemption

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

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

Job chapter 8 features the response of Job's friend Bildad to Job's lamentation. Bildad offers his perspective on divine justice and urges Job to seek God's favor by repenting of any wrongdoing.

1st Paragraph: Bildad begins by rebuking Job for his words, accusing him of speaking out of arrogance and challenging the integrity of God. He asserts that God is just and will not pervert justice (Job 8:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: Bildad draws upon the wisdom of their ancestors, emphasizing that those who sow wickedness will reap destruction. He encourages Job to seek God and repent, assuring him that if he does so, God will restore him (Job 8:8-22).

In summary,

Chapter eight of Job presents:

the response,

and perspective offered by Bildad in reaction to Job's suffering.

Highlighting belief in divine justice expressed through emphasizing cause and effect,

and urging for repentance achieved through encouraging seeking God.

Mentioning rebuke shown regarding questioning the integrity of God an embodiment representing theological reflection an exploration into different perspectives on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 8:1 Then answered Bildad the Shuhite, and said,

Bildad responds to Job with his opinion on why Job is suffering.

1. God's ways are higher than our ways, and we should trust His plan even when we don't understand it (Isaiah 55:8-9).

2. There is always hope in God, even in our darkest times (Jeremiah 29:11).

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. 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.

Job 8:2 How long wilt thou speak these things? and how long shall the words of thy mouth be like a strong wind?

Bildad is questioning Job's suffering and how long it will last.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Speech Impacts Our Lives

2. The Uncertainty of Life: What We Can Do When We Don't Have the Answers

1. Proverbs 18:21 "Death and life are in the power of the tongue"

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."

Job 8:3 Doth God pervert judgment? or doth the Almighty pervert justice?

Job questions whether God perverts justice and judgment.

1: Do not question God's justice.

2: God's justice is perfect, and ours is flawed.

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 9:7-9 - But the Lord sits enthroned forever; he has established his throne for judgment. He judges the world with righteousness; he judges the peoples with equity. The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

Job 8:4 If thy children have sinned against him, and he have cast them away for their transgression;

God punishes sin and rebellion but also shows mercy.

1: God's Discipline is a Gift of Love

2: Reaping What We Sow

1: Proverbs 3:11-12 - "My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline and do not resent his rebuke, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in."

2: Hebrews 12:5-6 - "And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: My son, do not make light of the Lord s discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.

Job 8:5 If thou wouldest seek unto God betimes, and make thy supplication to the Almighty;

This passage emphasizes the importance of praying to God in times of need.

1. Turning to God in Times of Trouble: Finding Strength and Comfort in Prayer

2. Reaching Out to God: The Benefits of Seeking His Guidance

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 18:1-6 - "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 called to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I have been saved from my enemies. The cords of death entangled me; the torrents of destruction overwhelmed me. The cords of the grave coiled around me; the snares of death confronted me. In my distress I called to the Lord; I cried to my God for help. From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came before him, into his ears."

Job 8:6 If thou wert pure and upright; surely now he would awake for thee, and make the habitation of thy righteousness prosperous.

This verse from the book of Job suggests that God will make the habitation of righteousness prosperous if a person is pure and upright.

1. God s Rewards for Righteousness: How to Live a Prosperous Life

2. The Power of Purity: How Trust in God Leads to a Life of Abundance

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. 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.

Job 8:7 Though thy beginning was small, yet thy latter end should greatly increase.

Despite a humble beginning, Job encourages that a person s future can be greater than their past.

1. "From Small Beginnings Come Great Things"

2. "God Rewards Those Who Persevere"

1. Luke 16:10 - "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much."

2. Proverbs 22:29 - "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men."

Job 8:8 For enquire, I pray thee, of the former age, and prepare thyself to the search of their fathers:

This passage encourages us to seek counsel and wisdom from the elders and their ancestors.

1. Wisdom from the wise: How to gain insight from the generations before us

2. The power of tradition: How understanding our past can help shape our future

1. Proverbs 16:31, "Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life."

2. Psalm 78:5-7, "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."

Job 8:9 (For we are but of yesterday, and know nothing, because our days upon earth are a shadow:)

This passage speaks to the fleeting nature of human life, reminding us that we are only here for a short time and do not know much.

1. "Remember Your Mortality: Don't Take Life for Granted"

2. "Living in Light of Eternity: Seeing Beyond Our Short Lives"

1. 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."

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."

Job 8:10 Shall not they teach thee, and tell thee, and utter words out of their heart?

This passage encourages readers to listen carefully to advice from others, as it can come from the heart.

1: We can learn from others, even when we don't agree with them.

2: We should take time to listen to the advice of those who care for us.

1: Philippians 4:5 - "Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near."

2: Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

Job 8:11 Can the rush grow up without mire? can the flag grow without water?

Job's question emphasizes the importance of water and mire for the growth of a rush and flag.

1: God provides for our needs.

2: Growth requires nurturing.

1: Psalm 23:2 - He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

2: Matthew 11:28 - Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Job 8:12 Whilst it is yet in his greenness, and not cut down, it withereth before any other herb.

Job's suffering has caused him to reflect on how quickly life can end.

1. Understanding the fragility of life and cherishing every moment.

2. Preparing for death and living life to the fullest.

1. James 4:14 - 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. Psalm 90:12 - Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Job 8:13 So are the paths of all that forget God; and the hypocrite's hope shall perish:

Those who forget God will not have a lasting hope, and the hope of hypocrites will be destroyed.

1. Don't Forget God: A about the importance of not forgetting God and how it will lead to lasting hope.

2. The Hypocrite's Hope: A about the dangers of being a hypocrite and how it will lead to a hope that will perish.

1. Psalm 37:7-9 - "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. For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land."

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."

Job 8:14 Whose hope shall be cut off, and whose trust shall be a spider's web.

Job's hope and trust will be destroyed, likened to a spider's web.

1. How We Can Learn to Rely on God and Not on Ourselves

2. God's Sovereignty in Our Lives Despite Our Difficulties.

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. 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."

Job 8:15 He shall lean upon his house, but it shall not stand: he shall hold it fast, but it shall not endure.

Job's confidence in his own strength is fragile and fleeting.

1. Remember that life is fragile and insecure, and our only hope is in God.

2. Growing in faith and trusting in God will lead to peace and security, even in difficult times.

1. Job 19:25-26 As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God.

2. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Job 8:16 He is green before the sun, and his branch shooteth forth in his garden.

Bildad speaks of a person who is young and blooming, with their life flourishing in their garden.

1. The Power of Youth and Renewal: Exploring the beauty of new beginnings and the potential of youthful energy.

2. Cultivating a Garden of Life: Exemplifying the growth of God's love in our lives and how we can be a blessing to others.

1. Psalm 1:3 - 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.

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.

Job 8:17 His roots are wrapped about the heap, and seeth the place of stones.

This passage talks about how a person's roots are wrapped around a heap of stones and they can see the place of stones.

1: We are all rooted in something, and it is important to remember our true source of strength and stability.

2: Never forget where you come from, and always strive to find a place of peace and comfort in life.

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: 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.

Job 8:18 If he destroy him from his place, then it shall deny him, saying, I have not seen thee.

Bildad tells Job that if God destroys him from his place, then God will deny him, implying that Job is not in God's favor.

1. God is always in control and has a plan for our lives regardless of our circumstances.

2. God is faithful to those who follow Him and will never deny 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 49:15-16 - "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! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me."

Job 8:19 Behold, this is the joy of his way, and out of the earth shall others grow.

Bildad reminds Job that while his current situation is difficult, new opportunities will eventually arise from the earth.

1. The Joy of His Way: Trust God to Lead You Through Difficult Situations

2. New Opportunities: Don't Lose Hope in 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. 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.

Job 8:20 Behold, God will not cast away a perfect man, neither will he help the evil doers:

God will not reject a righteous person, but will not assist the wicked.

1. God's Justice: The Reward of Righteousness and the Consequence of Wickedness

2. The Power of Righteousness: Trusting in God's Protection and Guidance

1. Psalm 34:15-16: The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry; the face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth.

2. 1 Peter 3:12: For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.

Job 8:21 Till he fill thy mouth with laughing, and thy lips with rejoicing.

The passage speaks of God filling our mouth with laughter and our lips with rejoicing.

1. "The Joy of the Lord is our Strength"

2. "God is the Source of our Joy"

1. 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;

2. 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!

Job 8:22 They that hate thee shall be clothed with shame; and the dwelling place of the wicked shall come to nought.

God will bring justice to those who wrong others, and the homes of the wicked will be destroyed.

1: Jesus taught us to love our enemies, but He also taught that justice will be served by God.

2: God will not be mocked, and those who choose wickedness will be destroyed.

1: Romans 12:17-21 - 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. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. No, if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2: Revelation 21:3-4 - And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.

Job chapter 9 continues Job's response to Bildad's words. In this chapter, Job reflects on the vastness and incomprehensibility of God's power and questions the justice of his suffering.

1st Paragraph: Job acknowledges the impossibility of contending with God due to His infinite wisdom and strength. He describes how God can move mountains, cause earthquakes, and command the sun and stars (Job 9:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: Job expresses his despair at his inability to plead his case before God. He laments that even if he were innocent, he would not be able to answer God's charges against him (Job 9:11-20).

3rd Paragraph: Job reflects on the seeming injustice of human suffering, noting that both the righteous and the wicked can face calamity. He questions why innocent people suffer while evildoers often go unpunished (Job 9:21-24).

4th Paragraph: Job expresses his feeling of helplessness in a world governed by an all-powerful God. He believes that even if he were to plead for mercy, God would still afflict him without cause (Job 9:25-35).

In summary,

Chapter nine of Job presents:

the continued reflection,

and questioning expressed by Job in response to his suffering.

Highlighting awe through contemplating God's power,

and wrestling with justice achieved through questioning the fairness of human suffering.

Mentioning helplessness shown regarding pleading one's case an embodiment representing existential struggle an exploration into the depths of suffering within the book of Job.

Job 9:1 Then Job answered and said,

Job expresses his deep sorrow and suffering in this passage.

1. We should trust in God even in the midst of suffering.

2. We can learn from Job's example of trusting in God through hard times.

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, 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. 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."

Job 9:2 I know it is so of a truth: but how should man be just with God?

The passage questions how a man can be just with God.

1. "Living a Just Life in the Eyes of God"

2. "What Does it Mean to be Just in God's Eyes?"

1. Isaiah 64:6 - "All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away."

2. Romans 3:10-12 - "As it is written: There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.

Job 9:3 If he will contend with him, he cannot answer him one of a thousand.

This verse speaks of the power of God and how humans are unable to compete with the magnitude of His power.

1. Recognizing the Unfathomable Power of God - Job 9:3

2. Understanding Our Own Limitations in Comparison to God - Job 9:3

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. Daniel 4:35 - All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: What have you done?

Job 9:4 He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength: who hath hardened himself against him, and hath prospered?

God is wise and powerful, yet it is impossible to escape His will.

1. The Wisdom and Power of God - Job 9:4

2. Understanding God's Sovereignty - Job 9:4

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. Proverbs 21:30 - "No wisdom, no understanding, no counsel can prevail against the Lord."

Job 9:5 Which removeth the mountains, and they know not: which overturneth them in his anger.

This passage speaks of God's power and control over the mountains, which He can move or overturn in His anger.

1. God is All-Powerful: The Power Behind the Mountains

2. The Wrath of God: Understanding His Anger

1. Isaiah 40:4 - Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.

2. Psalm 29:10 - The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever.

Job 9:6 Which shaketh the earth out of her place, and the pillars thereof tremble.

This passage speaks of God's power to shake the earth and even to make its pillars tremble.

1: God is all-powerful and nothing is impossible for Him.

2: We should always remember and be in awe of God's power and might.

1: 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.

2: Psalm 29:1-2 - Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

Job 9:7 Which commandeth the sun, and it riseth not; and sealeth up the stars.

Job laments over the power of God, who has control over the sun and stars.

1: God is in Control of All Things

2: God is the Almighty

1: Psalm 93:1 - The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and is armed with strength.

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.

Job 9:8 Which alone spreadeth out the heavens, and treadeth upon the waves of the sea.

Job acknowledges the power of God, who alone created and controls the heavens and the sea.

1. The Strength of God: Acknowledging the Almighty's Power

2. The Sovereignty of God: Trusting in His Control

1. Psalm 33:6-9 - By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of his mouth. He gathered the waters of the sea as a heap; he put the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spoke, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood firm.

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.

Job 9:9 Which maketh Arcturus, Orion, and Pleiades, and the chambers of the south.

God created the stars in the night sky, including Arcturus, Orion, and Pleiades.

1. The Power of God - how God's power is seen in the beautiful night sky

2. The Majesty of Creation - the beauty of the night sky as a reminder of God's greatness

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

2. Psalm 8:3-4 - "When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?"

Job 9:10 Which doeth great things past finding out; yea, and wonders without number.

This passage speaks of God's greatness and power which is beyond human comprehension.

1. Our God is Mighty and Unfathomable - Job 9:10

2. Awe and Wonder at the Lord's Unsearchable Power - Job 9:10

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

Job 9:11 Lo, he goeth by me, and I see him not: he passeth on also, but I perceive him not.

God's power and sovereignty are beyond human comprehension.

1: God's power is beyond us - Job 9:11

2: The Sovereignty of God - Job 9:11

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 - I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee.

Job 9:12 Behold, he taketh away, who can hinder him? who will say unto him, What doest thou?

God is all powerful and no one can question His actions.

1: God is all powerful and His actions are beyond our understanding.

2: The greatness of God is seen in His power and majesty.

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 62:11 "God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God."

Job 9:13 If God will not withdraw his anger, the proud helpers do stoop under him.

God's wrath is powerful and will cause even the most mighty to submit to Him.

1: When God's wrath comes, it brings even the proudest to their knees.

2: No one is too mighty to withstand the power of God's wrath.

1: Isaiah 45:23 - "I have sworn by myself, the word has gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, that unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear."

2: Romans 14:11 - "For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

Job 9:14 How much less shall I answer him, and choose out my words to reason with him?

The passage discusses Job's difficulty in responding to God's questions.

1. The Difficulty in Reasoning with God: How to Respond to the Unanswerable

2. The Importance of Being Humble When Communicating with God

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. 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.

Job 9:15 Whom, though I were righteous, yet would I not answer, but I would make supplication to my judge.

Job acknowledges his own righteousness, but he still looks to his judge for supplication.

1. The Righteous and the Judge - How even the righteous must look to their judge for mercy.

2. Supplication to the Judge - The importance of seeking out a righteous judge for supplication.

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

2. Psalm 25:1 - "To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; in you I trust, O my God."

Job 9:16 If I had called, and he had answered me; yet would I not believe that he had hearkened unto my voice.

Job questions God's response to his pleas for help.

1: We can trust in God even when we don't understand His answer.

2: It's ok to express our frustrations, but our faith in God should not waver.

1: Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

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."

Job 9:17 For he breaketh me with a tempest, and multiplieth my wounds without cause.

The passage is about God breaking a person with a tempest and multiplying their wounds without cause.

1: God's Power to Overcome Our Struggles

2: Finding Strength in God's Love

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."

Job 9:18 He will not suffer me to take my breath, but filleth me with bitterness.

Job is expressing his anguish and despair over the hardships he is facing in life.

1. God always has a purpose for the hardships we face in life, even when we can't understand them.

2. We can trust that God will never leave us alone in our suffering, but will be with us to help us through 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. 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.

Job 9:19 If I speak of strength, lo, he is strong: and if of judgment, who shall set me a time to plead?

Job is struggling with his faith and questioning the power of God.

1. Overcoming Struggles and Doubts Through Trusting God

2. Finding Strength in Hard Times Through Faith in 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. Isaiah 40:29 - "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength."

Job 9:20 If I justify myself, mine own mouth shall condemn me: if I say, I am perfect, it shall also prove me perverse.

Job questions his ability to be perfect and calls himself out for being perverse.

1. We are all sinners and far from perfect, but God is always ready to forgive.

2. We must be humble and honest with ourselves, recognizing our own failings and shortcomings.

1. Romans 3:10 - "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:"

2. Psalm 51:3-4 - "For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight."

Job 9:21 Though I were perfect, yet would I not know my soul: I would despise my life.

This passage speaks of Job's recognition of his imperfection and his understanding that no matter what, he cannot know his own soul.

1: Perfection is an unattainable goal, but one that we should continue to strive for.

2: Our lives are not our own, but God's to direct and guide.

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

Job 9:22 This is one thing, therefore I said it, He destroyeth the perfect and the wicked.

God is sovereign over both the perfect and the wicked, destroying both when necessary.

1. God's Justice and Mercy: The Balance of Righteousness

2. Acknowledging God's Sovereignty: The Power of His Right Hand

1. Isaiah 45:7 - "I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things."

2. Proverbs 16:4 - "The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil."

Job 9:23 If the scourge slay suddenly, he will laugh at the trial of the innocent.

This verse speaks of God's sovereignty in terms of justice and judgement, showing that He is in control of all things.

1: God's Sovereignty and Justice - Examining Job 9:23

2: God's Unfailing Love and Mercy - Exploring the Contrast of Job 9:23

1: Psalm 145:17 - The Lord is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.

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.

Job 9:24 The earth is given into the hand of the wicked: he covereth the faces of the judges thereof; if not, where, and who is he?

God gives the wicked power over the earth, but it is ultimately God who is in control.

1. God is in control, even when the wicked seem to be in power.

2. We must trust in God, even when we do not understand the power of the wicked.

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.

2. James 4:13-15 - Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: 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.

Job 9:25 Now my days are swifter than a post: they flee away, they see no good.

This passage conveys the idea that life is fleeting and time passes quickly.

1: Making the most of our time on earth as it passes quickly, Ecclesiastes 9:10

2: Understanding the brevity of life and living for eternity, James 4:14

1: Psalm 39:4, Lord, remind me how brief my time on earth will be. Remind me that my days are numbered how fleeting my life is.

2: Isaiah 40:6, All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.

Job 9:26 They are passed away as the swift ships: as the eagle that hasteth to the prey.

Job compares his fleeting life to that of a swift ship and an eagle that is quickly swooping in for the attack.

1. Life is Fleeting: Don't Take it for Granted

2. Embrace Every Moment: Carpe Diem

1. 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.

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

Job 9:27 If I say, I will forget my complaint, I will leave off my heaviness, and comfort myself:

Job is acknowledging the difficulty of his situation and the struggle of bearing his grief. He realizes that he cannot forget his complaint, but he can choose to leave off his heaviness and comfort himself.

1. "Finding Comfort in Difficult Times"

2. "Choosing to Leave Off Heaviness"

1. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

2. Isaiah 53:4 - "Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted."

Job 9:28 I am afraid of all my sorrows, I know that thou wilt not hold me innocent.

Job expresses his fear of the consequences of his sorrows, and acknowledges God will not acquit him.

1. How to Recognize God's Righteousness and Our Own Imperfection

2. The Need for Humility in the Face of God's Power and Sovereignty

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 3:23 - For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

Job 9:29 If I be wicked, why then labour I in vain?

Job questions why he works so hard if he is wicked.

1. The futility of labor without righteousness

2. The importance of doing good works even when we don't feel worthy

1. Matthew 6:1-4 - Jesus teaches that our good works should be done in humility and not for recognition.

2. James 2:14-17 - Faith without works is dead. Good works are a necessary part of faith.

Job 9:30 If I wash myself with snow water, and make my hands never so clean;

Job recognizes his own powerlessness compared to God's greatness.

1: We must always remember that God is greater than any of us, and that we need His grace and mercy to save us from our sins.

2: We are all sinners in need of God's grace; humility and repentance are essential for us to receive it.

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: 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."

Job 9:31 Yet shalt thou plunge me in the ditch, and mine own clothes shall abhor me.

Job mourns his suffering in this passage, expressing how even his own clothes have turned against him.

1: In times of suffering, God is still with us.

2: God can use our suffering to build our faith.

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: 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.

Job 9:32 For he is not a man, as I am, that I should answer him, and we should come together in judgment.

Job questions God's justice and man's ability to answer Him.

1: We must never doubt God's justice, for only He can judge rightly.

2: We must not be too proud to admit our own limitations and realize that we cannot answer God.

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: 1 Corinthians 4:4-5 For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

Job 9:33 Neither is there any daysman betwixt us, that might lay his hand upon us both.

Job exclaims that there is no mediator that can lay his hand on both of them to resolve their dispute.

1. The importance of having a mediator in times of conflict.

2. How to seek the wisdom of a mediator in order to resolve disputes.

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. Proverbs 17:14 The beginning of strife is like letting out water, so quit before the quarrel breaks out.

Job 9:34 Let him take his rod away from me, and let not his fear terrify me:

Job is asking God to take away his afflictions and not to be afraid of Him.

1: God's love for us is so great that He will always take away our afflictions and will never cause us to be frightened.

2: We can have faith in God that He will take away our afflictions and will never cause us to be scared.

1: Psalm 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

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.

Job 9:35 Then would I speak, and not fear him; but it is not so with me.

Job longs to be able to speak with God without fear, but he feels he cannot do that.

1. Fear is a powerful emotion, but even in the midst of fear, God is still calling us to be brave and to speak out.

2. We can take comfort in the fact that, even though we may not feel qualified to speak to God, He still wants to hear from 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. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline."

Job chapter 10 continues Job's anguished plea and lamentation. In this chapter, Job expresses his deep despair and confusion over his suffering, questioning God's motives and pleading for understanding.

1st Paragraph: Job begins by expressing his bitterness and anguish, feeling overwhelmed by the weight of his suffering. He questions why God treats him with such hostility and scrutiny (Job 10:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: Job pleads with God to reconsider His actions and asks Him to reveal any wrongdoing on Job's part. He questions why he is being afflicted without cause and expresses his desire for relief from his suffering (Job 10:8-17).

3rd Paragraph: Job reflects on the miracle of life itself, acknowledging that God formed him in the womb. However, he finds it perplexing that God would create him only to subject him to such intense suffering (Job 10:18-22).

In summary,

Chapter ten of Job presents:

the continued lamentation,

and questioning expressed by Job in response to his suffering.

Highlighting despair through expressing bitterness and anguish,

and seeking understanding achieved through questioning God's motives.

Mentioning perplexity shown regarding the purpose of human suffering an embodiment representing existential struggle an exploration into the depths of suffering within the book of Job.

Job 10:1 My soul is weary of my life; I will leave my complaint upon myself; I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.

Job reflects on his current suffering and expresses his dissatisfaction and bitterness.

1: We can find comfort in the midst of our suffering as Job did in trusting God.

2: Even when life is hard, we can draw strength from God by pouring out our hearts to Him.

1: Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2: Hebrews 4:15-16 - 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. 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.

Job 10:2 I will say unto God, Do not condemn me; shew me wherefore thou contendest with me.

The passage speaks of Job asking God to show him why God is contending with him.

1) God's Discipline: Recognizing and Responding to His Correction

2) How To Respond When You Feel God is Contending With You

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 12:5-11 - And have you 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. 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? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Job 10:3 Is it good unto thee that thou shouldest oppress, that thou shouldest despise the work of thine hands, and shine upon the counsel of the wicked?

God condemns oppression and wickedness.

1: Do not oppress, for God does not approve.

2: Follow God's counsel and do not despise His works.

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 37:27 - Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever.

Job 10:4 Hast thou eyes of flesh? or seest thou as man seeth?

This passage questions whether humans have the ability to perceive and understand things the way that God does.

1. God's Perspective: A lesson in humility and trusting in God's wisdom.

2. The Power of Perception: Understanding how we view the world and its implications.

1. 1 Corinthians 13:12 - "For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known."

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."

Job 10:5 Are thy days as the days of man? are thy years as man's days,

Job questions his mortality and God's justice.

1. God's Justice and Our Mortality

2. Our Journey of Faith and Our Mortality

1. Psalm 90:10-12 - The days of our lives are seventy years; and if by reason of strength they are eighty years, yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away. Who knows the power of Your anger? For as the fear of You, so is Your wrath. So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

2. James 4:14 - Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.

Job 10:6 That thou enquirest after mine iniquity, and searchest after my sin?

Job questions why God is searching for his sins.

1. God searches for our sins to show us His mercy and grace.

2. God searches for our sins to show us how to turn away from them.

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."

Job 10:7 Thou knowest that I am not wicked; and there is none that can deliver out of thine hand.

God is omnipotent and can deliver us from any situation.

1: God is in control of our lives and will never lead us astray.

2: Trust in God and He will provide strength and support during 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: 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."

Job 10:8 Thine hands have made me and fashioned me together round about; yet thou dost destroy me.

Job questions why God created him if He will ultimately destroy him.

1. The Mystery of Suffering: Exploring God's Purpose in Pain

2. Finding Strength in God's Provision Through 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. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Job 10:9 Remember, I beseech thee, that thou hast made me as the clay; and wilt thou bring me into dust again?

Job reflects on the fragility of life and questions God's plan.

1: God works in mysterious ways - we may never understand His will in our life, but we must trust in Him and His plans.

2: God is our creator and sustainer - we must trust in His wisdom even when we don't understand His 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: 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.

Job 10:10 Hast thou not poured me out as milk, and curdled me like cheese?

Job reflects on his life and acknowledges that God has molded him like a potter molds clay.

1: In this life, God molds our lives like a potter molds clay, and we must trust that God's plan for us is perfect.

2: God is the creator of our lives and we must be thankful for the path He has laid out for us.

1: Jeremiah 18:1-6 - The potter and the clay.

2: Romans 9:20-21 - God's power to mold us like clay.

Job 10:11 Thou hast clothed me with skin and flesh, and hast fenced me with bones and sinews.

This passage highlights the Lord's protection and care for us, as He has created us with skin, flesh, bones, and sinews.

1: God's Unconditional Care for Us - Job 10:11

2: God's Protection - Job 10:11

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: 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.

Job 10:12 Thou hast granted me life and favour, and thy visitation hath preserved my spirit.

Job celebrates the life and favor God has granted him, and acknowledges that God's presence has preserved his spirit.

1. God is Always Present in Our Lives

2. Recognizing the Gifts of God

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. 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."

Job 10:13 And these things hast thou hid in thine heart: I know that this is with thee.

Job acknowledges that God knows his thoughts and feelings.

1. God Knows Our Hearts - using Job 10:13 to illustrate how God knows our innermost emotions and thoughts.

2. The Power of Confession - using Job 10:13 to demonstrate the power of confessing our thoughts and feelings to God.

1. Psalm 139:1-4 - 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. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.

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.

Job 10:14 If I sin, then thou markest me, and thou wilt not acquit me from mine iniquity.

Job acknowledges his sin and that God will not acquit him from it.

1. The Power of Confession: Recognizing and Acknowledging our Sins

2. The Unfailing Faithfulness of God: Even in our Sin

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. 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.

Job 10:15 If I be wicked, woe unto me; and if I be righteous, yet will I not lift up my head. I am full of confusion; therefore see thou mine affliction;

This passage reflects Job's sense of despair and confusion as he contemplates his suffering.

1. The Comfort of God in Times of Despair

2. What Does it Mean to be Righteous?

1. Psalm 34:18, "The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

2. Romans 8:18, "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."

Job 10:16 For it increaseth. Thou huntest me as a fierce lion: and again thou shewest thyself marvellous upon me.

Job is feeling overwhelmed by God's pursuit of him and the changes in his life.

1. God's Pursuit of Us: Understanding His Purpose in Our Lives

2. Experiencing God's Marvelous Presence in Times of Trial

1. 2 Corinthians 4:7-10 - But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

2. Romans 8:28-39 - 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. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Job 10:17 Thou renewest thy witnesses against me, and increasest thine indignation upon me; changes and war are against me.

Job is feeling the weight of God's judgment against him.

1: God's judgment is inevitable and unavoidable, but He also provides mercy and grace.

2: God's judgment is fair and just, but He also offers us hope in difficult times.

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 8:38-39 - "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."

Job 10:18 Wherefore then hast thou brought me forth out of the womb? Oh that I had given up the ghost, and no eye had seen me!

Job expresses his desire to have never been born and wishes he had died in the womb rather than face his current suffering.

1. God's Sovereignty and Our Suffering: How do we respond to tragedy?

2. Trusting in God in the Midst of Pain: Learning to lean on God in hard 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. Job 23:10 - But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

Job 10:19 I should have been as though I had not been; I should have been carried from the womb to the grave.

This passage expresses Job's immense sorrow and despair over his current state, wishing for death to come quickly.

1. Finding Hope in Difficult Times

2. God's Unfailing Love and Compassion

1. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

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.

Job 10:20 Are not my days few? cease then, and let me alone, that I may take comfort a little,

Job's plea for comfort in his suffering.

1. God understands our suffering and will comfort us in it.

2. Even in our pain, we can seek comfort in the Lord.

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 31:9-10 - "Be merciful to me, Lord, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and body with grief. My life is consumed by anguish and my years by groaning; my strength fails because of my affliction, and my bones grow weak."

Job 10:21 Before I go whence I shall not return, even to the land of darkness and the shadow of death;

Job is facing his mortality and reflecting on the inevitability of death.

1. 'A Life Well Lived: Embracing the Inevitability of Death'

2. 'Finding Comfort in the Shadow of Death'

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 25:8 - He will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth.

Job 10:22 A land of darkness, as darkness itself; and of the shadow of death, without any order, and where the light is as darkness.

God is the creator of the world, and He is the one who establishes order and light in the darkness.

1. God's Light Brings Order to the Dark Places of Life

2. The Hope of Restoration in a World of Darkness

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

2. John 1:5 - The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Job chapter 11 features the response of Job's friend Zophar to Job's lamentation. Zophar rebukes Job for his words and urges him to repent of any wrongdoing, emphasizing the importance of seeking God's forgiveness and wisdom.

1st Paragraph: Zophar begins by criticizing Job for his many words and accuses him of being arrogant in his self-righteousness. He asserts that God's wisdom is beyond human comprehension and urges Job to repent (Job 11:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Zophar emphasizes the need for Job to seek God and plead for His mercy. He suggests that if Job repents sincerely, he will be restored and find joy again (Job 11:7-20).

In summary,

Chapter eleven of Job presents:

the response,

and perspective offered by Zophar in reaction to Job's suffering.

Highlighting rebuke expressed through criticizing Job's words,

and urging for repentance achieved through emphasizing seeking God.

Mentioning humility shown regarding acknowledging the limitations of human understanding an embodiment representing theological reflection an exploration into different perspectives on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 11:1 Then answered Zophar the Naamathite, and said,

Zophar responds to Job's lament by offering him advice on the power of true faith and repentance.

1: We must always rely on true faith and repentance to bring us closer to God.

2: Through faith and repentance, we can find comfort in God's mercy and guidance.

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: 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."

Job 11:2 Should not the multitude of words be answered? and should a man full of talk be justified?

Job is questioning whether talkative people can be justified by their words.

1. The Power of Words: Learning to Speak Wisely

2. The Necessity of Humility: A Call to Self-Reflection

1. James 3:1-12 - The power of the tongue and the need for wisdom and self-control.

2. Proverbs 10:19 - The power of wise words and the danger of rash speech.

Job 11:3 Should thy lies make men hold their peace? and when thou mockest, shall no man make thee ashamed?

Job challenges Zophar and questions why Zophar's lies should keep other people quiet and why he should not be embarrassed by his mockery.

1. Do not be afraid to challenge others who speak falsely.

2. The consequences of mocking God and others should never be taken lightly.

1. Proverbs 14:5-7 "A faithful witness does not lie, but a false witness breathes out lies. A scoffer seeks wisdom in vain, but knowledge is easy for a discerning person. Leave the presence of a fool, for there you do not meet words of knowledge."

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. There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?"

Job 11:4 For thou hast said, My doctrine is pure, and I am clean in thine eyes.

Job defends his innocence and God's justice in the face of his friends' accusations.

1: God is always just and never wrong, no matter what our circumstances may be.

2: We must always trust in God's goodness and righteousness, no matter the trials we face.

1: Isaiah 45:21-22 - Declares that God is the only true God, and that His righteousness and justice will never fail.

2: Romans 8:28 - God works all things together for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.

Job 11:5 But oh that God would speak, and open his lips against thee;

God wants us to open our hearts to Him and allow Him to speak and guide our lives.

1. "The Voice of God: Listening and Following His Guidance"

2. "Opening Our Hearts: Receiving God's Truth"

1. John 10:27 "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

2. Romans 10:17 "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

Job 11:6 And that he would shew thee the secrets of wisdom, that they are double to that which is! Know therefore that God exacteth of thee less than thine iniquity deserveth.

God is merciful and does not punish people as much as they deserve for their wrong-doings.

1. "God s Mercy and Forgiveness," emphasizing the fact that God is merciful and forgiving even when we don't deserve it.

2. "The Cost of Sin," emphasizing the fact that even though God's mercy is great, sin still has consequences.

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 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Job 11:7 Canst thou by searching find out God? canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection?

This passage is asking if it is possible to find God through our own searching and knowledge.

1: We can never fully understand the mystery and majesty of God, but He still loves us and desires to be found by us.

2: We cannot search and find God on our own, but He has revealed Himself to us through Jesus Christ.

1: Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

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."

Job 11:8 It is as high as heaven; what canst thou do? deeper than hell; what canst thou know?

This passage speaks of the greatness of God that surpasses human understanding.

1: We cannot fully understand the greatness of God, but we can trust in his goodness and mercy.

2: Our minds cannot comprehend the depths of God's greatness, but we can draw near to Him in humble faith.

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: 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.

Job 11:9 The measure thereof is longer than the earth, and broader than the sea.

This passage highlights the vastness and magnitude of God's wisdom.

1. God's wisdom is far greater than we can comprehend.

2. To rely on God is to trust in something beyond our understanding.

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. Psalm 147:5 - "Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; His understanding is beyond measure."

Job 11:10 If he cut off, and shut up, or gather together, then who can hinder him?

The passage states that no one can stop or resist God's power.

1: We must trust and obey God's will, for He is all-powerful and unstoppable.

2: We must submit to God's might and not question His decisions, for He alone is in control of all things.

1: Isaiah 40:29, "He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength."

2: Psalm 135:6, "Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places."

Job 11:11 For he knoweth vain men: he seeth wickedness also; will he not then consider it?

This passage speaks of God's omniscience and the fact that He takes into account our actions and even our thoughts.

1: "God Knows Our Hearts" - God sees all our thoughts, actions, and motivations, and He will judge us for them.

2: "God's Omniscience Redeems Us" - God is all-knowing, and His love and grace can redeem us from our sinfulness.

1: 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."

2: 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."

Job 11:12 For vain man would be wise, though man be born like a wild ass's colt.

Job encourages wisdom, warning against pride and foolishness.

1: We must be humble and seek wisdom, for pride leads to foolishness.

2: Seek knowledge and wisdom, and don't be deceived by pride.

1: Proverbs 9:10 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight."

2: James 4:6 "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Job 11:13 If thou prepare thine heart, and stretch out thine hands toward him;

The passage speaks of how we can draw closer to God through preparing our hearts and stretching out our hands to Him.

1: Prepare Your Heart for God

2: Reaching out to God

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: 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.

Job 11:14 If iniquity be in thine hand, put it far away, and let not wickedness dwell in thy tabernacles.

Job advises to remove iniquity from one's hand and to avoid wickedness in one's home.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How to Overcome Iniquity and Embrace Innocence

2. A Life of Purity: Refusing to Dwell in Wickedness

1. Psalm 51:9-10 - Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

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.

Job 11:15 For then shalt thou lift up thy face without spot; yea, thou shalt be stedfast, and shalt not fear:

Job's response to Zophar's argument is to trust in God's wisdom and power.

1. Trust in the Lord's Wisdom and His Power

2. Have Faith and Do Not 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 118:6 - The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

Job 11:16 Because thou shalt forget thy misery, and remember it as waters that pass away:

Job encourages his friend to remember that his troubles will eventually pass away, like water.

1. The Power of Letting Go: Learning to Let Go of Our Troubles

2. The Hope of a New Season: Embracing Change and Renewal

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.

Job 11:17 And thine age shall be clearer than the noonday: thou shalt shine forth, thou shalt be as the morning.

Job encourages us to maintain a positive outlook on life and to trust in God's promises.

1. Trusting in God's Promises: Living a Life of Hope

2. Releasing the Potential Within: Embracing a Life of Clarity

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. Psalm 27:14 - Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

Job 11:18 And thou shalt be secure, because there is hope; yea, thou shalt dig about thee, and thou shalt take thy rest in safety.

Job has been reassured that he will find safety and security if he trusts in hope.

1: Trust in God's promises and have faith in His provision.

2: Stay hopeful and take rest in the security of God'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 shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2: Isaiah 26:3 You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

Job 11:19 Also thou shalt lie down, and none shall make thee afraid; yea, many shall make suit unto thee.

Job 11:19 encourages readers to trust in God, who will provide protection and security to those in need.

1. "The Promises of Protection in Job 11:19"

2. "God's Faithful Love: A Study of Job 11:19"

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."

Job 11:20 But the eyes of the wicked shall fail, and they shall not escape, and their hope shall be as the giving up of the ghost.

Job has described the ultimate end of the wicked - their eyes will fail and they will not escape, with their hope being as the giving up of the ghost.

1. The Ultimate End of the Wicked - Job 11:20

2. The Certainty of Judgement - Job 11:20

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. Matthew 25:41 - "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'"

Job chapter 12 showcases Job's response to his friends' counsel and his own reflections on the nature of God's wisdom and power.

1st Paragraph: Job sarcastically rebukes his friends for their supposed wisdom, highlighting that even animals and birds possess knowledge and understanding. He asserts that he is not inferior to them in discernment (Job 12:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Job acknowledges the sovereignty and power of God, stating that He removes kings from their thrones and brings down the mighty. He emphasizes that true wisdom comes from God alone (Job 12:4-13).

3rd Paragraph: Job criticizes his friends for their lack of compassion and understanding, claiming they are like ineffective physicians who offer no remedy for his suffering. He expresses a longing for death as an escape from his anguish (Job 12:14-25).

In summary,

Chapter twelve of Job presents:

the response,

and reflection expressed by Job in response to his friends' counsel.

Highlighting sarcasm through rebuking his friends' supposed wisdom,

and acknowledging divine sovereignty achieved through emphasizing God's power.

Mentioning criticism shown regarding the lack of compassion a representation of emotional distress an exploration into personal reflections on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 12:1 And Job answered and said,

Job speaks in response to his friends' accusations and affirms his faith in God despite his trials.

1: God will help us through our trials, and we can rely on His strength in times of adversity.

2: Though life may be difficult, we can remain strong in our faith, trusting in the promises of God for our future.

1: Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2: Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Job 12:2 No doubt but ye are the people, and wisdom shall die with you.

Job expresses his sentiment that the people are wise, but wisdom will not always be with them.

1: We are wise, but our wisdom is fleeting. We must use it to its fullest potential to achieve true understanding and wisdom.

2: Wisdom comes from God and should be used to serve others. We must use it responsibly and humbly to bring glory to God.

1: Proverbs 2:6, "For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding."

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."

Job 12:3 But I have understanding as well as you; I am not inferior to you: yea, who knoweth not such things as these?

Job seeks to prove to his friends that he is not inferior to them in terms of understanding.

1: We are all equal in God's eyes, no matter our own personal understandings.

2: Our understanding and knowledge should be used in service to God, not to boast of our own achievements.

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 3:13 - Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.

Job 12:4 I am as one mocked of his neighbour, who calleth upon God, and he answereth him: the just upright man is laughed to scorn.

The just and upright man is mocked and laughed at by his neighbor despite his faith in God.

1: God's faithfulness is not dependent on the opinions of men.

2: We must remain faithful to God despite the ridicule of others.

1: 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.

2: 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.

Job 12:5 He that is ready to slip with his feet is as a lamp despised in the thought of him that is at ease.

The ready person is seen as foolish by those who have achieved a sense of security.

1. Don't be so quick to judge those who are eager to take risks.

2. Don't be afraid to dream and take risks, as security can be fleeting.

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

2. James 4:13-17 - Boasting about tomorrow and not knowing what the future holds.

Job 12:6 The tabernacles of robbers prosper, and they that provoke God are secure; into whose hand God bringeth abundantly.

This passage speaks of how God brings abundance into the hands of robbers and those who provoke Him.

1. God's Grace: Despite Our Transgressions

2. The Riches of God's Love

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 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Job 12:7 But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee:

Animals can be a source of wisdom and knowledge to humans.

1. Look to Nature for Wisdom - Job 12:7

2. Gaining Insight from Creation - Job 12:7

1. Psalm 19:1-4

2. Proverbs 6:6-8

Job 12:8 Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee: and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee.

Job is teaching us that God's knowledge is not only present in humans, but also in the natural world.

1. The Power of God's Knowledge: How the Natural World Teaches Us About Our Creator

2. Drawing Closer to God: Growing in Understanding Through Nature

1. 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 reveal knowledge."

2. Romans 1:20 "For since the creation of the world God s invisible qualities his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse."

Job 12:9 Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this?

This passage is about the power of God and how his hand has done great works.

1. God's power and works are evident in all things.

2. We should be in awe of the works of the Lord and recognize His hand in all that He does.

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

2. Romans 1:20 - "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."

Job 12:10 In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind.

God is the Creator of all living things, and has control over the life and breath of all mankind.

1. God's Power and Control Over Our Lives

2. The Breath of Life: God's Gift to Mankind

1. 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.

2. Isaiah 42:5 - Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it.

Job 12:11 Doth not the ear try words? and the mouth taste his meat?

This verse suggests that a person should examine words carefully and be discerning in what they consume.

1. Discernment in What We Say and What We Consume

2. Examining Words with Care

1. Proverbs 12:15 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

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.

Job 12:12 With the ancient is wisdom; and in length of days understanding.

This passage reminds us that wisdom comes with age and experience.

1: Wisdom is not the product of youth, but rather the result of a lifetime of learning.

2: Seek out the wise and learn from their wisdom, for they have seen much in their lifetime.

1: Proverbs 13:20 He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

2: Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

Job 12:13 With him is wisdom and strength, he hath counsel and understanding.

This verse highlights that God has wisdom, strength, counsel, and understanding.

1. God's Wisdom - A Look at Job 12:13

2. Strength, Counsel, and Understanding - From Job 12:13

1. Isaiah 11:2 - The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

2. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Job 12:14 Behold, he breaketh down, and it cannot be built again: he shutteth up a man, and there can be no opening.

God has the power to break things down, and to close the door on a person's life, and no one can open it.

1: God has ultimate control over our lives, so we should not forget to trust Him.

2: We should not be tempted to open doors that God has closed, as He knows better than us.

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.

Job 12:15 Behold, he withholdeth the waters, and they dry up: also he sendeth them out, and they overturn the earth.

God has immense power over creation, controlling and manipulating the environment.

1: We can trust God's power and control over our lives, even when circumstances seem overwhelming.

2: We must be careful to use God's power in our lives wisely and to glorify Him.

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

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.

Job 12:16 With him is strength and wisdom: the deceived and the deceiver are his.

Job 12:16 speaks of God's omnipotence and omniscience, emphasizing that He is the source of strength and wisdom and that He is aware of the deceiver and deceived.

1. "The Source of Our Strength and Wisdom: God"

2. "God's Omnipotence and Omniscience"

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. Proverbs 2:6-8 - "For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. He holds success in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones."

Job 12:17 He leadeth counsellors away spoiled, and maketh the judges fools.

Job reflects on God's power to take away the wisdom of the wise and make the judges fools.

1. The Power of God to Humiliate the Wise

2. Overcoming Pride by Trusting in God

1. 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. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

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.

Job 12:18 He looseth the bond of kings, and girdeth their loins with a girdle.

God has the power to control all authority, even that of kings.

1: God is Sovereign - No authority on Earth can surpass His.

2: Submit to God's Authority - Even the rulers of the world must obey Him.

1: Daniel 4:17 - The Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom He will.

2: Romans 13:1 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers; for there is no power but of God.

Job 12:19 He leadeth princes away spoiled, and overthroweth the mighty.

This verse speaks of God's power to remove rulers and uproot the strong.

1. God's power is unrivaled - Job 12:19

2. The sovereignty of our Lord - Job 12:19

1. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

2. Isaiah 40:21-22 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? 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.

Job 12:20 He removeth away the speech of the trusty, and taketh away the understanding of the aged.

Job laments that God takes away the understanding of the elderly.

1. God is Sovereign: Trusting in God's Providence

2. Faith in Adversity: Finding Strength in 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. 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.

Job 12:21 He poureth contempt upon princes, and weakeneth the strength of the mighty.

This passage highlights God's power to humble the powerful and make them weak.

1. "Humility: The Only Way to True Strength"

2. "God's Sovereignty Over the Proud and Powerful"

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."

Job 12:22 He discovereth deep things out of darkness, and bringeth out to light the shadow of death.

God reveals secrets and brings hope in darkness.

1: God is the Light to Guide Us in the Dark

2: God Reveals Things to Those Who Seek Him

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: Psalm 139:11-12 - "If I say, Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me, even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you."

Job 12:23 He increaseth the nations, and destroyeth them: he enlargeth the nations, and straiteneth them again.

God is sovereign over all nations, both blessing and chastening them as He sees fit.

1. "God is in Control: The Sovereignty of the Lord"

2. "The Riches of God's Grace in Times of Trouble"

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.

2. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

Job 12:24 He taketh away the heart of the chief of the people of the earth, and causeth them to wander in a wilderness where there is no way.

God has the power to choose who to lead and guide people through the wilderness, and to remove the hearts of those who are not fit to lead.

1: God is in control of who leads us, so we must obey God's guidance.

2: We must not put our trust in earthly leaders, but instead rely on God's will.

1: Psalm 79:13 - "So we thy people and sheep of thy pasture will give thee thanks for ever: we will shew forth thy praise to all generations."

2: 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."

Job 12:25 They grope in the dark without light, and he maketh them to stagger like a drunken man.

The passage speaks of the darkness and confusion felt by those who are lost without the guidance of God.

1: God's light is the only way to true understanding and peace.

2: Without God, we are left in a state of confusion and disarray.

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: 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.

Job chapter 13 continues Job's response to his friends' counsel. In this chapter, Job asserts his innocence, expresses his desire to present his case before God, and challenges the wisdom and integrity of his friends.

1st Paragraph: Job addresses his friends directly, calling them "worthless physicians" and accusing them of speaking falsehoods on behalf of God. He insists that he desires to speak directly with God and present his case (Job 13:1-12).

2nd Paragraph: Job pleads with God not to overwhelm him with His terror but rather to allow him to present his arguments. He declares his trust in God even if it means facing death (Job 13:13-19).

3rd Paragraph: Job implores his friends to listen carefully to what he has to say and warns them against showing partiality or favoritism. He demands answers from God regarding the cause of his suffering (Job 13:20-28).

In summary,

Chapter thirteen of Job presents:

the continued response,

and assertion expressed by Job in response to his friends' counsel.

Highlighting confrontation through challenging the wisdom and integrity of his friends,

and longing for justice achieved through desiring direct communication with God.

Mentioning trust shown regarding maintaining faith in the midst of suffering an embodiment representing a plea for understanding an exploration into personal reflections on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 13:1 Lo, mine eye hath seen all this, mine ear hath heard and understood it.

This passage from Job 13:1 is a statement where Job acknowledges that he has seen and heard all the things that have happened to him.

1. We must learn to trust God even when we don't understand what is happening to us.

2. God gives us the strength to endure all of life's hardships.

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."

Job 13:2 What ye know, the same do I know also: I am not inferior unto you.

Job asserts his equal knowledge and understanding compared to his friends.

1. God gives each of us a unique set of gifts and talents to be used for His glory.

2. We should not be ashamed of the knowledge and understanding God has given us.

1. 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 - 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. 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.

Job 13:3 Surely I would speak to the Almighty, and I desire to reason with God.

Job desires to reason with God and speak to the Almighty.

1: Though we may not understand all the hardship and trials that come our way, we can trust that God is with us and will never leave us.

2: We can take courage in the fact that God listens to us and we can boldly come before Him with our requests and petitions.

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 145:18, "The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth."

Job 13:4 But ye are forgers of lies, ye are all physicians of no value.

This passage speaks of those who are deceitful and offer no value in their advice.

1: We must be honest and trustworthy in our words and deeds, for God expects us to speak the truth.

2: We must not offer advice or counsel that is not beneficial to the hearer, for it will not please God.

1: Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

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.

Job 13:5 O that ye would altogether hold your peace! and it should be your wisdom.

Job urges his friends to be silent, and recognize that it is wise to do so.

1. To Remain Silent is Wise

2. The Power of Silence

1. 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. Ecclesiastes 3:7 - A time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak.

Job 13:6 Hear now my reasoning, and hearken to the pleadings of my lips.

Job is asking for someone to listen to his reasoning and his pleadings.

1. The Power of Persuasion: How to Make Your Voice Heard

2. The Power of Listening: Learning How to Hear Others

1. Proverbs 18:13 He who gives an answer before he hears, it is folly and shame to him.

2. James 1:19 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

Job 13:7 Will ye speak wickedly for God? and talk deceitfully for him?

This passage questions whether we should speak wickedly and deceitfully for God.

1: We should always speak the truth and trust in God's guidance.

2: We should not try to deceive others in God's name as it undermines His message of truth and love.

1: Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord.

2: John 8:32 - And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

Job 13:8 Will ye accept his person? will ye contend for God?

Job questions why people would accept another person's opinion and defend it as if it were God's will.

1. "The Power of Words: When Belief Becomes Blind Faith"

2. "Beware of False Prophets: Examining Your Sources of Truth"

1. Matthew 7:15-16 - "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

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

Job 13:9 Is it good that he should search you out? or as one man mocketh another, do ye so mock him?

Job questions God's justice and wonders why He would investigate him so closely.

1. God's justice is perfect and all-encompassing; we must trust Him even in our darkest moments.

2. We must not question God's ways, for they are higher than ours.

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 4:13-15 - "Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: 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."

Job 13:10 He will surely reprove you, if ye do secretly accept persons.

Job warns that God will rebuke people if they accept people based on favoritism.

1. The Danger of Partiality: A Warning from Job

2. God's Justice and Our Injustice: Reflections on Job 13:10

1. James 2:1-13 - A warning about partiality in the church

2. Ezekiel 18:5-9 - A reminder of God's justice and impartiality

Job 13:11 Shall not his excellency make you afraid? and his dread fall upon you?

This passage discusses the fear of God and His majesty.

1: "The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom"

2: "Obey the Lord out of Respect"

1: Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2: Ecclesiastes 12:13 - "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

Job 13:12 Your remembrances are like unto ashes, your bodies to bodies of clay.

Job reflects on the fragility of life and how it is fleeting.

1. Life is fleeting so we should make sure to make the most of it.

2. We must recognize our mortality and strive for a better life beyond the physical.

1. 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."

2. Psalm 39:5 - "Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee."

Job 13:13 Hold your peace, let me alone, that I may speak, and let come on me what will.

Job affirms his right to speak, despite God's apparent silence.

1: God's silence does not negate our right to speak.

2: Trust in God even when He seems silent.

1: Psalm 62:8 - "Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts before him. God is a refuge for us."

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."

Job 13:14 Wherefore do I take my flesh in my teeth, and put my life in mine hand?

This passage reflects Job's feelings of hopelessness and desperation as he questions why he is still alive despite his suffering and affliction.

1: God is with us even in our darkest hours of suffering and pain.

2: Trust in God and He will direct our paths and lead us through the hard 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.

Job 13:15 Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.

Job expresses his unwavering faith in God, despite the hardships he has faced.

1. The Strength of Faith: Learning from Job's Unwavering Trust in God

2. Maintaining Our Own Ways: The Balance of Submission and Self-Confidence

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 the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal."

2. Psalm 56:3-4 - "When I am afraid, I will put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise in God I trust and am not afraid."

Job 13:16 He also shall be my salvation: for an hypocrite shall not come before him.

This passage in Job 13:16 suggests that an individual must be sincere and honest when approaching God, as the Lord does not accept hypocrisy.

1: We must come to God with sincerity and truth, no matter how hard it is.

2: An honest heart and humble attitude are required when coming to God.

1: Psalm 51:17 My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

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.

Job 13:17 Hear diligently my speech, and my declaration with your ears.

This passage encourages us to listen carefully to what is being said.

1. Listening: A Key to Understanding - We must listen carefully to God's word if we want to understand it.

2. Hearing God's Wisdom - We can find wisdom through attentively listening to God's message.

1. 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. 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 yes, 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.

Job 13:18 Behold now, I have ordered my cause; I know that I shall be justified.

Job confidently declares that he will be vindicated in his dispute with his friends.

1. Trusting God in the Midst of Trials

2. Persevering in Righteousness

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

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.

Job 13:19 Who is he that will plead with me? for now, if I hold my tongue, I shall give up the ghost.

Job expresses his desire for a mediator between himself and God.

1. Understanding the power of speaking up for yourself before God.

2. Realizing the need for a mediator between ourselves and God.

1. Matthew 10:19-20 - "When they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you."

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."

Job 13:20 Only do not two things unto me: then will I not hide myself from thee.

Job is asking God not to do two things to him in order to prevent him from hiding from God.

1. God is merciful and compassionate and will not take away our hope.

2. We can always turn to God for hope and comfort.

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. 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.

Job 13:21 Withdraw thine hand far from me: and let not thy dread make me afraid.

This passage reflects the sentiment of Job, asking God to remove His presence from him in order to spare him from fear.

1. Fear Not: Learning to Trust in God's Promises

2. The Strength to Persevere: Overcoming Fear 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. 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."

Job 13:22 Then call thou, and I will answer: or let me speak, and answer thou me.

This passage speaks of Job's desire to plead his case before God, and to receive an answer from him.

1. The Power of Praying with Purpose: an Exploration of Job 13:22

2. Listening to God's Voice: a Study of Job 13:22

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. 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.

Job 13:23 How many are mine iniquities and sins? make me to know my transgression and my sin.

This passage is about Job asking to be shown his sins and transgressions so he can understand them.

1. The Power of Acknowledging Our Sins

2. Using the Bible to Reflect on Our Actions

1. Psalm 51:3-4 - For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

2. 1 John 1:8-9 - If we say that 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.

Job 13:24 Wherefore hidest thou thy face, and holdest me for thine enemy?

Job is questioning why God has seemingly turned away from him and considers himself an enemy of God.

1. How Our Trials Can Lead Us To Question God's Love

2. Trusting God Despite Our Trials

1. Psalm 139:23-24 - Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

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.

Job 13:25 Wilt thou break a leaf driven to and fro? and wilt thou pursue the dry stubble?

Job questions God's power to break a leaf driven by the wind and to pursue the dry stubble.

1. The Power of God in Nature

2. Surrendering to God's Will

1. Psalm 147:15-18 - He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly. He gives snow like wool; he scatters hoarfrost like ashes. He hurls down his crystals of ice like crumbs; who can stand before his cold? He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.

2. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Job 13:26 For thou writest bitter things against me, and makest me to possess the iniquities of my youth.

The passage discusses how God is against Job and makes him possess the iniquities of his youth.

1: God's justice is perfect and will never fail us.

2: God's mercy is great and will always be there for us.

1: Romans 8:1, "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

2: Ephesians 2:4-5, "But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions it is by grace you have been saved.

Job 13:27 Thou puttest my feet also in the stocks, and lookest narrowly unto all my paths; thou settest a print upon the heels of my feet.

Job is lamenting that God has restricted his freedom and watches him with great care.

1. "The Care of God: God's Protection and Providence"

2. "God's Sovereignty: Accepting Our Circumstances"

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

Job 13:28 And he, as a rotten thing, consumeth, as a garment that is moth eaten.

Job compares himself to a garment that is ruined by moths.

1. The Peril of Bad Choices - Romans 6:23

2. The Fragility of Life - James 4:14

1. Isaiah 51:8 For the moth will eat them up like a garment, and the worm will eat them like wool.

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.

Job chapter 14 delves into Job's contemplation on the brevity and frailty of human life, as well as his longing for relief from suffering and a hope for restoration.

1st Paragraph: Job reflects on the transient nature of human existence, comparing it to a flower that withers and fades away. He acknowledges the inevitability of death and expresses his desire for God's attention and mercy (Job 14:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Job contemplates the possibility of renewal after death, pondering if there is any hope for a tree to sprout again once it is cut down. He longs for relief from his suffering and expresses his yearning for God to remember him (Job 14:7-15).

3rd Paragraph: Job acknowledges that even in death, humans experience decay and corruption. He laments the passing of time without any respite from his afflictions, expressing his longing for God's favor (Job 14:16-22).

In summary,

Chapter fourteen of Job presents:

the reflection,

and yearning expressed by Job in response to the brevity of human life.

Highlighting transience through contemplating the fleeting nature of existence,

and longing shown regarding relief from suffering achieved through expressing desire for God's attention.

Mentioning mortality shown regarding acknowledging decay an embodiment representing existential contemplation an exploration into personal reflections on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 14:1 Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble.

This passage speaks to the brevity and difficulty of life.

1: Appreciate the life you have, because it's short and full of trials.

2: Find comfort in knowing that God knows the troubles of life and is with you in them.

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: 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.

Job 14:2 He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not.

Man's life is short and fleeting.

1. Life is short, make the most of every moment

2. Do not take life for granted

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.

Job 14:3 And dost thou open thine eyes upon such an one, and bringest me into judgment with thee?

Job questions why God would judge him when he has a finite life.

1. Recognizing the Limits of Our Life and Striving for Holiness

2. Trusting in God's Mercy and Wisdom

1. Psalm 103:14 - For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

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.

Job 14:4 Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.

No one can make something clean out of something unclean.

1. Nothing is too unclean for God's love - Romans 5:8

2. No matter how deep in sin we get, God still loves us - 1 John 4:7-10

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.

Job 14:5 Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with thee, thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass;

God has determined the lifespan of humans and set boundaries that they cannot pass.

1: God is sovereign and in control of our lives.

2: We must trust in God's wisdom and timing.

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."

Job 14:6 Turn from him, that he may rest, till he shall accomplish, as an hireling, his day.

Job acknowledges that God will restore him in due time, but for now he must wait patiently as an employee would until the end of their workday.

1. Patience: God's Timing is Perfect

2. Trusting God in the Waiting

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy when you face trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance

2. Isaiah 40:30-31 - Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength, and mount up with wings like eagles.

Job 14:7 For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease.

Hope can still be found even when facing great adversity.

1: No matter how overwhelming life's challenges seem, God will always provide hope.

2: Though the future may seem dark, we can remain encouraged in faith that God will not forsake 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 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.

Job 14:8 Though the root thereof wax old in the earth, and the stock thereof die in the ground;

The root of a tree can become old and the stock can die in the ground.

1: No matter how difficult life may seem, our faith should never grow old.

2: Even in the darkest of times, God will never abandon us.

1: Romans 8:35 39 Nothing can ever separate us from the love of God.

2: Isaiah 43:2 Even when we go through the fire, God will be with us.

Job 14:9 Yet through the scent of water it will bud, and bring forth boughs like a plant.

Job reminds us that even in death there is hope; life can still bloom.

1: In the midst of death, there is life.

2: No matter the circumstances, hope is always present.

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: Romans 5:3-5 - More than that, 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.

Job 14:10 But man dieth, and wasteth away: yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he?

Man's mortality is the great equalizer, no matter our stature in life, we all eventually perish.

1: We are all travelers on the same journey, on a path towards death.

2: Life is fleeting, it is up to us to make the most of the time we have.

1: Ecclesiastes 3:2 - "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".

Job 14:11 As the waters fail from the sea, and the flood decayeth and drieth up:

Job laments the brevity of life and the inevitability of death.

1: Remembering our mortality and the need to live life to the fullest.

2: Appreciating the fragility of life and recognizing our dependence on God.

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.

Job 14:12 So man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep.

Man is powerless against death, and will not be able to break free from its grasp until the end of the world.

1. The Vanity of Human Life: Living for Eternity

2. Remembering Death: Preparing for the End Times

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

2. Ecclesiastes 8:8 - "There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it."

Job 14:13 O that thou wouldest hide me in the grave, that thou wouldest keep me secret, until thy wrath be past, that thou wouldest appoint me a set time, and remember me!

Job expresses his wish to be hidden away until God's wrath passes and for God to remember him in his affliction.

1. "God Remembers Us in Our Affliction"

2. "Waiting for God's Wrath to Pass"

1. Psalm 31:15 - "My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!"

2. Isaiah 26:20 - "Come, my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you; hide yourselves for a little while until the fury has passed by."

Job 14:14 If a man die, shall he live again? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.

The passage speaks of the hope of resurrection and how one should wait for their change to come.

1: We should have faith that though death may come, there is still hope for a new life.

2: Though we may not understand why our appointed time has come, we can put our faith in resurrection and the hope of a new life.

1: 1 Corinthians 15:20-23 - But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

2: John 11:25-26 - Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.

Job 14:15 Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee: thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands.

Job acknowledges that he will pray and God will answer.

1. The Power of Prayer: Experiencing God's Presence and Guidance

2. Relying on God's Strength: Trusting and Obeying His Will

1. Jeremiah 33:3: Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.

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.

Job 14:16 For now thou numberest my steps: dost thou not watch over my sin?

Job is questioning why God watches over his steps but not his sins.

1. Don't be afraid to question God - Job 14:16

2. God is always watching us, even when we sin - Job 14:16

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. 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.

Job 14:17 My transgression is sealed up in a bag, and thou sewest up mine iniquity.

Job speaks of his sins being sealed away, as if in a bag, so that God can no longer see them.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How God Seals Away Our Sins

2. The Hope of Redemption: God's Promise of Forgiveness

1. Psalm 32:1-2 - "Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit."

2. Isaiah 43:25 - "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins."

Job 14:18 And surely the mountain falling cometh to nought, and the rock is removed out of his place.

The mountain and the rock are symbols of permanence, but they too will eventually come to nothing.

1. The frailty of life and the importance of living in the moment.

2. Even the seemingly indestructible can be destroyed.

1. Hebrews 13:14 - For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.

2. Psalm 39:4 - Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am.

Job 14:19 The waters wear the stones: thou washest away the things which grow out of the dust of the earth; and thou destroyest the hope of man.

God's power and faithfulness are greater than all of man's hopes and dreams.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding How We Can Rely on His Faithfulness

2. God's Love: How His Power Redeems Us From Our Struggles

1. Psalm 89:14 - "Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before you."

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."

Job 14:20 Thou prevailest for ever against him, and he passeth: thou changest his countenance, and sendest him away.

God is sovereign over man and is ultimately in control of man's destiny.

1: God is in control and He alone determines our fate.

2: It is not our actions, but God's will that shapes 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.

Job 14:21 His sons come to honour, and he knoweth it not; and they are brought low, but he perceiveth it not of them.

Job's sons may be brought to honour and he is unaware of it, or they may be brought low and he is unaware of it.

1. God is always in control, even when we don't realize it.

2. We can trust in God even when we don't understand what He is doing.

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.

Job 14:22 But his flesh upon him shall have pain, and his soul within him shall mourn.

Job speaks of pain and mourning in the flesh and soul of a person.

1. The Pain and Mourn of a Human Soul

2. Understanding and Overcoming the Suffering of Life

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; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted."

2. Psalm 34:18 "The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Job chapter 15 features the response of Job's friend Eliphaz, who strongly rebukes Job and accuses him of arrogance and folly. Eliphaz asserts his own wisdom and claims that Job's suffering is a result of his sin.

1st Paragraph: Eliphaz begins by accusing Job of empty talk and questioning the validity of his arguments. He asserts that wisdom does not come from mere mortals but from God, insinuating that Job lacks understanding (Job 15:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Eliphaz accuses Job of being wicked and suggests that his suffering is a consequence of his own sin. He lists various examples to support his claim, asserting that the wicked will ultimately face destruction (Job 15:7-35).

In summary,

Chapter fifteen of Job presents:

the response,

and accusation expressed by Eliphaz in reaction to Job's suffering.

Highlighting rebuke through accusing Job of arrogance and folly,

and emphasizing divine judgment achieved through asserting the consequences of sin.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring the connection between suffering and personal righteousness an embodiment representing different perspectives on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 15:1 Then answered Eliphaz the Temanite, and said,

Eliphaz the Temanite gives his response to Job's speech.

1. God is sovereign and in control, so trust in Him even in the midst of difficulty.

2. We can learn from Job's example of perseverance and 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. 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.

Job 15:2 Should a wise man utter vain knowledge, and fill his belly with the east wind?

Job speaks to a friend and questions the wisdom of speaking out of turn.

1: We should be wise in what we say and not speak out of turn.

2: Always use your words carefully and think before you speak.

1: James 3:17 - But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

2: Proverbs 10:19 - Too much talk leads to sin. Be sensible and keep your mouth shut.

Job 15:3 Should he reason with unprofitable talk? or with speeches wherewith he can do no good?

Job questions the value of unproductive "talk" or "speeches" that do not bring about any good.

1. "The Power of Words: Speak with Purpose"

2. "The Blessing and Curse of Empty Words"

1. James 3:2-12 - "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. 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."

Job 15:4 Yea, thou castest off fear, and restrainest prayer before God.

This passage speaks about how one can cast off fear and restrain prayer before God.

1. The Power of Faith: How to Step Out in Trust in God

2. Embracing the Fearless Life: Overcoming Fear and Growing in 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 Timothy 1:7 - "for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

Job 15:5 For thy mouth uttereth thine iniquity, and thou choosest the tongue of the crafty.

Job is warning that words have power and can reveal one's inner thoughts.

1. Be mindful of the power of words - Job 15:5

2. Choose to speak life - Proverbs 18:21

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

2. James 3:1-12 - Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

Job 15:6 Thine own mouth condemneth thee, and not I: yea, thine own lips testify against thee.

Job's own words condemn him and not God.

1: God is our judge, not ourselves.

2: We must be careful of our words.

1: Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

2: James 3:9-12 With it we bless the 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, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

Job 15:7 Art thou the first man that was born? or wast thou made before the hills?

This passage questions if Job was the first man born or created before the hills.

1. God's power and sovereignty over Creation

2. The importance of trusting God's plan

1. Psalm 90:2 - "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God."

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."

Job 15:8 Hast thou heard the secret of God? and dost thou restrain wisdom to thyself?

Job was warned not to keep wisdom secret or to himself, but to share it with others.

1. The Danger of Keeping Wisdom to Ourselves

2. The Importance of Sharing Wisdom with Others

1. Proverbs 11:25 - A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

2. Colossians 3:16 - 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.

Job 15:9 What knowest thou, that we know not? what understandest thou, which is not in us?

Eliphaz challenges Job to prove his wisdom, questioning what knowledge Job has that Eliphaz does not.

1. God calls us to consider our own knowledge and understanding, and to recognize that we cannot know everything.

2. We must trust in God's wisdom and knowledge, even when our own understanding fails us.

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. 1 Corinthians 3:19 - "For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness."

Job 15:10 With us are both the grayheaded and very aged men, much elder than thy father.

This passage highlights the presence of older people, noting that some are much older than the speaker's father.

1: Appreciating Our Elders - God has blessed us with wise and experienced elders who can teach us and share their wisdom.

2: Living Life to the Fullest - We should strive to make the most of our lives, no matter how old we are.

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 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."

Job 15:11 Are the consolations of God small with thee? is there any secret thing with thee?

This passage questions whether or not one is receiving God's comfort and if there is any secret knowledge they possess.

1. "God's Comfort In Troubled Times"

2. "The Power of Secret Knowledge"

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 40:1 - "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God."

Job 15:12 Why doth thine heart carry thee away? and what do thy eyes wink at,

The passage speaks of the dangers of impulsivity and its consequences.

1. "Taming the Impulse: Avoiding Unwise Decisions"

2. "The Heart of Wisdom: Knowing When to Refrain"

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 16:2 - "All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit."

Job 15:13 That thou turnest thy spirit against God, and lettest such words go out of thy mouth?

This passage describes how Job speaks against God and questions his authority.

1. Learning to Trust God no Matter the Circumstances

2. The Danger of Questioning God's Authority

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.

Job 15:14 What is man, that he should be clean? and he which is born of a woman, that he should be righteous?

Job questions the moral purity of mankind, wondering why humans should be expected to be righteous.

1. "The Conundrum of Human Nature: An Exploration of Righteousness"

2. "The Fallacy of Perfection: Examining the Expectations of Righteousness"

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. 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.

Job 15:15 Behold, he putteth no trust in his saints; yea, the heavens are not clean in his sight.

God does not trust even his holy ones, as he finds nothing pure in all of heaven.

1. "The Holiness of God: The Perfect Standard"

2. "The Power of God's Unfailing Love"

1. Psalm 19:7-9 - "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;"

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."

Job 15:16 How much more abominable and filthy is man, which drinketh iniquity like water?

Man is sinful and abominable, and sin is taken in like water.

1. The Perils of Sin - Beware of the Consequences of Taking Iniquity Lightly

2. The Power of Sin - How We Are Easily Enticed

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.

Job 15:17 I will shew thee, hear me; and that which I have seen I will declare;

Job speaks of his experience and wisdom, offering to share what he has seen.

1. The Wisdom of Experience: Learning from the Examples of Job

2. Trusting in the Lord for Wisdom and Guidance

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.

Job 15:18 Which wise men have told from their fathers, and have not hid it:

Job 15:18 speaks of how wise men have passed on their knowledge from their fathers and have not hidden it.

1. Passing on God's Wisdom: The Power of Legacy

2. Recognizing the Value of Our Ancestors: Celebrating Their Wisdom

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 78:2-4 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

Job 15:19 Unto whom alone the earth was given, and no stranger passed among them.

Job 15:19 is a passage about God's sovereignty over the earth, and His exclusion of strangers from His people.

1. God's Sovereignty and Exclusivity

2. The Blessings of Knowing God's Exclusivity

1. Psalm 24:1 - "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."

2. John 10:14-16 - "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me just as the Father knows me and I know the Father and I lay down my life for the sheep."

Job 15:20 The wicked man travaileth with pain all his days, and the number of years is hidden to the oppressor.

The wicked man is always in pain and his life is full of suffering.

1. No matter how much wealth a wicked person has, their life is still filled with pain and misery.

2. The Lord allows wicked people to suffer so that they can repent and turn to Him.

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

2. 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?"

Job 15:21 A dreadful sound is in his ears: in prosperity the destroyer shall come upon him.

Job is warned that in times of prosperity, destruction will come.

1. No matter how blessed we are, we must never forget that our security is in God alone.

2. We should always remember that the Lord will bring destruction to those who trust in their own prosperity.

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. Psalm 55:22 - Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

Job 15:22 He believeth not that he shall return out of darkness, and he is waited for of the sword.

Job speaks of a person's lack of faith that he will come out of darkness and instead is expecting to be attacked.

1. The Power of Faith: Trusting in God despite our circumstances.

2. The Hope of Deliverance: Believing in a brighter future despite our present darkness.

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."

Job 15:23 He wandereth abroad for bread, saying, Where is it? he knoweth that the day of darkness is ready at his hand.

Job wanders in search of bread, knowing that the day of darkness is coming.

1. The importance of being prepared for the darkness of life.

2. The consequences of not preparing for the darkness of life.

1. Proverbs 27:12 - "The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it."

2. Matthew 25:1-13 - Parable of the Ten Virgins.

Job 15:24 Trouble and anguish shall make him afraid; they shall prevail against him, as a king ready to the battle.

Trouble and anguish cause fear for a person, similar to a king ready for battle.

1. Fear is a natural response when faced with trouble and anguish, but God can give us strength to face it.

2. We can take courage from the fact that God is with us in our struggles, just as a king is ready to fight in battle.

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."

Job 15:25 For he stretcheth out his hand against God, and strengtheneth himself against the Almighty.

Job has attempted to challenge God and strengthen himself against the Almighty.

1. The Danger of Questioning God's Authority

2. Why We Should Not Challenge God

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!

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.

Job 15:26 He runneth upon him, even on his neck, upon the thick bosses of his bucklers:

Job 15:26 speaks of a man running recklessly towards danger, without regard for his own safety.

1. The Dangers of Recklessness

2. Choosing Godly Wisdom Over Foolishness

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

2. Philippians 4:5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

Job 15:27 Because he covereth his face with his fatness, and maketh collops of fat on his flanks.

Job's sinfulness and self-indulgence is highlighted as God scolds him for his lack of wisdom.

1. "The Danger of Self-Indulgence"

2. "God's Warning Against Greed"

1. Proverbs 15:27 - "He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house, but he who hates bribes will live."

2. James 5:1-6 - "Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon you!"

Job 15:28 And he dwelleth in desolate cities, and in houses which no man inhabiteth, which are ready to become heaps.

Job's message of hope in the midst of suffering: Even when life seems desolate and hopeless, God is still with us.

1. God Is Always With Us: Finding Hope in the Midst of Suffering

2. Living in Hope: God's Presence in Times of Desolation

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."

Job 15:29 He shall not be rich, neither shall his substance continue, neither shall he prolong the perfection thereof upon the earth.

Job's wealth and perfection will not last forever.

1. Discovering True Contentment: Finding Happiness & Fulfillment in God's Provision

2. Learning to Let Go: Preparing for Life's Inevitable Changes

1. Ecclesiastes 5:18-20 - Behold that which I have seen: it is good and comely for one to eat and to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labor that he taketh under the sun all the days of his life, which God giveth him: for it is his portion. Every man also to whom God hath given riches and wealth, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in his labor; this is the gift of God.

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.

Job 15:30 He shall not depart out of darkness; the flame shall dry up his branches, and by the breath of his mouth shall he go away.

Job has been cursed with darkness and his fate is sealed.

1. God allows us to experience darkness in order to bring us closer to Him.

2. We can find light despite the darkness if we turn to God.

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 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.

Job 15:31 Let not him that is deceived trust in vanity: for vanity shall be his recompence.

This verse is a warning from Job about the consequences of trusting in vanity instead of God.

1. The Danger of Trusting in Vanity: Don t Be Deceived

2. Find True and Lasting Hope in God Alone

1. Jeremiah 17:5-8

2. Proverbs 14:12

Job 15:32 It shall be accomplished before his time, and his branch shall not be green.

Job 15:32 speaks of God's plan for the future and how His plan will not be hindered by anyone.

1: God's plan will ultimately be accomplished no matter what.

2: We must remain faithful in trusting that God's plan will be accomplished.

1: Isaiah 14:24-27 - God's plan cannot be thwarted by anyone.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - We must trust in God's plan for our future.

Job 15:33 He shall shake off his unripe grape as the vine, and shall cast off his flower as the olive.

Job laments the fact that he can not escape his suffering and must endure it despite no fault of his own.

1. We can learn to trust God's plan even during our most difficult times.

2. We must be willing to accept God's will and His purpose in 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. 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.

Job 15:34 For the congregation of hypocrites shall be desolate, and fire shall consume the tabernacles of bribery.

Job laments the fate of the wicked who live a life of hypocrisy and bribery.

1. The Consequences of Hypocrisy - How our choices shape our future

2. The Elusive Nature of Bribery - How our pursuits for fleeting pleasures can ultimately lead to destruction

1. Proverbs 11:1 - "A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight."

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

Job 15:35 They conceive mischief, and bring forth vanity, and their belly prepareth deceit.

Job 15:35 describes the sinfulness of mankind, showing that people have the capacity to conceive mischief, bring forth vanity, and prepare deceit.

1. The Sinful Nature of Man: Examining Job 15:35

2. Understanding Our Brokenness: A Study of Job 15:35

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 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

Job chapter 16 continues Job's response to his friends' accusations and offers a poignant expression of his deep anguish and desire for a mediator between him and God.

1st Paragraph: Job expresses his weariness from listening to his friends' reproachful words. He acknowledges that if their roles were reversed, he would offer them comfort and encouragement instead of harsh judgment (Job 16:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: Job describes the extent of his suffering, expressing how God has crushed him, made him a target for others, and caused his body to waste away. He feels abandoned by both God and humanity (Job 16:6-17).

3rd Paragraph: Job cries out for a witness or advocate who can plead his case before God. He longs for someone who can mediate between him and God, acknowledging the vast difference in power between them (Job 16:18-22).

In summary,

Chapter sixteen of Job presents:

the continued response,

and lament expressed by Job in response to his friends' accusations.

Highlighting weariness through expressing exhaustion from reproachful words,

and anguish shown regarding the extent of suffering achieved through describing physical deterioration.

Mentioning longing shown regarding desiring a mediator an embodiment representing an appeal for understanding an exploration into personal reflections on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 16:1 Then Job answered and said,

Job expresses his anguish and grief regarding his suffering.

1: We should remember that God is in control during times of suffering and trust in His plan.

2: We should remain patient and obedient even when we don't understand 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: 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.

Job 16:2 I have heard many such things: miserable comforters are ye all.

Job expresses his frustration at the empty words of his friends, who offer him no comfort.

1. We can all learn from Job's friends' mistakes and strive to be better comforters to those we love.

2. Our words have the power to bring comfort or cause distress, so be mindful of how we choose to use them.

1. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep."

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."

Job 16:3 Shall vain words have an end? or what emboldeneth thee that thou answerest?

Job questions why his friends are so eager to respond to his suffering when their words will not bring any relief.

1. How to appropriately respond to another's suffering with grace and empathy.

2. The power of words and how they can be used to bring comfort or contention.

1. James 1:19 - Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry.

2. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Job 16:4 I also could speak as ye do: if your soul were in my soul's stead, I could heap up words against you, and shake mine head at you.

Job bemoans his suffering and expresses his anger at his friends.

1: In times of suffering, we can learn to trust in God's plan and turn to Him in prayer.

2: Even in our darkest moments, we can remember that God is there with us and loves us.

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."

Job 16:5 But I would strengthen you with my mouth, and the moving of my lips should asswage your grief.

Job expresses his desire to comfort his friends through his words and his lips.

1. The Power of Encouragement: How Our Words Can Uplift and Strengthen Others

2. The Comfort of Friendship: How We Can Find Solace in One Another

1. Proverbs 12:25 - Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad.

2. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Job 16:6 Though I speak, my grief is not asswaged: and though I forbear, what am I eased?

Job is in anguish and pain, and no matter what he does, he cannot find relief.

1. God is with us in our pain and suffering.

2. We can trust God even when it feels like He has forsaken us.

1. Isaiah 53:3-5 - He is despised and rejected by men; A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

4. Romans 8:18 - 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.

Job 16:7 But now he hath made me weary: thou hast made desolate all my company.

Job reflects on how his suffering has made him weary and desolate.

1: In times of trial, God can bring us comfort and hope.

2: Let us be thankful for the blessings of God, even in times of suffering.

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 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Job 16:8 And thou hast filled me with wrinkles, which is a witness against me: and my leanness rising up in me beareth witness to my face.

Job was suffering from physical affliction and using it as a testimony of his faith in God.

1. Learning to Trust God in Suffering

2. The Power of Testimony Through Pain

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, 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. 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."

Job 16:9 He teareth me in his wrath, who hateth me: he gnasheth upon me with his teeth; mine enemy sharpeneth his eyes upon me.

Job expresses his distress and despair in the face of God's wrath.

1. God's Mercy in the Face of Despair

2. Finding Comfort in God's Love and Compassion

1. Lamentations 3:22-24 - "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. The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him."

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."

Job 16:10 They have gaped upon me with their mouth; they have smitten me upon the cheek reproachfully; they have gathered themselves together against me.

Job is lamenting the mistreatment he has endured from his friends and family.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Words Impact Others

2. Resilience in the Face of Rejection and Mistreatment

1. Romans 12:14-21 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

2. James 2:13 - Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Job 16:11 God hath delivered me to the ungodly, and turned me over into the hands of the wicked.

Job laments his suffering at the hands of the wicked and ungodly.

1. The Suffering of the Righteous: Exploring Job's Story

2. Overcoming Suffering: Finding Strength in Dark Times

1. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

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.

Job 16:12 I was at ease, but he hath broken me asunder: he hath also taken me by my neck, and shaken me to pieces, and set me up for his mark.

Job experiences great suffering when God shakes him to pieces and sets him as a mark.

1. God's Discipline: The Purpose of Suffering

2. Finding Peace in the Midst of Trouble

1. Hebrews 12:6-11

2. James 1:2-4

Job 16:13 His archers compass me round about, he cleaveth my reins asunder, and doth not spare; he poureth out my gall upon the ground.

Job is reflecting on the suffering he has faced at the hands of God.

1: God's love is so great that even when He disciplines us, it is done with purpose and in love.

2: We can trust God even in the midst of suffering, knowing He has a good and perfect plan.

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 12:6-11 - 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? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Job 16:14 He breaketh me with breach upon breach, he runneth upon me like a giant.

Job laments the severity of his suffering, describing it as a relentless attack from a powerful enemy.

1. God's Sovereignty in Suffering: How God Uses Pain to Refine Us

2. Finding Strength in Weakness: How We Can Rely on God in Times of Suffering

1. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10: "So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. 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. 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.

Job 16:15 I have sewed sackcloth upon my skin, and defiled my horn in the dust.

Job is expressing his anguish and grief over his suffering.

1: In times of suffering, it is important to remember that God is always there for us and that he will never forsake us.

2: Even in our darkest times, we can trust in God and find comfort in his presence.

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."

Job 16:16 My face is foul with weeping, and on my eyelids is the shadow of death;

Job mourns his suffering and expresses his grief in the presence of death.

1. We must accept suffering with grace and trust in God's plan.

2. In times of sorrow, let us turn to God for comfort and strength.

1. Job 10:18-22 "Where then is my hope? As for my hope, who can see it? Will it go down to the gates of death? Will we descend together into the dust?"

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."

Job 16:17 Not for any injustice in mine hands: also my prayer is pure.

This passage highlights Job's commitment to living a life of righteousness and his prayers being pure.

1. The Power of Purity: An Examination of Job 16:17

2. Righteousness and Faith: How Job 16:17 Guides Us

1. Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

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.

Job 16:18 O earth, cover not thou my blood, and let my cry have no place.

Job expresses his anguish and plea for justice from God.

1. Finding Strength in Our Sufferings - How to find comfort in the midst of pain and anguish.

2. Seeking Justice from the Lord - How to maintain faith in God's justice even during difficult times.

1. Psalm 34:17-19 - "The righteous cry and 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."

Job 16:19 Also now, behold, my witness is in heaven, and my record is on high.

This passage from Job speaks of the presence of a witness in heaven and a record on high.

1. Our lives are being watched by an all-knowing God who records our every action.

2. We must strive to live lives that are pleasing to God, knowing that He is always present.

1. Psalm 139:1-12

2. Hebrews 4:12-13

Job 16:20 My friends scorn me: but mine eye poureth out tears unto God.

Job expresses his sorrow and grief over his friends' scorn and lack of comfort, and pours out his tears to God in prayer.

1: We can turn to God in times of sorrow and grief, and cry out to Him for comfort and compassion.

2: Even when our friends fail us, God will never leave us nor forsake 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 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Job 16:21 O that one might plead for a man with God, as a man pleadeth for his neighbour!

This verse expresses Job's desire for someone to intercede on behalf of mankind, so that they may receive justice and mercy from God.

1. "Mercy and Justice: Finding Balance in God's Love"

2. "Crying Out to God: Praying for Our Neighbours"

1. 1 John 4:9-11 - "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. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another."

2. James 2:13 - "For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment."

Job 16:22 When a few years are come, then I shall go the way whence I shall not return.

Job expresses his understanding that he will soon die, and will not be able to return.

1. Living with Hope in the Face of Death

2. What We Can Learn from Job's Reflection on Mortality

1. Hebrews 9:27 - And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.

2. 2 Corinthians 4:18 - While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Job chapter 17 continues Job's lament and expresses his deep despair and isolation. He reflects on the loss of his reputation, the mockery he faces, and his longing for relief from suffering.

1st Paragraph: Job acknowledges that his days are numbered, and death is near. He laments the loss of his honor and reputation, as even children mock him. He expresses his hopelessness in finding any wise or righteous individuals among his acquaintances (Job 17:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: Job pleads with God to be a guarantor or witness for him since no one else will support him. He longs for relief from suffering and asks that those who condemn him be held accountable (Job 17:11-16).

In summary,

Chapter seventeen of Job presents:

the continued lament,

and desperation expressed by Job in response to his circumstances.

Highlighting despair through acknowledging the nearing of death,

and isolation shown regarding the loss of honor achieved through facing mockery.

Mentioning longing shown regarding seeking relief from suffering an embodiment representing a plea for justice an exploration into personal reflections on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 17:1 My breath is corrupt, my days are extinct, the graves are ready for me.

Job reflects on his mortality and struggles with death.

1: Live in the moment, for life is fleeting.

2: Find comfort in the Lord, for death is inevitable.

1: 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.

2: John 14:1-3 - "Do not let 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.

Job 17:2 Are there not mockers with me? and doth not mine eye continue in their provocation?

This passage from Job speaks of the pain and suffering that he is enduring due to the mocking and provocation of those around him.

1. "A Call to Compassion: Suffering and Love in the Face of Mockery"

2. "The Power of Perseverance: Overcoming Mockery and Provocation"

1. Romans 12:15 "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

2. 1 Peter 4:12-13 "Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed."

Job 17:3 Lay down now, put me in a surety with thee; who is he that will strike hands with me?

This passage speaks of Job's desperate plea to God to be given a surety or guarantor in his time of need.

1. The Power of Faith: Believing in God's Promise of Protection

2. The Hope of a Guarantor: Relying on God's Strength and Support

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."

Job 17:4 For thou hast hid their heart from understanding: therefore shalt thou not exalt them.

This passage speaks of God's judgement of those who fail to understand His will.

1: We should strive to understand God's will, for only then can we be exalted in His eyes.

2: We must have faith that God's will is greater than our own, and that He will judge us fairly and according to His plan.

1: Psalm 119:18 - Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.

2: Ephesians 1:17-18 - That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.

Job 17:5 He that speaketh flattery to his friends, even the eyes of his children shall fail.

Job warns against speaking flattery to friends, as it will bring harm to one's own family.

1. "The Power of Words: How Our Speech Affects Our Loved Ones"

2. "The Blessings of Honesty: How Truthfulness Leads to Joy"

1. Proverbs 12:17-19 - "Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit. There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing. Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment."

2. James 3:2-12 - "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. 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. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water?"

Job 17:6 He hath made me also a byword of the people; and aforetime I was as a tabret.

The passage tells of how Job has been made a byword of the people and previously was as a tabret.

1. God can use our pain and suffering to bring glory to His name.

2. We can trust God in our suffering and rejoice that He is in control.

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.

Job 17:7 Mine eye also is dim by reason of sorrow, and all my members are as a shadow.

Job is in despair, and his physical and emotional suffering has taken a toll on him.

1. When Life is Hard: Finding Hope in Difficult Times

2. The Redemptive Power of Suffering

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 5:3-5 - "And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."

Job 17:8 Upright men shall be astonied at this, and the innocent shall stir up himself against the hypocrite.

Job is warning that those who act hypocritically will be exposed and called to account by their peers.

1. "The Power of Uprightness: How Righteousness Exposes Hypocrisy"

2. "A Call to Action: Standing Up Against Hypocrisy"

1. Isaiah 5:20-21 - "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!"

2. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

Job 17:9 The righteous also shall hold on his way, and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger.

The righteous will stay true to their path and those with clean hands will grow stronger.

1. The Strength of the Righteous: Staying True to Your Path

2. Cleansing Our Hands to Grow Stronger

1. Proverbs 10:9 - "Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out."

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, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false."

Job 17:10 But as for you all, do ye return, and come now: for I cannot find one wise man among you.

Job grieves over his friends' inability to console him and suggests that they are not wise.

1. The Importance of Wisdom: How to Seek and Embrace Wisdom in Our Lives

2. The Power of Friendship: How to Strengthen and Maintain Lasting Relationships

1. Proverbs 4:7-8 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.

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.

Job 17:11 My days are past, my purposes are broken off, even the thoughts of my heart.

The speaker in Job 17:11 reflects on how their life has changed drastically since their suffering began.

1. God's plans are never what we expect, but He has a plan for us.

2. In the midst of suffering, God is still in control and works all things for our good.

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 for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Job 17:12 They change the night into day: the light is short because of darkness.

Job mourns the darkness of his life and longs for his end to come quickly.

1. Finding Hope in the Darkness: How to Overcome Life's Struggles

2. Trusting in the Lord When Things Seem Hopeless

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 18:28 You, O LORD, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light.

Job 17:13 If I wait, the grave is mine house: I have made my bed in the darkness.

This passage speaks of Job's resignation to death, where he awaits his end in the darkness of the grave.

1. "The Resignation of Job: Accepting Death's Inevitability"

2. "The Grave: Where We All Must Go"

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 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.

Job 17:14 I have said to corruption, Thou art my father: to the worm, Thou art my mother, and my sister.

This verse expresses Job's despair over his current state, showing how he has been forsaken and left with nothing to rely on but death.

1. The Comfort of Knowing God Is Ever-Present, Even in the Darkest of Times

2. How to Find Hope in the Midst of Suffering

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 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."

Job 17:15 And where is now my hope? as for my hope, who shall see it?

Job laments his situation, questioning where his hope is and who will see it.

1. Hope in the Midst of Suffering

2. Where is Your Hope?

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, 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. Psalm 31:24 - Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!

Job 17:16 They shall go down to the bars of the pit, when our rest together is in the dust.

Job laments his condition, saying that he and his companions will go down to the depths of the grave together.

1. We are all mortal and must accept that death is inevitable.

2. The power of community and companionship, even in the face of death.

1. 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 mankind, and the living will lay it to heart.

2. Isaiah 38:18-19 - For Sheol does not thank you; death does not praise you; those who go down to the pit do not hope for your faithfulness. The living, the living, he thanks you, as I do this day.

Job chapter 18 features the response of Job's friend Bildad, who delivers a harsh rebuke and condemnation towards Job. Bildad accuses Job of being wicked and predicts severe punishment for him.

1st Paragraph: Bildad begins by criticizing Job for his lengthy speeches and suggests that he is acting as if he is the only wise person. He asserts that God will ultimately punish the wicked and cut off their memory from the earth (Job 18:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Bildad describes in vivid terms the fate that awaits the wicked. He paints a picture of darkness, destruction, and terror befalling them as a result of their own actions. He believes that calamity is inevitable for those who oppose God (Job 18:5-21).

In summary,

Chapter eighteen of Job presents:

the response,

and condemnation expressed by Bildad in reaction to Job's suffering.

Highlighting rebuke through criticizing Job's speeches,

and emphasizing divine judgment achieved through predicting severe punishment.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring the consequences of wickedness an embodiment representing different perspectives on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 18:1 Then answered Bildad the Shuhite, and said,

Bildad speaks to Job in order to defend God's justice.

1: God's Justice is Unquestionable

2: God's Justice is Unfailing

1: Isaiah 30:18 - "Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!"

2: James 2:13 - "Because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!"

Job 18:2 How long will it be ere ye make an end of words? mark, and afterwards we will speak.

This passage from Job 18:2 is a challenge to Job's friends to be silent and let him speak.

1. The Power of Listening - emphasizing the importance of silence and taking time to truly listen to others.

2. The Importance of Patience - understanding that God's timing is perfect and that everything comes in its own time.

1. James 1:19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

2. Romans 12:12 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Job 18:3 Wherefore are we counted as beasts, and reputed vile in your sight?

This passage reveals Job's feelings of despair and frustration at his unjust treatment by God.

1: We may not always understand why God allows us to suffer, but we can trust that He has a good purpose for it.

2: Even in our darkest moments, God is with us, providing 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: 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."

Job 18:4 He teareth himself in his anger: shall the earth be forsaken for thee? and shall the rock be removed out of his place?

This verse is asking if the earth should be forsaken for Job or if the rock should be removed from its place because of Job's anger.

1: The Power of Anger and How It Affects Our Lives

2: The Strength of God's Creation and Its Timelessness

1: Proverbs 29:11 - "A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control."

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."

Job 18:5 Yea, the light of the wicked shall be put out, and the spark of his fire shall not shine.

The wicked will be extinguished and their fire will not last.

1. God is Just and will punish the Wicked for their Sins

2. The Light of the Wicked Shall be Put Out

1. Isaiah 5:20-24, Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2. Psalm 34:15-16, The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry. The face of the Lord is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

Job 18:6 The light shall be dark in his tabernacle, and his candle shall be put out with him.

Job's friend Bildad is speaking a warning to those who live in wickedness, saying that their light will be extinguished and their home will be filled with darkness.

1. The Danger of Living in Wickedness - Proverbs 4:14-15

2. Choosing Righteousness - Psalm 84:11

1. Isaiah 5:20-21 - Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

2. John 3:19-21 - This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.

Job 18:7 The steps of his strength shall be straitened, and his own counsel shall cast him down.

Job's friend Bildad suggests that the wicked are punished in life by their own actions, and that their strength will be weakened and their own plans will lead to their downfall.

1. "The Consequences of Sin"

2. "God's Punishment of the Wicked"

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; 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 16:25 - There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

Job 18:8 For he is cast into a net by his own feet, and he walketh upon a snare.

Job is warning us to be careful of our own actions, as they can lead to our downfall.

1. "The Path of Self-Destruction: How to Avoid it"

2. "Walking in Wisdom: The Benefits of Making Wise Choices"

1. Proverbs 16:17-19 - "The highway of the upright avoids evil; those who guard their ways preserve their lives. Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be lowly in spirit along with the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud."

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. There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?"

Job 18:9 The gin shall take him by the heel, and the robber shall prevail against him.

This passage speaks of the consequences of evil and how the wicked will be taken by the heel and the robber will prevail against him.

1. God's justice will prevail: the wicked will not go unpunished for their wrongdoing.

2. The consequences of evil: a reminder of the importance of doing what is right.

1. Proverbs 11:21 - Be assured that the evil person will not go unpunished, but the righteous will be rewarded.

2. Jeremiah 15:21 - I will set you free from the hands of the wicked and rescue you from the grasp of the cruel.

Job 18:10 The snare is laid for him in the ground, and a trap for him in the way.

Job 18:10 talks about a snare that is laid for someone in the ground and a trap in the way.

1. The Danger of Going Astray - exploring the consequences of straying from the right path.

2. Traps of the Enemy - understanding how to identify and overcome the snares of the enemy.

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. Proverbs 26:27 - Whoever digs a pit will fall into it, and a stone will come back on him who starts it rolling.

Job 18:11 Terrors shall make him afraid on every side, and shall drive him to his feet.

The passage speaks about terrors that make someone afraid and drive them to their feet.

1. Fear Not: Overcoming Anxiety and Panic in the Face of Adversity

2. Standing on the Promises of God: Learning to Trust and Lean on Him 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 56:3 - "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

Job 18:12 His strength shall be hungerbitten, and destruction shall be ready at his side.

Job s strength will be weakened by hunger and destruction will be near him.

1: We must remember that no matter how strong we are, hunger and destruction can still come our way.

2: We must be mindful of the consequences of our actions, as they may lead to destruction and suffering.

1: Proverbs 19:15 - Laziness brings on deep sleep, and an idle person will suffer hunger.

2: Isaiah 24:17-18 - Fear, and the pit, and the snare, are upon thee, O inhabitant of the earth. And it shall come to pass, that he who fleeth from the noise of the fear shall fall into the pit; and he that cometh up out of the midst of the pit shall be taken in the snare: for the windows from on high are open, and the foundations of the earth do shake.

Job 18:13 It shall devour the strength of his skin: even the firstborn of death shall devour his strength.

Job 18:13 speaks of the power of death, which devours the strength of a person's skin and life.

1. The Power of Death: Facing the Inevitable with God's Strength

2. Embracing Life: Rejecting Death and Living with Purpose

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. 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."

Job 18:14 His confidence shall be rooted out of his tabernacle, and it shall bring him to the king of terrors.

This passage from Job 18:14 speaks of how a person's confidence can be rooted out and lead them to the king of terrors.

1. "A Lack of Confidence Can Lead Us to the King of Terrors"

2. "The Danger of Relying Too Much on Confidence"

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

2. Psalm 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

Job 18:15 It shall dwell in his tabernacle, because it is none of his: brimstone shall be scattered upon his habitation.

Job 18 is a passage that speaks of God's judgment on the wicked and their destruction. 1. God's judgment is certain and inevitable, no one can escape it. 2. We must repent and turn to God if we want to escape His wrath. 1. Isaiah 66:15-16 "For behold, the Lord will come in fire, and his chariots like the whirlwind, to render his anger in fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire will the Lord execute judgment, and by his sword, upon all flesh; and those slain by the Lord shall be many." 2. Matthew 25:46 "And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Job 18:16 His roots shall be dried up beneath, and above shall his branch be cut off.

Job 18:16 speaks of a person whose sources of strength and support have been severed, leaving them without any resources or protection.

1. God's Divine Providence: When Life Severs All Our Roots

2. Finding Strength in the Midst of Adversity

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.

Job 18:17 His remembrance shall perish from the earth, and he shall have no name in the street.

Job's mortality is highlighted in this verse, emphasizing the frailty of human life and the importance of living a life of faith.

1) "Living for Eternity: The Importance of Living a Life of Faith"

2) "A Reminder of Mortality: Job 18:17"

1) Psalm 103:14-16 "For he knows how we are formed; he remembers that we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more."

2) Ecclesiastes 12:7 "and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it."

Job 18:18 He shall be driven from light into darkness, and chased out of the world.

Job is warning against the consequences of wickedness, that those who practice it will be driven from light into darkness and be chased out of the world.

1. God does not tolerate wickedness and will punish those who practice it.

2. Do not succumb to temptation but live a life of righteousness.

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. Psalm 34:14 - Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Job 18:19 He shall neither have son nor nephew among his people, nor any remaining in his dwellings.

Job 18:19 summarizes the fact that Job will have no family or descendants to remember him.

1. The Uncertainty of Life: Despite Job's best efforts, his legacy will be forgotten and his descendants will not exist.

2. The Power of God: God determines our paths, and Job has been chosen to live a life without legacy.

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 a sad face is good for the heart. The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of pleasure."

2. Psalm 146:3-4 - "Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save. When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing."

Job 18:20 They that come after him shall be astonied at his day, as they that went before were affrighted.

Job's friends are in disbelief at his misfortune, a feeling shared by those who have gone before him.

1. God's perfect plan in times of suffering

2. The power of perseverance 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. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.

Job 18:21 Surely such are the dwellings of the wicked, and this is the place of him that knoweth not God.

Job 18:21 speaks of the dwellings of the wicked and those who do not know God.

1. Knowing God is essential to living a full and blessed life.

2. The consequences of not knowing God can be dire.

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 34:8 - Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

Job chapter 19 contains Job's impassioned response to his friends' accusations and offers a glimpse into his deep anguish, longing for justice, and unwavering faith in God.

1st Paragraph: Job expresses his frustration with his friends' reproachful words and declares that their attempts to shame him only deepen his pain. He pleads for compassion and understanding, asserting that God has afflicted him (Job 19:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Job describes the extent of his suffering, feeling abandoned by everyone around him. He laments the loss of his family, friends, and even servants who now treat him with contempt. He feels trapped in darkness and cries out for justice (Job 19:7-20).

3rd Paragraph: Job proclaims his unwavering faith in a Redeemer who will vindicate him. He expresses hope that he will see God face-to-face even after death. Despite his current state of despair, he holds on to the belief that righteousness will prevail (Job 19:21-29).

In summary,

Chapter nineteen of Job presents:

the passionate response,

and plea expressed by Job in reaction to his friends' accusations.

Highlighting frustration through expressing discontent with reproachful words,

and anguish shown regarding the extent of suffering achieved through describing loss and contempt.

Mentioning faith shown regarding holding onto hope an embodiment representing an affirmation of belief an exploration into personal reflections on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 19:1 Then Job answered and said,

Job expresses his anguish and frustration at the injustice of his suffering.

1. God's justice will prevail, even if we don't understand it in our lives.

2. Suffering can be a tool to bring us closer 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. 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.

Job 19:2 How long will ye vex my soul, and break me in pieces with words?

Job is asking his friends how long they will continue to torment him and break him down with their words.

1. The Power of Words: Learning to Speak With Kindness and Respect

2. Bearing With Our Brothers and Sisters: How to Respond in Times of Difficulty

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 12:18 - "There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing."

Job 19:3 These ten times have ye reproached me: ye are not ashamed that ye make yourselves strange to me.

Job expresses his frustration with his friends for reproaching him ten times and not showing any shame for their behavior.

1. The Importance of Empathy: A Study of Job 19:3

2. The Power of Words: A Study of Job 19:3

1. Isaiah 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

2. Romans 12:15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

Job 19:4 And be it indeed that I have erred, mine error remaineth with myself.

Job acknowledges his own mistakes and accepts full responsibility for them.

1. "Carrying the Weight of Our Own Mistakes"

2. "Accepting Responsibility for Our Actions"

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. Proverbs 28:13 - "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."

Job 19:5 If indeed ye will magnify yourselves against me, and plead against me my reproach:

Job laments the injustice of his situation and his mistreatment by his friends, calling for them to be held accountable for their actions.

1. We can learn from Job's story to not let adversity define us and to instead remain steadfast in our faith.

2. We must be mindful of our words and reactions to our friends, as our words have the potential to deeply hurt even those we love.

1. Matthew 5:38-41 - Jesus teaching on turning the other cheek and loving your enemies.

2. Psalm 37:1-2 - Instruction to not fret because of the wicked and to trust in the Lord.

Job 19:6 Know now that God hath overthrown me, and hath compassed me with his net.

Job experiences a great loss and despair, feeling that God has turned away from him.

1: Even in our darkest moments, God is still with us.

2: God's plan is greater than our own understanding.

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.

Job 19:7 Behold, I cry out of wrong, but I am not heard: I cry aloud, but there is no judgment.

Job laments his situation, feeling ignored and without justice.

1. God's justice is always at work, even when we can't see it.

2. Even in the midst of despair, God is still with us.

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 34:17-18 - 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.

Job 19:8 He hath fenced up my way that I cannot pass, and he hath set darkness in my paths.

Job expresses his frustration with the hardships he is facing, feeling that God has blocked his path.

1: God allows trials and tribulations in our lives to help us recognize and appreciate His blessings.

2: Though God may seem to have blocked our paths, He does so for a greater purpose, to draw us closer to Him.

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."

Job 19:9 He hath stripped me of my glory, and taken the crown from my head.

Job loses his glory and crown to God's will.

1. God's Will is Inscrutable: Learning to Trust and Obey Despite Uncertainty

2. The Paradox of Suffering: Finding Strength in Weakness

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. 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.

Job 19:10 He hath destroyed me on every side, and I am gone: and mine hope hath he removed like a tree.

Job has experienced the destruction of God on every side, and his hope has been removed.

1. The Inevitability of Suffering: Reflections on Job 19:10

2. Hope in the Midst of Trouble: Learning from Job's Experience.

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. Lamentations 3:19-25 - The thought of my suffering and homelessness is bitter beyond words. I will never forget this awful time, as I grieve over my loss.

Job 19:11 He hath also kindled his wrath against me, and he counteth me unto him as one of his enemies.

God has become angry with Job and views him as an enemy.

1.The Importance of Maintaining a Positive Relationship with God

2.The Perils of Sin and How it Affects Our Relationship With God

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 4:7-9 - 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.

Job 19:12 His troops come together, and raise up their way against me, and encamp round about my tabernacle.

This passage from Job 19:12 talks about Job's enemies encircling him and threatening his home.

1. Overcoming Adversity - How to remain faithful in the face of opposition

2. God's Protection - A reminder of God's faithfulness and protection in times of trial

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.

Job 19:13 He hath put my brethren far from me, and mine acquaintance are verily estranged from me.

Job experiences a sense of loneliness and isolation due to the way his family and friends have abandoned him.

1: We can take comfort in knowing that even when we feel alone, God is still with us.

2: We can learn from Job's experience and not become complacent when our loved ones are still with us.

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 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.

Job 19:14 My kinsfolk have failed, and my familiar friends have forgotten me.

This passage reflects Job's feelings of loneliness and abandonment as his loved ones have failed him.

1. "God is Our Unfailing Friend"

2. "Living Through Loneliness"

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 18:24 A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Job 19:15 They that dwell in mine house, and my maids, count me for a stranger: I am an alien in their sight.

Job feels alienated and isolated from his family and those around him.

1. God's faithfulness in the midst of alienation.

2. Finding solace and comfort in relationship with God during times of loneliness.

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 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.

Job 19:16 I called my servant, and he gave me no answer; I intreated him with my mouth.

Job longs for his servant to answer his call, but he is left unanswered.

1. Relying on the Lord in Times of Disappointment

2. The Power of Prayer in Times of Adversity

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. James 5:13-16 - Is any among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

Job 19:17 My breath is strange to my wife, though I intreated for the children's sake of mine own body.

Job laments that even his own wife has been alienated from him, though he had previously pleaded with her for the sake of their children.

1. The Importance of Family: Learning to Love and Forgive

2. The Power of God's Redemption: Restoring Love from Tragedy

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 in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous."

2. Romans 12:19-21: "Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' says the Lord. 'But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

Job 19:18 Yea, young children despised me; I arose, and they spake against me.

This passage discusses Job's experience of being despised by even young children.

1. The Power of Rejection: How Job's Experience Can Teach Us to Overcome

2. Perseverance in the Face of Adversity: Lessons from Job's Story

1. Romans 8:31 37 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

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.

Job 19:19 All my inward friends abhorred me: and they whom I loved are turned against me.

Job laments that even his closest friends have turned away from him.

1. God Is Always With Us: Even in Times of Great Difficulty

2. The Power of Friendship: Learning to Lean on One Another for Support

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside 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.

Job 19:20 My bone cleaveth to my skin and to my flesh, and I am escaped with the skin of my teeth.

Job reflects on his trials and suffering, noting that he has narrowly escaped death.

1. The Suffering and Trials of Life: A Reflection on Job 19:20

2. Finding Hope in Difficult Times: A Study of Job 19:20

1. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of 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.

Job 19:21 Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me.

Job's plea for mercy from his friends despite being touched by God's hand.

1. God's presence is a blessing, even in the midst of pain.

2. There is power in humbly asking for help.

1. James 5:11 - "Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy."

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."

Job 19:22 Why do ye persecute me as God, and are not satisfied with my flesh?

Job is lamenting the harsh treatment he has endured and asking why he is being persecuted as if he were a god.

1. The Jealousy of God: Understanding the Persecution of Job

2. The Persecution of the Righteous: Learning from Job's Experience

1. Luke 6:22-23: "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven."

2. Romans 8:35-37: "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."

Job 19:23 Oh that my words were now written! oh that they were printed in a book!

Job longs for his words of anguish and sorrow to be written down and printed in a book for posterity.

1: God hears our cries of anguish and sorrow, even if no one else does.

2: Our testimony for God is worth being written down for others to read and reflect upon.

1: Psalm 62:8-9 Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah. Surely men of low degree are vanity, and men of high degree are a lie: in the balance they go up; they are altogether lighter than vanity.

2: Lamentations 3:22-24 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. The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him.

Job 19:24 That they were graven with an iron pen and lead in the rock for ever!

This passage talks about how God's words are written in stone, never to be forgotten.

1. God's Word is Permanent: The Power of Commitment

2. The Unchanging Nature of God: His Word Stands Firm

1. Isaiah 40:8 "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

2. Matthew 24:35 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."

Job 19:25 For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:

Job affirms his faith in his Redeemer who will come to save him in the end.

1. The Hope of the Redeemer: Assurance in Difficult Times

2. The Redeemer Lives: An Unwavering 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. 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?

Job 19:26 And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:

Job affirms his faith that he will see God even after his body is destroyed by worms.

1. The Power of Faith- Job's unwavering faith that he will see God even in his destroyed body.

2. The Resilience of Hope- How Job's hope kept him going, even in the midst of despair.

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. Hebrews 11:1- Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Job 19:27 Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.

Job expresses his confidence in his belief that he will be vindicated by God, despite the despair he feels in his current situation.

1. Trust in the Lord's Vindication: What We Can Learn from Job's Faith

2. The Power of God's Redemption: Finding Hope in Times of Despair

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 143:8 - Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.

Job 19:28 But ye should say, Why persecute we him, seeing the root of the matter is found in me?

Job's plea to his friends to cease their persecution of him as the root of the matter lies in him.

1. That the root of any problem lies within us, and that we should look within ourselves to find a solution.

2. That we should not be persecuted for matters that are out of our control.

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 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."

Job 19:29 Be ye afraid of the sword: for wrath bringeth the punishments of the sword, that ye may know there is a judgment.

God's judgment is revealed through punishment, bringing fear of the consequences of sin.

1: Acknowledge God's Judgment and Reap the Rewards of Faith.

2: Recognize the Consequences of Sin and Embrace God's Mercy.

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 11:21 - Be sure of this: The wicked will not go unpunished, but those who are righteous will go free.

Job chapter 20 features the response of Job's friend Zophar, who delivers a speech filled with condemnation and judgment towards Job. Zophar accuses Job of being wicked and predicts his downfall.

1st Paragraph: Zophar rebukes Job for his arrogance and suggests that his understanding is limited. He asserts that the triumph of the wicked is short-lived, and their joy will eventually turn into sorrow (Job 20:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: Zophar describes in vivid terms the fate that awaits the wicked. He believes that they will face various forms of destruction, loss, and torment as a result of their evil deeds. He emphasizes that God's judgment will ultimately befall them (Job 20:12-29).

In summary,

Chapter twenty of Job presents:

the response,

and condemnation expressed by Zophar in reaction to Job's suffering.

Highlighting rebuke through criticizing Job's understanding,

and emphasizing divine judgment achieved through predicting downfall.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring the consequences of wickedness an embodiment representing different perspectives on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 20:1 Then answered Zophar the Naamathite, and said,

Zophar gives a response to Job's words.

1. God's Justice Is Perfect - No Matter How Unfair It May Seem

2. Hope in the Midst of Suffering - Finding Peace 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. James 5:11 - Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Job 20:2 Therefore do my thoughts cause me to answer, and for this I make haste.

Job reflects on the fleeting nature of life and his need to answer for his actions.

1: We should not take life for granted, but instead seek to answer for our actions each day.

2: We should not be complacent in our lives, but instead strive to make the most of every moment.

1: Psalm 39:4-5 - "Show me, O LORD, my life's end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting is my life. You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Each man's life is but a breath."

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."

Job 20:3 I have heard the check of my reproach, and the spirit of my understanding causeth me to answer.

Job expresses his understanding of the reproach he has faced and responds to it.

1. The Power of Understanding: Rediscovering the Strength of Humility

2. Overcoming Reproach Through Faith

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. 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."

Job 20:4 Knowest thou not this of old, since man was placed upon earth,

Job reflects on the fact that people have been struggling with the same problems since the beginning of time.

1. "The Human Condition: Struggling with the Same Problems Since the Beginning"

2. "The Wisdom of Job: An Ancient Perspective on Our Modern Struggles"

1. Ecclesiastes 1:9-11 - "What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun."

2. 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."

Job 20:5 That the triumphing of the wicked is short, and the joy of the hypocrite but for a moment?

The joy of the wicked is fleeting and the joy of the hypocrite is only temporary.

1. The Enduring Joy of the Righteous

2. The Transience of the Wicked

1. Psalm 37:11 But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.

2. 1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; for all that is in the world the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

Job 20:6 Though his excellency mount up to the heavens, and his head reach unto the clouds;

Job's excellency and power could extend to the heavens and beyond, but his fate remains the same.

1. God's Power and Might Supersedes Man's Power and Might

2. Remember That God's Will Is Final

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 it is good or whether it is evil."

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."

Job 20:7 Yet he shall perish for ever like his own dung: they which have seen him shall say, Where is he?

Job is compared to dung and will be forgotten.

1. The Transience of Life: Remembering Our Mortality

2. The Vanity of Earthly Achievements: What We Leave Behind

1. Psalm 39:4-6 - " Lord, remind me how brief my time on earth will be. Remind me that my days are numbered how fleeting my life is. You have made my life no longer than the width of my hand. My entire lifetime is just a moment to you; at best, each of us is but a breath.

2. Ecclesiastes 6:12 - For who knows what is good for a person in life, during the few and meaningless days they pass through like a shadow? Who can tell them what will happen under the sun after they are gone?

Job 20:8 He shall fly away as a dream, and shall not be found: yea, he shall be chased away as a vision of the night.

Job's dream of success will be fleeting and cannot be sustained.

1: We must not pursue false dreams of success, for they will be fleeting and temporary.

2: We can take comfort in the fact that our success is in God's hands, and that He will always be with us.

1: Psalm 118:8 - It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.

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.

Job 20:9 The eye also which saw him shall see him no more; neither shall his place any more behold him.

The wicked will not be remembered or seen again.

1: The wicked will receive their due punishment and will not be remembered by God.

2: We must be careful in our actions and words, for God will not forgive the wicked or remember them.

1: Isaiah 40:17 - "All the nations are as nothing before him; they are regarded by him as less than nothing and emptiness."

2: Psalm 37:10 - "A little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look for them, they will not be found."

Job 20:10 His children shall seek to please the poor, and his hands shall restore their goods.

Job's children will seek to help the poor, and he will return their lost possessions.

1. Generosity Leads to Restoration

2. Compassion as a Way of Life

1. Proverbs 14:31 "Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God."

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."

Job 20:11 His bones are full of the sin of his youth, which shall lie down with him in the dust.

This passage from Job speaks of how the sins of youth can stay with a person even after death.

1: God's grace is greater than our sin, no matter how long it has been a part of our lives.

2: Even when we make mistakes, God is with us to help us through them.

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 5:8 "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Job 20:12 Though wickedness be sweet in his mouth, though he hide it under his tongue;

Job laments the fate of the wicked, questioning why they are allowed to experience success and happiness even though they will ultimately face destruction.

1. The Sweetness of Wickedness: A Warning from Job

2. Proverbs: The Blessing and Curse of Following Wickedness

1. 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."

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."

Job 20:13 Though he spare it, and forsake it not; but keep it still within his mouth:

Job longs for God to not spare or forsake him but to keep him in His mouth.

1. The Power of Longing: How Job's Faithful Plea for God's Presence Can Inspire Us to Find Strength in Our Faith

2. The Promise of Protection: How Job's Prayer Can Help Us Embrace the Certainty of God's Providence

1. Psalm 5:3 - "In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly."

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."

Job 20:14 Yet his meat in his bowels is turned, it is the gall of asps within him.

Job speaks of a person in physical distress, describing them as having the gall of asps in their bowels.

1. How the Burden of Sin Can Weigh Down the Soul

2. The Power of God to Heal and Transform 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. Psalm 103:3, Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.

Job 20:15 He hath swallowed down riches, and he shall vomit them up again: God shall cast them out of his belly.

This verse speaks of how God will judge those who have swallowed down riches and will eventually vomit them up and cast them out of their bellies.

1. The Danger of Greed - How avarice can lead to spiritual and physical ruin.

2. The Grace of God - How God can redeem us from our sins and guide us to righteousness.

1. Proverbs 11:4 - Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.

2. Luke 16:19-31 - The parable of the rich man and Lazarus.

Job 20:16 He shall suck the poison of asps: the viper's tongue shall slay him.

Job 20:16 is a passage from the book of Job which talks about the consequences of sin.

1. The Power of Sin: How Our Choices Carry Consequences

2. What Does it Mean to Suffer? Exploring the Book of Job

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."

Job 20:17 He shall not see the rivers, the floods, the brooks of honey and butter.

Job laments that he will not be able to enjoy the rivers, floods and brooks of honey and butter.

1. The Blessing of Enjoying the Beauty of Creation

2. The Transience of Life and What Really Matters

1. Psalm 104:10-13 - "He makes springs pour water into the ravines; it flows between the mountains. They give water to all the beasts of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst. The birds of the sky nest by the waters; they sing among the branches. He waters the mountains from his upper chambers; the land is satisfied by the fruit of his work."

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."

Job 20:18 That which he laboured for shall he restore, and shall not swallow it down: according to his substance shall the restitution be, and he shall not rejoice therein.

Job's labours will not be in vain, and he will receive a restitution according to his substance.

1. Persevere in Your Work - God Will Reward You

2. Patience in Suffering - God Will Provide

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. 1 Peter 5:10 - But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

Job 20:19 Because he hath oppressed and hath forsaken the poor; because he hath violently taken away an house which he builded not;

This verse from Job speaks of a man who has oppressed and forsaken those in poverty, and has taken away a house which he did not build.

1. The Consequence of Greed: How Selfishness Harms Us All

2. The Responsibility of Wealth: Caring for Those in Need

1. James 5:4-6 - Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you; and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

5 You have lived on the earth in pleasure and luxury; you have fattened your hearts as in a day of slaughter.

6 You have condemned, you have murdered the just; he does not resist you.

2. Isaiah 10:1, 2 - Woe to those who enact evil statutes, and to those who constantly record unjust decisions,

2 so as to deprive the needy of justice, and rob the poor of My people of their rights, so that widows may be their spoil, and that they may loot the orphans.

Job 20:20 Surely he shall not feel quietness in his belly, he shall not save of that which he desired.

Job laments that the wicked do not experience lasting contentment and their desires cannot be fully satisfied.

1. The Folly of Greed - Proverbs 15:16-17

2. Contentment and the Path to True Happiness - Matthew 6:31-33

1. Psalm 37:16-17 - Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:12 - The sleep of a labouring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much: but the abundance of the rich will not suffer him to sleep.

Job 20:21 There shall none of his meat be left; therefore shall no man look for his goods.

Job 20:21 describes that none of his goods will be left and so no one will look for them.

1. "God's Provision in Times of Need"

2. "The Power of Generosity"

1. Matthew 6:24-34 - "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. 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.

Job 20:22 In the fulness of his sufficiency he shall be in straits: every hand of the wicked shall come upon him.

Job's sufficiency will leave him in a state of distress when the wicked come against him.

1. God's Provision Does Not Ensure Protection from Evil

2. God's Mercy Is Greater Than Our Struggles

1. Psalm 91:7-8 - A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

2. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Job 20:23 When he is about to fill his belly, God shall cast the fury of his wrath upon him, and shall rain it upon him while he is eating.

God s wrath will come to those who do not follow his commands.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Why We Must Follow God's Ways

2. The Power of God's Wrath: Understanding God's Judgment

1. Romans 2:8-9 But for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.

2. Psalm 5:5-6 The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

Job 20:24 He shall flee from the iron weapon, and the bow of steel shall strike him through.

This passage speaks of the powerlessness of man in the face of judgement from God.

1. The Irony of Man s Powerlessness Against God s Omnipotence

2. Standing in Awe of the Almighty

1. Isaiah 31:3 - "The Egyptians are mere mortals, and not God; their horses are flesh and not spirit. When the LORD stretches out his hand, the helper will stumble, and he who is helped will fall, and they will all perish together."

2. 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."

Job 20:25 It is drawn, and cometh out of the body; yea, the glittering sword cometh out of his gall: terrors are upon him.

Job is warned of terrors that will come to him through the power of God.

1. The Glittering Sword: Understanding the Terrors of God

2. The Power of God: Learning to Trust in His Punishments

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.

Job 20:26 All darkness shall be hid in his secret places: a fire not blown shall consume him; it shall go ill with him that is left in his tabernacle.

Job reflects on the fate of the wicked, warning that they will be consumed by a fire not of their own making and that their tabernacle will be left in ill-favor.

1. The Danger of Wickedness: How Sin is Punished

2. The Fate of the Wicked: A Warning of Judgment

1. Matthew 25:46, And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

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.

Job 20:27 The heaven shall reveal his iniquity; and the earth shall rise up against him.

The iniquity of a person will be revealed in heaven and the earth will rise against them.

1. We must be honest and righteous in all our dealings, lest our sins be revealed in heaven and the earth rise against us.

2. We must not forget that God sees all our actions and will hold us accountable for our wrongdoings.

1. Psalm 90:8 - "You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence."

2. Proverbs 16:2 - "All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit."

Job 20:28 The increase of his house shall depart, and his goods shall flow away in the day of his wrath.

Job's possessions will not protect him in the day of God's wrath.

1: We cannot rely on worldly possessions to save us from God's judgement.

2: Our lives should be devoted to God, rather than focusing on material things.

1: 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: Colossians 3:1-2 "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."

Job 20:29 This is the portion of a wicked man from God, and the heritage appointed unto him by God.

This passage speaks of the consequences of wickedness and how God will punish those who choose it.

1: God is Just and Fair- We must remember that the Lord is just and fair, and that those who choose wickedness will face the consequences of their decisions.

2: The Result of Wickedness- We must be aware of the result of choosing wickedness and the punishment that awaits us if we do so.

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 13:15- Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors is hard.

Job chapter 21 continues Job's response to his friends' accusations and offers a detailed exploration of the prosperity of the wicked and the apparent lack of justice in the world.

1st Paragraph: Job acknowledges his friends' desire to listen attentively but questions why they consider his complaints as proof of his guilt. He challenges them to listen carefully to his words and find comfort in allowing him to speak (Job 21:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Job presents evidence that contradicts the notion that the wicked always suffer while the righteous prosper. He observes that many evildoers live long, prosperous lives, surrounded by wealth and security. They experience no calamity or distress (Job 21:7-16).

3rd Paragraph: Job expresses frustration with God's apparent indifference towards the wicked. He questions why God allows them to enjoy good health, have numerous children, and accumulate wealth without consequence (Job 21:17-26).

4th Paragraph: Job argues against his friends' belief in divine retribution by highlighting that even if calamity befalls some wicked individuals, it is often limited only to themselves rather than affecting their entire families. He asserts that God's judgment is not always immediate or evident in this life (Job 21:27-34).

In summary,

Chapter twenty-one of Job presents:

the continued response,

and exploration expressed by Job in reaction to his friends' accusations.

Highlighting challenge through questioning assumptions,

and frustration shown regarding observing prosperity achieved by evildoers.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring divine justice an embodiment representing different perspectives on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 21:1 But Job answered and said,

Job questions why the wicked prosper in life while the righteous suffer.

1: The Lord's Ways are Mysterious - We may never understand why the wicked seem to prosper in life, but we must trust in the Lord's plan for us.

2: The Lord Will Righteous Judgment - Though the wicked may appear to prosper in the short-term, ultimately their wickedness will be revealed and they will receive their due punishment.

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 37:7-8 - 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.

Job 21:2 Hear diligently my speech, and let this be your consolations.

The speaker in Job 21:2 encourages their audience to listen carefully to their speech and to find comfort in it.

1. The Comfort of God's Word - Reflecting on Job 21:2 to find solace in the Lord.

2. Releasing Stress through Listening - Learning to find relief in attentive listening.

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 34:17-19 - "The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. A righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all."

Job 21:3 Suffer me that I may speak; and after that I have spoken, mock on.

Job is challenging his critics to allow him to speak and then mock him if they disagree with his words.

1. We must respect the opinions of others, even if we disagree.

2. God is the ultimate judge and we must be careful not to judge others before God can.

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. James 4:12 "There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?"

Job 21:4 As for me, is my complaint to man? and if it were so, why should not my spirit be troubled?

Job questions why he must complain to man, when his spirit is already troubled.

1. The Troubled Spirit: Understanding the Heartache of Job

2. Finding Comfort in the Midst of Suffering

1. Matthew 5:4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

2. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Job 21:5 Mark me, and be astonished, and lay your hand upon your mouth.

Job challenges his friends to reflect and be quiet, instead of continuing to criticize him.

1: We should be humble in our interactions with others, even when we are confident in our own beliefs.

2: We should not be quick to pass judgement on others without understanding their perspective and situation.

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 19:11 - "Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense."

Job 21:6 Even when I remember I am afraid, and trembling taketh hold on my flesh.

Job remembers his suffering and is overwhelmed by fear and trembling.

1. When We Are Overwhelmed by Fear

2. How to Cope with Suffering

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 34:17-18 - "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."

Job 21:7 Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power?

Job questions why the wicked live long and powerful lives despite their evil deeds.

1. "The Problem of Evil: Why Do the Wicked Prosper?"

2. "The Power of Righteous Living: How You Can Live an Abundant Life"

1. Proverbs 11:4 "Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death."

2. Proverbs 28:6 "Better is the poor who walks in his integrity than one perverse in his ways, though he be rich."

Job 21:8 Their seed is established in their sight with them, and their offspring before their eyes.

This passage speaks about how God blesses the righteous with children who are established in their sight, even before their eyes.

1: God's promise of blessing the righteous with children is a reminder of His faithful provision.

2: God's promise of children is a sign of His faithfulness, and a source of hope and joy.

1: Psalm 113:9 - He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the Lord!

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.

Job 21:9 Their houses are safe from fear, neither is the rod of God upon them.

People who do evil are often rewarded with wealth and safety, while those who do good may suffer under the rod of God.

1. God is Just and Righteous, despite appearances to the contrary.

2. The consequences of our actions, both good and bad, have eternal consequences.

1. 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 descendants of the wicked shall be cut off.

2. Proverbs 11:19 "As righteousness leads to life, so he who pursues evil pursues it to his own death."

Job 21:10 Their bull gendereth, and faileth not; their cow calveth, and casteth not her calf.

God blesses the righteous with abundant material blessings.

1: God's blessings are meaningful beyond material goods.

2: We should remain humble and thankful for all of God's blessings.

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.

Job 21:11 They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance.

Job's family rejoices in the abundance and freedom they have.

1: We can find joy in our abundance and freedom through the blessings of God.

2: Contentment and gratitude come from recognizing the blessings we have received from God.

1: Psalm 126:2 - Then our mouths were filled with laughter, and our tongues with shouts of joy.

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.

Job 21:12 They take the timbrel and harp, and rejoice at the sound of the organ.

This passage speaks of people who are enjoying music and taking pleasure in the sound of the organ.

1. Rejoice in God's Creation: The Joy of Music

2. Contentment in a Troubled World: Finding Joy in the Small Things

1. Psalm 98:4-6 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!

2. Ecclesiastes 3:4 A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

Job 21:13 They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave.

People can have great wealth and in a moment go to the grave.

1. The Vanity of Riches: How Our Lives Can Change in a Moment

2. The Transience of Life: How We Can't Take Anything With Us

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 5:14-15 - "The wealth of the rich is their fortified city; they imagine it a wall too high to scale. But when they cry out, the anger of the Lord is kindled against them; he shatters the fortress of their strength."

Job 21:14 Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways.

People reject the knowledge of God's ways and desire for Him to leave them alone.

1. We are called to seek the knowledge of God's ways, no matter how uncomfortable they may seem.

2. We should not turn away from God's wisdom, but instead strive to understand it.

1. Proverbs 4:7 - "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."

2. Psalm 25:4-5 - "Show 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."

Job 21:15 What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him?

This verse questions why people should serve God and what benefit there is in praying to Him.

1: God's Love and Mercy we should serve God because of His love and mercy towards us, which is far greater than our human understanding.

2: Eternal Life we should pray to God because He provides us with eternal life in Heaven if we follow His path.

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 34:8 O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

Job 21:16 Lo, their good is not in their hand: the counsel of the wicked is far from me.

Job affirms that the wicked do not have control over their own fate, and his counsel is not associated with them.

1. Good deeds will never go unrewarded.

2. The Lord looks after his own and will provide justice for the innocent.

1. Proverbs 10:3-4 "The Lord does not let the righteous go hungry, but he thwarts the craving of the wicked. A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich."

2. Psalm 37:17-19 "For the wicked shall be cut off; but those who wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; indeed, you will look carefully for his place, but it shall be no more. But the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace."

Job 21:17 How oft is the candle of the wicked put out! and how oft cometh their destruction upon them! God distributeth sorrows in his anger.

God punishes wicked people by creating sorrow in his anger.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness - How God's Anger Will Lead to Destruction

2. God's Judgment - Understanding the Punishment of the Wicked

1. Proverbs 11:21 - "Be sure of this: The wicked will not go unpunished, but those who are righteous will go free."

2. Psalm 37:28 - "For the Lord loves justice and will not abandon his faithful ones. He will keep them forever, but the children of the wicked will be destroyed."

Job 21:18 They are as stubble before the wind, and as chaff that the storm carrieth away.

The wicked will ultimately be destroyed.

1: God will judge the wicked and bring them to justice.

2: The fate of the wicked is destruction, but the righteous will be rewarded.

1: Proverbs 11:5-7 "The righteousness of the blameless keeps his way straight, but the wicked falls by his own wickedness. The righteousness of the upright delivers them, but the treacherous are taken captive by their lust. When the wicked dies, his hope will perish, and the expectation of wealth perishes too."

2: Matthew 16:27 "For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done."

Job 21:19 God layeth up his iniquity for his children: he rewardeth him, and he shall know it.

God will take into account the sins of a man and reward him accordingly, and the man will be aware of this.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Understanding God's Judgement

2. The Impact of Parental Sin on our Lives

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 22:8 - Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of his fury will fail.

Job 21:20 His eyes shall see his destruction, and he shall drink of the wrath of the Almighty.

Job laments the fact that the wicked often seem to prosper despite their wrong doings, while the righteous suffer in life.

1. The Inevitability of Justice - God's justice may not be immediate, but it is certain and inevitable.

2. The Power of Perspective - The way we look at life's struggles can make all the difference.

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.

Job 21:21 For what pleasure hath he in his house after him, when the number of his months is cut off in the midst?

Job questions why people should enjoy their lives when their days are so short and their death is inevitable.

1. Live life to the fullest, knowing that life is precious and short.

2. Don't take life for granted, and remember that death is certain.

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

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.

Job 21:22 Shall any teach God knowledge? seeing he judgeth those that are high.

This passage emphasizes that God is the ultimate judge and no one can teach Him knowledge.

1. "The Judge of All: A Study of Job 21:22"

2. "God's Sovereignty: Understanding Job 21:22"

1. Isaiah 40:13-14 - "Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?"

2. Psalm 50:6 - "And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God is judge himself. Selah."

Job 21:23 One dieth in his full strength, being wholly at ease and quiet.

This verse speaks of how a person can die in their full strength, despite living a comfortable life.

1. Living Comfortably in the Lord: Finding Strength and Contentment in Christ

2. Cherish Every Moment: Cultivating Gratitude and Contentment in Life

1. Psalm 118:24 This is the day that the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

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.

Job 21:24 His breasts are full of milk, and his bones are moistened with marrow.

The passage speaks of Job's life being abundant with nourishing milk and marrow.

1: How God's Abundance Can Nourish Us

2: Enjoying God's Provisions

1: Psalm 23:5 - "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows."

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.

Job 21:25 And another dieth in the bitterness of his soul, and never eateth with pleasure.

A person can die in great anguish and never experience joy in life.

1. God's plan for us is not always easy, but it is still good.

2. We can trust God in the midst of hardship and find joy even in the darkest of times.

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

2. Psalm 84:11-12 - For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!

Job 21:26 They shall lie down alike in the dust, and the worms shall cover them.

Job laments the injustice of life and acknowledges that all people, regardless of their moral character, will die and be covered by worms.

1. Life is fleeting, so make sure you live a life of integrity.

2. God is just and will judge all people according to their deeds.

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man s all. For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.

2. Romans 2:6-8 who will render to each one according to his deeds : eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness indignation and wrath.

Job 21:27 Behold, I know your thoughts, and the devices which ye wrongfully imagine against me.

This passage from Job 21:27 speaks of God's omniscience, recognizing our thoughts and plans even when they are wrong.

1. The Omniscience of God - Exploring the truth that God is all-knowing and all-seeing, and how this truth should impact our lives.

2. Living in the Light of God s Knowledge - Examining how to live in a way that honors God's knowledge of our every thought and action.

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. 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.

Job 21:28 For ye say, Where is the house of the prince? and where are the dwelling places of the wicked?

This passage is about how the wicked often seem to live prosperous and happy lives, while the righteous suffer.

1. "The Mystery of Why the Wicked Prosper"

2. "The Difference Between Wickedness and Righteousness"

1. Psalm 37:1-2 "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."

2. Proverbs 16:8 "Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right."

Job 21:29 Have ye not asked them that go by the way? and do ye not know their tokens,

Job 21:29 speaks to the importance of listening and learning from others' experiences.

1: We must be open to learning from others.

2: We must be humble in our search for knowledge.

1: Proverbs 25:12 - Like a gold ring in a swine's snout is a beautiful woman without discretion.

2: James 1:19 - So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

Job 21:30 That the wicked is reserved to the day of destruction? they shall be brought forth to the day of wrath.

The wicked will be brought to justice in the Day of Wrath.

1. Understanding the Day of Wrath

2. The Wicked and the Justice of God

1. Romans 2:5-11 - God's judgment and wrath will be revealed against all unrighteousness of those who suppress the truth

2. 2 Thessalonians 1:6-9 - God will repay those who do not know Him with eternal destruction, away from His presence, and the glory of His might

Job 21:31 Who shall declare his way to his face? and who shall repay him what he hath done?

This passage questions who is capable of completely understanding God's ways and rewarding Him for His works.

1. God's Ways are Unsearchable - A exploring the depths of God's power and justice, and how we can never truly understand His motives.

2. Repaying God - A about the importance of honoring God through our actions and words.

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 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.

Job 21:32 Yet shall he be brought to the grave, and shall remain in the tomb.

Job's trust in God remains firm despite his suffering, and he acknowledges that eventually everyone will be brought to the grave and remain in the tomb.

1. The Comfort of Knowing We Will All Be Brought to the Grave

2. Finding Strength in Suffering Through Faith in God

1. Ecclesiastes 3:2 - A time to be born, and a time to die

2. Hebrews 11:13 - 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.

Job 21:33 The clods of the valley shall be sweet unto him, and every man shall draw after him, as there are innumerable before him.

Job longs for the comfort of the grave, knowing that many have gone before him and will come after.

1. Don't Fear Death: Reassurance from Job 21:33

2. Living with the Comfort of Knowing: The Assurance of Death in Job 21:33

1. Ecclesiastes 3:2 - A time to be born, and a time to die

2. Psalm 23:4 - Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil

Job 21:34 How then comfort ye me in vain, seeing in your answers there remaineth falsehood?

This passage from Job speaks of Job's frustration with his friends' attempts to console him, as they are not providing any truthful answers.

1. God's Comfort is Truthful - Using Job 21:34 as a launching pad, this will explore how God's comfort comes from truth rather than falsehood.

2. The Need for Authentic Friendship - Job 21:34 speaks of Job's need for genuine friendship and support, and this will examine the importance of reflecting God's truth in our relationships with others.

1. Psalm 145:18 - The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

2. Colossians 3:9 - Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices.

Job chapter 22 features the response of Job's third friend, Eliphaz, who delivers a speech accusing Job of various sins and urging him to repent in order to find restoration and blessings from God.

1st Paragraph: Eliphaz accuses Job of being wicked and questions what benefit his righteousness brings to God. He asserts that God punishes the wicked but blesses those who are upright (Job 22:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: Eliphaz lists specific accusations against Job, claiming that he has oppressed the poor, deprived the hungry of food and water, mistreated orphans, and exploited others for personal gain. He suggests that these actions have brought divine judgment upon Job (Job 22:12-20).

3rd Paragraph: Eliphaz advises Job to humble himself before God, repent of his sins, and turn back to Him. He promises that if Job does so, he will be restored and experience prosperity once again (Job 22:21-30).

In summary,

Chapter twenty-two of Job presents:

the response,

and accusation expressed by Eliphaz in reaction to Job's suffering.

Highlighting accusation through asserting wrongdoing,

and emphasizing repentance achieved through urging restoration.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring divine judgment an embodiment representing different perspectives on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 22:1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said,

Eliphaz the Temanite critiques Job's suffering and offers advice to seek God's favor.

1. God's favor is found through obedience and humility.

2. We must have faith in God no matter how difficult our circumstances.

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. 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."

Job 22:2 Can a man be profitable unto God, as he that is wise may be profitable unto himself?

Job questions whether a man can be as profitable to God as he can be to himself by being wise.

1. "The Rewards of Wisdom: Making Yourself and God Profitable"

2. "The Spiritual Journey: Becoming Profitable 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 1:7 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Job 22:3 Is it any pleasure to the Almighty, that thou art righteous? or is it gain to him, that thou makest thy ways perfect?

The passage questions whether it is beneficial for God if a person is righteous and their ways are perfect.

1: God does not need our righteousness, but our righteousness is beneficial to us.

2: We should strive to be righteous and make our ways perfect, not for God's benefit, but for our own.

1: Matthew 5:48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect

2: Romans 6:19 For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

Job 22:4 Will he reprove thee for fear of thee? will he enter with thee into judgment?

This passage questions whether God will confront and judge us out of fear or respect.

1. Fear of God is the beginning of wisdom

2. God's love is greater than His judgment

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. Romans 5:8 "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Job 22:5 Is not thy wickedness great? and thine iniquities infinite?

Job is questioning the wickedness and infinite iniquities of his friend.

1. Sin has consequences that can often be far greater than we realize.

2. We must take responsibility for our sins and repent of them.

1. Isaiah 1:16-18 - "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. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

Job 22:6 For thou hast taken a pledge from thy brother for nought, and stripped the naked of their clothing.

Job is accusing his friends of taking advantage of those who are poor and not providing them with the means of clothing themselves.

1. The Power of Generosity: How We Can Bless Others with Our Resources

2. Living in Righteousness: Our Obligation to Care for the Poor and Vulnerable

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. 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.

Job 22:7 Thou hast not given water to the weary to drink, and thou hast withholden bread from the hungry.

God expects us to be generous and share our resources with those in need.

1: Jesus said, 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 (Matthew 25:35).

2: He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he has done (Proverbs 19:17).

1: Share with the Lord s people who are in need. Practice hospitality (Romans 12:13).

2: He who has a generous eye will be blessed, for he gives of his bread to the poor (Proverbs 22:9).

Job 22:8 But as for the mighty man, he had the earth; and the honourable man dwelt in it.

The mighty man was given the earth and the honorable man was allowed to live in it.

1. The Lord's Blessing on the Righteous - God rewards those who honor Him with a place to live and enjoy on earth.

2. The Power of Humility - We can be rewarded with blessings from the Lord when we live with humility.

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

Job 22:9 Thou hast sent widows away empty, and the arms of the fatherless have been broken.

Widows and orphans are being mistreated and deprived of their rights.

1. Caring for the Vulnerable: Widows and Orphans in our Community

2. The Broken-hearted: How to Bring Hope to the Suffering

1. Psalm 68:5-6 - A father of the fatherless and a judge for the widows, Is God in His holy habitation. God makes a home for the lonely; He leads out the prisoners into prosperity, Only the rebellious dwell in a parched land.

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.

Job 22:10 Therefore snares are round about thee, and sudden fear troubleth thee;

Job was warned of the consequences of his actions and that sudden fear would trouble him.

1. God's Warnings Lead to Blessing, Not Curses

2. The Consequences of Our Actions Can Lead to Unexpected Fear

1. Proverbs 1:32, "For the waywardness of the simple will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them."

2. Psalm 91:3, "Surely he will save you from the fowler s snare and from the deadly pestilence."

Job 22:11 Or darkness, that thou canst not see; and abundance of waters cover thee.

This passage from Job 22:11 speaks of the darkness of a situation and being overwhelmed.

1: God is our light in times of darkness and can bring us out of the depths of our struggles.

2: God is greater than our troubles and will provide us with strength in our times of need.

1: Psalm 18:28-29 - "For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness. For by thee I have run through a troop; and by my God have I leaped over a wall."

2: Isaiah 9:2 - "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined."

Job 22:12 Is not God in the height of heaven? and behold the height of the stars, how high they are!

This passage speaks about the greatness of God and His power over the stars.

1. God is Greater than All - A on the incomparable power of God compared to the stars.

2. The Majesty of God - A on the incredible wonder of God's majesty.

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 8:3-4 - When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Job 22:13 And thou sayest, How doth God know? can he judge through the dark cloud?

The passage suggests that humans question God's knowledge and judgement.

1: God's wisdom is greater than any darkness that may cloud our understanding.

2: Trust in God, for He knows and judges all.

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."

Job 22:14 Thick clouds are a covering to him, that he seeth not; and he walketh in the circuit of heaven.

God's power and majesty is beyond human comprehension.

1. God's Plan is Greater than Our Own: How to Live a Life of Faith

2. The Sovereignty of God: How to Trust in His Plan

1. Psalm 103:19 - "The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all."

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."

Job 22:15 Hast thou marked the old way which wicked men have trodden?

The passage discusses how wicked people have followed a predetermined path.

1. A Path of Righteousness - living righteously despite the temptations of the world.

2. The Price of Wickedness - the consequences of evil actions.

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

2. Psalm 1:1-3 - Blessed is the one 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.

Job 22:16 Which were cut down out of time, whose foundation was overflown with a flood:

The passage emphasizes the destruction caused by a flood and how it can cut down things before their time.

1: God's power to destroy should not be taken lightly, and we should always be prepared for the worst.

2: Even when faced with adversity, we must trust God to provide a way out and to help us overcome our struggles.

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 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.

Job 22:17 Which said unto God, Depart from us: and what can the Almighty do for them?

In Job 22:17, people ask God to leave them alone and question what the Almighty can do for them.

1. God's Faithfulness: Even When We Reject Him

2. The Power of the Almighty: What God Can Do for Us

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Job 22:18 Yet he filled their houses with good things: but the counsel of the wicked is far from me.

The wicked are blessed with material wealth, but Job does not have access to their counsel.

1. God's blessings come in different forms and are not always what we expect.

2. The path of the wicked may lead to worldly riches, but it will never lead to righteousness.

1. Proverbs 15:6 - "In the house of the righteous is much treasure, but trouble befalls the income of the wicked."

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."

Job 22:19 The righteous see it, and are glad: and the innocent laugh them to scorn.

The righteous rejoice when the wicked are punished, while the innocent are amused.

1. Rejoicing in Justice: Celebrating God's Righteousness

2. The Innocents' Perspective: Understanding Divine Retribution

1. Psalm 128:3 - "Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table."

2. Psalm 37:12-13 - "The wicked plot against the righteous and gnash their teeth at them; but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming."

Job 22:20 Whereas our substance is not cut down, but the remnant of them the fire consumeth.

The fire consumes a small part of people's possessions, but not all of it.

1. Living life with thankful hearts, no matter how much or how little we have.

2. Trusting that God will provide for us always, even when it seems like our situation is dire.

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.

Job 22:21 Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee.

This verse encourages us to make peace with God and thus receive the good things he will provide us.

1: We must form a close relationship with God in order to receive the blessings he has to offer.

2: A peaceful relationship with God will bring us joy and satisfaction.

1: Philippians 4:7 - And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

2: Psalm 34:14 - Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Job 22:22 Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart.

Receiving God's law is vital to understanding His will.

1: Receive the Law of the Lord - Job 22:22

2: Laying Up God's Words in Your Heart - Job 22:22

1: Psalm 19:8 - The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

2: 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.

Job 22:23 If thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up, thou shalt put away iniquity far from thy tabernacles.

Job encourages people to turn to God, so that they may be forgiven and their sins removed from them.

1. The power of repentance and redemption: Turning back to God for a better life.

2. Taking refuge in the Almighty: Letting go of sin and turning to God for peace and joy.

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. 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.

Job 22:24 Then shalt thou lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks.

Job recognizes the richness and abundance of God's provision.

1. God's Abundance: Releasing Our Grasp On Earthly Riches

2. Contentment in Christ: A Life of Fulfillment

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. 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."

Job 22:25 Yea, the Almighty shall be thy defence, and thou shalt have plenty of silver.

God will protect and provide for us.

1. God is our Defender and Provider - Psalm 46:1

2. Relying on God's Promises - Romans 8:28

1. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-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, who have been called according to his purpose.

Job 22:26 For then shalt thou have thy delight in the Almighty, and shalt lift up thy face unto God.

Job encourages people to find delight in the Almighty and to look to God for strength and hope.

1. Seek Joy in the Lord: Relying on God in Difficult Times

2. Keep Your Eyes Fixed on the Almighty: Finding Joy in God s Presence

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 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.

Job 22:27 Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows.

Job encourages us to pray and keep our vows.

1. The Power of Prayer: Learning to Connect with God

2. Fulfilling our Vows: Keeping Our Promises to God

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. 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."

Job 22:28 Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways.

This verse encourages us to trust God's guidance and believe that He will make a way for us to succeed.

1. "Trust in God's Guidance for the Light to Shine Upon Your Ways"

2. "God Will Establish You and Make a Way for Success"

1. 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."

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."

Job 22:29 When men are cast down, then thou shalt say, There is lifting up; and he shall save the humble person.

God will lift up those who are cast down and save the humble.

1. Humility is the Gateway to Salvation

2. God is the Lifeline for the Brokenhearted

1. James 4:6 - But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit.

Job 22:30 He shall deliver the island of the innocent: and it is delivered by the pureness of thine hands.

God will save the innocent, and it will be through the righteousness of those who follow Him.

1. "Deliverance of the Righteous" - A on the power of faith and the blessings of God on the innocent.

2. "The Pureness of Our Hands" - A on how our actions and faithfulness to God will bring deliverance.

1. Isaiah 26:1 - "In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah: We have a strong city; God makes salvation its walls and ramparts."

2. Psalm 37:39 - "But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble."

Job chapter 23 showcases Job's longing for a personal encounter with God and his desire to present his case before Him, seeking understanding and vindication.

1st Paragraph: Job expresses his deep longing to find God and present his case before Him. He yearns for the opportunity to state his innocence and hear God's response (Job 23:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: Job reflects on the challenges he faces in finding God, acknowledging that God is sovereign and can choose whether or not to engage with him. Despite feeling overwhelmed by his current circumstances, Job remains steadfast in his trust in God (Job 23:8-12).

3rd Paragraph: Job declares that he has not departed from God's commandments or allowed sin to rule over him. He desires a deeper understanding of God's ways and longs for restoration from the afflictions he is enduring (Job 23:13-17).

In summary,

Chapter twenty-three of Job presents:

the introspective reflection,

and yearning expressed by Job in reaction to his suffering.

Highlighting longing through expressing desire for a personal encounter,

and emphasizing trust achieved through affirming faithfulness.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring divine presence an embodiment representing an intimate plea an exploration into personal reflections on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 23:1 Then Job answered and said,

Job laments his undeserved suffering and longs for God's justice.

1. Never Lose Faith Despite Suffering: A Study of Job 23:1

2. Finding Strength Through Adversity: Encouragement from Job 23:1

1. 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.

2. Hebrews 10:35, Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.

Job 23:2 Even to day is my complaint bitter: my stroke is heavier than my groaning.

Job expresses his bitterness at the suffering he is enduring.

1: God is bigger than our suffering; He will bring us peace.

2: Don't allow your suffering to cause bitterness - trust 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: 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.

Job 23:3 Oh that I knew where I might find him! that I might come even to his seat!

Job desires to find God and come to his seat.

1. God is Everywhere: No matter what life throws at us, we can take comfort in knowing that God is always with us.

2. Trust in God: Even when it seems like God is far away, we must trust in Him and His plan for our lives.

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 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."

Job 23:4 I would order my cause before him, and fill my mouth with arguments.

Job seeks to bring his cause before God and to make his case known.

1. Trust in the Lord and bring your worries before Him

2. God is Just and Compassionate

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 55:22 - Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

Job 23:5 I would know the words which he would answer me, and understand what he would say unto me.

Job is wondering what God's response to his questions and complaints will be.

1. Don't be afraid to ask God for answers.

2. Even in the midst of our doubt and questioning, we can trust that God is listening.

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 1:5-8 - 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. 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. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

Job 23:6 Will he plead against me with his great power? No; but he would put strength in me.

Job acknowledges that God has great power, but in His grace, He will give strength to Job.

1. The Strength of God's Grace - How His power can give us strength.

2. The Power of Faith - How to trust in God and His strength.

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 40:29-31 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Job 23:7 There the righteous might dispute with him; so should I be delivered for ever from my judge.

Job expresses his longing to be able to dispute with God and be freed of his suffering.

1. The Hope of Resolution: A Reflection on Job 23:7

2. The Strength to Persevere: A Study of Job 23:7

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord."

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."

Job 23:8 Behold, I go forward, but he is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive him:

Job is reflecting on his inability to find God in his life.

1. God is not always evident, but His presence can still be felt in our lives.

2. Have faith that God is with us even when we cannot see Him.

1. Isaiah 45:15 - "Truly you are a God who hides himself, O God of Israel, the Savior."

2. James 4:8 - "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you."

Job 23:9 On the left hand, where he doth work, but I cannot behold him: he hideth himself on the right hand, that I cannot see him:

Job is questioning God's justice and wondering why he cannot see Him.

1. God's Ways Are Higher Than Our Ways

2. Trusting God In Difficult Times

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 lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Job 23:10 But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

This verse speaks of God's knowledge and power to try and refine us like gold.

1. We must trust in God's refining power in our lives in order to come out stronger and more purified.

2. God is with us even in the midst of our trials, and He will bring us through them as gold.

1. Isaiah 48:10 - "Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction."

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."

Job 23:11 My foot hath held his steps, his way have I kept, and not declined.

This passage reflects Job's commitment to God despite his difficult trials.

1: God will always provide strength for us to endure even the toughest of times.

2: Remaining faithful to God despite hardships is key to our spiritual growth.

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 5:3-4 - We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.

Job 23:12 Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food.

Job has remained faithful to God despite difficult circumstances.

1: God's Word is more important than our physical needs.

2: No matter what happens, God's promises provide us with hope and strength to endure.

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.

Job 23:13 But he is in one mind, and who can turn him? and what his soul desireth, even that he doeth.

God is immutable in His will and desires, and will carry out His will despite any opposition.

1. Our Unchangeable God: The Immutability of the Almighty

2. God's Unalterable Plan: His Will Be Done

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: 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."

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."

Job 23:14 For he performeth the thing that is appointed for me: and many such things are with him.

Job expresses confidence that God will fulfill his promise to him, and that there are many more such promises with God.

1. God's Promises Are True: Learning to Trust in God's Unfailing Love

2. God's Faithful Provision: How Our Heavenly Father Cares for Us

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 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Job 23:15 Therefore am I troubled at his presence: when I consider, I am afraid of him.

Job feels overwhelmed and fearful in the presence of God.

1. God Wants Us To Rely On Him In Fear and Trembling

2. Finding Strength and Courage In Our Fear 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. 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."

Job 23:16 For God maketh my heart soft, and the Almighty troubleth me:

Job's faith in God is unwavering even in the face of trials and tribulations.

1. The Power of Faith in the Face of Adversity

2. Finding Strength in God During 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.

Job 23:17 Because I was not cut off before the darkness, neither hath he covered the darkness from my face.

God's presence is with us even in darkness.

1: We can take comfort knowing that God is with us during difficult times.

2: We can trust that God will never leave us even when we are in the darkest of places.

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.

Job chapter 24 describes the apparent injustice and wickedness that Job observes in the world, questioning why God allows the oppression of the innocent and the prosperity of evildoers.

1st Paragraph: Job points out that wicked individuals often escape punishment and commit acts of violence against others. He highlights their exploitation of vulnerable people, such as orphans and the poor, who suffer without anyone to defend them (Job 24:1-12).

2nd Paragraph: Job questions why God seems distant and silent in the face of such injustices. He emphasizes that even though these evildoers may prosper temporarily, their ultimate end will be destruction (Job 24:13-17).

3rd Paragraph: Job describes how some wicked individuals engage in deceitful practices under cover of darkness. They commit adultery, steal, and murder with impunity. Despite their actions being hidden from human eyes, Job believes that God sees everything (Job 24:18-25).

In summary,

Chapter twenty-four of Job presents:

the observation,

and questioning expressed by Job regarding injustice in the world.

Highlighting injustice through describing oppression,

and emphasizing divine awareness achieved through asserting divine knowledge.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring human suffering an embodiment representing an inquiry into moral dilemmas an exploration into personal reflections on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 24:1 Why, seeing times are not hidden from the Almighty, do they that know him not see his days?

Job questions why people do not recognize God's power when it is evident in the times.

1. God's Power is Everywhere - Recognizing It in Our Lives

2. God's Presence is Unmistakable - Acknowledging It in Our Times

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. He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.

2. 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.

Job 24:2 Some remove the landmarks; they violently take away flocks, and feed thereof.

People are stealing flocks of sheep by moving the landmarks that define property.

1) The Sin of Stealing: examining the consequences of taking what is not rightfully ours.

2) The Ten Commandments: Why God forbids stealing and how it applies to us today.

1) Exodus 20:15 "Thou shalt not steal."

2) Proverbs 22:28 "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set."

Job 24:3 They drive away the ass of the fatherless, they take the widow's ox for a pledge.

The wicked take away the possessions of the fatherless and the widow in order to make a pledge.

1. The Need for Compassion and Justice for the Poor

2. The Corruption of Greed - How it Harms the Needy

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. James 1:27 - 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.

Job 24:4 They turn the needy out of the way: the poor of the earth hide themselves together.

This passage shows how the needy and poor are oppressed and forced to hide away.

1: God calls us to be a voice for the oppressed and to provide help to the needy.

2: We should not turn away those in need, but instead, show them God's compassion and grace.

1: Isaiah 1:17, "Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."

2: James 1:27, "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."

Job 24:5 Behold, as wild asses in the desert, go they forth to their work; rising betimes for a prey: the wilderness yieldeth food for them and for their children.

God provides for all of his creatures, even in the most unexpected places.

1. God's Provision in Difficult Times

2. The Wilderness as a Place of Provision

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry, for God will provide

2. Psalm 104:10-14 - God provides for the wild animals

Job 24:6 They reap every one his corn in the field: and they gather the vintage of the wicked.

The wicked are reaping the benefits of their labour in the field and gathering the harvest of their wickedness.

1. God is Just and Righteous - He will not let the wicked go unpunished (Romans 12:19)

2. The Consequences of Sin - The wicked will eventually reap what they have sowed (Galatians 6:7-8)

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

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."

Job 24:7 They cause the naked to lodge without clothing, that they have no covering in the cold.

People are not provided with adequate clothing and are exposed to cold weather.

1. The Blessing of Providing Warmth and Comfort to the Vulnerable

2. The Responsibility of the Faithful to Care for Those in Need

1. 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?

2. Matthew 25:31-46 Then the King will say to those on his right, Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 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.

Job 24:8 They are wet with the showers of the mountains, and embrace the rock for want of a shelter.

Job speaks of those who are left without shelter or protection from the elements, with no refuge to be found.

1. God's provision for the poor and needy

2. The importance of providing shelter to the vulnerable

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. 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.

Job 24:9 They pluck the fatherless from the breast, and take a pledge of the poor.

People are taking advantage of those who are disadvantaged, including the fatherless and the poor.

1. God's Love and Compassion for the Poor and Vulnerable

2. Standing Up Against Injustice

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. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow.

Job 24:10 They cause him to go naked without clothing, and they take away the sheaf from the hungry;

The wicked take away the resources of the poor and leave them destitute.

1: We are called to be generous with our resources and to use them to help those in need.

2: We must not take advantage of the vulnerable and must use our resources to bless others.

1: 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?"

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?"

Job 24:11 Which make oil within their walls, and tread their winepresses, and suffer thirst.

The passage describes the hard labors of those who work in oil and winepresses, toiling to the point of thirst.

1: No labor is too hard when done for the Lord; be sure to endure it for His glory.

2: The labor of the righteous will not go unrewarded; seek to serve the Lord in all you do.

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: 1 Corinthians 10:31 - So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Job 24:12 Men groan from out of the city, and the soul of the wounded crieth out: yet God layeth not folly to them.

God's justice is impartial and He does not punish people for their misdeeds.

1. God's justice is impartial and He does not show favoritism

2. The cry of the oppressed is heard by God and He will make things right

1. James 2:1-13 - Do not show partiality in judgement

2. Proverbs 21:15 - Justice is a joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers

Job 24:13 They are of those that rebel against the light; they know not the ways thereof, nor abide in the paths thereof.

The wicked rebel against the light and do not acknowledge the paths of righteousness.

1. "Walking in the Light: Staying on the Path of Righteousness"

2. "The Results of Rebellion: Rejecting the Truth"

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 7:13-14 "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."

Job 24:14 The murderer rising with the light killeth the poor and needy, and in the night is as a thief.

This passage speaks about how the murderer goes out in the morning and kills the poor and needy, and in the night behaves like a thief.

1. Do not be like a murderer who kills the poor and needy.

2. God sees all injustices and will not let them go unpunished.

1. Proverbs 21:13 - Whoever closes his ears to the cry of the poor will also cry out and not be answered.

2. Matthew 25:31-46 - Jesus speaks of how people will be judged based on their treatment of the poor and needy.

Job 24:15 The eye also of the adulterer waiteth for the twilight, saying, No eye shall see me: and disguiseth his face.

The adulterer hides in the shadows to avoid detection.

1: The Consequences of Sin - We must not ignore the consequences of sin, no matter how tempting it may be to take the easy road.

2: The Power of Light - We must turn away from the darkness and seek out the light of God, who can help us overcome our sins.

1: Proverbs 2:12-15 - To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things; Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness; Who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the frowardness of the wicked; Whose ways are crooked, and they froward in their paths:

2: James 1:14-15 - But each person is tempted when he is dragged away by his 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.

Job 24:16 In the dark they dig through houses, which they had marked for themselves in the daytime: they know not the light.

Job reflects on the wicked who, even in darkness, are able to accomplish their evil deeds with no fear of accountability.

1. God holds us accountable for our actions, even when no one else does.

2. The Lord is our light and hope, even in the darkest of times.

1. Isaiah 5:20-21 - "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!"

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

Job 24:17 For the morning is to them even as the shadow of death: if one know them, they are in the terrors of the shadow of death.

God is warning us of the consequences of laziness and apathy.

1: Our Actions Have Consequences - Job 24:17

2: Laziness Leads to Destruction - Proverbs 24:30-34

1: 1 Corinthians 15:33 - Do not be deceived: Bad company ruins good morals.

2: Proverbs 13:4 - The soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, while the soul of the diligent is richly supplied.

Job 24:18 He is swift as the waters; their portion is cursed in the earth: he beholdeth not the way of the vineyards.

God's judgement is swift and severe, regardless of who it affects.

1. God's judgement is impartial and must be respected.

2. We must remain humble before God, knowing that His judgement is just.

1. Romans 2:6-11 - God will render to each one according to his deeds.

2. Isaiah 11:3-5 - He will judge with righteousness and equity.

Job 24:19 Drought and heat consume the snow waters: so doth the grave those which have sinned.

Drought and heat can cause water to evaporate, and similarly, death takes away sinners.

1. Even though we may think we are invincible, death is inevitable and will come for everyone.

2. We can either choose to accept God's grace and be saved, or suffer 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. 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.

Job 24:20 The womb shall forget him; the worm shall feed sweetly on him; he shall be no more remembered; and wickedness shall be broken as a tree.

God's justice will prevail over the wicked, restoring righteousness to the world.

1: God's justice is perfect and will always be victorious over the wicked.

2: We can trust in God's righteousness to bring about the ultimate victory.

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 11:4-5 - 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 slay the wicked.

Job 24:21 He evil entreateth the barren that beareth not: and doeth not good to the widow.

This passage speaks of those who mistreat the barren and do not help the widow.

1. God calls us to show compassion and kindness to those in need.

2. Our actions speak louder than words when it comes to helping those in need.

1. Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow s cause."

2. James 1:27 - "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."

Job 24:22 He draweth also the mighty with his power: he riseth up, and no man is sure of life.

God s power is limitless and no one is safe from His judgement.

1. The Awesome Power of God: Exploring the Limitless Might of the Almighty

2. A Constant Reminder: No One Is Safe From God s Judgement

1. Romans 11:33-36 - Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

2. Psalm 139:7-12 - 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.

Job 24:23 Though it be given him to be in safety, whereon he resteth; yet his eyes are upon their ways.

God is watching over people, even when they feel safe and comfortable.

1. God is always watching and caring for us, even when we don't always recognize it.

2. We must always strive to live our lives in a way that pleases God, even in times of comfort and security.

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. Psalm 33:18 - "But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love."

Job 24:24 They are exalted for a little while, but are gone and brought low; they are taken out of the way as all other, and cut off as the tops of the ears of corn.

Job experiences the suffering of the oppressed and how their joy is often short-lived.

1: We should not be so quick to judge those who are in suffering.

2: We need to remember that everyone is subject to the same trials and tribulations.

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 13:1-3 - 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. Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

Job 24:25 And if it be not so now, who will make me a liar, and make my speech nothing worth?

Job questions the possibility of God's justice and mercy in the midst of his suffering.

1. God's Mercy and Justice: A Hope in the Midst of Suffering

2. Trusting in God's Unfailing Love

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. 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.

Job chapter 25 features a brief response from Job's friend Bildad, who acknowledges the greatness and purity of God compared to humanity's inherent sinfulness.

1st Paragraph: Bildad acknowledges that God possesses power and dominion over all things. He questions how humans can be righteous or pure in the sight of such a holy God (Job 25:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Bildad emphasizes that even the moon and stars are not pure in God's eyes, implying that no human can claim righteousness before Him. He asserts that humans are inherently flawed and unworthy before the Almighty (Job 25:5-6).

In summary,

Chapter twenty-five of Job presents:

the brief response,

and acknowledgement expressed by Bildad regarding the greatness and purity of God.

Highlighting humility through recognizing human limitations,

and emphasizing divine holiness achieved through asserting God's perfection.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring divine transcendence an embodiment representing a perspective on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 25:1 Then answered Bildad the Shuhite, and said,

Bildad the Shuhite responds to Job's lament with a reminder of human frailty and the majesty of God.

1.God is far greater than man and His ways are mysterious.

2.Humility and awe are fitting responses to the greatness of God.

1.Romans 11:33-36 - Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

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.

Job 25:2 Dominion and fear are with him, he maketh peace in his high places.

God is sovereign over all and brings peace in his heavenly kingdom.

1. God's Sovereignty and Our Response

2. The Promise of Peace in Our Lives

1. Psalm 103:19 - The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

2. Philippians 4:7 - And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Job 25:3 Is there any number of his armies? and upon whom doth not his light arise?

Job 25:3 reminds us that God's power and glory are beyond our understanding.

1: God's Power and Glory are Beyond Our Understanding

2: The Majesty of God: Understanding Our Place in His Creation

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.

2: Psalm 147:5 - Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

Job 25:4 How then can man be justified with God? or how can he be clean that is born of a woman?

This passage questions how a sinful human can be justified before a holy God.

1. "The Problem of Sin: How Can We Be Justified Before God?"

2. "The Solution to Sin: The Grace of God is Sufficient"

1. 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"

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."

Job 25:5 Behold even to the moon, and it shineth not; yea, the stars are not pure in his sight.

God is all-powerful and his sight is so great that the moon and stars cannot compare.

1. "The Power of God: Seeing Beyond the Stars"

2. "The Holiness of God: His Sight is Unparalleled"

1. Isaiah 40:25 - "To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One."

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

Job 25:6 How much less man, that is a worm? and the son of man, which is a worm?

1: We are all worms compared to God's greatness and power.

2: We must never forget our humble station in the presence of the Lord.

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

2: Psalm 8:4 "What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?"

Job chapter 26 showcases Job's response to Bildad, where he acknowledges God's power and sovereignty over all creation. He reflects on the vastness and wonders of God's works, highlighting His wisdom and authority.

1st Paragraph: Job expresses his admiration for God's greatness by acknowledging that He is the one who gives strength and support to the powerless. He marvels at the extent of God's knowledge and understanding (Job 26:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Job describes various aspects of creation that demonstrate God's power. He mentions how God stretches out the skies, suspends the earth over nothing, controls the clouds, commands the sea, and determines day and night (Job 26:5-14).

3rd Paragraph: Job concludes by emphasizing that these are only a small portion of God's works; His power is beyond human comprehension. Despite his suffering, Job affirms his trust in God's wisdom and acknowledges His sovereignty (Job 26:14).

In summary,

Chapter twenty-six of Job presents:

the response,

and reflection expressed by Job regarding the greatness and power of God.

Highlighting awe through acknowledging divine strength,

and emphasizing divine sovereignty achieved through praising divine works.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring divine majesty an embodiment representing a perspective on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 26:1 But Job answered and said,

Job responds to his friends' speeches by asserting the greatness of God's power and wisdom.

1. God's power and wisdom are unfathomable; it is only through faith that we can appreciate it.

2. Acknowledge the greatness of God's power and wisdom instead of questioning it.

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. Job 37:23 - The Almighty we cannot find him; he is great in power and justice, and abundant righteousness he will not violate.

Job 26:2 How hast thou helped him that is without power? how savest thou the arm that hath no strength?

This passage asks how God helps those who are powerless and how He saves those who have no strength.

1. God's Strength in Our Weakness

2. Empowered by God's Love

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.

Job 26:3 How hast thou counselled him that hath no wisdom? and how hast thou plentifully declared the thing as it is?

Job had criticized God for his treatment of him, so God responds to Job by reminding him of his own limitations.

1. We must be mindful of our own limitations and not question God.

2. God's plans are greater than our own understanding.

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."

Job 26:4 To whom hast thou uttered words? and whose spirit came from thee?

The passage questions the source of wisdom and understanding.

1: "The Source of Wisdom is God: Job 26:4"

2: "Trust in God for Wisdom: Job 26:4"

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 16:16 - "How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver."

Job 26:5 Dead things are formed from under the waters, and the inhabitants thereof.

The passage speaks of how dead things can be formed from below the waters, and how there are inhabitants of the waters.

1. God s Creation in the Waters: The Meaning Behind Job 26:5

2. The Life that is Found Underneath the Waters: A on Job 26:5

1. 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.

2. Genesis 1:2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Job 26:6 Hell is naked before him, and destruction hath no covering.

Job affirms that God is all-seeing and all-powerful, and that nothing is hidden from His sight.

1. God Sees All: Reaffirming the Sovereignty of God

2. The Power of God: Trusting in His Protection

1. Psalm 139:1-2 - O Lord, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

2. Hebrews 4:12-13 - For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God s sight.

Job 26:7 He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.

God's power and control over all creation is seen in this verse.

1: We can trust in God's power and control in our lives.

2: We should have awe and reverence for God's creative power.

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.

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.

Job 26:8 He bindeth up the waters in his thick clouds; and the cloud is not rent under them.

God has the power to control the forces of nature.

1: God is able to control the natural world; trusting in Him can bring peace and assurance.

2: God s power is seen in the way He binds up the waters in clouds, providing us with a reminder of His sovereignty.

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: Psalm 147:4-5 - He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name. Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.

Job 26:9 He holdeth back the face of his throne, and spreadeth his cloud upon it.

God holds power and authority, which He reveals through His throne and a covering of clouds.

1. How God Reveals His Authority Through His Throne and Clouds

2. Understanding God's Sovereignty Through His Throne and Cloud Coverings

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 97:2 - Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

Job 26:10 He hath compassed the waters with bounds, until the day and night come to an end.

Job describes God's power over the waters and how He has put them in their place until the end of time.

1: God's power over all creation is infinite and undeniable.

2: Our God is a God of order and structure, who has put everything in its place.

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

2: Jeremiah 10:12 - He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.

Job 26:11 The pillars of heaven tremble and are astonished at his reproof.

This passage describes the power of God, that His reproof alone can cause even the pillars of heaven to tremble and be astonished.

1. The Almighty Power of God

2. The Tremendous Impact of God's Word

1. Psalm 33:8 - Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

2. Hebrews 12:25-29 - See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. His voice then shook the earth, but now he has promised, Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens. This phrase, Yet once more, indicates the removal of things that are shaken that is, things that have been made in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. 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.

Job 26:12 He divideth the sea with his power, and by his understanding he smiteth through the proud.

Job demonstrates the power of God to overcome even the most powerful forces in nature.

1. The might of God: How God can overcome anything, even the strongest forces.

2. Understanding God: Learning to accept and understand His power in our lives.

1. Psalm 107:29 - He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.

2. 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.

Job 26:13 By his spirit he hath garnished the heavens; his hand hath formed the crooked serpent.

God's spirit has created and adorned the heavens, and his hand has formed the crooked serpent.

1. "The Majesty of God's Creation"

2. "The Power of God's Hand"

1. Job 26:13

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."

Job 26:14 Lo, these are parts of his ways: but how little a portion is heard of him? but the thunder of his power who can understand?

Job speaks of God's ways, and how little part of it is understood by people. He questions who can understand the power of God.

1. God's Ways Are Mysterious - Exploring the Deep Wisdom of God in Job 26:14

2. The Thunder of God's Power - An Exploration of the Unfathomable Power of God in Job 26:14

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. 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.

Job chapter 27 features Job's continued defense of his integrity and his determination to maintain his righteousness in the face of his friends' accusations.

1st Paragraph: Job begins by affirming his commitment to uphold righteousness, stating that as long as he has breath, he will not speak falsely or deny his integrity. He declares that God is witness to his innocence (Job 27:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Job expresses the fate that awaits the wicked, describing how they will face destruction and calamity. He asserts that their wealth and possessions will not bring them lasting happiness or security (Job 27:7-10).

3rd Paragraph: Job argues against the idea that suffering is always a result of wickedness. He acknowledges that sometimes the wicked may appear to prosper temporarily, but ultimately they will face divine judgment (Job 27:11-23).

In summary,

Chapter twenty-seven of Job presents:

the continued defense,

and affirmation expressed by Job regarding his integrity and righteousness.

Highlighting steadfastness through maintaining personal integrity,

and emphasizing divine justice achieved through asserting consequences for wrongdoing.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring moral accountability an embodiment representing a perspective on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 27:1 Moreover Job continued his parable, and said,

Job affirms his commitment to integrity and righteousness, despite his suffering.

1: God's faithfulness is unchanging, even in times of suffering.

2: We can trust in God's justice, even when our circumstances don't seem fair.

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: 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."

Job 27:2 As God liveth, who hath taken away my judgment; and the Almighty, who hath vexed my soul;

Job affirms his belief in God and his right to be vexed by the Almighty.

1. "The Power of Faith: Trusting God in the Midst of Suffering"

2. "The Strength of Hope: Finding Comfort in the Lord in Difficult Times"

1. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

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.

Job 27:3 All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils;

Job affirms his innocence and loyalty to God despite the accusations of his friends.

1: God is always with us in our times of affliction, no matter what our friends may say.

2: Even when we are suffering, we should remain loyal to 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 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Job 27:4 My lips shall not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit.

Job affirms his commitment to honesty and integrity, declaring that his lips will not speak wickedness and his tongue will not utter deceit.

1. Honesty is the Best Policy: A Study of Job 27:4

2. Integrity in All Things: Living Out Job 27:4

1. Psalm 34:13 - "Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit."

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."

Job 27:5 God forbid that I should justify you: till I die I will not remove mine integrity from me.

Job refuses to give in to false accusations against him and will remain firm in his integrity until his death.

1. Integrity: The Cornerstone of Character

2. A Life of Integrity: What Does it Look Like?

1. Proverbs 10:9, "Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out."

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.'"

Job 27:6 My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go: my heart shall not reproach me so long as I live.

My righteousness I hold fast: Job refuses to let go of his faith despite his suffering.

1: God's faithfulness is greater than our sufferings.

2: We can be steadfast in our faith even in times of struggle.

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 Peter 4:12 13 - Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

Job 27:7 Let mine enemy be as the wicked, and he that riseth up against me as the unrighteous.

Job expresses his desire that his enemies suffer the same fate as the wicked and unrighteous.

1. The Righteousness of Job: How His Steadfast Faith Led to Victory

2. Calling Out the Wicked: The Power of God's Justice

1. Psalm 37:28 - For the Lord loves justice and will not abandon His faithful ones. He will maintain their cause forever.

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. He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Job 27:8 For what is the hope of the hypocrite, though he hath gained, when God taketh away his soul?

The hope of the hypocrite is fleeting, as God will take away his soul.

1: We can have no hope apart from God, as our lives are in His hands.

2: God will not be mocked; hypocrisy will not go unpunished.

1: Matthew 6:19-20 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.

2: Proverbs 11:4 Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.

Job 27:9 Will God hear his cry when trouble cometh upon him?

Job questions if God will hear his cry in times of trouble.

1. God is always with us, even in our darkest hours.

2. We must put our faith and trust in God, even in times of 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. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Job 27:10 Will he delight himself in the Almighty? will he always call upon God?

Job expresses his trust in God despite his troubles.

1. "A Heart of Faith: Trusting in the Almighty"

2. "Persevering in Faith: Calling upon God in Troubled Times"

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 46 - "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. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells."

Job 27:11 I will teach you by the hand of God: that which is with the Almighty will I not conceal.

Job declares that he will teach the secrets of God revealed to him, which he will not keep hidden.

1. The Blessings of Knowing God's Will - Proclaiming the importance of seeking God's will and the great blessings that come from knowing it.

2. The Value of Revealing God's Truth - Exploring the importance of sharing the knowledge of God's truths with others.

1. Psalm 25:14 - The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.

2. Colossians 1:25-27 - Of which I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Job 27:12 Behold, all ye yourselves have seen it; why then are ye thus altogether vain?

This verse from Job reminds us to not be complacent and trust God's judgment instead of our own.

1: Do Not Be Complacent - Job 27:12

2: Trust in God's Judgment - Job 27:12

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 37:5 - Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.

Job 27:13 This is the portion of a wicked man with God, and the heritage of oppressors, which they shall receive of the Almighty.

The wicked man's portion is from God, and the heritage of oppressors is from the Almighty.

1. God's Word Is Clear: Wickedness and Oppression Will Not Be Blessed

2. God's Justice: Oppressors Will Receive Their Due

1. Proverbs 3:33 - "The Lord's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the dwelling of the righteous."

2. Isaiah 3:11 - "Woe to the wicked! It will go ill with him, for what he deserves will be done to him."

Job 27:14 If his children be multiplied, it is for the sword: and his offspring shall not be satisfied with bread.

This passage from Job describes the consequences of a man's decisions; if he has many children, it will be because of the sword, and his offspring will not have enough bread to be satisfied.

1. The Consequences of Our Decisions - Exploring the implications of our actions and how they shape our lives and the lives of those around us.

2. The Power of Provision - Examining how God provides for us even in the midst of tragedy and how to rely on Him for sustenance.

1. Psalm 34:8-10 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore, 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.

Job 27:15 Those that remain of him shall be buried in death: and his widows shall not weep.

Job declares that those that have died will not be remembered and their widows will not be able to mourn their loss.

1. Remembering those who have passed and those who have been left behind.

2. Mourning the loss of our loved ones and finding comfort in God's promises.

1. 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."

2. Psalm 116:15 - "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints."

Job 27:16 Though he heap up silver as the dust, and prepare raiment as the clay;

Job accumulates wealth, but it will not bring him comfort.

1. The Vanity of Wealth - Ecclesiastes 5:10-12

2. Contentment in All Circumstances - Philippians 4:11-13

1. Ecclesiastes 5:10-12 - He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.

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.

Job 27:17 He may prepare it, but the just shall put it on, and the innocent shall divide the silver.

Job declares that, although the wicked may accumulate wealth, it is the just and innocent who will ultimately benefit from it.

1. Wealth is a Blessing to the Righteous

2. Trust in the Lord and He Will Provide

1. Proverbs 28:8 - Whoever multiplies his wealth by interest and profit gathers it for him who is generous to the poor.

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.

Job 27:18 He buildeth his house as a moth, and as a booth that the keeper maketh.

Job's life is fragile, and his house is built like a temporary shelter.

1. The Uncertainty of Earthly Life: Our fragile existence and the transience of material possessions.

2. Life is Fleeting: Understanding that our life is brief and our home is temporary.

1. Psalm 103:14-16 - For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

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.

Job 27:19 The rich man shall lie down, but he shall not be gathered: he openeth his eyes, and he is not.

The rich man will not be able to take his wealth to the grave; instead, it will be left behind.

1: Although we may be tempted to hoard our wealth and treasure in this life, it is important to remember that we cannot take it with us when we die.

2: We should be wise and generous with our resources, remembering that our wealth is only temporary and will not come with us when we pass on.

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."

Job 27:20 Terrors take hold on him as waters, a tempest stealeth him away in the night.

Job experiences terror and is suddenly taken away in the night.

1. God is With Us in Times of Fear and Sorrow

2. Learning to Trust God in the Midst of Uncertainty

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. 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.

Job 27:21 The east wind carrieth him away, and he departeth: and as a storm hurleth him out of his place.

The east wind symbolizes God's power and judgement, which leads to the eventual departure of an individual from their place.

1. God is sovereign and has the ultimate power to judge and remove us from our current situation.

2. We must remain humble and faithful even in the midst of trials and tribulations, trusting in the Lord's judgement and not our own.

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 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."

Job 27:22 For God shall cast upon him, and not spare: he would fain flee out of his hand.

God will not spare those who have sinned, and even if they try to flee His hand, He will punish them.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Sin

2. When Fleeing Will Not Save You

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 10:31 - "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

Job 27:23 Men shall clap their hands at him, and shall hiss him out of his place.

People will mock and hiss at Job in his time of suffering.

1. "Be Not Afraid of Rejection" - Using Job 27:23 as a , a could illustrate how Job stayed faithful to God despite the criticism and disdain of his community.

2. "The Power of Encouragement" - Using Job 27:23 as a , a could emphasize the importance of encouraging others despite their struggles.

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. 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."

Job chapter 28 explores the theme of wisdom and its elusive nature. It emphasizes that true wisdom cannot be obtained through human efforts or acquired through material means, but rather originates from God alone.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how humans are able to extract valuable resources from the earth, such as precious metals and gems. Job acknowledges their skill in mining and refining these materials (Job 28:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: Job reflects on the limitations of human knowledge and abilities, stating that wisdom cannot be found in any physical location on earth. He compares the search for wisdom to mining for precious treasures, highlighting its rarity (Job 28:12-19).

3rd Paragraph: Job asserts that true wisdom is hidden from human eyes; even death and destruction do not possess knowledge of it. He emphasizes that only God understands the way to wisdom and has established it as a divine principle (Job 28:20-28).

In summary,

Chapter twenty-eight of Job presents:

the exploration,

and recognition expressed by Job regarding the elusive nature of true wisdom.

Highlighting humility through acknowledging human limitations,

and emphasizing divine origin achieved through recognizing God's exclusive possession of wisdom.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring divine knowledge an embodiment representing a perspective on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 28:1 Surely there is a vein for the silver, and a place for gold where they fine it.

This passage speaks of God's provision of resources for mankind to benefit from.

1: With God's Providential Care, We Can Reap Abundance

2: God's Treasure Trove: Mining His Provision

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: Psalm 24:1 "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."

Job 28:2 Iron is taken out of the earth, and brass is molten out of the stone.

Job 28:2 speaks of the extraction of iron and brass from the earth and stone respectively.

1: God's Creation is an Abundant Source of Resources

2: Our Responsibility to Care for the Resources God Gave Us

1: Psalm 8:3-9 - When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

2: Ecclesiastes 5:19 - Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil this is the gift of God.

Job 28:3 He setteth an end to darkness, and searcheth out all perfection: the stones of darkness, and the shadow of death.

Job is exploring the depths of wisdom and how it can be applied to understand God's perfect works.

1. The Wisdom of God: Understanding His Perfect Works

2. The Power of Darkness: Overcoming Shadow and Death

1. Proverbs 3:19-20 - The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens.

2. Romans 8:37 - Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Job 28:4 The flood breaketh out from the inhabitant; even the waters forgotten of the foot: they are dried up, they are gone away from men.

God's power and wisdom is revealed in the depths of the earth, which remain hidden from mankind.

1: God's power is seen even in the unseen, reminding us to trust in Him and His promises.

2: We may not understand what God does, but His ways are higher than ours and He knows what is best.

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 - I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee.

Job 28:5 As for the earth, out of it cometh bread: and under it is turned up as it were fire.

This passage speaks of the earth's fertility, which provides bread and is heated by fire beneath its surface.

1. The Bread of Life: How God Uses the Earth to Provide for Us

2. The Depths of Creation: Finding Fire in Unusual Places

1. Matthew 6:11 - Give us this day our daily bread

2. Isaiah 30:23-26 - He will make the rain for you a blessing. The land will yield its fruit, and the trees of the field will give their fruit. Your threshing will last till the grape harvest and the grape harvest will last till sowing time. You will have plenty of grain to eat and you will be well-fed. On that day your cattle will graze in broad meadows.

Job 28:6 The stones of it are the place of sapphires: and it hath dust of gold.

This passage mentions the magnificence and preciousness of God's creation.

1: God is a masterful artist who has created a beautiful and precious world for us to explore.

2: We should appreciate and take care of the precious gifts God has given us.

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: 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.

Job 28:7 There is a path which no fowl knoweth, and which the vulture's eye hath not seen:

The passage speaks of a path which is unknown to even birds and vultures, suggesting that humans must search diligently to find the truth.

1. "The Search for Truth: Uncovering the Unknown Path"

2. "Exploring the Depths: Seeking the Unseen Path"

1. Jeremiah 6:16 - Thus says the LORD: Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls.

2. Proverbs 4:18-19 - But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day. The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know over what they stumble.

Job 28:8 The lion's whelps have not trodden it, nor the fierce lion passed by it.

God's wisdom is beyond human comprehension, it is beyond the mightiest of creatures.

1. The Strength of God's Wisdom: A Reflection on Job 28:8

2. Finding Strength in Wisdom: The Power of Job 28:8

1. Proverbs 2:6-8 For the Lord gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. He holds success in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.

2. Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

Job 28:9 He putteth forth his hand upon the rock; he overturneth the mountains by the roots.

God is powerful and can move mountains with a single touch.

1. The Unstoppable Power of God - Romans 8:31,37-39

2. Understanding the Sovereignty of God - Psalm 103:19-22

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. Luke 1:37 - For with God nothing shall be impossible.

Job 28:10 He cutteth out rivers among the rocks; and his eye seeth every precious thing.

God has the power to create rivers through the rocks, and He can see and appreciate all that is precious.

1. "The Power of God: How God Can Create Miracles"

2. "God Sees Everything: Remembering His Perfect Sight"

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

Job 28:11 He bindeth the floods from overflowing; and the thing that is hid bringeth he forth to light.

God has the power to control the elements and bring hidden things to light.

1: God is in Control - No matter what life throws our way, we can trust that God is in control.

2: Look to God for Light - In moments of darkness, we can look to God for illumination and guidance.

1: Psalm 33:8-10 - Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! For he spoke, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood firm. The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.

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. 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.

Job 28:12 But where shall wisdom be found? and where is the place of understanding?

Job questions where wisdom and understanding can be found.

1. "Where Does Wisdom Come From?"

2. "Seeking Understanding"

1. Proverbs 4:7 - "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."

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."

Job 28:13 Man knoweth not the price thereof; neither is it found in the land of the living.

The price of wisdom is unknown and cannot be found among the living.

1. The Unfathomable Value of Wisdom

2. Seeking Wisdom in Unfamiliar Places

1. Proverbs 4:7 - Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

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.

Job 28:14 The depth saith, It is not in me: and the sea saith, It is not with me.

The depths and the sea both declare that wisdom cannot be found within them.

1. Knowing True Wisdom: Seeking Wisdom Beyond the Depths

2. God's Wisdom: Seeking Wisdom Beyond Ourselves

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. 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.

Job 28:15 It cannot be gotten for gold, neither shall silver be weighed for the price thereof.

The passage speaks of something that cannot be purchased with gold or silver.

1. The Value of Things Beyond Measure

2. The Unquantifiable Worth of God's Blessings

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. Psalm 37:4 - "Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart."

Job 28:16 It cannot be valued with the gold of Ophir, with the precious onyx, or the sapphire.

The value of wisdom surpasses that of any precious stone.

1: We must seek wisdom above all else, for it is more valuable than any material possession.

2: Wisdom is a treasure that is not measured in monetary terms, and is found only through seeking God.

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: 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."

Job 28:17 The gold and the crystal cannot equal it: and the exchange of it shall not be for jewels of fine gold.

The value of wisdom surpasses that of any material possession.

1. The Value of Wisdom: How to Live a Life of Substance

2. Riches of the Heart: The Power of Spiritual Wealth

1. Proverbs 16:16 - How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

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.

Job 28:18 No mention shall be made of coral, or of pearls: for the price of wisdom is above rubies.

Wisdom is more valuable than worldly riches and treasures.

1. The Value of Wisdom: A Look at Job 28:18

2. More Precious Than Rubies: What Job 28:18 Teaches Us

1. Proverbs 3:13-18 - The Value of Wisdom

2. James 3:13-18 - Wisdom from Above

Job 28:19 The topaz of Ethiopia shall not equal it, neither shall it be valued with pure gold.

The topaz of Ethiopia is unable to be compared to wisdom, and it cannot be exchanged for pure gold.

1. The Unparalleled Value of Wisdom

2. Seeking Wisdom Over Riches

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. 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.

Job 28:20 Whence then cometh wisdom? and where is the place of understanding?

Job ponders the origin of wisdom and the location of understanding.

1. The Pursuit of Wisdom: An Examination of Job 28:20

2. Where to Find Understanding: A Look at Job 28:20

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. 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."

Job 28:21 Seeing it is hid from the eyes of all living, and kept close from the fowls of the air.

Job highlights the mysterious and hidden nature of wisdom.

1. "Where is Wisdom Found?"

2. "Seeking Wisdom in a Hidden Place"

1. Proverbs 2:4-5 "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. Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Job 28:22 Destruction and death say, We have heard the fame thereof with our ears.

The passage speaks of destruction and death being familiar with the fame of wisdom.

1. The Fear of Wisdom: Learning to Embrace the Unknown

2. The Power of Wisdom: Navigating Life s Challenges

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 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."

Job 28:23 God understandeth the way thereof, and he knoweth the place thereof.

God knows the origin and destination of wisdom.

1: Wisdom comes from God and is meant to lead us to Him.

2: We can trust God to help us gain knowledge and use it to our benefit.

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, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Job 28:24 For he looketh to the ends of the earth, and seeth under the whole heaven;

Job is reflecting on the wisdom of God and His ability to see and understand the world.

1: God is our ultimate source of knowledge and understanding.

2: Even in the times of difficulty and suffering, we can find comfort in God's wisdom and power.

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: 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.

Job 28:25 To make the weight for the winds; and he weigheth the waters by measure.

God has control over the wind and water, determining the measure of each.

1. God is sovereign over all creation and no matter is too small or big for Him to control.

2. God's love and knowledge extends to the smallest details in our lives.

1. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

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.

Job 28:26 When he made a decree for the rain, and a way for the lightning of the thunder:

This passage speaks of God's power in controlling the elements, particularly rain and thunder.

1: God is in control of all things, even the natural elements.

2: We can trust in God, even during times of chaos and uncertainty.

1: Psalm 147:17-18 He casts out his ice like morsels: who can stand before his cold? He sends out his word, and melts them: he causes his wind to blow, and the waters flow.

2: Jeremiah 10:13 When he utters his voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens, and he causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; he makes lightnings with rain, and brings forth the wind out of his treasures.

Job 28:27 Then did he see it, and declare it; he prepared it, yea, and searched it out.

God reveals secret wisdom to those who seek it.

1: Seek God's secret wisdom to discover the path of life.

2: God will reveal secrets to those who earnestly seek Him.

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, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

Job 28:28 And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the LORD, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.

This passage explains that wisdom is found in fearing the Lord and understanding is gained by staying away from evil.

1: Being Wise in the Eyes of the Lord

2: Understanding the Difference Between Good and Evil

1: Proverbs 3:7 - "Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil."

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."

Job chapter 29 recounts Job's nostalgic reflection on his former prosperity and the honor and respect he enjoyed among his peers. He contrasts his past blessings with his current suffering, longing for a return to those days.

1st Paragraph: Job begins by describing how he longs for the days when God watched over him, providing him with His divine light and guidance. He reminisces about the favor he enjoyed from God and the prosperity that accompanied it (Job 29:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Job recalls how highly esteemed he was among people, emphasizing his position of authority and influence. He highlights how everyone showed him respect, seeking his counsel and benefiting from his wisdom (Job 29:7-17).

3rd Paragraph: Job expresses how he used to help the needy, advocating for justice on their behalf. He describes himself as a protector of the oppressed, providing assistance to widows and orphans (Job 29:18-25).

In summary,

Chapter twenty-nine of Job presents:

the nostalgic reflection,

and longing expressed by Job regarding his former prosperity and honor.

Highlighting reminiscence through recalling past blessings,

and emphasizing social standing achieved through highlighting personal influence.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring personal identity an embodiment representing a perspective on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 29:1 Moreover Job continued his parable, and said,

Job reflects on the joy of his former life and laments his current suffering.

1. We should remember and be thankful for the blessings of life, even in times of hardship.

2. Our faith can help us endure suffering and trust that God will see us 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 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.

Job 29:2 Oh that I were as in months past, as in the days when God preserved me;

Job longs for the days when God protected him and his life was peaceful and prosperous.

1. God's protection brings blessings and joy in life.

2. How to trust in God for protection in difficult times.

1. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find 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.

Job 29:3 When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness;

Job reflects on a time of joy and security when God was with him, providing light in the darkness.

1. A Candle in the Darkness: How God Guides Us Through Life's Struggles

2. Embracing the Light of God's Love in Our Darkest Moments

1. 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 shined.

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

Job 29:4 As I was in the days of my youth, when the secret of God was upon my tabernacle;

Job reflects on the days of his youth when he was close to God and had His secret upon him.

1: We must strive to remain close to God throughout our lives, just as Job did in his youth.

2: We must never forget the joy of being in the presence of God, even when we experience hardships.

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: Deuteronomy 4:29-31 "But from there you will seek the Lord your God and you will find him, if you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul. 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. For the Lord your God is a merciful God. He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them."

Job 29:5 When the Almighty was yet with me, when my children were about me;

Job reflects on a time when God was still with him and his children were around him.

1: God is always with us and we experience a sense of completeness when we are surrounded by our loved ones.

2: Being able to look back on times when God was close and we were surrounded by those we love can bring us a sense of joy and contentment.

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: 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.

Job 29:6 When I washed my steps with butter, and the rock poured me out rivers of oil;

Job remembers a time of great wealth and success when he was able to wash his feet with butter and the rock poured out rivers of oil.

1. The Ripple Effect of Generosity: How God's Blessings Flow Through His People

2. The Power of God's Abundance: Celebrating the Abundant Blessings of 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, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

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."

Job 29:7 When I went out to the gate through the city, when I prepared my seat in the street!

Job reminisces about his former glory days when he was respected in the city.

1. Remembering the past can help us to appreciate all that God has given us.

2. God is the giver of all things, both good and bad, and we can use our experiences to grow closer to him.

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 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"

Job 29:8 The young men saw me, and hid themselves: and the aged arose, and stood up.

Job recounts how the young men would hide when they saw him, while the elderly would stand up and show respect.

1. The Power of Respect - Exploring the importance of respect and how it can often lead to greater respect for ourselves.

2. Wisdom and Age - Examining the value of age and wisdom, and how it can lead to a greater understanding of the world.

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 5:5 - "Likewise, you younger, submit yourselves to the elder. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. "

Job 29:9 The princes refrained talking, and laid their hand on their mouth.

The princes were so impressed by Job's words that they stopped talking and placed their hands on their mouths in reverence.

1. The Power of Godly Speech: How Our Words Can Impact Others

2. Listening with Respect: Learning the Value of Silence

1. Proverbs 10:19, "When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent."

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."

Job 29:10 The nobles held their peace, and their tongue cleaved to the roof of their mouth.

Job found himself in a situation where the nobles held their peace and did not speak a word.

1: In times of distress, it is important to remember that God is our ultimate source of comfort and strength.

2: Even when those around us do not understand, we can still trust in God's perfect plan.

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 91:2 - I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in Him I will trust."

Job 29:11 When the ear heard me, then it blessed me; and when the eye saw me, it gave witness to me:

Job experienced God's blessing and witnessed God's goodness throughout his life.

1: God blesses us and shows us His goodness in many ways.

2: We can be assured that God's love is with us even in the midst of our trials.

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 27:1 - "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?"

Job 29:12 Because I delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him.

The passage speaks of Job's commitment to helping those who are in need.

1: In times of need, we should always strive to be a source of help and comfort to those around us.

2: We should use our resources to lift up those who are not as fortunate as we are.

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: Galatians 6:2 - Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Job 29:13 The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me: and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.

Job gave joy to the widow, bringing hope and blessing to those who were struggling.

1. God's love brings joy and hope to those in need.

2. We should strive to be like Job, bringing blessing and comfort to those in need.

1. Psalm 10:17-18 - Lord, you hear the desire of the afflicted; you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more.

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.

Job 29:14 I put on righteousness, and it clothed me: my judgment was as a robe and a diadem.

This verse speaks of the power of righteousness, which is like a garment that protects and adorns the one who puts it on.

1. "The Power of Righteousness"

2. "Putting on the Robe of Righteousness"

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. Romans 13:12 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.

Job 29:15 I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame.

Job was a compassionate and charitable person who helped the less fortunate.

1: Compassion and Charity: The Example of Job

2: God's Call to Serve the Poor

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, 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.

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?

Job 29:16 I was a father to the poor: and the cause which I knew not I searched out.

Job was a compassionate man who looked after the poor and helped those in need even if he was unfamiliar with their situation.

1. The Love of Jesus Compels Us to Serve Those in Need

2. Compassion and Kindness: The Heart of True Christianity

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. Galatians 5:13-14 "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love."

Job 29:17 And I brake the jaws of the wicked, and plucked the spoil out of his teeth.

Job reflects on his past deeds, recalling how he would stand up to the wicked and take away their spoils.

1. The Power of Standing Up for What is Right

2. The Rewards of Doing Justice

1. Proverbs 21:15 - When justice is done, it brings joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers.

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.

Job 29:18 Then I said, I shall die in my nest, and I shall multiply my days as the sand.

Job expresses a desire to live a long life in a secure home.

1. God's Plan for Us: Encouragement in Difficult Times from Job's Story

2. Living a Life of Contentment: Lessons from Job's Story

1. Psalm 90:10 - "The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty"

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."

Job 29:19 My root was spread out by the waters, and the dew lay all night upon my branch.

Job reflects on the prosperity he experienced prior to his suffering.

1. God can bring us through the storms of life, even if our circumstances seem bleak.

2. We should take time to reflect on our blessings, even in times of distress.

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. 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.

Job 29:20 My glory was fresh in me, and my bow was renewed in my hand.

Job reflects on his former prosperity and blessings.

1. The Value of Renewal: Lessons from Job's Reflection

2. The Blessing of Fresh Glory: Finding Strength in God

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. Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Job 29:21 Unto me men gave ear, and waited, and kept silence at my counsel.

Job was held in high esteem because of the wisdom he shared.

1. The Power of Knowledge and Wisdom in the Kingdom of God

2. Learning to Listen to the Wisdom of God

1. Proverbs 4:5-7 "Get wisdom; get insight; do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you. The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight.

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."

Job 29:22 After my words they spake not again; and my speech dropped upon them.

Job passionately pleads his innocence and declares that his words silenced his accusers.

1: We should strive to speak words that will edify and bring peace, not words that incite hatred and division.

2: Our words should be filled with grace and truth, that we may be used as instruments of God s love and mercy.

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 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

Job 29:23 And they waited for me as for the rain; and they opened their mouth wide as for the latter rain.

Job reflects on his previous popularity and the reverence people paid him, as if they were expecting rain after a long drought.

1. God's blessing is found in the unexpected places.

2. Don't underestimate the power of your influence.

1. Matthew 5:13-16 - "You are the salt of the earth...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. 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."

Job 29:24 If I laughed on them, they believed it not; and the light of my countenance they cast not down.

Job expresses his former joy in his prosperity and how it was not dependent on the approval of others.

1. The Joy of the Lord is not Dependent on the Approval of Others

2. Relying on God's Approval Over the Praise of Men

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. Ecclesiastes 7:1 - A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of birth.

Job 29:25 I chose out their way, and sat chief, and dwelt as a king in the army, as one that comforteth the mourners.

Job is reflecting on his former life when he felt content and at peace with himself and his surroundings.

1. The Comfort of Contentment - Finding peace and fulfillment in life.

2. The Blessings of a Good Life - Learning to appreciate the good things in life.

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. Ecclesiastes 5:18-19 - Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil this is the gift of God.

Job chapter 30 portrays Job's current state of despair and misery, contrasting it with his former prosperity. He laments his loss of honor and the mockery he endures from others.

1st Paragraph: Job describes how he is now mocked by younger men who were once beneath him. He emphasizes their contemptuous behavior towards him, expressing his deep sense of humiliation (Job 30:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: Job recounts the physical afflictions he now suffers, including skin diseases that cause him great pain and discomfort. He feels abandoned by God and isolated from society, dwelling in desolate places (Job 30:9-15).

3rd Paragraph: Job expresses his anguish over the loss of his wealth and status. He compares himself to a broken vessel, experiencing profound sorrow and mourning (Job 30:16-23).

4th Paragraph: Job concludes by appealing to God for justice, questioning why he is made to suffer so greatly despite being blameless. He pleads for mercy and relief from his afflictions (Job 30:24-31).

In summary,

Chapter thirty of Job presents:

the depiction,

and lament expressed by Job regarding his current state of despair and suffering.

Highlighting humiliation through enduring mockery,

and emphasizing physical affliction achieved through describing personal pain.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring divine justice an embodiment representing a perspective on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 30:1 But now they that are younger than I have me in derision, whose fathers I would have disdained to have set with the dogs of my flock.

Job is lamenting that he is being mocked by those younger than him, who he would have not considered to be worthy of being in the company of his own dogs.

1. God's faithfulness through difficult times

2. Humility and the importance of respecting one another

1. Psalm 73:26 - "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."

2. 1 Peter 5:5 - "In humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

Job 30:2 Yea, whereto might the strength of their hands profit me, in whom old age was perished?

This passage from Job reflects on the struggle of growing old and how it can lead to feelings of powerlessness and lack of purpose.

1. "Growing Old with Dignity: How to Find Purpose in Your Later Years"

2. "Age is Just a Number: Embracing the Benefits of Growing Old"

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 12:1-7 "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 ..."

Job 30:3 For want and famine they were solitary; fleeing into the wilderness in former time desolate and waste.

Job's suffering has caused him to become isolated and alone, as he has been forced to flee into a desolate and wasted wilderness.

1. We must remember that even in our darkest moments, God is with us.

2. We should not forget the suffering of those around us, and strive to be a source of comfort and support.

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. 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."

Job 30:4 Who cut up mallows by the bushes, and juniper roots for their meat.

Job is lamenting his fallen state and describes how he has been reduced to eating mallows and juniper roots.

1: When life brings us low, we can still find joy in God's provision.

2: Even in the darkest of times, God is with us to provide for our needs.

1: Psalm 23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

2: Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Job 30:5 They were driven forth from among men, (they cried after them as after a thief;)

Job's friends have cast him out from their company, likening him to a thief.

1. God cares deeply for those who are cast out and forgotten by others.

2. We should strive to be understanding and compassionate towards those who are struggling.

1. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."

2. Galatians 6:2 Bear one another s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Job 30:6 To dwell in the cliffs of the valleys, in caves of the earth, and in the rocks.

Job felt like an outcast, living in desolate places and having lost all his possessions.

1: God's love for us is unconditional, even if we feel like outcasts.

2: We must remember to be thankful for what we have, even in the face of adversity.

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: 1 Thessalonians 5:18 - Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Job 30:7 Among the bushes they brayed; under the nettles they were gathered together.

Job laments the state of his life, comparing it to animals living in desolate environments.

1. Hope in the Midst of Desolation: Learning to Find Joy in Difficult Places

2. Overcoming Adversity: Finding Strength in Trying Times

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. 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.

Job 30:8 They were children of fools, yea, children of base men: they were viler than the earth.

Job reflects on how those around him have become lower than the earth, describing them as "children of fools" and "children of base men".

1. The Danger of Poor Relationships - exploring the consequences of getting involved with people of bad character.

2. Finding Strength in Difficulty - looking at how Job was able to find strength in the midst of his struggles.

1. Proverbs 13:20 - "He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed."

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."

Job 30:9 And now am I their song, yea, I am their byword.

This passage reflects Job's sorrow as he is mocked and ridiculed by his former friends.

1: The importance of loving one another and being there for each other in times of distress.

2: Don't be too quick to judge and criticize others, instead show them compassion and understanding.

1: Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

2: Psalm 34:17-18 - The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Job 30:10 They abhor me, they flee far from me, and spare not to spit in my face.

This passage reveals Job's deep pain and suffering due to the rejection and mistreatment of those around him.

1. "The Power of Rejection: How to Overcome When You Are Left Out"

2. "The Perils of Isolation: Finding Strength in Difficult Times"

1. Isaiah 53:3 - He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Job 30:11 Because he hath loosed my cord, and afflicted me, they have also let loose the bridle before me.

Job reflects on how the pain and sorrow he is experiencing is due to God loosening the restraints on his life.

1. How to Face Trials with Faith - Using Job's example of trusting God even in the midst of intense suffering.

2. Growing in Resilience - Examining how Job's resilience in the face of adversity can be a model for enduring hard times.

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. James 1:2 - "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."

Job 30:12 Upon my right hand rise the youth; they push away my feet, and they raise up against me the ways of their destruction.

The youth are pushing away Job's feet and causing destruction in his life.

1: We must use our youth and energy to help others, not cause destruction in their lives.

2: Even in the most trying circumstances, God remains faithful.

1: James 1:2-4 - Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

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.

Job 30:13 They mar my path, they set forward my calamity, they have no helper.

Job laments the lack of help he has received from others in his time of suffering.

1. "The Power of Community: Why It's Important to Lean on Others in Times of Need"

2. "God's Presence in Suffering: Finding Comfort in the Midst of Pain"

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. Romans 12:15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

Job 30:14 They came upon me as a wide breaking in of waters: in the desolation they rolled themselves upon me.

Job reflects on his despair and suffering, likening his experience to an overwhelming flood.

1: God can bring us through the floods of life.

2: Even in the darkness, God is 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: Psalm 18:16 He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters.

Job 30:15 Terrors are turned upon me: they pursue my soul as the wind: and my welfare passeth away as a cloud.

Job's soul is being pursued by terrors like the wind, and his hope for a better future is fading quickly.

1: No matter how dark the storm, God is always there to provide light and hope.

2: We should never allow our troubles to define us, and instead focus on the hope that God provides.

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.

Job 30:16 And now my soul is poured out upon me; the days of affliction have taken hold upon me.

Job is experiencing a period of intense suffering.

1. "The Comfort of God in Times of Suffering"

2. "Persevering Through Difficult Times"

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. Matthew 5:4 - "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."

Job 30:17 My bones are pierced in me in the night season: and my sinews take no rest.

Job is suffering greatly in his anguish and finds no relief even in the night.

1. Finding Comfort in the Midst of Suffering

2. Learning to Lean on God in Difficult Times

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."

Job 30:18 By the great force of my disease is my garment changed: it bindeth me about as the collar of my coat.

Job reflects on the pain of his suffering and how it has changed his life.

1. The Power of Suffering: How Pain Can Transform Our Lives

2. Finding Hope in Difficult Times: How to Persevere Despite Suffering

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

Job 30:19 He hath cast me into the mire, and I am become like dust and ashes.

Job reflects on his suffering and acknowledges that he has become as low as dust and ashes.

1. Despite our suffering, we must still remember that God is in control and we can trust Him.

2. Even in our darkest moments, we can still find hope in God's promises and faithfulness.

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.

Job 30:20 I cry unto thee, and thou dost not hear me: I stand up, and thou regardest me not.

Job is in despair and feels unheard by God.

1: God is always listening, even when we don't feel it.

2: Even in our darkest moments, God is there with us.

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 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."

Job 30:21 Thou art become cruel to me: with thy strong hand thou opposest thyself against me.

Job laments that God has become cruel to him and is oppressing him with his strong hand.

1. "The Power of Patience: Finding Hope in the Midst of Suffering"

2. "Overcoming Adversity: How to Find Strength 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. 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."

Job 30:22 Thou liftest me up to the wind; thou causest me to ride upon it, and dissolvest my substance.

Job reflects on how God has taken away his security and caused him to suffer.

1: God's care for us includes not just comfort and security, but also hardship and pain.

2: When God takes away what we think is our security, He is still in control and can use it for our good.

1: Psalm 139:7-12 - 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: Hebrews 12:5-11 - And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives. If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?

Job 30:23 For I know that thou wilt bring me to death, and to the house appointed for all living.

Job recognizes that death is inevitable and that the same fate awaits all living things.

1. "The Inevitability of Death and the Vanity of Life"

2. "The Ultimate Equilibrium of Life and Death"

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. Romans 6:23

Job 30:24 Howbeit he will not stretch out his hand to the grave, though they cry in his destruction.

Job expresses his anguish and despair by saying that even though people may cry out in their suffering, God will not reach out to the grave.

1. The Power of Our Cries: Learning to Lean on God When Suffering

2. God's Sovereignty in Times of Suffering

1. Psalm 18:6 - 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.

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.

Job 30:25 Did not I weep for him that was in trouble? was not my soul grieved for the poor?

This passage highlights Job's empathy for the suffering of the poor.

1. A call to empathy: Understanding the plight of the poor.

2. The power of compassion: Caring for those in need.

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?

2. Proverbs 14:21 - It is a sin to despise one s neighbor, but blessed is the one who is kind to the needy.

Job 30:26 When I looked for good, then evil came unto me: and when I waited for light, there came darkness.

Job experiences a period of darkness and evil when he expects light and good.

1. The Reality of Darkness in the Life of a Believer

2. Finding Hope in the Midst of Suffering

1. Psalm 18:28 - For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.

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.

Job 30:27 My bowels boiled, and rested not: the days of affliction prevented me.

Job is expressing his suffering and despair after being afflicted by God.

1: We must learn to be patient and trust God even in times of suffering and despair.

2: We must open our hearts and minds to God's will even when it is 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: Romans 12:12 - "Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer."

Job 30:28 I went mourning without the sun: I stood up, and I cried in the congregation.

This passage from Job 30:28 describes the anguish Job felt as he stood and cried in the congregation during his mourning without the sun.

1. God Is With Us Even In Our Darkest Moments

2. The Power of Mournful Expression

1. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

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.

Job 30:29 I am a brother to dragons, and a companion to owls.

Job laments his condition, comparing himself to the creatures of the night.

1. The Power of Lament in Job's Suffering

2. Finding Companionship in Dark Times

1. Matthew 5:4 - Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Job 30:30 My skin is black upon me, and my bones are burned with heat.

Job is suffering greatly, both physically and emotionally, and his skin has become darkened from his distress.

1. God is in Control: Trust in His Sovereignty in the Midst of Suffering

2. The Blessing of Humility: Finding Strength in Weakness

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we rejoice 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. 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. 10 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.

Job 30:31 My harp also is turned to mourning, and my organ into the voice of them that weep.

This passage speaks about Job's sadness and grief being expressed through music.

1. Finding comfort in expressing grief through music

2. The importance of allowing ourselves to grieve

1. Psalm 147:3 - He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

2. 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.

Job chapter 31 showcases Job's final defense of his integrity and righteousness, as he presents a detailed list of moral principles and actions he has adhered to throughout his life.

1st Paragraph: Job declares that he has made a covenant with his eyes, vowing not to gaze lustfully upon women. He affirms his commitment to maintaining purity and avoiding sexual immorality (Job 31:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Job asserts that he has been honest in his business dealings, not engaging in deceit or taking advantage of others. He emphasizes the importance of fairness and integrity in financial transactions (Job 31:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: Job proclaims his faithfulness in marriage, stating that he has remained loyal to his wife and refrained from committing adultery. He expresses the severe consequences he believes should befall those who engage in such acts (Job 31:9-12).

4th Paragraph: Job highlights how he has treated those less fortunate with compassion and generosity. He describes how he provided for the poor, widows, orphans, and strangers, considering their needs as if they were his own (Job 31:13-23).

5th Paragraph: Job maintains that he has not placed trust in material possessions or worshipped them as idols. He denies any involvement in idolatry or giving undue importance to wealth (Job 31:24-28).

6th Paragraph: Job refutes accusations of rejoicing at the misfortune of others or seeking revenge against enemies. Instead, he claims to have shown kindness even towards those who harmed him (Job 31:29-34).

7th Paragraph: Job concludes by inviting God to examine his actions and weigh him on fair scales. He challenges anyone who can bring evidence against him regarding any wrongdoing committed throughout his life (Job 31:35-40).

In summary,

Chapter thirty-one of Job presents:

the comprehensive defense,

and affirmation expressed by Job regarding his adherence to moral principles.

Highlighting personal integrity through upholding various ethical standards,

and emphasizing accountability achieved through challenging scrutiny.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding exploring personal righteousness an embodiment representing a perspective on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 31:1 I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?

Job asserts his commitment to living a life of moral purity by making a covenant with his eyes to not look with lust upon a woman.

1. The Power of Making a Covenant with Ourselves

2. The Importance of Moral Purity

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. Proverbs 6:25 - Do not desire her beauty in your heart, and do not let her capture you with her eyelashes.

Job 31:2 For what portion of God is there from above? and what inheritance of the Almighty from on high?

This passage reflects on what portion of God is from above, and what inheritance from the Almighty is received from on high.

1. The Joy of Knowing the Lord - A look at the blessing of knowing God and what He has to offer us.

2. Understanding Our Place in the Kingdom - A study of the importance of recognizing our place in God's kingdom and how that affects our lives.

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. Jeremiah 32:38-41 They will be my people, and I will be their God. I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for their own good and the good of their children after them. I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them. And I will put the fear of me in their hearts, that they may not turn from me. I will rejoice in doing them good, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all my heart and all my soul.

Job 31:3 Is not destruction to the wicked? and a strange punishment to the workers of iniquity?

Job affirms the fate of the wicked and calls for justice.

1: God's justice is perfect and His punishment of the wicked is sure.

2: We are all accountable for our actions, and will face the consequences of our choices.

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 Thessalonians 1:5-10 - This will take place on the day when God will judge people's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

Job 31:4 Doth not he see my ways, and count all my steps?

This passage speaks to God's omniscience and sovereign control of all things.

1. God Sees All: Understanding the Sovereignty of God

2. Steps of Faith: Embracing God's Providence

1. Psalm 139:1-4 - O Lord, you have searched me and known 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.

Job 31:5 If I have walked with vanity, or if my foot hath hasted to deceit;

Job laments that he has not sinned by walking with vanity or hastening to deceit.

1. The Danger of Vanity and Deceit

2. Staying Away from the Paths of Vanity and Deceit

1. Proverbs 12:2 "A good man obtains favor from the Lord, but a man of wicked intentions he will condemn."

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."

Job 31:6 Let me be weighed in an even balance that God may know mine integrity.

This passage emphasizes the importance of integrity in one's life before God.

1. "The Need for Integrity: Finding Balance in Our Lives"

2. "God's Call to Integrity: Examining Our Lives Before Him"

1. Proverbs 11:1 - "A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is his delight."

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."

Job 31:7 If my step hath turned out of the way, and mine heart walked after mine eyes, and if any blot hath cleaved to mine hands;

Job recognizes his potential for sin and his need for repentance.

1: We must recognize our own weaknesses and turn to the Lord for repentance and strength.

2: We must never let our desires lead us astray from the Lord's path.

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 4:23-27 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. 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.

Job 31:8 Then let me sow, and let another eat; yea, let my offspring be rooted out.

Job declares that if he has sinned, he should be denied the right to have children and to reap the fruits of his labor.

1. The Consequences of Sin: How We Reap What We Sow

2. The Importance of Righteous Living in the Eyes of God

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 22:8 - Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of his fury will fail.

Job 31:9 If mine heart have been deceived by a woman, or if I have laid wait at my neighbour's door;

Job recognizes the temptation of sin and the importance of avoiding it to remain faithful.

1. "God's Glory Through Our Faithfulness"

2. "The Temptation of Sin and the Strength of Virtue"

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 7:24-27 - "Behold, I have walked according to my desire; I have set my heart upon my way. I have not let my mouth sin by asking for his life with a curse. I have not listened to the words of his mouth, nor inclined my heart to his ways. I have set my heart upon him, and I will keep his ways."

Job 31:10 Then let my wife grind unto another, and let others bow down upon her.

This passage speaks of Job's commitment to faithfulness in marriage.

1: "The Faithfulness of Marriage: A Call to Commitment"

2: "Preserving Marriage Through Faithfulness"

1: Ephesians 5:25-33 - Husbands should love their wives as Christ loved the Church and wives should respect their husbands.

2: Proverbs 5:18-19 - Enjoy the wife of your youth and let her be a loving deer and a graceful doe.

Job 31:11 For this is an heinous crime; yea, it is an iniquity to be punished by the judges.

This passage speaks of the heinousness of certain crimes and the need for punishment from the judges.

1. "The Gravity of Sin: Understanding the Need for Justice"

2. "Consequences of Wrongdoing: Punishment for an Iniquity"

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. 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.

Job 31:12 For it is a fire that consumeth to destruction, and would root out all mine increase.

This passage speaks of a fire that destroys and can take away all of our possessions.

1: God is the only one who can provide true and lasting security.

2: We cannot rely on the things of this world, but must place our trust in 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: 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.

Job 31:13 If I did despise the cause of my manservant or of my maidservant, when they contended with me;

This passage speaks of Job's commitment to treating his servants fairly.

1. The importance of respecting our employees and treating them with dignity.

2. Practical ways of showing our servants love and compassion.

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.

Job 31:14 What then shall I do when God riseth up? and when he visiteth, what shall I answer him?

Job reflects on the inevitability of facing God and what he will do when he arrives.

1. Preparing to Face God: Reflecting on Job 31:14.

2. Answering God: Examining Ourselves in Light of Job 31:14.

1. Romans 14:12 - So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:14 - For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Job 31:15 Did not he that made me in the womb make him? and did not one fashion us in the womb?

This passage discusses the idea that God is the one who created both Job and his enemy, thus emphasizing the importance of understanding that God is in control of all things.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding the Implications of Job 31:15

2. The Unity of Mankind: Deeper Reflections on Job 31:15

1. Psalm 139:13-16

2. Isaiah 44:2-5

Job 31:16 If I have withheld the poor from their desire, or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail;

Job has been reflecting on his righteousness and integrity, and here he states that he has not withheld good from the poor or caused the eyes of the widow to fail.

1. The Power of Generosity: How We Can Make a Difference in Others' Lives

2. Caring for the Vulnerable: An Invitation to Compassion

1. 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?

2. Isaiah 58:7-10 - 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?

Job 31:17 Or have eaten my morsel myself alone, and the fatherless hath not eaten thereof;

Job recognizes the importance of charity and shares his commitment to helping the poor and the fatherless.

1: God calls us to show compassion and generosity to those who are less fortunate, just as Job did.

2: Through our acts of kindness and charity, we can honor God and show our faith.

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: 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.

Job 31:18 (For from my youth he was brought up with me, as with a father, and I have guided her from my mother's womb;)

This passage describes the special bond between Job and his servant. It suggests that Job has provided the same kind of care and guidance to his servant as a parent would.

1. "The Bond of Family: The Parental Role in Relationships"

2. "God's Love in Action: Caring for Others as Ourselves"

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.

Job 31:19 If I have seen any perish for want of clothing, or any poor without covering;

This passage speaks of Job's commitment to care for those in need.

1. Faithful Compassion: Caring for the Needy

2. God's Call to Serve the Poor

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 58:7 - 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?

Job 31:20 If his loins have not blessed me, and if he were not warmed with the fleece of my sheep;

Job reflects on his faithful stewardship of his possessions and how it has blessed others.

1: We should be faithful stewards of the possessions entrusted to us, not only to benefit ourselves but to bless others.

2: We should strive to be generous and put others first, especially those who rely on us.

1: Luke 12:42-48 - Jesus teaches that we should be faithful stewards of the resources God has given us.

2: Acts 20:35 - Paul encourages believers to be generous and put others first.

Job 31:21 If I have lifted up my hand against the fatherless, when I saw my help in the gate:

Job laments his own integrity and devotion to God and His commands, knowing his wrongdoings will be judged.

1. Keeping God's Commands: Job 31:21 as a Model of Righteous Living

2. The Importance of Protecting the Vulnerable: Finding Strength in Job 31:21

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.

Job 31:22 Then let mine arm fall from my shoulder blade, and mine arm be broken from the bone.

This passage emphasizes Job's confidence in his innocence and righteousness.

1: God is the ultimate judge of our actions and it is our responsibility to remain righteous and humble before him.

2: We must always remain confident in our own innocence and righteousness and trust that God will judge us rightly.

1: Proverbs 16:2 All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weights the spirit.

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.

Job 31:23 For destruction from God was a terror to me, and by reason of his highness I could not endure.

Job expresses that God's destruction is a source of terror to him and he is unable to stand before God's greatness.

1. The Fear of the Lord: Learning to Respect God's Power

2. Trusting in the Sovereignty of God: Overcoming Fear through Faith

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 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.

Job 31:24 If I have made gold my hope, or have said to the fine gold, Thou art my confidence;

Job has put his hope in material possessions instead of God.

1. "Our Hope Should be in God, Not Gold"

2. "The Danger of Putting our Trust in Riches"

1. Proverbs 11:28 "Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf."

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."

Job 31:25 If I rejoiced because my wealth was great, and because mine hand had gotten much;

Job reflects on his past actions and recognizes that if he had rejoiced in his wealth and possessions, it would have been wrong.

1. The Danger of Rejoicing in Wealth

2. The Value of Contentment

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. Matthew 6:24-25 - 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.

Job 31:26 If I beheld the sun when it shined, or the moon walking in brightness;

This passage speaks of the beauty of nature and its connection to God.

1. Creation is Awe-Inspiring: Discovering the Wonder of God in Nature

2. The Majesty of the Heavens: Reflecting on the Glory of God

1. Psalm 19:1-4

2. Romans 1:20-22

Job 31:27 And my heart hath been secretly enticed, or my mouth hath kissed my hand:

Job acknowledges his own human frailty by admitting he has been tempted to act in ways contrary to God's will.

1. The Power of Temptation: How to Overcome Temptation in Our Lives

2. Acknowledging Our Weakness: Admitting Our Need for God's Strength

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. But 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. 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.

Job 31:28 This also were an iniquity to be punished by the judge: for I should have denied the God that is above.

Job acknowledges his guilt before God and confesses that he would be deserving of punishment.

1. The Power of Confession: How Repentance Brings Restoration

2. The Fear of the Lord: An Invitation to Righteousness

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 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Job 31:29 If I rejoiced at the destruction of him that hated me, or lifted up myself when evil found him:

This passage speaks of not rejoicing over the downfall of those who were enemies, but instead showing mercy.

1. "The Power of Mercy: Showing Love In The Face of Hate"

2. "Turning The Other Cheek: How to Respond to Enemies"

1. Luke 6:27-36

2. Romans 12:17-21

Job 31:30 Neither have I suffered my mouth to sin by wishing a curse to his soul.

Job affirms his innocence in not wishing harm to another person.

1. The Blessing of Purity: A Study on Job 31:30

2. Refraining from Speaking Evil: The Power of Job's Words

1. 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.

2. James 3:10 - From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

Job 31:31 If the men of my tabernacle said not, Oh that we had of his flesh! we cannot be satisfied.

This passage reveals Job's trust in God, even when his friends criticized him.

1. "Trust in God's Plan: Lessons from Job"

2. "Persevere in Faith: The Story of Job"

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 the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Job 31:32 The stranger did not lodge in the street: but I opened my doors to the traveller.

Job opened his doors to travelers, ensuring they had a place to stay.

1. We are all strangers in this world, and we need to care for one another.

2. We should follow Job's example of hospitality towards those in need.

1. Ephesians 4:32 - "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

2. Romans 12:13 - "Share with the Lord s people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

Job 31:33 If I covered my transgressions as Adam, by hiding mine iniquity in my bosom:

Job acknowledges his own guilt and humbly confesses his sins.

1. The Consequences of Hiding Our Sins

2. The Wisdom of Confessing Our Sins

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 28:13 - He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

Job 31:34 Did I fear a great multitude, or did the contempt of families terrify me, that I kept silence, and went not out of the door?

Job expresses his innocence in his dealings with others, pleading his case against any accusation of guilt.

1: We should always be mindful of our actions and their consequences, even if it means facing the judgement of others.

2: God has given us free will to choose how we treat others, and we must always remain mindful of our choices.

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: Romans 12:18 - If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

Job 31:35 Oh that one would hear me! behold, my desire is, that the Almighty would answer me, and that mine adversary had written a book.

Job longs to have God answer his prayers and his adversary write a book.

1. The Power of Prayer: Understanding the Longing of Job

2. Unanswered Prayers: Learning to Lean on God s Timing

1. James 5:13-18 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

2. Psalm 143:1-6 - Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my supplications! In Your faithfulness answer me, and in Your righteousness.

Job 31:36 Surely I would take it upon my shoulder, and bind it as a crown to me.

Job affirms his integrity, declaring that he would take any wrong he has done upon himself and wear it as a crown.

1. "The Crown of Humility: Embracing Our Mistakes"

2. "The Beauty of Taking Responsibility"

1. James 4:6-7 - "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

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

Job 31:37 I would declare unto him the number of my steps; as a prince would I go near unto him.

Job expresses his desire to approach God and explain his actions and conduct.

1. The Power of Confession and Self-Reflection

2. Approaching God with Humility

1. James 5:16 - Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

2. Luke 18:9-14 - Jesus told a parable of a humble tax collector praying to God.

Job 31:38 If my land cry against me, or that the furrows likewise thereof complain;

The passage speaks to Job's consideration of his responsibility to care for his land.

1. Cultivating a Heart of Stewardship: Learning from Job's Example

2. The Joy of Giving: How Generosity Can Transform Our Lives

1. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

2. 1 Corinthians 4:2 - Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

Job 31:39 If I have eaten the fruits thereof without money, or have caused the owners thereof to lose their life:

Job reflects on a potential sin of his, wondering if he had taken another's livelihood without payment or taken another's life.

1: Everyone has a responsibility to treat their neighbor with respect and kindness.

2: We must be honest and accountable for our actions, and willing to accept the consequences of our choices.

1: James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

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.

Job 31:40 Let thistles grow instead of wheat, and cockle instead of barley. The words of Job are ended.

Job teaches us to accept our suffering and trust in God.

1: We may not understand why suffering comes into our lives, but we must trust in God and accept it.

2: Even when life seems unfair, the Lord is our refuge and comfort.

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 8:18 "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."

Job chapter 32 introduces a new character named Elihu, who has been silently listening to the conversation between Job and his friends. Elihu becomes frustrated with Job's friends for their inability to refute him and decides to speak up.

1st Paragraph: Elihu, a young man who had been present during the previous discussions, expresses his frustration towards Job's friends for failing to provide convincing arguments against him. He states that he has been holding back from speaking because of his youthfulness compared to the older men (Job 32:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Elihu explains that he believes wisdom comes from God and that age does not necessarily equate to understanding. He claims that he is filled with the spirit of God and desires to share his insights (Job 32:7-22).

In summary,

Chapter thirty-two of Job presents:

the introduction,

and frustration expressed by Elihu regarding the inadequate responses provided by Job's friends.

Highlighting youthful perspective through emphasizing age as not necessarily synonymous with wisdom,

and emphasizing divine inspiration achieved through claiming spiritual guidance.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding introducing a new voice an embodiment representing a perspective on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 32:1 So these three men ceased to answer Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes.

Job was right in his own eyes and the three men had nothing to say in response.

1: We must be humble and submit to God's will humbly, as Job did.

2: We must be careful not to be so sure of ourselves that we can't listen to the wisdom of others.

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 1:19-20 "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."

Job 32:2 Then was kindled the wrath of Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite, of the kindred of Ram: against Job was his wrath kindled, because he justified himself rather than God.

Elihu's wrath was kindled against Job for justifying himself instead of God.

1. We must always put God first and trust in His justice, even when it is difficult to understand.

2. The story of Job teaches us to humble ourselves before the Lord and be content with His will.

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. James 4:6-10 - "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. 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."

Job 32:3 Also against his three friends was his wrath kindled, because they had found no answer, and yet had condemned Job.

Job's three friends were angry with him for not being able to answer their questions and for condemning Job.

1. God's Grace and Mercy are Unlimited

2. God is Sovereign and His Plans are Perfect

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 2:4-5 - But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions it is by grace you have been saved.

Job 32:4 Now Elihu had waited till Job had spoken, because they were elder than he.

Elihu waited to speak until after Job and the elders had spoken.

1: It is important to respect the wisdom of those who are older and more experienced.

2: Patience is a virtue - even when we are eager to share our own thoughts, we must be respectful of the opinions of others.

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: Proverbs 15:23 - "A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!"

Job 32:5 When Elihu saw that there was no answer in the mouth of these three men, then his wrath was kindled.

Elihu's wrath was kindled when he saw that the three men had nothing to say in response.

1: We must be careful not to be so focused on our own opinions that we fail to listen to the wisdom of others.

2: We must be willing to accept correction and be open to criticism, as it can be a form of instruction.

1: Proverbs 12:1 - Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid.

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.

Job 32:6 And Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite answered and said, I am young, and ye are very old; wherefore I was afraid, and durst not shew you mine opinion.

Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite speaks, revealing that he was intimidated by the age difference between himself and those he was speaking to, and so was hesitant to give his opinion.

1. God calls us to courageously speak our truth even in the face of adversity.

2. We should not be intimidated by age or position when it comes to expressing our opinions.

1. Joshua 1:6-9 - Be strong and courageous, 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.

Job 32:7 I said, Days should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom.

This verse suggests that wisdom can be gained through experience and the passing of time.

1: Wisdom Comes Through Experience

2: Patience is Key to Gaining Understanding

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 4:7 - The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight.

Job 32:8 But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.

Elihu speaks of the importance of the spirit of man, and that it is the inspiration of God that brings understanding.

1. The Spirit in Man: Relying on the Inspiration of the Almighty

2.Understanding Through the Inspiration of God

1. John 16:13 - When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth.

2. Romans 8:14 - For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Job 32:9 Great men are not always wise: neither do the aged understand judgment.

This passage highlights that wisdom and understanding do not necessarily increase with age and social status.

1: Wisdom is not found in the number of years you have lived or the status you have achieved in life.

2: We must recognize that wisdom comes from God and is not determined by our age or social standing.

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 9:10 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the holy one is insight."

Job 32:10 Therefore I said, Hearken to me; I also will shew mine opinion.

Job 32:10 is about Job expressing his opinion.

1: We should all take the time to express our opinions.

2: Learning to listen to the opinion of others is essential in understanding our world.

1: James 1:19 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

2: Proverbs 18:2 - A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion.

Job 32:11 Behold, I waited for your words; I gave ear to your reasons, whilst ye searched out what to say.

Job was listening attentively to his friends while they tried to think of something to say.

1) The importance of listening to others and being patient.

2) Don't be quick to speak and instead listen before offering advice.

1) James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

2) Proverbs 18:13 - "If one gives an answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame."

Job 32:12 Yea, I attended unto you, and, behold, there was none of you that convinced Job, or that answered his words:

None of Job's three friends were able to answer his questions or provide him with convincing counsel.

1. The Importance of Listening to Others

2. The Need for Wise Counsel

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.

Job 32:13 Lest ye should say, We have found out wisdom: God thrusteth him down, not man.

The passage suggests that wisdom is not found out by mankind, but rather it is God who allows it to be known.

1. Discovering the Wisdom of God

2. Recognizing that Wisdom Comes from Above

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.

Job 32:14 Now he hath not directed his words against me: neither will I answer him with your speeches.

This passage speaks of Job's refusal to respond to his friends with their arguments.

1. We should be careful to respond to criticism with grace and understanding rather than defensiveness.

2. Even when we are in the right, it is important to respond to others with love and kindness.

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. 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."

Job 32:15 They were amazed, they answered no more: they left off speaking.

The people Job was speaking to were so overwhelmed by his words that they had no response and stopped speaking.

1. God's Word is powerful and should not be taken lightly.

2. Speak with wisdom and be mindful of the impact of your words.

1. Proverbs 15:7 - "The lips of the wise spread knowledge; not so the hearts of fools."

2. 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."

Job 32:16 When I had waited, (for they spake not, but stood still, and answered no more;)

Job had waited for his friends to stop talking and respond, but they remained silent.

1: We should never remain silent in the face of our friends' need for help.

2: We should always be willing to speak words of comfort and support to those who are in need.

1: James 1:19 - Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

2: Proverbs 25:11 - A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.

Job 32:17 I said, I will answer also my part, I also will shew mine opinion.

Elihu is determined to answer and express his opinion.

1. Taking Responsibility for Our Thoughts and Words

2. Speaking Up With Faith and Confidence

1. Proverbs 16:24 - Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.

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.

Job 32:18 For I am full of matter, the spirit within me constraineth me.

This passage from Job 32:18 reveals the inner struggle Job is feeling as he is filled with matter and his spirit is constraining him.

1. God is always present in our struggle, no matter how difficult it may be.

2. Remember to seek God's guidance in times of inner conflict.

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - "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. Isaiah 40:29 - "He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength."

Job 32:19 Behold, my belly is as wine which hath no vent; it is ready to burst like new bottles.

Job compares himself to wine that is ready to burst as it has no vent.

1. The Pressure of Life: How to Cope With Stress in a Healthy Way

2. Knowing When to Let Go: Finding Peace When Life Gets Overwhelming

1. Romans 8:18-25 - The Hope of Glory

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be Still and Know That I am God

Job 32:20 I will speak, that I may be refreshed: I will open my lips and answer.

Job longs to be able to speak and be refreshed.

1. The Comfort of Speaking Out: How to Find Refreshment in Openness

2. The Power of Vocalizing Your Faith: Discovering Strength in Prayer

1. James 5:13-16 - Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise.

2. Psalm 19:14 - Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

Job 32:21 Let me not, I pray you, accept any man's person, neither let me give flattering titles unto man.

Job implores people to not accept favoritism or flattery from people.

1. The Danger of Flattery: How to Discern Godly Advice from Man's Opinion

2. The Power of Humility: Rejecting the Temptation of Flattery

1. 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.

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.

Job 32:22 For I know not to give flattering titles; in so doing my maker would soon take me away.

Job does not flatter others, as he is aware that this would displease God.

1. The importance of being honest in our interactions with others.

2. How God values humility and sincerity in our relationships.

1. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

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.

Job chapter 33 features Elihu continuing his response to Job, asserting that he speaks on behalf of God and offering a different perspective on Job's suffering.

1st Paragraph: Elihu addresses Job directly, urging him to listen attentively to his words. He claims that he will speak with wisdom and understanding (Job 33:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: Elihu argues against Job's claim of being innocent before God. He asserts that God is greater than any human and communicates with individuals in various ways, including through dreams and visions (Job 33:8-18).

3rd Paragraph: Elihu emphasizes that God uses suffering as a means of discipline to bring individuals back from the brink of destruction. He suggests that pain and affliction can serve as a way for God to preserve one's soul from the path of destruction (Job 33:19-30).

4th Paragraph: Elihu encourages Job to confess his wrongdoing if he has committed any sins. He assures him that God is merciful and willing to forgive those who repent sincerely (Job 33:31-33).

In summary,

Chapter thirty-three of Job presents:

the continuation,

and perspective expressed by Elihu regarding the purpose behind suffering and the need for repentance.

Highlighting divine communication through emphasizing various ways in which God interacts with humans,

and emphasizing spiritual discipline achieved through suggesting suffering as a means for personal growth.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding offering an alternative viewpoint an embodiment representing a perspective on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 33:1 Wherefore, Job, I pray thee, hear my speeches, and hearken to all my words.

Job listens to Elihu's speeches and words of wisdom.

1: Wisdom is found in different forms and it is important to take the time to listen to the different sources of wisdom.

2: We can learn valuable lessons from listening to others and having an open mind.

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 1:19-20 - 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.

Job 33:2 Behold, now I have opened my mouth, my tongue hath spoken in my mouth.

The passage is about Job opening his mouth and speaking with his tongue.

1. The Power of Words - How the words we speak can have a powerful impact on our lives.

2. Speak Life - The power of speaking words of life and encouragement.

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

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.

Job 33:3 My words shall be of the uprightness of my heart: and my lips shall utter knowledge clearly.

Job is emphasizing the importance of speaking truthfully and clearly.

1. The Power of Upright Speech - Using words that reflect the integrity of our heart.

2. The Impact of Honest Words - Understanding the importance of speaking truthfully.

1. Psalm 15:2 - He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

2. Proverbs 12:17 - He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit.

Job 33:4 The spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life.

Job acknowledges that God is responsible for his life and all that it encompasses.

1. The Breath of Life: Celebrating the Gift of Life from God

2. The Spirit of God: Understanding Our Purpose in Creation

1. 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.

2. John 4:24 - God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Job 33:5 If thou canst answer me, set thy words in order before me, stand up.

Job is asking for an answer to a question and calling for an organized response.

1: When we communicate with God, we must do so in an orderly and organized manner.

2: When we seek answers from God, we must be prepared to provide an organized and logical response.

1: Proverbs 15:28 - "The heart of the righteous studies how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours forth evil."

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."

Job 33:6 Behold, I am according to thy wish in God's stead: I also am formed out of the clay.

God formed Job out of the clay and is in His stead.

1. The Humility of God: Knowing that God humbly chose to form us out of clay can help us to live more humbly ourselves.

2. The Gift of Creation: God has given us the gift of life and the privilege of being formed out of clay.

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

2. Genesis 2:7 - Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Job 33:7 Behold, my terror shall not make thee afraid, neither shall my hand be heavy upon thee.

God assures Job that He will not bring terror or put a heavy burden upon him.

1. God's Promise of Comfort - How God's love and protection can bring us peace and strength in difficult times.

2. God's Strength is Our Shield - How we can use God's power to protect us from the troubles of this life.

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 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.

Job 33:8 Surely thou hast spoken in mine hearing, and I have heard the voice of thy words, saying,

God speaks to us through His Word.

1: We must pay attention and listen when God speaks to us through His Word.

2: We should take the time to reflect on what God is saying and how it applies to our lives.

1: Proverbs 8:34-35 - Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors. For whoever finds me finds life and receives favor from the Lord.

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.

Job 33:9 I am clean without transgression, I am innocent; neither is there iniquity in me.

Job affirms his innocence and lack of transgression, stressing that there is no iniquity in him.

1. The power of affirming innocence in the face of adversity

2. Learning to trust in God s judgement of us

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. Matthew 11:28 - Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Job 33:10 Behold, he findeth occasions against me, he counteth me for his enemy,

Job's suffering is caused by God, who finds occasions against him and counts him as his enemy.

1. Don't Lose Faith in Times of Suffering - Trusting God in the Midst of Difficulty

2. The Sovereignty of God in Suffering - Understanding God's Power and Love in Painful Times

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.

Job 33:11 He putteth my feet in the stocks, he marketh all my paths.

God has control over every path we take and every step we make.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding God's Control Over Us

2. How to Recognize God's Direction in Our Lives

1. Proverbs 16:9 - "In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps."

2. Psalm 139:3 - "You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways."

Job 33:12 Behold, in this thou art not just: I will answer thee, that God is greater than man.

This passage emphasizes the superiority of God over man.

1. The Almighty God - How God is Greater than Man

2. Humility - Why We Should Remember God is Above All

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. James 4:10 "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

Job 33:13 Why dost thou strive against him? for he giveth not account of any of his matters.

Job questions why humans try to challenge God when He does not explain His actions.

1. "Trusting God Even When We Don't Understand"

2. "Submitting to God's Will"

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. 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.)

Job 33:14 For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not.

God speaks to us, but we often fail to listen.

1. "Hear the Voice of the Lord"

2. "God is Speaking - Are You Listening?"

1. 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."

2. 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."

Job 33:15 In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumberings upon the bed;

Job experiences a dream in which he is given divine instruction.

1. Dreams: A Bridge To The Divine

2. The Power of Sleep: An Opportunity For Spiritual Reflection

1. Genesis 28:10-17 - Jacob's dream of a ladder to heaven

2. Psalm 127:2 - God gives us rest and sleep for our physical and spiritual benefit

Job 33:16 Then he openeth the ears of men, and sealeth their instruction,

Job encourages believers to open their ears to God's instruction and accept it.

1. "The Power of Listening to God's Word"

2. "Seeking God's Instruction for 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 1:19 - My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

Job 33:17 That he may withdraw man from his purpose, and hide pride from man.

This passage speaks of God's power to take away man's pride and turn him away from his own purposes.

1. The Power of God: Seeing God's Hand in Our Lives

2. Turning Away from Pride: Overcoming Our Own Desires

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, 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.

Job 33:18 He keepeth back his soul from the pit, and his life from perishing by the sword.

This verse from Job speaks of God's power to save us from destruction.

1. God's protection in times of danger

2. The power of faith in God

1. Psalm 91:9-11 - Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place the Most High, who is my refuge 10 no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. 11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

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.

Job 33:19 He is chastened also with pain upon his bed, and the multitude of his bones with strong pain:

Job suffered physical pain and torment due to God's chastisement.

1. God's Discipline: The Necessary Pain of Our Growth

2. The Value of Suffering: Working for Our Greater Good

1. Hebrews 12:5-11

2. Romans 5:3-5

Job 33:20 So that his life abhorreth bread, and his soul dainty meat.

Job laments the suffering of a person whose physical and spiritual hunger cannot be satisfied.

1. "The Suffering of Spiritual Hunger"

2. "The Inability to Satisfy Physical and Spiritual Needs"

1. Psalm 107:9 - "For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness."

2. Matthew 5:6 - "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled."

Job 33:21 His flesh is consumed away, that it cannot be seen; and his bones that were not seen stick out.

Job's flesh is wasting away, and his bones are beginning to protrude.

1. "Life is Fleeting: Living for the Moment"

2. "The Reality of Suffering: Finding Comfort in Turmoil"

1. Psalm 39:4-5 - "Lord, make me to know my end, and what is the measure of my days, that I may know how frail I am. Indeed, You have made my days as handbreadths, and my age is as nothing before You; surely every man at his best state is but vapor."

2. Isaiah 40:30-31 - "Even the 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."

Job 33:22 Yea, his soul draweth near unto the grave, and his life to the destroyers.

Job reflects on the inevitability of death and its destructive powers.

1. The Transience of Life: Understanding Impermanence in a World of Suffering

2. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding His Plan in the Face of Death

1. Hebrews 9:27-28 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.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:2 A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted.

Job 33:23 If there be a messenger with him, an interpreter, one among a thousand, to shew unto man his uprightness:

Job's faith and trust in God is reaffirmed by the presence of a messenger.

1: We can always trust God to be with us in our darkest times.

2: God will always provide us with a messenger to help us through our struggles.

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."

Job 33:24 Then he is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found a ransom.

Job finds redemption through God's grace.

1: God offers us redemption through His grace.

2: We can always find salvation in God's mercy.

1: 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.

2: Ephesians 1:7-8 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

Job 33:25 His flesh shall be fresher than a child's: he shall return to the days of his youth:

Job had a spiritual renewal that brought about a physical transformation.

1: God is able to work in our lives in miraculous ways, not only to change our circumstances, but to transform us from the inside out.

2: We can trust God to make all things new despite our current struggles and suffering.

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: 2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

Job 33:26 He shall pray unto God, and he will be favourable unto him: and he shall see his face with joy: for he will render unto man his righteousness.

God is willing to be favorable to those who earnestly seek Him.

1: God is willing to be favorable to those who seek Him in faith.

2: We can find joy by seeking God's righteousness.

1: Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

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.

Job 33:27 He looketh upon men, and if any say, I have sinned, and perverted that which was right, and it profited me not;

Job reveals that God takes notice of men who confess their sins and repent.

1: Confess Your Sins and Repent - Job 33:27

2: The Profitability of Repentance - Job 33:27

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: Luke 13:3 - I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.

Job 33:28 He will deliver his soul from going into the pit, and his life shall see the light.

God is able to save us from our suffering and deliver us to a life of light.

1: God is our Savior, Redeemer, and Deliverer.

2: In the midst of darkness, God brings light.

1: Psalm 40:2 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.

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.

Job 33:29 Lo, all these things worketh God oftentimes with man,

God works in mysterious ways and often uses unexpected events to shape the lives of his people.

1: Through God's mysterious ways, we may be tested and strengthened.

2: We can trust in God's plan even if we cannot understand 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: 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.

Job 33:30 To bring back his soul from the pit, to be enlightened with the light of the living.

God can save us from the depths of despair and fill us with hope through the light of the living.

1. The Pit of Despair: Finding Hope in God's Light

2. Lost and Found: Restoring Our Souls with the Light of the Living

1. Psalm 40:2 "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings."

2. Isaiah 58:8 "Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward."

Job 33:31 Mark well, O Job, hearken unto me: hold thy peace, and I will speak.

The passage encourages Job to listen and be silent so that God can speak.

1. God's Word is the Most Important Voice

2. Let God Speak Through Our Silence

1. James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

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!"

Job 33:32 If thou hast anything to say, answer me: speak, for I desire to justify thee.

Job longs to vindicate the wronged and is willing to listen and consider evidence.

1. We must be willing to accept and consider truth, regardless of the source.

2. God desires justice and righteousness, and we should, too.

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. 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."

Job 33:33 If not, hearken unto me: hold thy peace, and I shall teach thee wisdom.

Job encourages us to listen to him and receive wisdom.

1. Be Still and Listen to God - Psalm 46:10

2. Wisdom Comes from God - James 1:5

1. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am 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.

Job chapter 34 continues with Elihu's response to Job, as he asserts God's justice and refutes Job's claim of being treated unfairly.

1st Paragraph: Elihu addresses both Job and his friends, urging them to listen carefully to his words. He declares that he will speak with wisdom and understanding (Job 34:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Elihu asserts that God is just and does not pervert justice. He emphasizes that God cannot be influenced by human actions or swayed by wickedness (Job 34:5-12).

3rd Paragraph: Elihu criticizes Job for questioning the righteousness of God, arguing that it is inconceivable for the Almighty to act unjustly. He highlights that God is aware of every person's actions and judges them accordingly (Job 34:13-20).

4th Paragraph: Elihu warns against placing trust in earthly rulers or seeking favor from them, as they are fallible. Instead, he emphasizes the importance of recognizing God's sovereignty and submitting to His authority (Job 34:21-30).

5th Paragraph: Elihu concludes by urging Job to repent and acknowledge his wrongdoing if he has sinned. He assures him that if Job turns back to righteousness, he will be restored by God's mercy (Job 34:31-37).

In summary,

Chapter thirty-four of Job presents:

the continuation,

and defense expressed by Elihu regarding the justice of God and admonishing Job for questioning divine righteousness.

Highlighting divine justice through emphasizing God's impartiality,

and emphasizing personal accountability achieved through urging repentance.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding providing a counterargument an embodiment representing a perspective on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 34:1 Furthermore Elihu answered and said,

Elihu speaks about God's justice and righteousness.

1: God's justice and righteousness is perfect and unassailable.

2: We can trust in God's perfect justice and righteousness.

1: Isaiah 45:21-22 Declare what is to be, present it let them take counsel together. Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from ancient times? Was it not I, the Lord? And there is no God apart from me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me.

2: Romans 3:21-26 But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 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 the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. 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

Job 34:2 Hear my words, O ye wise men; and give ear unto me, ye that have knowledge.

Job questions the wisdom and understanding of his three friends.

1. The True Source of Wisdom: Recognizing the Need for God's Guidance

2. Acknowledging the Limitations of Human Knowledge

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 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.

Job 34:3 For the ear trieth words, as the mouth tasteth meat.

This verse suggests that we should be careful with our words, as they can be tasted like food.

1: We should choose our words wisely, for they can have a lasting impact.

2: Words have power, so use them to build and not to destroy.

1: Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

2: Proverbs 16:24 - Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

Job 34:4 Let us choose to us judgment: let us know among ourselves what is good.

This passage encourages us to make wise decisions and to be honest and considerate of others in our choices.

1. "The Power of Choice: Making Right Decisions"

2. "The Importance of Being Considerate and Honest with Others"

1. Proverbs 3:5-7 - 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.

7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Job 34:5 For Job hath said, I am righteous: and God hath taken away my judgment.

Job laments about the injustice he has experienced and God's apparent disregard for justice.

1: God is just and will always render judgement fairly.

2: We should not question God's decisions, even when we don't understand them.

1: Isaiah 40:13-14 "Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?"

2: Isaiah 45:21 "Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the LORD? and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me."

Job 34:6 Should I lie against my right? my wound is incurable without transgression.

This passage describes the consequences of wrong-doing, with Job questioning whether he should lie against his right and acknowledging his wound is incurable without transgression.

1. The Healing Power of Admitting Wrong: How Acknowledging Our Sins Can Lead to Restoration

2. The Dangers of Deceit: How Lying Against Our Righteousness Can Lead to Serious Consequences

Cross-

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. Proverbs 28:13 - "Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."

Job 34:7 What man is like Job, who drinketh up scorning like water?

Job is an example of a righteous man who can handle insults with humility.

1. Let us learn from Job's example of humility and righteousness.

2. Even when we are treated unfairly, we must strive to respond with grace and poise.

1. Proverbs 15:1 - "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

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."

Job 34:8 Which goeth in company with the workers of iniquity, and walketh with wicked men.

Job states that some people associate with the wicked and walk with them.

1. We must be careful who we associate with and how it reflects on our own character.

2. It is unwise to walk in the company of the wicked, as it can lead us astray.

1. 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.

2. Proverbs 13:20 - Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

Job 34:9 For he hath said, It profiteth a man nothing that he should delight himself with God.

This passage speaks of the futility of trying to please God through one's own works.

1. "The Vanity of Self-Righteousness"

2. "The Unfailing Grace of God"

1. Romans 3:20-24 - For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

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.

Job 34:10 Therefore hearken unto me ye men of understanding: far be it from God, that he should do wickedness; and from the Almighty, that he should commit iniquity.

Job challenges the men of understanding to listen to him, as it is impossible for God to do wickedness or for the Almighty to commit iniquity.

1. Embrace Wisdom and Forsake Wickedness

2. God is Unchanging and Unwavering in His Goodness

1. Psalm 33:4, "For the word of the Lord is right and all His works are done in truth."

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."

Job 34:11 For the work of a man shall he render unto him, and cause every man to find according to his ways.

The Lord will reward us according to our deeds.

1: Doing What is Right - We will be rewarded for our good deeds, as God is just and fair.

2: Working For The Lord - We should strive to please the Lord with our actions, and He will reward us for it.

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 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.

Job 34:12 Yea, surely God will not do wickedly, neither will the Almighty pervert judgment.

This passage highlights God's righteousness and justice, stating that God will never do anything wicked nor will He pervert judgement.

1. God's Unfailing Righteousness: Examining the Justice of Our Creator

2. Standing Firm in Faith: Trusting God's Justice in Times of Trouble

1. Genesis 18:25 - Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?

2. Psalm 19:9 - The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

Job 34:13 Who hath given him a charge over the earth? or who hath disposed the whole world?

This passage speaks of God's sovereignty and authority over the earth and the world.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding the Limitless Power of God

2. The Power of God: Our Need to Acknowledge and Obey

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. 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.

Job 34:14 If he set his heart upon man, if he gather unto himself his spirit and his breath;

This passage describes how God has a will and power over man and can choose to withdraw his spirit and breath from human life.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Power of God's Will Over Man

2. Understanding Submission to God's Will

1. Romans 9:17-18 - 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 33:10-11 - The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect. The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Job 34:15 All flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again unto dust.

All people will eventually die and return to dust.

1. No matter our status, death is the great equalizer.

2. In the end, all of us will face mortality.

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

2. Psalm 90:3, "Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men."

Job 34:16 If now thou hast understanding, hear this: hearken to the voice of my words.

Job is asking people to listen to his words if they have understanding.

1. We must always open our hearts and minds to understanding and wisdom.

2. Listen to the words of those around you - you may find something valuable.

1. Proverbs 1:5, "Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance."

2. James 1:19, "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

Job 34:17 Shall even he that hateth right govern? and wilt thou condemn him that is most just?

Job 34:17 questions whether those who hate justice can still be in positions of power and whether the most just can be condemned.

1: We must ensure that those who are in positions of power are just and not use their power to oppress the innocent.

2: We must recognize the importance of justice and always strive to pursue it, even when it is difficult.

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: 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.

Job 34:18 Is it fit to say to a king, Thou art wicked? and to princes, Ye are ungodly?

God expects us to treat one another with respect, even when we disagree.

1. Respect of Authority: God's Expectations for Us

2. What Does it Mean to Be Respectful?

1. Ephesians 6:5-7 - Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ.

2. Proverbs 15:1 - A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Job 34:19 How much less to him that accepteth not the persons of princes, nor regardeth the rich more than the poor? for they all are the work of his hands.

God does not favor the wealthy or powerful over the poor and weak. All people are equally valued in His eyes.

1. The Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus: God Values Everyone Equally

2. The Power of Humility: Seeking God before Seeking Wealth and Prestige

1. James 2:1-4 - Do not show partiality to the wealthy

2. Matthew 5:3 - Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

Job 34:20 In a moment shall they die, and the people shall be troubled at midnight, and pass away: and the mighty shall be taken away without hand.

God's power is such that even mighty people can be taken away in an instant.

1: We must recognize God's power and authority.

2: Live a life of faithfulness in service to God, knowing He has ultimate control.

1: 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,

2: Psalm 55:22 Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

Job 34:21 For his eyes are upon the ways of man, and he seeth all his goings.

This verse from Job illustrates that God is aware of everything that people do, and that He knows their every action.

1: God is Watching - We must always remember that God is aware of our every action, and that He is watching us.

2: God is Omniscient and Omnipotent - God is all-knowing and all-powerful, and He is aware of everything that we do.

1: Psalm 139:7-12 - 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. 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.

2: 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.

Job 34:22 There is no darkness, nor shadow of death, where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.

No one can hide from God's judgment, even in the darkness and shadows of the grave.

1. The Unavoidable Judgment of God

2. The Inescapable Reach of God's Justice

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. 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.

Job 34:23 For he will not lay upon man more than right; that he should enter into judgment with God.

Job recognizes that God is just and will not require more of man than is right.

1. The Justice and Mercy of God

2. Trusting in the Righteousness of God

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. 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.

Job 34:24 He shall break in pieces mighty men without number, and set others in their stead.

God is sovereign and is able to bring down the proud and powerful and to raise up the humble and powerless.

1. God is in Control: Lessons from Job 34:24

2. From the Powerful to the Powerless: Examining Job 34:24

1. Isaiah 40:21-22 - "Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

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.

Job 34:25 Therefore he knoweth their works, and he overturneth them in the night, so that they are destroyed.

God is aware of the works of mankind and can turn them away and destroy them in an instant.

1. We should always be aware of God's omnipotence and how He can destroy our works in an instant.

2. God will always be there to judge us in the end, and our works will not go unrecognized.

1. Psalm 33:13-15 - The Lord looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men. From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth. He fashioneth their hearts alike; he considereth all their works.

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.

Job 34:26 He striketh them as wicked men in the open sight of others;

God punishes the wicked for their transgressions in the presence of others.

1. The Cost of Wrongdoing: The Consequences of Sin

2. The Justice of God: How He Deals with Sinners

1. Proverbs 11:21 - Be sure of this: The wicked will not go unpunished, but those who are righteous will go free.

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.

Job 34:27 Because they turned back from him, and would not consider any of his ways:

People have turned away from God and have not taken into account any of His ways.

1. The Lord's Ways are Righteous - Isaiah 55:8-9

2. Trust in the Lord - Proverbs 3:5-6

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.

12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.

13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

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

Job 34:28 So that they cause the cry of the poor to come unto him, and he heareth the cry of the afflicted.

Job recognizes God's mercy and compassion for the suffering.

1: God's Mercy and Compassion for the Suffering

2: The Cry of the Poor and Afflicted Heard by God

1: Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

2: Psalm 145:18 - The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Job 34:29 When he giveth quietness, who then can make trouble? and when he hideth his face, who then can behold him? whether it be done against a nation, or against a man only:

God is the only one who can bring peace and who can be hidden from man.

1: God is the ultimate source of peace and comfort.

2: God is sovereign and beyond our understanding.

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 91:1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

Job 34:30 That the hypocrite reign not, lest the people be ensnared.

Job is warning that hypocrites should not be given power, so as to not ensnare the people.

1: We must choose leaders of integrity and character, so as not to lead the people astray.

2: We should be aware of our own hypocrisy and strive to be honest and authentic in our own lives.

1: Proverbs 11:3 The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.

2: Matthew 6:1-2 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.

Job 34:31 Surely it is meet to be said unto God, I have borne chastisement, I will not offend any more:

The passage speaks of the need to accept chastisement and not offend God anymore.

1: Accepting Chastisement as a Pathway to Righteousness

2: Repenting from Offense and Growing in Grace

1: Hebrews 12:5-11 - Discipline and Endurance in Trials

2: 2 Corinthians 7:10 - Godly Sorrow and Repentance

Job 34:32 That which I see not teach thou me: if I have done iniquity, I will do no more.

Job is asking God to show him what he has done wrong so he can make it right.

1. The Power of Admitting You Are Wrong - learning to humbly accept and adjust our actions when we realize we have done wrong.

2. The Necessity of Seeking Guidance - recognizing the importance of seeking God-given wisdom in order to make the right choices in life.

1. 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. 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."

Job 34:33 Should it be according to thy mind? he will recompense it, whether thou refuse, or whether thou choose; and not I: therefore speak what thou knowest.

God will ultimately decide what is best and it is not up to humans to judge.

1: We must remember that God is ultimately in control and it is not our place to judge others, but rather to love and accept them.

2: We must accept that God's will is perfect and that He knows what is best for us.

1: 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."

2: James 4:12 "There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?"

Job 34:34 Let men of understanding tell me, and let a wise man hearken unto me.

Job is asking for wise and understanding people to listen to his words.

1. We should seek out wise and understanding people to learn from.

2. Our words can have a lasting impact if we seek wisdom and understanding.

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.

Job 34:35 Job hath spoken without knowledge, and his words were without wisdom.

Job spoke without understanding, and his words lacked wisdom.

1. The Danger of Speaking Without Wisdom

2. The Importance of Understanding

1. Proverbs 14:7- "stay away from fools, for you will not find knowledge on their lips"

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."

Job 34:36 My desire is that Job may be tried unto the end because of his answers for wicked men.

Job is being tested to the utmost because of his answers for wicked men.

1. God's Testing Is A Reflection Of His Righteousness

2. Let Us Learn From Job's Patience 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. 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.

Job 34:37 For he addeth rebellion unto his sin, he clappeth his hands among us, and multiplieth his words against God.

Job questions God's justice and righteousness. He wonders why those who rebel against God often seem to prosper, while those who seek God are afflicted.

1. God's justice will ultimately prevail; we must trust in His judgments even when we don't understand them.

2. We must be careful not to add rebellion to our sins, lest we incur further judgment from 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. 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."

Job chapter 35 features Elihu continuing his response to Job, focusing on the relationship between human actions and God's response.

1st Paragraph: Elihu directs his words to Job, questioning the value of Job's righteousness. He argues that if Job is righteous, it does not affect or benefit God in any way (Job 35:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: Elihu asserts that people often cry out for help when they face affliction but fail to acknowledge God's greatness and seek His wisdom. He emphasizes the importance of recognizing God's sovereignty and giving Him due reverence (Job 35:9-16).

In summary,

Chapter thirty-five of Job presents:

the continuation,

and admonition expressed by Elihu regarding the limited impact of human actions on God's response.

Highlighting divine transcendence through emphasizing God's independence from human righteousness,

and emphasizing proper reverence achieved through urging acknowledgment of God's greatness.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding reinforcing a perspective on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 35:1 Elihu spake moreover, and said,

Elihu speaks about how God does not need a person's actions to be in a right relationship with Him.

1: God's Love is Greater than Our Actions - Even when we fail, God's love is still greater and more powerful than our own actions.

2: God's Mercy is Unfailing - No matter what we do, God's mercy and love are unfailing and never-ending.

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 - 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.

Job 35:2 Thinkest thou this to be right, that thou saidst, My righteousness is more than God's?

This passage speaks to Job's questioning of God's justice.

1. God's justice is greater than our own - Job 35:2

2. We should not question God's justice - Job 35:2

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 4:11-12 Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?

Job 35:3 For thou saidst, What advantage will it be unto thee? and, What profit shall I have, if I be cleansed from my sin?

Job questions the benefit of being cleansed from his sins.

1: We should not question God's blessings, but instead rejoice in His grace and mercy.

2: We all have moments of weakness and doubt, but God's love and mercy remain the same.

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 103:8-12 - "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."

Job 35:4 I will answer thee, and thy companions with thee.

God promises to answer Job and his companions.

1. God Answers: Finding Hope in Difficult Times

2. Companionship in Suffering: Learning to Lean on Each Other

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. 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."

Job 35:5 Look unto the heavens, and see; and behold the clouds which are higher than thou.

God's greatness is seen in the sky, which is higher than us.

1: God's greatness and majesty is seen in the sky and all that He has created.

2: We should look to the heavens and be reminded of God's greatness and power.

1: 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.

2: Psalm 8:3-4 - When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?

Job 35:6 If thou sinnest, what doest thou against him? or if thy transgressions be multiplied, what doest thou unto him?

Job's questions suggest that sinning against God doesn't make sense because it is not beneficial to us.

1: God does not reward sin, so why do it?

2: Sin does not benefit us in any way, so why do it?

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."

Job 35:7 If thou be righteous, what givest thou him? or what receiveth he of thine hand?

Job is questioning why people expect God to reward them when they are righteous if they have nothing to offer in return.

1. "Living in Righteousness: What Can We Do to Show Our Gratitude?"

2. "The Blessing of Righteousness: What Do We Gain?"

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. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - 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. 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.

Job 35:8 Thy wickedness may hurt a man as thou art; and thy righteousness may profit the son of man.

God's righteousness can help people, but wickedness can harm them.

1. God's Righteousness - the key to a successful life

2. The dangers of wickedness

1. 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

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."

Job 35:9 By reason of the multitude of oppressions they make the oppressed to cry: they cry out by reason of the arm of the mighty.

God's justice extends to the oppressed, who have been wronged by the mighty.

1: God is a God of Justice and He will always stand up for the oppressed.

2: God is our hope and strength in times of oppression and suffering.

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; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn."

2: Psalm 103:6, "The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed."

Job 35:10 But none saith, Where is God my maker, who giveth songs in the night;

Job reflects on the absence of God's presence and wonders where He is.

1. God's Abiding Presence: Experiencing God in the Night Hours

2. Trusting and Believing in an Invisible God

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. 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."

Job 35:11 Who teacheth us more than the beasts of the earth, and maketh us wiser than the fowls of heaven?

God teaches us more than the animals and makes us wiser than the birds.

1. The Wisdom of God: How God Guides Us To A Greater Understanding

2. Learning From Creation: How God Teaches Us Through Nature

1. 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.

2. 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.

Job 35:12 There they cry, but none giveth answer, because of the pride of evil men.

People who are in distress may cry out for help, but they may not receive an answer due to the pride of evil people.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning to be humble even in the face of pride and evil.

2. The Unanswered Cry: Understanding why we don't always receive an answer to our prayers.

1. James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

2. Psalm 9:12 - "For he who avenges blood remembers; he does not ignore the cry of the afflicted."

Job 35:13 Surely God will not hear vanity, neither will the Almighty regard it.

God will not listen to or pay attention to prayers that are vain or empty.

1. Real prayer comes from the heart and is rooted in humility and reverence for God.

2. God desires authentic and sincere prayer from His people.

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. Matthew 6:7-8, "But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him."

Job 35:14 Although thou sayest thou shalt not see him, yet judgment is before him; therefore trust thou in him.

Job reminds us that even though we cannot see God, we should trust in Him because He is in control of judgment.

1. "What Is the Value of Trusting in God When We Cannot See Him?"

2. "The Power of Faith in the Face of Unseen 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. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

Job 35:15 But now, because it is not so, he hath visited in his anger; yet he knoweth it not in great extremity:

God knows when to visit and punish people in his anger, regardless of their understanding of the situation.

1. "The Wrath of God: Understanding His Judgment"

2. "The Mercy of God: The Grace of His Punishment"

1. Psalm 103:10 - He has not dealt with us according to our sins nor punished us according to our iniquities.

2. 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.

Job 35:16 Therefore doth Job open his mouth in vain; he multiplieth words without knowledge.

Job is speaking without knowledge and using too many words.

1. The Power of a Few Words: Speak with Knowledge and Discernment

2. The Dangers of Speaking Without Thought: How to Avoid Vain Words

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 10:19 - When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.

Job chapter 36 continues with Elihu's response to Job, as he further expounds on God's justice and sovereignty.

1st Paragraph: Elihu addresses Job, asserting that he still has more to say on behalf of God. He encourages Job to be patient and attentive, as his words will reveal divine wisdom (Job 36:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Elihu praises God for His greatness and power, highlighting His ability to sustain the righteous and bring judgment upon the wicked. He emphasizes that God is just in His dealings with humanity (Job 36:5-15).

3rd Paragraph: Elihu warns against pride and rebellion, stating that these attitudes can lead to destruction. He urges Job to humble himself before God and acknowledge His righteousness (Job 36:16-21).

4th Paragraph: Elihu explains how God uses suffering as a means of discipline or instruction for individuals. He asserts that through affliction, God opens people's ears to wisdom and draws them away from the path of destruction (Job 36:22-33).

In summary,

Chapter thirty-six of Job presents:

the continuation,

and exhortation expressed by Elihu regarding the justice and sovereignty of God.

Highlighting divine power through emphasizing God's ability to sustain the righteous,

and emphasizing humility achieved through urging acknowledgment of divine righteousness.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding offering insights into suffering an embodiment representing a perspective on suffering within the book of Job.

Job 36:1 Elihu also proceeded, and said,

Elihu speaks of God's justice and power.

1: God's justice and power are manifested through His love for us.

2: God's justice and power are the foundation of our faith and hope.

1: Romans 5:5-8 - "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. You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

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. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb. By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward."

Job 36:2 Suffer me a little, and I will shew thee that I have yet to speak on God's behalf.

God offers us guidance and wisdom through his word.

1. Utilizing God's Word to Guide Us Through Life

2. Listening to God's Voice for Wisdom

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

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.

Job 36:3 I will fetch my knowledge from afar, and will ascribe righteousness to my Maker.

Job declares his faith in God's righteousness, and calls for wisdom from the divine.

1. The Power of Faith: Learning to Trust in God's Righteousness

2. Seeking Divine Wisdom: Finding Strength in God's Knowledge

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. 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.

Job 36:4 For truly my words shall not be false: he that is perfect in knowledge is with thee.

This verse speaks of God's perfect knowledge and His presence with us.

1. The Comfort of God's Presence and Perfect Knowledge

2. God's Perfect Knowledge: An Anchor of Hope in Trying Times

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

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."

Job 36:5 Behold, God is mighty, and despiseth not any: he is mighty in strength and wisdom.

God is mighty and wise, and He does not show partiality.

1. God's Might and Wisdom: Understanding His Unfailing Love

2. What Does it Mean to be Despised by God?

1. Psalm 147:5 - Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.

2. Romans 2:11 - For God shows no partiality.

Job 36:6 He preserveth not the life of the wicked: but giveth right to the poor.

God is just and will not preserve the life of the wicked, but will give right to the poor.

1. "Justice for the Poor: A Call to Love and Serve the Needy"

2. "God's Mercy and Justice: An Examination of the Righteous and Wicked"

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. 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.

Job 36:7 He withdraweth not his eyes from the righteous: but with kings are they on the throne; yea, he doth establish them for ever, and they are exalted.

God rewards the righteous and establishes kings for ever.

1: God Rewards the Righteous

2: The Blessing of God's Establishing Kings

1: Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

2: Psalm 72:17 - His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and men shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed.

Job 36:8 And if they be bound in fetters, and be holden in cords of affliction;

God brings trials and difficulties to strengthen us.

1: In times of trial, we must remember that God's love for us is so strong that He will do anything to bring us closer to Him.

2: We must not forget that when God puts us in times of difficulty, He is still with us and will never leave us.

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 8:31-39 - "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? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died more than that, who was raised to life is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 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."

Job 36:9 Then he sheweth them their work, and their transgressions that they have exceeded.

God reveals to us our sins and the work we have done.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness - Romans 5:8

2. The Consequences of Sin - Galatians 6:7-8

1. Psalm 51:3 - For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Job 36:10 He openeth also their ear to discipline, and commandeth that they return from iniquity.

God commands us to turn away from sin and to accept His discipline.

1. "God s Discipline: A Call to Repentance"

2. "Return from Iniquity: An Invitation to Righteousness"

1. Hebrews 12:5-6 - "And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; 6 For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.

2. 1 Corinthians 11:31-32 - "For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world."

Job 36:11 If they obey and serve him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures.

The passage talks about how those who serve and obey God will experience peace and prosperity.

1. The Benefits of Serving God - Learning about the rewards of obedience to God.

2. The Path to Peace and Prosperity - Discovering the joys of submitting to God's will.

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. 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."

Job 36:12 But if they obey not, they shall perish by the sword, and they shall die without knowledge.

God will punish those who do not obey Him, but He will also grant those who do knowledge and understanding.

1. God's Warning: Obey and Receive Knowledge

2. The Blessing of Obeying God

1. Matthew 11:29 - 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.

2. Psalm 111:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

Job 36:13 But the hypocrites in heart heap up wrath: they cry not when he bindeth them.

The hypocrites in heart are storing up wrath for themselves by failing to cry out to God when they are in trouble.

1. The Danger of Hypocrisy: How Not Crying Out to God Can Lead to Wrath

2. The Value of Humility: How Crying Out to God Can Lead to Safety

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. Psalm 50:15 - And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

Job 36:14 They die in youth, and their life is among the unclean.

People die young and their life is filled with sinful behavior.

1. The importance of living a life of holiness and purity.

2. The brevity of life and the need to make wise choices.

1. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads 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."

Job 36:15 He delivereth the poor in his affliction, and openeth their ears in oppression.

God delivers the poor in their affliction and opens their ears to hear in times of oppression.

1. "God's Grace in Times of Need"

2. "Hearing the Voice of God in Times of Oppression"

1. James 2:14-17

2. Isaiah 1:17-20

Job 36:16 Even so would he have removed thee out of the strait into a broad place, where there is no straitness; and that which should be set on thy table should be full of fatness.

God desires to provide an abundance of blessings to His people and free them from all forms of confinement and suffering.

1. God's Abundance: Experiencing the Blessings of the Lord

2. The Freedom of God's Provision: Breaking Free from Restrictions

1. Psalm 23:5 - "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over."

2. 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?

Job 36:17 But thou hast fulfilled the judgment of the wicked: judgment and justice take hold on thee.

Job acknowledges that God has fulfilled the judgement of the wicked and that God upholds justice.

1. God's Judgement is Just - Job 36:17

2. God is Righteousness and Justice - Job 36:17

1. Jeremiah 32:19 - Great in counsel, and mighty in work: for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

2. Romans 2:6-8 - Who will render to every man according to his deeds: 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.

Job 36:18 Because there is wrath, beware lest he take thee away with his stroke: then a great ransom cannot deliver thee.

God warns us of the consequences of sin and the need for repentance.

1: Repent Now or Risk Eternal Damnation

2: The Need for Repentance in Our Lives

1: Ezekiel 18:30 - 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.

2: Matthew 4:17 - From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Job 36:19 Will he esteem thy riches? no, not gold, nor all the forces of strength.

God is not impressed by worldly riches, such as gold and strength.

1. "The Power of God's Love"

2. "The True Riches of God"

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 6:17-19 - "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, storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed."

Job 36:20 Desire not the night, when people are cut off in their place.

People should not wish for the night, for it is a time when people are taken away in their own place.

1. God does not want us to strive for darkness, rather He wants us to seek the light.

2. We must remember that the night is not a time of rejoicing, but rather a time of sorrow and mourning.

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. Psalm 30:5 - "For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning."

Job 36:21 Take heed, regard not iniquity: for this hast thou chosen rather than affliction.

This passage encourages us to pay attention to our choices and not to focus on the wrong things, reminding us that we should choose to do right rather than suffering from wrong decisions.

1: "Choose Righteousness Over Affliction"

2: "Making Wise Choices"

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: 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.

Job 36:22 Behold, God exalteth by his power: who teacheth like him?

God is powerful and incomparable in wisdom and teaching.

1: God is All-Powerful and All-Knowing

2: God is the Supreme Teacher

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 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!

Job 36:23 Who hath enjoined him his way? or who can say, Thou hast wrought iniquity?

God is in control of all aspects of life, and no one can accuse him of wrong doing.

1. God is sovereign and all knowing; He alone knows the right path for us.

2. No matter what life brings, God is in control and will never do wrong.

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. Proverbs 19:21 - Many are the plans in a person s heart, but it is the Lord s purpose that prevails.

Job 36:24 Remember that thou magnify his work, which men behold.

This passage is a reminder to remember and magnify God's work that is seen by mankind.

1. How to Live a Life That Displays God's Work - A about how to live in a way that reflects God's work and glorifies Him.

2. Living a Life of Gratitude - A about how to be thankful for God's work and how to show gratitude for it.

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 66:2 - "Sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!"

Job 36:25 Every man may see it; man may behold it afar off.

The passage speaks of the greatness and power of God that can be seen by all.

1: God's greatness and power can be seen by all, no matter the distance.

2: No matter where you are in life, God's greatness and power are still present.

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 40:28 - "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."

Job 36:26 Behold, God is great, and we know him not, neither can the number of his years be searched out.

God is incomparable in greatness and His years are infinite and cannot be counted.

1. The Incomparable Greatness of God

2. Searching for the Infinite: Exploring the Limitless Extent of God's Years

1. Psalm 90:2: Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

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.

Job 36:27 For he maketh small the drops of water: they pour down rain according to the vapour thereof:

God uses rain to bring life and sustenance to the world.

1: God's blessing of rain is a reminder of His provision for us.

2: God's control of rain is a reminder of His power and sovereignty.

1: Psalm 104:10-14 - He makes clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind.

2: James 5:17-18 - Elijah prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years.

Job 36:28 Which the clouds do drop and distil upon man abundantly.

This passage talks about how God provides abundantly for mankind through rain from the clouds.

1: God is a loving and generous provider, and we can always trust in His abundance.

2: Our faithfulness to God will bring us the blessings of His abundance.

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 65:9-10 - "You care for the land and water it; you make it rich and fertile. The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it."

Job 36:29 Also can any understand the spreadings of the clouds, or the noise of his tabernacle?

This passage speaks of God's greatness and wonders, and how our human understanding cannot comprehend the fullness of His power.

1: We cannot fully understand the greatness of God.

2: We should never limit God's greatness by what we can comprehend.

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

Job 36:30 Behold, he spreadeth his light upon it, and covereth the bottom of the sea.

God illuminates the depths of the sea and covers them with light.

1. God's Light Illuminates the Depths of Our Lives

2. God is Present in the Darkest Times of Our Lives

1. Psalm 139:7-12 - 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. John 1:1-5 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

Job 36:31 For by them judgeth he the people; he giveth meat in abundance.

This passage talks about how God judges people and provides them with abundance.

1. God shows us His love and provision through His judgement.

2. Appreciating God s grace and provision in our lives.

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 6:31-32 - 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.

Job 36:32 With clouds he covereth the light; and commandeth it not to shine by the cloud that cometh betwixt.

God uses clouds to bring darkness and withhold light at His command.

1: God is in control of our lives and He can bring darkness and bring light at His will.

2: God's love for His people is so great that He can turn darkness into light.

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: 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.

Job 36:33 The noise thereof sheweth concerning it, the cattle also concerning the vapour.

Job 36:33 states that the thunder and lightning of a storm can be heard and seen by both people and animals.

1. "The Power of God's Creation: thunder and lightning"

2. "God's Mercy in Creation: Hearing and Seeing the Storm"

1. Psalm 29:3-9

2. Exodus 20:18-21

Job chapter 37 shifts the focus from Elihu's speech to the majestic power and wisdom of God displayed through natural phenomena.

1st Paragraph: Elihu acknowledges that his heart trembles at the thunderous voice of God and describes various natural phenomena as manifestations of God's power, such as lightning, clouds, and rain (Job 37:1-13).

2nd Paragraph: Elihu marvels at the intricate workings of nature and how they reflect God's wisdom. He describes the cyclical patterns of weather and seasons, highlighting how they serve different purposes in the world (Job 37:14-18).

3rd Paragraph: Elihu emphasizes that no one can fully comprehend or control these natural phenomena. He encourages Job to stand in awe of God's majesty and acknowledge His sovereignty over creation (Job 37:19-24).

In summary,

Chapter thirty-seven of Job presents:

the portrayal,

and awe expressed by Elihu regarding the power and wisdom of God displayed through natural phenomena.

Highlighting divine grandeur through emphasizing various elements of nature as manifestations of God's power,

and emphasizing human limitation achieved through acknowledging our inability to fully understand or control these forces.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding offering a perspective on suffering within the book of Job by drawing attention to divine majesty.

Job 37:1 At this also my heart trembleth, and is moved out of his place.

Job is in awe of God's power and wonders how he can ever measure up.

1. The Power of Awe: How To Appreciate the Majesty and Glory of God

2. Humility in the Face of God's Greatness: How to Properly Recognize Our Place in His Universe

1. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God.

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.

Job 37:2 Hear attentively the noise of his voice, and the sound that goeth out of his mouth.

The passage encourages us to listen carefully to the voice of God and pay attention to His words.

1. "God Is Speaking: Listen Closely"

2. "Hearken to the Words of Our Lord"

1. Psalm 66:17-18 - "I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue. If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me."

2. 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."

Job 37:3 He directeth it under the whole heaven, and his lightning unto the ends of the earth.

God controls the lightning and sends it to the ends of the earth.

1. God is in control of all things, even the lightning.

2. God's power extends to the ends of the earth.

1. Psalm 135:7 He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightnings for the rain; He brings the wind out of His treasuries.

2. Matthew 5:45 that you may be sons 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.

Job 37:4 After it a voice roareth: he thundereth with the voice of his excellency; and he will not stay them when his voice is heard.

God's voice can be heard when He thunders and no one can stop Him when He speaks.

1. God's Voice is Powerful and Unstoppable

2. Listening for God's Voice in Our Lives

1. Psalm 29:3-9

2. Isaiah 40:12-14

Job 37:5 God thundereth marvellously with his voice; great things doeth he, which we cannot comprehend.

God's greatness and power are beyond our understanding.

1: We can trust God even when we don't understand.

2: God's power is greater than we can comprehend.

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: Job 42:2 - "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted."

Job 37:6 For he saith to the snow, Be thou on the earth; likewise to the small rain, and to the great rain of his strength.

God speaks and has the power to command snow, small rain, and great rain to come down on the earth.

1. God's Power to Command Weather: A Study on Job 37:6

2. The Power of Our Lord's Voice: A Reflection on Job 37:6

1. Psalm 148:8 - "Fire, and hail; snow, and vapour; and stormy wind fulfilling his word."

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: 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."

Job 37:7 He sealeth up the hand of every man; that all men may know his work.

The passage speaks of God's ability to seal up the hands of every man so that all may know His work.

1. Recognizing the Power of God's Sovereignty

2. Relying on God's Wisdom in Troubled Times

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. 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!"

Job 37:8 Then the beasts go into dens, and remain in their places.

Animals seek shelter in their homes during storms.

1. Finding Shelter in the Storms of Life

2. The Strength of Home: A Refuge in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. Isaiah 32:18 - "My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places."

Job 37:9 Out of the south cometh the whirlwind: and cold out of the north.

This passage speaks of God's power and might, emphasizing the unpredictable nature of his power and how it can come from any direction.

1. God's power is unpredictable, yet he is still in control.

2. We must acknowledge and trust in the power of God.

1. Jeremiah 10:13, When he uttereth his voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens, and he causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings with rain, and bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures.

2. Job 38:22-23, Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail, Which I have reserved against the time of trouble, against the day of battle and war?

Job 37:10 By the breath of God frost is given: and the breadth of the waters is straitened.

God's power is demonstrated in the changing of the seasons and the control of the oceans.

1. The Breath of God: Reflecting on God's Power

2. The Changing of the Seasons: Understanding God's Sovereignty

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. 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.

Job 37:11 Also by watering he wearieth the thick cloud: he scattereth his bright cloud:

God uses His power to bring rain and to disperse clouds.

1. God is in Control of the Weather

2. Let God Do His Work

1. Psalm 147:8-9 - He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly. He gives snow like wool; he scatters the frost like ashes.

2. Isaiah 55:10-11 - As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it 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.

Job 37:12 And it is turned round about by his counsels: that they may do whatsoever he commandeth them upon the face of the world in the earth.

God's power and wisdom is manifested through His plans and commands being carried out on the earth.

1. The Wisdom of God: How His Plans Affect Us

2. Understanding God's Will and Purpose in 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. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

Job 37:13 He causeth it to come, whether for correction, or for his land, or for mercy.

God sends rain for various reasons, including for correction, for his own land, and for mercy.

1. God's Mercy Through Rain: An Exploration of Job 37:13

2. God's Correction Through Rain: Examining Job 37:13

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 147:8 - He covers the sky with clouds; he supplies the earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills.

Job 37:14 Hearken unto this, O Job: stand still, and consider the wondrous works of God.

God's wonders are to be considered and appreciated.

1: God's wonders are to be appreciated and treasured, not overlooked.

2: We can find joy in reflecting on God's wonderful works.

1: Psalm 19:1-3 - The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

2: Psalm 111:2 Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.

Job 37:15 Dost thou know when God disposed them, and caused the light of his cloud to shine?

This passage speaks of God's greatness and power in creating the heavens and the earth.

1. God's Sovereignty: Recognizing God's Greatness and Power

2. God's Creation: Marveling at the Miracle of the Heavens and the Earth

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

2. Genesis 1:1 - "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

Job 37:16 Dost thou know the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of him which is perfect in knowledge?

This verse speaks to the power of God's knowledge and the complexity of his creative works.

1: No matter how much we think we know, God's knowledge is perfect and beyond our comprehension.

2: We serve a God of wonder and complexity, who shows us his power through his creative works.

1: Psalm 104:1-2 "Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment."

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."

Job 37:17 How thy garments are warm, when he quieteth the earth by the south wind?

The passage speaks of God's power in controlling the weather to keep people warm.

1. God is our Provider and Protector.

2. God's love and care is shown even in our everyday lives.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on not worrying about our needs.

2. Psalm 121:2-8 - God as a Protector and Guardian.

Job 37:18 Hast thou with him spread out the sky, which is strong, and as a molten looking glass?

This passage from Job questions whether humans had a hand in the formation of the sky, which is strong and seen like a looking glass.

1: God's Wonders- We must acknowledge the powerful and intricate creation of God in the sky.

2: Our Impotence- We must recognize our own limitations in comparison to the grandeur of the universe.

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

Job 37:19 Teach us what we shall say unto him; for we cannot order our speech by reason of darkness.

Job is asking to be taught how to respond to God's power, as he is overwhelmed by it and unable to articulate himself.

1. "The Power of God: A Call to Awe"

2. "The Mystery of Faith: Recognizing Our Limitations"

1. Psalm 19:1-2 "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge."

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."

Job 37:20 Shall it be told him that I speak? if a man speak, surely he shall be swallowed up.

Job speaks of God's power and His ability to swallow up those who speak against Him.

1: God is powerful and His wrath should not be underestimated.

2: Our words have power and should be used to bring glory to God.

1: Isaiah 40:12-17 - Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?

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!

Job 37:21 And now men see not the bright light which is in the clouds: but the wind passeth, and cleanseth them.

Men no longer see the bright light in the clouds, but the wind clears them away.

1. The Power of God s Wind: A Reflection on Job 37:21

2. Seeing the Unseen: How We Can Find Hope in the Clouds

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. Psalm 147:18- He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.

Job 37:22 Fair weather cometh out of the north: with God is terrible majesty.

This verse reminds us that God has power over all things, including the weather, and His majesty is awe-inspiring.

1. God's Sovereignty Over Nature

2. The Majesty of God

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

Job 37:23 Touching the Almighty, we cannot find him out: he is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict.

God is powerful and just and will not afflict.

1. The Power of God's Mercy

2. Relying on God's Justice

1. Luke 6:36-38 - "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

2. Psalm 145:17 - The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made.

Job 37:24 Men do therefore fear him: he respecteth not any that are wise of heart.

This passage highlights God's power and His disregard for those who are wise in their own eyes.

1. God is Almighty and His Authority is Unquestioned

2. Pride is an Abomination in God's Sight

1. Proverbs 3:5-7 - 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.

Job chapter 38 marks a significant turning point in the book, as God Himself responds to Job out of a whirlwind, asserting His authority and challenging Job's understanding.

1st Paragraph: God speaks to Job out of a whirlwind, asking him a series of rhetorical questions that highlight His power and wisdom. He questions where Job was when He laid the foundations of the earth and created various elements of nature (Job 38:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: God continues to challenge Job's knowledge by asking if he understands the boundaries of the sea or has control over light and darkness. He references various natural phenomena to emphasize His authority over creation (Job 38:12-24).

3rd Paragraph: God questions Job about his understanding of weather patterns, including rain, snow, hail, and storms. He emphasizes His role in orchestrating these events for specific purposes (Job 38:25-38).

4th Paragraph: God further challenges Job's comprehension by asking if he has knowledge about celestial bodies such as stars and constellations. He asserts His sovereignty over the heavens (Job 38:39-41).

In summary,

Chapter thirty-eight of Job presents:

the divine response,

and assertion expressed by God Himself regarding His power, wisdom, and authority over creation.

Highlighting divine sovereignty through emphasizing rhetorical questions that demonstrate God's control over nature,

and emphasizing human limitation achieved through challenging Job's understanding.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding offering a profound perspective on suffering within the book of Job through highlighting divine supremacy.

Job 38:1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said,

The Lord speaks to Job out of a whirlwind.

1. When we are in times of suffering, God still speaks to us.

2. Even in chaos, God brings peace and direction.

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 3:11 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.

Job 38:2 Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?

This passage questions the wisdom of someone who speaks without knowledge.

1. The Power of Knowledge - Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. The Importance of Discernment - 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. Proverbs 18:15 - The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.

2. Proverbs 15:14 - The heart of him that hath understanding seeketh knowledge: but the mouth of fools feedeth on foolishness.

Job 38:3 Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.

God calls Job to face his suffering with boldness and courage.

1: We can be courageous even in the midst of suffering.

2: God is always with us, even through our greatest suffering.

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."

Job 38:4 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.

The passage asks us to consider our place in the grand scheme of creation, and to remember that God is the Creator of all.

1. "God is the Creator of All: Understanding Our Place in the Grand Scheme of Creation"

2. "The Wonder of God's Creation: An Invitation to Awe and Worship"

1. Psalm 24:1-2 "The earth is the LORD's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods."

2. 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."

Job 38:5 Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it?

This passage is asking who has measured the earth and marked its boundaries.

1. God is the one who defines limits and boundaries in our lives.

2. We can trust in God's perfect wisdom to set boundaries for us.

1. Proverbs 22:28 - Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.

2. Psalm 33:13-15 - The Lord looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men. From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth. He fashioneth their hearts alike; he considereth all their works.

Job 38:6 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;

The passage discusses God's creation of the universe and how it has been established.

1: God is the Creator of the Universe and the Cornerstone of Our Lives

2: The Strength of God's Foundation is Secure

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: 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.

Job 38:7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

God's creation of the world was celebrated by morning stars and the sons of God.

1. The Joy of Creation: Celebrating God's Handiwork

2. The Power of Praise: Rejoicing in God's Goodness

1. Genesis 1:1-31; God creates the world

2. Psalm 148:1-5; All of creation praises God

Job 38:8 Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb?

The passage describes God's power in controlling the sea.

1. God is all-powerful and is able to control even the mighty waters of the sea.

2. We are reminded of the importance of trusting in God's power, even in the face of the most daunting challenges.

1. Isaiah 40:12 - Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?

2. Psalm 93:3-4 - The seas have lifted up, O Lord, the seas have lifted up their voice; the seas have lifted up their pounding waves. Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty!

Job 38:9 When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it,

God reveals His creative power in the formation of the sky.

1: God's creative power is seen in the sky and we can depend on Him to always provide.

2: Through the sky, we can experience God's majesty and trust in His power.

1: Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

2: Psalm 19:1-2 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

Job 38:10 And brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors,

God established boundaries for the sea with set bars and doors.

1: God is the ultimate authority in all things, and so it is right for us to recognize and honor the boundaries He has established for us.

2: Knowing and respecting the boundaries God has set for us can help us to live productive and meaningful lives.

1: Psalm 19:9 - The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

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.

Job 38:11 And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?

God's power over nature is limitless, and He has established boundaries that cannot be crossed.

1. The Power of God and His Boundaries

2. Understanding Our Place in God s Creation

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

2. Jeremiah 5:22 - Fear ye not me? saith the LORD: will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it: and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it?

Job 38:12 Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days; and caused the dayspring to know his place;

This passage speaks of God's power and authority in commanding the morning.

1: God is the one who controls the morning and He has done so since the beginning of time.

2: We should trust God's authority and power as He is the one who commands the morning.

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: James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit ; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.

Job 38:13 That it might take hold of the ends of the earth, that the wicked might be shaken out of it?

God challenges Job to consider his power and might and how He is able to control the ends of the earth and even shake out the wicked.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding the Power of God in Our Lives

2. Letting Go of Our Wicked Ways: How God Uproots Our Sin

1. Psalm 104:5 - He set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved.

2. Isaiah 5:14 - Therefore the grave enlarges its appetite and opens its mouth without limit; into it will descend their nobles and masses with all their brawlers and revelers.

Job 38:14 It is turned as clay to the seal; and they stand as a garment.

The passage explains that God can shape and seal his creation like clay to form a garment.

1: We are all God's creation that He lovingly shapes and seals like clay.

2: We must trust in God that He will always shape us for the best.

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: Jeremiah 18:3-6 - "Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it. Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel."

Job 38:15 And from the wicked their light is withholden, and the high arm shall be broken.

God withholds light and power from the wicked and breaks their arm of strength.

1) God is the ultimate judge- He will bring justice to the wicked.

2) The wicked will not escape God's judgment.

1) Isaiah 10:12-14 - Therefore it shall come to pass, that when the Lord hath performed his whole work upon mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks. For he saith, By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my wisdom; for I am prudent: and I have removed the bounds of the people, and have robbed their treasures, and I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man: And my hand hath found as a nest the riches of the people: and as one gathereth eggs that are left, have I gathered all the earth; and there was none that moved the wing, or opened the mouth, or peeped.

2) Psalm 9:16 - The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Higgaion. Selah.

Job 38:16 Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea? or hast thou walked in the search of the depth?

This passage speaks of God's power and authority over the depths of the sea.

1. God's Control of the Seas: A Reminder of His Sovereignty

2. The Depths of the Sea: A Metaphor for the Depths of God's Love

1. Psalm 29:10 - "The Lord sat as King at the flood; Yes, the Lord sits as King forever."

2. Isaiah 43:16 - "Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea and a path through the mighty waters."

Job 38:17 Have the gates of death been opened unto thee? or hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death?

This passage is asking whether Job has seen beyond death and into the realm of the afterlife.

1. God is the Only One Who Can See Beyond Death

2. Trust in God to Find Hope in the Afterlife

1. Revelation 1:18 - I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

2. John 11:25 - Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.

Job 38:18 Hast thou perceived the breadth of the earth? declare if thou knowest it all.

God questions Job's knowledge and wisdom regarding the size of the earth.

1. God is the ultimate source of knowledge and wisdom.

2. Our understanding of the world is limited compared to God's.

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 thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

Job 38:19 Where is the way where light dwelleth? and as for darkness, where is the place thereof,

God declares His power and glory over creation, reminding us of His sovereignty and majesty.

1: God's Greatness and Magnificence - Job 38:19

2: The Light and Darkness of God's Creation - Job 38:19

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

2: Colossians 1:17 - "And he is before all things, and by him all things consist."

Job 38:20 That thou shouldest take it to the bound thereof, and that thou shouldest know the paths to the house thereof?

God challenges Job to explain the limits of the sea and the location of its dwelling place.

1. God's Creation: The Majesty and Grandeur of the Sea

2. The Power of God: His Unfathomable Knowledge

1. Psalm 8:3-4 - "When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?"

2. Job 36:24-25 - "Remember to extol his work, which people have praised in song. All mankind has seen it; mortals gaze on it from afar."

Job 38:21 Knowest thou it, because thou wast then born? or because the number of thy days is great?

This passage is asking if the reader knows the mysteries of the universe, and if so, if it is because of their age or because of their knowledge.

1: We must be humble before God, for He alone knows the mysteries of the universe.

2: In our search for knowledge, we must remember that it is only through God that we can truly understand.

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.

Job 38:22 Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail,

The passage speaks of God's power over nature and His ability to create and store snow and hail.

1: God is the Almighty Creator who has power over all things, even the elements of nature.

2: God is always in control, even in the midst of chaos and destruction.

1: Psalm 147:16-17 - He sendeth the snow like wool: he scattereth the hoarfrost like ashes. He casteth forth his ice like morsels: who can stand before his cold?

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: 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.

Job 38:23 Which I have reserved against the time of trouble, against the day of battle and war?

God has set aside a special time of trouble, battle, and war.

1. God is always in control, even when times are tough.

2. Remember that God is the ultimate protector in times of trouble, battle, and war.

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.

Job 38:24 By what way is the light parted, which scattereth the east wind upon the earth?

God questions Job on how the east wind is spread across the earth.

1. God's Power and Wisdom: Exploring the Magnificence of Creation

2. Understanding the Unseen: Acknowledging the Wonders of the Natural World

1. Psalm 104:10-13 - He sends the springs into the valleys, which flow among the hills.

2. Ecclesiastes 11:5 - As you do not know the path of the wind, or how the body is formed in a mother s womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things.

Job 38:25 Who hath divided a watercourse for the overflowing of waters, or a way for the lightning of thunder;

This passage speaks of God's power to control the power of nature.

1: God has power over the power of nature, and this should remind us of the power and sovereignty of God.

2: Through God's power and sovereignty, He has the power to give us strength and courage in the midst of storms and hardships.

1: Psalm 30:5 - For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

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.

Job 38:26 To cause it to rain on the earth, where no man is; on the wilderness, wherein there is no man;

God is able to cause rain to fall even in places where no man is present.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Power of the Almighty to Control Nature

2. The Provision of God: Experiencing the Unfailing Love of the Creator

1. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the LORD's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

2. Matthew 5:45 - 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.

Job 38:27 To satisfy the desolate and waste ground; and to cause the bud of the tender herb to spring forth?

This passage speaks of God's power to bring life from desolate and barren places.

1: God can bring life from the most unlikely of places - Job 38:27

2: God's power can bring beauty from ashes - Isaiah 61:3

1: Psalm 104:14 - He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and vegetation for the service of man.

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.

Job 38:28 Hath the rain a father? or who hath begotten the drops of dew?

The Lord questions Job's understanding of the natural world, challenging him to consider the complexity of the universe and the power of the Creator.

1: We are called to recognize the power and complexity of the Lord, and His ultimate control over all aspects of the universe.

2: We should be in awe of the Lord, who has created an intricate and powerful universe, and whose power is above our own.

1: Psalm 19:1-4 - The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

2: 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.

Job 38:29 Out of whose womb came the ice? and the hoary frost of heaven, who hath gendered it?

This passage from Job asks where the ice and frost of heaven come from.

1. God's Power and Creation: A Look at Job 38:29

2. The Wonders of Nature: A Reflection on Job 38:29

1. Genesis 1:1-31, God creates the earth and everything in it.

2. Isaiah 55:9-11, God's plans are higher than ours and He will execute them.

Job 38:30 The waters are hid as with a stone, and the face of the deep is frozen.

God describes how the waters are hidden and the face of the deep is frozen.

1. The Wisdom of God in Creation

2. The Power of God over Nature

1. Psalm 104:1-4 - Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent. He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters; he makes the clouds his chariot; he rides on the wings of the wind;

2. Isaiah 40:12 - Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?

Job 38:31 Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion?

This passage from Job questions whether mankind has the power to control or influence the stars of Pleiades and Orion.

1. Surrendering to God: Recognizing Our Powerlessness in the Face of the Heavens

2. Trusting in the Lord's Plan: Understanding Our Place in the Universe

1. Jeremiah 10:23-24 - "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. Psalm 19:1-4 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

Job 38:32 Canst thou bring forth Mazzaroth in his season? or canst thou guide Arcturus with his sons?

God challenges Job to bring out Mazzaroth, a constellation of stars, in its season and guide Arcturus, a star, with its sons.

1. Learning to Trust in God's Perfect Timing

2. The Value of Patience in Following God's Lead

1. Psalm 25:4-5 - "Show me your ways, O 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. 1 Peter 5:7 - "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."

Job 38:33 Knowest thou the ordinances of heaven? canst thou set the dominion thereof in the earth?

This passage asks whether we can understand the laws of the heavens and put them into effect on earth.

1. Understanding the Laws of Heaven and Their Implications for Our Lives

2. Learning to Live in Accordance With the Ordinances of Heaven

1. Psalm 119:89-90 - Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You established the earth, and it abides.

2. 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.

Job 38:34 Canst thou lift up thy voice to the clouds, that abundance of waters may cover thee?

This passage speaks to God's power over the natural world and how He can bring abundance of water to cover someone.

1: God's power is greater than any storm - Psalm 29:10-11

2: God provides for our needs - Matthew 6:25-34

1: Psalm 29:10-11 - The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord is enthroned as King forever. May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!

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?

Job 38:35 Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, Here we are?

This passage speaks of God's power to send lightning to answer a call for help.

1. God is always with us and is ready to answer our call for help.

2. We should always be ready to recognize and trust in God's power.

1. Psalm 18:14 He shot out lightning from the sky; the depths of the sea were exposed.

2. 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.

Job 38:36 Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts? or who hath given understanding to the heart?

This verse from Job asks who has given wisdom and understanding to the heart.

1. "The Power of Wisdom: How to Use Understanding to Enrich Your Life"

2. "The Mystery of Inner Wisdom: Where Does Understanding Come From?"

1. Proverbs 3:13-18 - "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. 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."

Job 38:37 Who can number the clouds in wisdom? or who can stay the bottles of heaven,

This verse refers to the power of God, who has created and manages the clouds and the heavens.

1: God is in Control - Job 38:37 reminds us of the immense power of our Creator, who can control the clouds and the heavens.

2: The Wisdom of God - Job 38:37 shows us how wise our God is, as He is able to number the clouds and control the heavens.

1: Isaiah 40:26 - He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

2: Psalm 147:4 - He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

Job 38:38 When the dust groweth into hardness, and the clods cleave fast together?

God speaks of how the dust can become hard and form clods when it is pressed together.

1. God's Creation: Understanding the Miracle of Nature

2. Faith in Difficult Times: Trusting in God

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. Job 36:26-27 - "Behold, God is great, and we know him not, neither can the number of his years be searched out. For he maketh small the drops of water: they pour down rain according to the vapour thereof."

Job 38:39 Wilt thou hunt the prey for the lion? or fill the appetite of the young lions,

God questions Job on whether he can provide for the lions in the wild.

1. God's Providential Care for the Lions of the Wild

2. The Need to Trust in God's Providential Care

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus encourages his disciples to trust in God's providential care.

2. Psalm 36:5-7 - God's providential care for all of his creatures.

Job 38:40 When they couch in their dens, and abide in the covert to lie in wait?

The passage talks about how God asks Job if he knows when wild animals hide and wait.

1: We should be mindful of how God is all-knowing and how even the most minute details are known to Him.

2: We should trust in God's plan and be mindful of His power and omniscience.

1: Luke 10:39 - Martha was distracted with much serving, and she came up to him and said, Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help 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.

Job 38:41 Who provideth for the raven his food? when his young ones cry unto God, they wander for lack of meat.

God provides for all creatures, even the smallest and most vulnerable.

1. God's Provision: Caring For All Creation

2. The Power of Prayer: Providing for the Needs of All

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches us not to worry, because God will provide for us.

2. Psalm 145:15-16 - The Lord is gracious and compassionate, providing for the needs of all.

Job chapter 39 continues with God's response to Job, focusing on the intricacies of the animal kingdom and highlighting His wisdom in their design and behavior.

1st Paragraph: God asks Job a series of questions about various animals, starting with wild goats and deer. He emphasizes how He provides for them in their natural habitats (Job 39:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: God discusses the behavior of wild donkeys and their independence from human control. He highlights that they roam freely in the wilderness, seeking food for themselves (Job 39:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: God describes the strength and majesty of the wild ox, emphasizing its untamable nature. He questions if Job can harness its power or rely on it for his needs (Job 39:9-12).

4th Paragraph: God talks about the ostrich's unique characteristics, including its inability to fly and its lack of wisdom. He contrasts it with other birds that exhibit greater intelligence (Job 39:13-18).

5th Paragraph: God describes the horse's strength, agility, and fearlessness in battle. He highlights how He has equipped horses for specific purposes and challenges Job to match His power (Job 39:19-25).

6th Paragraph: God mentions various birds such as hawks and eagles, emphasizing their instincts and abilities provided by Him. He marvels at their soaring flight and keen eyesight (Job 39:26-30).

In summary,

Chapter thirty-nine of Job presents:

the continuation,

and description expressed by God regarding His wisdom displayed through various animals.

Highlighting divine providence through emphasizing how God provides for creatures in their natural habitats,

and emphasizing His sovereignty achieved through showcasing His control over animal behavior.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding offering insights into suffering within the book of Job by illustrating divine wisdom manifested in creation.

Job 39:1 Knowest thou the time when the wild goats of the rock bring forth? or canst thou mark when the hinds do calve?

Job questions the Lord's ability to understand the complexities of nature.

1. The Incomprehensible Nature of God

2. The Unfathomable Wonders of Nature

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.

2. Romans 11:33 - Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

Job 39:2 Canst thou number the months that they fulfil? or knowest thou the time when they bring forth?

The passage is asking if we can measure the months and predict when animals will give birth.

1: God's power and knowledge are greater than ours; we can't measure the months or predict when animals will give birth.

2: We must be humble before God and accept that we don't know the mysteries of nature that He does.

1: Psalm 147:4-5 He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

2: Hebrews 11:3 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.

Job 39:3 They bow themselves, they bring forth their young ones, they cast out their sorrows.

This passage speaks of animals in their natural environment, where they are free to bow down, bring forth their young, and cast out their sorrows.

1. God's Creation: How Animals Reflect His Glory

2. The Freedom of the Wild: Finding Joy in the Natural World

1. Genesis 1:26-28 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...and God created man in his own image.

2. Psalm 104:25 O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

Job 39:4 Their young ones are in good liking, they grow up with corn; they go forth, and return not unto them.

Job's observation that young animals are nurtured and cared for in nature.

1. God's care for all his creatures, emphasizing the importance of stewardship and kindness to animals.

2. The faithfulness of God in providing for all his creatures.

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 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?"

Job 39:5 Who hath sent out the wild ass free? or who hath loosed the bands of the wild ass?

The passage reflects on the freedom of the wild ass, questioning who has the authority to grant such freedom.

1. God gives us the freedom to explore and express ourselves in ways that may seem wild to others.

2. The wilderness of our lives can be liberated and made new by an all-powerful God.

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 32:8 - "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."

Job 39:6 Whose house I have made the wilderness, and the barren land his dwellings.

This passage describes how God has made the wilderness and barren land a home for the ostrich.

1. God provides a home for even the least among us.

2. God's sovereignty extends into every corner of creation.

1. Psalm 104:24-25 - O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

2. Isaiah 35:1 - The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the rose.

Job 39:7 He scorneth the multitude of the city, neither regardeth he the crying of the driver.

Job's 39:7 shows that God is in control and does not need anyone's input or appeal.

1: God is in control of all things and no one can sway Him.

2: We must trust that God will provide and not worry about what is beyond our control.

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.

Job 39:8 The range of the mountains is his pasture, and he searcheth after every green thing.

God provides for his creatures, giving them a safe and abundant home in the mountains.

1. God's Care for His Creatures: Seeing the Provision of God in Creation

2. Trusting God to Provide: Resting in God's Abundant Provision

1. Psalm 23:2 - He makes me lie down in green pastures

2. Matthew 6:25-26 - 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?

Job 39:9 Will the unicorn be willing to serve thee, or abide by thy crib?

This passage from Job 39:9 questions whether the unicorn is willing to serve humans or be domesticated.

1. God's Creation and Our Stewardship: How We Should Care for His Creatures

2. The Strength of Obedience: The Power of Submitting to 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: 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. 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.

Job 39:10 Canst thou bind the unicorn with his band in the furrow? or will he harrow the valleys after thee?

This passage highlights the power and strength of the unicorn and questions whether it can be tamed.

1. The Power of The Lord: Learning to Trust in God's Strength

2. Unbridled Hope: A Reflection on the Strength of the Unicorn

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 147:5 - Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

Job 39:11 Wilt thou trust him, because his strength is great? or wilt thou leave thy labour to him?

Job questions whether he should trust in God's might and leave his labor to God.

1. We can trust in God's strength and power to fulfill our labors, but we must also do our part.

2. Every labor is an opportunity to rely on God's strength and wisdom.

1. 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.

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. Selah.

Job 39:12 Wilt thou believe him, that he will bring home thy seed, and gather it into thy barn?

This passage speaks about trusting in God to provide and protect our crops.

1. "God is Our Provider: Learning to Trust in His Provision"

2. "The Gifts of God: Reaping the Benefits of His Protection"

1. Matthew 6:25-33 - Jesus' teaching on trusting in God for our needs

2. Psalm 37:25 - God's promise to provide for the righteous

Job 39:13 Gavest thou the goodly wings unto the peacocks? or wings and feathers unto the ostrich?

This passage questions God's creative power in creating the unique wings and feathers of the peacock and ostrich.

1. The Majesty of God's Creativity

2. Rejoicing in the Wonders of Creation

1. Exodus 31:1-11 (God's creative power in creating the tabernacle)

2. Psalm 104:24-30 (God's creative power in forming the earth and all the creatures that inhabit it)

Job 39:14 Which leaveth her eggs in the earth, and warmeth them in dust,

The passage speaks of a creature that lays its eggs in the earth and warms them in dust.

1. The Power of God's Creation: How the Smallest Things Demonstrate His Majesty

2. Developing Patience: Taking Comfort in God's Timing

1. Isaiah 40:26 - He brings forth the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name.

2. Psalm 8:3-4 - When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

Job 39:15 And forgetteth that the foot may crush them, or that the wild beast may break them.

This passage discusses the fragility of life, as it could be crushed or broken by a wild beast.

1. We must remember that life is precious and fragile, and should be treasured and handled with care.

2. We must be mindful of the presence of God in every aspect of our lives, for He is our ultimate protector.

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. 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.

Job 39:16 She is hardened against her young ones, as though they were not hers: her labour is in vain without fear;

Job 39:16 describes a female animal's lack of maternal instinct, highlighting the harshness of nature.

1. God is sovereign in all things - Romans 8:28

2. Life lessons from nature - Psalm 104:24

1. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

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.

Job 39:17 Because God hath deprived her of wisdom, neither hath he imparted to her understanding.

God has taken away wisdom from the ostrich and not given it understanding.

1: We must remember that God controls all things, even the wisdom of the ostrich, and that we must trust Him to know what is best for us.

2: We must not take for granted the wisdom and understanding that God has given us, but instead 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.

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.

Job 39:18 What time she lifteth up herself on high, she scorneth the horse and his rider.

This passage speaks of the power of the ostrich, which can lift itself up high and scorn the might of the horse and its rider.

1. The Power of Faith: Learning from the Strength of the Ostrich

2. Overcoming Doubt: Conquering Fear with the Courage of the Ostrich

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 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."

Job 39:19 Hast thou given the horse strength? hast thou clothed his neck with thunder?

Job 39 is a passage in the Bible that speaks of the power of God in creation, particularly in the creation of the horse.

1: God's Creative Power: The Majesty of the Horse

2: The Strength of God: A Reflection on Job 39:19

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 150:1-6 Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. 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.

Job 39:20 Canst thou make him afraid as a grasshopper? the glory of his nostrils is terrible.

God questions Job if he can make an animal as powerful as a wild ox afraid like a grasshopper. The power of the ox's nostrils is awe-inspiring.

1. The Supreme Might of God: Exploring the Power of Creation

2. Finding Strength in Adversity: Lessons From Job 39:20

1. 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.

2. Psalm 148:7-8 - Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word!

Job 39:21 He paweth in the valley, and rejoiceth in his strength: he goeth on to meet the armed men.

Job is praising God for his strength, and using it to go out and face any threat.

1. The Strength to Face Anything: How to Find Strength in God

2. Rejoicing in God's Strength: How to Rejoice in the Lord's Strength

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer; my God is my strength in whom I will trust.

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.

Job 39:22 He mocketh at fear, and is not affrighted; neither turneth he back from the sword.

Job states that God's power is so strong and mighty that He does not fear anything, not even a sword.

1. God's Strength is Unmatched - Exploring how God's power is incomparable to anything in this world and how it brings us comfort during difficult times.

2. Unafraid and Unmovable - Examining how God's courage and steadfastness gives us the strength to face life's challenges.

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 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.

Job 39:23 The quiver rattleth against him, the glittering spear and the shield.

The passage speaks of the strength of the wild ox, which is characterized by its loud quivers and its weapons of a glittering spear and shield.

1. The Strength of the Wild Ox: The Power of God's Creation

2. Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity and Fear

1. Psalm 147:10-11: He does not delight in the strength of the horse; he takes no pleasure in the legs of a man. The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

2. Psalm 104:24: O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Job 39:24 He swalloweth the ground with fierceness and rage: neither believeth he that it is the sound of the trumpet.

Job's trust in God is challenged by the ferocity of nature.

1: We must remember to trust in God even when faced with the challenging forces of nature.

2: In times of difficulty, we must have faith that God is in control and will help us.

1: 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.

2: Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Job 39:25 He saith among the trumpets, Ha, ha; and he smelleth the battle afar off, the thunder of the captains, and the shouting.

Job is praising God for His creation of the horse, marveling at its strength and courage.

1. God's Creation: An Example of Strength and Courage

2. Appreciating God's Providence Through His Creation

1. Psalm 148:7-10 "Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons, and all deeps: Fire, and hail; snow, and vapour; stormy wind fulfilling his word: Mountains, and all hills; fruitful trees, and all cedars: Beasts, and all cattle; creeping things, and flying fowl: Kings of the earth, and all people; princes, and all judges of the earth."

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."

Job 39:26 Doth the hawk fly by thy wisdom, and stretch her wings toward the south?

Job questions God about the hawk, asking if its flight is guided by His wisdom and if it flies south at His direction.

1: We should trust in the Lord's wisdom and guidance, even for the smallest of things.

2: We can learn from nature's example of obedience to 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: 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."

Job 39:27 Doth the eagle mount up at thy command, and make her nest on high?

The passage suggests that the eagle is not under the command of man and is free to make its own decisions, including where to make its nest.

1: God's Creation is Powerful and Uncontrollable

2: The Benefits of Letting Go and Trusting in 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: Psalm 84:3 "Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young a place near your altar, Lord Almighty, my King and my God."

Job 39:28 She dwelleth and abideth on the rock, upon the crag of the rock, and the strong place.

Job is praising the strength and resilience of the mountain eagle.

1: We can learn from the mountain eagle to trust God in difficult times and be strong and resilient like it.

2: Let us learn to be wise and courageous just like the mountain eagle and rely on God to lead us through our challenges.

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.)

Job 39:29 From thence she seeketh the prey, and her eyes behold afar off.

Job 39:29 speaks of the eagle seeking its prey and being able to see from afar.

1. The Eagle's Eye: Learning to Ponder the Wonders of God

2. The Power of a Vision: How to Persevere and Soar Above

1. Habakkuk 2:1-2 - I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

2. Proverbs 23:17 - Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long.

Job 39:30 Her young ones also suck up blood: and where the slain are, there is she.

The young of the vulture feed on the blood of dead animals.

1. God provides for all of his creatures, even those that are unpleasant to us.

2. We can learn from the vultures, who trust God to provide for them even in the midst of death and destruction.

1. Psalm 104:21-22 "The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God. The sun knoweth his going down: thou makest darkness, and it is night."

2. Psalm 147:9 "He giveth to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry."

Job chapter 40 features God's continued response to Job, where He challenges Job's understanding and asserts His supremacy.

1st Paragraph: God questions Job, asking if he can contend with the Almighty and correct Him. He urges Job to prepare himself and answer His questions (Job 40:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: God challenges Job's knowledge by asking if he can compare himself to God in terms of power and authority. He describes the Behemoth, a mighty creature that only God can control (Job 40:6-24).

In summary,

Chapter forty of Job presents:

the divine continuation,

and challenge expressed by God Himself regarding His supremacy over all creation.

Highlighting divine authority through questioning Job's ability to contend with or correct Him,

and emphasizing the incomparable power achieved through describing the Behemoth as an example of a creature only under God's control.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding offering a profound perspective on suffering within the book of Job through asserting divine supremacy.

Job 40:1 Moreover the LORD answered Job, and said,

Job was confronted by the Lord and humbled by His greatness.

1: God is greater than us and we must humble ourselves before Him.

2: God's greatness should be celebrated and acknowledged in our lives.

1: Isaiah 40:12-17 - Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?

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!

Job 40:2 Shall he that contendeth with the Almighty instruct him? he that reproveth God, let him answer it.

This passage discusses the futility of trying to correct God.

1. "The Limit of Our Understanding: A Discussion of Job 40:2"

2. "Who Can Match the Almighty? Exploring Job 40:2"

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 11:33-34: 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?

Job 40:3 Then Job answered the LORD, and said,

Job humbly responded to the Lord's challenge to address Him.

1: In times of hardship, we must remember to humble ourselves before the Lord and seek His guidance.

2: We should strive to listen to the Lord's challenges and take them on with reverence and humility.

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

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.

Job 40:4 Behold, I am vile; what shall I answer thee? I will lay mine hand upon my mouth.

Job humbly admits his own unworthiness in the face of a mighty God.

1. The Power of Humble Admissions: Learning from Job's Example

2. Knowing Our Place in the Presence of Almighty 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. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Job 40:5 Once have I spoken; but I will not answer: yea, twice; but I will proceed no further.

Job declares that he has spoken his opinion once and will not do so again.

1. The Power of Silence: Learning to Speak and Not Speak in our Lives

2. Knowing When to Stop: Understanding the Wisdom of Knowing When to Refrain from Speaking

1. James 1:19 - Understand this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

2. 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.

Job 40:6 Then answered the LORD unto Job out of the whirlwind, and said,

God speaks to Job out of a whirlwind, reminding him of his power and majesty.

1. God's Power and Majesty: Reflecting on Job 40:6

2. God's Sovereignty: Our Response to Job 40:6

1. Isaiah 40:18-31 - God's power and majesty in comparison to man's insignificance.

2. Habakkuk 3:2-7 - God's sovereignty in the midst of destruction and chaos.

Job 40:7 Gird up thy loins now like a man: I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me.

In Job 40:7, God commands Job to prepare himself and be ready to answer His questions.

1. Stand up to God's Challenges: Preparing for God's Questions with Courage.

2. The Courage to Stand Up to God: Understanding the Call to Holiness.

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.

Job 40:8 Wilt thou also disannul my judgment? wilt thou condemn me, that thou mayest be righteous?

God challenges Job, asking if he will also condemn Him in order to make himself appear righteous.

1. The Power of God's Judgment: Deferring to God's Wisdom

2. Submitting to God's Authority: Recognizing Our Limitations

1. Psalm 94:1-2: "O Lord God, to whom vengeance belongs O God, to whom vengeance belongs, shine forth! Rise up, O Judge of the earth; render punishment to the proud."

2. 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."

Job 40:9 Hast thou an arm like God? or canst thou thunder with a voice like him?

In Job 40:9, God questions Job, asking if he has an arm like God's and if he can thunder with a voice like Him.

1. The Power and Might of God: Examining Job 40:9

2. Recognizing God's Unparalleled Strength: An Analysis of Job 40:9

1. Psalm 33:6-9 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

2. Isaiah 40:12-17 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? Who has measured the Spirit of the Lord, or what man shows him his counsel? Whom did he consult, and who made him understand? Who taught him the path of justice, and taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales.

Job 40:10 Deck thyself now with majesty and excellency; and array thyself with glory and beauty.

God encourages Job to adorn himself with magnificence, exaltation, and splendor.

1. The Beauty of God's Creation: Finding Splendor in Everyday Life

2. Adorning Ourselves with Majesty and Excellency: Leveraging Our Strengths to Honor 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. Psalm 96:9 - O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.

Job 40:11 Cast abroad the rage of thy wrath: and behold every one that is proud, and abase him.

God commands us to humble those who are proud and to cast out our own anger.

1. Pride Goeth Before a Fall: A Warning to Humble Ourselves Before God

2. Taming the Beast of Wrath: How to Resolve Conflict with Compassion

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

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.

Job 40:12 Look on every one that is proud, and bring him low; and tread down the wicked in their place.

God commands us to bring down the wicked and proud and to tread them down in their place.

1. Pride Goeth Before a Fall: A on the dangers of pride and the importance of humility.

2. The Power of God: A on the power of God to bring down the wicked and humble the proud.

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

2. Psalm 37:5-7 - 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. Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

Job 40:13 Hide them in the dust together; and bind their faces in secret.

Job 40:13 refers to God's power to hide and bind people in secret.

1: God is the one and only one who knows the things that are hidden.

2: God is a protector and provider, even when things seem hidden from us.

1: Psalm 9:9-10 - The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek 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.

Job 40:14 Then will I also confess unto thee that thine own right hand can save thee.

Job acknowledges God's power to save him and confesses his faith in Him.

1. Our Faith in God: Understanding the Power of His Right Hand

2. The Biblical Witness to God's Saving Grace

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?

Job 40:15 Behold now behemoth, which I made with thee; he eateth grass as an ox.

This passage speaks of God's creation of Behemoth, who He made with Job and eats grass like an ox.

1. God's Creation is Amazing - Reflecting on the wonders of Behemoth in Job 40:15

2. God's Greatness - Appreciating the power of God in creating Behemoth.

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

Job 40:16 Lo now, his strength is in his loins, and his force is in the navel of his belly.

Job acknowledges God's superior strength and power.

1. God's Strength is Unmatchable: Our trust should be placed in God's power and love.

2. Acknowledge God's Power: We should recognize God's immense strength and rely on it.

1. Romans 8:31-39 - Paul's exhortation of faith and love in God despite suffering.

2. Psalm 18:1-2 - David's declaration of God's strength and protection.

Job 40:17 He moveth his tail like a cedar: the sinews of his stones are wrapped together.

This verse speaks of God's power in creation, specifically focusing on the strength of animals.

1: The Strength of God's Creation

2: What We Can Learn from the Power of Creation

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: Psalm 8:3 - "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained."

Job 40:18 His bones are as strong pieces of brass; his bones are like bars of iron.

Job 40:18 speaks of the strength of God's creations, emphasizing its durability.

1. God's creations are a testament to His power and might.

2. We can find strength in God's creations, if we look to Him in our time of need.

1. Psalm 8:3-5 - When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

2. Isaiah 40:26 - Lift up 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.

Job 40:19 He is the chief of the ways of God: he that made him can make his sword to approach unto him.

This verse speaks of God's sovereignty and power, pointing to His authority over all things.

1. God Is In Control: How We Can Rely on Him In Times of Uncertainty

2. The Sovereignty of God: How His Authority Governs All Things

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. Psalm 103:19 - The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

Job 40:20 Surely the mountains bring him forth food, where all the beasts of the field play.

This passage speaks of the Lord providing food for animals, from the mountains and other areas of the wilderness.

1. God's Provision: How the Lord Provides for His Creation

2. Trusting in God's Care and Provision

1. 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.

2. 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?

Job 40:21 He lieth under the shady trees, in the covert of the reed, and fens.

The passage speaks of how God provides a safe place of rest for us.

1: God will provide us shelter in the midst of turbulent times.

2: God will provide us with a refuge and a place of comfort.

1: Isaiah 32:2 - A man will be as a hiding place from the wind, and a cover from the tempest.

2: Psalm 91:1 - He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

Job 40:22 The shady trees cover him with their shadow; the willows of the brook compass him about.

Trees and willows provide shade and protection to the animals living in the brook.

1. The Power of Nature: How God Uses the Natural World to Protect Us

2. God's Protection: How He Provides Shelter and Comfort in Times of Need

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. 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.

Job 40:23 Behold, he drinketh up a river, and hasteth not: he trusteth that he can draw up Jordan into his mouth.

God's power is demonstrated by his ability to do things that seem impossible.

1: Trust in God's power - no matter how difficult a situation may seem, God is able to do the impossible.

2: Have faith in God's ability - by believing that God can do what seems impossible, we are enabled to overcome any challenge.

1: Matthew 19:26 - Jesus answered, With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

2: Psalm 62:11 - God has spoken once; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God.

Job 40:24 He taketh it with his eyes: his nose pierceth through snares.

God's power and wisdom is so great that He can overcome any obstacles and traps that are set against Him.

1. The importance of trusting in God's power and wisdom during difficult times.

2. God's omniscience and omnipotence allows Him to overcome any obstacle.

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. Psalm 33:4 - For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

Job chapter 41 continues with God's response to Job, focusing on the Leviathan a powerful sea creature as a demonstration of His sovereignty and unmatched power.

1st Paragraph: God challenges Job to confront the Leviathan, describing its formidable characteristics and untamable nature. He highlights its impenetrable scales, fierce breath, and terrifying strength (Job 41:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: God questions if anyone can capture or subdue the Leviathan. He emphasizes that even the sight of it causes fear and awe among people (Job 41:11-25).

In summary,

Chapter forty-one of Job presents:

the divine continuation,

and description expressed by God Himself regarding His unmatched power demonstrated through the Leviathan.

Highlighting divine sovereignty through emphasizing the Leviathan's formidable characteristics and untamable nature,

and emphasizing human limitations achieved through highlighting its indomitable strength.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding offering a profound perspective on suffering within the book of Job by showcasing divine supremacy over all creation.

Job 41:1 Canst thou draw out leviathan with an hook? or his tongue with a cord which thou lettest down?

This verse asks if it is possible to capture Leviathan with a fishing hook or bind its tongue with a rope.

1. Understanding the Power of the Almighty: How God's Creation is Beyond Our Comprehension

2. Overcoming Struggles in Life: Finding Strength in Trusting in God

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. Job 26:12-13 - "He divideth the sea with his power, and by his understanding he smiteth through the proud. By his spirit he hath garnished the heavens; his hand hath formed the crooked serpent."

Job 41:2 Canst thou put an hook into his nose? or bore his jaw through with a thorn?

This passage from Job 41:2 asks a rhetorical question, wondering how one might be able to control a powerful creature like a leviathan.

1. "Taming the Beast: God's Sovereignty Over All Creation"

2. "The Power of Faith: Overcoming Fear of the Unknown"

1. Psalm 104:24-26 - "O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Here is the sea, great and wide, which teems with creatures innumerable, living things both small and great. There go the ships, and Leviathan, which you formed to play in it."

2. Isaiah 27:1 - "In that day the Lord with his hard and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and he will slay the dragon that is in the sea."

Job 41:3 Will he make many supplications unto thee? will he speak soft words unto thee?

This passage speaks of God's power and majesty, questioning if anyone can be so bold as to challenge Him.

1. God is Greater than All: Let us Rejoice in His Majesty

2. The Invincible Creator: Our Respect and Adoration

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. Psalm 8:3-4 - "When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?"

Job 41:4 Will he make a covenant with thee? wilt thou take him for a servant for ever?

The passage is asking if one can make a covenant with God and if God can be taken as a servant forever.

1: God is our faithful servant, committed to us and our needs through His covenant.

2: We can trust in God's faithfulness and commitment to us through His covenant.

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?

Job 41:5 Wilt thou play with him as with a bird? or wilt thou bind him for thy maidens?

This passage speaks of the Leviathan, a powerful creature that is unruly and cannot be tamed.

1. God's Power: The Uncontainable Leviathan

2. The Strength of Our Trust in God

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. Isaiah 27:1 - "In that day the Lord with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea."

Job 41:6 Shall the companions make a banquet of him? shall they part him among the merchants?

The companions of God's creatures cannot make a banquet of them nor can they divide them among merchants.

1. God's creatures are not ours to exploit.

2. That which was made by God is not ours to divide.

1. Genesis 1:26-28, God made man in His image and gave him dominion over the creatures of the earth.

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

Job 41:7 Canst thou fill his skin with barbed irons? or his head with fish spears?

The passage talks about God's creation and power as demonstrated by the Leviathan being unassailable to any weapon man might create.

1: The passage from Job teaches us that God is powerful and all-knowing. It reminds us that He created the world and everything in it, and that He is above all.

2: The passage from Job reminds us of the truth that God is all-powerful and His creation is beyond our understanding. We must remember to trust in God and His Word, for He knows all things and His power is incomparable.

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 gatherth 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: 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.

Job 41:8 Lay thine hand upon him, remember the battle, do no more.

This passage from Job 41:8 speaks of laying one's hand on an enemy and remembering the battle, but not engaging in further conflict.

1. "The Power of Forgiveness: Refraining from Further Conflict"

2. "Restraint in the Face of Conflict: Learning from Job 41:8"

1. 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."

2. Proverbs 16:7 - "When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."

Job 41:9 Behold, the hope of him is in vain: shall not one be cast down even at the sight of him?

The fear of God is overwhelming and can leave one feeling hopeless in its wake.

1: No matter how difficult the situation, there is always hope in God.

2: We must remember to look to God for hope even when we feel overwhelmed.

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.

Job 41:10 None is so fierce that dare stir him up: who then is able to stand before me?

This passage speaks of the power and might of God, emphasizing that no one is too strong to challenge Him and that He is all-powerful and unstoppable.

1. "God's Unstoppable Might: Understanding Our Place in the Universe"

2. "Unfathomable Strength: Let Us Stand in Awe of the Almighty"

1. Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Isaiah 40:12-14 "Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? Who has measured the Spirit of the Lord, or what man shows him his counsel? Whom did he consult, and who made him understand? Who taught him the path of justice, and taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding?"

Job 41:11 Who hath prevented me, that I should repay him? whatsoever is under the whole heaven is mine.

God is reminding Job that everything in the world, under the heavens, belongs to Him.

1. God is the ultimate owner of all possessions, and we must remember that all we have is ultimately from Him.

2. We must remember that God is sovereign over all things; He gives and takes away.

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.

2. Psalm 24:1 The earth is the Lord s, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Job 41:12 I will not conceal his parts, nor his power, nor his comely proportion.

God reveals to Job the power and beauty of Leviathan, a sea monster.

1. The Power of God's Creation - Job 41:12

2. Beauty and Majesty in God's Creatures - Job 41:12

1. Psalm 104:24-25 - How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

2. Isaiah 40:12 - 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?

Job 41:13 Who can discover the face of his garment? or who can come to him with his double bridle?

This passage speaks of the difficulty of understanding God's ways and of approaching him.

1: The Mystery of God's Ways

2: The Challenge of Approaching God

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: 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.

Job 41:14 Who can open the doors of his face? his teeth are terrible round about.

This passage highlights the terrifying and powerful nature of God.

1: God is Powerful - Nothing can stand in His way.

2: Fear the Lord - His power is beyond our understanding.

1: Psalm 68:35 - "O God, you are awesome from your sanctuary. The God of Israel himself gives power and strength to his people. Praise be to God!"

2: Daniel 4:35 - "All the peoples of the earth are counted as nothing, and he does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him, What have you done? "

Job 41:15 His scales are his pride, shut up together as with a close seal.

Job 41:15 describes a creature whose scales are its pride, shut up as if they are sealed.

1. God's Creation: Awe and Wonder in the Natural World

2. Pride: The Downfall of Man

1. Psalm 104:24 - "O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures."

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

Job 41:16 One is so near to another, that no air can come between them.

Job 41:16 describes two things that are so close together, that no air can come between them.

1. The Closeness of God and Man: A Study in Job 41:16

2. A Closeness We Can't Comprehend: Exploring Job 41:16

1. Genesis 2:24-25, "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed."

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. This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church."

Job 41:17 They are joined one to another, they stick together, that they cannot be sundered.

This verse emphasizes the strength of unity and how it allows for something to be unbreakable.

1. God calls us to come together in unity, for together we can overcome any obstacle.

2. We can conquer anything when we stand together in the name of God.

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. 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.

Job 41:18 By his neesings a light doth shine, and his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning.

God's power is so great that even His breathing can bring light.

1: God's light can bring us out of darkness.

2: God's power is greater than our understanding.

1: Isaiah 9:2 - The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light.

2: 2 Corinthians 4:6 - For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts.

Job 41:19 Out of his mouth go burning lamps, and sparks of fire leap out.

The passage discusses the power of God, symbolized by a creature with a mouth from which burning lamps and sparks of fire leap out.

1. "The Power of God: A Living Flame"

2. "God's Strength and Might: Illuminating the Way"

1. Isaiah 4:5 - "Then the LORD will create over the whole site of Mount Zion and over her assemblies a cloud by day, and smoke and the shining of a flaming fire by night; for over all the glory there will be a canopy."

2. Hebrews 12:29 - "For our God is a consuming fire."

Job 41:20 Out of his nostrils goeth smoke, as out of a seething pot or caldron.

Job 41:20 describes the power of Leviathan, a mythical creature, as smoke coming out of his nostrils like a seething pot or caldron.

1. God has created creatures with power beyond our imagination.

2. God can use creatures to teach us about his power.

1. Psalm 104:24-26 - O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Here is the sea, great and wide, which teems with creatures innumerable, living things both small and great. There go the ships, and Leviathan which you formed to play in it.

2. Isaiah 27:1 - In that day the Lord with his hard and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and he will slay the dragon that is in the sea.

Job 41:21 His breath kindleth coals, and a flame goeth out of his mouth.

God's power is seen in his ability to create and control fire.

1. "The Power of God: A Reflection on Job 41:21"

2. "The Sovereignty of God: A Study of Job 41:21"

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 33:6-9 - "By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm."

Job 41:22 In his neck remaineth strength, and sorrow is turned into joy before him.

Job 41:22 speaks to the strength that comes from trusting in God, even in times of sorrow, as joy will eventually come.

1. "The Power of Joy: How to Find Strength in Times of Sorrow"

2. "The Strength of Faith: How to Rejoice in the Midst of Pain"

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. Isaiah 40:29 - "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength."

Job 41:23 The flakes of his flesh are joined together: they are firm in themselves; they cannot be moved.

This verse describes the physical strength of Leviathan, a creature mentioned in the book of Job.

1. God's Strength is Unparalleled - A on the power of God demonstrated through the Leviathan

2. Finding Resilience in Hard Times - A on finding strength in difficult situations by looking to God's example

1. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

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.

Job 41:24 His heart is as firm as a stone; yea, as hard as a piece of the nether millstone.

Job's heart is firm and strong, like a stone.

1: We all have moments of weakness, but we can be reminded that with God's help our hearts can be as strong and firm as a stone in any situation.

2: Job's example of faith can encourage us to be firm and steadfast in our devotion to God, no matter the challenges we may face.

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 26:3-4 - "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock."

Job 41:25 When he raiseth up himself, the mighty are afraid: by reason of breakings they purify themselves.

The mighty are afraid of God's power, and they purify themselves in response.

1: The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom

2: The Power of God and How it Should Impact Our Lives

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: Acts 2:37-38 - Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, Brothers, what shall we do? And Peter said to them, 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.

Job 41:26 The sword of him that layeth at him cannot hold: the spear, the dart, nor the habergeon.

God's protection is impenetrable.

1. God's Shield of Protection - Job 41:26

2. The Unfailing Security of the Lord - Job 41:26

1. Psalm 3:3 - But thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

2. Isaiah 59:16 - And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.

Job 41:27 He esteemeth iron as straw, and brass as rotten wood.

The passage is talking about how God views earthly possessions and materials as nothing when compared to Him.

1: "What is Your Worth? - Realizing the insignificance of earthly possessions when compared to the grandeur of God"

2: "The Transient Nature of Possessions - Learning to value spiritual treasures over physical ones"

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: 2 Corinthians 4:18 - 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.

Job 41:28 The arrow cannot make him flee: slingstones are turned with him into stubble.

The passage highlights the strength of God, who is so mighty that even the most powerful weapons cannot make Him flee.

1. "God, Our Mighty Defender"

2. "The Unshakable Faith of God"

1. Psalm 62:7 - "My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge."

2. Isaiah 40:29 - "He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless."

Job 41:29 Darts are counted as stubble: he laugheth at the shaking of a spear.

The passage suggests that God does not take human weapons seriously; He laughs at the shaking of a spear.

1: No matter how powerful our weapons may seem in the eyes of man, they are nothing to God.

2: God is the only source of true power and strength; we must trust in Him alone.

1: Psalm 33:16-17 - "No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength. A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save."

2: Isaiah 31:1 - "Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, who rely on horses, who trust in the multitude of their chariots and in the great strength of their horsemen, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel, or seek help from the Lord."

Job 41:30 Sharp stones are under him: he spreadeth sharp pointed things upon the mire.

Job 41:30 speaks of the strength of Leviathan, a sea creature, and how nothing can penetrate its thick skin.

1. God's Creation: The Strength of Leviathan

2. The Power of the Unstoppable: Taking Cues from Leviathan

1. Psalm 104:25-26 - 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. Isaiah 27:1 - In that day the Lord with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea.

Job 41:31 He maketh the deep to boil like a pot: he maketh the sea like a pot of ointment.

God's power over creation is vast and unstoppable.

1. God's power is limitless and should be respected

2. God is in control of the universe and we must humble ourselves before Him

1. Psalm 104:24-30 - O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

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.

Job 41:32 He maketh a path to shine after him; one would think the deep to be hoary.

This passage speaks of God's greatness and power, showing that even the depths of the ocean can be illuminated by His presence.

1. God's Power Illumines the Depths - A on God's power to bring light to even the darkest places.

2. The Brightness of God's Path - A on how God's presence brings light and hope to our lives.

1. Psalm 19:1-2 - The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

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.

Job 41:33 Upon earth there is not his like, who is made without fear.

Job 41:33 summarizes that there is no one like God on Earth, He is without fear.

1. The Power of God's Fearlessness - Exploring the magnitude of God's power in His fearlessness.

2. What Does it Mean to be Fearless? - Exploring what it means to be fearless and how that relates to our relationship with God.

1. Isaiah 45:5-7 - "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. I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the LORD, who does all these things."

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!"

Job 41:34 He beholdeth all high things: he is a king over all the children of pride.

This verse describes how God is sovereign over all of creation, including those who are proud and arrogant.

1. Pride and Humility: A Study of Job 41:34

2. The King of Kings: Recognizing the Sovereignty of God in Job 41:34

1. James 4:6 - But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.

2. Isaiah 40:10-11 - Behold, the Lord God shall come with a strong hand, and His arm shall rule for Him; Behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him. He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those who are with young.

Job chapter 42 concludes the book with Job's humble response to God's revelation and God's restoration of Job's fortunes.

1st Paragraph: Job acknowledges God's unlimited power and wisdom, admitting his lack of understanding and repenting in dust and ashes (Job 42:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: God expresses His displeasure with Job's friends, who did not speak rightly about Him like Job did. He instructs them to offer sacrifices and asks Job to intercede for them (Job 42:7-9).

3rd Paragraph: God restores Job's fortunes, blessing him with twice as much as he had before. He grants him a new family, wealth, and long life (Job 42:10-17).

In summary,

Chapter forty-two of Job presents:

the conclusion,

and resolution expressed through Job's humble response to God and the restoration of his fortunes.

Highlighting humility achieved through Job acknowledging his limited understanding in comparison to God,

and emphasizing divine justice achieved through reprimanding Job's friends for their misguided words.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding offering a glimpse into the restoration of suffering within the book of Job by showcasing divine favor towards those who remain faithful.

Job 42:1 Then Job answered the LORD, and said,

Job humbly acknowledges God's power and wisdom.

1: Acknowledge God's Power and Wisdom

2: Recognizing God's Majesty

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: 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.

Job 42:2 I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee.

Job acknowledges God's power and omniscience.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding His Power and Omniscience

2. Recognizing God's Ability to Do Anything and Knowing His Thoughts

1. Psalm 139:1-6

2. Isaiah 55:8-9

Job 42:3 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.

God is beyond our understanding and his plans are too wonderful for us to comprehend.

1. God is Greater Than We Can Imagine

2. The Mystery of God's 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. 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."

Job 42:4 Hear, I beseech thee, and I will speak: I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me.

Job learns from God that he should trust and accept God s will rather than question it.

1. Trusting God's Will: Accepting What We Cannot Understand

2. Growing Closer to God Through Submission

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

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.

Job 42:5 I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee.

Job gains a deeper understanding of God when he is able to see God with his own eyes, rather than just hearing about him.

1. "Seeing God with Our Own Eyes: Job 42:5"

2. "The Power of Personal Experience: A Study of Job 42:5"

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. Matthew 5:8 - "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

Job 42:6 Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.

Job recognizes his lack of understanding and humbly repents for his wrongdoings.

1. Lessons from Job: Humility and Repentance

2. The Power of Repentance

1. Luke 15:11-32 (Parable of the Prodigal Son)

2. Psalm 51:17 ( The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. )

Job 42:7 And it was so, that after the LORD had spoken these words unto Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of me the thing that is right, as my servant Job hath.

After Job speaks truthfully about God, the Lord rebukes Eliphaz and his two friends for not speaking rightly about him.

1. Speak truth about God no matter the cost.

2. Obey the Lord and speak rightly of Him.

1. Proverbs 12:19 - Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

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.

Job 42:8 Therefore take unto you now seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and my servant Job shall pray for you: for him will I accept: lest I deal with you after your folly, in that ye have not spoken of me the thing which is right, like my servant Job.

Job humbly accepted God's decision, offering a sacrifice for his friends and interceding for them.

1. The Power of Intercession: The Example of Job

2. Humility in the Face of God's Will

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 53:12 - "Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors."

Job 42:9 So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went, and did according as the LORD commanded them: the LORD also accepted Job.

Job was accepted by the Lord after Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite followed the Lord's command.

1. God rewards those who obey him.

2. We must walk in faith and trust that God will provide.

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 11:6 - 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.

Job 42:10 And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

Job's faithfulness in spite of his suffering was rewarded by the Lord, who restored Job's fortune and gave him double what he had before.

1. God's faithfulness is rewarded with blessings.

2. Perseverance in the midst of suffering brings reward.

1. 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."

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."

Job 42:11 Then came there unto him all his brethren, and all his sisters, and all they that had been of his acquaintance before, and did eat bread with him in his house: and they bemoaned him, and comforted him over all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him: every man also gave him a piece of money, and every one an earring of gold.

Job's friends and family visited him, mourned his suffering, and provided comfort and gifts.

1. God's love is revealed through those who surround us in our darkest moments.

2. In times of suffering, even our closest relationships can bring hope and healing.

1. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.

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.

Job 42:12 So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses.

Job's life was blessed beyond measure as he ended up with more possessions than at the beginning of his life.

1. God will always provide for us in times of need.

2. Trials can lead to great blessings.

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. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Job 42:13 He had also seven sons and three daughters.

Job's faith and resilience was demonstrated in his suffering and it was rewarded as he was eventually blessed with seven sons and three daughters.

1. God's faithfulness is revealed through Job's example of perseverance.

2. God rewards those who remain faithful in the midst of suffering.

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, 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. 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."

Job 42:14 And he called the name of the first, Jemima; and the name of the second, Kezia; and the name of the third, Kerenhappuch.

Job gives his daughters new names.

1. The importance of giving children meaningful names.

2. The significance of recognizing and honoring God's blessings.

1. Proverbs 22:1 - "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold."

2. Psalm 127:3 - "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward."

Job 42:15 And in all the land were no women found so fair as the daughters of Job: and their father gave them inheritance among their brethren.

Job was blessed with beautiful daughters and gave them an inheritance among their brothers.

1. God's blessings extend beyond the material and into the spiritual realm - Job 42:15.

2. God's love is impartial, extending to all of his children - Job 42:15.

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 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Job 42:16 After this lived Job an hundred and forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons' sons, even four generations.

Job overcame difficult hardships and lived a long and prosperous life, seeing four generations of his family.

1: No matter what trials and tribulations we face, God can bring us through and bless us with a long and prosperous life.

2: We can trust in God's plan for our life, even when it is hard to understand.

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 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."

Job 42:17 So Job died, being old and full of days.

Job's life came to an end after a long and full life.

1. God's Plan: Trusting in the Lord's Timing

2. The Value of a Life Well-Lived

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 90:10, "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."

Psalm 1 serves as an introduction to the Book of Psalms, presenting a contrast between the righteous and the wicked, emphasizing the blessings that come from delighting in God's law.

1st Paragraph: The psalm begins by describing the blessedness of those who do not walk in step with the wicked or follow their counsel. Instead, they find delight in meditating on God's law day and night (Psalm 1:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalm continues by comparing the righteous person to a tree planted by streams of water. It highlights their fruitfulness and prosperity, contrasting it with the fate of the wicked who are like chaff blown away by the wind (Psalm 1:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The psalm concludes by stating that God watches over the way of the righteous but brings destruction upon the path of sinners. It emphasizes that ultimately, it is God who determines their destiny (Psalm 1:5-6).

In summary,

Psalm one presents

an introduction,

and contrast expressed between the righteous and wicked individuals,

highlighting divine favor towards those who delight in God's law.

Emphasizing blessings achieved through describing their prosperity and fruitful nature,

and emphasizing divine judgment achieved through contrasting it with destruction for those who choose a sinful path.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding offering insights into living a life aligned with God's will as a source of true happiness and security.

Psalms 1:1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

The righteous will be blessed if they avoid ungodly counsel, the way of sinners, and the seat of the scornful.

1. Walk in the Ways of the Lord to Receive His Blessing

2. The Righteous Path is the Only Path to True Joy

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.

Psalms 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

The Psalmist delight is in the law of the LORD and they meditate on it day and night.

1. Developing a Heart of Delight in God's Word

2. The Benefits of Meditating on Scripture

1. Psalm 119:97-104

2. Romans 12:2

Psalms 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.

The Psalmist compares those who are blessed by God to a tree which is planted by rivers of water and bears fruit in its season, whose leaves never wither and all their actions will prosper.

1. Cultivating a Life of Blessing and Fulfillment

2. God's Abundant Provision for His People

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. John 15:1-2 - "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit."

Psalms 1:4 The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

The wicked do not have a place in God's kingdom, unlike the righteous who shall remain in it.

1: Don't be like the chaff, be like the righteous and you shall remain in God's kingdom.

2: The wicked will not have a place in God's kingdom, but the righteous will remain in it forever.

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: Romans 9:13 "Just as it is written, Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.

Psalms 1:5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

The ungodly will not be justified in the presence of the righteous.

1. Walking in the Righteousness of God: Living a Life of Holiness

2. The Judgment of God: How We Can Stay Righteous in His Eyes

1. 1 John 1:7-9 - 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.

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.

Psalms 1:6 For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

The Lord knows the path of the righteous, and the path of the wicked will lead to destruction.

1 - The Lord is Knowing: Knowing the Path of the Righteous

2 - The Lord is Just: The Path of the Wicked Will Lead to Destruction

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 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Psalm 2 explores the theme of God's sovereignty and the rebellion of earthly rulers against Him, ultimately declaring His ultimate authority and the blessedness of those who take refuge in Him.

1st Paragraph: The psalm begins by describing the nations and their rulers conspiring against God and His anointed one (Messiah). They seek to rebel and cast off His authority (Psalm 2:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: God responds to their rebellion with laughter, deriding their futile attempts. He declares that He has set His chosen King on Zion, His holy hill (Psalm 2:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The anointed King speaks, proclaiming his divine appointment as the Son of God. He is given authority over all nations, promising to rule them with a rod of iron (Psalm 2:7-9).

4th Paragraph: The psalm concludes with a warning to earthly rulers to serve the Lord with fear and rejoice in trembling. Blessed are those who take refuge in Him, while destruction awaits those who oppose Him (Psalm 2:10-12).

In summary,

Psalm two presents

a reflection,

and declaration expressed regarding God's sovereignty over earthly rulers,

highlighting divine authority achieved through establishing His anointed King.

Emphasizing rebellion achieved through describing the nations' plot against God,

and emphasizing divine response achieved through asserting His chosen King's supremacy.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding offering insights into submitting to God's reign as a source of blessing while warning against opposing Him.

Psalms 2:1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

The Psalmist asks why the people of the world are in such turmoil and why they are trying to achieve futile goals.

1. The Futility of Rebellion - Examining the futility of attempting to stand against God.

2. The Pursuit of Vanity - Examining the dangers of chasing after vanity and the emptiness of life without God.

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. Matthew 16:26 - For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?

Psalms 2:2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying,

The kings of the earth are conspiring against God and His chosen one.

1. The Power of God in the Face of Unbelievers

2. Standing Firm in Faith Despite Opposition

1. Psalm 37:7-9 "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. For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land."

2. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 "For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 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."

Psalms 2:3 Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.

The Psalmist calls for breaking free from oppressive forces and being liberated.

1. The Power of Breaking Free: How to Overcome Oppression and Find Liberation

2. Releasing Yourself from Unhealthy Ties: Breaking Free for a Better Life

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. Romans 8:21 - "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."

Psalms 2:4 He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the LORD shall have them in derision.

God laughs at the attempts of those who oppose Him.

1: God's Sovereignty: Laughing in the Face of Adversity

2: God's Power: A Laugh in the Face of Opposition

1: Proverbs 1:24-26 Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh.

2: Proverbs 3:34 He scorneth the scorners: but he giveth grace unto the lowly.

Psalms 2:5 Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.

The passage speaks of God's wrath and displeasure.

1. God's Anger: What Does it Mean for Us?

2. The Power of God's Discipline.

1. Isaiah 30:27-33

2. James 1:19-21

Psalms 2:6 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

The Psalmist declares that God has set a king on His holy hill of Zion.

1. God's Choice of Kings: A Look at Psalms 2:6

2. The Power of the Kingdom of God: The Kingship of Zion

1. Psalms 2:6

2. Isaiah 24:23 - Then the moon will be abashed and the sun ashamed, for the Lord of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and his glory will be before his elders.

Psalms 2:7 I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

God proclaims that Jesus is His Son and has been given authority.

1. The Authority of Jesus

2. The Power of God's Decree

1. Matthew 28:18-20 (And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.)

2. Romans 9:5 (Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.)

Psalms 2:8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.

God promises to give us possession of the world if we ask.

1. The power of prayer: Learning to ask God for what we need.

2. The faithfulness of God: We can trust in His promise of provision.

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. 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.

Psalms 2:9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

God's power is strong enough to break all evil.

1: God is capable of breaking through all evil in our lives.

2: We must trust in God to break the chains of evil in our lives.

1: Romans 12:21 - Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2: 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 - For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

Psalms 2:10 Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.

Kings and judges of the earth are encouraged to be wise and instructed.

1. Wisdom in Leadership: Using the example of Psalms 2:10 to demonstrate the importance of being wise and instructed in positions of authority.

2. The Role of Discernment in Leadership: Exploring how the words of Psalms 2:10 exemplify the need for discernment when acting in positions of authority.

1. Proverbs 9:10 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

2. Proverbs 16:16 - "How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver."

Psalms 2:11 Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

Believers should serve the Lord with reverence and joy, but with a healthy sense of awe and fear.

1. The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom

2. Joyful Submission in Service to the Lord

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

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.

Psalms 2:12 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.

Kiss the Son to be blessed and trust in Him to avoid His wrath.

1: The Importance of Revering and Trusting in Jesus

2: The Blessing of Trusting and Revering God

1: Romans 10:9 - "If you declare with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

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."

Psalm 3 is a lament of David during a time of distress, expressing his trust in God's deliverance and seeking His protection against his enemies.

1st Paragraph: The psalm begins with David acknowledging the multitude of his enemies and their taunts against him. Despite the dire circumstances, he affirms his trust in God as his shield and the lifter of his head (Psalm 3:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: David cries out to God for help, recounting his desperate situation and expressing confidence that God will answer him from His holy hill. He declares that he will not fear because God sustains him (Psalm 3:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: David prays for deliverance from his enemies, asking God to arise and save him. He expresses faith in God's ability to strike down his adversaries and bring salvation (Psalm 3:7-8).

4th Paragraph: The psalm concludes with David expressing assurance that victory belongs to the Lord. He prays for blessings upon His people (Psalm 3:9-10).

In summary,

Psalm three presents

a lament,

and expression of trust expressed by David during a time of distress,

highlighting reliance on God's deliverance.

Emphasizing adversity achieved through describing the multitude of enemies and their taunts,

and emphasizing faith achieved through affirming trust in God as a source of protection.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding offering prayers for salvation while acknowledging ultimate victory belongs to the Lord.

Psalms 3:1 Lord, how are they increased that trouble me! many are they that rise up against me.

Many people are rising up against the speaker, causing him trouble.

1: We can take comfort in the Lord, even when it feels like the world is rising up against us.

2: We can trust in the Lord to bring us through 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: Psalms 34:17 - "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

Psalms 3:2 Many there be which say of my soul, There is no help for him in God. Selah.

Many people have said that God will not help the psalmist in his distress.

1. God's Help in Times of Need

2. God's Love and Faithfulness in All Circumstances

1. Psalm 3:2

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalms 3:3 But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

The LORD is a shield and protector, providing glory and lifting up the head in times of need.

1. The Lord's Protection in Times of Need

2. The Glory and Strength of 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. 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.

Psalms 3:4 I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill. Selah.

A psalm of David reveals how he cried out to the Lord and was heard from the Lord's holy hill.

1. God Hears Our Prayers: A Study on the Power of Prayer

2. Reaching Out to God in Times of Need: A Study on David's Cry for Help

1. Psalm 18:6 - "In my distress I called upon the Lord; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears."

2. Isaiah 65:24 - "Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear."

Psalms 3:5 I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the LORD sustained me.

This passage speaks of the Lord sustaining and protecting the psalmist even in his sleep.

1. God is Always Watching Over Us

2. Finding Peace in the Comfort of the Lord

1. Psalms 4:8 - "In peace I will both lay me down and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety."

2. Isaiah 26:3 - "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

Psalms 3:6 I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that have set themselves against me round about.

The psalmist affirms his faith in God, declaring that he will not be afraid of the many people who are against him.

1. Trusting God in Times of Trouble

2. Relying on the Strength of the Lord

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.

Psalms 3:7 Arise, O LORD; save me, O my God: for thou hast smitten all mine enemies upon the cheek bone; thou hast broken the teeth of the ungodly.

The Psalmist calls on God to save him, for He has defeated all of his enemies.

1. God's Victory Over Evil

2. Trusting in God's Protection

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.

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

Psalms 3:8 Salvation belongeth unto the LORD: thy blessing is upon thy people. Selah.

Psalm 3:8 expresses the comfort and assurance that God brings to His people, and provides a reminder of His blessings.

1. God is Our Refuge and Strength: Experiencing God's Protection in Times of Trouble

2. God Will Provide: Relying on God for His Provision and Blessings

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. 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 upon you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God."

Psalm 4 is a psalm of David that expresses his trust in God and seeks His favor amidst adversity. It emphasizes the contrast between the righteous and the wicked, encouraging people to turn to God for peace and joy.

1st Paragraph: David calls out to God for help, asking Him to hear his prayer and have mercy on him. He appeals to God as his righteous defender (Psalm 4:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: David addresses those who seek falsehood and dishonor, urging them to turn from their ways and recognize that God has set apart the godly for Himself. He encourages them to offer sacrifices of righteousness (Psalm 4:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: David expresses his personal trust in God, acknowledging that He brings joy and contentment even in troubled times. He encourages others to put their trust in Him as well (Psalm 4:6-8).

In summary,

Psalm four presents

a plea,

and expression of trust expressed by David during times of distress,

highlighting reliance on God's righteousness.

Emphasizing seeking divine favor achieved through calling out for help,

and emphasizing contrasting lifestyles achieved through urging people to turn from falsehood towards righteousness.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding finding joy and contentment in trusting God amidst adversity while inviting others into this relationship with Him.

Psalms 4:1 Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness: thou hast enlarged me when I was in distress; have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer.

God is with us during times of distress and will hear our prayers.

1: "God Is With Us in Distress"

2: "The Mercy of God: A Source of Strength"

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."

Psalms 4:2 O ye sons of men, how long will ye turn my glory into shame? how long will ye love vanity, and seek after leasing? Selah.

The psalmist questions why people are continually dishonoring God and seeking after lies instead of truth.

1. The Dangers of Vanity and Lies: How to Honor God

2. The Search for Truth: Discovering God's Glory

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

2. John 14:6 - Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Psalms 4:3 But know that the LORD hath set apart him that is godly for himself: the LORD will hear when I call unto him.

God sets apart those who are godly to Himself and will listen when they call out to Him.

1. God's Love for the Godly - How God demonstrates His love for the godly by setting them apart and hearing their cries.

2. The Power of Prayer - The power of prayer to allow us to connect with God and be heard.

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 34:17 - "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

Psalms 4:4 Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah.

Be still and commune with God, resisting the urge to sin.

1. Take a Moment to Reflect: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World

2. Finding Contentment Through Stillness

1. 1 Chronicles 16:11 - Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually!

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God.

Psalms 4:5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.

The Psalmist encourages us to offer righteous sacrifices and put our trust in the Lord.

1. The Power of Righteous Offerings

2. The Value of Trusting in the Lord

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.

Psalms 4:6 There be many that say, Who will shew us any good? LORD, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us.

Many people are asking God to show them goodness.

1: Ask and You Shall Receive - God will answer our sincere requests for good if we trust in Him.

2: God's Light Is Always Upon Us - Even when we don't recognize it, God's love and light are present in our lives.

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: Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Psalms 4:7 Thou hast put gladness in my heart, more than in the time that their corn and their wine increased.

The Lord gives joy to the heart that surpasses the joy of material abundance.

1. "God's Joy for Us: Rejoicing in the Lord Instead of Material Possessions"

2. "God's Unfailing Love: A Source of Lasting Joy"

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. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 - "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God s will for you in Christ Jesus."

Psalms 4:8 I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety.

God is our protector and provides us with safety and peace.

1. God is Our Protector: Finding Peace and Safety in Difficult Times

2. Rest in the Arms of God: Relying on His Protection and Care

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 46:1-2 - 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.

Psalm 5 is a prayer of David, seeking God's guidance, protection, and justice against his enemies. It emphasizes the righteousness of God and the contrasting fate of the wicked.

1st Paragraph: David begins by calling out to God, asking Him to listen to his words and consider his plea for help. He expresses his trust in God's righteousness and asks for His guidance (Psalm 5:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: David highlights the wickedness of his enemies, expressing his desire for their destruction. He affirms that God does not take pleasure in evil and that no deceitful person can stand before Him (Psalm 5:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: David prays for God's protection, asking Him to lead him in His righteousness. He pleads for deliverance from his enemies and expresses confidence that God will answer him (Psalm 5:7-8).

4th Paragraph: David appeals to God's justice, asking Him to hold the wicked accountable for their actions. He declares blessings upon the righteous who find refuge in God (Psalm 5:9-12).

In summary,

Psalm five presents

a prayer,

and plea expressed by David seeking divine guidance, protection, and justice,

highlighting reliance on God's righteousness.

Emphasizing contrasting destinies achieved through highlighting the wickedness of enemies,

and emphasizing trust achieved through affirming confidence in God's response.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding appealing to divine justice while acknowledging blessings upon those who seek refuge in Him.

Psalms 5:1 Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation.

The passage encourages us to bring our petitions and thoughts before the Lord.

1. A Plea to God: Learning to Trust in His Timing

2. Making Prayer a Priority: Reflection and Consistency

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 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.

Psalms 5:2 Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.

This Psalm expresses the speaker's desire to pray to God.

1: Our prayers are heard by God, and He is ready to listen.

2: When we call out to God, He responds.

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

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."

Psalms 5:3 My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.

God hears our prayers in the morning and answers them.

1. Praying in the Morning: A Guide to Connecting with God

2. The Power of Directed Prayer: Connecting with God through Purposeful Prayer

1. 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."

2. Mark 11:24 - "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

Psalms 5:4 For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee.

The passage emphasizes that God does not take pleasure in wickedness and that evil cannot dwell in His presence.

1. "God Rejects Wickedness"

2. "The Holiness of God"

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. James 1:13-14 - "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."

Psalms 5:5 The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity.

God hates those who do wrong and does not tolerate their foolishness.

1. God Hates Sin, Not Sinners

2. The Power of God's Hatred for Iniquity

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

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.

Psalms 5:6 Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man.

The Lord will reject and destroy those who speak lies and those who are violent and deceitful.

1: We must reject lies and deceit, for God will not tolerate them.

2: God's love is mighty, and He will protect us from those who do wrong.

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: Romans 12:9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

Psalms 5:7 But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.

The psalmist expresses his desire to worship in God's house with a multitude of mercy.

1. Living in Mercy: Taking Comfort in the House of the Lord

2. Fear of the Lord: An Invitation to Worship

1. Isaiah 57:15 - For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

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.

Psalms 5:8 Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face.

Leading a life of righteousness is essential for protection from enemies.

1: God's way is the only path to righteousness and protection.

2: Following the Lord's path leads to success and safety.

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 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.

Psalms 5:9 For there is no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part is very wickedness; their throat is an open sepulchre; they flatter with their tongue.

People are not faithful and their inner thoughts are wicked. They use their tongues to flatter and deceive.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Tongues Can Be Used for Good or Evil

2. The Danger of Deception: How to Avoid Being Deceived

1. Matthew 12:34-37 - "For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil."

2. James 3:1-12 - "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. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire!"

Psalms 5:10 Destroy thou them, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions; for they have rebelled against thee.

God will judge those who have rebelled against Him and will cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions.

1. God's Judgment: The Consequences of Rebellion

2. The Power of God: A Call to Repentance

1. Romans 2:6-8 God will render to every person according to their deeds.

2. Hebrews 10:31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Psalms 5:11 But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

Those who trust in God will rejoice and shout for joy, and those who love God's name will be joyful in Him.

1. The Joy of Trusting in God

2. Rejoicing in the Name of the Lord

1. Isaiah 12:2-3 "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation."

2. John 15:11 "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

Psalms 5:12 For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.

God blesses the righteous with favor and protection.

1: God's Favor and Protection is for the Righteous

2: The Blessing of Righteousness

1: Psalm 35:27 Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.

2: Proverbs 8:35-36 For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the LORD. But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death.

Psalm 6 is a heartfelt plea for mercy and healing from David during a time of deep distress. It portrays his anguish, repentance, and trust in God's compassion.

1st Paragraph: David cries out to God, pleading for mercy and healing. He expresses his physical and emotional anguish, feeling overwhelmed by his suffering (Psalm 6:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: David acknowledges his own sinfulness and pleads for God's forgiveness. He asks for deliverance from his enemies who taunt him in his weakness (Psalm 6:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: Despite his pain, David expresses confidence in God's steadfast love and faithfulness. He believes that God hears his cries and will answer him (Psalm 6:8-10).

In summary,

Psalm six presents

a lament,

and plea expressed by David during a time of intense distress,

highlighting reliance on God's mercy.

Emphasizing anguish achieved through expressing deep suffering,

and emphasizing repentance achieved through acknowledging sinfulness.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding trust in God's steadfast love while seeking deliverance from enemies.

Psalms 6:1 O LORD, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.

The psalmist pleads with the Lord not to punish him in His anger.

1. The Power of Praying in the Midst of Adversity

2. Learning to Trust in God despite 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. 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.

Psalms 6:2 Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed.

God's mercy and healing can be found in times of weakness and distress.

1. "God's Healing in Times of Weakness"

2. "The Power of God's Mercy"

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 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.

Psalms 6:3 My soul is also sore vexed: but thou, O LORD, how long?

The psalmist is in distress and asks God how long it will last.

1. The Importance of Reaching Out to God in Times of Distress

2. God's Timing and Our Patience

1. 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."

2. Ephesians 6:18 - "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."

Psalms 6:4 Return, O LORD, deliver my soul: oh save me for thy mercies' sake.

The Psalmist pleads for the Lord to restore and save them because of His mercy.

1. Mercy: Why We Need It and How to Receive It

2. Knowing God's Character: His Mercy and Love

1. Lamentations 3:22-24 - "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. The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him."

2. Psalm 107:1 - "O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever."

Psalms 6:5 For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?

In death, there is no recognition of God, and no one can thank Him in the grave.

1. Living a Life of Gratitude to God

2. The Reality of Death and the Hope of Eternal Life

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. 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.

Psalms 6:6 I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears.

I am weak with sorrow; all night I flood my bed with weeping, drenching it with my tears.

1: God is present in our sorrow and pain.

2: We can turn to God in our struggles and find comfort.

1: Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2: Psalm 34:17-19 The Lord hears the prayers of the afflicted and saves them from all their troubles.

Psalms 6:7 Mine eye is consumed because of grief; it waxeth old because of all mine enemies.

The psalmist laments his enemies and sorrows, his eyes worn down with grief.

1. "The Burden of Persecution: When Enemies Prevail"

2. "The Weight of Sorrow: When Grief Consumes Us"

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.

2. Lamentations 3:19-24 - "Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and the gall! My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, says my soul, therefore I will hope in him. The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him."

Psalms 6:8 Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity; for the LORD hath heard the voice of my weeping.

The Lord hears the voice of our weeping and calls us to depart from iniquity.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Mercy - Finding Strength to Turn Away from Sin

2. The Power of Prayer - Having Confidence that God is Listening

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 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."

Psalms 6:9 The LORD hath heard my supplication; the LORD will receive my prayer.

The Lord listens to and hears our prayers and supplications.

1. God is ever-present and eager to listen to our prayers.

2. Our prayers are never too small for God to hear.

1. James 5:13-18 - Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray.

2. John 16:23-24 - Whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you.

Psalms 6:10 Let all mine enemies be ashamed and sore vexed: let them return and be ashamed suddenly.

God desires for the enemies of his people to be brought to shame.

1. We can trust God to bring justice to our enemies.

2. We should not seek revenge, but leave the work of justice to God.

1. Romans 12:19-20, 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 37:13, The Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming.

Psalm 7 is a prayer of David, seeking God's justice and protection against false accusations and enemies. It portrays David's innocence, his trust in God as the righteous judge, and his confidence in divine deliverance.

1st Paragraph: David pleads with God to deliver him from those who pursue him. He declares his innocence and asks for vindication against false accusations (Psalm 7:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: David calls upon God as the righteous judge to bring forth His judgment against the wicked. He describes their evil deeds and expresses confidence that God will execute justice (Psalm 7:6-9).

3rd Paragraph: David affirms his trust in God's righteousness and asks for divine protection. He acknowledges that if he has done wrong, he deserves punishment but appeals to God's mercy (Psalm 7:10-13).

4th Paragraph: David concludes by praising God for His righteousness and acknowledging His judgment upon the wicked. He expresses gratitude for God's deliverance and declares his commitment to worship Him (Psalm 7:14-17).

In summary,

Psalm seven presents

a prayer,

and plea expressed by David seeking divine justice, protection, and vindication,

highlighting reliance on God as the righteous judge.

Emphasizing false accusations achieved through pleading for deliverance from pursuers,

and emphasizing trust achieved through affirming confidence in divine judgment.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding acknowledging personal accountability while expressing gratitude for deliverance and committing to worship God.

Psalms 7:1 O LORD my God, in thee do I put my trust: save me from all them that persecute me, and deliver me:

The psalmist expresses his trust in God and pleads for deliverance from his persecutors.

1. Trust in the Lord: Relying on God as Our Refuge

2. The Power of Prayer: Seeking Deliverance from God

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 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.

Psalms 7:2 Lest he tear my soul like a lion, rending it in pieces, while there is none to deliver.

The psalmist fears a powerful enemy who is comparable to a lion, and prays for deliverance.

1: We all have enemies in this life, and no one can truly deliver us from them except God.

2: Even when faced with powerful enemies, we can trust in God to deliver 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 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

Psalms 7:3 O LORD my God, if I have done this; if there be iniquity in my hands;

This passage speaks about the importance of being accountable for one s actions and of asking God s forgiveness if one has done wrong.

1. The power of accountability: Learning to own up to our mistakes

2. Seeking God s forgiveness: A path towards redemption

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. Proverbs 28:13 Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

Psalms 7:4 If I have rewarded evil unto him that was at peace with me; (yea, I have delivered him that without cause is mine enemy:)

The psalmist is reflecting on how he may have wronged someone who was at peace with him, and even an enemy without cause.

1. What does it mean to show grace and mercy to those who have wronged us?

2. How can we extend forgiveness to those who have hurt us?

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 12:17-19 - "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.

Psalms 7:5 Let the enemy persecute my soul, and take it; yea, let him tread down my life upon the earth, and lay mine honour in the dust. Selah.

The psalmist begs God to allow the enemy to take their life and honour and lay it in the dust.

1. Overcoming Persecution: The Psalmist's Call To Stand Up Against Adversity

2. Trusting God In The Midst Of Difficulty: How To Rely On God In Times Of Trouble

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: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

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.

Psalms 7:6 Arise, O LORD, in thine anger, lift up thyself because of the rage of mine enemies: and awake for me to the judgment that thou hast commanded.

The psalmist pleads with the Lord to arise in His anger and defend the psalmist from his enemies.

1. Arise: The Power of a Praying Believer

2. God's Justice and Our Defense

1. Isaiah 64:1 - Oh that thou wouldest rend the heavens, that thou wouldest come down, that the mountains might flow down at thy presence.

2. James 5:16 - The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Psalms 7:7 So shall the congregation of the people compass thee about: for their sakes therefore return thou on high.

The people of God will protect and uphold Him, and so He should return to His glory.

1. God's People: The Foundation of His Strength

2. The Blessing of God's Protection

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

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.

Psalms 7:8 The LORD shall judge the people: judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness, and according to mine integrity that is in me.

The Lord is the ultimate judge of people and will judge according to righteousness and integrity.

1: We must always strive to be righteous and have integrity, for the Lord will judge us accordingly.

2: Let us never forget that the Lord is the ultimate judge, and He will always judge us in a righteous way.

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: 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.

Psalms 7:9 Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end; but establish the just: for the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins.

The wickedness of the wicked should come to an end and the just should be established, for God examines the hearts and minds of the righteous.

1. God is Just and Righteous: The Necessity of Standing for Truth

2. God Examines Our Hearts and Minds: The Importance of Righteous Living

1. Proverbs 17:15 - He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the LORD.

2. 1 Corinthians 4:5 - Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

Psalms 7:10 My defence is of God, which saveth the upright in heart.

The Lord protects the righteous.

1. Our Defense is in the Lord, Who Saves the Upright in Heart

2. Trusting in the Lord for 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 97:10, "Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked."

Psalms 7:11 God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day.

God is a just judge who is constantly juding the righteous and the wicked.

1. God's Justice: Understanding the Balance of Righteousness and Wickedness

2. God's Anger: A Warning to the Wicked

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 15:29, "The Lord is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous."

Psalms 7:12 If he turn not, he will whet his sword; he hath bent his bow, and made it ready.

God has the power to protect and defend those who are faithful to him.

1. The Protection of God: Trusting in the Lord's Providence

2. The Power of God: Defending His People

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 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."

Psalms 7:13 He hath also prepared for him the instruments of death; he ordaineth his arrows against the persecutors.

God will protect us from our persecutors and those who seek to harm us.

1: God is our protector and will always be with us in times of difficulty.

2: We should trust in God's protection, even when we are facing difficult 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 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."

Psalms 7:14 Behold, he travaileth with iniquity, and hath conceived mischief, and brought forth falsehood.

He has been conceiving and bringing forth evil deeds.

1. The Danger of Sin: How Evil Deeds Can Come to Fruition

2. The Power of Repentance: Turning Away from Sin and its Consequences

1. Proverbs 6:16-19 - There are six things 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. 1 John 3:8-10 - Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God. By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

Psalms 7:15 He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch which he made.

An individual has made a pit and has fallen into it.

1. We must be wary of our own actions and the consequences that they can bring.

2. We must be humble and put our trust in God in order to find our way out of difficult situations.

1. Proverbs 28:26 Whoever trusts in his own mind is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom will be delivered.

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.

Psalms 7:16 His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate.

The Lord will punish those who do wrong and the consequences of their wrong-doing will return to them.

1. God is Just and Fair: He Will Punish Wrong-Doers

2. Reap What You Sow: The Consequences of Your Actions

1. Proverbs 12:14 From the fruit of his mouth a man is satisfied with good, and the work of a man s hand comes back to him.

2. Ecclesiastes 8:11 Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, the heart of the children of man is fully set to do evil.

Psalms 7:17 I will praise the LORD according to his righteousness: and will sing praise to the name of the LORD most high.

This psalm celebrates the righteousness of the Lord and the praises of His name.

1: The Power of Praise and Thanksgiving

2: The Power of God's Righteousness

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.

2: Psalm 92:1-3 - 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.

Psalm 8 is a hymn of praise that exalts the majesty and glory of God as displayed in His creation. It reflects on the greatness of God's name and His care for humanity.

1st Paragraph: The psalm begins with a declaration of praise to God, acknowledging His majestic name and the wonders He has displayed in all the earth. It marvels at how God's glory is revealed even through the mouths of infants (Psalm 8:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist contemplates the vastness of God's creation, including the heavens, moon, and stars. Despite humanity's smallness in comparison, God has crowned them with glory and honor, giving them dominion over His works (Psalm 8:3-8).

3rd Paragraph: The psalm concludes with a renewed expression of awe at God's majestic name throughout all the earth. It emphasizes how everything in creation declares His excellence (Psalm 8:9).

In summary,

Psalm eight presents

a hymn,

and expression of praise that exalts God's majesty displayed in creation,

highlighting awe and gratitude towards Him.

Emphasizing wonder achieved through contemplating the greatness of God's name and works,

and emphasizing human significance achieved through acknowledging being crowned with glory and honor.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine excellence manifested throughout creation.

Psalms 8:1 O LORD, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

A song of praise to God for His glory and excellence that is seen throughout the earth.

1. Understanding God's Glory and How It Transforms Us

2. Experiencing God's Excellence in Everyday Life

1. Ephesians 3:19 - And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

2. Romans 5:5 - And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Psalms 8:2 Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

God ordains strength from the mouths of children to defeat enemies and avenge wrongs.

1. The Power of Children: How Young Voices Can Make a Difference

2. The Importance of Faith in Difficult Times

1. Matthew 21:15-16 - Jesus Cleanses the Temple with Children's Praises

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No Weapon Formed Against You Shall Prosper

Psalms 8:3 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

God's majesty and power are revealed in the heavens and the celestial bodies He has created.

1. "God's Grandeur: A Reflection on the Majesty of Our Creator"

2. "Ordained by God: Understanding Our Place in the Universe"

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. Job 38:2-7 - "Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me. Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"

Psalms 8:4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Man is insignificant compared to God's greatness, yet He still shows love and kindness to us.

1. "The Magnificence of God's Love: Why We Are So Blessed"

2. "The Transcendent Majesty of God: A Focus on Humility"

1. Matthew 5:3-7 "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

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."

Psalms 8:5 For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

God has created humans to be a little lower than angels and has given them honour and glory.

1. The Glory of Being Created in God's Image

2. How to Live out the Honor of God's Creation

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. Ecclesiastes 12:13 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

Psalms 8:6 Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:

The passage speaks of God bestowing dominion and authority to mankind.

1. God's Intentional Plan to Entrust Man with Power and Authority

2. Embracing Our Role to Rule in God's Kingdom

1. 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.

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: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

Psalms 8:7 All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;

The beauty of nature is humbling and gives us a glimpse of the glory of God.

1: God's Splendor in Creation - Psalms 8:7

2: Praising the Lord for His Majesty - Psalm 8:7

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: 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?

Psalms 8:8 The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

The psalmist praises God for the creatures of the sky, the sea, and the paths of the seas.

1. God's Creation: A Call to Praise

2. The Majesty of Nature: God's Handiwork

1. Job 12:7-10

2. Psalms 104:24-25

Psalms 8:9 O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

Psalms 8:9 praises the Lord for His excellence in name throughout the earth.

1. The Magnificence of the Lord's Name

2. The Power of Praising God's Name

1. Philippians 2:9-11 - Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name.

2. 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.

Psalm 9 is a psalm of thanksgiving and praise to God for His righteous judgment and deliverance. It celebrates God's sovereignty, justice, and protection.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by praising God with his whole heart and declaring His marvelous deeds. He rejoices in God's triumph over his enemies and acknowledges that the wicked will be judged (Psalm 9:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on how God has been a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. He affirms his trust in God's justice and declares that the Lord does not forget the cry of the afflicted (Psalm 9:9-12).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon all nations to acknowledge God as their righteous judge. He praises Him for avenging the innocent and rescuing those who seek Him. He expresses confidence in God's unfailing love (Psalm 9:13-18).

4th Paragraph: The psalm concludes with a prayer for deliverance from enemies, asking for mercy and protection. The psalmist pledges to give thanks to God and proclaim His deeds among the nations (Psalm 9:19-20).

In summary,

Psalm nine presents

a hymn of thanksgiving,

and expression of praise celebrating God's righteousness, judgment, and deliverance,

highlighting trust in His sovereignty.

Emphasizing rejoicing achieved through acknowledging marvelous deeds performed by Him,

and emphasizing trust achieved through affirming reliance on His justice.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine protection offered to the oppressed while calling upon all nations to acknowledge Him as their judge.

Psalms 9:1 I will praise thee, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works.

I will praise the Lord with my whole heart.

1: We should be thankful for God's marvelous works and show it through praise.

2: We should devote our whole hearts to praising the Lord for all the good he has done for us.

1: Ephesians 5:19-20 - Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything.

2: Colossians 3:16 - 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.

Psalms 9:2 I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.

The Psalmist expresses gladness and joy in God, singing praises to His Name, the Most High.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord: Experiencing Joy and Worship in Our Lives

2. Singing Praises to the Name of the Most High God

1. Ephesians 5:19-20 - Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Psalm 100:1-2 - Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands! 2 Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.

Psalms 9:3 When mine enemies are turned back, they shall fall and perish at thy presence.

Enemies of God will fall and be destroyed when confronted with His presence.

1. "God is Victorious: Enemies Will Not Stand"

2. "The Power of God's Presence"

1. Psalm 37:34-35 - "Wait for the Lord and keep his way, and he will exalt you to inherit the land; when the wicked are cut off, you will see it. I have seen a wicked, ruthless man, spreading himself like a green laurel tree.

2. Isaiah 13:11 - I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will put an end to the pomp of the arrogant, and lay low the pompous pride of the ruthless.

Psalms 9:4 For thou hast maintained my right and my cause; thou satest in the throne judging right.

God is righteous and sits on the throne judging with justice.

1. God is Just: Exploring Psalms 9:4

2. The Righteousness of God: Understanding His Judgments

1. Isaiah 11:3-5 (And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.)

2. Romans 2:5-8 (But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man according to his deeds: 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, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil...)

Psalms 9:5 Thou hast rebuked the heathen, thou hast destroyed the wicked, thou hast put out their name for ever and ever.

God is powerful and is strong enough to rebuke those who are wicked and destroy them, leaving no trace of their existence.

1: In life, God will sometimes allow us to experience difficult circumstances. Through this, He is teaching us to be humble and to turn to Him for guidance.

2: We can trust in God's power and strength as He is capable of punishing the wicked and removing them from our lives forever.

1: Proverbs 10:29 - The way of the Lord is a stronghold to the blameless, but destruction to evildoers.

2: Psalm 5:4-5 - For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you. The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers.

Psalms 9:6 O thou enemy, destructions are come to a perpetual end: and thou hast destroyed cities; their memorial is perished with them.

The destruction of cities has brought an end to the enemy's power.

1. The Power of God is Greater than the Power of Man

2. The Sovereignty of God in All 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. 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 prevail when you contend with your enemies.

Psalms 9:7 But the LORD shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment.

The LORD is eternal and is ready to judge.

1. God's Eternal Presence in Our Lives

2. The Importance of Judgment in Our Lives

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. 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."

Psalms 9:8 And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.

The Lord will judge the world with justice and righteousness.

1: God's justice is perfect and absolute.

2: We must always strive to be righteous before the Lord.

1: Isaiah 11:4 - But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth.

2: Proverbs 21:3 - To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

Psalms 9:9 The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.

The LORD is a refuge for those in need of protection and comfort.

1. The Everlasting Refuge of the Lord

2. The Lord as a Source of Hope in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 25:4 - For You have been a defense for the helpless, A defense for the needy in his distress, A refuge from the storm, A shade from the heat; For the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

2. Isaiah 32:2 - A man will be as a hiding place from the wind, And a cover from the tempest, As rivers of water in a dry place, As the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

Psalms 9:10 And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.

God will never forsake those who put their trust in Him.

1. Trusting God in All Circumstances

2. The Faithfulness of God

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. 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.

Psalms 9:11 Sing praises to the LORD, which dwelleth in Zion: declare among the people his doings.

The Psalmist encourages us to declare the Lord's doings among the people.

1. The Power of Testimony - Why sharing the Lord's doings is important

2. A Call to Praise - Why we should continually praise the Lord

1. Revelation 12:10-11 - The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy

2. Isaiah 12:4-6 - Sing and shout praises to the Lord

Psalms 9:12 When he maketh inquisition for blood, he remembereth them: he forgetteth not the cry of the humble.

God remembers and never forgets the cries of the humble.

1. God Hears the Cries of the Humble

2. A Cry for Help is Never Unheard

1. Luke 1:48 - "For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed."

2. James 4:6 - "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

Psalms 9:13 Have mercy upon me, O LORD; consider my trouble which I suffer of them that hate me, thou that liftest me up from the gates of death:

The psalmist pleads for God's mercy and deliverance from their persecutors.

1: God's Mercy Is Sufficient - No matter how desperate our situation may be, God's mercy is sufficient to carry us through.

2: The Power of Faith - When we put our faith in God, He will lift us up from the depths of despair.

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.

Psalms 9:14 That I may shew forth all thy praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion: I will rejoice in thy salvation.

The psalmist is grateful for God's salvation and wishes to express his praise to the Lord in the gates of Zion.

1. The Power of Praise: How Gratitude to God Leads to Joy

2. Our Response to Salvation: Using Praise to Show Gratitude to God

1. Psalm 107:1 - Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

2. Isaiah 12:2 - Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

Psalms 9:15 The heathen are sunk down in the pit that they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken.

The heathen have been trapped by their own schemes.

1. "The Cost of Pride: A Lesson from Psalm 9:15"

2. "The Consequences of Sin: A Study of Psalm 9:15"

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

Psalms 9:16 The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Higgaion. Selah.

The LORD is just and punishes the wicked for their own wrongdoings.

1: God's justice is in place to protect us, and that those who do wrong will be punished by their own actions.

2: We should not be afraid to trust in God's justice, for it is the only way to receive true justice.

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

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.

Psalms 9:17 The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.

The wicked will be sent to hell if they forget God.

1. "The Consequences of Forgetting God"

2. "God's Judgment on the Wicked"

1. Matthew 25:41, "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'"

2. Romans 14:12, "So then each of us will give an account of ourselves to God."

Psalms 9:18 For the needy shall not alway be forgotten: the expectation of the poor shall not perish for ever.

The needy will not always be forgotten and the hope of the poor will never be lost.

1. Remembering the Needy: God's Love for the Poor

2. Hope in Times of Need: God's Faithfulness to the Poor

1. Isaiah 49:14-16 - But Zion said, The Lord has forsaken me, my Lord has forgotten me. 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! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me.

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.

Psalms 9:19 Arise, O LORD; let not man prevail: let the heathen be judged in thy sight.

God should arise and judge the heathen in His sight, so that man cannot prevail.

1. The Power of God: Relying on God's Strength to Overcome the World

2. The Sovereignty of God: Knowing that God is in Control and We Can Trust His Judgement

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 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.

Psalms 9:20 Put them in fear, O LORD: that the nations may know themselves to be but men. Selah.

The LORD is asked to put fear in the nations, so that they may understand that they are merely human.

1. The Importance of Humility in the Face of God

2. Recognizing Our Humanity in the Presence of the LORD

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

2. Isaiah 40:15 - "Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance..."

Psalm 10 is a lament that expresses the psalmist's anguish and questions regarding the apparent prosperity of the wicked and the seeming absence of God's intervention. It reflects on the wickedness of oppressors and calls upon God to arise and bring justice.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by questioning why the wicked seem to prosper while oppressing others. He describes their arrogance, deceit, and violent actions (Psalm 10:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses his distress over the suffering of the innocent and calls upon God to see their affliction. He affirms his trust in God as a helper of the fatherless and defender of the oppressed (Psalm 10:12-18).

In summary,

Psalm ten presents

a lament,

and expression of anguish questioning why the wicked prosper while oppressing others,

highlighting a plea for divine intervention.

Emphasizing distress achieved through describing actions of arrogant, deceitful, and violent oppressors,

and emphasizing trust achieved through affirming reliance on God as a helper and defender.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing injustice while appealing for divine intervention on behalf of those who suffer.

Psalms 10:1 Why standest thou afar off, O LORD? why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble?

The psalmist asks God why He is far away and hides Himself in times of trouble.

1. The Comfort of God's Presence in Troubling Times

2. Faith in the Midst of Trials

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. 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.

Psalms 10:2 The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.

The wicked persecute the poor, and will eventually be caught in their own plans.

1. "God's Justice Will Prevail: The Wicked Will Reap What They Sow"

2. "The Power of Pride: How Arrogance Blinds Us to Reality"

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

2. James 4:6 - "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

Psalms 10:3 For the wicked boasteth of his heart's desire, and blesseth the covetous, whom the LORD abhorreth.

The wicked boast about their own desires and praise the greedy, which the Lord despises.

1. Pride and Greed: A Double-Edged Sword

2. The Heart of the Wicked: Desiring What God Despises

1. Proverbs 15:16 Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble with it.

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.

Psalms 10:4 The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.

The wicked are proud and do not seek God; God is not in their thoughts.

1: Pride separates us from God and prevents us from seeking him.

2: To draw closer to God, we must humbly seek him out.

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 4:6 - "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Psalms 10:5 His ways are always grievous; thy judgments are far above out of his sight: as for all his enemies, he puffeth at them.

God's ways are always just and His judgments are far above out of our sight, while He is in control of all of His enemies.

1. God's Ways Are Always Just - Psalms 10:5

2. Find Comfort Knowing God is in Control - Psalms 10:5

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 11:33-36 - Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor? Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them? For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Psalms 10:6 He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved: for I shall never be in adversity.

The Psalmist declares that those who rely on God will never be moved or in adversity.

1. God's Strength and Protection in Adversity

2.Trust in the Lord and Receive His Blessing

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 27:1 - The LORD is my light and my salvation so why should I be afraid? The LORD is my fortress, protecting me from danger, so why should I tremble?

Psalms 10:7 His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud: under his tongue is mischief and vanity.

The Psalmist speaks of the wicked, describing them as having a mouth full of cursing and deceit, and under their tongues are mischief and vanity.

1. The Dangers of Deceit - Proverbs 12:22

2. The Power of the Tongue - James 3:1-12

1. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are His delight.

2. James 3:1-12 - Let not many of you become teachers, my brothers, knowing that we will receive a stricter judgment. 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.

Psalms 10:8 He sitteth in the lurking places of the villages: in the secret places doth he murder the innocent: his eyes are privily set against the poor.

He is plotting against those who are innocent, hiding in secret places to kill the poor.

1. God is always watching, so don't be afraid to trust Him in the midst of difficult circumstances.

2. We must be mindful of our actions and how they affect those around us, especially those who are vulnerable and less fortunate.

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 14:31 Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

Psalms 10:9 He lieth in wait secretly as a lion in his den: he lieth in wait to catch the poor: he doth catch the poor, when he draweth him into his net.

The Psalmist paints a picture of God as a lion lying in wait to catch the poor and draw them into his net.

1. God Always Has a Plan for Us - Psalm 10:9

2. The Call of the Lion - Who Is the Lion in Psalm 10:9?

1. Matthew 5:3-5 - Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

2. Proverbs 22:2 - The rich and poor meet together: the Lord is the maker of them all.

Psalms 10:10 He croucheth, and humbleth himself, that the poor may fall by his strong ones.

The passage highlights how the poor are disadvantaged because of the actions of the strong.

1. We must use our strength to lift up the poor, not crush them.

2. We are called to be humble, not to oppress the vulnerable.

1. James 2:13 - For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

2. Psalm 82:3 - Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute.

Psalms 10:11 He hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten: he hideth his face; he will never see it.

God has not forgotten us and will never turn away from us.

1. God is always with us, no matter what we face.

2. We should never doubt our faith, even when it seems like God is not listening.

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."

Psalms 10:12 Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up thine hand: forget not the humble.

The psalmist pleads with the Lord to not forget the humble and to arise and lift up His hand.

1. God Will Never Forget the Humble

2. Our Plea to God: Rise Up and Lift Your Hand

1. James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

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."

Psalms 10:13 Wherefore doth the wicked contemn God? he hath said in his heart, Thou wilt not require it.

The wicked contemns God by believing that they will not be held responsible for their actions.

1: We must always remember that God will require us to answer for our actions.

2: We must never forget that God sees all and will judge us for our wrongdoings.

1: Psalm 9:16 The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands.

2: Ecclesiastes 12:14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Psalms 10:14 Thou hast seen it; for thou beholdest mischief and spite, to requite it with thy hand: the poor committeth himself unto thee; thou art the helper of the fatherless.

The poor entrust themselves to God and God is their helper when they are fatherless.

1. God is Our Protector and Provider

2. The Love of a Father

1. Psalm 10:14

2. 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. 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.

Psalms 10:15 Break thou the arm of the wicked and the evil man: seek out his wickedness till thou find none.

God calls us to break the arms of the wicked and to seek out their wickedness.

1. Through Prayer, We Can Break the Power of Wickedness

2. God's Justice: How We Should Respond to Wickedness

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. 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.

Psalms 10:16 The LORD is King for ever and ever: the heathen are perished out of his land.

The Lord is the forever and ever King and the heathen are gone from his land.

1. God's Sovereignty - His Kingship and Dominion over all

2. An Everlasting Covenant - The Lord's Promises are True

1. Psalm 47:2, "For the LORD Most High is awesome; He is a great King over all the earth."

2. Romans 11:29, "For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable."

Psalms 10:17 LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear:

The Lord listens to the desires of the humble and is ready to prepare their heart.

1: God's Mercy and Compassion for the Humble

2: Learning to Trust and Follow the Lord

1: Psalm 34:17-18 - The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2: James 4:6-7 - But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Psalms 10:18 To judge the fatherless and the oppressed, that the man of the earth may no more oppress.

Psalms 10:18 encourages God's people to stand for justice and fight against oppression so that the oppressed may be freed.

1. The Call to Stand for Justice: Why We Must Fight Oppression

2. God's Heart for the Fatherless and the Oppressed

1. Exodus 23:6-9 You shall not pervert the justice due to your poor in his lawsuit. Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent and righteous, for I will not acquit the wicked. And you shall take no bribe, for a bribe blinds the clear-sighted and subverts the cause of those who are in the right.

2. Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Psalm 11 is a psalm of trust in God's refuge and righteousness in the face of adversity. It encourages the righteous to remain steadfast and confident in God's protection.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist affirms his trust in the Lord as his refuge and questions why he should flee like a bird to the mountains. He acknowledges that God sees everything and tests the righteous (Psalm 11:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on the wickedness of those who love violence and assures that God will rain down judgment upon them. He emphasizes God's righteousness and His love for justice (Psalm 11:5-7).

In summary,

Psalm eleven presents

a declaration of trust,

and affirmation of confidence in God's refuge and righteousness amidst adversity,

highlighting encouragement for the righteous to remain steadfast.

Emphasizing trust achieved through acknowledging God as a reliable refuge,

and emphasizing divine justice achieved through recognizing His judgment upon the wicked.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing God's omniscience while affirming His commitment to righteousness.

Psalms 11:1 In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain?

The Psalmist expresses his trust in the Lord despite the false advice of those around him to flee.

1. "Trusting in the Lord Amidst Trouble"

2. "Standing Firm in the Lord"

1. Isaiah 26:3 - "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee."

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."

Psalms 11:2 For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.

This passage speaks of the wicked attempting to harm the innocent.

1. God will protect the innocent from the wicked.

2. We must remain true to our faith despite the wickedness of this world.

1. Isaiah 54:17 - no weapon formed against you shall prosper

2. Psalm 56:9 - When I cry out to you, then shall mine enemies turn back.

Psalms 11:3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

The Psalmist questions how the righteous can act when the foundations of their world are destroyed.

1: We must remain faithful when the foundations of our world are crumbling.

2: Even in the midst of chaos, we must stay rooted in righteousness.

1: Hebrews 10:23 - Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

2: Isaiah 28:16 - Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

Psalms 11:4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

The LORD is in His holy temple and His throne is in heaven, observing and judging the actions of mankind.

1. The Holiness of the Lord and His Omnipresence

2. God's Sovereignty and His Authority over Mankind

1. 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?"

2. Jeremiah 23:24 - "Can anyone hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD.

Psalms 11:5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

The Lord tests the righteous, but hates those who love violence.

1: The Lord tests us to show us how to live righteously and avoid violence.

2: We must strive to live in righteousness and reject violence in all forms.

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: Proverbs 16:7 - When a man s ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Psalms 11:6 Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.

The wicked will receive their due punishment of snares, fire, brimstone, and a horrible tempest.

1. The Justice of God - A on God's righteous judgement and how it will be meted out to the wicked.

2. The Wrath of God - A on God's wrath and the consequences of rejecting His truth.

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. Ezekiel 18:30 - 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.

Psalms 11:7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

The Lord loves righteousness and looks upon the upright with favor.

1. Being Righteous: The Path to God's Favour

2. Loving Righteousness: The Key to a Blessed Life

1. Proverbs 15:9 - The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the LORD: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.

2. Isaiah 11:3-5 - And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

Psalm 12 is a lament that expresses the psalmist's plea for God's help in a time of widespread deceit and oppression. It highlights the contrast between the faithfulness of God and the untrustworthiness of people.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by appealing to God for help, expressing concern over the increase of lies and flattery among people. He laments that the faithful have diminished, and everyone speaks with deceitful lips (Psalm 12:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon God to arise and bring justice. He acknowledges God's promise to protect the oppressed and declares His words as pure and trustworthy (Psalm 12:5-7).

In summary,

Psalm twelve presents

a lament,

and expression of plea for divine help amidst widespread deceit and oppression,

highlighting trust in God's faithfulness.

Emphasizing concern achieved through describing an increase in lies and flattery among people,

and emphasizing trust achieved through affirming reliance on God's promise to protect.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine purity while acknowledging human untrustworthiness.

Psalms 12:1 Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men.

The godly man and the faithful have disappeared from among the children of men.

1: We must continue to cling to our faith in God, no matter how difficult the times.

2: We must work together to ensure that the godly and faithful are supported and nourished in our communities.

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 3:12-14 - 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.

Psalms 12:2 They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak.

The people speak deceptively and hypocritically to their neighbors.

1: Deception will not go unpunished.

2: Be honest and straightforward in all your speech.

1: 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."

2: 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."

Psalms 12:3 The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things:

The Lord will punish those who speak arrogantly and deceptively.

1: Humility in Speech: How to Speak with Respect and Honor

2: Do Not Speak Proudly: The Consequences of Boasting

1: James 3:5-6 - "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! 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."

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

Psalms 12:4 Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?

People have falsely claimed that they can do whatever they want with their words, without any consequences.

1. The Lord is our ultimate judge and authority.

2. Our words have power and should be used wisely.

1. Psalm 12:4

2. 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.

Psalms 12:5 For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him.

The Lord will arise to save the poor and needy from those who oppress them.

1: God is the protector of the oppressed

2: Relying on God s justice for the oppressed

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."

Psalms 12:6 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

The words of the LORD are pure and refined, like silver purified seven times.

1. The Purity of God's Words - Exploring the Power and Perfection of Scripture

2. Refining Our Faith - Examining the Refinement of God's Word in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

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."

Psalms 12:7 Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.

God will keep and preserve His people from this generation and forever.

1. Walking with God: A Message of Hope and Preservation.

2. The Unfailing Love of God: An Eternal Promise.

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. 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? "

Psalms 12:8 The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted.

The wicked are everywhere, even in positions of power and influence.

1. God's Justice and the Wicked - exploring how Psalms 12:8 speaks to God's justice in the face of the wicked.

2. The Exaltation of the Wicked - examining how the presence of evil in positions of power can lead to injustice and suffering.

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.

2. Psalm 37:12-13 - The wicked plot against the righteous and gnash their teeth at them; but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming.

Psalm 13 is a psalm of lament and petition, expressing the psalmist's feelings of despair and his plea for God's intervention. It reveals a journey from anguish to trust and praise.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by pouring out his heart to God, expressing his feelings of abandonment and pleading for God to answer him. He questions how long he will have to endure sorrow in his soul (Psalm 13:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist asks if his enemies will triumph over him and requests God to consider and answer him. He expresses his trust in God's steadfast love, anticipating rejoicing when salvation comes (Psalm 13:3-6).

In summary,

Psalm thirteen presents

a lament,

and expression of despair transitioning into trust and praise,

highlighting a plea for divine intervention.

Emphasizing despair achieved through expressing feelings of abandonment,

and emphasizing trust achieved through affirming reliance on God's steadfast love.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the need for divine consideration while anticipating future rejoicing in salvation.

Psalms 13:1 How long wilt thou forget me, O LORD? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?

The Psalmist questions God's absence and asks how long will He forget him.

1. God is always with us, even when He seems absent.

2. We can trust God to be faithful even when we don't understand His timing.

1. Lamentations 3:22-24 "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. 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.

Psalms 13:2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?

The psalmist is asking how long this difficult situation will continue, as their enemy is exalted over them.

1. The Lord's Comfort in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Adversity Through 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. 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.

Psalms 13:3 Consider and hear me, O LORD my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;

The Psalmist is asking God to consider and hear them, and to give light to their eyes so that they may not succumb to death.

1. "The Life-Giving Light of God: Trusting in His Protection"

2. "The Light of God: Don't Sleep Through Life's Struggles"

1. Isaiah 49:6-9, "he says: It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.

2. 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.

Psalms 13:4 Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him; and those that trouble me rejoice when I am moved.

The psalmist fears that his enemies will rejoice when he is in distress.

1. The Strength of Enemies: How to Defeat Those That Trouble Us

2. Finding Hope in Distress: Relying on God in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:31-39 - Paul's assurance that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - God's promise that He will not forsake His people.

Psalms 13:5 But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation.

The psalmist expresses trust in God's mercy and rejoices in His salvation.

1. Rejoicing in God's Salvation

2. Putting Our Trust in God's Mercy

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 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.

Psalms 13:6 I will sing unto the LORD, because he hath dealt bountifully with me.

The psalmist expresses gratitude for the Lord's generous blessings in his life.

1. Appreciating God's Generosity

2. Expressing Gratitude to the Lord

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 103:2 - Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Psalm 14 is a psalm that addresses the folly of the wicked and emphasizes the need for righteousness and trust in God. It highlights the universal nature of human sinfulness and calls for repentance.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by declaring that fools say in their hearts that there is no God. He describes their corrupt ways, emphasizing their lack of understanding and failure to do good (Psalm 14:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on the condition of humanity, stating that all have turned aside from God's ways. He emphasizes the universal nature of human sinfulness, highlighting how none are righteous (Psalm 14:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses hope for the salvation of Israel, calling upon God to bring deliverance and restore His people. He anticipates rejoicing when God brings about redemption (Psalm 14:7).

In summary,

Psalm fourteen presents

a reflection on human folly,

and a call for righteousness and trust in God,

highlighting repentance as a necessary response.

Emphasizing folly achieved through describing those who deny God's existence,

and emphasizing sinfulness achieved through recognizing universal human deviation from righteousness.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine salvation while expressing hope for deliverance and restoration.

Psalms 14:1 The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.

The fool denies the existence of God, and all people are corrupt and have done abominable works.

1. The futility of denying God: A on Psalms 14:1

2. The depravity of humankind: A on Psalms 14:1

1. Romans 3:10-18 - Paul's teachings on the universal sinfulness and depravity of humankind.

2. Romans 1:18-25 - Paul's teachings on the futility of denying God's existence.

Psalms 14:2 The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God.

God looks down to see if anyone is seeking Him.

1. God is always watching us and He desires us to seek Him.

2. We must strive to understand and seek God in order to find purpose in our lives.

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2. Psalm 27:8 - "When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek.

Psalms 14:3 They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

No one is perfect and no one is free from sin.

1: We must strive to be closer to God and live a life of righteousness and justice.

2: We must be aware of our own failings and strive to overcome them through God's grace.

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

Psalms 14:4 Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD.

The workers of iniquity have no knowledge of God and are destructive to God's people.

1: The Destructive Nature of Sin

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

Psalms 14:5 There were they in great fear: for God is in the generation of the righteous.

People who do what is right are in awe of God, who is in their midst.

1. God is with those who do what is right

2. Fear God and do what is right

1. Proverbs 14:2 Whoever walks in uprightness fears the Lord, but he who is devious in his ways despises 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. 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.

Psalms 14:6 Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the LORD is his refuge.

The poor have been shamed by others, but the Lord is their refuge.

1. "No Shame in Refuge: Finding Comfort in God"

2. "The Poor's Comfort: Trusting 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. Psalm 40:17 - "But as for me, I am poor and needy; may the Lord think of me. You are my help and my deliverer; you are my God, do not delay."

Psalms 14:7 Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! when the LORD bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

The salvation of Israel will come from Zion, and when the Lord brings back the captives, Jacob and Israel will rejoice.

1. The Joy of Redemption: Rejoicing in the Lord's Deliverance

2. Hope in the Lord: Trusting in His Salvation

1. Isaiah 12:2-3 "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation."

2. Micah 7:7 "Therefore I will look unto the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me."

Psalm 15 is a psalm that explores the characteristics and behaviors of those who are allowed to dwell in God's presence. It emphasizes the importance of righteousness, integrity, and obedience to God's commands.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by posing the question of who may dwell in God's holy tent or on His holy hill. He then proceeds to describe the qualities and actions of those who are worthy (Psalm 15:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist highlights several righteous behaviors, including speaking truthfully, refraining from slander, doing no wrong to others, despising evil, honoring those who fear the Lord, keeping one's promises even at personal cost (Psalm 15:3-5).

In summary,

Psalm fifteen presents

an exploration of the characteristics and behaviors

of those allowed to dwell in God's presence,

highlighting righteousness and integrity as essential qualities.

Emphasizing inquiry achieved through posing a question about dwelling in God's presence,

and emphasizing righteous behavior achieved through describing specific actions.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine holiness while affirming the importance of moral conduct.

Psalms 15:1 Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?

This passage poses a question asking who is worthy to abide in the Lord's tabernacle and who is worthy to dwell on his holy hill.

1: The Path to Abiding in the Lord's Tabernacle

2: Becoming Worthy to Dwell on God's Holy Hill

1: Isaiah 33:14-16 - The righteous will abide in the presence of the Lord and dwell in safety on His Holy Hill.

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.

Psalms 15:2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

The passage speaks of a righteous person who walks and works uprightly and speaks the truth from their heart.

1. Speaking the Truth in Our Hearts

2. Living a Righteous Life

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. Proverbs 10:19 - When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.

Psalms 15:3 He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour.

He who speaks kindly of others and does not harm them, nor speaks ill of them, will be blessed.

1: The Power of Words - How our words can bring blessing or curse into our lives.

2: Love Your Neighbor - Showing kindness and understanding to those around us.

1: Luke 6:31 "Do unto others as you would have them do to you."

2: Colossians 4:6 "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."

Psalms 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.

The Psalmist praises those who honor the Lord and keep their word, even when it is to their own detriment.

1. The Power of Keeping Your Word

2. Honoring the Lord in Every Situation

1. Matthew 5:33-37 - Jesus' teaching on oaths and keeping one's word

2. Proverbs 3:1-4 Instructions on honoring the Lord in all situations

Psalms 15:5 He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

The righteous will remain secure if they do not exploit or take unjust gain from others.

1. God's Protection for the Upright

2. The Blessing of Righteousness in Action

1. Proverbs 13:11 - Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it.

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?

Psalm 16 is a psalm of trust and confidence in God's protection and provision. It expresses the psalmist's devotion to God and his reliance on Him for guidance, joy, and security.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares his trust in God as his refuge, acknowledging that apart from Him, there is no good thing. He praises the Lord for being his chosen portion and secure inheritance (Psalm 16:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses delight in the godly people around him and renounces any association with idolatrous practices. He affirms that God is his portion and source of counsel, even during the night (Psalm 16:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist rejoices in the Lord's presence, acknowledging His guidance and assurance. He trusts that God will not abandon him to Sheol but will grant him eternal life in His presence (Psalm 16:8-11).

In summary,

Psalm sixteen presents

a declaration of trust,

and expression of devotion to God,

highlighting reliance on Him for guidance, joy, and security.

Emphasizing trust achieved through affirming God as a refuge,

and emphasizing devotion achieved through expressing delight in godly company.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine guidance while anticipating eternal life in His presence.

Psalms 16:1 Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust.

The Psalmist entreats God to protect and preserve him, as he places his trust in God.

1. Trusting in God in Troubled Times

2. Finding Security 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 56:4 - "In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?"

Psalms 16:2 O my soul, thou hast said unto the LORD, Thou art my Lord: my goodness extendeth not to thee;

The psalmist reflects on the greatness of the Lord and expresses his inadequacy compared to Him.

1: Rejoicing in the Lord - we can be content in God's greatness

2: Knowing our Place - Acknowledging our own limitations before God

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: Jeremiah 9:23-24 "Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD."

Psalms 16:3 But to the saints that are in the earth, and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight.

The psalmist expresses his delight in those who are excellent and holy on earth.

1. The Blessings of Holiness: A Study of Psalms 16:3

2. The Joy of Serving God: What Psalms 16:3 Can Teach Us

1. Proverbs 3:13-15 - Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Psalms 16:4 Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god: their drink offerings of blood will I not offer, nor take up their names into my lips.

God desires us to keep away from other gods and idolatry.

1: God desires us to turn away from false gods and idols and to stay true to Him alone.

2: We can stay true to God if we focus on His goodness and power instead of looking to other idols for guidance.

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: 1 John 5:21 - Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

Psalms 16:5 The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.

God is the ultimate source of provision, protection and peace.

1: God is the ultimate source of all blessings.

2: Rely on God for your needs and He will provide.

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.

Psalms 16:6 The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage.

The Psalmist is expressing gratitude for the blessings of his inheritance.

1. Rejoice in the blessings of your heritage

2. Gratitude for God's good gifts

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 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.

Psalms 16:7 I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons.

The Psalmist gives thanks to God for his counsel and instruction.

1. "The Lord's Counsel: A Blessing for Our Lives"

2. "God's Night Seasons: Following His Guidance"

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 6:9-10 - Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Psalms 16:8 I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

I have placed my trust in the Lord and He will never let me be shaken.

1. We must trust in the Lord and He will protect us from all harm.

2. Having faith in the Lord and relying on Him will keep us 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. 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.

Psalms 16:9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope.

David expresses joy and hope in the Lord.

1. Finding Joy and Hope in Troubled Times

2. Being Grateful for the Hope We Have in the Lord

1. Romans 5:2-5 - We rejoice in hope of the glory of God

2. Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always

Psalms 16:10 For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

God will protect us from the power of death, even eternal death.

1: We can have faith in God, for He will not leave our souls in death, no matter how dire the circumstances.

2: We can trust in the power of the Holy One, for He will never allow corruption to overtake us.

1: Isaiah 26:19 - Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise. You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For your dew is a dew of light, and the earth will give birth to the dead.

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.

Psalms 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.

God will guide us on the right path and provide us joy and pleasure for eternity in His presence.

1. Joy and Pleasure in the Presence of the Lord

2. Finding Life's Path in God's Will

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. 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.

Psalm 17 is a prayer of David for God's protection and deliverance from his enemies. It reveals the psalmist's confidence in God's righteousness and his plea for vindication.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by appealing to God, asking Him to hear his prayer and consider his righteous cause. He expresses his trust in God's judgment, asking Him to examine his heart and actions (Psalm 17:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist describes the actions of his enemies who seek to harm him. He pleads for God's protection, comparing himself to the apple of His eye and requesting shelter under His wings (Psalm 17:4-9).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon God to arise and confront his adversaries. He expresses confidence in God's righteousness, affirming that he will see His face in righteousness when he awakes (Psalm 17:10-15).

In summary,

Psalm seventeen presents

a prayer for protection,

and a plea for vindication,

highlighting trust in God's righteousness.

Emphasizing prayer achieved through appealing for divine attention,

and emphasizing trust achieved through expressing confidence in divine judgment.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine protection while anticipating seeing God's face in righteousness.

Psalms 17:1 Hear the right, O LORD, attend unto my cry, give ear unto my prayer, that goeth not out of feigned lips.

The psalmist asks God to listen to his cries and prayers, which come from sincere and honest lips.

1: God desires us to come to Him with honest and sincere requests.

2: God is ready to hear our cries and prayers, and He responds to genuine hearts.

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 66:18 - "If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened."

Psalms 17:2 Let my sentence come forth from thy presence; let thine eyes behold the things that are equal.

The psalmist is asking God to judge him righteously and fairly.

1. The Righteous Judge - How God's justice is above all and why we should trust Him to judge us.

2. Seeking Justice - Why it is important to seek justice and how to trust in God for a fair judgment.

1. Psalm 19:9, The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

2. Proverbs 21:3, To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

Psalms 17:3 Thou hast proved mine heart; thou hast visited me in the night; thou hast tried me, and shalt find nothing; I am purposed that my mouth shall not transgress.

The Psalmist reveals that God has tested him and found him faithful.

1. Standing Firm in Faithfulness: A Study of Psalm 17:3

2. God's Proving Grounds: Testing and Temptation in the Life of the Believer

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. 1 Peter 1:7 - So that the tested genuineness of your faith more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Psalms 17:4 Concerning the works of men, by the word of thy lips I have kept me from the paths of the destroyer.

The Psalmist trusts that by the word of God's lips he will be kept away from the paths of destruction.

1. Trusting in God's Word Will Guide One Away from Destruction

2. The Power of the Word of God to Keep Us Safe

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. John 14:23-24 Jesus answered him, 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. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

Psalms 17:5 Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not.

The psalmist asks God to guide his steps and prevent him from slipping.

1. Steadfast Faith: The Value of Trusting in God in Difficult Times

2. Trusting God for Direction and 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. 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.

Psalms 17:6 I have called upon thee, for thou wilt hear me, O God: incline thine ear unto me, and hear my speech.

God is willing to hear our prayers and answer us.

1: God Is Willing To Hear And Answer Your Prayers

2: Prayer Is Our Means Of Communication With God

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."

Psalms 17:7 Shew thy marvellous lovingkindness, O thou that savest by thy right hand them which put their trust in thee from those that rise up against them.

God's lovingkindness is marvellous and He saves those who trust in Him from those who oppose them.

1. Living a Life of Faith in the Midst of Adversity

2. The Power of God's Love and Mercy

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 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, till the storms of destruction pass by.

Psalms 17:8 Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings,

1. The Beauty of Knowing God's Protection

2. The Privilege of Receiving God's Shelter

1. Psalm 91:4, "He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge"

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"

Psalms 17:9 From the wicked that oppress me, from my deadly enemies, who compass me about.

The psalmist is crying out to God for protection from his oppressors and deadly enemies who surround him.

1. The Power of Prayer in Times of Trouble

2. God's Protection in the Face of Danger

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. 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."

Psalms 17:10 They are inclosed in their own fat: with their mouth they speak proudly.

People speak proudly despite being surrounded by their own wealth and prosperity.

1. Pride comes before a fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. Wealth is fleeting - James 1:10-11

1. Proverbs 28:25 - He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the LORD shall be made fat.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:13-14 - There is a sore evil which I have seen under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt. But those riches perish by evil travail: and he begetteth a son, and there is nothing in his hand.

Psalms 17:11 They have now compassed us in our steps: they have set their eyes bowing down to the earth;

The Psalmist is surrounded by enemies.

1: Don't be Discouraged by Your Enemies.

2: We can Take Refuge in the Lord.

1: Psalms 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."

Psalms 17:12 Like as a lion that is greedy of his prey, and as it were a young lion lurking in secret places.

The psalmist compares the enemies of God to a lion that is hungry for prey and lurking in secrecy.

1. God's enemies are powerful and cunning, but He is stronger.

2. Be ever vigilant and prepared against the schemes of the enemy.

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.

2. 1 Peter 5:8 - Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Psalms 17:13 Arise, O LORD, disappoint him, cast him down: deliver my soul from the wicked, which is thy sword:

The psalmist pleads with the LORD to arise, disappoint the wicked, and deliver his soul from them.

1. The Power of Prayer: How to Plead for Deliverance from Wickedness

2. The Faith of the Psalmist: Relying on God for Protection from Oppressors

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

Psalms 17:14 From men which are thy hand, O LORD, from men of the world, which have their portion in this life, and whose belly thou fillest with thy hid treasure: they are full of children, and leave the rest of their substance to their babes.

The Lord provides for men of the world, who have their portion in this life and are filled with God's hidden treasure, they are blessed with children and leave the rest of their wealth to their children.

1. The Lord's Provision: How to Rely on God's Blessings

2. The Joy of Parenthood: Leaving a Legacy of Faith

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 28:2 - And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God.

Psalms 17:15 As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

I will be content with seeing God's face in righteousness.

1. The Joy of Knowing God

2. Satisfaction in Holiness

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. 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.

2. Matthew 5:8 - Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Psalm 18 is a psalm of thanksgiving and praise for God's deliverance and protection. It celebrates God's power, faithfulness, and victory over the psalmist's enemies.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by declaring his love for the Lord, who is his strength, rock, fortress, and deliverer. He describes how he called upon God in distress and was saved from his enemies (Psalm 18:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist vividly portrays the powerful intervention of God on his behalf. He describes tumultuous natural phenomena like earthquakes and thunderstorms as manifestations of God's anger against his enemies (Psalm 18:4-15).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist recounts how God rescued him from the hands of his adversaries. He emphasizes that it was God who delivered him because of His delight in him and His faithfulness to His covenant (Psalm 18:16-29).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist praises God for equipping him with strength and enabling him to overcome his enemies. He acknowledges that it is through God's help that he can triumph over any challenge (Psalm 18:30-45).

5th Paragraph: The psalmist concludes with a declaration of praise to the Lord who avenges him, delivers him from his enemies, and shows steadfast love to His anointed one (Psalm 18:46-50).

In summary,

Psalm eighteen presents

a song of thanksgiving,

and a celebration of divine deliverance,

highlighting God's power, faithfulness, and victory.

Emphasizing gratitude achieved through declaring love for the Lord,

and emphasizing divine intervention achieved through vividly describing supernatural manifestations.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine rescue while acknowledging reliance on God's strength.

Psalms 18:1 I will love thee, O LORD, my strength.

The passage is about expressing love and gratitude to the Lord for being our strength.

1. "Seeing God as Our Strength"

2. "Living Out Our Gratitude to the Lord"

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.

Psalms 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.

The psalmist expresses his trust in God as his rock, fortress, strength, deliverer, buckler, horn of salvation, and high tower.

1. God is Our Rock: Finding Strength in Difficult Times

2. The Horn of Salvation: God's Infinite Love and Protection

1. Isaiah 26:4 - Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock.

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

Psalms 18:3 I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

The Lord is worthy of praise and will save us from our enemies.

1. The Lord is Worthy of Praise: How to Live a Life Pleasing to God

2. God's Protection from Enemies: Relying on the Strength of the Lord

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

Psalms 18:4 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the floods of ungodly men made me afraid.

The psalmist was surrounded by death and threatened by ungodly people.

1. God is Our Protector: Taking Comfort in the Lord in the Midst of Difficult Times

2. The Power of Fear and How to Overcome It

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."

Psalms 18:5 The sorrows of hell compassed me about: the snares of death prevented me.

The passage speaks of the danger of death and the distress of hell.

1. "The Peril of Death"

2. "The Dread of Hell"

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. 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.

Psalms 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.

God hears the cries of his people and answers their prayers.

1. Being Heard: God's Compassion and Care for His People

2. Distress and Deliverance: Learning to Trust in 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. 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."

Psalms 18:7 Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations also of the hills moved and were shaken, because he was wroth.

God's wrath caused the earth to tremble and the foundations of the hills to move.

1: God's wrath is powerful and should not be taken lightly.

2: Even though God's wrath is strong, it is done out of love for us.

1: Romans 12:19 - Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2: Proverbs 16:32 - Better to be patient than powerful; better to have self-control than to conquer a city.

Psalms 18:8 There went up a smoke out of his nostrils, and fire out of his mouth devoured: coals were kindled by it.

God's presence is described with powerful imagery, as smoke and fire went out of his mouth and nostrils, kindling coals.

1. God's Presence is a Powerful Force

2. The Fire of God's Presence

1. Exodus 3:2-4 - The Burning Bush

2. Isaiah 30:27-33 - The LORD's Glorious Presence

Psalms 18:9 He bowed the heavens also, and came down: and darkness was under his feet.

God descended from Heaven and darkness was beneath Him.

1. God's Majesty and Power: Descending from Heaven

2. The Light of God: Piercing Through Darkness

1. Isaiah 40:22-23 (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. Job 22:14 (Thick clouds enwrap him, so that he does not see, and he walks on the vault of heaven.)

Psalms 18:10 And he rode upon a cherub, and did fly: yea, he did fly upon the wings of the wind.

Psalm 18:10 describes God riding on a cherub and flying on the wings of the wind.

1. God's Power and Majesty: Understanding the Divine Nature from Psalms 18:10

2. The Wind of the Spirit: Experiencing the Power of God in 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. 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. Acts 2:2-4 - And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Psalms 18:11 He made darkness his secret place; his pavilion round about him were dark waters and thick clouds of the skies.

He found a secret place of refuge in darkness.

1. The Comfort of God's Protection

2. Finding Security in the Shadow of God's Wings

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. 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, till the storms of destruction pass by."

Psalms 18:12 At the brightness that was before him his thick clouds passed, hail stones and coals of fire.

God's brightness caused thick clouds, hail stones, and coals of fire to pass away.

1. God's Splendor: Seeing the Light in Every Situation.

2. The Power of God: How Our Creator Moves Mountains.

1. Isaiah 40:26 - He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

2. Psalm 29:3-9 - The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over many waters.

Psalms 18:13 The LORD also thundered in the heavens, and the Highest gave his voice; hail stones and coals of fire.

The Lord demonstrated his power through thundering in the heavens and hail stones and coals of fire.

1. The Power and Majesty of God

2. How Our Response to God's Power Should Affect Our Lives

1. Psalm 29:3-9

2. Hebrews 12:25-29

Psalms 18:14 Yea, he sent out his arrows, and scattered them; and he shot out lightnings, and discomfited them.

God uses His strength to protect and guide us in our lives.

1: God's strength can protect us from any challenge.

2: God's strength shows us the way to live life to the fullest.

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 11:1 "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

Psalms 18:15 Then the channels of waters were seen, and the foundations of the world were discovered at thy rebuke, O LORD, at the blast of the breath of thy nostrils.

The Lord revealed the channels of water and the foundations of the world with a blast from His nostrils.

1. The Power of the Lord Revealed in Creation

2. God's Majestic Authority Over Nature

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

2. Job 26:7 He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.

Psalms 18:16 He sent from above, he took me, he drew me out of many waters.

God rescued the psalmist from danger and difficulty.

1. God will save us from our troubles if we trust in Him.

2. God is our refuge and strength in times of difficulty.

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. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

Psalms 18:17 He delivered me from my strong enemy, and from them which hated me: for they were too strong for me.

He was delivered from his enemies, which were too strong for him.

1. God is always there to protect us from our enemies, no matter how strong they may be.

2. We can trust in God to save us from overwhelming odds.

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.

Psalms 18:18 They prevented me in the day of my calamity: but the LORD was my stay.

God is our protector in times of trouble.

1: The Lord is Our Refuge - Psalms 18:18

2: Trust in the Lord - Proverbs 3:5-6

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."

Psalms 18:19 He brought me forth also into a large place; he delivered me, because he delighted in me.

God delivered the Psalmist from danger because He delighted in him.

1. God's Love: An Unconditional Blessing

2. Rejoicing in the Lord's Protection

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

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.

Psalms 18:20 The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me.

God rewards us for our righteousness and cleanness of our hands.

1. God's Justice: How the Lord Rewards Righteousness

2. Keeping Clean Hands: A Call to Holiness

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. Isaiah 32:17 - And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever.

Psalms 18:21 For I have kept the ways of the LORD, and have not wickedly departed from my God.

The psalmist proclaims faithfulness to God and following His ways.

1. Abiding in the Lord: Staying the Course of Faithfulness

2. Faithfulness to God: Rewarded and Blessed

1. 2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

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.

Psalms 18:22 For all his judgments were before me, and I did not put away his statutes from me.

This verse from Psalms 18:22 emphasizes God's justice and His laws which we should obey.

1. God's Justice: A Study of Psalms 18:22

2. Obeying God's Laws: The Imperative of Psalms 18:22

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. 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.

Psalms 18:23 I was also upright before him, and I kept myself from mine iniquity.

This verse highlights the importance of avoiding sin and striving to live a life of righteousness before God.

1. The Power of Upright Living

2. The Blessing of Keeping Yourself from Sin

1. Romans 6:12-15 - Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts.

2. Matthew 5:8 - Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Psalms 18:24 Therefore hath the LORD recompensed me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in his eyesight.

God rewards us according to our righteousness and the purity of our actions.

1. Be Righteous and Pure in the Sight of the Lord

2. Doing What is Right is Rewarded by God

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 so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Psalms 18:25 With the merciful thou wilt shew thyself merciful; with an upright man thou wilt shew thyself upright;

God shows mercy and righteousness to everyone, regardless of who they are.

1. The Power of Mercy: God's Love for All

2. Righteousness and Justice: God's Standard for Humanity

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy"

2. Romans 2:6-11 - "God will repay each person according to what they have done"

Psalms 18:26 With the pure thou wilt shew thyself pure; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself froward.

God is holy and expects purity from us.

1. God's Holiness and Our Pursuit of Purity

2. The Effect of Our Actions on Our Relationship with God

1. Isaiah 6:1-3

2. Ephesians 5:11-13

Psalms 18:27 For thou wilt save the afflicted people; but wilt bring down high looks.

God will save those who are afflicted, but He will humble those with pride.

1. Pride Will Be Punished - Proverbs 16:18

2. God is a Refuge for the Afflicted - Psalm 46:1

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

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 18:28 For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.

God will enlighten the darkness of those who seek His light.

1. The Light of God: Overcoming the Darkness of the World

2. Seeking the Illumination of the Lord: Releasing Ourselves from the Darkness of Life

1. Psalm 18:28 - "For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness."

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.

Psalms 18:29 For by thee I have run through a troop; and by my God have I leaped over a wall.

Psalm 18:29 celebrates God's strength and protection, declaring that with God's help one can run through a troop and leap over a wall.

1. Faith in God: How to Overcome Any Obstacle

2. God's Strength: A Source of Encouragement for Difficult Times

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

2. 2 Chronicles 32:7 - "Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid nor dismayed before the king of Assyria, nor before all the multitude that is with him; for there are more with us than with him."

Psalms 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.

God's way is perfect and true, and He is a shield to all who trust in Him.

1: We can trust God to protect us when we put our faith in Him.

2: God's ways are perfect and true, and we can rely upon Him to shield us from harm.

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.

Psalms 18:31 For who is God save the LORD? or who is a rock save our God?

This passage from Psalms 18:31 talks about the power of God and His ability to save humanity.

1. The Unshakable Power of Our God

2. Salvation through the Lord Alone

1. Psalm 62:7, In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.

2. 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 is become my salvation.

Psalms 18:32 It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect.

God strengthens us and guides us in the perfect path.

1. God's Strength is Perfect - Psalms 18:32

2. The Perfect Path - Psalms 18:32

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

2. Ephesians 3:16-20 - "That according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being."

Psalms 18:33 He maketh my feet like hinds' feet, and setteth me upon my high places.

God gives strength to his people to be able to walk on difficult paths and ascend to higher places.

1. The Strength of the Lord: How God Empowers Us to Climb to New Heights

2. How to Rely on the Lord for Strength and Guidance on Difficult Paths

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 12:1-2 - 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. 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.

Psalms 18:34 He teacheth my hands to war, so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms.

God teaches and empowers His people to fight against their enemies, even with weapons made of steel.

1. The Power of God: How God's Strength Can Overcome Any Weapon

2. The Battle of Faith: How We Can Have Victory Over Our Enemies through Faith

1. Deuteronomy 20:1 - "When you go out to battle against your enemies, and see horses and chariots and people more numerous than you, do not be afraid of them; for the LORD your God is with you, who brought you up from the land of Egypt."

2. Proverbs 21:31 - "The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but victory is of the LORD."

Psalms 18:35 Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy right hand hath holden me up, and thy gentleness hath made me great.

God's shield of salvation and right hand have held us up and His gentleness has made us great.

1: God's Protection and Strength is Always Present

2: The Power of God's Gentleness

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

Psalms 18:36 Thou hast enlarged my steps under me, that my feet did not slip.

God stabilizes us so that we may remain firm in our faith.

1. The Strength of God: How Our Almighty Father Steadies Us in Troubling Times

2. Finding Security in the Lord: Why We Can Rely on God for Steadfast Faith

1. Psalm 18:36

2. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Psalms 18:37 I have pursued mine enemies, and overtaken them: neither did I turn again till they were consumed.

The psalmist pursued their enemies and did not stop until they were consumed.

1. "The Power of Pursuit: Following God in Pursuit of Our Enemies"

2. "Standing Firm: Trusting God's Strength to Overcome Our Enemies"

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. 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.

Psalms 18:38 I have wounded them that they were not able to rise: they are fallen under my feet.

Psalms 18:38 speaks of God's power to wound and defeat enemies, such that they cannot rise and are completely under His feet.

1. The Power of God: How God's Strength is Unmatched

2. Victory through Faith: Overcoming Challenges with God's Help

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Stand firm in the faith and put on the full armor of God for spiritual warfare

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - God is powerful and the source of strength who renews and sustains us

Psalms 18:39 For thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle: thou hast subdued under me those that rose up against me.

God's strength enables us to overcome any challenge.

1: We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

2: The power of God can see us through any battle.

1: Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2: 2 Chronicles 16:7-9 And at that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said to him: Because you have relied on the king of Syria, and have not relied on the Lord your God, therefore the army of the king of Syria has escaped from your hand. Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubim an army too great for you? Yet, because you relied on the Lord, He delivered them into your hand. For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him.

Psalms 18:40 Thou hast also given me the necks of mine enemies; that I might destroy them that hate me.

God has given the psalmist the power to overcome his enemies.

1. Overcoming Enemies Through Faith in God

2. Knowing When to Take a Stand Against Those Who Hate Us

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust.

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.

Psalms 18:41 They cried, but there was none to save them: even unto the LORD, but he answered them not.

The LORD did not answer the cries of those in need.

1: Even in our darkest hour, God is with us.

2: Our cries are not unheard, God hears our pleas.

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 34:17 - "When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

Psalms 18:42 Then did I beat them small as the dust before the wind: I did cast them out as the dirt in the streets.

The Psalmist describes God's punishing of the wicked by beating them small and casting them out like dirt in the streets.

1. "God is Just: The Consequences of Wickedness"

2. "The Power of God: Reaping What We Sow"

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. Romans 2:6-8 - "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."

Psalms 18:43 Thou hast delivered me from the strivings of the people; and thou hast made me the head of the heathen: a people whom I have not known shall serve me.

God has saved the psalmist from the struggles of the people and has made him the leader of the nations. People who had not known him will now serve him.

1. God's Deliverance: Experiencing the Strength of the Lord in Times of Struggle

2. The Power of God's Sovereignty: Becoming the Leader of Nations

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. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Psalms 18:44 As soon as they hear of me, they shall obey me: the strangers shall submit themselves unto me.

This passage from Psalms 18:44 states that when people hear of God, they will obey Him and even strangers will submit themselves to Him.

1. The Power of Hearing God's Name: How God Commands Submission from All Who Know Him

2. Obedience to God: A Necessary Response to His Authority

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. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'"

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."

Psalms 18:45 The strangers shall fade away, and be afraid out of their close places.

The Psalmist declares that the strangers will vanish and be afraid from their places of refuge.

1. God is Our Refuge and Strength

2. Fear Not, for God is with 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 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 18:46 The LORD liveth; and blessed be my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

God is alive and worthy of praise and admiration.

1: The Living God - A Look at Psalms 18:46

2: Exalting the God of Salvation

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: Psalm 150:6 - Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

Psalms 18:47 It is God that avengeth me, and subdueth the people under me.

God avenges the psalmist and puts the people under him.

1. God Is Our Avenger: How God Fights for Us

2. The Power of God: How God Subdues Our Enemies

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. Isaiah 59:17-18 - He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak. According to their deeds, so will he repay, wrath to his adversaries, repayment to his enemies.

Psalms 18:48 He delivereth me from mine enemies: yea, thou liftest me up above those that rise up against me: thou hast delivered me from the violent man.

A psalm of praise to God for delivering us from our enemies.

1. The Power of Protection: How God Shields Us From Harm

2. Finding Comfort in Difficult Times: Relying on God 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 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Psalms 18:49 Therefore will I give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and sing praises unto thy name.

God is to be praised and thanked among the nations.

1. The Power of Praise: The Importance of Giving Thanks to God Among the Nations

2. The Joy of Worship: Rejoicing in the Name of the Lord in All Nations

1. Romans 15:11 - And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people.

2. Psalm 117:1 - Praise the LORD, all nations: praise him, all people.

Psalms 18:50 Great deliverance giveth he to his king; and sheweth mercy to his anointed, to David, and to his seed for evermore.

God is faithful to those He has chosen, extending deliverance and mercy to them throughout eternity.

1. The Unfailing Faithfulness of God

2. The Covenant of Mercy and Deliverance

1. 2 Timothy 2:13 - "If we are faithless, he remains faithful for he cannot deny himself."

2. Luke 1:72-73 - "To show the mercy promised to our ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our father Abraham."

Psalm 19 is a psalm that extols the glory of God as revealed through nature and His law. It emphasizes the perfection and wisdom of God's instructions and their transformative power in the lives of those who follow them.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by declaring that the heavens declare the glory of God, and the skies proclaim His handiwork. He describes how day after day, creation pours forth speech about God's majesty (Psalm 19:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist shifts focus to God's law, describing it as perfect, trustworthy, right, radiant, and more desirable than gold. He acknowledges that following God's commandments brings great reward (Psalm 19:7-11).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on the transformative power of God's instructions. He prays for forgiveness from hidden faults and asks for help in avoiding willful sins. He desires that his words and thoughts be pleasing to God (Psalm 19:12-14).

In summary,

Psalm nineteen presents

a celebration of divine revelation,

and an affirmation of the value of God's law,

highlighting its perfection and transformative power.

Emphasizing revelation achieved through recognizing divine glory in creation,

and emphasizing instruction achieved through extolling the virtues of God's law.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine wisdom while expressing a desire for personal righteousness.

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

The heavens clearly proclaim the greatness of God and his wonderful works.

1: God's Glory is Displayed in His Creation

2: God's Marvelous Works are Evident in the Heavens

1: Romans 1:20 - For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.

2: Psalm 8:1-3 - O Lord, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth, Who have set Your glory above the heavens! From the lips of children and nursing babes You have ordained strength, Because of Your enemies, That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.

Psalms 19:2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

The heavens declare the glory of God and reveal the knowledge of his will.

1. The Unending Testimony of God's Glory

2. The Proclamation of God's Wisdom

1. Romans 1:19-20 - For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 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. Psalm 97:6 - The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.

Psalms 19:3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

The voice of God can be heard everywhere, regardless of language or speech.

1. God's voice is universal, and speaks to all of us.

2. The power of God transcends language and culture.

1. Romans 10:17-18 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Acts 2:1-4 - They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Psalms 19:4 Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,

The words of God have gone out to the world and been planted firmly in it.

1. We should be thankful for the power of God's word and how far its reach is.

2. We should strive to share God's word with the world and plant it firmly in hearts.

1. Romans 10:17 - "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

2. Jeremiah 15:16 - "Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts."

Psalms 19:5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.

God's word is a joyous source of strength and guidance.

1. Rejoicing in God's Strength

2. Running the Race of Faith

1. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.

Psalms 19:6 His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

Psalms 19:6 describes the power of God, showing that his presence is everywhere and nothing can be hidden from Him.

1. God Sees All: A on Psalms 19:6

2. The Omnipresent God: A on the Power of Psalms 19:6

1. 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."

2. 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.

Psalms 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

The law of the Lord is perfect and restores the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and makes wise the simple.

1. God's Word is a source of wisdom and guidance.

2. The power of the Lord's law to renew and restore our souls.

1. John 17:17 - Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

2. James 1:18-19 - Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Psalms 19:8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

The LORD's commands bring joy to the heart and enlightenment to the eyes.

1. The Joy of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Can Bring Happiness

2. Seeing the Light: How God's Guidance Can Illuminate Our Lives

1. Psalm 19:8

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."

Psalms 19:9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

The fear and judgments of the LORD are pure and righteous.

1. The Holiness and Justice of God

2. Accepting God's Judgement

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. Psalm 119:142 - Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and your law is the truth.

Psalms 19:10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

The beauty of God's laws are more valuable than gold and sweeter than honey.

1. The Sweetness of God's Word: Exploring the Joy of Living a Life of Obedience

2. The Greater Value of Obedience: Understanding the Rewards of Following God's Will

1. Psalm 119:103 - "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth."

2. Proverbs 16:20 - "He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the Lord, happy is he."

Psalms 19:11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

The Word of God provides warning and great reward for those who obey it.

1. "The Blessing of Obedience: The Word of God"

2. "Living a Life of Reward: The Promise of Psalms 19:11"

1. 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.

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.

Psalms 19:12 Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.

This psalm asks for God to forgive hidden sins and to cleanse the speaker from their errors.

1. The Power of Confession: A Call to Repentance

2. The Importance of Forgiveness in Restoring Broken Relationships

1. Proverbs 28:13 Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

2. James 5:16 Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

Psalms 19:13 Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

The Psalmist pleads with God to keep them from committing presumptuous sins and to protect them from being overtaken by such sins, so that they may remain upright and innocent.

1. The Power of God to Protect Us from Sin

2. The Importance of Uprightness and Righteousness

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. 1 Peter 5:8 - "Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."

Psalms 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

This passage encourages us to speak and think in ways that are pleasing to the Lord.

1: Speak and Think in Ways that are Pleasing to the Lord

2: Choosing Words Wisely

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: James 3:1-10 - Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

Psalm 20 is a psalm of prayer and blessing for the success and victory of God's chosen king or leader. It expresses the community's support and trust in God's power to answer their petitions.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by expressing his desire for the Lord to answer in times of trouble. He acknowledges that help comes from God alone, not from human strength or military might (Psalm 20:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist offers prayers and blessings for the king or leader chosen by God. He asks that God grant him victory, fulfill his desires, and answer his prayers. The people affirm their trust in God's saving power (Psalm 20:6-9).

In summary,

Psalm twenty presents

a prayer for the success and victory

of God's chosen king or leader,

highlighting reliance on divine power.

Emphasizing prayer achieved through seeking divine assistance in times of trouble,

and emphasizing blessing achieved through expressing support and trust in God's saving power.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine sovereignty while affirming dependence on His intervention.

Psalms 20:1 The LORD hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee;

This Psalm expresses faith in God to hear and defend in times of trouble.

1: God is Always There to Hear and Defend Us

2: Have Faith in God in Troubling Times

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.

Psalms 20:2 Send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion;

God will provide help and strength from His place of holiness.

1. The Strength of God: How to Receive Help from God's Sanctuary

2. Finding Strength in Zion: Experiencing God's Blessing in Difficult Times

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."

Psalms 20:3 Remember all thy offerings, and accept thy burnt sacrifice; Selah.

The psalmist asks God to remember all offerings made to Him and to accept the burnt sacrifice.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How Offering to God Can Change our Lives

2. The Joy of Worship: Rejoicing in the Blessings of God

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

Psalms 20:4 Grant thee according to thine own heart, and fulfil all thy counsel.

Psalms 20:4 encourages us to ask God to grant us the desires of our heart and to fulfill His plans for our lives.

1. The Power of Prayer: Reaching Out to God with Our Hearts

2. Living in God's Will: Trusting God to Fulfill His Plans

1. James 4:2-3 - You have not because you ask not.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Psalms 20:5 We will rejoice in thy salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners: the LORD fulfil all thy petitions.

The Psalmist expresses faith that God will answer prayers and bring salvation, prompting rejoicing and the setting up of banners in His name.

1. Rejoice in the Lord: An Examination of Psalms 20:5

2. Banners of Faith: An Exploration of Psalms 20:5

1. Psalms 27:4-5 - 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. 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.

Psalms 20:6 Now know I that the LORD saveth his anointed; he will hear him from his holy heaven with the saving strength of his right hand.

God will always save those whom He has chosen and will hear their prayers from Heaven.

1. God's Protection and Provision for His Anointed

2. The Power of Prayer in the Life of the Anointed

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."

Psalms 20:7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

We should put our trust in God and not in worldly things.

1: We should always put our trust in the Lord and not in worldly possessions.

2: We can find true security only in the Lord and not in earthly things.

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 17:7-8 - "But 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."

Psalms 20:8 They are brought down and fallen: but we are risen, and stand upright.

1. God will lift us up when we are down.

2. We can stand with strength as long as 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. Psalm 30:2 - O LORD my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.

Psalms 20:9 Save, LORD: let the king hear us when we call.

This verse is a prayer to God to protect and save the king.

1. The Power of Prayer: Seeking God's Protection and Provision in Times of Need

2. Why We Should Pray for Our Leaders

1. Ephesians 6:18 - 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.

2. 1 Timothy 2:1-2 - First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

Psalm 21 is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving for the victories and blessings bestowed upon the king or leader by God. It celebrates God's faithfulness, strength, and enduring love.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist rejoices in the king's strength and victories granted by God. He acknowledges that the king's heart's desires have been fulfilled, and he has been blessed with long life (Psalm 21:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist praises God for His steadfast love and blessings upon the king. He recognizes that God has bestowed honor, glory, and splendor upon him. The people trust in God's power to uphold their king (Psalm 21:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist affirms that God will bring down the enemies of the king. He describes how they will be consumed by fire and perish before God's presence. The people rejoice in their deliverance (Psalm 21:8-13).

In summary,

Psalm twenty-one presents

a song of praise,

and a celebration of divine blessings,

highlighting God's faithfulness and victorious intervention.

Emphasizing gratitude achieved through rejoicing in victories granted by God,

and emphasizing divine favor achieved through acknowledging His steadfast love.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine protection while expressing confidence in His judgment against enemies.

Psalms 21:1 The king shall joy in thy strength, O LORD; and in thy salvation how greatly shall he rejoice!

The king rejoices in God's strength and salvation.

1. Joy in the Strength of the Lord

2. Rejoice in the Salvation of the Lord

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 is become my salvation.

2. Romans 5:2-5 - 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. 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.

Psalms 21:2 Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and hast not withholden the request of his lips. Selah.

God grants us the desires of our hearts when we ask in faith.

1: We must put our trust in God and ask for our deepest hearts desires in faith, confident that He will answer us.

2: God is a faithful Father who loves to give good gifts to His children when they ask in faith.

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 37:4 - Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Psalms 21:3 For thou preventest him with the blessings of goodness: thou settest a crown of pure gold on his head.

God rewards those who seek Him with blessings of goodness and a crown of pure gold.

1. The Blessings of Seeking God

2. The Crown of Pure Gold: A Reward for Faithfulness

1. James 4:8 - Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Psalms 21:4 He asked life of thee, and thou gavest it him, even length of days for ever and ever.

He requested life from God, and God granted it to him as an eternal gift.

1: God graciously grants us life and length of days.

2: God's unending love and mercy is a great blessing.

1: James 4:6, But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

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.

Psalms 21:5 His glory is great in thy salvation: honour and majesty hast thou laid upon him.

God has bestowed great glory and honour on those who have accepted His salvation.

1. The Glory of God's Salvation

2. Rejoice in God's Majestic Love

1. Isaiah 60:1-2 - Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

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.

Psalms 21:6 For thou hast made him most blessed for ever: thou hast made him exceeding glad with thy countenance.

God has made those who follow Him blessed and glad.

1. Rejoice in the Lord: How God's Countenance Brings Joy

2. Celebrating God's Blessings: Finding Gladness in God's Presence

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 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.

Psalms 21:7 For the king trusteth in the LORD, and through the mercy of the most High he shall not be moved.

The king trusts in God, and through His mercy he will remain steadfast.

1. The assurance of God's mercy and protection

2. Faith in God as the source of our strength

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 the LORD, the LORD himself, is the Rock eternal.

2. Psalm 62:1-2 - Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from him. Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.

Psalms 21:8 Thine hand shall find out all thine enemies: thy right hand shall find out those that hate thee.

God's hand will take care of all of His enemies.

1. The Power of God's Hand

2. How to Rely on God's Protection

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. Proverbs 18:10 - "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe."

Psalms 21:9 Thou shalt make them as a fiery oven in the time of thine anger: the LORD shall swallow them up in his wrath, and the fire shall devour them.

God's anger is severe and justly so, but his love is greater.

1: God's Love is Greater Than His Wrath

2: The Importance of Acknowledging God's Anger

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 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Psalms 21:10 Their fruit shalt thou destroy from the earth, and their seed from among the children of men.

God will destroy the fruit and seed of the wicked from the earth and from among mankind.

1. The Danger of Wickedness: How the wicked will be punished for their sin.

2. The Power of God: How God's judgement is just and merciful.

1. Matthew 7:19 - "Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

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."

Psalms 21:11 For they intended evil against thee: they imagined a mischievous device, which they are not able to perform.

The wicked plan evil against God but will ultimately not be able to carry it out.

1. God is in control and will overcome any obstacles that the wicked plan against Him.

2. Have faith and trust in God, for He will protect us from any evil schemes that are devised against us.

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.

Psalms 21:12 Therefore shalt thou make them turn their back, when thou shalt make ready thine arrows upon thy strings against the face of them.

God can use arrows to make His enemies turn their back.

1. God's Arrows of Protection - How God Protects Us From Our Enemies

2. The Power of Prayer - How to Pray for Safety and Protection from Enemies

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. 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. 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.

Psalms 21:13 Be thou exalted, LORD, in thine own strength: so will we sing and praise thy power.

The Psalmist calls for the LORD to be exalted in his own strength, and praises His power through song.

1. The Strength of God: How to Rely on His Greatness

2. The Power of Praise: Singing to the Lord with Joy

1. Ephesians 3:14-21 - Paul talks about the strength of the Lord in being able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine.

2. Psalm 103:1-5 - This passage praises the Lord for all the wonderful things He does, and calls us to bless His name.

Psalm 22 is a deeply emotional and prophetic psalm attributed to David. It begins with a cry of anguish and feelings of abandonment, but transitions into expressions of trust and praise for God's deliverance.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by expressing his distress, feeling forsaken by God and surrounded by enemies. He vividly describes his physical suffering, using imagery that foreshadows the crucifixion of Jesus Christ (Psalm 22:1-18).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist's tone shifts as he declares his trust in God's faithfulness from his youth. He acknowledges God's sovereignty over all nations and expresses confidence that future generations will praise Him (Psalm 22:19-31).

In summary,

Psalm twenty-two presents

a lamentation turned into trust,

and a declaration of future praise,

highlighting the experience of abandonment transformed into hope.

Emphasizing lament achieved through expressing anguish and feelings of forsakenness,

and emphasizing trust achieved through acknowledging God's faithfulness.

Mentioning prophetic elements shown regarding the suffering described in relation to the crucifixion, while affirming future generations' worship.

Psalms 22:1 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?

God's presence is not always felt in times of suffering and despair.

1. In times of suffering, God is still present and will help us.

2. We can trust that God is with us, even when we don't feel His presence.

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."

Psalms 22:2 O my God, I cry in the day time, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent.

God is always listening, even when it may not feel like it.

1: God is Always There.

2: God is Always Listening.

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 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."

Psalms 22:3 But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.

God is holy and inhabits the praises of Israel.

1. God is Worthy of Praise

2. The Holiness of God

1. Psalm 150:2 "Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness!"

2. 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!

Psalms 22:4 Our fathers trusted in thee: they trusted, and thou didst deliver them.

This passage from Psalms affirms that God will always come to the aid of those who trust in Him.

1. Trust in the Lord: The Power of Faith

2. Don't be Afraid: The Security of Believing in God

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 is become my salvation."

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."

Psalms 22:5 They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in thee, and were not confounded.

The psalmist affirms that God hears the cries of His people and answers them, protecting and sustaining them as they trust in Him.

1: When We Cry Out to God, He Answers Us

2: Relying on God's Protection and Provision

1: Romans 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

2: Psalm 94:19, "In the multitude of my thoughts within me thy comforts delight my soul."

Psalms 22:6 But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people.

I am nothing and despised by all.

1. God is our refuge in times of distress

2. Humility brings us closer to 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. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Psalms 22:7 All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,

The psalmist is being mocked by the people who see him.

1: We must be careful not to mock or belittle others, even if we disagree with them.

2: God will ultimately vindicate the righteous, even when they are mocked by others.

1: Proverbs 11:12 Whoever belittles his neighbor lacks sense, but a man of understanding remains silent.

2: Psalm 37:12-13 The wicked plot against the righteous and gnash their teeth at them; but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming.

Psalms 22:8 He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him.

Despite facing difficult circumstances, the psalmist trusted that the Lord would deliver him because the Lord delighted in him.

1. Trust in the Lord in Every Situation

2. God's Love and Protection for His People

1. Romans 8:31-39 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

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.

Psalms 22:9 But thou art he that took me out of the womb: thou didst make me hope when I was upon my mother's breasts.

God is the one who brought us into the world and sustains us with His love.

1. The Sustaining Love of God

2. Knowing the Source of Our Hope

1. Psalm 22:9

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."

Psalms 22:10 I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou art my God from my mother's belly.

The psalmist affirms that he was dependent upon God from the womb and that God was with him from his mother's belly.

1. God's Love is Unconditional and Everlasting

2. Trust in God's Plan and Guidance

1. Jeremiah 1:5 - Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart;

2. Isaiah 44:2 - Thus says the Lord, who made you and formed you from the womb, who will help you.

Psalms 22:11 Be not far from me; for trouble is near; for there is none to help.

The psalmist pleads for God's presence and help in a time of trouble.

1. God Is Always Near: Trusting in His Presence in Times of Trouble

2. Finding Strength in the Lord: Seeking His Help 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 - 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.

Psalms 22:12 Many bulls have compassed me: strong bulls of Bashan have beset me round.

Psalms 22:12 describes how many strong bulls of Bashan have surrounded the speaker.

1. God's protection in difficult times: The example of Psalms 22:12

2. Trusting God when surrounded by adversity: Lessons from Psalms 22:12

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. Matthew 6:25-27 - "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?"

Psalms 22:13 They gaped upon me with their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion.

People looked at the speaker with mouths open, like a lion ready to devour its prey.

1) The Danger of Gossip: We are not called to judge and condemn others.

2) The Strength of God: Even in the face of those who seek to do us harm, God is our strength and refuge.

1) Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

2) Psalm 3:3 But you, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.

Psalms 22:14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels.

The psalmist describes a feeling of complete exhaustion, expressing that their heart is like wax, melted in the midst of their bowels.

1. When Things Feel Too Much: Finding Rest in God's Arms

2. Hope in the Midst of Suffering: Learning to Lean on 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. 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."

Psalms 22:15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death.

The psalmist is in a state of weakness and despair, and feels that death is imminent.

1. Finding Strength in Weakness

2. Persevering through Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - His grace is sufficient for us, for His power is made perfect in weakness.

Psalms 22:16 For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.

This Psalm speaks of the suffering of Jesus on the cross.

1. God's Faithfulness in the Face of Suffering

2. The Power of Hope in Times of Adversity

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 5:6-8 - 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.

Psalms 22:17 I may tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me.

The psalmist is expressing the feeling of being watched and observed by others.

1. "The Feeling of Being Watched: How God Sees Us in Our Struggles"

2. "The Comfort of Knowing God Sees Us: A Reflection on Psalm 22:17"

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. Isaiah 53:3-5 "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. 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."

Psalms 22:18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

People divided the garments of the speaker and cast lots for his clothing.

1. The Power of Faith in the Face of Adversity

2. Overcoming Difficult Times Through Unity

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 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 8:37-39 - 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.

Psalms 22:19 But be not thou far from me, O LORD: O my strength, haste thee to help me.

The Psalmist is calling out to God, asking Him to not be far away and to come quickly to help.

1. How to Have Faith in Difficult Times

2. Learning to Trust God in Every 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. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Psalms 22:20 Deliver my soul from the sword; my darling from the power of the dog.

This psalm talks about the deliverance of the soul from danger.

1: God s Protection in Times of Trouble

2: The Power of Prayer

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 Peter 5:7, Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Psalms 22:21 Save me from the lion's mouth: for thou hast heard me from the horns of the unicorns.

God can protect us from the most dangerous situations.

1: God will never forsake us, no matter how dire the situation.

2: We can trust in God's protection in all times of difficulty.

1: 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.

2: Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

Psalms 22:22 I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.

The Psalmist praises God by declaring His name to others in the congregation.

1. The Power of Proclaiming God's Name

2. The Importance of Praising God in Public

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. Acts 2:16-21 - Peter proclaimed Jesus' name, quoting the Psalms, and 3000 people were baptized.

Psalms 22:23 Ye that fear the LORD, praise him; all ye the seed of Jacob, glorify him; and fear him, all ye the seed of Israel.

The Psalmist encourages those who fear the Lord to praise and glorify Him, and all of the descendants of Jacob and Israel to do the same.

1. The Power of Praise: How Worshiping God Can Strengthen Our Faith

2. Fear of the Lord: How to Live a Life of Respect for God

1. Psalms 22:23 - Ye that fear the LORD, praise him; all ye the seed of Jacob, glorify him; and fear him, all ye the seed of Israel.

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?

Psalms 22:24 For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard.

God is always listening to our pleas, and He never turns a deaf ear to those in need.

1. God is Always There - We can always rely on God for comfort and strength in times of affliction.

2. The Power of Prayer - Prayer is an effective way to reach out to God and receive His love and mercy.

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 8:26-28 - 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. 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.

Psalms 22:25 My praise shall be of thee in the great congregation: I will pay my vows before them that fear him.

The psalmist is praising God for being present in the congregation and fulfilling his promises to those who fear Him.

1. The Power of Praise: Celebrating God in the Congregation

2. Fear Not: Keeping Promises to God in the Midst of the Great Congregation

1. 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. Psalm 111:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.

Psalms 22:26 The meek shall eat and be satisfied: they shall praise the LORD that seek him: your heart shall live for ever.

The meek are blessed when they seek the Lord, for they will be satisfied and live forever.

1. Seeking the Lord is the path to satisfaction and everlasting life.

2. God's promises are true and can be found in the meek.

1. Matthew 5:5: Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

2. Psalm 37:11: But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.

Psalms 22:27 All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee.

The Psalmist declares that all people from all over the world will remember God and worship Him.

1. The Call to Worldwide Worship: Exploring the Psalmist's Declaration of Global Adoration of God

2. The Invitation to Universal Remembrance: How All Nations Can Join in the Praise of the Lord

1. Isaiah 56:7 - "Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people."

2. Philippians 2:10-11 - "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Psalms 22:28 For the kingdom is the LORD's: and he is the governor among the nations.

The Lord has ultimate authority over all nations and is the ultimate ruler.

1. God's Sovereignty: How God Reigns Above All Nations

2. The Lord is King: Reaffirming Our Commitment to His Kingdom

1. Isaiah 40:10-11 - "Behold, the Lord God will come with might, with his arm ruling for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. 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. Daniel 4:17 - "The sentence is by the decree of the watchers, the decision by the word of the holy ones, to the end that the living may know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will and sets over it the lowliest of men."

Psalms 22:29 All they that be fat upon earth shall eat and worship: all they that go down to the dust shall bow before him: and none can keep alive his own soul.

All people, regardless of their earthly wealth, will come to worship God and will bow before Him, for He is the giver and keeper of life.

1. The Greatness of God: All People Worship and Bow Before Him

2. God is the Giver and Keeper of Life: Trust His Sovereignty

1. 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."

2. John 4:24 - "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

Psalms 22:30 A seed shall serve him; it shall be accounted to the Lord for a generation.

Psalms 22:30 states that a descendant of faith will serve the Lord, and their faith will be remembered for generations to come.

1. The Power of Faithful Descendants

2. The Legacy of Faith

1. Isaiah 59:21 - As for me, this is my covenant with them, says the Lord: My Spirit that is upon you, and my words that I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of your mouth, or out of the mouth of your offspring, or out of the mouth of your children s offspring, says the Lord, from this time forth and forevermore.

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.

Psalms 22:31 They shall come, and shall declare his righteousness unto a people that shall be born, that he hath done this.

A promise of hope for the future generations, as they will hear of God's righteous acts and be inspired.

1: God has done great things for us, and it is our duty to share His love and righteousness with the generations to come.

2: Let us be a light for the future generations, and share the righteous acts of God that we have witnessed.

1: Romans 10:14-15 - "How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent?"

2: Psalm 145:4 - "One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts."

Psalm 23 is one of the most well-known and beloved psalms, often referred to as the "Shepherd's Psalm." It is a comforting and reassuring psalm that depicts God's loving care and provision for His people.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by declaring that the Lord is his shepherd, symbolizing a close and intimate relationship. He acknowledges that because of God's care, he lacks nothing (Psalm 23:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist describes how God leads him beside still waters and restores his soul. Even in times of darkness or danger, he finds comfort in God's presence. He trusts in God's guidance and protection (Psalm 23:4-6).

In summary,

Psalm twenty-three presents

a depiction of God as a caring shepherd,

and an expression of trust and contentment,

highlighting His provision, guidance, and comfort.

Emphasizing relationship achieved through recognizing God as a personal shepherd,

and emphasizing trust achieved through finding solace in His presence.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine care while expressing contentment with His provision.

Psalms 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Psalm 23 expresses the assurance of God's provision and care for His people.

1. God Provides All That We Need

2. Trusting in the Lord's Care

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. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 23:2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

God leads us to peaceful and restful places, to bring us comfort.

1. God's Faithful Provision for Our Needs

2. Finding Peace and Rest in God's Care

1. Matthew 11:28-30; Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

2. 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.

Psalms 23:3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

The Lord guides us in the paths of righteousness and He restores our souls.

1. Following the Lord's Path: The Path of Righteousness

2. God's Restoring Love: A Source of Comfort and Strength

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; he gently leads those that have young.

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.

Psalms 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.

Even in the darkest of times, God is with us, providing comfort and protection.

1. God's Comfort and Protection in Difficult Times

2. Finding Strength in God During Times of Fear and Uncertainty

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 13:5-6 - 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.

Psalms 23:5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

This passage speaks of God's provision and protection for His people, even in the midst of adversity.

1. The Lord is my Provider - Psalms 23:5

2. God's Protection in the Midst of Adversity - Psalms 23:5

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. Psalms 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.

Psalms 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 for ever.

The Psalmist declares that goodness and mercy will accompany him all the days of his life and that he will forever dwell in the house of the Lord.

1. Living a Life of Blessing: How to Receive God's Goodness and Mercy

2. The Joy of Dwelling in the House of 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. Psalm 91:1 - He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

Psalm 24 is a psalm that celebrates the kingship and glory of God. It emphasizes the holiness and righteousness required to approach His presence and calls for the gates to be lifted for the King of glory to enter.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist proclaims that the earth and everything in it belongs to the Lord, as He is the Creator and sustainer of all. He describes those who may ascend God's holy hill, emphasizing purity of heart and righteous deeds (Psalm 24:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist calls for the gates to be opened, welcoming the King of glory into His sanctuary. He repeats this call, emphasizing that God is strong and mighty in battle. The people respond by acknowledging Him as the King of glory (Psalm 24:7-10).

In summary,

Psalm twenty-four presents

a declaration of God's kingship,

and a call for His glorious entrance,

highlighting His sovereignty, holiness, and righteousness.

Emphasizing ownership achieved through recognizing God as Creator and sustainer,

and emphasizing reverence achieved through acknowledging His purity requirements.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine power while expressing readiness to welcome Him into His sanctuary.

Psalms 24:1 The earth is the LORD's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

The Earth and its inhabitants belong to the Lord.

1. "The LORD's Ownership of the Earth and its Inhabitants"

2. "Why We Owe Our Lord Our Lives"

1. 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.

2. Psalm 66:7-8 - He ruleth by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah. O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard.

Psalms 24:2 For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

God has established the earth upon the seas and floods.

1. God's Foundation of the Earth: How God Has Established Our World

2. The Immensity of God's Power: The Power of Creation

1. Psalms 24:2

2. Genesis 1:1-31 (God creates the world)

Psalms 24:3 Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?

This portion of Psalms 24:3 asks who is worthy of ascending to the Lord's hill and standing in His holy place.

1. "The Lord's Hill: What it Takes to Climb"

2. "The Holiness of His Place: A Call to Worship"

1. Isaiah 40:3-5 - "A voice of one calling: In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

2. Psalm 15:1-2 - LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain? The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart.

Psalms 24:4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

This verse speaks of the importance of having a clean heart and pure hands in order to be accepted by God.

1. "Living a Pure Life: Achieving Holiness Through Cleansing of Heart and Hands"

2. "The Power of Purity: How a Clean Heart and Pure Hands Can Lead to a Closer Relationship with God"

1. Matthew 5:8 - "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

2. 1 John 3:3 - "And everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as He is pure."

Psalms 24:5 He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

The Lord will give blessings and righteousness to those who seek salvation from Him.

1. Gaining Righteousness Through Salvation

2. The Blessing of Seeking Salvation

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 it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.

2. Ephesians 2:8-9 - God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

Psalms 24:6 This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah.

This passage speaks of the generation of people who seek God and His face.

1: We must seek God to find Him and receive His blessing.

2: We should be earnestly seeking God's face in prayer and devotion.

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: Jeremiah 29:13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Psalms 24:7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

This passage encourages believers to open their hearts to the coming of the King of Glory.

1. "Open Your Hearts to the King of Glory"

2. "Lifting the Gates to the King of Glory"

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. Matthew 23:37 - "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!"

Psalms 24:8 Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

The psalmist asks who is the King of glory, and answers that it is the Lord, who is strong and mighty in battle.

1. The Power of the Lord: Celebrating the Strength of God in Battle

2. The Majesty of the King: Recognizing the Glory of the Lord

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!

Psalms 24:9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

The psalmist encourages us to open our hearts and minds to the coming of the Lord.

1. The Eternal Doors: Opening Our Hearts to the Lord

2. The King of Glory is Coming: Preparing Our Hearts for His Coming

1. Ephesians 3:14-19 Paul s prayer for the Ephesians to be strengthened with the power of the Holy Spirit to comprehend the love of Christ

2. Hebrews 4:12-13 The Word of God is living and active, and 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.

Psalms 24:10 Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah.

The LORD of hosts is the King of glory.

1: All praise and glory to our Lord and King.

2: Let us worship our majestic King, the LORD of Hosts.

1: Philippians 2:11 - Every knee should bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

2: Isaiah 6:3 - And one called out to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!

Psalm 25 is a heartfelt prayer for guidance, forgiveness, and deliverance. It expresses the psalmist's trust in God's character and seeks His wisdom and protection.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by lifting his soul to God, expressing his trust and dependence on Him. He asks God to show him His ways and teach him His paths. The psalmist acknowledges his sins and pleads for God's mercy (Psalm 25:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist seeks God's guidance and protection, asking Him to lead him in righteousness. He expresses his desire for intimacy with God and asks for deliverance from enemies who afflict him. The psalmist concludes by affirming his hope in the Lord (Psalm 25:8-22).

In summary,

Psalm twenty-five presents

a prayer of trust,

and a plea for guidance, forgiveness, and deliverance,

highlighting reliance on God's wisdom, mercy, and protection.

Emphasizing dependency achieved through expressing trust in God's character,

and emphasizing supplication achieved through seeking divine guidance.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the need for forgiveness while expressing hope in the Lord's faithfulness.

Psalms 25:1 Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul.

The psalmist expresses their hope and trust in the Lord, lifting up their soul to Him.

1. "Casting Our Cares Upon the Lord"

2. "A Soul Lifted Up to 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. 1 Peter 5:7 - "Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you."

Psalms 25:2 O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.

God is a source of strength and security, and He should be trusted even when faced with enemies.

1. God is Our Rock in Times of Trouble

2. Trusting God Even 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. 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."

Psalms 25:3 Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.

No one who puts their trust in the Lord should feel ashamed; only those who do wrong without just cause should feel ashamed.

1: We can put our trust in the Lord, and never be ashamed.

2: We should not do wrong, or else we will be ashamed.

1: Isaiah 54:4 - Fear not, for you will not be ashamed; be not confounded, for you will not be disgraced; for you will forget the shame of your youth, and the reproach of your widowhood you will remember no more.

2: Romans 10:11 - For the Scripture says, Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.

Psalms 25:4 Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.

This psalm is a prayer to the Lord asking for guidance.

1. "The Prayer for Guidance"

2. "Trusting in God's Direction"

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."

Psalms 25:5 Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.

God is the source of our salvation and He will guide us in truth and teach us.

1. Waiting on God in Patience and Faith

2. Seeking Direction from God in Times of Uncertainty

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.

Psalms 25:6 Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old.

God's unfailing kindness and mercy towards His people are everlasting.

1: God's mercy and kindness are ever-present and everlasting

2: God's love is unfailing and eternal

1: Lamentations 3:22-23 - Through the Lord s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

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.

Psalms 25:7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD.

God asks us to remember his mercy and goodness and to forgive our transgressions.

1. The Lord's Mercy Endures Forever

2. Forgive and Let Go of Our Sins

1. Micah 7:18-19 - Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.

2. Isaiah 43:25 - I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

Psalms 25:8 Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.

The Lord is good and righteous, and He will teach sinners the path of righteousness.

1. God's Loving Grace: Teaching Sinners the Way of Righteousness

2. The Lord's Mercy: Following the Path of Righteousness

1. Isaiah 40:11 - He will feed 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. Jeremiah 31:3 - The Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

Psalms 25:9 The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.

The Lord guides and teaches those who are humble.

1: The Path of Humility - How humbling ourselves before the Lord can lead us to a life of guidance and knowledge.

2: God's Unfailing Love - How God's love and grace are extended to those who are meek and humble.

1: Matthew 11:29 - Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart.

2: James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Psalms 25:10 All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Psalm 25:10 emphasizes the importance of following God's covenant and testimonies to receive His mercy and truth.

1. The Mercy and Truth of God: Exploring the Lord's Paths

2. The Covenant and Testimonies of God: Fulfilling the Lord's Will

1. Psalm 25:10

2. 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.

Psalms 25:11 For thy name's sake, O LORD, pardon mine iniquity; for it is great.

The psalmist acknowledges the greatness of their sins and asks the Lord to forgive them in his name.

1: We must be humble and acknowledge our sins and ask the Lord for forgiveness in his name.

2: The Lord is always willing to forgive us no matter how great our sins are.

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: Ephesians 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

Psalms 25:12 What man is he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.

Those who fear the Lord will be taught by Him in the way He chooses.

1. The Lord's Path: Learning to Fear the Lord

2. A Fearful Heart: Choosing the Way of the Lord

1. Proverbs 16:17-19 - The highway of the upright avoids evil; whoever guards his way preserves his life. 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.

2. Jeremiah 10:23-24 - I know, O LORD, that a man's way is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his steps. O LORD, correct me, but with justice; not in your anger, lest you bring me to nothing.

Psalms 25:13 His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth.

Psalms 25 reminds us that those who trust in the Lord will have their souls at rest and their descendants will be blessed with the earth.

1. The Blessing of Trusting in the Lord

2. The Reward of Faith in the Lord

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 the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal."

2. Psalms 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."

Psalms 25:14 The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.

The Lord reveals his covenant to those who revere him.

1: When we revere the Lord, He shows us His promises and plans.

2: Reverence for the Lord is essential for understanding His covenant.

1: Proverbs 9:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

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!

Psalms 25:15 Mine eyes are ever toward the LORD; for he shall pluck my feet out of the net.

The psalmist expresses their faith in God and trust in Him to save them from their troubles.

1. God Is Able To Rescue Us From Our Struggles

2. Trusting God In The Midst of Difficult Times

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 37:39 - But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

Psalms 25:16 Turn thee unto me, and have mercy upon me; for I am desolate and afflicted.

Psalm 25 invites God to turn to the psalmist and have mercy on them due to their desolation and affliction.

1. God's Unconditional Love for Those in Need

2. The Power of Prayer in Times of Need

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. Matthew 5:7 Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Psalms 25:17 The troubles of my heart are enlarged: O bring thou me out of my distresses.

The psalmist pleads to God for help in relieving his troubles.

1. God Is Always Ready To Help Us In Times Of Trouble

2. Turning To God In Times Of Trouble

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. 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.

Psalms 25:18 Look upon mine affliction and my pain; and forgive all my sins.

A plea for God to forgive the speaker's sins in light of their afflictions and pain.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: A Reflection on Psalms 25:18

2. God's Mercy: A Study of Psalms 25:18

1. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

2. Psalm 32:1-2 - Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Psalms 25:19 Consider mine enemies; for they are many; and they hate me with cruel hatred.

The psalmist expresses feelings of being hated by many enemies with a cruel hatred.

1. When Enemies Arise - How to Stand Firm in Faith

2. Overcoming Hatred Through Love and Compassion

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. 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. 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.

Psalms 25:20 O keep my soul, and deliver me: let me not be ashamed; for I put my trust in thee.

God is a source of strength and refuge for those who trust in Him.

1. God is Our Refuge and Strength

2. Putting Our Trust in God

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. 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.

Psalms 25:21 Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee.

This passage speaks about the importance of integrity and uprightness, trusting in God to provide protection and guidance.

1. "Integrity and Uprightness: A Path to Divine Protection"

2. "Trusting in the Lord: A Source of Strength"

1. Proverbs 11:3 - "The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them."

2. 1 Peter 5:7 - "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

Psalms 25:22 Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

Psalms 25:22 calls on God to save Israel from its troubles.

1: Proclaiming God's Redemptive Power

2: Trusting in the Lord's Redemption

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."

Psalm 26 is a psalm of integrity and plea for vindication. The psalmist declares his innocence and righteousness before God, expressing his desire to worship Him with sincerity.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist proclaims his integrity and invites God to examine his heart and actions. He affirms his loyalty to God and expresses his desire to walk in His truth. The psalmist distances himself from the wicked and declares his intention to praise God (Psalm 26:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist pleads for deliverance from the company of evildoers. He reiterates his commitment to walk in righteousness, asking God to redeem him and be gracious to him. The psalm concludes with a vow of thanksgiving (Psalm 26:9-12).

In summary,

Psalm twenty-six presents

a declaration of integrity,

and a plea for vindication,

highlighting devotion to God's truth, separation from wickedness, and reliance on His grace.

Emphasizing righteousness achieved through affirming loyalty and seeking examination by God,

and emphasizing supplication achieved through pleading for deliverance.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the need for redemption while expressing gratitude through vows of thanksgiving.

Psalms 26:1 Judge me, O LORD; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the LORD; therefore I shall not slide.

The Psalmist declares their trust in the Lord and requests to be judged by Him.

1. Integrity: The Path to God's Heart

2. Trusting in the Lord: Our Steadfast Security

1. Proverbs 28:20 - A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

2. Psalm 25:4 - Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.

Psalms 26:2 Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart.

The psalmist is asking God to examine and prove him, testing his innermost thoughts and motivations.

1: God wants us to be honest and open to His examination.

2: We must be willing to submit to God's testing if we are to grow in our 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: 1 Peter 1:6-7 - In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Psalms 26:3 For thy lovingkindness is before mine eyes: and I have walked in thy truth.

The Psalmist expresses his faith in God, noting that God's lovingkindness is before his eyes and that he has walked in God's truth.

1. "The Power of Faith in God"

2. "Living in God's Truth"

1. Isaiah 26:3 - "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in 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."

Psalms 26:4 I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers.

The Psalmist declares that they have not associated themselves with those who engage in empty pursuits or those who lie.

1. The importance of discerning between good and bad company.

2. The power of truth and integrity in our lives.

1. Proverbs 13:20 - Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.

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.

Psalms 26:5 I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked.

The psalmist expresses a dislike for gatherings of those who are doing wrong and makes a commitment to not associate with the wicked.

1. "Choosing Righteousness: Stepping Away from Wickedness"

2. "The Value of Righteousness: Separating Yourself from Sin"

1. Proverbs 13:20 "Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm."

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."

Psalms 26:6 I will wash mine hands in innocency: so will I compass thine altar, O LORD:

The passage speaks of washing one's hands in innocence and making a commitment to the Lord and His altar.

1. The Power of a Clean Conscience: How to Live with Innocence Before the Lord

2. Worshiping the Lord with a Pure Heart: The Benefits of Upholding Holiness

1. Romans 14:22 - Hast thou faith? have it to thyself before God. Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth.

2. 1 Timothy 1:5 - Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned.

Psalms 26:7 That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works.

The psalmist is giving thanks to God for all His wondrous works.

1. Giving Thanks to God in All Circumstances

2. Unceasing Praise and Thanksgiving to Our Creator

1. Colossians 3:15-17 - 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. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 - Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Psalms 26:8 LORD, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth.

The Psalmist expresses his love for God's house and where God's honor is.

1. The Love of God's House: What Does it Mean to Love the Place of God?

2. Experiencing God's Honor: How Do We Encounter God's Presence?

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. 1 Corinthians 3:16 - Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

Psalms 26:9 Gather not my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloody men:

This psalm speaks of the importance of following the right path and living a life that pleases God.

1. The Importance of Choosing the Right Path

2. Separating Ourselves from Sinners and Bloodshed

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 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.

Psalms 26:10 In whose hands is mischief, and their right hand is full of bribes.

The Psalmist speaks of those who do wrong and use bribery to carry out their wickedness.

1. The Dangers of Wickedness and Bribery

2. The Need for Righteousness and Integrity

1. Proverbs 17:23 - A wicked man takes a bribe out of the bosom to pervert the ways of justice.

2. Micah 3:11 - Its heads give judgment for a bribe; its priests teach for a price; its prophets divine for money.

Psalms 26:11 But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity: redeem me, and be merciful unto me.

The psalmist declares his commitment to living in integrity and asks to be redeemed and shown mercy.

1. The Power of Integrity: How to Cultivate a Life of Righteousness

2. A Plea for Redemption: Finding Strength in Your Weakness

1. Proverbs 10:9 - "Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out."

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."

Psalms 26:12 My foot standeth in an even place: in the congregations will I bless the LORD.

The Psalmist declares his faithfulness to God, and expresses his desire to bless the Lord in the presence of the congregation.

1. "Standing Firm in Faith: How to Remain Steadfast in the Midst of Distractions"

2. "The Blessing of Congregational Worship: Celebrating the Presence of God Together"

1. Hebrews 10:25 - "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

2. Colossians 3:16-17 - "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 whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

Psalm 27 is a psalm of trust and confidence in God's protection and guidance. It expresses the psalmist's unwavering faith in the midst of trials and his longing to dwell in God's presence.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares that the Lord is his light, salvation, and stronghold, dispelling fear. He expresses his desire to dwell in God's house and seek His face. The psalmist affirms his trust in God's deliverance (Psalm 27:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist calls out to God for help, seeking His presence and guidance. He pleads for mercy and assurance of God's faithfulness. The psalm concludes with an exhortation to wait on the Lord (Psalm 27:7-14).

In summary,

Psalm twenty-seven presents

a declaration of trust,

and a plea for divine presence,

highlighting reliance on God's protection, longing for His dwelling, and patience in waiting.

Emphasizing faith achieved through acknowledging God as light, salvation, and stronghold,

and emphasizing supplication achieved through seeking His presence.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the need for mercy while expressing hope through patient waiting on the Lord.

Psalms 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?

The Lord is our protector and source of strength, we should not be afraid.

1: God's strength is all we need to overcome fear

2: Put your trust in the Lord and fear not

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 God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

Psalms 27:2 When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

Enemies of the writer of Psalms 27:2 attack him, but they stumble and fall.

1: We can trust in the Lord to defend us from our enemies.

2: God will ensure justice is served and will protect us from harm.

1: Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe.

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

Psalms 27:3 Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

The Lord will protect us from fear and danger even in the midst of war.

1. Fear Not: How to Find Confidence in God in Any Situation

2. The Strength of the Lord: Relying on God in Times of Trouble

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."

Psalms 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.

The psalmist expresses his desire to seek after the Lord and to be able to enjoy the beauty of the Lord in his temple all the days of his life.

1. Seeking the Lord: Pursuing a Life of Intimacy with God

2. Enjoying the Beauty of the Lord: A Life of Worship

1. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near.

2. John 4:24 - God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

Psalms 27:5 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.

God will hide us in times of trouble and set us securely on a rock.

1. Don't Worry About Troubles, God Has You Covered

2. When Times Are Tough, Lean On 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 91:2 - "I will say to the Lord, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

Psalms 27:6 And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.

The Psalmist expresses their faith in the Lord by offering sacrifices of joy and singing praises in His tabernacle.

1. The Power of Joyful Praise: How Singing to the Lord Can Lift Us Up Above Our Enemies

2. Offering Sacrifices of Joy: Celebrating the Lord's Blessings with Our Praise

1. Isaiah 12:2-3, "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation."

2. Philippians 4:4, "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice."

Psalms 27:7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

The psalmist is crying out to the Lord and asking for mercy and an answer.

1. "God Hears Our Cries and Saves Us"

2. "A Cry for Mercy and Answers"

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 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.

Psalms 27:8 When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.

The psalmist expresses his devotion to the Lord and his desire to seek the Lord's face.

1. The Lord's Invitation: Seeking His Face

2. The Heart of Devotion: Surrendering to the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 4:29 - But from there you will seek the Lord your God and you will find Him if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Psalms 27:9 Hide not thy face far from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

God is being asked not to abandon the speaker, as they had been a source of help and salvation.

Best

1. An Exhortation To Cling To God In Times Of Trouble

2. The Assurance Of God's Unfailing Love

Best

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.

Psalms 27:10 When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.

When faced with abandonment, the LORD will be there to support the individual.

1. God Is Our Refuge in Times of Trouble

2. God Is Faithful In Every Season

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.

Psalms 27:11 Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.

Psalms 27:11 calls on God to teach and lead the faithful in a straight path despite the presence of enemies.

1. The Strength of Faith: How to Persevere in the Face of Adversity

2. The Path of Righteousness: How to Walk in God's Ways

1. Matthew 5:10-12 - Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

2. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

Psalms 27:12 Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.

Deliver me from my enemies and those who have falsely accused me.

1. The Power of Prayer: Relying on God for Protection

2. Unjust Suffering: Learning to Trust God Despite False Accusations

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 54:17 "No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me," declares the Lord.

Psalms 27:13 I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

The Lord's goodness can be experienced in life.

1: Trusting in the Lord brings great strength even when times are difficult.

2: We can rely on the Lord to provide comfort and peace when we are in 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: 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."

Psalms 27:14 Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

We should patiently wait on the Lord, trusting in His strength and courage.

1. Trusting in God's Strength in Difficult Times

2. Patience is a Virtue: Waiting 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 8:25 - But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Psalm 28 is a psalm of supplication and praise. The psalmist cries out to God for help and deliverance from his enemies, expressing trust in God's strength and faithfulness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist pleads with God to hear his voice and not be silent. He asks for divine assistance against the wicked and prays for their judgment. The psalmist affirms his trust in God as his strength and shield (Psalm 28:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist praises God for hearing his cry, acknowledging His saving power. He expresses gratitude and calls on others to join him in praising the Lord. The psalm concludes with a plea for continued guidance and protection (Psalm 28:6-9).

In summary,

Psalm twenty-eight presents

a plea for divine intervention,

and an expression of praise,

highlighting reliance on God's strength, faithfulness, and deliverance.

Emphasizing supplication achieved through crying out to God against adversaries,

and emphasizing gratitude achieved through recognizing His saving power.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the need for guidance while expressing a desire for ongoing protection through praising the Lord.

Psalms 28:1 Unto thee will I cry, O LORD my rock; be not silent to me: lest, if thou be silent to me, I become like them that go down into the pit.

The psalmist calls out to God, pleading for Him not to remain silent, for fear of becoming like those who have died.

1. Living with Fear: Trusting in the Lord in Times of Uncertainty

2. The Comfort of Knowing God Hears Our Prayers

1. 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.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 28:2 Hear the voice of my supplications, when I cry unto thee, when I lift up my hands toward thy holy oracle.

The psalmist calls out to God, asking to be heard and for God to respond to his supplications when he lifts up his hands to God's holy oracle.

1. The Power of Prayer: How to Lift Your Voice and Hands to God

2. Why We Need to Call Out to God: Understanding the Importance of Supplications

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. Ephesians 6:18 - "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord s people."

Psalms 28:3 Draw me not away with the wicked, and with the workers of iniquity, which speak peace to their neighbours, but mischief is in their hearts.

This passage speaks of the danger of being drawn away by those who appear to be righteous but have ulterior motives.

1. The Subtlety of Sin: Recognizing the Danger of False Friendships

2. Be Careful What You Embrace: The Dangers of Being Drawn Away by the Wicked

1. Romans 12:9: Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

2. Proverbs 12:26: One who is righteous is a guide to his neighbor, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.

Psalms 28:4 Give them according to their deeds, and according to the wickedness of their endeavours: give them after the work of their hands; render to them their desert.

God will reward us according to our deeds.

1: We must strive to do good works and trust that God will reward us for our efforts.

2: God is just and will render to us what we deserve for our actions.

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 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?

Psalms 28:5 Because they regard not the works of the LORD, nor the operation of his hands, he shall destroy them, and not build them up.

God will punish those who do not recognize His works and the fruits of His labor.

1. The Consequences of Ignorance: Heeding the Warning of Psalms 28:5

2. The Value of Faith: Reaping the Benefits of Recognizing God's Power

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

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."

Psalms 28:6 Blessed be the LORD, because he hath heard the voice of my supplications.

The Psalmist praises God for hearing their prayers.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Answers Our Prayers

2. Learning to Trust in God's Timing

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. Psalm 91:15 - "When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him."

Psalms 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.

The Psalmist expresses their faith in the Lord as their strength and shield, and are thankful for His help and guidance.

1. "The Lord is My Strength: Trusting in God Amidst Life's Challenges"

2. "The Shield of the Lord: Drawing Strength from God in Times of Need"

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 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.

Psalms 28:8 The LORD is their strength, and he is the saving strength of his anointed.

God is the source of strength and salvation for His anointed people.

1. The Strength of the Lord: Relying on God in Times of Trouble

2. The Salvation of the Anointed: Experiencing God s Provision in Every Situation

1. Psalm 62:7-8: On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God. Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for 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.

Psalms 28:9 Save thy people, and bless thine inheritance: feed them also, and lift them up for ever.

God commands us to save His people and bless His inheritance. We must feed and lift up His people forever.

1. "Feeding and Lifting up God's People"

2. "The Blessing of God's Inheritance"

1. John 21:15-17 - Jesus instructs Peter to feed and take care of his people.

2. Titus 2:11-14 - Paul encourages believers to live in such a way that they may be a blessing to God's inheritance.

Psalm 29 is a psalm of praise and awe for the power and glory of God. It depicts the majestic voice of God in the thunderstorm, emphasizing His sovereignty over creation.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls on heavenly beings to ascribe glory and strength to God. He describes the voice of the Lord as powerful, shaking the wilderness and causing trees to twist and forests to tremble. The psalmist acknowledges God's reign over the floodwaters (Psalm 29:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist continues to describe the voice of the Lord, which flashes forth flames of fire and shakes mountains. He portrays God's voice as causing deer to give birth, stripping forests bare, and revealing His temple in all its splendor. The psalm concludes with a call for worship (Psalm 29:5-11).

In summary,

Psalm twenty-nine presents

a hymn of praise,

and an exaltation of God's power,

highlighting His sovereignty over creation through His majestic voice.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through calling on heavenly beings to honor Him,

and emphasizing awe achieved through describing His powerful voice that impacts nature.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing His reign over natural elements while expressing a call for worship in response to His grandeur.

Psalms 29:1 Give unto the LORD, O ye mighty, give unto the LORD glory and strength.

This passage encourages the mighty to give glory and strength to the Lord.

1. The Power of God in Us: How to Live a Life of Strength and Honor

2. The Strength of the Lord: How to Tap Into God's Strength and Glory

1. Ephesians 3:14-21 - Paul's prayer for the Church to have strength to comprehend the love of Christ.

2. Romans 8:31-39 - Paul's assurance that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Psalms 29:2 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

We should give glory to the Lord and worship Him in holiness.

1. Worship God in His Holiness

2. Rejoicing in the Glory of the Lord

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. Philippians 2:10-11 (That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.)

Psalms 29:3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD is upon many waters.

The Lord's voice is powerful and awe-inspiring.

1. The Voice of the Lord: Revering the Almighty

2. The Lord of Glory: Appreciating His Majesty

1. Exodus 19:16-19 - Describes the thundering presence of the Lord at Mount Sinai

2. Isaiah 30:30 - Describes the Lord's voice as powerful and full of majesty

Psalms 29:4 The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

The voice of the Lord is powerful and majestic.

1. The Majesty of the Lord's Voice

2. Power in the Voice of the Lord

1. 1 Peter 3:12 - For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer.

2. Revelation 1:15 - His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters.

Psalms 29:5 The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon.

The Lord's voice is powerful and can break even the cedars of Lebanon.

1. The Strength of the Lord's Voice

2. The Power of the Lord's Might

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. Jeremiah 51:15 - He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.

Psalms 29:6 He maketh them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn.

God causes people to rejoice like a calf while making Lebanon and Sirion rejoice like a young unicorn.

1. Joy in the Lord: Experiencing the Joy of the Lord in our Lives

2. The Power of Praise: How Praising God Brings Joy and Strength

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. Psalm 16:11 - "You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand."

Psalms 29:7 The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire.

The voice of the Lord has the power to divide the flames of fire.

1. The Power of the Voice of the Lord

2. The Strength and Authority of the Lord's Voice

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. 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.

Psalms 29:8 The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh.

God's powerful voice is heard in the wilderness, bringing life to even the most desolate of places.

1. The Power of God's Voice - How the Lord can bring transformation to even the most unlikely of places.

2. The Voice of the Lord - How God speaks into our lives and brings about change.

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 10:27-28 - My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

Psalms 29:9 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.

The voice of the LORD brings joy to the wilderness and is praised in His temple.

1. The Voice of the LORD: Declaration of Joy

2. The Power of Praise: Celebrating the Glory of God

1. Isaiah 43:19-20 - "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 animals 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"

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"

Psalms 29:10 The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever.

The Lord is sovereign over all and will reign forever.

1: God's Sovereignty: The Lord is in Control

2: On Kingship: The Lord Reigns Forever

1: 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.

2: Revelation 19:16 - On His robe and on His thigh He has a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Psalms 29:11 The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace.

The Lord shows His strength and blessing to His people by giving them peace.

1. God's Blessing of Peace in our Lives

2. Relying on God's Strength and Protection

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.

Psalm 30 is a psalm of thanksgiving and praise for God's deliverance. The psalmist reflects on a time of distress and sorrow, but rejoices in God's healing and restoration.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist exalts God for lifting him out of the depths and not letting his enemies rejoice over him. He recounts his cry for help and God's intervention, transforming his mourning into dancing. The psalmist expresses gratitude for God's healing (Psalm 30:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges that in his prosperity, he had become complacent, but when God hid His face, he was troubled. He pleads with God for mercy and restoration, vowing to praise Him forever. The psalm concludes with a declaration of trust in God (Psalm 30:6-12).

In summary,

Psalm thirty presents

a song of thanksgiving,

and a reflection on divine deliverance,

highlighting gratitude for God's transformative power, healing, and restoration.

Emphasizing praise achieved through exalting Him as the lifter from despair,

and emphasizing supplication achieved through acknowledging past troubles while seeking ongoing mercy.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the need for humility while expressing trust in His faithfulness through vows of eternal praise.

Psalms 30:1 I will extol thee, O LORD; for thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me.

I give thanks to the Lord for lifting me up and not allowing my enemies to rejoice over me.

1. The Strength of the Lord in Our Lives

2. Celebrating God's Deliverance

1. Psalm 3:3-4 - But thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head. I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill.

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.

Psalms 30:2 O LORD my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.

The psalmist cries out to the LORD and is healed.

1. A Cry of Need: Learning to Lean on God

2. The Healing Power of Prayer

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 5:16 - "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."

Psalms 30:3 O LORD, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.

The Lord has restored us from death and kept us alive.

1. The Power of the Lord's Resurrection

2. The Lord's Preservation of Life

1. Isaiah 26:19 - Your dead shall live; together with my dead body they shall arise. Awake and sing, you who dwell in dust; for your dew is like the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

2. Ezekiel 37:12-14 - Therefore prophesy and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken it and performed it, says the Lord.

Psalms 30:4 Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

This Psalm admonishes the faithful to give thanks for the holiness of the Lord.

1. The Holiness of the Lord: A Call to Thanksgiving

2. Remembering the Lord's Holiness: A Cause for Celebration

1. Isaiah 57:15 - For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

2. Zephaniah 3:17 - The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

Psalms 30:5 For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

We should not remain discouraged when faced with difficulty, as God's love and mercy will eventually bring joy.

1. "God's Love Lasts Forever"

2. "Finding Joy in the Morning"

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 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."

Psalms 30:6 And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved.

The Psalmist expresses their confidence in their prosperity, claiming they will never be moved.

1. The Unshakeable Foundation of Faith

2. Relying on God's Strength in Times of Prosperity

1. Isaiah 26:3-4 - You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.

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.

Psalms 30:7 LORD, by thy favour thou hast made my mountain to stand strong: thou didst hide thy face, and I was troubled.

God's favor and protection have enabled us to stand strong in difficult times.

1. God Is Our Strength In Times of Trouble

2. Finding Strength Through Faith in God

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.

Psalms 30:8 I cried to thee, O LORD; and unto the LORD I made supplication.

The Psalmist cries out to the LORD and pleads for His help and mercy.

1. The Power of Prayer: Learning to Cry Out to God in Times of Need

2. The Strength of Supplication: Appealing to the Lord for Mercy and Grace

1. James 5:13-16 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

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.

Psalms 30:9 What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise thee? shall it declare thy truth?

The Psalmist is questioning God about what benefit his death would do for Him, asking if his death would be praised and his truth declared.

1. Living for the Sake of God: How our lives should bring Him glory.

2. The Value of Life: How God values each life and why we should too.

1. John 15:13 - Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

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.

Psalms 30:10 Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me: LORD, be thou my helper.

The psalmist prays to the Lord for mercy and help.

1. The Power of Praying to the Lord in Need

2. Finding Strength from the Lord in Difficult Times

1. James 5:13-16 - The power of prayer and the importance of confessing our sins and praying for each other.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - God's promise to help those who trust in Him and not be afraid.

Psalms 30:11 Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness;

God can turn our sorrow into joy.

1. How God Can Turn Our Mourning Into Dancing

2. The Joy of Knowing God's Love

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. 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.

Psalms 30:12 To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.

The Psalmist gives thanks to God for allowing them to praise Him without ceasing.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord: Giving Thanks to God for His Unceasing Love

2. A New Song: Finding Joy in Praising the Lord

1. Psalm 117:1-2 - "O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people. For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. Praise ye the Lord."

2. Romans 15:11 - "And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people."

Psalm 31 is a psalm of trust and refuge in God. The psalmist seeks deliverance from enemies and expresses confidence in God's protection and guidance.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist pleads for God's deliverance, acknowledging Him as his rock and fortress. He expresses distress caused by enemies, but affirms his trust in God's faithful love. The psalmist seeks refuge in God's presence (Psalm 31:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist recounts his affliction, loneliness, and reproach from others. He pleads for mercy, expressing his trust that God sees his troubles. The psalmist praises God for His goodness towards those who fear Him (Psalm 31:9-19).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist declares confidence in God's provision and protection. He calls on the righteous to love the Lord and take courage. The psalm concludes with a plea for strength and salvation (Psalm 31:20-24).

In summary,

Psalm thirty-one presents

a prayer of trust,

and an expression of reliance on divine refuge,

highlighting confidence in God's protection, guidance, and provision.

Emphasizing supplication achieved through pleading for deliverance from adversaries,

and emphasizing affirmation achieved through acknowledging His faithful love while seeking shelter in His presence.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the need for mercy while expressing confidence in His care through exhortations to righteousness and pleas for strength and salvation.

Psalms 31:1 In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness.

I place my faith in the Lord and will never be disappointed. He will save me and make me righteous.

1. God will never leave us in our time of need.

2. Rely on the Lord and trust in His righteousness.

1. Isaiah 26:3 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

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.

Psalms 31:2 Bow down thine ear to me; deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock, for an house of defence to save me.

God is a rock of strength and refuge for those who call upon him.

1: God is our Rock of Strength - Psalms 31:2

2: Call upon God in Times of Trouble - Psalms 31:2

1: 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.

2: Psalms 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.

Psalms 31:3 For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.

God is our rock and our fortress.

1: We can rely on God to lead us and guide us if we trust in His name.

2: In times of difficulty, we can turn to God to be our protector and guide.

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. 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.

Psalms 31:4 Pull me out of the net that they have laid privily for me: for thou art my strength.

The psalmist cries out to God to save him from the hidden traps that have been set for him, trusting that God is his strength.

1. The Strength of God in Times of Trouble

2. Relying on God's Protection in Difficult Times

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.

Psalms 31:5 Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.

The psalmist expresses his trust in God by committing his spirit to Him, acknowledging that He has redeemed him.

1. Relying on God's Redemptive Power

2. Safeguarding our Spirits in the Lord's Hands

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. 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.

Psalms 31:6 I have hated them that regard lying vanities: but I trust in the LORD.

The Psalmist expresses his hatred for those who trust in false idols, instead of trusting in the LORD.

1. The Value of True Faith in God

2. Rejecting False Idols

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.

Psalms 31:7 I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou hast considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversities;

God considers our troubles and knows our souls in times of adversity.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord's Mercy - Psalms 31:7

2. Experiencing God's Presence in Times of Adversity - Psalms 31:7

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.

Psalms 31:8 And hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy: thou hast set my feet in a large room.

God provides us with room to grow and take steps in life despite our enemies.

1: God's protection is abundant and will provide us with freedom to explore and learn.

2: God will guide us through our enemies and provide a safe space for us to grow.

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: 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".

Psalms 31:9 Have mercy upon me, O LORD, for I am in trouble: mine eye is consumed with grief, yea, my soul and my belly.

The Psalmist is in trouble and he pleads to the Lord for mercy.

1. God's Mercy in Times of Trouble

2. The Cry of the Troubled Soul

1. Lamentations 3:22-26

2. Psalm 13:1-2

Psalms 31:10 For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength faileth because of mine iniquity, and my bones are consumed.

The psalmist is lamenting his life of grief and sorrow due to his own iniquity.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Study of Psalms 31:10

2. A Lament for Sin: Reflections on Psalms 31:10

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

Psalms 31:11 I was a reproach among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbours, and a fear to mine acquaintance: they that did see me without fled from me.

The psalmist felt like an outcast among his enemies, neighbors, and acquaintances, who all feared him and ran away when they saw him.

1. The Power of Outcasting: How to Overcome Being an Outcast in Your Community

2. The Blessing of Loneliness: How to Find Strength In The Wilderness

1. Isaiah 54:4-7 - Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed: neither be thou confounded; for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more.

5. 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.

Psalms 31:12 I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind: I am like a broken vessel.

The psalmist is feeling forgotten and broken.

1: God's love is not dependent on our strength or worthiness, and He will never forget us no matter how we feel.

2: We can rely on God to show us mercy and grace, even when we feel broken and forgotten.

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."

Psalms 31:13 For I have heard the slander of many: fear was on every side: while they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life.

People are slanderously conspiring against the speaker, seeking to take away their life.

1. The Power of Our Words: How Slander Can Lead to Destruction

2. The Strength of the Lord in Perilous Times

1. Romans 12:14-15 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

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.

Psalms 31:14 But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my God.

The Psalmist expresses his trust in the Lord, declaring Him to be his God.

1. God is Faithful - How His trustworthiness can strengthen our faith

2. A Song of Trust - A study of Psalm 31 and how we can learn to trust the Lord

1. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him.

2. 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.

Psalms 31:15 My times are in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.

The psalmist prays to God to deliver him from his enemies and persecutors.

1. The Power of Trusting God in Difficult Times - Psalm 31:15

2. Relying on God's Protection in Times of Need - Psalm 31:15

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 18:10 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

Psalms 31:16 Make thy face to shine upon thy servant: save me for thy mercies' sake.

David prays that God's face will shine upon him and save him out of his mercy.

1. The Mercy of God: Relying on His Unconditional Love

2. Shining Faces: How Our Countenance Reflects Our Relationship with God

1. Psalm 145:8-9 - The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

2. Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Psalms 31:17 Let me not be ashamed, O LORD; for I have called upon thee: let the wicked be ashamed, and let them be silent in the grave.

The Psalmist implores God to not let him be ashamed, and to instead let the wicked be ashamed and silenced in their graves.

1. The Power of Prayer: God hears and answers our prayers, even when we feel ashamed.

2. Overcoming Shame Through Faith: Our faith in God is the key to overcoming shame and living an honorable life.

1. Psalm 119:116 - Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope.

2. Romans 10:11 - For the Scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Psalms 31:18 Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.

The passage speaks against those who speak proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.

1. A on speaking with humility and kindness towards others.

2. A on the importance of being a righteous person.

1. 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.

2. Proverbs 11:12 - He that is void of wisdom despiseth his neighbour: but a man of understanding holdeth his peace.

Psalms 31:19 Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!

God's goodness is abundant and available to all who trust and fear Him.

1: Living a Godly Life - We can experience the goodness of God by living a life that is pleasing to Him.

2: The Benefits of Trust - By trusting in God, we can receive the abundant goodness He has made available to us.

1: Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

2: 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.

Psalms 31:20 Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues.

The Lord will protect us from the pride of man and the strife of tongues.

1. The Lord Is Our Protector

2. Overcoming Pride and Strife

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

2. James 3:16 - For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

Psalms 31:21 Blessed be the LORD: for he hath shewed me his marvellous kindness in a strong city.

God's faithfulness and kindness can be found even in times of distress.

1: The Lord is our Strength in Times of Trouble

2: God's Marvellous Kindness in Difficult Times

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.

Psalms 31:22 For I said in my haste, I am cut off from before thine eyes: nevertheless thou heardest the voice of my supplications when I cried unto thee.

God hears our prayers in times of distress, even when we feel cut off from His presence.

1. Trust in the Lord: Praying in Times of Distress

2. Knowing God Hears Our Prayers

1. Isaiah 59:1-2 - Behold, the LORD s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 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 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.

Psalms 31:23 O love the LORD, all ye his saints: for the LORD preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.

The faithful are beloved by God and He will preserve them and reward those who do their best.

1. God's love for the faithful and His reward for those who do their best.

2. The importance of faithfulness to God and the blessings that come from it.

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 11:25 - The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Psalms 31:24 Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD.

The psalmist encourages those who have hope in the LORD to be of good courage, and the LORD will strengthen their heart.

1. Hoping in the LORD: Understanding and Experiencing the Strength of God

2. Courage in the Face of Uncertainty: Finding Strength 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. 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.

Psalm 32 is a psalm of confession, forgiveness, and the blessings of God's mercy. It emphasizes the joy and freedom that come from acknowledging and repenting of one's sins.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares the blessedness of those whose transgressions are forgiven and whose sins are covered. He acknowledges the heaviness he experienced when he kept silent about his sin but found relief in confessing to God. The psalmist encourages others to seek God while He may be found (Psalm 32:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on his personal experience, recounting how God instructed him and guided him with His eye upon him. He advises against stubbornness and encourages others to trust in God's unfailing love. The psalm concludes with a call for rejoicing in the Lord (Psalm 32:8-11).

In summary,

Psalm thirty-two presents

a reflection on confession,

and an exaltation of divine forgiveness,

highlighting the blessings that come from acknowledging and repenting of one's sins.

Emphasizing gratitude achieved through recognizing the blessedness of forgiveness,

and emphasizing instruction achieved through reflecting on personal experiences while encouraging trust in God.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the need for confession while expressing joyous exhortations to rejoice in His mercy.

Psalms 32:1 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Those who have their sins forgiven and covered by God are blessed.

1. The Blessing of Forgiveness - Exploring the joy of being forgiven by God.

2. The Power of Grace - Understanding God's mercy in granting us His grace.

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. 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."

Psalms 32:2 Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

The Lord does not consider sinners guilty and those with pure hearts are blessed.

1. Blessed is the Man: The Freedom of God's Forgiveness

2. A Pure Heart: The Foundation of True Blessing

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.

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.

Psalms 32:3 When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.

When a person is silent and does not confess their wrongdoings, they can suffer the consequences of a heavy burden.

1. Confessing our sins to God is the key to unlocking peace and joy.

2. Silence and secrecy can be a sign of pride and can prevent us from experiencing God's grace.

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."

Psalms 32:4 For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.

The Psalmist is expressing how his suffering is relentless and long-lasting.

1: God is with us through our suffering, no matter how difficult or long it may be.

2: We can find hope in the midst of our suffering by trusting in the Lord.

1: Isaiah 43:2b - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee.

2: 2 Corinthians 4:17 - For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

Psalms 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. Selah.

The psalmist confesses their sins to the Lord and acknowledges that God has forgiven them.

1. The Power of Acknowledging Sin and Accepting Forgiveness

2. The Promise of God's Unconditional Forgiveness

1. Luke 15:18-19 - The Parable of the Prodigal Son

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.

Psalms 32:6 For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.

The Psalmist encourages those who revere God to pray to Him during times of distress, as He will protect them from harm.

1. God is our Protector and Refuge in Times of Trouble

2. Seeking God in Times of Need

1. Psalms 32:6-7 "For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him. Thou art a hiding place for me; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance."

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."

Psalms 32:7 Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.

The Lord is a refuge and protection for those who trust in Him.

1: The Lord is Our Protection and Refuge

2: Finding Strength and Comfort in God's Promises

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 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 32:8 I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

God will provide guidance and direction to those who seek it.

1. The Path Ahead: Relying on God for Guidance

2. The Shepherd's Eye: The Blessing of Divine 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 acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

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.

Psalms 32:9 Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.

This passage from Psalms encourages us to not be like horses or mules, which need to be controlled and restrained, and instead to come closer to God.

1. "The Power of Restraint: How to Keep Yourself from Becoming Like a Horse or a Mule"

2. "God's Call to Us: Drawing Closer to Him Through Understanding"

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. 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.

Psalms 32:10 Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about.

The wicked will experience many sorrows, but those who trust in the Lord will be surrounded by mercy.

1. The Lord's Mercy Endures Forever

2. The Blessings of Trusting in the Lord

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 36:5 - Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

Psalms 32:11 Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, for the righteous are blessed.

1: Rejoice in the Lord for He has blessed us with His righteousness.

2: Let us shout for joy, for the Lord has pardoned our sins.

1: Romans 5:18 - Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.

2: Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exalt in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness.

Psalm 33 is a psalm of praise and trust in God's sovereignty and faithfulness. It exalts God as the creator of the universe and emphasizes His power, righteousness, and loving-kindness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon the righteous to praise God with instruments and voices. He acknowledges God's word as upright and His works as faithful. The psalmist highlights God's role as the creator of the earth, who gathers the waters of the sea and forms all hearts (Psalm 33:1-15).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist declares that no king is saved by his army but by God's deliverance. He emphasizes that those who fear God are blessed, for He watches over them. The psalm concludes with a plea for hope in God's unfailing love (Psalm 33:16-22).

In summary,

Psalm thirty-three presents

a hymn of praise,

and an affirmation of trust in divine sovereignty,

highlighting God's power, righteousness, and loving-kindness.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through calling upon the righteous to praise Him,

and emphasizing assurance achieved through recognizing His role as creator while highlighting His care for those who fear Him.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine deliverance while expressing hope in His unfailing love.

Psalms 33:1 Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright.

Praise is fitting for those who are righteous and upstanding.

1. The Benefits of Righteousness

2. The Power of Praise

1. Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

2. James 5:13 - Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

Psalms 33:2 Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings.

Sing praises to the Lord with music and song.

1. Worship the Lord with Joyful Noise

2. Celebrating the Lord with Music and Song

1. Ephesians 5:19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

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.

Psalms 33:3 Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise.

Psalms 33:3 encourages people to sing a new song to God and to play it skillfully and loudly.

1. The Joy of Serving God - Worshiping God with enthusiasm and joy.

2. Gratitude and Praise - Showing appreciation for all that God has done.

1. Colossians 3:16-17 - 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 34:1 - I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Psalms 33:4 For the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth.

The Word of the Lord is right and true in all his works.

1. The Power of the Word of God: How His Righteousness Shines Through

2. The Truth of the Lord: How His Faithfulness Is Proven

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. 1 Thessalonians 2:13 - And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

Psalms 33:5 He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

The Lord loves righteousness and justice, and the earth is full of His goodness.

1. God's Unfailing Love for Righteousness and Justice

2. The Abundance of God's Goodness

1. Psalms 33:5

2. Psalm 145:9 - "The Lord is good to all; He has compassion on all He has made."

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

By the power of God's word, the heavens were created and all of its inhabitants by the breath of His mouth.

1. The God of Creation: Understanding the Power of God's Word

2. The Breath of Life: The Power of God's Breath

1. 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.

2. Genesis 1:31 - And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Psalms 33:7 He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses.

God has the power to gather and store the waters of the sea.

1. God's Power and Provision

2. God's Displays of Mastery

1. Job 38:8-11 - "Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb? When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it. And brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors, and said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?

2. 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?

Psalms 33:8 Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

All the people of the world should fear and revere the Lord.

1. "Fear and Reverence: A Call to the World"

2. "Standing in Awe of the Lord"

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Isaiah 8:13 - Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

Psalms 33:9 For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.

God spoke and his commands were followed and stood fast.

1. The Power of God's Word

2. Obeying God's Commands

1. Matthew 8:27-28 - "So the men marveled, saying, What kind of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?

2. John 14:21 - "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.

Psalms 33:10 The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect.

God brings down the plans of the wicked and nullifies their schemes.

1. God is sovereign and works all things according to His will.

2. We must trust in God's plan and not rely on our own schemes.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2. Isaiah 46:10-11 - 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.

Psalms 33:11 The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

The Lord's counsel and thoughts are eternal and remain for all generations.

1. The Lord's Everlasting Wisdom

2. The Lord's Eternal Thoughts

1. Ecclesiastes 3:14 - "I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him."

2. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

Psalms 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

This passage highlights the blessings that come to a nation whose God is the LORD, and the chosen people who are his inheritance.

1. The Blessing of Being Chosen by God

2. Experiencing the Blessing of God in our Nation

1. 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.

2. Romans 9:6-8 - But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring.

Psalms 33:13 The LORD looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men.

God looks down from heaven and watches over all people.

1. "God is Always Watching"

2. "God Sees All"

1. Psalm 34:15, "The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry."

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."

Psalms 33:14 From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth.

God looks upon all who inhabit the earth from His dwelling place.

1. God Sees Everything - How our actions are seen by God and the impact it has on our lives.

2. Our Habitation - The importance of where we choose to live and how it affects our relationship with God.

1. Matthew 6:9-13 - Pray to God in Heaven and ask for His guidance.

2. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - Choose life and love God's commandments so that you may live and prosper.

Psalms 33:15 He fashioneth their hearts alike; he considereth all their works.

The Lord considers all of our works and moulds our hearts to be the same.

1. God's Love For All Mankind: How the Lord Moulds Our Hearts

2. The Lord's Care For Us: How He Considers All Our Works

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. Jeremiah 18:6 - O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel.

Psalms 33:16 There is no king saved by the multitude of an host: a mighty man is not delivered by much strength.

No amount of strength or numbers can save a king.

1. Trusting in God's Strength - Psalm 33:16

2. Relying on God's Power - Psalm 33:16

1. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the Lord.

2. Isaiah 31:1 - Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the Lord!

Psalms 33:17 An horse is a vain thing for safety: neither shall he deliver any by his great strength.

The horse is not a reliable source of safety.

1: Relying on the Lord for Safety

2: The Vainness of Relying on Material Possessions

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.

2: Isaiah 31:1-3 - Do not put your trust in man, who is just a breath; in whom there is no help. Put your trust in the Lord, who is ever faithful.

Psalms 33:18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy;

The Lord's eye is upon those who revere and trust in His mercy.

1. God s Eye Is Upon Us: How We Receive Mercy in Our Lives

2. Fear Not: God s Care and Mercy for Believers

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 147:11 - The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy.

Psalms 33:19 To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

God delivers the souls of His people from death and keeps them alive in times of famine.

1. "God's Providential Care: Protection in Times of Famine"

2. "The Promise of Deliverance: God's Salvation from Death"

1. Psalm 33:19

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.

Psalms 33:20 Our soul waiteth for the LORD: he is our help and our shield.

Our souls look to the LORD for help and protection.

1. Trust in the LORD - He will Protect you

2. Put Your Hope in the LORD - He is Your Help

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.

Psalms 33:21 For our heart shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name.

We can have joy in God because of our trust in His name.

1. The Joy of Trusting in God

2. Relying on God's Holy Name

1. Psalms 33:21 - For our heart shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name.

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.

Psalms 33:22 Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.

We hope in the Lord and ask that His mercy be upon us.

1. Trusting in God's Mercy - Psalms 33:22

2. Hope in the Lord - Psalms 33:22

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 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.

Psalm 34 is a psalm of praise and trust in God's deliverance. It recounts the psalmist's personal experience of seeking refuge in God and finding comfort and protection.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist exalts God at all times, declaring His praise to be continually on his lips. He shares his testimony of seeking the Lord in distress and being delivered from fear. The psalmist encourages others to taste and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist instructs the righteous to fear the Lord, assuring them that those who seek Him lack no good thing. He contrasts this with the fate of evildoers who will be cut off. The psalmist emphasizes God's nearness to the brokenhearted (Psalm 34:9-18).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist declares that God redeems His servants, protecting them from harm. He assures that those who take refuge in Him will not be condemned. The psalm concludes with a call for praise and thanksgiving to God (Psalm 34:19-22).

In summary,

Psalm thirty-four presents

a song of praise,

and an expression of trust in divine deliverance,

highlighting personal experiences of finding refuge and comfort in God.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through continuous praise,

and emphasizing assurance achieved through recounting deliverance while encouraging others to seek Him.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine provision while expressing confidence in His protection through exhortations to fear Him and take refuge in His presence.

Psalms 34:1 I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

I will bless the Lord continually and express his praise with my words.

1: Count Your Blessings - Recognizing the blessings of God and expressing thanksgiving in return

2: Sing His Praise - Utilizing our words to exalt and glorify 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: 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.

Psalms 34:2 My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

Those who boast in the Lord will be heard and will be glad.

1. Boasting in the Lord: What the Bible Says

2. Rejoice in the Lord and Make Your Boast in Him

1. Psalm 34:2

2. Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

Psalms 34:3 O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

The Psalmist encourages us to magnify and exalt the Lord together.

1. The Power of Our Unison: Magnifying and Exalting the Lord Together

2. How to Lift Up the Name of the Lord through Community

1. 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.

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!

Psalms 34:4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

The psalmist sought God and was delivered from all his fears.

1: God is our Deliverer and He will hear us when we seek Him.

2: We can trust God to answer our prayers and deliver us from our fears.

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."

Psalms 34:5 They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.

People found hope and assurance in God, looking to Him and no longer feeling ashamed.

1. Relying on God for Light in Times of Darkness

2. Finding Hope and Assurance in God's Love

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 25:3 Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.

Psalms 34:6 This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

This verse speaks of God's mercy and loving kindness towards those who cry out to him in their time of need.

1: We can find hope and comfort in the Lord's mercy and love.

2: No matter how deep our troubles, God is always there to save us.

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

Psalms 34:7 The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

The angel of the Lord provides protection and deliverance to those who fear Him.

1: We must learn to fear the Lord, for He is our protector and deliverer.

2: God's angel is always present to guard and deliver us, so we need not fear the troubles of this world.

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 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.

Psalms 34:8 O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

The Lord is good and those who trust in Him are blessed.

1. The Power of Trust: Tasting the Goodness of the Lord

2. Taste and See: A Reflection on the Blessings of Trusting in 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. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 34:9 O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him.

Believers of the Lord are encouraged to live in fear of Him, as He will provide for them all their needs.

1.Living in Fear of the Lord: The Benefits of a Righteous Life

2.Trusting in God: Relying on God's Provision in Times of Need

1.Psalm 34:9 - O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him.

2.Philippians 4:19 - And my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Psalms 34:10 The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing.

The Lord provides for all those who seek Him.

1. The Lord's Provision - Psalms 34:10

2. The Power of Seeking God - Psalms 34:10

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Psalms 34:11 Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

The psalmist encourages children to listen and learn about the fear of the Lord.

1. "Finding Comfort and Strength in the Fear of the Lord"

2. "The Importance of Teaching Children the Fear of the Lord"

1. Isaiah 11:2 - The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

2. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Psalms 34:12 What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good?

The Psalmist asks who desires life and wishes to live a long life so that they can see good.

1. We Should Seek to Live a Long and Fulfilling Life

2. The Blessing of Seeing Good in Our Lives

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. Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Psalms 34:13 Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.

We should guard our words and abstain from speaking lies and evil.

1. The Power of Words: Reflection on Psalms 34:13

2. Speak Life: A Study of Psalms 34:13

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. 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.

Psalms 34:14 Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

Depart from evil and pursue peace.

1: We must turn away from evil and strive for peace if we want to be closer to God.

2: By leaving behind evil and acting in pursuit of peace, we show our commitment to God.

1: Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

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.

Psalms 34:15 The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.

The Lord is attentive to the cries of the righteous.

1: God Sees and Hears Our Prayers

2: God Is Always There for His People

1: 1 Peter 3:12 - For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer.

2: Psalm 55:22 - Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

Psalms 34:16 The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

The LORD is against those who do evil and will cut them off from the earth.

1. God will always protect the righteous and punish the wicked.

2. The consequences of evil actions are severe and far-reaching.

1. Proverbs 11:21 - Be assured, an evil person will not go unpunished, but the descendants of the righteous will be delivered.

2. Isaiah 33:15-16 - He who walks righteously and speaks with sincerity, he who rejects unjust gain and shakes his hands so that they hold no bribe; he who stops his ears from hearing about bloodshed and shuts his eyes from looking upon evil; he will dwell on the heights, his refuge will be the impregnable rock.

Psalms 34:17 The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

The LORD hears the cries of the righteous and delivers them from their troubles.

1. Cry Out to the LORD in Distress and He Will Answer

2. The Lord is Faithful to Deliver Those Who are Righteous

1. 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."

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."

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

The Lord is close to those with broken hearts and saves those with humble spirits.

1: God brings hope to the brokenhearted

2: Humble yourself and God will save you

1: Isaiah 57:15 - "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."

2: Luke 18:9-14 - "And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon 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 every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

Psalms 34:19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.

The Lord delivers the righteous from all their afflictions.

1: The Faithfulness of God in the Face of Adversity

2: The Power of God Over Troubles

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 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 34:20 He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken.

God protects and preserves all of his people, no one is ever broken beyond repair.

1. The Lord is Our Protector - He watches over us and ensures that we are never beyond repair, no matter how broken we may feel.

2. The Strength of the Lord - He is capable of carrying us through any situation, no matter how difficult.

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.

Psalms 34:21 Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.

Evil will bring destruction to those who are wicked, while those who hate the righteous will be punished.

1. God's justice is fair and without bias; the wicked will not escape punishment while the righteous will be vindicated.

2. God will protect the righteous and bring justice to those who wrong them.

1. Psalms 37:17-20 For the wicked shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.

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.

Psalms 34:22 The LORD redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.

The Lord rescues those who trust in Him, and they will never be abandoned.

1. The Unfailing Love of God

2. The Power of Trusting in the Lord

1. Romans 8:35-39 - Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

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.

Psalm 35 is a psalm of lament and plea for deliverance from enemies. The psalmist cries out to God for help, seeking His intervention against those who unjustly oppose him.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist pleads with God to contend with his adversaries, emphasizing their deceitful and malicious actions. He asks for divine intervention and protection, calling on God to fight on his behalf. The psalmist expresses confidence in God's righteousness (Psalm 35:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist describes the mistreatment he has endured from his enemies, expressing feelings of isolation and betrayal. He prays for their downfall and asks God to vindicate him. The psalmist pledges praise and thanksgiving when God delivers him (Psalm 35:11-18).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist continues to cry out for rescue from those who slander him without cause. He expresses trust in God's justice and calls on Him to judge the wicked accordingly. The psalm concludes with a vow of praise and exaltation of God's righteousness (Psalm 35:19-28).

In summary,

Psalm thirty-five presents

a lament,

and a plea for divine deliverance,

highlighting the distress caused by enemies' opposition.

Emphasizing supplication achieved through pleading for divine intervention against adversaries,

and emphasizing trust achieved through expressing confidence in His righteousness while seeking vindication.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the need for justice while vowing praise and exalting His righteousness through appeals for rescue from slanderous foes.

Psalms 35:1 Plead my cause, O LORD, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me.

Plead for God to fight against those that oppose us.

1. Stand tall in Faith: The Power of Prayer in Battle

2. Relying on God's Strength: Trusting in His Protection

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. 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; tomorrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you."

Psalms 35:2 Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for mine help.

Psalm 35:2 encourages us to take up our spiritual shield and stand up for God's help.

1. "The Power of Taking Up Your Shield: How to Stand Up for God's Help"

2. "Put On the Full Armor of God: Defend Yourself Against Spiritual Attack"

1. Ephesians 6:10-18

2. Psalm 18:2-3

Psalms 35:3 Draw out also the spear, and stop the way against them that persecute me: say unto my soul, I am thy salvation.

The psalmist pleads with God to protect him from his persecutors and to be his salvation.

1: In times of uncertainty and suffering, God is our salvation.

2: We can rely on God to protect us from those who would seek to harm us.

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.

2: Psalm 16:8 - I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

Psalms 35:4 Let them be confounded and put to shame that seek after my soul: let them be turned back and brought to confusion that devise my hurt.

The righteous should not be sought after with malicious intent.

1: God is our protector, and the Lord will bring shame and confusion to those who seek to harm us.

2: We should always turn to God in times of adversity, for He is our refuge and shield.

1: Psalm 18:2-3 - 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.

Psalms 35:5 Let them be as chaff before the wind: and let the angel of the LORD chase them.

The Psalmist pleads for God to make the enemies of Israel into chaff before the wind and to have His angel chase them away.

1. Overcoming Enemies with the Power of God

2. The Protection of God's Angels

1. Psalms 37:1-2 - 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.

2. Isaiah 41:10-11 - 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.

Psalms 35:6 Let their way be dark and slippery: and let the angel of the LORD persecute them.

The Psalmist prays for the Lord to make the way of the wicked dark and slippery and to have an angel of the Lord persecute them.

1. The Persecution of the Wicked by the Lord

2. God's Justice in the Punishment of the Wicked

1. Proverbs 16:4 - The Lord has made everything for its purpose, even the wicked for the day of trouble.

2. Isaiah 45:7 - I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the Lord, who does all these things.

Psalms 35:7 For without cause have they hid for me their net in a pit, which without cause they have digged for my soul.

People have maliciously plotted against the psalmist and dug a pit to trap them without any cause.

1. A Call To Forgiveness: Teaching Ourselves To Forgive Those Who Have Wronged Us

2. Beware Of Those Who Plot Against You: How To Discern The Malicious From The Kindhearted

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 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."

Psalms 35:8 Let destruction come upon him at unawares; and let his net that he hath hid catch himself: into that very destruction let him fall.

God will punish the wicked if they do not repent.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness

2. God s Justice: Repent and Be Saved

1. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

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

Psalms 35:9 And my soul shall be joyful in the LORD: it shall rejoice in his salvation.

The Psalmist expresses joy in the Lord and rejoices in His salvation.

1. Rejoice in the Lord and His Salvation

2. Learning to be Joyful in the Lord

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. Philippians 4:4 - Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Psalms 35:10 All my bones shall say, LORD, who is like unto thee, which deliverest the poor from him that is too strong for him, yea, the poor and the needy from him that spoileth him?

The LORD is incomparable in His ability to rescue the helpless.

1. God's Power to Deliver the Weak

2. The LORD's Unparalleled Love for the Oppressed

1. Luke 4:18-19 - Jesus proclaiming the good news to the poor

2. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit

Psalms 35:11 False witnesses did rise up; they laid to my charge things that I knew not.

False witnesses accused the psalmist of things he did not do.

1. God never abandons us, even in the midst of false accusations.

2. We must stand firm in our faith, trusting God to protect us.

1. Matthew 5:11-12 - "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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

Psalms 35:12 They rewarded me evil for good to the spoiling of my soul.

People have done evil to the speaker, despite the speaker's good intentions, resulting in harm to their soul.

1. The importance of maintaining faith in the face of adversity.

2. The power of love to overcome evil.

1. Romans 12:21 - Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with 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.

Psalms 35:13 But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth: I humbled my soul with fasting; and my prayer returned into mine own bosom.

I humbled myself and prayed to God when those around me were in need.

1: In times of difficulty, prayer can bring us closer to God.

2: When we are surrounded by suffering, humbling ourselves and praying to God is a powerful act of faith.

1: Matthew 6:5-7 - And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

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

Psalms 35:14 I behaved myself as though he had been my friend or brother: I bowed down heavily, as one that mourneth for his mother.

The psalmist expresses deep sorrow for a friend or brother by mourning as if for a mother.

1. The Power of Empathy: Understanding the Depth of Mourning

2. The Sorrow of Loss: Finding Comfort in God's Healing Presence

1. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.

2. Job 2:13 - So they sat down with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his grief was very great.

Psalms 35:15 But in mine adversity they rejoiced, and gathered themselves together: yea, the abjects gathered themselves together against me, and I knew it not; they did tear me, and ceased not:

The enemies of the Psalmist rejoiced and gathered together against him in his time of adversity, tearing him without his knowledge.

1. The Importance of Perseverance in Times of Adversity

2. The Unexpectedness of Opposition During Difficult Times

1. Job 5:4-5 - His arrows shall be sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; and the people shall be subdued under him. His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy when you 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.

Psalms 35:16 With hypocritical mockers in feasts, they gnashed upon me with their teeth.

Hypocrites mocked and gnashed their teeth at the Psalmist while he was at a feast.

1. How to Respond to Mockery with Godly Wisdom

2. The Power of Hypocritical Words

1. Proverbs 15:1, "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger."

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."

Psalms 35:17 Lord, how long wilt thou look on? rescue my soul from their destructions, my darling from the lions.

God's rescue of the faithful from their enemies.

1: The Lord will protect us from all harm.

2: Let us have faith in the Lord and trust in His protection.

1: Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very 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.

Psalms 35:18 I will give thee thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people.

A large group of people will be praised and thanked by the speaker in a great congregation.

1. God's Grace in the Congregation: How God's Mercy is Seen in Our Communities

2. Gratitude in the Midst of Many: How to Show Appreciation in the Face of a Crowd

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 2:46-47 - 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.

Psalms 35:19 Let not them that are mine enemies wrongfully rejoice over me: neither let them wink with the eye that hate me without a cause.

Enemies should not rejoice over the misfortune of the psalmist, nor should they hate him without reason.

1. The Power of Unconditional Love: Learning to Forgive and Respect Our Enemies

2. Overcoming Adversity: Finding Strength in the Face of Opposition

1. Romans 12:17-21

2. Matthew 5:43-48

Psalms 35:20 For they speak not peace: but they devise deceitful matters against them that are quiet in the land.

The wicked speak deceit against those who are peaceful.

1: Be Careful Who You Trust

2: The Power of Words

1: Proverbs 12:17 He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit.

2: Psalms 15:2-3 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour.

Psalms 35:21 Yea, they opened their mouth wide against me, and said, Aha, aha, our eye hath seen it.

They opened their mouths against the psalmist in scorn.

1: We must be careful not to be quick to judge or speak against others, for what we do in return will be done to us.

2: When we are mistreated or wronged, we must put our faith in God and allow Him to be the judge and exact justice.

1: Proverbs 12:18 - There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

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.

Psalms 35:22 This thou hast seen, O LORD: keep not silence: O Lord, be not far from me.

In Psalms 35:22, the psalmist cries out to God and requests that He not be silent or far away.

1. God is Always Near: Drawing Strength and Comfort from Psalms 35:22

2. Seeking God's Presence: Finding Hope and Help in Troubled Times

1. Psalm 102:17 - He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer.

2. 1 Chronicles 16:11 - Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually!

Psalms 35:23 Stir up thyself, and awake to my judgment, even unto my cause, my God and my Lord.

The Psalmist calls upon God to stir up and awake to judge the cause of the Psalmist.

1. How to Awaken the Lord's Judgement in Your Life

2. Stirring Up God's Will in Your Life

1. Isaiah 27:9, Therefore by this the iniquity of Jacob shall be forgiven; and this is all the fruit to take away his sin; when he maketh all the stones of the altar as chalkstones that are beaten in sunder, the groves and images shall not stand up.

2. Jeremiah 51:25, Behold, I am against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the Lord, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain.

Psalms 35:24 Judge me, O LORD my God, according to thy righteousness; and let them not rejoice over me.

The psalmist pleads to God to judge him according to his righteousness and to not let those who oppose him have cause to rejoice over him.

1. God's Righteous Judgment: How We Can Rely on His Fairness

2. The Danger of Rejoicing Over Others: The Power of Compassion

1. Psalm 119:137-138 - "Righteous are you, O LORD, and right are your rules. You have appointed your testimonies in righteousness and in faithfulness."

2. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."

Psalms 35:25 Let them not say in their hearts, Ah, so would we have it: let them not say, We have swallowed him up.

God will always protect His people from those who want to do them harm.

1: God's protection is always available to those who put their trust in Him.

2: Rely on God and He will deliver you from the schemes of the wicked.

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 91:7-8 - A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you look, and see the reward of the wicked.

Psalms 35:26 Let them be ashamed and brought to confusion together that rejoice at mine hurt: let them be clothed with shame and dishonour that magnify themselves against me.

God wants us to reject those who rejoice in our suffering and be clothed with humility.

1: Rejoicing in the Suffering of Others is Condemned by God

2: Don't be Proud and Boastful, Clothe Yourself in Humility

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

2: Philippians 2:3 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."

Psalms 35:27 Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.

The Lord takes pleasure in the prosperity of His servants.

1: Seek God s Favor in All Your Endeavors

2: Rejoice and Give Thanks for God s Favor

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 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.

Psalms 35:28 And my tongue shall speak of thy righteousness and of thy praise all the day long.

The psalmist praises God and speaks of His righteousness all day long.

1. Praise God in every season

2. How to exalt God through our words

1. Psalm 103:1-5

2. Colossians 3:16-17

Psalm 36 is a psalm that contrasts the wickedness of human hearts with the steadfast love and faithfulness of God. It highlights God's attributes and expresses trust in His provision and protection.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist describes the wickedness and deceitfulness of evildoers, emphasizing their lack of fear of God. He contrasts this with God's steadfast love, faithfulness, righteousness, and judgments that reach to the heavens. The psalmist seeks refuge in the shadow of God's wings (Psalm 36:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist prays for continued blessings from God, asking for His light to shine upon them. They express confidence in God's unfailing love and justice towards those who acknowledge Him. The psalm concludes with a plea for protection against the wicked (Psalm 36:10-12).

In summary,

Psalm thirty-six presents

a reflection on human wickedness,

and an affirmation of trust in divine attributes,

highlighting the contrast between evildoers' actions and God's steadfast love.

Emphasizing observation achieved through describing the deceitful nature of evildoers,

and emphasizing assurance achieved through recognizing divine qualities while seeking refuge in His presence.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing His blessings while expressing confidence in His unfailing love and justice through pleas for continued protection against wickedness.

Psalms 36:1 The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that there is no fear of God before his eyes.

The wicked do not fear God.

1: Understanding the Consequences of Not Fearing God

2: The Importance of Fearing God

1: Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2: Isaiah 11:2-3 - "The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And He will delight in the fear of the Lord."

Psalms 36:2 For he flattereth himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity be found to be hateful.

The passage speaks of how someone can be deceived by their own pride, leading them to commit sin.

1. Pride is a dangerous trap that can lead us away from God's love.

2. Do not be deceived by self-flattery, but instead seek out God's righteousness.

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

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."

Psalms 36:3 The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit: he hath left off to be wise, and to do good.

The words of a wicked person are filled with iniquity and deceit. They have stopped being wise and doing good.

1. The Danger of Listening to the Words of a Wicked Person

2. Choosing To Be Wise and To Do Good

1. Proverbs 10:32 - The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, but the mouth of the wicked, what is perverse.

2. James 3:1-12 - Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

Psalms 36:4 He deviseth mischief upon his bed; he setteth himself in a way that is not good; he abhorreth not evil.

God does not approve of devising wrongdoing or acting in a way that is not good.

1. The Power of Righteousness - How following God's will can lead to a life of joy and peace.

2. Abhorring Evil - Why we should avoid sin and strive to do good.

1. Romans 12:9 - Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

2. Ephesians 6:12 - 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.

Psalms 36:5 Thy mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds.

God's mercy and faithfulness extend up to the clouds.

1. Rely on God's Abundant Mercy

2. Faithfulness in the Midst of Change

1. James 5:11 - Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

2. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Psalms 36:6 Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; thy judgments are a great deep: O LORD, thou preservest man and beast.

The Lord's righteousness and justice are unfathomable and immutable.

1: God's righteousness and justice are far beyond our understanding and worthy of our reverence and awe.

2: Allow the Lord to guide and protect us with His righteousness and justice.

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: 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: for there is no difference.

Psalms 36:7 How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

God's lovingkindness is excellent and people can trust Him.

1. God's Love: The Source of Security

2. A Shelter of Protection: Putting Our Trust in God

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. 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.

Psalms 36:8 They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.

The Lord provides abundance and joy to those who seek Him.

1. God's Abundance: Receiving the Goodness of the Lord

2. Experiencing the Pleasures of God: A Life of Joy

1. Psalm 36:8

2. 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."

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

The passage speaks of God as the source of life and light.

1: We are blessed with the gift of life and the light of understanding, through the grace of God.

2: Our lives are enriched and illuminated by the power of God and His everlasting love.

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 4:6 Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord!

Psalms 36:10 O continue thy lovingkindness unto them that know thee; and thy righteousness to the upright in heart.

God's love and righteousness are extended to those who know and follow Him.

1. God's Love is Unconditional

2. The Upright Heart is Rewarded

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 3:18 - Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

Psalms 36:11 Let not the foot of pride come against me, and let not the hand of the wicked remove me.

The Psalmist pleads with God to protect him from the pride and wickedness of others.

1. "The Dangers of Pride"

2. "The Need for God's Protection from Wickedness"

1. James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

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

Psalms 36:12 There are the workers of iniquity fallen: they are cast down, and shall not be able to rise.

The workers of iniquity have fallen and will not be able to rise again.

1. The Danger of Sin: The Consequences of a Life of Iniquity

2. The Power of God: How God Uproots the Wicked

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 37:1-2 - Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.

Psalm 37 is a psalm of wisdom that encourages trust in God and the assurance of His justice. It contrasts the fate of the wicked with the blessings bestowed upon the righteous, urging them to remain steadfast and refrain from envy or anger.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist advises against fretting over evildoers or being envious of their prosperity. They emphasize that the wicked will soon fade away, while those who trust in God will inherit the land. The psalmist encourages righteousness, delighting in God, and committing one's way to Him (Psalm 37:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reassures that God will bring justice to evildoers and vindicate His faithful ones. They urge patience, meekness, and refraining from anger. The psalmist highlights how God upholds the righteous and provides for them while condemning those who plot against them (Psalm 37:9-20).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist contrasts the future destiny of the wicked with that of the righteous. They affirm that God guides and upholds those who are blameless while ensuring destruction for those who oppose Him. The psalm concludes with an exhortation to wait on God's salvation (Psalm 37:21-40).

In summary,

Psalm thirty-seven presents

a wisdom poem,

and an exhortation to trust in divine justice,

highlighting contrasting destinies between evildoers and the righteous.

Emphasizing guidance achieved through advising against fretting over evildoers,

and emphasizing assurance achieved through recognizing divine provision while urging patience.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing God's justice while exhorting righteousness through descriptions of contrasting destinies between evildoers and those who trust in Him.

Psalms 37:1 Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

Do not worry and be jealous of those who do evil, but instead trust in the Lord.

1. Trust in God and Not in Man

2. Do Not Be Jealous of Those Who Do Wrong

1. Psalms 37:1-5

2. Proverbs 3:5-7

Psalms 37:2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.

God's enemies will soon be destroyed like grass which withers away.

1. God Will Judge His Enemies - Psalm 37:2

2. The Vanishing of the Wicked - Psalm 37:2

1. Isaiah 40:6-8 - All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

2. James 4:13-17 - 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.

Psalms 37:3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Trust in the Lord and do good deeds to be rewarded with a secure dwelling.

1. When life gets hard, remember to put your trust in the Lord and follow His good ways.

2. Be faithful and obedient to God and He will provide for all your needs.

1. Isaiah 30:15 - "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it."

2. 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.

Psalms 37:4 Delight thyself also in the LORD: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Delight in the Lord and He will fulfill your desires.

1. Rejoice in the Lord and He will provide.

2. Have Faith and the Lord will Grant Your Wishes.

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 20:4, "May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans!"

Psalms 37:5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Commit your life to the Lord and trust in Him; He will make it happen.

1. Taking the Leap of Faith Trusting in the Lord

2. Stepping Out in Confidence Relying on the Lord

1. 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. 2 Corinthians 5:7 For we live by faith, not by sight.

Psalms 37:6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

God will bring righteousness and justice to those who trust in Him.

1. The Power of Trusting in God

2. Let God Guide Your Judgment

1. Romans 10:10 - For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

2. 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Psalms 37:7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

Be still and trust in the Lord, do not be jealous of those who are successful in their own pursuits.

1. Trusting the Lord in all circumstances

2. Overcoming the temptation of envy

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 3:14-16 "But if you have bitter envy 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 envy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice."

Psalms 37:8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

This passage encourages us to avoid anger, wrath and evil deeds.

1. The Virtue of Patience: Cultivating Peace and Restraint in Our Lives

2. The Benefits of Turning Away from Sin and Seeking Righteousness

1. Ephesians 4:26-27 - "Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil."

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."

Psalms 37:9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.

The Lord will reward those who put their faith in Him by granting them inheritence of the earth.

1: Put your faith in the Lord and He will bless you beyond measure.

2: God will provide for those who wait on Him faithfully.

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."

Psalms 37:10 For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.

The wicked will not remain forever; God will eventually remove them.

1. The Fickleness of Wickedness - How God's justice ensures the wicked will not remain forever.

2. The Promise of Justice - God's faithfulness in ensuring the wicked will not remain in power.

1. Psalm 37:10 - For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.

2. Isaiah 41:10-12 - 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.

Psalms 37:11 But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

The meek will be rewarded with the earth and its abundance of peace.

1. The Benefits of Being Meek - God rewards those who are humble with the abundance of peace.

2. The Peace of Inheritance - By being meek, we can be sure of inheriting the earth's peace.

1. Matthew 5:5 - "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

2. James 4:6 - "But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: 'God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.'"

Psalms 37:12 The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth.

The wicked plots against the righteous and shows hatred towards them.

1. The Dangers of Hatred: How To Respond To Opposition

2. Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity

1. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

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.

Psalms 37:13 The LORD shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming.

The Lord will bring justice to those who oppose him and will laugh at them when he sees their day of judgement coming.

1. Laughing at God s Enemies: The Consequences of Opposing the Lord

2. The Day of Judgement: The Lord s Power to Bring Justice

1. Proverbs 3:34 - "He mocks proud mockers but shows favor to the humble and oppressed."

2. Matthew 25:41-46 - "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'"

Psalms 37:14 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.

The wicked are using violence to oppress the poor and innocent.

1: We must pray to God for protection from the wicked and for the strength to stand up to oppression.

2: We must stand together to defend the vulnerable and protect the innocent from violence and injustice.

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: 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.

Psalms 37:15 Their sword shall enter into their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.

Enemies who oppose God's people will find that their weapons will be turned against themselves and will be destroyed.

1. God will defeat those who oppose His people.

2. Do not fret against those who do evil, for God will judge them.

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. 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.

Psalms 37:16 A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked.

A righteous man's simple possessions are more valuable than the wealth of many wicked people.

1. The Value of Righteousness

2. Personal Wealth vs. God's Riches

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. Proverbs 11:4 - Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death.

Psalms 37:17 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken: but the LORD upholdeth the righteous.

The Lord will protect the righteous, but will break the arms of the wicked.

1: Do not worry about the wicked, for the Lord will protect the righteous.

2: The Lord will bring justice to the wicked and provide safety to the righteous.

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: Matthew 5:5 - "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."

Psalms 37:18 The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever.

The Lord is aware of the righteous and will grant them an inheritance that lasts forever.

1. God's Promise of Eternal Life for the Righteous

2. God's Knowledge and Protection of the Upright

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. 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."

Psalms 37:19 They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.

God will provide for His children during difficult times.

1: No Shame in the Evil Time: God Will Provide

2: Satisfied in the Days of Famine: God's Provision

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - 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.

2: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 37:20 But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the LORD shall be as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away.

The wicked will be destroyed, and the Lord's enemies will be like lambs that are slaughtered. They will be consumed and vanish like smoke.

1. God's justice will prevail - Psalms 37:20

2. Humility in the face of adversity - Psalm 37:20

1. Isaiah 66:24 - And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.

2. Malachi 4:1 - For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

Psalms 37:21 The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth.

The righteous show mercy and give while the wicked borrow and do not pay back.

1. Generosity: The Blessings of Giving

2. The Danger of Greed: Learning to Avoid Taking on Unnecessary Debt

1. Proverbs 22:7 - The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

2. Luke 6:35 - 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.

Psalms 37:22 For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth; and they that be cursed of him shall be cut off.

The blessed of God shall inherit the earth, while those cursed by Him shall be cut off.

1: God rewards those who obey Him and punishes those who disobey Him.

2: God's mercy gives us hope, but we must take heed to His Word.

1: Matthew 5:5 - Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

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

Psalms 37:23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

The LORD orders the steps of a good man and delights in his way.

1. God's Guidance - Trusting God to Direct Our Steps

2. Walking in the Light - How to Follow God's Path

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.

Psalms 37:24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.

The Lord is always there to uphold us even when we fall.

1: God is Always There for Us in Our Times of Need

2: Trusting in the Lord Even in the Most 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: Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Psalms 37:25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

The righteous will not be forsaken, even in old age.

1: God will always provide for the righteous.

2: The faithfulness of God is not dependent on age.

1: Psalm 37:25

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.

Psalms 37:26 He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed.

God is always merciful and provides for those who trust in Him, and His faithful followers are blessed.

1. "The Power of God's Mercy"

2. "Blessings of Faithfulness 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 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."

Psalms 37:27 Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore.

Depart from evil and do good to live a life of blessing.

1: The Road to Life: How to Live a Blessed Life

2: The Path to God: Leaving Evil and Doing Good

1: James 4:17- So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

2: 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.

Psalms 37:28 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 Lord loves justice and will never forsake his faithful followers; they are preserved forever, but the wicked will be destroyed.

1. God's Justice: The Blessing of Righteousness and the Destruction of Wickedness

2. The Preservation of the Faithful: Finding Comfort in God's Love

1. Isaiah 26:3 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in 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.

Psalms 37:29 The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.

The righteous will have a permanent home in the land.

1: We must remain righteous to inherit the land promised.

2: The land is a reward for the righteous, as God will always provide for them.

1: Joshua 1:3-5 - God promises the land to the Israelites as long as they remain obedient.

2: Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the Kingdom of God and all things will be added unto you.

Psalms 37:30 The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment.

The righteous speak with wisdom and justice.

1. The Power of a Righteous Voice

2. How to Speak with Wisdom and Justice

1. Proverbs 21:23 - Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps himself out of trouble.

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.

Psalms 37:31 The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

The psalmist encourages us to keep God s law in our hearts so that none of our steps will falter.

1. Staying Steadfast in God s Law

2. Planting God s Law Deep in Our Hearts

1. Psalm 37:31

2. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Psalms 37:32 The wicked watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to slay him.

The wicked seeks to destroy the righteous.

1: We should not be discouraged when faced with opposition from the wicked, for God is with us and will protect us.

2: We should not be envious of the wicked, for they will ultimately face God's judgment.

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 34:21 - "Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate."

Psalms 37:33 The LORD will not leave him in his hand, nor condemn him when he is judged.

The Lord will not abandon someone in a time of trial and will not pass judgement on them.

1. God is always with us, no matter the circumstances

2. God is our ultimate judge and protector

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."

Psalms 37:34 Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

Trust in the Lord and obey Him and He will lift you up and provide you with an inheritance. You will witness the wicked being punished.

1. Trust the Lord and He Will Provide

2. Obeying God Will 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 acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

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

Psalms 37:35 I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree.

The Psalmist has seen wicked people in a position of power and influence, likening them to a flourishing tree.

1. The Power of Influence: Learning from the Psalmist's Perspective

2. The Danger of Pride: The False Security of the Wicked

1. Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goes before destruction, 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.'"

Psalms 37:36 Yet he passed away, and, lo, he was not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found.

The passing of the righteous is a cause for mourning, yet they are not gone forever.

1: The Righteous Shall Not Be Forgotten

2: The Hope of Heaven

1: Psalm 103:14 - For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

2: 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.

Psalms 37:37 Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace.

The perfect man is an example to follow, and by doing so one will find peace.

1. Pursuing Perfection: Achieving Peace through Righteousness

2. The Benefits of Following the Upright: A Call to Holiness

1. Matthew 5:48: You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

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.

Psalms 37:38 But the transgressors shall be destroyed together: the end of the wicked shall be cut off.

The wicked will be punished and their end will be cut off.

1. Our choices have consequences and God will judge the wicked.

2. No matter how hard we try to hide our sins, God will bring justice to the unrighteous.

1. Romans 2:8-9 "But for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. There will be anguish and distress for every human being who does evil..."

2. Proverbs 11:21 "Be sure of this: The wicked will not go unpunished, but those who are righteous will go free."

Psalms 37:39 But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

The Lord is the one who saves the righteous in times of trouble and is their strength.

1. The Strength of the Lord in Times of Trouble

2. The Salvation of the Righteous from the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

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

Psalms 37:40 And the LORD shall help them, and deliver them: he shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in him.

God will always provide help and deliverance to those who trust in Him.

1. The Importance of Trusting in God

2. Experiencing God's Deliverance 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. 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.

Psalm 38 is a psalm of lament and confession of sin. It portrays the psalmist's anguish and physical suffering, attributing it to God's discipline for their transgressions. The psalmist pleads for God's mercy and deliverance.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist describes their affliction, expressing physical pain, guilt, and a sense of abandonment. They acknowledge that their suffering is a result of their own iniquities. The psalmist laments the hostility of enemies who take advantage of their weakened state (Psalm 38:1-12).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist cries out to God for help, acknowledging Him as their only hope. They express feelings of isolation from friends and loved ones due to their condition. Despite this, they maintain faith in God's response and seek His forgiveness (Psalm 38:13-22).

In summary,

Psalm thirty-eight presents

a lament,

and a plea for divine mercy and deliverance,

highlighting the psalmist's anguish and confession of sin.

Emphasizing supplication achieved through describing affliction while acknowledging personal guilt,

and emphasizing trust achieved through crying out to God while seeking His forgiveness.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine discipline while expressing faith in His response through pleas for mercy and deliverance from suffering.

Psalms 38:1 O LORD, rebuke me not in thy wrath: neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.

A prayer for God to not rebuke or chasten in His wrath.

1. The Importance of Relying on God in the Face of Persecution

2. Being Patient and Trusting in God During Trials

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.

Psalms 38:2 For thine arrows stick fast in me, and thy hand presseth me sore.

The psalmist expresses his distress at the intensity of God's judgment and its effects on him.

1. The Power of God's Judgment: Examining Psalms 38:2

2. Trusting in God's Love Despite His Wrath: The Implications of Psalms 38:2

1. Jeremiah 23:29 - Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?

2. Hebrews 12:6 - For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Psalms 38:3 There is no soundness in my flesh because of thine anger; neither is there any rest in my bones because of my sin.

The consequence of sin is physical and spiritual pain.

1. The Pain of Sin: An Examination of Psalms 38:3

2. Finding Rest in the Lord: Overcoming Sin and Its Consequences

1. Psalm 38:3-5

2. Matthew 11:28-30

Psalms 38:4 For mine iniquities are gone over mine head: as an heavy burden they are too heavy for me.

The psalmist acknowledges his sin and expresses that its burden is too much to bear.

1. The Burden of Sin - How we can learn to bear its weight

2. Atonement in Psalms - How we can seek forgiveness for our sins

1. Galatians 6:2-5 - Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Psalms 38:5 My wounds stink and are corrupt because of my foolishness.

The psalmist laments the foolishness that has caused their wounds to become corrupt and smell bad.

1. The Danger of Unwise Living: Avoiding Foolishness to Live a Life of Fulfillment

2. Embracing Wisdom: Reaping the Rewards of Discernment

1. Proverbs 3:13-18 - 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. Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called blessed.

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.

Psalms 38:6 I am troubled; I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long.

The psalmist is troubled and overwhelmed, and is filled with sadness throughout the day.

1. How to Find Joy Even in Sadness

2. The Comfort of God in Times of Trouble

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 56:8 - You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book?

Psalms 38:7 For my loins are filled with a loathsome disease: and there is no soundness in my flesh.

The psalmist is filled with a loathsome disease and there is no soundness in his flesh.

1. "Living with Disease: Learning to Find Hope and Strength in the Lord"

2. "The Power of Acceptance: Trusting in the Lord despite Suffering"

1. John 11:35 - "Jesus wept."

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."

Psalms 38:8 I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart.

The Psalmist is in a state of distress and cries out from the depths of his heart.

1. The Cry of a Distressed Heart - Learning to Lean on God in Times of Trouble

2. Finding Strength in Weakness - How God Can Restore Our Brokenness

1. Psalm 34:17-20 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Psalms 38:9 Lord, all my desire is before thee; and my groaning is not hid from thee.

The psalmist expresses his desire to God, knowing that his groaning is not hidden from Him.

1. Learning to Trust in God Amidst Troubles

2. Relying on God s Love in Difficult Times

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. 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.

Psalms 38:10 My heart panteth, my strength faileth me: as for the light of mine eyes, it also is gone from me.

My heart is in anguish and my strength is fading away; the light of my eyes is gone.

1. The Reality of Suffering: Finding Strength in the Midst of Weakness

2. Living in the Shadow of Despair: Overcoming the Darkness of Sorrow

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.)

Psalms 38:11 My lovers and my friends stand aloof from my sore; and my kinsmen stand afar off.

A person feels isolated and abandoned by their friends and family.

1. God will never leave us; no matter how alone we feel, He is always with us.

2. Even when our loved ones abandon us, we can still find comfort in knowing that God will never forsake 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 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.

Psalms 38:12 They also that seek after my life lay snares for me: and they that seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and imagine deceits all the day long.

People who are seeking to harm the psalmist are speaking mischievous things and coming up with deceitful plans all day long.

1. The Danger of Deceit: How We Can Protect Ourselves from Lying Tongues

2. The Power of God to Protect His People from Harm

1. Proverbs 12:22 - The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy.

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.

Psalms 38:13 But I, as a deaf man, heard not; and I was as a dumb man that openeth not his mouth.

A person feels excluded and helpless as they are unable to hear or speak.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Facing Challenges with Hope

2. The Strength of Humility: Finding Comfort in Difficult Times

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. 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."

Psalms 38:14 Thus I was as a man that heareth not, and in whose mouth are no reproofs.

The Psalmist expresses feelings of being ignored and unable to respond to those who have wronged him.

1. The Power of Silence: Learning to Respond with Grace

2. Finding Strength in Adversity: Trusting in the Lord

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. 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."

Psalms 38:15 For in thee, O LORD, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord my God.

My trust is in the Lord to answer my prayers.

1: Put your trust in the Lord for He will hear and answer your prayers.

2: Have faith in the Lord that He will always be there to listen and help.

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: 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.

Psalms 38:16 For I said, Hear me, lest otherwise they should rejoice over me: when my foot slippeth, they magnify themselves against me.

The psalmist is pleading for God to hear his cries, so that his enemies will not be able to take pleasure in his misfortune.

1. The Danger of Pride: How to Respond to the Success of our Enemies

2. The Power of Prayer: How to Cope with Our Struggles

1. James 4:6 - "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

2. 1 Peter 5:6 - "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time."

Psalms 38:17 For I am ready to halt, and my sorrow is continually before me.

The psalmist expresses his sorrow and expresses his readiness to stop his current situation.

1. The Power of a Broken Spirit - Understanding the Strength of a Contrite Heart

2. The Joy of Surrender - Discovering the Peace of Letting Go

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. Philippians 4:7 - And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 38:18 For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin.

The psalmist acknowledges their sin and expresses remorse for it.

1. The Power of Confession: Admitting and Overcoming Sin

2. The Importance of Repentance: Moving Forward from Sin

1. 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.

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?

Psalms 38:19 But mine enemies are lively, and they are strong: and they that hate me wrongfully are multiplied.

The enemies of the psalmist are strong and numerous, and are wrongfully attacking him.

1. "The Strength of the Enemy"

2. "Persevering Through Persecution"

1. Psalm 3:1-2 "O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; many are saying of my soul, there is no salvation for him in God.

2. Romans 12:14 "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Psalms 38:20 They also that render evil for good are mine adversaries; because I follow the thing that good is.

Those who repay good with evil are my enemies, because I choose to do what is good.

1. God calls us to do what is right, even when it is difficult and we face opposition.

2. We should strive to do what is good, despite the consequences we may face.

1. Romans 12:17-21 - Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.

2. Matthew 5:38-48 - Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who mistreat you.

Psalms 38:21 Forsake me not, O LORD: O my God, be not far from me.

The psalmist calls out to the Lord, asking Him to not forsake Him and to stay close.

1. The Comfort of God's Nearness in Times of Suffering

2. The Power of Faithful Prayer

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 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.

Psalms 38:22 Make haste to help me, O Lord my salvation.

The psalmist is calling out to the Lord for help and salvation.

1: God is always ready to help us.

2: The Lord is our source of salvation.

1: Isaiah 59:1 - Behold, the Lord s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear.

2: Hebrews 4:16 - Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Psalm 39 is a psalm of reflection on the brevity of human life and the importance of seeking God's guidance. The psalmist contemplates the fleeting nature of existence and expresses a desire for wisdom and understanding.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist resolves to guard their tongue, refusing to speak in the presence of wicked people. They reflect on the brevity of life, likening it to a mere handbreadth. The psalmist acknowledges their dependence on God and prays for His forgiveness (Psalm 39:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist pleads with God to hear their prayer and not look away from their distress. They express their longing for divine intervention, recognizing that they are merely strangers and sojourners in this world. The psalmist concludes with a plea for God's mercy (Psalm 39:7-13).

In summary,

Psalm thirty-nine presents

a reflection on the transient nature of life,

and a plea for divine guidance,

highlighting the importance of wisdom and understanding.

Emphasizing introspection achieved through resolving to guard one's speech while contemplating life's brevity,

and emphasizing supplication achieved through acknowledging dependence on God while pleading for His intervention.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing human transience while expressing a desire for divine guidance through pleas for mercy and understanding.

Psalms 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.

I will be mindful of my words and actions so that I do not sin.

1. The importance of self-control in our speech.

2. The power and consequences of words.

1. James 3:5-10 - The power of the tongue.

2. Proverbs 15:4 - A gentle tongue is a tree of life.

Psalms 39:2 I was dumb with silence, I held my peace, even from good; and my sorrow was stirred.

The psalmist expresses his inner sorrows and a desire for silence.

1. The Power of Being Silent: How to Draw Closer to God in Times of Pain

2. The Strength of Being Vulnerable: How to Process and Express Sorrow

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 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Psalms 39:3 My heart was hot within me, while I was musing the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue,

While reflecting on his thoughts, the Psalmist's heart was burning and he spoke with his tongue.

1. "The Fire of Faith: How Our Thoughts Can Fuel Our Actions"

2. "The Power of Speaking Up: How Our Words Can Lead to Transformation"

1. Romans 10:9-10 - "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. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

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."

Psalms 39:4 LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is: that I may know how frail I am.

This psalm is a reminder of the shortness of life and the importance of living it to the fullest.

1: We must make the most of the short time we have on earth and live with purpose.

2: We cannot live life with a sense of entitlement, but must remember that God has a plan for all of us.

1: 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.

2: Ecclesiastes 3:1 - To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

Psalms 39:5 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.

God is the only true source of meaning in life; all else is fleeting and insignificant.

1: We must recognize that God is the only thing that matters in life.

2: We must turn to God to find lasting fulfillment, instead of seeking it in temporary things.

1: 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.

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.

Psalms 39:6 Surely every man walketh in a vain shew: surely they are disquieted in vain: he heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them.

We often attempt to pursue vain and disquieting things in life, instead of placing our trust in God.

1: We should not be troubled by earthly pursuits, but instead put our trust in God.

2: Let us focus on gathering spiritual riches, instead of material wealth.

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: Proverbs 23:4-5 Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom. Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.

Psalms 39:7 And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee.

The Psalmist expresses his hope in the Lord, asking what else he can wait for.

1. "Waiting on the Lord: Our Hope and Salvation"

2. "Trusting in the Lord: Our Source of 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. Romans 5:2-5 - 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. More than that, 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.

Psalms 39:8 Deliver me from all my transgressions: make me not the reproach of the foolish.

New Line: The Psalmist asks God to forgive him of his transgressions and not to be a reproach to the foolish.

1. God is Gracious and Merciful and is willing to forgive us of our sins.

2. It is important to remember that God can forgive us of our transgressions if we wholeheartedly ask Him for it.

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.

Psalms 39:9 I was dumb, I opened not my mouth; because thou didst it.

The psalmist acknowledges that God is in control and is thankful for not having to speak on his own behalf.

1: Our faith and trust in God should be so strong that we are not afraid to be silent in the face of adversity, knowing that God will work on our behalf.

2: We should not be quick to speak when God is in control of the situation.

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: Proverbs 17:28 - Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; When he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive.

Psalms 39:10 Remove thy stroke away from me: I am consumed by the blow of thine hand.

God's harsh punishment can consume us, but He is also willing to remove it if we ask.

1: Let us remember that despite the severity of God's punishments, He is also willing to show mercy to those who repent and ask for it.

2: The Lord is a loving God, and although He may punish us harshly, He will also forgive us if we turn to Him and seek His mercy.

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."

Psalms 39:11 When thou with rebukes dost correct man for iniquity, thou makest his beauty to consume away like a moth: surely every man is vanity. Selah.

Man's beauty is fleeting and vanity, and can be consumed by God's rebuke.

1. Our Time in this Life is Short - Psalms 39:11

2. Understanding God's Rebuke - Psalms 39:11

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. 1 Peter 1:24 - For, All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall.

Psalms 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.

David calls out to the Lord to listen to his prayers and not ignore his tears, as he is a stranger and sojourner in His presence.

1. The Transience of Human Life: Embracing Our Place in God's Kingdom

2. The Stranger and Sojourner: Relying on God's Comfort and Guidance

1. Hebrews 13:14 - "For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come."

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."

Psalms 39:13 O spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go hence, and be no more.

David cries out for God to spare him, in order to regain strength before he passes away.

1. Drawing Strength from God in Times of Weakness

2. Faith in God During Times of Adversity

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. 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."

Psalm 40 is a psalm of thanksgiving and trust in God's faithfulness. It celebrates God's deliverance and expresses the psalmist's commitment to worship and obedience.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares their patient waiting for the Lord, who hears their cry and lifts them out of the pit. They praise God for His faithfulness, deliverance, and wondrous deeds. The psalmist proclaims their commitment to proclaiming God's righteousness (Psalm 40:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges their own sinfulness and recognizes that offering sacrifices alone is not sufficient. They express a desire to do God's will and delight in His law. The psalmist calls on God for help, asking Him not to withhold His mercy (Psalm 40:11-17).

In summary,

Psalm forty presents

a song of thanksgiving,

and an expression of trust in divine faithfulness,

highlighting deliverance from distress and a commitment to worship.

Emphasizing gratitude achieved through praising God for His faithfulness while celebrating deliverance,

and emphasizing devotion achieved through recognizing personal sinfulness while expressing a desire to do His will.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the insufficiency of sacrifices while calling on divine help through pleas for mercy and continued guidance in worship.

Psalms 40:1 I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.

The Psalmist waited patiently for the LORD, who responded to their cry.

1. The Lord Responds When We Wait Patiently

2. God Hears Our Cries

Cross Refrences:

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. Psalms 130:5 - "I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope."

Psalms 40:2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.

He delivered me from a pit of despair and gave me a firm foundation.

1: God can rescue us from even the darkest depths.

2: We can find strength in the Rock of our salvation.

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 16:8 I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

Psalms 40:3 And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.

He has given us a new song of praise to God and many will see it and be inspired to trust in the Lord.

1. "The Power of Praise: How Our Faithful Worship Can Inspire Others"

2. "God's Gift of a New Song: How We Can Rejoice in His Mercy"

1. Ephesians 5:19-20 - "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. Psalm 147:1-2 - "Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; For it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful. The LORD builds up Jerusalem; He gathers together the outcasts of Israel"

Psalms 40:4 Blessed is that man that maketh the LORD his trust, and respecteth not the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.

Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and does not look to the proud or to those who lie.

1. The Blessing of Trusting the Lord

2. The Danger of Pride and Lying

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.

2. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who deal truthfully are His delight.

Psalms 40:5 Many, O LORD my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.

God has done many wonderful works and thoughts that are too numerous to be counted.

1. God's Love Is Unfathomable - Romans 8:38-39

2. God's Promises Are Unshakable - Hebrews 13:5-6

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. 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.

Psalms 40:6 Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required.

God does not require sacrifice and offerings; instead, He desires us to listen and obey.

1: Listen to God's commands and obey them, for that is what He desires of us.

2: We should not rely on our own sacrifices to please God, but instead listen to His Word and follow His 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: 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.

Psalms 40:7 Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me,

God answers our pleas and fulfills His promises.

1. There is Hope in God's Word - Romans 15:4

2. Trust the Lord to Keep His Promises - Psalm 119:89

1. Hebrews 10:7 - Then said I, Behold, I have come in the volume of the book it is written of me to do your will, O God.

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.

Psalms 40:8 I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

This verse speaks of a deep and joyful commitment to serve God and His law.

1. Delight in Doing God's Will - Psalms 40:8

2. Rejoicing in Obedience - Psalms 40:8

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 true 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.

Psalms 40:9 I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O LORD, thou knowest.

I have preached righteousness in the great congregation with my lips, and the Lord knows.

1: Our words have power to spread God's righteousness and love, and God hears and knows all we say.

2: We must use our words to proclaim God's righteousness and love to the world, knowing that God is always listening.

1: Matthew 12:36-37 - "I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

2: Colossians 4:6 - "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."

Psalms 40:10 I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great congregation.

I have declared God's faithfulness, salvation, lovingkindness, and truth.

1. God's Unfailing Love: Declaring His Faithfulness and Love to the World

2. The Power of Faithfulness: God's Salvation and Truth for Everyone

1. Romans 10:8-13 - For the word of faith that we proclaim;

2. Ephesians 1:13-14 - In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.

Psalms 40:11 Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O LORD: let thy lovingkindness and thy truth continually preserve me.

God's loving kindness and truth are our shield and safety.

1. The Power of God's Love and Truth

2. The Strength of God's Mercy and Faithfulness

1. Psalm 119:89 - Forever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

2. Psalm 36:5-6 - Thy mercy, O Lord, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds. Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; thy judgments are a great deep: O Lord, thou preservest man and beast.

Psalms 40:12 For innumerable evils have compassed me about: mine iniquities have taken hold upon me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of mine head: therefore my heart faileth me.

The psalmist is overwhelmed by the multitude of his sins and feels unable to look up for hope.

1. God's Mercy Is Greater Than Our Sins - Romans 5:20

2. His Grace Is Sufficient In Times of Weakness - 2 Corinthians 12:9

1. Psalms 38:4 For mine iniquities are gone over mine head: as an heavy burden they are too heavy for me.

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.

Psalms 40:13 Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me: O LORD, make haste to help me.

The psalmist is asking the Lord for help and deliverance.

1. Reaching Out to the Lord in Times of Need

2. Trusting in the Lord for Comfort and Deliverance

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 6:25-34 - "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?"

Psalms 40:14 Let them be ashamed and confounded together that seek after my soul to destroy it; let them be driven backward and put to shame that wish me evil.

God protects those who turn to him for help from those who seek to harm them.

1: God is our protector in times of trouble.

2: We can trust in God to care for us and defend us.

1: Psalm 3:3 But you, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.

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.

Psalms 40:15 Let them be desolate for a reward of their shame that say unto me, Aha, aha.

Psalms 40:15 speaks of the desolation those will face who shame the Lord.

1. The Power of Shame: The Consequences of Turning Away from the Lord

2. The Wrath of the Lord: How Sin Destroys Our Lives

1. 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 - In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power.

2. Romans 1:18-20 - 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.

Psalms 40:16 Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: let such as love thy salvation say continually, The LORD be magnified.

Those who seek the Lord will rejoice and be glad in Him, and those who love His salvation will continually proclaim His greatness.

1. The Joy of Seeking the Lord

2. Proclaiming the Lord's Magnificence

1. Psalm 9:2 - I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.

2. 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.

Psalms 40:17 But I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God.

This passage speaks of God's love and care for those who are in need.

1. God is Always There for Us in Times of Need

2. Knowing God's Love in Times of Poverty and 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. 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?"

Psalm 41 is a psalm of lament and prayer for healing and protection. It focuses on the psalmist's experience of betrayal by a close friend and their trust in God's mercy.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist expresses the blessings upon those who consider the weak and needy, promising that God will deliver them in times of trouble. They lament their own condition, being surrounded by enemies who desire their harm. The psalmist appeals to God for healing and restoration (Psalm 41:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on the betrayal they have experienced from a close companion, expressing their anguish over the treachery. They pray for God's mercy to uphold them, acknowledging their own integrity before Him. The psalm concludes with a plea for deliverance from enemies (Psalm 41:11-13).

In summary,

Psalm forty-one presents

a lament,

and a prayer for healing and protection,

highlighting the experience of betrayal and trust in divine mercy.

Emphasizing compassion achieved through recognizing blessings upon those who care for the weak while appealing for deliverance from enemies,

and emphasizing supplication achieved through reflecting on personal anguish while seeking God's mercy.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing personal integrity before God while pleading for restoration and protection from treacherous companions.

Psalms 41:1 Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.

God blesses those who help the poor and will help them in times of trouble.

1. God's Blessing on Those Who Care for the Poor

2. God is a Refuge in Times of Trouble

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 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.

Psalms 41:2 The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies.

The LORD will protect and preserve His people, keeping them alive and blessing them on the Earth, and will not let them be taken by their enemies.

1. God is our Protector and Deliverer

2. The Blessing of the LORD's Protection

1. 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.

2. Psalm 3:3-4 - But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head. 4 I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill.

Psalms 41:3 The LORD will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.

The Lord will sustain and strengthen those who are ill or in distress.

1: God is always there to comfort and strengthen us in our darkest moments.

2: In times of sickness, God is our source of strength and healing.

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.

Psalms 41:4 I said, LORD, be merciful unto me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against thee.

This passage speaks to God's mercy and willingness to heal us from our sins.

1. "God's Mercy: The Gift of Forgiveness"

2. "Healing through Repentance and Faith"

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. 1 John 1:8-9 - "If we say that 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."

Psalms 41:5 Mine enemies speak evil of me, When shall he die, and his name perish?

Enemies of the psalmist are asking when he will die and his name will perish.

1. How to Overcome Opposition and Persecution

2. The Power of a Good Name

1. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

2. Romans 12:14-17 - 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.

Psalms 41:6 And if he come to see me, he speaketh vanity: his heart gathereth iniquity to itself; when he goeth abroad, he telleth it.

This passage from Psalms 41:6 speaks to the dangers of associating with people who are deceitful and spread gossip.

1. "Be Wise and Guard Your Heart: Avoiding Deception and Gossip"

2. "Walking in Integrity: The Path to Blessing"

1. Proverbs 11:3 - "The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them."

2. Psalm 15:2-3 - "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."

Psalms 41:7 All that hate me whisper together against me: against me do they devise my hurt.

People that hate the speaker of the Psalm are conspiring against them, attempting to cause them harm.

1. The Danger of Hatred: How to Overcome When Others Seek to Harm Us

2. God's Protection: Finding Strength in Troubled Times

1. 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."

2. Psalm 27:10 - "For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me in."

Psalms 41:8 An evil disease, say they, cleaveth fast unto him: and now that he lieth he shall rise up no more.

People are saying that a dangerous illness has taken hold of a man, and that he will not recover.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Faith Can Overcome Any Adversity

2. The Strength of Hope: How We Can Overcome Life's Struggles

1. Psalm 41:8 An evil disease, say they, cleaveth fast unto him: and now that he lieth he shall rise up no more.

2. 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed.

Psalms 41:9 Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

The treachery of a close friend.

1. The Betrayal of a Friend: How to Handle Treachery in a Relationship

2. The Danger of Close Relationships: Learning to Forgive When Betrayed

1. Proverbs 27:6 - Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.

2. Luke 6:31 - And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

Psalms 41:10 But thou, O LORD, be merciful unto me, and raise me up, that I may requite them.

The psalmist is asking the Lord for mercy and strength to repay his enemies.

1. How to Respond to Persecution with Mercy

2. The Power of God's Mercy and Strength

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, 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.

Psalms 41:11 By this I know that thou favourest me, because mine enemy doth not triumph over me.

God shows His favor to us when our enemies cannot triumph over us.

1: God is always with us when we are in trouble

2: God's favor gives us strength to overcome our adversaries

1: Romans 8:31-32 - If God is for us, who can be against us?

2: Psalm 34:17 - The Lord hears when I call to Him.

Psalms 41:12 And as for me, thou upholdest me in mine integrity, and settest me before thy face for ever.

God upholds us in our integrity and sets us before Him forever.

1: We can trust that God will keep us and be with us forever.

2: We can trust in God's faithfulness and be sure of His presence in our lives.

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 midst 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.

Psalms 41:13 Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen.

The Psalmist declares God's everlasting love and blessing and ends with a double "Amen".

1. The Blessing of God's Everlasting Love

2. Trusting in God's Eternal Blessings

1. Psalm 103:17 - But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him.

2. 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.

Psalm 42 is a psalm of longing for God's presence and deliverance. It expresses the psalmist's deep spiritual thirst and their hope in God amidst feelings of despair.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist describes their longing for God, comparing it to a deer panting for water. They express their yearning to be in God's presence and worship Him. The psalmist laments their current state of distress and persecution by enemies, questioning where God is (Psalm 42:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist encourages themselves to hope in God, acknowledging His faithfulness even in times of trouble. They remember past experiences of His goodness and express confidence that He will come to their aid again. The psalmist concludes with a prayer for deliverance (Psalm 42:7-11).

In summary,

Psalm forty-two presents

a lament,

and a longing for divine presence and deliverance,

highlighting spiritual thirst and hope in God.

Emphasizing yearning achieved through expressing a deep longing for communion with God while lamenting distress,

and emphasizing encouragement achieved through remembering His faithfulness while expressing confidence in future deliverance.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the need for divine intervention while praying for restoration and relief from persecution.

Psalms 42:1 As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.

My soul longs for God.

1: The Satisfying Power of God

2: The Longing of the Soul for God

1: Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

2: Matthew 5:6 - Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Psalms 42:2 My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?

The psalmist is expressing a longing to be in the presence of God.

1. God is Always Present: Understanding the Psalmist's Longing for the Living God

2. Satisfying the Thirst of the Soul: Finding Comfort in the Presence of God

1. Isaiah 55:1-2 Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy?

2. John 4:14 But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life.

Psalms 42:3 My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?

The psalmist expresses his grief and anguish, asking why God seems distant.

1. God Is Not Absent in Our Grief: Comfort and Hope in Psalms 42:3

2. Experiencing God's Presence in the Midst of Sorrow

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 4:8-10 - "We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies."

Psalms 42:4 When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.

The psalmist remembers the joy of going to the house of God with a multitude who kept holy day, and he pours out his soul in reflection.

1. The Joy of Worship: Experiencing God Together

2. Remembering the Blessings of Fellowship: Celebrating with a Multitude

1. Psalm 42:4

2. Acts 2:46-47 - And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts.

Psalms 42:5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.

The psalmist is questioning his own feelings of dejection and despair, and encourages himself to have hope in God and praise Him for His help.

1. Finding Hope in God in Times of Discouragement

2. Learning to Rely on God in Times of Distress

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do not be discouraged, for the Lord will renew your strength.

2. Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him.

Psalms 42:6 O my God, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember thee from the land of Jordan, and of the Hermonites, from the hill Mizar.

The psalmist expresses his sadness and remembers God from the land of Jordan and the Hermonites, from the hill Mizar.

1. God is always with us, even in our darkest moments.

2. When facing difficulty, we should look to God for comfort and 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 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.

Psalms 42:7 Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me.

Deep anguish calls out to another in the midst of tumultuous waters. The tumultuousness of life has overcome me.

1. Struggling Through the Waters of Life - Finding Strength in the Midst of Turmoil

2. The Depths of Our Soul - Searching for Comfort When All Seems Lost

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 34:17-18 - The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Psalms 42:8 Yet the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the day time, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.

The Lord will provide His lovingkindness to the Psalmist both day and night, and the Psalmist will always have a song of God in his heart and prayer on his lips.

1. God's Comforting Presence in Times of Trouble

2. Relying on the Lord's 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 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?

Psalms 42:9 I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

The psalmist expresses their grief to God, asking why they are suffering despite being a faithful believer.

1: God never forgets us - We may feel forgotten but God is always with us in times of grief and oppression.

2: The power of prayer - Even in times of suffering, we can turn to God in prayer.

1: Matthew 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

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.

Psalms 42:10 As with a sword in my bones, mine enemies reproach me; while they say daily unto me, Where is thy God?

Enemies taunt the speaker daily, asking where his God is.

1. How to Persevere in the Face of Adversity

2. Relying on God 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. Matthew 5:11-12 - "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Psalms 42:11 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

The psalmist is asking why he is feeling discouraged and how he can find hope and peace in God.

1. "Hope in God: Reclaiming Peace in Troubled Times"

2. "The Health of Our Countenance: Finding Joy 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 8:28 - "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."

Psalm 43 is closely connected to Psalm 42 and continues the theme of longing for God's presence and deliverance. The psalmist pleads with God for vindication against their enemies and expresses their trust in Him.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist appeals to God, asking Him to defend them against unjust and deceitful people. They express a desire for God's light and truth to lead them back to His dwelling place. The psalmist questions why they must mourn while their enemies triumph (Psalm 43:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist encourages themselves to hope in God, acknowledging His goodness and salvation. They express their intention to praise Him with joy and thanksgiving. The psalm concludes with a plea for God's light and truth to guide them (Psalm 43:5).

In summary,

Psalm forty-three presents

a plea for divine vindication,

and an expression of trust in God's guidance,

highlighting the desire for deliverance from enemies.

Emphasizing supplication achieved through appealing for defense against unjust adversaries while expressing a longing for divine presence,

and emphasizing encouragement achieved through affirming trust in God's goodness while expressing an intention to praise Him.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the need for divine guidance while pleading for deliverance from oppression.

Psalms 43:1 Judge me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation: O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man.

God is our protector and defender against those who would do us harm.

1. Trust in the Lord to Protect and Defend You

2. Rely on God to Deliver You from Deception and Injustice

1. Psalms 43:1 - Judge me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation: O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man.

2. Matthew 7:7 - Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

Psalms 43:2 For thou art the God of my strength: why dost thou cast me off? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

The psalmist reflects on why God has seemingly abandoned him, despite his faithfulness and strength in Him.

1. "The Strength of our Faith: Why Do We Feel Cast Off?"

2. "God's Presence in Times of Oppression: Finding Comfort in the Midst of Difficulty"

1. 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."

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."

Psalms 43:3 O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.

God guides us through truth and light.

1. The Power of God's Guidance: How to Rely on the Light and Truth of God

2. Turning to God in Difficult Times: Finding Strength in His Light and Truth

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 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalms 43:4 Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy: yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God my God.

The psalmist expresses his joy in God and his desire to go to the altar of God to praise Him with the harp.

1. Joy in the Lord: Rejoicing in the Presence of God

2. Making Music for the Lord: Worshiping God with Instruments

1. Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

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.

Psalms 43:5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

This passage encourages us to trust in God and in His ultimate plan, even in the darkest of times.

1. "Hope in the Lord: Trusting in His Sovereignty"

2. "God's Healing Presence: The Comfort of His Steadfast Love"

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

Psalm 44 is a psalm of lament and plea for God's intervention in times of national distress. The psalmist recounts God's past faithfulness to their ancestors and expresses confusion and despair over their current suffering despite their loyalty to God.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist recalls the stories of God's mighty deeds in the past, highlighting His deliverance of Israel from Egypt. They acknowledge that it was not by their own strength but by God's power that victories were won. The psalmist expresses confidence in God's help (Psalm 44:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist laments the current state of affliction and defeat, questioning why God has rejected them and allowed them to be disgraced before their enemies. They emphasize their faithfulness to Him, yet they are faced with constant humiliation. The psalmist pleads for divine intervention (Psalm 44:9-26).

In summary,

Psalm forty-four presents

a lament,

and a plea for divine intervention,

highlighting confusion over suffering despite loyalty to God.

Emphasizing remembrance achieved through recalling past acts of deliverance while acknowledging dependence on divine power,

and emphasizing lamentation achieved through expressing bewilderment over present affliction while pleading for restoration.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the need for divine assistance while questioning the reasons behind ongoing suffering despite faithfulness.

Psalms 44:1 We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, what work thou didst in their days, in the times of old.

The Psalmist recounts the works of God in the days of their fathers.

1. God s faithfulness to His people through generations

2. Remembering the past works of God and learning from them

1. Deuteronomy 4:9-10 - 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. 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.

Psalms 44:2 How thou didst drive out the heathen with thy hand, and plantedst them; how thou didst afflict the people, and cast them out.

God's power and authority is demonstrated through his ability to drive out and cast out the heathen.

1: Through God's power and authority, we can overcome any challenge or obstacle in our lives.

2: God's strength allows us to be victorious in all circumstances.

1: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2: 2 Corinthians 12:9 - My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.

Psalms 44:3 For they got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them: but thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance, because thou hadst a favour unto them.

God was the one who gave the land to the Israelites, not by their own strength or power, but by His right hand and His favor.

1. God's Favor - How His Right Hand and Light of His Countenance Can Bless Us

2. Remembering God's Provision - Learning to Rely on His Strength and Not Our Own

1. 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.

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.

Psalms 44:4 Thou art my King, O God: command deliverances for Jacob.

The Psalmist calls on God to deliver Jacob, affirming God as their King.

1. God is Our King - Our Greatest Hope in Times of Trouble

2. Relying on God to Bring Us Deliverance

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 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.

Psalms 44:5 Through thee will we push down our enemies: through thy name will we tread them under that rise up against us.

The Lord provides strength and protection against enemies.

1. God's Might and Armor: Overcoming Challenges with Divine Strength

2. Relying on God's Name for Strength and Protection

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. 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?

Psalms 44:6 For I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my sword save me.

The psalmist expresses his trust in God, rather than in weapons, to save him.

1. Trust in the Lord: Relying on God for security and salvation

2. The Danger of Idolatry: Putting trust in anything other than God

1. Jeremiah 17:5-8 - Trust in the Lord, not in mere mortals

2. 1 Samuel 16:7 - The Lord looks at the heart, not outward appearances.

Psalms 44:7 But thou hast saved us from our enemies, and hast put them to shame that hated us.

God has saved His people from their enemies and shamed those who hated them.

1. God's protection and power in the face of adversity

2. The victory of faith over 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. Romans 8:31 "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Psalms 44:8 In God we boast all the day long, and praise thy name for ever. Selah.

We boast of God's power and praise His name endlessly.

1. The Power of Praise: Rejoicing in God's Unending Strength

2. Boasting in the Lord: Celebrating God's Eternal Might

1. Psalm 111:1-3 - Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

2. James 1:17-18 - 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. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Psalms 44:9 But thou hast cast off, and put us to shame; and goest not forth with our armies.

God has rejected and shamed the psalmist and has not gone with their armies.

1. We must never forget the importance of faithfulness to the Lord.

2. We serve a God who loves and rewards faithfulness.

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. 2 Chronicles 15:2 - And he went out to meet Asa and said to him, Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin: The Lord is with you while you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you.

Psalms 44:10 Thou makest us to turn back from the enemy: and they which hate us spoil for themselves.

We are protected from our enemies and those who hate us reap what they sow.

1. God will fight our battles and those who come against us will reap what they have sown.

2. We can trust in God to protect us from our enemies and those who oppose us will find they cannot triumph.

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 37:39, But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

Psalms 44:11 Thou hast given us like sheep appointed for meat; and hast scattered us among the heathen.

God has allowed His people to be scattered among the heathen and treated like sheep for slaughter.

1. Standing Firm in Faith Despite Persecution

2. The Strength of Unity in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 8:35-39 - Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

2. Ephesians 6:10-20 - Put on the whole armour of God.

Psalms 44:12 Thou sellest thy people for nought, and dost not increase thy wealth by their price.

God does not increase His wealth by selling His people for nothing.

1. The Value of a Soul

2. The Price of Freedom

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. Matthew 16:25-26 "For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?"

Psalms 44:13 Thou makest us a reproach to our neighbours, a scorn and a derision to them that are round about us.

We are often made a laughing stock by those around us.

1: Our Neighbors and Us - Learning to Respect Each Other Despite Our Differences

2: Finding Strength in Adversity - Using Trials as Opportunities for Growth

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.

Psalms 44:14 Thou makest us a byword among the heathen, a shaking of the head among the people.

God's people have become a public joke and are mocked by the nations.

1: Knowing God's Will and Rejecting Worldly Opinion

2: Standing Firm in Faith Despite Persecution

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?"

Psalms 44:15 My confusion is continually before me, and the shame of my face hath covered me,

The psalmist is in a state of confusion and shame.

1: In times of confusion and shame, seek God's help and guidance.

2: God is a refuge for those who feel confused and ashamed.

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 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.

Psalms 44:16 For the voice of him that reproacheth and blasphemeth; by reason of the enemy and avenger.

The psalmist laments the presence of enemies who mock and blaspheme them.

1. Overcoming adversity through faith in God

2. The power of prayer in times of distress

1. Romans 8:31-39 - The power of God in the midst of suffering

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - The armor of God for protection against spiritual enemies

Psalms 44:17 All this is come upon us; yet have we not forgotten thee, neither have we dealt falsely in thy covenant.

We have faced many trials, yet we have not forgotten God and have remained true to His covenant.

1. Faithful in the Face of Trials - A on trusting in the Lord when facing adversity.

2. Covenant Keeping - A on the importance of honoring God's promises.

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 1:3-5 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Psalms 44:18 Our heart is not turned back, neither have our steps declined from thy way;

We have remained steadfast in our faith in God.

1. God's Steadfast Love: The Strength to Persevere

2. The Path to Faithfulness: Abiding in God's Ways

1. Jeremiah 31:3 - The Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

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.

Psalms 44:19 Though thou hast sore broken us in the place of dragons, and covered us with the shadow of death.

God's people have experienced immense suffering, yet He has not abandoned them.

1. God's faithfulness in the midst of suffering

2. Finding strength in God's presence even in our darkest moments

1. Lamentations 3:21-22 - "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."

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."

Psalms 44:20 If we have forgotten the name of our God, or stretched out our hands to a strange god;

God calls us to remember Him and not seek after false gods.

1. Stay True to the One True God

2. Do Not Follow False Gods

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9

2. Exodus 20:3-6

Psalms 44:21 Shall not God search this out? for he knoweth the secrets of the heart.

This passage highlights that God knows the secrets of the heart and will search them out.

1. God Knows Our Hearts Better Than We Do

2. The Power of God Revealed in Our Hearts

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. Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Psalms 44:22 Yea, for thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are counted as sheep for the slaughter.

We are vulnerable and God is our only protection.

1: We must trust in God's strength and protection even when we feel vulnerable and weak.

2: God's faithful love and protection can sustain us in times of fear and persecution.

1: Psalm 91:2 - "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust."

2: Isaiah 40:11 - "He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry them in His bosom, And gently lead those who are with young."

Psalms 44:23 Awake, why sleepest thou, O Lord? arise, cast us not off for ever.

The Psalmist is asking God to wake up and not to abandon them forever.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Adversity

2. The Power of Praying with Persistence

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - The Lord Gives Strength to the Weary

2. James 5:13-18 - The Power of Prayer and Fervent Faith

Psalms 44:24 Wherefore hidest thou thy face, and forgettest our affliction and our oppression?

The passage is asking why God would hide His face and forget the affliction and oppression inflicted upon His people.

1. The Power of Faith in Times of Trouble: How to Keep Hope Alive

2. God's Presence in the Midst of Suffering: Finding Strength in Weakness

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

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.

Psalms 44:25 For our soul is bowed down to the dust: our belly cleaveth unto the earth.

Our soul is bowed down to the struggles of life, and we are humbled by the trials we face.

1: We must be humble and embrace the struggles of life, and accept that we are not in control.

2: We must trust in God and rely on Him to carry us through our trials.

1: Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2: Psalm 55:22 - "Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved."

Psalms 44:26 Arise for our help, and redeem us for thy mercies' sake.

The Psalmist calls upon God to arise and help them, as He is the only source of deliverance and mercy.

1. God is Our Only Source of Deliverance

2. The Psalmist Cries Out for Mercy

1. 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.

2. Colossians 1:13-14 - "He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

Psalm 45 is a royal psalm that celebrates a royal wedding and extols the virtues of the king. It portrays the king as a symbol of God's power, beauty, and righteousness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist addresses the king with words of praise, acknowledging his majestic appearance and divine blessings. They speak of the king's victorious reign and honor him as an agent of justice. The psalmist describes the king's garments, chariot, and weapons, emphasizing his splendor (Psalm 45:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist shifts focus to the queen or princess who accompanies the king. They describe her beauty and honor her as well. The psalmist encourages her to forget her former people and submit to the king. The psalm concludes with an exhortation for all nations to bow before the royal couple (Psalm 45:10-17).

In summary,

Psalm forty-five presents

a celebration of a royal wedding,

and an exaltation of the virtues of the king,

highlighting God's power manifested through royalty.

Emphasizing admiration achieved through praising the majestic appearance and divine blessings bestowed upon the king while extolling his reign,

and emphasizing recognition achieved through describing the beauty and submission of the queen while exhorting all nations to acknowledge their authority.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing royalty as representatives of God's power while celebrating their splendor and calling for universal reverence.

Psalms 45:1 My heart is inditing a good matter: I speak of the things which I have made touching the king: my tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

The heart of the psalmist speaks of the king and his ready pen.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Speech Reflects Our Hearts

2. Speaking Up: Using Our Voices to Honor God

1. James 3:5-10

2. Proverbs 18:21

Psalms 45:2 Thou art fairer than the children of men: grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee for ever.

God is more beautiful than man and has blessed us with grace.

1: God's beauty is greater than our own and He has given us grace.

2: God's grace is a blessing to us that we should be thankful for.

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 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Psalms 45:3 Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O most mighty, with thy glory and thy majesty.

This verse from Psalms 45 encourages believers to use their strength and honor to pursue God's glory.

1. "Strength in the Lord: Finding the Power to Pursue God's Glory"

2. "The Majesty of God: Reclaiming the Splendor of His Name"

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. 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."

Psalms 45:4 And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness and righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.

Ride in God's majesty and find your strength in truth, meekness, and righteousness.

1. The Strength of Righteousness: Trusting in God's Promises

2. Riding in Majesty: Finding Strength in Truth and Meekness

1. Ephesians 6:10-20 - Putting on the Armor of God

2. Philippians 4:13 - The Strength of Christ in Us

Psalms 45:5 Thine arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; whereby the people fall under thee.

God's power is so strong that it can penetrate even the hearts of kings and their enemies.

1: God's power is greater than any king or enemy.

2: No one is immune to the power of God.

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 40:29 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Psalms 45:6 Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre.

This passage speaks of God's eternal reign and the righteousness of His kingdom.

1. God is Eternal and His Kingdom is Righteous

2. Rejoice in the Eternal Reign of God

1. Isaiah 9:7 - Of the increase of his government and 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. Hebrews 1:8 - But of the Son he says, Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.

Psalms 45:7 Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

God has anointed the psalmist above his fellows because the psalmist loves righteousness and hates wickedness.

1. The Power of Love and Hate - How to channel these emotions for Godly purposes

2. The Blessing of the Anointing - Experiencing God's favor and joy

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 12:9 - Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good

Psalms 45:8 All thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes, and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.

The Psalmist praises God, describing his garments as being fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, as if from ivory palaces, which bring joy and gladness.

1. The Joy of Serving God: How Serving God Brings Us Joy and Gladness

2. The Fragrance of Holiness: Wearing the Aroma of God's Holiness

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. 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.

Psalms 45:9 Kings' daughters were among thy honourable women: upon thy right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir.

The Queen of Ophir was among the honourable women of the King and stood upon his right hand.

1. The Honor of Serving in Royalty

2. The Dignity of Women

1. 1 Timothy 2:9-10 - Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments, but rather by means of good works, as is proper for women making a claim to godliness.

2. Proverbs 31:10-12 - An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, And he will have no lack of gain. She does him good and not evil All the days of her life.

Psalms 45:10 Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house;

1: Put God first in your life and forget about your family and old ways.

2: Put your trust in God and His Word and leave behind the things of this world.

1: Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2: Colossians 3:2 - Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Psalms 45:11 So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him.

The king desires beauty because he is the Lord and should be worshipped.

1. Worshipping God in All of Our Beauty

2. Cultivating Beauty to Honor God

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. 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.

Psalms 45:12 And the daughter of Tyre shall be there with a gift; even the rich among the people shall intreat thy favour.

People from Tyre will come to offer gifts to the Lord, and even the wealthy will seek His favor.

1. God's grace is available to all regardless of their wealth or status.

2. Generosity and humility are essential traits of a faithful follower of the Lord.

1. Matthew 5:5 - "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

2. Romans 12:16 - "Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited."

Psalms 45:13 The king's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold.

The king's daughter is praised for her beauty and the gold clothing she wears.

1. The Beauty of the King's Daughter: The Importance of Being Adorned

2. The King's Daughter: A Model of Inner and Outer Beauty

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. Proverbs 31:22 - "She makes bed coverings for herself; her clothing is fine linen and purple."

Psalms 45:14 She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework: the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee.

The virgins are brought to the king in beautiful clothing.

1: The beauty of God s people in the eyes of the King.

2: The importance of being faithful to the King in good times and bad.

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: Revelation 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready.

Psalms 45:15 With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall enter into the king's palace.

People will be brought to the King's palace with joy and celebration.

1. Rejoice in the King's Presence - Psalms 45:15

2. Enter the King's Palace with Gladness - Psalm 45:15

1. Psalms 45:15 - With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall enter into the king's palace.

2. Hebrews 12:22-24 - But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.

Psalms 45:16 Instead of thy fathers shall be thy children, whom thou mayest make princes in all the earth.

God's promises to the children of Israel are fulfilled by His provision of a son, through whom they will be given the blessing of many children and a royal inheritance.

1. The Fulfillment of God's Promises: Blessing Through Our Children

2. The Inheritance of God: Creating Princes and Princesses

1. 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,

2. Galatians 3:13-14 - Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us for it is written, Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

Psalms 45:17 I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations: therefore shall the people praise thee for ever and ever.

God s name will be remembered forever, and His people will praise Him forever.

1. God's Eternal Presence: The Unending Praise of His People

2. The Legacy of God: Being Remembered for Generations

1. Psalm 145:2-3 - "Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised."

2. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

Psalm 46 is a psalm of trust and confidence in God's protection and sovereignty. It emphasizes the security and peace found in God amidst turbulent times.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist proclaims that God is their refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble. They describe the chaos and upheaval of the earth, but affirm that God remains unshaken. The psalmist encourages the people to cease striving and know that He is God (Psalm 46:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on how God has brought desolation upon the nations, but He will also bring peace to His chosen city. They urge the people to behold the works of the Lord, who makes wars cease and exalts Himself among all nations. The psalm concludes with a declaration that "the Lord Almighty is with us" (Psalm 46:4-11).

In summary,

Psalm forty-six presents

a proclamation of trust,

and a declaration of God's sovereignty,

highlighting security found in Him amidst turmoil.

Emphasizing assurance achieved through acknowledging God as a source of refuge and strength while affirming His stability despite worldly chaos,

and emphasizing contemplation achieved through reflecting on His power to bring peace while calling for recognition of His authority.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine intervention in human affairs while declaring His presence as a source of comfort and assurance.

Psalms 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

God is our protector in times of distress.

1. God is Our Strength in Times of Trouble

2. Finding Refuge in 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 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Psalms 46:2 Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

God is with us in times of distress, so we have no need to fear.

1. "The Lord Is Our Strength: Finding Courage in Difficult Times"

2. "God Is Always with Us: Reassurance in Troubled 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. So we say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.

2. Isaiah 43:1-2 Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. 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.

Psalms 46:3 Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.

The raging waters and shaking mountains of God's presence are a source of awe and reverence.

1. A Call to Worship: Rejoice in the Magnificence of God's Presence

2. Fear Not: Reassurance in the Midst of the Storm

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. 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."

Psalms 46:4 There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High.

The psalmist describes a river that brings joy and gladness to the city of God and the tabernacle of the Most High.

1. The Joy of God s Presence: How the Streams of the River of God Can Bring Us Gladness

2. The Source of Our Gladness: How the City of God and the Tabernacle of the Most High Can Give Us Joy

1. Isaiah 12:3 - Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

2. 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.

Psalms 46:5 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.

God will always be with us and will help us in times of need.

1. "God Is Our Help in Times of Trouble"

2. "The Unmovable 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. Hebrews 13:5b - "...for He has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Psalms 46:6 The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted.

The heathen are in an uproar and the nations are in chaos, but God speaks and the earth trembles in response.

1. God Is In Control - No Matter What

2. The Mighty Power of God's Voice

1. 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."

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."

Psalms 46:7 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

God is with us and is our refuge.

1. God is Our Refuge and Strength

2. Trusting in God'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. Psalms 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?"

Psalms 46:8 Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth.

The works of the Lord should be acknowledged and admired for the desolations He has brought to the earth.

1. The Majesty of the Lord: Acknowledging His Power in Our Lives

2. The Desolations of the Lord: Understanding His Purposes in Judgment

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. Habakkuk 3:17-19 - Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

Psalms 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.

God brings peace to the world by breaking weapons of destruction and burning chariots of war.

1. God is the Prince of Peace - Isaiah 9:6

2. Put Your Faith in the Lord - Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Isaiah 2:4 - He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and 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. 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.

Psalms 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

This verse encourages us to be still and recognize God's power and majesty.

1. "The Power of Stillness: Recognizing God's Sovereignty"

2. "Be Still and Know: A Call to Faith in God's Exaltation"

1. Isaiah 40:28-31

2. Psalms 29:2-4

Psalms 46:11 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

The Lord is with us, protecting us and providing refuge.

1: God is our refuge and strength, and He is always with us.

2: When we are in need, we can turn to the Lord for salvation and comfort.

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."

Psalm 47 is a psalm of praise and exaltation of God as the supreme ruler over all nations. It calls for joyful worship and acknowledges God's sovereignty and authority.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist invites all people to clap their hands, shout, and sing praises to God, who is the great King over all the earth. They describe Him as subduing nations under His feet and choosing the inheritance of Jacob. The psalmist emphasizes that God has ascended with a shout of triumph (Psalm 47:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist continues to exalt God as the ruler over all nations. They emphasize His reign, calling for praise with musical instruments. The psalm concludes by acknowledging that God is revered among the kings of the earth (Psalm 47:6-9).

In summary,

Psalm forty-seven presents

a call to joyful worship,

and an exaltation of God's sovereignty,

highlighting His reign over all nations.

Emphasizing celebration achieved through inviting people to express praise and joy through various means while acknowledging His authority,

and emphasizing recognition achieved through describing His dominion over earthly kingdoms while affirming His reverence among rulers.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine kingship while calling for universal adoration and highlighting His choice of a specific inheritance.

Psalms 47:1 O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.

The Psalmist invites all people to clap their hands and shout to God with a voice of triumph.

1. Clapping Hands and Shouting to God: Rejoicing in the Lord's Salvation

2. A Call to Praise: Embracing God's Goodness

1. Philippians 4:4-8 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

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.

Psalms 47:2 For the LORD most high is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth.

Psalm 47 praises God as a powerful king who rules over all the earth.

1. Recognizing God as the Most High King

2. The Terrible Majesty of God

1. Isaiah 6:1-3

2. Revelation 4:8-11

Psalms 47:3 He shall subdue the people under us, and the nations under our feet.

This passage from Psalms describes God as someone who will subdue the people and nations beneath us.

1. God's Power to Defeat the Oppressor

2. Knowing God as Our Deliverer

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. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

2. Isaiah 11:4 - 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.

Psalms 47:4 He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom he loved. Selah.

God chooses our inheritance for us, and it is the excellence of Jacob whom He loves.

1. Choosing Our Inheritance: How to Receive God's Blessing

2. The Excellence of Jacob: Growing in the Love of God

1. Psalm 103:2-5 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

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.

Psalms 47:5 God is gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

God has ascended with a loud shout and the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

1. Shout for Joy: God's Uplifting Presence

2. The Sound of a Trumpet: Rejoicing in God's Salvation

1. Zephaniah 3:14-17 - Rejoice for God's Presence and Salvation

2. Isaiah 12:2-6 - Shout for Joy and Praise God's Name

Psalms 47:6 Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises unto our King, sing praises.

This verse encourages us to sing praises to God, acknowledging Him as our King.

1. Praising God in Adversity

2. The King of All Kings

1. Romans 15:9-11 - And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name. And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people. And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people.

2. Psalm 66:1-4 - Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious. 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. Selah.

Psalms 47:7 For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.

This passage highlights the power and glory of God, proclaiming He is the King of all the earth and should be praised with understanding.

1. "The King of All the Earth: Worship with Understanding"

2. "Recognizing God's Kingship: A Call to Worship"

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. Psalm 33:1 - "Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright."

Psalms 47:8 God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness.

God is sovereign and is seated in a place of holiness.

1. The Sovereignty of God and Its Implications for Our Lives

2. The Holiness of God and Our Response

1. Isaiah 6:1-3

2. Revelation 4:2-11

Psalms 47:9 The princes of the people are gathered together, even the people of the God of Abraham: for the shields of the earth belong unto God: he is greatly exalted.

The people of God, led by their princes, have gathered together and praised God, who is greatly exalted.

1. The Power of Unity: How Gathering Together Strengthens Our Faith

2. The Exaltation of God: How Praising God Brings Us Closer to Him

1. Psalm 34:3 - O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

2. 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.

Psalm 48 is a psalm that exalts and praises the greatness of Jerusalem, emphasizing its security and the presence of God within its walls. It celebrates the city as a symbol of God's faithfulness and protection.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist extols the greatness of Jerusalem, describing it as beautiful and exalted. They highlight how God has made Himself known in the city's citadels and fortresses. The psalmist recounts how kings gathered together but were astonished by what they saw, acknowledging God's protection (Psalm 48:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on God's steadfast love and meditates on His faithfulness within His temple. They encourage people to walk around Zion, observe its walls, and tell future generations about its greatness. The psalm concludes with an affirmation that "this God is our God forever" (Psalm 48:8-14).

In summary,

Psalm forty-eight presents

a celebration of Jerusalem's greatness,

and an acknowledgment of God's presence,

highlighting His faithfulness and protection.

Emphasizing admiration achieved through praising Jerusalem as a beautiful and exalted city while recognizing divine manifestation in its fortifications,

and emphasizing reflection achieved through contemplating God's love and faithfulness within His temple while urging future generations to appreciate its significance.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine ownership over Jerusalem while affirming eternal allegiance to Him as their God.

Psalms 48:1 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness.

The LORD is greatly praised in His holy city.

1. God is worthy of our highest praise

2. The Lord is exalted in His holy city

1. Revelation 21:2-3 - I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

2. Isaiah 2:2-3 - It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it.

Psalms 48:2 Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

Mount Zion is a beautiful and joyous place, the city of the great King.

1: God's glory is seen in Mount Zion, a place of joy and beauty.

2: We can find joy in the city of the great King, Mount Zion.

1: Isaiah 24:23 - Then the moon will be confounded and the sun ashamed, for the Lord of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem and before his ancients gloriously.

2: 2 Chronicles 5:14 - So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of God.

Psalms 48:3 God is known in her palaces for a refuge.

God is well known and respected as a source of refuge and protection in the palaces of His people.

1. "A Refuge in Times of Trouble"

2. "The Protection of God's People"

1. Isaiah 25:4 - "For You have been a defense for the helpless, A defense for the needy in his distress, A refuge from the storm, a shade from the heat; For the breath of the ruthless Is like a rain storm against a wall.

2. Psalms 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble."

Psalms 48:4 For, lo, the kings were assembled, they passed by together.

The kings of the earth gathered together in unity.

1. The Power of Unity How to work together for the common good.

2. The Strength of Community The importance of collaboration for success.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor.

2. Ephesians 4:1-3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Psalms 48:5 They saw it, and so they marvelled; they were troubled, and hasted away.

The people saw the greatness of God and were amazed and troubled, fleeing in fear.

1. Fear of the Lord: The Power of Awe in Scripture

2. Learning to Revere God: Finding Comfort in His Holiness

1. Isaiah 6:1-5

2. Job 42:5-6

Psalms 48:6 Fear took hold upon them there, and pain, as of a woman in travail.

People in Zion were filled with fear and anguish.

1. God is with us in times of pain and fear.

2. No matter how tough the situation is, we must trust in the Lord.

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 34:4 "I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears."

Psalms 48:7 Thou breakest the ships of Tarshish with an east wind.

God used an east wind to break the ships of Tarshish.

1. Wind of Change: How God Uses the Unexpected to Transform Our Lives

2. Overcoming Opposition: How God Helps Us Push Through Adversity

1. Psalm 48:7 - "Thou breakest the ships of Tarshish with an east wind."

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."

Psalms 48:8 As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God: God will establish it for ever. Selah.

The city of the LORD of hosts has been established by God and will remain forever.

1. The Eternal Promise of God

2. God's Everlasting Covenant

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

2. Matthew 24:35 - Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Psalms 48:9 We have thought of thy lovingkindness, O God, in the midst of thy temple.

People are thinking of God's loving kindness in the midst of His temple.

1. God's Love is Everywhere: A on Psalm 48:9

2. Experiencing God's Lovingkindness in His Temple

1. Psalm 145:17 The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving in all his works.

2. 1 John 4:16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

Psalms 48:10 According to thy name, O God, so is thy praise unto the ends of the earth: thy right hand is full of righteousness.

God's name is praised through His righteousness to every corner of the world.

1: God's righteousness is a source of praise for all of us.

2: We can look to God for strength and righteousness.

1: Psalm 103:6-7 - The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

2: Isaiah 61:8 - For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery and wrongdoing. I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Psalms 48:11 Let mount Zion rejoice, let the daughters of Judah be glad, because of thy judgments.

Mount Zion and the daughters of Judah should rejoice because of God's judgments.

1. God's Judgments: The Path to Joy

2. Rejoicing in God's Righteousness

1. Matthew 5:6 - "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."

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."

Psalms 48:12 Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof.

Psalms 48 encourages readers to take a tour of Zion and tell its wonders.

1. "The Wonders of Zion: A Tour of God's Holy City"

2. "The Invitation to Zion: Sharing God's Message of Love"

1. Psalms 48:12

2. Isaiah 2:2-3 "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. 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."

Psalms 48:13 Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces; that ye may tell it to the generation following.

This passage encourages us to take notice and remember the strength of God's protection for us and to share this with future generations.

1. Remember the Strength of God's Protection

2. Sharing the Blessings of God with Future Generations

1. 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.

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.

Psalms 48:14 For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death.

This Psalm reminds us that God is with us even through death, and will guide us forever.

1. God's Unfailing Love - How God is with us throughout our lives, even in death.

2. The Everlasting Guide - How God guides us and never leaves our side.

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 8:38-39 - "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."

Psalm 49 is a psalm that addresses the universal reality of death and the fleeting nature of wealth and earthly possessions. It offers wisdom and perspective on the true value of life and encourages trust in God rather than material wealth.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by calling all people, both rich and poor, to listen to their words of wisdom. They assert that they will speak wisely and share insights that have been passed down from generation to generation (Psalm 49:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges the futility of trusting in wealth or putting confidence in one's riches. They emphasize that no amount of wealth can redeem a person's life or secure their eternal destiny. The psalmist observes how even the wealthiest individuals will eventually die like everyone else (Psalm 49:5-12).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist contrasts the fate of those who trust in their riches with those who trust in God. They affirm that God will redeem their souls from the power of death, while the wealthy will ultimately perish without taking any riches with them (Psalm 49:13-20).

In summary,

Psalm forty-nine presents

a reflection on the transient nature of wealth,

and a call to trust in God's redemption,

highlighting wisdom regarding life's true value.

Emphasizing instruction achieved through offering wise insights about trusting material possessions while recognizing their inability to secure eternal destiny,

and emphasizing contrast achieved through comparing the fate of those who rely on wealth with those who place their trust in God.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine redemption from death while highlighting the fleeting nature of worldly riches as a call for reliance on God rather than material possessions.

Psalms 49:1 Hear this, all ye people; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world:

This passage is a call to all people to listen and heed.

1: We are all called to listen and heed the words of the Lord.

2: All inhabitants of the world are invited to hear the Word of God.

1: James 1:19-22 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. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

2: Proverbs 4:20-22 My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh.

Psalms 49:2 Both low and high, rich and poor, together.

All people, regardless of social status, are equal in the eyes of God.

1. "The Unequal Equality of God: Why Social Status Does Not Matter."

2. "God Sees All: How We Are All Equal in His Eyes."

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 2:1-4 - "My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, Have a seat here, please, while to the one who is poor you say, Stand there, or, Sit at my feet, have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?"

Psalms 49:3 My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

Psalms 49:3 encourages speaking with wisdom and meditating with understanding.

1. Wisdom is a Gift from God

2. Meditate on the Word of God

1. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not.

Psalms 49:4 I will incline mine ear to a parable: I will open my dark saying upon the harp.

The psalmist is willing to learn from parables and will use music to explain his difficult thoughts.

1. Learning from Parables: The Wisdom of the Psalmist

2. Exploring Difficult Thoughts through Music

1. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Ecclesiastes 7:12 - "For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom preserves the life of him who has it."

Psalms 49:5 Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil, when the iniquity of my heels shall compass me about?

The psalmist questions why he should fear in the days of evil when it seems that iniquity surrounds him.

1: When Life Seems Darkest, Trust God

2: Finding Strength in 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: 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.

Psalms 49:6 They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches;

The rich cannot save themselves through their wealth.

1. Do not rely on riches to save you, for only God can.

2. Our trust should be in God, not our possessions.

1. Proverbs 11:28 - Those who trust in their riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf.

2. Psalm 62:10 - Do not trust in extortion or take pride in stolen goods; though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

Psalms 49:7 None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him:

No human is able to save another from the consequences of their own actions.

1. The importance of taking responsibility for our own actions.

2. Our inability to purchase redemption from God.

1. Proverbs 19:15 - "Laziness brings on deep sleep, and the shiftless go hungry."

2. Galatians 6:7 - "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap."

Psalms 49:8 (For the redemption of their soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever:)

The Psalmist reflects on the preciousness of the redemption of one's soul and its permanence.

1. The Preciousness of Redemption

2. The Permanence of Salvation

1. Colossians 1:14 - In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins

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.

Psalms 49:9 That he should still live for ever, and not see corruption.

Psalms 49:9 speaks of a desire that a person should live forever and never experience death or corruption.

1. Everlasting Life: Lessons from Psalms 49:9

2. The Value of a Life: What Psalms 49:9 Teaches Us

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. Ecclesiastes 7:1 - A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

Psalms 49:10 For he seeth that wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others.

The wise, the foolish, and the unwise all die, leaving their wealth behind to be shared by others.

1: No man is immortal, but the wisdom we share lives on.

2: Even the most foolish among us can have a lasting impact through our gifts and talents.

1: 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 - Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

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.

Psalms 49:11 Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names.

People believe that they can own land and their descendants will continue to own it for generations, and they even name their land after themselves.

1. We must remember that no one can truly own land, and that our possessions are temporary.

2. We should place our trust in the Lord, instead of relying on our own possessions.

1. Psalm 49:11

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.

Psalms 49:12 Nevertheless man being in honour abideth not: he is like the beasts that perish.

Man is not invincible and will eventually perish like the beasts.

1: We must not be proud of the gifts and possessions we have in this life, for they are fleeting.

2: We must live our lives humbly and with gratitude, for all is temporary.

1: 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.

2: Ecclesiastes 8:10 - Then I saw the wicked buried, who had come and gone from the place of the holy, and they were forgotten in the city where they had so done: this is also vanity.

Psalms 49:13 This their way is their folly: yet their posterity approve their sayings. Selah.

People often live foolishly, but their words are often accepted by their descendants.

1. The Power of Words - How words spoken today can have an impact on generations to come

2. The Folly of Our Ways - How living foolishly can lead to a legacy of foolishness

1. Proverbs 22:1 - "A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold."

2. James 3:10 - "Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be."

Psalms 49:14 Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them; and the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; and their beauty shall consume in the grave from their dwelling.

This passage from Psalms talks about death being the ultimate equalizer, regardless of one's wealth or beauty.

1: We are all equal in death, no matter how powerful we were in life.

2: We should all strive to make the most of our life, as it is temporary and fleeting.

1: Ecclesiastes 3:2 "A time to be born, 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."

Psalms 49:15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me. Selah.

God will redeem souls from the grave and will receive them.

1. God's Redemption of Souls

2. The Power of God's Reception

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. 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.

Psalms 49:16 Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased;

We should not be jealous of those who have material wealth, rather we should be thankful for the blessings we have been given.

1. Overcoming Envy of Rich and Famous

2. Contentment in the Midst of Abundance

1. Psalm 37:1-2 - Do not fret because of evildoers, do not be envious of wrongdoers! For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.

2. 1 Timothy 6:6-8 - Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, 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.

Psalms 49:17 For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him.

Death is an inevitable part of life and no amount of wealth or possessions can prevent it.

1. "The Vanity of Riches"

2. "Living Life to the Fullest"

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 2:17 - "So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a striving after wind."

Psalms 49:18 Though while he lived he blessed his soul: and men will praise thee, when thou doest well to thyself.

One should be generous and do good deeds, and will be praised for it even after death.

1. Doing Good While You Live - Proverbs 3:27-28

2. The Power of Praise - Psalm 107:1

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. Psalm 107:1 - "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

Psalms 49:19 He shall go to the generation of his fathers; they shall never see light.

A person will die and never experience the light of life again.

1. We must accept that death is an inevitable part of life and that life is fleeting.

2. We can take comfort in knowing that our lives have an impact beyond our own lifetime and that our legacy will live on in the generations that follow us.

1. Psalm 49:19 - He shall go to the generation of his fathers; they shall never see light.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:5-6 - For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing; they have no further reward, and even the memory of them is forgotten. Their love, their hate and their jealousy have long since vanished; never again will they have a part in anything that happens under the sun.

Psalms 49:20 Man that is in honour, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish.

Man's life is fleeting and he must understand his place in God's plan to gain eternal life.

1. "Understanding Your Place in God's Plan"

2. "Living a Life of Honor in the Eyes of 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. 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."

Psalm 50 is a psalm that emphasizes true worship and the importance of genuine obedience to God rather than mere ritualistic offerings. It highlights God's authority and judgment over His people.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist describes God as the Mighty One, summoning all creation from sunrise to sunset. They emphasize that God does not need sacrifices, for He owns everything in the world. The psalmist calls upon the righteous to gather before Him (Psalm 50:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist speaks on behalf of God, rebuking His people for their empty rituals and insincere sacrifices. They remind them that true worship involves offering thanksgiving and fulfilling vows made to the Most High. The psalmist warns against hypocrisy and emphasizes that God desires a genuine heart (Psalm 50:7-15).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist portrays God as the righteous judge who will bring judgment upon the wicked. They warn against living a life of wickedness while claiming to be righteous. The psalm concludes with an exhortation for those who offer true praise and live uprightly to trust in God's deliverance (Psalm 50:16-23).

In summary,

Psalm fifty presents

a call for sincere worship,

and a warning against hypocrisy,

highlighting obedience over ritualistic offerings.

Emphasizing recognition achieved through acknowledging God's authority over creation while highlighting His indifference towards material sacrifices,

and emphasizing correction achieved through rebuking insincere worship while affirming the importance of gratitude and integrity.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine judgment on hypocritical behavior while encouraging trust in Him for deliverance based on genuine devotion rather than empty rituals.

Psalms 50:1 The mighty God, even the LORD, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof.

The LORD has spoken to all the earth from east to west.

1. God's Mighty Power and Presence is Everywhere

2. The Universal Reach of God's Call

1. Isaiah 45:6 - 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. 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.

Psalms 50:2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined.

This passage highlights the beauty of God which radiates from Zion.

1. The Uniqueness of God's Beauty

2. How to Receive God's Beauty in Our Lives

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. Isaiah 33:17 - Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty: they shall behold the land that is very far off.

Psalms 50:3 Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him.

God will come and will not remain silent. He will be accompanied by a raging fire and a powerful storm.

1. God's Justice Will Come: A Study of Psalm 50:3

2. The Power of the Lord: Understanding the Wrath of God

1. Habakkuk 3:3-5 - God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise. And his brightness was as the light; he had horns coming out of his hand: and there was the hiding of his power.

2. Amos 5:18-20 - Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light. As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him. Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?

Psalms 50:4 He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people.

God is the judge of His people and will call to the heavens and earth for judgement.

1. The Power of God's Judgement

2. Seeking God's Guidance Through Prayer

1. Matthew 7:7-12 - Seek and you shall find

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God

Psalms 50:5 Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.

God calls for His saints to gather together and renew their covenant with Him through sacrifice.

1. The Covenant of Sacrifice: Renewing Our Commitment to God

2. The Power of Gathering: Strengthening Our Faith Through Unity

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. 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. 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, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. )

Psalms 50:6 And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God is judge himself. Selah.

The heavens proclaim the righteousness of God, who is the ultimate judge.

1: God is our judge and we should trust in His righteousness.

2: God's righteousness is proclaimed in the heavens and should be reflected in our lives.

1: 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.

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.

Psalms 50:7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, and I will testify against thee: I am God, even thy God.

God speaks to His people and testifies against them; He is their God.

1. The Lord is Speaking: Listen and Obey

2. God's Voice Above All Others

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. 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.

Psalms 50:8 I will not reprove thee for thy sacrifices or thy burnt offerings, to have been continually before me.

God does not require constant sacrifices in order to be pleased.

1. The Lord's Gracious Acceptance: Understanding the Meaning of God's Will

2. Sacrifices of the Heart: The True Meaning of Worship

1. John 4:24: "God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

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."

Psalms 50:9 I will take no bullock out of thy house, nor he goats out of thy folds.

God does not need physical offerings from his people, and they should not give them to him.

1. God's Love: The Gift of Unconditional Acceptance

2. The Power of Gratitude: What it Means to Give and Receive in the Eyes of 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. 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.

Psalms 50:10 For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.

God owns every animal in the forest and all the cattle on the hills.

1. God is the Ruler of All Creation

2. The Power of God's Ownership

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

2. Genesis 1:26 - Then God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.

Psalms 50:11 I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine.

God knows and cares for all creatures, large and small.

1: God's care and concern for all creatures

2: The depth of God's knowledge and understanding

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: 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.

Psalms 50:12 If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world is mine, and the fulness thereof.

God owns the world and all its possessions, and does not need to ask for help.

1: No matter what our situation is, God is our provider and meets all our needs.

2: God is sovereign and has full authority over all His creation.

1: Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

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

Psalms 50:13 Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats?

God's people are reminded to not sacrifice animals for their own benefit, but rather to honor and glorify God.

1. Honoring God: Going Beyond Sacrifices

2. The Heart of Worship: Not Just What We Offer, But How We Offer 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. 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.

Psalms 50:14 Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:

We should offer thanks to God and fulfill our vows.

1. The Power of Gratitude: Expressing Thanks to God

2. Keeping Our Vows: The Necessity of Fulfilling 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. 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.

Psalms 50:15 And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

God promises to deliver us if we call on Him in times of trouble and will be glorified for it.

1. The Power of Prayer: Relying on God in Troubled Times

2. The Faithfulness of God: Trusting in His Promises

1. Romans 10:13 - "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

2. Psalm 34:17 - "The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles."

Psalms 50:16 But unto the wicked God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or that thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth?

God reprimands the wicked for pretending to follow His laws while not living up to them.

1. God's standards are uncompromising - the righteous must live up to them or face His wrath.

2. There is no room for hypocrisy in God's kingdom - only genuine faith and obedience will suffice.

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 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.

Psalms 50:17 Seeing thou hatest instruction, and casteth my words behind thee.

The psalmist admonishes those who reject instruction and ignore the words of God.

1. The Danger of Rejecting Instruction: A Study of Psalm 50:17

2. God's Words are Not to Be Ignored: How to Follow Instruction from God

1. Proverbs 1:7-9 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

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.

Psalms 50:18 When thou sawest a thief, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers.

The Psalmist rebukes those who have sided with thieves and adulterers.

1: We must choose our friends and companions carefully and never be tempted to align with those who are immoral or break the law.

2: We must guard our hearts and minds and not be swayed by peer pressure or the temptation of sin.

1: Proverbs 22:24-25 "Make no friendship with a man given to anger, nor go with a wrathful man, lest you learn his ways and entangle yourself in a snare."

2: James 4:4 "You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."

Psalms 50:19 Thou givest thy mouth to evil, and thy tongue frameth deceit.

People can use their words to do evil or deceive others.

1. The Power of Words: How our Words Can Impact Others

2. The Dangers of Deceit: Why it's Important to Speak the Truth

1. James 3:1-12 - A look at how our tongues can be used for good or evil

2. Proverbs 12:17-22 - The importance of speaking truth and avoiding deceitful words

Psalms 50:20 Thou sittest and speakest against thy brother; thou slanderest thine own mother's son.

The psalmist condemns one who speaks against their brother and slanders their own mother's son.

1. The Power of Our Words: Using Our Words To Build Up, Not Tear Down

2. The Value of Family: Honoring Our Brothers and Mothers

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

2. Proverbs 10:11 - The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.

Psalms 50:21 These things hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself: but I will reprove thee, and set them in order before thine eyes.

God remained silent while the psalmist did wrong, but now God will rebuke the psalmist and make His disapproval known.

1. The Consequences of Ignoring Reproof

2. God's Silence Does Not Mean Approval

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 12:5-7 - "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. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?"

Psalms 50:22 Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver.

God's warning to those who forget Him: He will tear them to pieces and no one will be able to deliver them.

1. The Danger of Forgetting God

2. The Importance of Remembering God

1. Deuteronomy 8:11-14 - Take care lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

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, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalms 50:23 Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

God desires the praise of his people and will reward those who order their lives rightly with salvation.

1. "Living for God's Glory: The Path to Salvation"

2. "The Power of Praise: Glorifying God Through Our Lives"

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 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Psalm 51 is a deeply personal and heartfelt prayer of repentance and plea for forgiveness. It is attributed to King David after his sin with Bathsheba, expressing deep remorse and a desire for spiritual renewal.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by acknowledging their sin and recognizing their transgressions before God. They appeal to God's mercy, asking Him to cleanse them from their iniquity and wash away their sins (Psalm 51:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses the depth of their guilt, acknowledging that they have sinned against God alone. They confess the need for a pure heart and ask God to create in them a clean spirit. They long for restoration and the joy of God's salvation (Psalm 51:5-12).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist offers a willing heart of repentance, vowing to teach others about God's ways so that sinners may turn back to Him. They recognize that external sacrifices are not enough; what truly pleases God is a broken spirit and contrite heart (Psalm 51:13-17).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist concludes with a plea for God's favor upon Jerusalem, asking Him to rebuild its walls and restore its worship. They affirm that sacrifices offered with sincerity will be acceptable to God (Psalm 51:18-19).

In summary,

Psalm fifty-one presents

a prayer of repentance,

and a plea for forgiveness,

highlighting sincere remorse and desire for renewal.

Emphasizing confession achieved through acknowledging personal sinfulness while appealing to divine mercy,

and emphasizing transformation achieved through seeking purification of heart while longing for restoration.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the insufficiency of external rituals while affirming the importance of genuine repentance as the path towards reconciliation with God.

Psalms 51:1 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

This passage is a plea for mercy and forgiveness from God.

1. God is always merciful and forgiving.

2. We can always turn to God for mercy and forgiveness.

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. 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."

Psalms 51:2 Wash me throughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

This passage speaks of the need for forgiveness and cleansing from sin.

1. Let Us Seek Forgiveness and Cleanse Ourselves from Sin

2. The Importance of Seeking Forgiveness and Cleansing 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. 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.

Psalms 51:3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

The psalmist acknowledges his sin and confesses that it is constantly before him.

1. The Power of Acknowledging Our Mistakes

2. The Path of Confession: How to Accept and Receive Forgiveness

1. James 5:16 - Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed.

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.

Psalms 51:4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

The Psalmist acknowledges that he has sinned against God and pleads for God's justification when He passes judgment.

1. God's Loving Forgiveness: How the Lord Will Justify Us When We Repent

2. The Power of Confession: The Importance of Acknowledging Our Sins Before God

1. 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."

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."

Psalms 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

The passage states that we are born in sin, and are shaped by it.

1. The Grace of God: How Our Sinful Nature Does Not Define Us

2. Finding Peace in Admitting We Are Sinners

1. 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.

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.

Psalms 51:6 Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

This verse speaks to God's desire for truth and wisdom in our innermost being.

1 - We must strive to seek and embrace truth and wisdom in our hearts, for God desires it of us.

2 - God wants to make us wise, so that we can seek truth in our innermost parts and be an example of righteousness.

1 - 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.

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.

Psalms 51:7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

God's purifying grace cleanses us from our sins.

1: The Cleansing Power of God's Grace

2: Purified by the Blood of Christ

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: 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, purifies us from all sin.

Psalms 51:8 Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

The psalmist asks God to give him joy and gladness so that he may be healed from the brokenness he has experienced.

1. "The Healing Power of Joy: Experiencing God's Restorative Grace"

2. "The Beauty of Forgiveness: Being Freed from Brokenness"

1. Romans 5:1-5 - 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. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.

2. 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; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; 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; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

Psalms 51:9 Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.

The passage emphasizes the need to repent and seek God's forgiveness for our sins.

1. The Power of Repentance: Seeking God's Forgiveness

2. A Path to Redemption: Striving for Holiness

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. 19 If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; 20 but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be eaten by the sword; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

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."

Psalms 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

David pleads with God to create a clean heart and to give him a right spirit.

1) The Power of Renewal: Finding Strength in God's Mercy

2) Cleansing Our Hearts: Relying on God's Grace

1) Ezekiel 36:26-27 - A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you.

2) Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

Psalms 51:11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

The passage speaks of God's desire for us to remain in his presence and not be deprived of His holy spirit.

1. The Power of God's Presence in our Lives

2. Cultivating an Intimate Relationship with the Holy Spirit

1. John 15:4-5 - Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

2. Romans 8:11 - And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Psalms 51:12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

The Psalmist is asking God to restore the joy of his salvation and to uphold him with His free spirit.

1. Discovering Joy in Our Salvation

2. Upholding Ourselves through the Power of the Spirit

1. Romans 5:1-2 - "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand."

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."

Psalms 51:13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

This passage encourages us to teach others about God's ways and to help sinners to turn to Him.

1. The Power of Teaching: Learning to Share God's Truth

2. True Conversion: A Journey of Repentance and Renewal

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. 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."

Psalms 51:14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.

Deliverance from sin is the focus of Psalm 51.

1. "The Power of Deliverance from Sin"

2. "The Joy of God's Righteousness"

1. Romans 3:23-26 - 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. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

2. 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. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

Psalms 51:15 O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

In Psalms 51:15, the psalmist asks God to open his lips so that he can give praise to the Lord.

1. The Power of Praise - How our praise can open our hearts to God and bring us closer to Him.

2. The Need to Speak God's Word - How our words have the power to reach others and bring them into the kingdom of God.

1. Isaiah 6:1-4 - Isaiah's encounter with God and his call to speak God's word.

2. James 3:2-12 - How our words have the power to bring blessings or curses.

Psalms 51:16 For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering.

God does not need a sacrifice or burnt offering as a sign of devotion, but rather desires a pure heart.

1. The Heart of True Devotion - God desires us to give Him our heart and soul, not a burnt offering.

2. The Sacrifice of Praise - We can show our devotion to God by giving Him a sacrifice of praise.

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. 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. When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts?"

Psalms 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

God desires a humbled spirit and a broken heart as a sacrifice.

1: We must humble ourselves before God and allow him to break our hearts in order to be accepted by him.

2: We must let go of our pride and allow God to take control of our lives if we want to be in his favor.

1: Matthew 5:3-4 "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted."

2: Isaiah 57:15 "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."

Psalms 51:18 Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

God is urged to show favor to Zion and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

1. Good Fortune: The Blessing of Doing Good

2. The Power of Doing Good: Rebuild the Walls of Jerusalem

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. 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.

Psalms 51:19 Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.

God desires acts of righteousness more than offerings.

1: We should always seek to do what is right in the sight of God, as He values that more than anything else.

2: We should be mindful of our actions, as God looks upon our hearts and is pleased when we seek to do what is right and just.

1: Isaiah 1:11-17 - The Lord desires mercy and not sacrifice.

2: 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?

Psalm 52 is a psalm that addresses the deceitfulness and downfall of the wicked, contrasting it with the steadfastness and faithfulness of God. It serves as a reminder of God's justice and protection for the righteous.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by addressing a person described as "the mighty man" who boasts in evil rather than trusting in God's steadfast love. They condemn his deceitful tongue, which plots destruction and speaks falsehoods (Psalm 52:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist contrasts the wicked person's destructive ways with God's response. They affirm that God will bring about his downfall, uprooting him from his position of power and exposing his deceit. The righteous will witness this judgment and fear God (Psalm 52:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses their trust in God's unfailing love and faithfulness. They declare their commitment to praising Him forever for His righteous acts, acknowledging His protection over them like an olive tree flourishing in His presence (Psalm 52:8-9).

In summary,

Psalm fifty-two presents

a condemnation of the wicked,

and a declaration of trust in God,

highlighting divine justice and steadfastness.

Emphasizing critique achieved through condemning deceitful boasting while recognizing its consequences,

and emphasizing confidence achieved through trusting in divine judgment while affirming unwavering devotion to praising Him.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine response to wickedness while acknowledging His protective care for the righteous.

Psalms 52:1 Why boastest thou thyself in mischief, O mighty man? the goodness of God endureth continually.

A person boasting in their own misdeeds is questioned by the psalmist, who reminds them that the goodness of God lasts forever.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall: A on Psalms 52:1

2. The Everlasting Love of God: A on Psalms 52:1

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

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.

Psalms 52:2 Thy tongue deviseth mischiefs; like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.

The psalmist warns against the danger of deceitful tongues that can cause destruction, comparing it to a sharp razor.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Tongues Can Create Mischief or Show Mercy

2. The Importance of Speaking Truth: Why We Must Reject Deceitful Tongues

1. James 3:8-10 - But no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God s likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.

2. Proverbs 12:17-19 - An honest witness tells the truth, but a false witness tells lies. The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing. Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.

Psalms 52:3 Thou lovest evil more than good; and lying rather than to speak righteousness. Selah.

People tend to prefer evil and lies over good and righteousness.

1. The Danger of Choosing Sin Over Holiness

2. The Virtue of Speaking Righteousness

1. Psalm 15:2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

2. 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.

Psalms 52:4 Thou lovest all devouring words, O thou deceitful tongue.

God disapproves of deceitful words that devour others.

1. Don't be deceived by false words, but rather trust in God's truth.

2. Speak with love and kindness, not with deceitful words that hurt others.

1. 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."

2. Colossians 4:6: "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."

Psalms 52:5 God shall likewise destroy thee for ever, he shall take thee away, and pluck thee out of thy dwelling place, and root thee out of the land of the living. Selah.

God will judge and punish those who do wrong.

1: We must always be mindful of our actions and the consequences that come from them, as God will judge and punish those who do wrong.

2: We must always strive to do what is right, as God will not let evil go unpunished.

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 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.

Psalms 52:6 The righteous also shall see, and fear, and shall laugh at him:

The wicked will face judgement and the righteous will be filled with joy and satisfaction.

1. The Righteous Rejoice in God's Judgment

2. The Wicked Face God's Judgment

1. Psalms 52:6 - The righteous also shall see, and fear, and shall laugh at 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.

Psalms 52:7 Lo, this is the man that made not God his strength; but trusted in the abundance of his riches, and strengthened himself in his wickedness.

The psalmist warns against trusting in riches instead of in God for strength.

1. "The Power of Riches: Can Money Buy Happiness?"

2. "The Dangers of Relying on Riches Instead of God"

1. Proverbs 11:28 - "Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf."

2. 1 Timothy 6:9-10 - "Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and 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."

Psalms 52:8 But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God: I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.

God's mercy is everlasting.

1: God's Mercy is Everlasting

2: Trust in God's Mercy

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.

Psalms 52:9 I will praise thee for ever, because thou hast done it: and I will wait on thy name; for it is good before thy saints.

God's faithfulness is everlasting and worthy of praise.

1: God's Faithfulness is Unwavering

2: Praise God for His Faithfulness

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: 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.

Psalm 53 is a psalm that addresses the foolishness and corruption of those who deny the existence of God. It emphasizes the universal need for repentance and the hope found in turning to God.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by asserting that fools say in their hearts, "There is no God." They describe these individuals as corrupt and devoid of understanding, engaging in wickedness and oppression (Psalm 53:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges that God looks down from heaven upon humanity to see if anyone seeks Him. They express their disappointment, as they find no one who acts wisely or seeks after God. They highlight the universal nature of human depravity (Psalm 53:2-3, 5).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses their longing for salvation and deliverance from Zion. They anticipate a time when God will restore His people and rejoice in His people's redemption (Psalm 53:6).

In summary,

Psalm fifty-three presents

a critique of those who deny God,

and a longing for salvation,

highlighting human folly and divine hope.

Emphasizing evaluation achieved through condemning denial of God's existence while highlighting moral corruption,

and emphasizing aspiration achieved through desiring deliverance while anticipating divine restoration.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing universal human depravity while expressing hope in divine redemption.

Psalms 53:1 The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: there is none that doeth good.

The fool denies the existence of God and has committed abominable iniquities, no one is righteous.

1. "What the Bible Says about Godlessness"

2. "The Danger of Denying God"

1. Romans 3:10-12 "As it is written: There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:20 Indeed, there is no one on earth who is righteous, no one who does what is right and never sins.

Psalms 53:2 God looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, that did seek God.

God looks upon all people to see if there are any who understand and seek Him.

1. The Search for Meaning: Understanding and Seeking God

2. Seeking God: A Life-Long Pursuit

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

2. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

Psalms 53:3 Every one of them is gone back: they are altogether become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

The passage reveals that none of humanity can do good and that all are filthy.

1. God's Love and Justice: How Can We Be Righteous in the Face of Sin?

2. The Holiness of God: How Can We Receive His Mercy?

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

2. James 2:10 - "For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it."

Psalms 53:4 Have the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread: they have not called upon God.

The workers of iniquity have no knowledge of God and are destroying God's people.

1. "Living for God in a World of Iniquity"

2. "God's People: Cherished and Protected"

1. Psalm 34:17-20 - The LORD hears when I call to him. 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. 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.

Psalms 53:5 There were they in great fear, where no fear was: for God hath scattered the bones of him that encampeth against thee: thou hast put them to shame, because God hath despised them.

God scatters the bones of those who fight against His people, bringing them to great fear, even when no fear was necessary, because He has despised them.

1. God's Fearless Protection: How God's Power and Love Shield His People from Danger

2. God's Disdain for Sinners: How God Opposes and Rejects Those Who Follow the Path of Evil

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and He delivers them.

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?

Psalms 53:6 Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! When God bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

God's salvation will come to Israel and Jacob will rejoice when God returns his people from captivity.

1. God is always faithful in bringing us back to Him.

2. God's salvation will eventually reach all of His people.

1. Isaiah 66:7-8 Before she was in labor, she gave birth; before her pain came upon her, she delivered a son. Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall a land be born in one day? Shall a nation be brought forth in one moment? For as soon as Zion was in labor, she brought forth her children.

2. Isaiah 51:3 Indeed, the Lord will comfort Zion; He will comfort all her waste places. He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in it, thanksgiving and the voice of melody.

Psalm 54 is a psalm of David, written during a time of distress and persecution. It is a plea for God's help and deliverance in the face of enemies.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by calling upon God to save them by His name and vindicate them through His power. They describe their enemies as strangers who rise up against them, seeking their life (Psalm 54:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses confidence in God's faithfulness and acknowledges that He is their helper. They offer sacrifices of thanksgiving to God and praise His name, trusting that He will deliver them from trouble (Psalm 54:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist concludes with an expression of assurance that their enemies will be defeated. They affirm their trust in God's goodness and declare their commitment to offering Him sacrifices with a willing heart (Psalm 54:7).

In summary,

Psalm fifty-four presents

a plea for divine deliverance,

and a declaration of trust,

highlighting reliance on God's help in times of trouble.

Emphasizing petition achieved through calling upon God for salvation while acknowledging the threat posed by enemies,

and emphasizing confidence achieved through trusting in divine faithfulness while expressing gratitude and commitment to worship.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the defeat of adversaries while affirming trust in God's goodness as the source of hope during distress.

Psalms 54:1 Save me, O God, by thy name, and judge me by thy strength.

A plea is made to God to be saved and judged by His strength.

1. When We Need Strength and Courage, God Is There

2. Finding Comfort in God's Strength

1. Psalms 46:1, God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

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.

Psalms 54:2 Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

The psalmist asks God to listen to his prayer.

1. The Power of Prayer: Learning to Listen to God

2. The Heart of a Believer: Expressing Needs to the Lord

1. James 5:13-16 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

2. Isaiah 65:24 - Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.

Psalms 54:3 For strangers are risen up against me, and oppressors seek after my soul: they have not set God before them. Selah.

Strangers are rising up against the psalmist, and oppressors are seeking his soul. The psalmists finds that these strangers have not set God before them.

1. The Power of God's Presence: Understanding Trust in the Lord

2. Refusing to Be Overwhelmed By Circumstances: Standing Firm in Faith

1. 2 Chronicles 20:15, "Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed at this great horde, for the battle is not yours but God's."

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."

Psalms 54:4 Behold, God is mine helper: the Lord is with them that uphold my soul.

God is a helper to those who seek Him and rely on Him to uphold their souls.

1. Relying on God in Times of Need

2. The Power of Faith in God

1. 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. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - But 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.

Psalms 54:5 He shall reward evil unto mine enemies: cut them off in thy truth.

Psalm 54:5 encourages us to trust in God's truth to reward evil and cut off our enemies.

1. Trust In God's Faithfulness To Uphold Justice

2. Rely On God To Protect You From Your Enemies

1. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man s ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

2. 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.

Psalms 54:6 I will freely sacrifice unto thee: I will praise thy name, O LORD; for it is good.

The psalmist declares his willingness to sacrifice to God and to praise His name because it is good.

1. Sacrificing Ourselves to God as an Act of Praise

2. The Goodness of 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 100:5 - For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Psalms 54:7 For he hath delivered me out of all trouble: and mine eye hath seen his desire upon mine enemies.

God delivered us out of all trouble and brings justice to our enemies.

1. God's protection and deliverance in times of trouble

2. The power of faith in God to bring justice to our enemies

1. Psalms 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.

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.

Psalm 55 is a psalm of David that expresses deep anguish and betrayal. It reflects on the pain caused by the treachery of a close friend and seeks solace in God's presence.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by crying out to God, asking Him to listen to their plea for help. They describe their distress and restlessness, overwhelmed by the voice of the enemy and the oppression they face (Psalm 55:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses their desire for wings like a dove so that they could fly away from their troubles. They lament the betrayal of a close friend, someone they trusted, who has turned against them with deceitful words (Psalm 55:4-11).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon God to bring judgment upon their enemies and deliver them from violence. They express their trust in God's faithfulness and declare that He will sustain them (Psalm 55:12-15).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges that it is not an enemy who taunts them but someone familiar a companion who had once enjoyed sweet fellowship together. They express their desire for justice and place their trust in God to vindicate them (Psalm 55:16-23).

In summary,

Psalm fifty-five presents

a cry for help in distress,

and a plea for justice,

highlighting betrayal and reliance on God's faithfulness.

Emphasizing lament achieved through expressing anguish while seeking divine intervention amidst oppression,

and emphasizing petition achieved through calling upon God to judge enemies while affirming trust in His sustaining power.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing betrayal by a trusted friend while expressing confidence in divine justice as the ultimate source of vindication.

Psalms 55:1 Give ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not thyself from my supplication.

This Psalm is a prayer for God to listen and not hide from one's supplication.

1. God Always Hears Our Prayers

2. The Power of Petitioning God

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. 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.

Psalms 55:2 Attend unto me, and hear me: I mourn in my complaint, and make a noise;

The psalmist laments in prayer to the Lord, asking to be heard.

1. "Making Your Complaint to the Lord: A Study on Psalms 55:2"

2. "The Gift of Lament: Turning Our Complaints to God"

1. 2 Corinthians 4:7-10

2. Philippians 4:4-7

Psalms 55:3 Because of the voice of the enemy, because of the oppression of the wicked: for they cast iniquity upon me, and in wrath they hate me.

The enemy oppresses the righteous with wickedness and hatred.

1. God is our refuge in times of trouble.

2. The enemy's voice seeks to cast us down, but God is greater.

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. 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."

Psalms 55:4 My heart is sore pained within me: and the terrors of death are fallen upon me.

The psalmist is in distress as the terrors of death have overtaken him.

1. How to Cope with Fear and Anxiety

2. The Comfort of Knowing God is with Us 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.

Psalms 55:5 Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me, and horror hath overwhelmed me.

Fear and trembling have come upon the psalmist and have overwhelmed him.

1. Overcoming Fear: How to Overcome Fear and Anxiety Through Faith in God

2. Relying on God in Times of Trouble: Finding Comfort and Strength in God During 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. 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."

Psalms 55:6 And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away, and be at rest.

The Psalmist longs for a way to escape and be at rest, wishing for wings like a dove.

1. Finding Rest in the Lord Psalms 55:6

2. The Prayer of the Weary Learning to Fly Away

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.

Psalms 55:7 Lo, then would I wander far off, and remain in the wilderness. Selah.

The psalmist expresses a desire to wander away and remain in the wilderness.

1. How to Find Comfort in Troubling Times (Psalms 55:7)

2. Trusting God During Difficult Times (Psalms 55:7)

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.

Psalms 55:8 I would hasten my escape from the windy storm and tempest.

The Psalmist expresses a desire for an escape from a windy storm and tempest.

1. Seeking Refuge from Troubles: Finding Comfort in Christ

2. An Exodus of Faith: Relying on God in the Storms of Life

1. Matthew 11:28-29 - "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."

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."

Psalms 55:9 Destroy, O Lord, and divide their tongues: for I have seen violence and strife in the city.

The psalmist pleads to God to divide the tongues of those who are causing violence and strife in the city.

1. "A Plea for Peace: A Call to End Violence and Strife"

2. "The Power of Prayer: Praying for God to Help Us Overcome Evil"

1. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

2. Proverbs 16:7 - "When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him."

Psalms 55:10 Day and night they go about it upon the walls thereof: mischief also and sorrow are in the midst of it.

The Psalmist laments the presence of evil and sadness in a city.

1. Trusting in God in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Discouragement in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing instant in prayer.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 55:11 Wickedness is in the midst thereof: deceit and guile depart not from her streets.

The verse speaks of the wickedness and deceitfulness that exists in the world.

1: We should not be surprised by the wickedness of the world, but rather trust in the Lord to provide strength and guidance in the face of it.

2: Be mindful of the wickedness in the world and guard yourself against it so that it does not lead you astray.

1: Proverbs 4:23 - "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."

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."

Psalms 55:12 For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him:

An enemy has not reproached the Psalmist, nor has a hated one magnified himself against him.

1. How to Deal With Enemies

2. The Power of Forgiveness

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Romans 12:21 - Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Psalms 55:13 But it was thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance.

This Psalm speaks of a man who has an equal and trusted companion.

1: We all need someone in our lives who we can trust and rely on for support.

2: True friendship is based on mutual trust and understanding.

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: Proverbs 17:17 A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Psalms 55:14 We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company.

Two friends take sweet counsel together and walk to the house of God.

1. The Strength of a Friend - using Psalms 55:14 to explore the importance of having strong companionship.

2. Walking to the House of God - reflecting on the idea of taking a spiritual journey to the house of God alongside a companion.

1. 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."

2. Proverbs 27:17 - "Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another."

Psalms 55:15 Let death seize upon them, and let them go down quick into hell: for wickedness is in their dwellings, and among them.

God's judgment against the wicked is certain.

1: God is a righteous judge who will punish all wickedness.

2: We must stand firm against evil and wickedness and trust in God's judgement.

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: Ecclesiastes 12:14 - For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

Psalms 55:16 As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me.

The psalmist trusts in God and believes that the Lord will save him.

1. Trust in the Lord and He will Save You - Psalms 55:16

2. Rely on God for Your Salvation - Psalms 55:16

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

2. Isaiah 43:11 - I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior.

Psalms 55:17 Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.

Prayer is an essential part of a devoted believer's life and should be practiced continually.

1: A Devoted Heart: Praying Throughout the Day

2: The Power of Prayer: Hearing God's Voice

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: James 5:13-16 - 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. 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.

Psalms 55:18 He hath delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me: for there were many with me.

God delivered the Psalmist's soul from a battle he was facing.

1. God is always faithful in times of trial.

2. God is a refuge in times of difficulty.

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.

Psalms 55:19 God shall hear, and afflict them, even he that abideth of old. Selah. Because they have no changes, therefore they fear not God.

God will hear and punish those who do not fear Him, as they remain unchanged.

1. The Power of Change: How We Can Embrace God's Will

2. The Fear of the Lord: Understanding the Importance of Reverence

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon."

2. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Psalms 55:20 He hath put forth his hands against such as be at peace with him: he hath broken his covenant.

God is displeased with those who are not living in peace with Him and have broken His covenant.

1. The Importance of Keeping God's Covenant

2. The Consequences of Breaking God's Covenant

1. 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.

2. Jeremiah 11:10 - They are turned back to the iniquities of their forefathers, which refused to hear my words; and they went after other gods to serve them: the house of Israel and the house of Judah have broken my covenant which I made with their fathers.

Psalms 55:21 The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords.

The speaker is warning against those who may seem peaceful, but have malicious intentions.

1. "Beware of Wolves in Sheep's Clothing: Distinguishing True Intentions from False Appearances"

2. "The Danger of Deceit: Spotting Hypocrites and Their Deceptive Words"

1. Matthew 7:15-20 - "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

2. James 1:26 - "If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one s religion is useless."

Psalms 55:22 Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

Cast your worries onto the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never allow the righteous to be shaken.

1. Rely on God in times of trouble and He will carry you through.

2. Have faith in God and He will never let you down.

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 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.

Psalms 55:23 But thou, O God, shalt bring them down into the pit of destruction: bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will trust in thee.

New Line: God will bring down those who are bloody and deceitful and will ensure they do not live out their days.

1. Trusting in God will bring us peace and joy, even in the face of adversity.

2. We must never lose faith, as God will always be with 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. 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.

Psalm 56 is a psalm of David that reflects on his trust in God amidst fear and opposition. It is a prayer for deliverance and a declaration of confidence in God's faithfulness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by acknowledging his enemies who oppress him, twist his words, and seek to harm him. Despite the fear he feels, he expresses trust in God and declares that he will not be afraid (Psalm 56:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist affirms his confidence in God's promises and declares that he will praise Him for His word. He expresses trust that God is with him, even when he faces adversity. He believes that God will bring down his enemies (Psalm 56:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses gratitude for God's deliverance from death and preservation of his life. He vows to walk before God in the light of the living, offering sacrifices of thanksgiving (Psalm 56:10-13).

In summary,

Psalm fifty-six presents

a prayer for deliverance,

and a declaration of trust,

highlighting reliance on God amidst opposition.

Emphasizing petition achieved through seeking divine rescue while acknowledging the presence of enemies,

and emphasizing confidence achieved through trusting in divine promises while expressing gratitude for deliverance.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the faithfulness of God as the source of courage during times of fear while affirming commitment to worship and thanksgiving.

Psalms 56:1 Be merciful unto me, O God: for man would swallow me up; he fighting daily oppresseth me.

The psalmist is asking God to be merciful as man continuously oppresses him.

1. The Need for Mercy in a Cruel World

2. Overcoming Oppression Through Faith in God

1. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

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.

Psalms 56:2 Mine enemies would daily swallow me up: for they be many that fight against me, O thou most High.

Enemies attempt to consume the speaker every day due to the large amount of those who oppose him.

1: God will provide strength and protection in times of persecution.

2: When enemies come, rely on God to protect and rescue.

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 8:35-39 - 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. 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.

Psalms 56:3 What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.

In times of fear and distress, trusting in God is the best remedy.

1. "Fear Not: Trusting in God in Times of Trouble"

2. "The Peace of Trusting 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 4:6-7 - "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."

Psalms 56:4 In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.

God's Word is our source of trust and strength, and He is our protector from any harm that may come our way.

1: Trusting in God's Word

2: Relying on God'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: Psalm 34:7 "The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them."

Psalms 56:5 Every day they wrest my words: all their thoughts are against me for evil.

People daily ridicule and misunderstand the words of the Psalmist, and all their thoughts are to do him harm.

1. God's Word is Misunderstood and Disrespected

2. The Power of Negative Thinking

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. Proverbs 15:4 A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but a perverse tongue crushes the spirit.

Psalms 56:6 They gather themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my steps, when they wait for my soul.

God's enemies are constantly watching to take advantage of any misstep.

1: God is always watching us, even when we feel alone.

2: God's enemies may be powerful, but God is the one true protector.

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: 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."

Psalms 56:7 Shall they escape by iniquity? in thine anger cast down the people, O God.

God's people must turn away from iniquity to escape His anger.

1. The Danger of Iniquity: How to Avoid God's Anger

2. The Power of Repentance: Restoring Our Relationship with God

1. Psalm 34:14, "Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it."

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."

Psalms 56:8 Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?

The psalmist expresses his trust in God, asking Him to remember the wanderings and tears of the psalmist and to keep them in His book.

1. The Comfort of God's Care - How trusting in the Lord can bring peace during difficult times.

2. A Heart of Faith - How our faith in God can encourage us to call out to Him in prayer.

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 10:23 - Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

Psalms 56:9 When I cry unto thee, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God is for me.

God is always with us, protecting us from our enemies.

1: No matter how outnumbered you may feel, God is always with us and will protect us from our enemies.

2: With God on our side, we do not need to fear our enemies, for He will protect us.

1: 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."

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."

Psalms 56:10 In God will I praise his word: in the LORD will I praise his word.

The psalmist praises God and His word.

1. The Power of Praise: Celebrating God and His Word

2. Finding Comfort and Strength in God's Word

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

Psalms 56:11 In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.

Trusting in God, the psalmist declares his lack of fear in the face of what any man can do to him.

1. "The Fearless Faith of the Psalmist"

2. "The Strength of Trusting 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 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.

Psalms 56:12 Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee.

The Psalmist expresses his commitment to God by declaring his vows and his intention to praise Him.

1. The Power of Our Vows to God: Understanding the Strength of Our Commitments

2. God's Faithfulness to His People: How God Honors Our Promises

1. Psalm 56:12

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.

Psalms 56:13 For thou hast delivered my soul from death: wilt not thou deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?

The psalmist pleads with God to save him from falling and to allow him to live in the light of the living and walk before God.

1. Trusting in God s Deliverance and Protection

2. Living in the Light of the Living

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 34:4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

Psalm 57 is a psalm of David written during a time when he was fleeing from Saul. It is a prayer for God's mercy and protection, expressing trust in His faithfulness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by seeking refuge in the shadow of God's wings and crying out for His mercy. They acknowledge their vulnerability amidst enemies who seek to devour them (Psalm 57:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist declares their confidence in God's steadfast love and faithfulness. They express their desire to exalt God above the heavens and sing praises to Him among the nations. They affirm that God's love reaches to the heavens, and His faithfulness extends to the skies (Psalm 57:4-11).

In summary,

Psalm fifty-seven presents

a plea for divine protection,

and a declaration of trust,

highlighting reliance on God's mercy amidst adversity.

Emphasizing petition achieved through seeking refuge in God while acknowledging threats from enemies,

and emphasizing confidence achieved through praising God's love and faithfulness while recognizing His sovereignty over all nations.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine attributes as sources of hope and security during times of danger while affirming commitment to worship and exaltation.

Psalms 57:1 Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast.

The psalmist calls out to God for mercy, trusting in Him and seeking refuge in His shadow until their troubles have passed.

1. Trusting in God When Troubles Come

2. Finding Refuge in God's Shadow

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 25:4-5 "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. For the breath of the ruthless is like a storm driving against a wall."

Psalms 57:2 I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things for me.

The psalmist cries out to God, trusting Him to perform all things for him.

1. "Trusting in God's Provision"

2. "The Power of Prayer"

1. Matthew 7:7-11, "Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

2. Isaiah 55:6-9, "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near.

Psalms 57:3 He shall send from heaven, and save me from the reproach of him that would swallow me up. Selah. God shall send forth his mercy and his truth.

Psalm 57 expresses a prayer for God to protect and save the Psalmist from those who wish to do him harm, and asks for God to send forth his mercy and truth.

1. God is Our Protector - Exploring God's promise to protect us from those who seek to do us harm.

2. The Power of God's Mercy and Truth - Examining how God's mercy and truth can overcome any situation.

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 8:37-39 - 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.

Psalms 57:4 My soul is among lions: and I lie even among them that are set on fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

The psalmist's soul is surrounded by people who are like lions with spears and arrows for teeth and tongues like sharp swords.

1. The Strength of Our Words - How our words can be used like weapons to build or destroy.

2. Lions Among Us - Understanding how to identify and deal with difficult people in our lives.

1. James 3:5-8 - The power of the tongue.

2. Proverbs 12:18 - The wise man's words are like goads, and the words of the reckless pierce like swords.

Psalms 57:5 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be above all the earth.

A plea to God to be exalted above the heavens and for His glory to be above all the earth.

1. "The Exaltation of God: Ascending Above All"

2. "The Glory of God: Reaching Beyond Creation"

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 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.

Psalms 57:6 They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down: they have digged a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen themselves. Selah.

God's enemies have gone to great lengths to bring Him down, but they ultimately fail.

1. God's Enemies Cannot Defeat Him

2. The Futility of Fighting Against God

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

2. Proverbs 21:30 "No wisdom, no understanding, no counsel can avail against the LORD."

Psalms 57:7 My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.

The psalmist expresses a determination to sing and praise God with a fixed heart.

1. "A Heart Fixed on Praise"

2. "The Joy of Singing for God"

1. 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."

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."

Psalms 57:8 Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early.

The Psalmist encourages himself to wake up and play a musical instrument.

1. The Power of Self-Encouragement

2. The Joy of Music in Worship

1. Romans 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer.

2. Ephesians 5:19 - Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

Psalms 57:9 I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto thee among the nations.

The psalmist is praising and singing to the Lord among the people and nations.

1. Praising God in Good Times and Bad

2. Singing Our Praises to God

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. Acts 16:25 - And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

Psalms 57:10 For thy mercy is great unto the heavens, and thy truth unto the clouds.

God's mercy and truth reach far beyond the physical world, stretching up to the heavens and clouds.

1. God's Mercy is Limitless

2. The Extent of God's Truth

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. 1 Peter 1:3-5 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Psalms 57:11 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: let thy glory be above all the earth.

A call for God to be exalted above all the heavens and for His glory to be above all the earth.

1. God is Above All: Rediscovering the Majesty of God

2. Uplifting God's Name: Celebrating His Exaltation

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. Ephesians 1:18-21 - Having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

Psalm 58 is a psalm that addresses the corruption and injustice of wicked rulers. It expresses a plea for God's righteous judgment and the defeat of the wicked.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by addressing rulers who are unjust, describing them as speaking lies and plotting evil from their birth. They compare these rulers to venomous snakes whose words are like poisonous venom (Psalm 58:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon God to break the teeth of the wicked, symbolizing their power and influence. They express confidence in God's ability to bring justice and declare that the righteous will rejoice when they see the punishment of the wicked (Psalm 58:6-11).

In summary,

Psalm fifty-eight presents

a plea for divine justice,

and a declaration of confidence,

highlighting condemnation of wicked rulers and trust in God's judgment.

Emphasizing petition achieved through calling upon God to intervene while denouncing unjust leaders,

and emphasizing confidence achieved through trusting in divine power while affirming hope in seeing righteousness prevail.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine authority as the ultimate source of justice while expressing assurance that righteousness will ultimately triumph over wickedness.

Psalms 58:1 Do ye indeed speak righteousness, O congregation? do ye judge uprightly, O ye sons of men?

The psalmist poses a rhetorical question to the congregation, questioning their commitment to righteousness and justice.

1. The Importance of Justice and Righteousness in our Society

2. The Need to Reflect on our Commitment to Upright Judgment

1. Amos 5:24 - But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

2. Ephesians 4:15 - But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.

Psalms 58:2 Yea, in heart ye work wickedness; ye weigh the violence of your hands in the earth.

The passage emphasizes the wickedness of men and their violent actions in the world.

1. The Iniquity of Man: The Need to Repent

2. The Consequences of Wickedness: The Weight of Our Actions

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

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

Psalms 58:3 The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.

The wicked are born with a nature to go astray and speak lies.

1: God created us with a purpose and desires us to live in truth.

2: We must strive to live in the truth and reject the lies of the wicked.

1: Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor.

2: Colossians 3:9 - Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices.

Psalms 58:4 Their poison is like the poison of a serpent: they are like the deaf adder that stoppeth her ear;

The wicked are compared to serpents, deaf adders that block out any hint of truth.

1. The Deceitfulness of the Wicked - How the wicked strive to deceive and lead people away from God's truth and love.

2. Overcoming Temptation - How believers can identify and resist temptation to be like the wicked.

1. Psalm 58:4 - Their poison is like the poison of a serpent: they are like the deaf adder that stoppeth her ear;

2. Proverbs 1:10-19 - My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.

Psalms 58:5 Which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, charming never so wisely.

Psalms 58:5 speaks of those who do not listen to those who try to influence them, even if the attempt is wise.

1. The importance of discerning wisdom in the words of others.

2. The power of trusting in God, rather than in earthly wisdom.

1. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

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."

Psalms 58:6 Break their teeth, O God, in their mouth: break out the great teeth of the young lions, O LORD.

God is asked to break the teeth of the young lions as punishment for their wickedness.

1. The Power of God's Punishment: Using Psalms 58:6 as a Guide

2. The Strength of Divine Retribution: Examining Psalms 58:6

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. 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.

Psalms 58:7 Let them melt away as waters which run continually: when he bendeth his bow to shoot his arrows, let them be as cut in pieces.

God's justice will prevail and the wicked will be punished.

1: We must trust in God and His justice to protect us from the wicked.

2: We must strive to be righteous and live our lives in a way that is pleasing to God.

1: Proverbs 12:21 - "No ill befalls the righteous, but the wicked are filled with trouble."

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.

Psalms 58:8 As a snail which melteth, let every one of them pass away: like the untimely birth of a woman, that they may not see the sun.

This passage speaks of the fleeting nature of life, as it passes away quicker than a snail melting and an untimely birth that does not see the sun.

1. Embrace Life: Make the Most of Every Moment

2. Understanding the Transience of Life: Don't Take Things for Granted

1. James 4:14 - For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

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.

Psalms 58:9 Before your pots can feel the thorns, he shall take them away as with a whirlwind, both living, and in his wrath.

God is swift and powerful in His judgment.

1: Be mindful of the power of God and His swiftness in judgement.

2: We should not take God's mercy for granted, for His judgment is swift and sure.

1: Romans 2:4-6 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? 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.

2: James 4:12 There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you who are you to judge your neighbor?

Psalms 58:10 The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance: he shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked.

The righteous will be joyful when they witness the justice of God on the wicked.

1: God's justice is sure, and those who do evil will not escape it.

2: Our joy should come from God's justice, not from seeking revenge ourselves.

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 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."

Psalms 58:11 So that a man shall say, Verily there is a reward for the righteous: verily he is a God that judgeth in the earth.

God rewards the righteous and will judge in the Earth.

1. The Blessings of Living Righteously

2. The Rewards of Obeying God's Laws

1. Proverbs 11:18 - The wicked man earns deceptive wages, but he who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward.

2. Matthew 16:27 - For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

Psalm 59 is a psalm of David written during a time when Saul sent men to watch his house in order to kill him. It is a prayer for deliverance from enemies and expresses trust in God's protection.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by describing their enemies who are like vicious dogs, seeking to devour and attack them. They cry out to God for deliverance and ask Him to arise against their adversaries (Psalm 59:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses confidence in God's strength and declares that He is their fortress and refuge. They acknowledge that God is their source of strength, love, and protection amidst the attacks of their enemies (Psalm 59:6-10).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon God to judge the wickedness of their enemies. They express their desire for justice and declare that they will sing praises to God for His steadfast love and faithfulness (Psalm 59:11-17).

In summary,

Psalm fifty-nine presents

a plea for divine deliverance,

and a declaration of trust,

highlighting reliance on God's protection amidst enemy threats.

Emphasizing petition achieved through seeking rescue from adversaries while acknowledging the danger they pose,

and emphasizing confidence achieved through trusting in divine strength as a fortress while expressing gratitude for steadfast love.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine authority as the ultimate source of justice while affirming commitment to worship and praise.

Psalms 59:1 Deliver me from mine enemies, O my God: defend me from them that rise up against me.

This passage emphasizes the need for God's protection from enemies.

1. The Power of God to Protect Us From Our Enemies

2. How to Turn to God for Protection and Strength in Times of Trouble

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, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Psalms 59:2 Deliver me from the workers of iniquity, and save me from bloody men.

David appeals to God to protect him from evil doers and those who shed blood.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Answered David's Plea

2. The Dangers of Unrighteousness: A Look at David's Psalm

1. Proverbs 11:6 "The righteousness of the upright delivers them, but the unfaithful are trapped by their evil desires.

2. Matthew 26:52-54 Then Jesus said to him, Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?

Psalms 59:3 For, lo, they lie in wait for my soul: the mighty are gathered against me; not for my transgression, nor for my sin, O LORD.

God is always faithful, even when we face conflict.

1: God is always faithful and watches over us, even in difficult times. Psalms 46:1-3

2: We can trust in God's justice, even when we face conflict. Psalm 37:39-40

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.

Psalms 59:4 They run and prepare themselves without my fault: awake to help me, and behold.

The psalmist calls for God's protection as enemies prepare to attack without cause.

1. "The Lord Our Protector"

2. "Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity"

1. Psalm 59:4

2. 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: Whom resist stedfast in the faith...)

Psalms 59:5 Thou therefore, O LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel, awake to visit all the heathen: be not merciful to any wicked transgressors. Selah.

The LORD God of hosts is called to visit all the heathen and not be merciful to any wicked transgressors.

1. All Nations will be Judged by the LORD God of Hosts

2. The LORD God Does Not Show Mercy to the Wicked

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. Psalm 33:4-5 - For the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth. He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

Psalms 59:6 They return at evening: they make a noise like a dog, and go round about the city.

At night, people make loud noises like dogs and wander around the city.

1. The Sounds of Night: How We Respond to the Darkness

2. Finding Our Place in a Noisy World

1. Psalm 59:6

2. Luke 11:21-22 - When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil.

Psalms 59:7 Behold, they belch out with their mouth: swords are in their lips: for who, say they, doth hear?

People talk with swords in their mouths, asking who is listening.

1. Our words have power, so we must be careful with how and what we say.

2. We are accountable for the words we speak, so we should think before we speak.

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. 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."

2. Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits."

Psalms 59:8 But thou, O LORD, shalt laugh at them; thou shalt have all the heathen in derision.

God will have the last laugh by mocking and ridiculing the heathen.

1. The Triumph of God's Faithfulness

2. The Sovereignty of God in Derision

1. Romans 12:19- Do not take revenge, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Proverbs 3:34- He mocks proud mockers but shows favor to the humble and oppressed.

Psalms 59:9 Because of his strength will I wait upon thee: for God is my defence.

The psalmist expresses his faith and trust in God's strength and protection.

1. "The Strength of Our Faith"

2. "Waiting on God's Protection"

1. Ephesians 6:10-20 - The Armor of God

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is My Light and My Salvation

Psalms 59:10 The God of my mercy shall prevent me: God shall let me see my desire upon mine enemies.

God will protect the speaker and grant them victory over their enemies.

1. The Lord Our Protector: How God Guides and Protects Us

2. Having Faith in the Lord: Relying on God in Times of Trouble

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - The Lord Provides for Our Needs

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the Armour of God

Psalms 59:11 Slay them not, lest my people forget: scatter them by thy power; and bring them down, O Lord our shield.

The psalmist pleads with God to have mercy on His enemies, and instead to scatter them by His power.

1. The Mercy of God: How to Extend Grace to Enemies

2. The Power of God: How He Scatters Our Foes

1. Exodus 15:3, The Lord is a man of war; the Lord is his name.

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.

Psalms 59:12 For the sin of their mouth and the words of their lips let them even be taken in their pride: and for cursing and lying which they speak.

God will punish people for their pride, cursing and lying.

1. Pride comes before a fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. The Power of Words - Proverbs 18:21

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

2. Proverbs 18:21, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit."

Psalms 59:13 Consume them in wrath, consume them, that they may not be: and let them know that God ruleth in Jacob unto the ends of the earth. Selah.

God is powerful and rules over all.

1. The Omnipotence of God: Showing God's Power Over All

2. Knowing God's Sovereignty: Experiencing the Benefits of His Rule

1. Isaiah 40:15-17 - Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust. Lebanon would not suffice for fuel, nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering. All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

2. Revelation 4:11 - Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.

Psalms 59:14 And at evening let them return; and let them make a noise like a dog, and go round about the city.

Psalms 59:14 encourages the people to return at evening and make a noise like a dog, going around the city.

1. "Be Bold in Your Faith: Making a Noise for God"

2. "The Return: Knowing When and How to Come Home"

1. Isaiah 59:19 - When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.

2. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the Lord.

Psalms 59:15 Let them wander up and down for meat, and grudge if they be not satisfied.

God's enemies will wander and grumble if their desires are not met.

1. God's enemies will not receive satisfaction from their own selfish desires.

2. God's enemies will never be content unless they turn to Him for fulfillment.

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 37:4 - Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Psalms 59:16 But I will sing of thy power; yea, I will sing aloud of thy mercy in the morning: for thou hast been my defence and refuge in the day of my trouble.

The power of God is to be praised, especially in times of trouble.

1: When facing difficult times, remember to praise God for His power and mercy.

2: God is our refuge and defense in times of trouble, so turn to Him in prayer.

1: 2 Chronicles 20:12, "O our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on 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.

Psalms 59:17 Unto thee, O my strength, will I sing: for God is my defence, and the God of my mercy.

God is our strength and our defender.

1. The Strength of Our Faith: Relying on God in Troubled Times

2. Drawing Comfort from the Mercy 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. Psalm 55:22 - "Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved."

Psalm 60 is a psalm of David that reflects on a time of national distress and seeks God's restoration and victory. It expresses both a plea for help and confidence in God's faithfulness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by acknowledging that God has rejected His people, allowing them to suffer defeat and experience distress. They cry out to God for His intervention and restoration (Psalm 60:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist recalls past victories that God had granted to Israel and expresses their trust in Him. They believe that with God's help, they will overcome their enemies and triumph over adversity (Psalm 60:4-8).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist again appeals to God for assistance, recognizing their need for His divine intervention. They express their reliance on Him, acknowledging that victory can only come through His power (Psalm 60:9-12).

In summary,

Psalm sixty presents

a plea for divine restoration,

and a declaration of trust,

highlighting reliance on God amidst national distress.

Emphasizing petition achieved through seeking divine intervention while acknowledging the consequences of rejection,

and emphasizing confidence achieved through trusting in past victories while affirming dependence on divine power.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing the sovereignty of God as the source of deliverance while expressing humility in seeking His assistance.

Psalms 60:1 O God, thou hast cast us off, thou hast scattered us, thou hast been displeased; O turn thyself to us again.

God desires to reunite with us despite us turning away from Him.

1. "The Power of Reconciliation: Remembering God's Unfailing Love"

2. "The Joy of Restoration: Reuniting 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. Hosea 14:4-6 - "I will heal their apostasy; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them. I will be like the dew to Israel; he shall blossom like the lily; he shall take root like the trees of Lebanon; his shoots shall spread out; his beauty shall be like the olive, and his fragrance like Lebanon. They shall return and dwell beneath my shadow; they shall flourish like the grain; they shall blossom like the vine; their fame shall be like the wine of Lebanon."

Psalms 60:2 Thou hast made the earth to tremble; thou hast broken it: heal the breaches thereof; for it shaketh.

This passage reflects the power of God to create and destroy, and the need for Him to heal the earth.

1: God s Power and the Need for Healing

2: God s Creative and Destructive Nature

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. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

2: 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.

Psalms 60:3 Thou hast shewed thy people hard things: thou hast made us to drink the wine of astonishment.

God can sometimes give us difficult experiences to help us grow.

1: "A Cup of Astonishment: Learning to Embrace Difficult Experiences"

2: "The Value of Adversity: Growing through 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."

Psalms 60:4 Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah.

God has given us a banner of truth to be proudly displayed.

1: God's banner of truth is a sign of His love and protection.

2: We should embrace and proclaim God's banner of truth with courage and strength.

1: Deuteronomy 20:4 - For the Lord your God is going with you, to fight for you against your enemies, and to save you.

2: Isaiah 11:10 - In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a banner for the peoples of him shall the nations inquire and his resting place shall be glorious.

Psalms 60:5 That thy beloved may be delivered; save with thy right hand, and hear me.

The psalmist is asking God to save and hear him, so that his beloved may be delivered.

1. God is the Answer: Discovering the Power of the Almighty

2. The Power of Prayer: Learning to Depend on the Lord

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 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.

Psalms 60:6 God hath spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth.

God spoke in his holiness and promised to give victory.

1: God's Holiness Grants Us Victory

2: Rejoice 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: Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Psalms 60:7 Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine; Ephraim also is the strength of mine head; Judah is my lawgiver;

God is the source of strength and law for all nations.

1. The Strength of God: A Study on Psalms 60:7

2. The Lawgiver of God: Understanding Our Responsibility to Obey His Will

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. 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.

Psalms 60:8 Moab is my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe: Philistia, triumph thou because of me.

God is victorious over even the strongest of foes.

1: In Psalms 60, we see that God is always victorious, no matter how formidable the enemy.

2: We can take comfort in knowing that even when our enemies seem the most powerful, our God is always triumphant.

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.

Psalms 60:9 Who will bring me into the strong city? who will lead me into Edom?

The passage speaks of the need for a guide to lead one into a strong city and Edom.

1: We all need a guide to lead us closer to God and show us the way.

2: Our strength is found in the Lord; He will guide us and protect us even in our darkest 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: 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.

Psalms 60:10 Wilt not thou, O God, which hadst cast us off? and thou, O God, which didst not go out with our armies?

God has abandoned Israel, but is asked to return and go out with their armies once more.

1. "No Hope But In God: Finding Strength in Adversity"

2. "A Call to Repentance: Turning Back to God in Times of Trouble"

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."

Psalms 60:11 Give us help from trouble: for vain is the help of man.

The Psalmist calls out to God for help, as the help of man is vain.

1. God is our only source of help - Psalms 60:11

2. The futility of relying on human efforts - Psalms 60:11

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?'"

Psalms 60:12 Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies.

The Psalmist encourages the people of God to trust in Him, knowing that it is He who will defeat their enemies.

1. "Valiantly Through God: Trusting in His Strength"

2. "The Lord's Strength: Overcoming Our Enemies"

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 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."

Psalm 61 is a psalm of David that expresses a longing for God's presence and protection. It is a prayer for help and steadfastness in the midst of trouble.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by crying out to God from the ends of the earth, asking Him to hear their plea. They express their desire for God to lead them to the rock that is higher than they are, symbolizing His security and refuge (Psalm 61:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist declares their trust in God as their strong tower and refuge. They ask Him to extend His love and faithfulness, expressing their desire to dwell in His tent forever (Psalm 61:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist praises God for His blessings and vows to fulfill their vows before Him. They express confidence in God's provision and protection, affirming that He will prolong the king's life and show him unfailing love (Psalm 61:5-8).

In summary,

Psalm sixty-one presents

a prayer for divine presence,

and a declaration of trust,

highlighting reliance on God's protection amidst trouble.

Emphasizing petition achieved through seeking divine assistance while expressing a longing for closeness with God,

and emphasizing confidence achieved through trusting in divine strength as a fortress while affirming commitment to worship.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine blessings as sources of gratitude while expressing assurance in experiencing God's unfailing love.

Psalms 61:1 Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer.

The psalmist calls out to God to listen to their prayer.

1. Cry for Help: Learning to Call Out to God in Prayer

2. God Hears Our Cries: Trusting in the Lord's Mercy

1. Psalm 61:1

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."

Psalms 61:2 From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

God is always there to help us when we are in need.

1: Rely on God in times of trouble, for He is our Rock and our strength.

2: When our hearts are overwhelmed, God is ready and willing to lead us to a higher place.

1: John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in 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."

Psalms 61:3 For thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy.

God is a shelter and a strong tower, protecting us from our enemies.

1. The Strength of God's Protection

2. The Comfort of God's Shelter

1. Isaiah 4:6 - And there will be a tabernacle for shade in the daytime from the heat, for a place of refuge, and for a shelter from storm and rain.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 61:4 I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Selah.

The psalmist expresses a desire to trust in the Lord and remain in His tabernacle forever.

1. Abiding in the Lord: Finding Strength in His Protection

2. Faithful to the End: Learning to Draw Closer to God

1. Psalm 27:4-5: 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.

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.

Psalms 61:5 For thou, O God, hast heard my vows: thou hast given me the heritage of those that fear thy name.

The Psalmist is praising God for hearing his prayers and granting him the heritage of those who have faith in him.

1. The Heritage of Faith: How Believing in God Brings Abundance

2. The Power of Prayer: Relying on God to Hear Our Cries

1. Matthew 7:7-11 - Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

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.

Psalms 61:6 Thou wilt prolong the king's life: and his years as many generations.

God will extend the life of the king and his reign will last for many generations.

1. God's Purpose for the King: Prolonging His Life and Reign

2. God's Faithfulness to His People: Prolonging the King's Life and Reign

1. Psalm 21:4, "He asked life of thee, and thou gavest it him, even length of days for ever and ever."

2. Daniel 4:3, "How great are his signs! and how mighty are his wonders! his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation."

Psalms 61:7 He shall abide before God for ever: O prepare mercy and truth, which may preserve him.

God's mercy and truth provide everlasting protection.

1. The Power of Faith in God and His Mercy

2. How to Access God's Protection Through His Mercy and Truth

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 2:4-5 - But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions it is by grace you have been saved.

Psalms 61:8 So will I sing praise unto thy name for ever, that I may daily perform my vows.

The psalmist declares their intention to continually sing praises to God's name and fulfill their daily vows.

1. The Joy of Keeping Our Vows to God

2. Singing Praises to Our Lord

1. Matthew 5:33-37 - Jesus teaches on the importance of keeping vows

2. Psalm 95:2 - Let us come before God with thanksgiving and sing praises to Him

Psalm 62 is a psalm of David that emphasizes the importance of trusting in God alone and finding refuge in Him. It speaks of the vanity of human power and the steadfastness of God's love.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares their trust in God alone, affirming that He alone is their rock and salvation. They acknowledge that their soul finds rest in God, and they will not be shaken (Psalm 62:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist addresses those who seek to bring them down, comparing them to a leaning wall or a tottering fence. They warn against putting trust in wealth or extortion, emphasizing that true power belongs to God (Psalm 62:3-10).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist concludes by reaffirming their trust in God's strength and steadfast love. They encourage others to do the same, recognizing that both power and mercy belong to God (Psalm 62:11-12).

In summary,

Psalm sixty-two presents

a call for unwavering trust,

and a declaration of confidence,

highlighting reliance on God's steadfastness amidst human frailty.

Emphasizing affirmation achieved through recognizing divine reliability while rejecting false sources of security,

and emphasizing confidence achieved through acknowledging divine sovereignty while urging others to place their trust in Him.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine attributes as sources of stability while affirming the superiority of God's power over human strength.

Psalms 62:1 Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation.

This passage emphasizes the importance of waiting on God for salvation.

1. "Waiting on God for Salvation"

2. "The Power of Patience 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 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.

Psalms 62:2 He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved.

Psalm 62 emphasizes the importance of trusting in God as a source of protection and salvation.

1. The Rock on Which We Stand: Finding Strength and Security in God

2. Salvation in the Lord: Relying on God In Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 26:4 - Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord is an everlasting rock.

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?

Psalms 62:3 How long will ye imagine mischief against a man? ye shall be slain all of you: as a bowing wall shall ye be, and as a tottering fence.

The psalmist is warning those who plan evil against others that they will come to destruction.

1. God Will Avenge the Oppressed - The psalmist reminds us that God will always defend the oppressed and bring justice to those who are mistreated.

2. Do Not Plan Evil Against Others - We are warned to not plan evil against others, as God will bring justice and destruction to those who do.

1. 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.

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.

Psalms 62:4 They only consult to cast him down from his excellency: they delight in lies: they bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly. Selah.

God's greatness is not to be threatened by the lies of those who outwardly appear to be supportive.

1: The Power of Words - How our words can be used for good or evil

2: The Security of God's Strength - How God's power protects us from lies

1: Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are His delight.

2: John 8:44 - You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Psalms 62:5 My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him.

We should put our trust in God and expect only from Him.

1. Put Your Hope in God - Psalms 62:5

2. Rely on God Alone - Psalms 62:5

1. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.

2. 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.

Psalms 62:6 He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved.

God is the only source of security and stability in our lives, and we will not be shaken.

1. "Rock Solid Faith: Finding Strength and Stability in God"

2. "The Unshakable Foundation of Our Salvation"

1. Romans 10:9-10 ( that if you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved )

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 )

Psalms 62:7 In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.

God is our salvation and our strength.

1. Trusting in God's Provision

2. Relying on God's Strength

1. 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.

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;

Psalms 62:8 Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah.

Trust in God and pour out your heart before Him - He is a refuge for us.

1. Trusting in the Lord in All Times

2. Finding Refuge 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. 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.

Psalms 62:9 Surely men of low degree are vanity, and men of high degree are a lie: to be laid in the balance, they are altogether lighter than vanity.

Men of low and high degree alike are not reliable and are vain.

1: We should not place our trust in men, but in the Lord.

2: God is the only one who can be trusted to be consistent and fair.

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 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.

Psalms 62:10 Trust not in oppression, and become not vain in robbery: if riches increase, set not your heart upon them.

Do not rely on selfish or unlawful means to gain riches, and do not become too attached to them.

1. The Dangers of Trusting in Wealth

2. The Futility of Greed

1. Proverbs 11:28 - Those who trust in their riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf.

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.

Psalms 62:11 God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God.

God has spoken once and I have heard it twice; that power belongs to God alone.

1. God s Sovereignty Encouragement in Times of Trouble

2. Let God s Power Direct Your Path

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.

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 rain. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

Psalms 62:12 Also unto thee, O Lord, belongeth mercy: for thou renderest to every man according to his work.

God rewards us according to our works.

1. Good Works Will Be Rewarded

2. Doing Right Will Bring Blessing

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. 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.

Psalm 63 is a psalm of David that expresses a deep longing for God's presence and a thirst for spiritual communion with Him. It portrays an intimate relationship with God and the satisfaction found in seeking Him earnestly.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist describes their thirst for God, comparing it to a parched land where there is no water. They express their longing to see God's power and glory in the sanctuary (Psalm 63:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist declares their love for God's steadfast love, recognizing that His love is better than life itself. They commit themselves to praise God as long as they live and lift up their hands in His name (Psalm 63:3-5).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist recalls times of experiencing God's help and protection, expressing confidence in His faithful presence. They declare that they will cling to God, knowing that He upholds them with His right hand (Psalm 63:6-8).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist concludes by expressing their desire for the destruction of those who seek to harm them. They affirm that the enemies will be brought down while the righteous will rejoice in God's deliverance (Psalm 63:9-11).

In summary,

Psalm sixty-three presents

a longing for divine presence,

and a declaration of devotion,

highlighting the satisfaction found in seeking an intimate relationship with God.

Emphasizing desire achieved through recognizing spiritual thirst while yearning for communion with God,

and emphasizing devotion achieved through valuing divine love above all else while committing to worship.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine assistance as sources of gratitude while affirming trust in divine protection and justice.

Psalms 63:1 O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;

A cry of longing for God in a dry and thirsty land.

1. The Thirst of the Soul: Seeking God in All Circumstances

2. Longing for God's Presence: Finding Comfort in Times of Need

1. 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?"

2. Isaiah 41:17-18 "When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongues fail for thirst, I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers in desolate heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water."

Psalms 63:2 To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.

This Psalm expresses a longing to see the power and glory of God as it is seen in the sanctuary.

1. The Power and Glory of God Exploring what it means to seek out the power and glory of God in our lives.

2. Seeking God in the Sanctuary Examining how to encounter God's power and glory in the sanctuary.

1. Isaiah 6:1-5 - Seeing the glory of the Lord in the temple.

2. Exodus 33:17-23 - Moses asking to see the glory of the Lord.

Psalms 63:3 Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee.

Praising God's lovingkindness is better than life itself.

1. Abundant Life Through Gratitude: Recognizing God's Mercy

2. Appreciating the Blessings of God: Celebrating His Kindness

1. Psalm 103:2-5 - Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits

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

Psalms 63:4 Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.

The Psalmist expresses their desire to bless God while they live, and to lift up their hands in His name.

1. The Power of Praise: Recognizing the importance of lifting up our hands to God in prayer and worship.

2. The Blessings of Life: Learning to bless the Lord in all circumstances and seasons of life.

1. Psalm 134:2 "Lift up your hands to the holy place and bless the LORD!"

2. Ephesians 6:18 "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."

Psalms 63:5 My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips:

The Psalmist expresses his desire to be satisfied and to praise God with joyful lips.

1. The Joy of Gratitude: Living a Life of Thanksgiving

2. God is Satisfaction: Cultivating Contentment in Life

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 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.

Psalms 63:6 When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches.

The psalmist remembers and meditates on God in their bed at night.

1. A Call To Worship: Remembering God At All Times

2. A Call To Intimacy: Meditating On God In The Night Watches

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. Psalm 119:97-98 - Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me.

Psalms 63:7 Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

The psalmist expresses joy and gratitude to God for his help and protection.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord's Protection

2. Finding Strength in God's Arms

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. 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.

Psalms 63:8 My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me.

The psalmist expresses his faith in God by declaring that his soul follows hard after Him and that His right hand upholds him.

1. The Strength of Following After God

2. Knowing God's Upholding Hand

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

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."

Psalms 63:9 But those that seek my soul, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth.

The psalmist warns of those who seek to destroy him and says they will go to the lower parts of the earth.

1. The Danger of Enemies: How to Protect Ourselves from the Lower Parts of the Earth.

2. The Power of God Over Our Enemies: Trusting in the Lord to Defeat Those Who Seek to Destroy Us.

1. Psalm 121:3 - He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue that rises against you in judgment you shall condemn.

Psalms 63:10 They shall fall by the sword: they shall be a portion for foxes.

This passage from Psalms speaks of the fall of the wicked, who will be destroyed by the sword and become the prey of wild animals.

1. The Danger of Sin: The Cost of Refusing God's Mercy

2. Walking in the Fear of the Lord: The Blessing of Obedience to God

1. Isaiah 33:14-16; The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning one away from the snares of death.

2. Proverbs 11:19; The righteousness of the blameless will direct their paths, but the wicked will be brought down by their own wickedness.

Psalms 63:11 But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that sweareth by him shall glory: but the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped.

The king rejoices in God and anyone who swears by him will be glorified, while the mouth of those who speak lies will be silenced.

1. "The Blessing of Rejoicing in God"

2. "The Consequence of Speaking Lies"

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. James 3:10-12 - "From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water."

Psalm 64 is a psalm of David that expresses a plea for protection against the schemes and attacks of the wicked. It highlights the confidence in God's justice and the assurance that He will bring about their downfall.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by describing the malicious actions of their enemies, who plot evil schemes and shoot arrows in secret. They cry out to God, asking Him to hide them from their adversaries (Psalm 64:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses confidence in God's righteous judgment. They believe that God will make the wicked stumble and bring about their own destruction. They affirm that all who see it will fear and declare God's works (Psalm 64:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist concludes by rejoicing in God's protection and declaring His praise. They express trust in His steadfast love and commit themselves to take refuge in Him (Psalm 64:10).

In summary,

Psalm sixty-four presents

a plea for divine protection,

and a declaration of confidence,

highlighting reliance on God's justice amidst wicked schemes.

Emphasizing petition achieved through seeking deliverance from enemies while acknowledging their deceitful actions,

and emphasizing confidence achieved through trusting in divine judgment while affirming assurance in witnessing His works.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine attributes as sources of security while expressing gratitude for divine protection and committing to seek refuge in Him.

Psalms 64:1 Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy.

A prayer is offered to God, asking for help in overcoming fear of the enemy.

1. "The Power of Prayer: Overcoming Fear of the Enemy"

2. "Finding Strength in Times of Trouble"

1. 1 Peter 5:7 - "Cast all your anxieties on him, because he cares for 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."

Psalms 64:2 Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked; from the insurrection of the workers of iniquity:

The Psalmist asks God to protect him from the schemes of the wicked and the violent plans of the evildoers.

1. "The Power of Prayer: Seeking Protection from the Wicked"

2. "The Strength of God: Overcoming the Plans of the Evil"

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

2. Jeremiah 17:9 - The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

Psalms 64:3 Who whet their tongue like a sword, and bend their bows to shoot their arrows, even bitter words:

The passage speaks about those who use their words as weapons to hurt others.

1: Don't use words to harm others, use them to build up.

2: Speak words of kindness and love, not of hurt and anger.

1: James 3:9-11 - With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?

2: Colossians 4:6 - Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

Psalms 64:4 That they may shoot in secret at the perfect: suddenly do they shoot at him, and fear not.

People should be careful who they attack, as they may be surprised at the consequences they face.

1. God's justice always prevails in the end.

2. We should be careful of our actions and think twice before attacking someone.

1. 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."

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.

Psalms 64:5 They encourage themselves in an evil matter: they commune of laying snares privily; they say, Who shall see them?

People encourage themselves to commit evil deeds and plan to lay snares in secret, asking who will find out about them.

1. The Danger of Sin: How to Recognize and Avoid Traps

2. The Power of Encouragement: Cultivating Positivity to Resist Temptation

1. Proverbs 28:13 - Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

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.

Psalms 64:6 They search out iniquities; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward thought of every one of them, and the heart, is deep.

The Psalmist speaks of how the wicked search out iniquities and how they are able to search deep into the thoughts and hearts of people.

1. Taking a Closer Look at Our Hearts; Examining Our Sin

2. Understanding the Depths of Sin and How We Fall Into 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. Proverbs 4:23 - "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

Psalms 64:7 But God shall shoot at them with an arrow; suddenly shall they be wounded.

God will strike his enemies with an arrow, causing them to be suddenly wounded.

1. God is in control: no one can escape His judgement.

2. In God's strength, we can overcome any obstacle.

1. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.

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

Psalms 64:8 So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves: all that see them shall flee away.

People who do wrong to others will eventually be punished for their actions, causing those who witness it to run away in fear.

1. The consequences of sin can be dire, and it is important to not let our wrongdoings catch up to us.

2. We should strive to act righteously, for God will punish those who do wrong.

1. Psalm 64:8 - So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves: all that see them shall flee away.

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

Psalms 64:9 And all men shall fear, and shall declare the work of God; for they shall wisely consider of his doing.

All men should fear God and recognize his works, for they will wisely consider his actions.

1. Living Wisely - Recognizing the works of God

2. Fear of the Lord - Acknowledging God's actions

1. Proverbs 9:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

2. Romans 11:33 - Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

Psalms 64:10 The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory.

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord and trust Him who is upright in heart.

1: Rejoice in the Lord and trust in Him.

2: God rewards the righteous and those who are upright in heart.

1: Isaiah 12:2-3 "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.

2: 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.

Psalm 65 is a psalm of David that praises God for His abundant blessings and His sovereignty over creation. It acknowledges God's goodness in providing for His people and expresses gratitude for His faithfulness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by praising God, acknowledging Him as the one who deserves praise and worship. They express confidence that God hears their prayers and will answer them (Psalm 65:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on God's power and authority over creation. They describe how He calms the roaring seas, stills the tumult of the nations, and brings forth joy from all corners of the earth (Psalm 65:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist celebrates God's provision for His people. They describe how He blesses the land with abundant harvests, causing it to overflow with goodness. They recognize Him as the source of life-giving rains and fruitful seasons (Psalm 65:9-13).

In summary,

Psalm sixty-five presents

a song of praise to God,

and a declaration of gratitude,

highlighting His sovereignty over creation and abundant blessings.

Emphasizing praise achieved through recognizing divine worthiness while expressing confidence in divine responsiveness to prayers,

and emphasizing gratitude achieved through acknowledging divine power over nature while celebrating provision and sustenance.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine authority as sources of awe while expressing thankfulness for bountiful harvests and acknowledging dependence on God's provision.

Psalms 65:1 Praise waiteth for thee, O God, in Sion: and unto thee shall the vow be performed.

God is worthy of our praise and should be honored with our vows.

1. The Power of Praise: How Worshiping God Can Transform Our Lives

2. The Purpose of Vows: Making Commitments to the Lord

1. 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. Leviticus 27:2 - Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When anyone makes a special vow to the Lord involving the value of persons,

Psalms 65:2 O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.

All people will come to God to pray.

1. Prayer is the Key to Connecting with God

2. God Hears and Answers Our Prayers

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 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."

Psalms 65:3 Iniquities prevail against me: as for our transgressions, thou shalt purge them away.

God purges away our transgressions.

1: God is always with us to forgive our sins and cleanse us of all unrighteousness.

2: Through God's grace and mercy, we can be forgiven of our sins and restored to a right relationship with Him.

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: Romans 8:1 - "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death."

Psalms 65:4 Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple.

God blesses those whom He chooses and brings near to Him, so that they may live in His courts. We are satisfied with the goodness of His house and holy temple.

1. "God's Invitation to Dwell in His Courts"

2. "The Satisfaction of the Goodness of God's House"

1. Psalm 84:1-2 "How lovely is your dwelling place, 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. Matthew 6:33 "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Psalms 65:5 By terrible things in righteousness wilt thou answer us, O God of our salvation; who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the sea:

God is the source of salvation and is the confidant of those living on the ends of the earth and those at sea.

1. The Power of Salvation: How God Can Bring Security to All

2. The Confidence of the World: God's Unending Protection and Care

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. Lamentations 3:22-24 - 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. I say to myself, The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.

Psalms 65:6 Which by his strength setteth fast the mountains; being girded with power:

God's strength sets the mountains firmly in place and He is clothed in power.

1. God's strength and power are unrivalled and ever present in our lives.

2. We can trust in God's power to provide stability and security in 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. 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.

Psalms 65:7 Which stilleth the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people.

God stills the roar of the seas and the chaos of the people.

1. The Peace of God Amidst the Chaos of Life

2. Finding Serenity in God in Times of Trouble

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.

Psalms 65:8 They also that dwell in the uttermost parts are afraid at thy tokens: thou makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice.

God's signs bring joy and peace to all people, even those living in distant places.

1: God's Signs of Joy and Peace

2: Rejoicing in God's Morning and Evening Outgoings

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 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 is become my salvation.

Psalms 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.

God visits the earth and enriches it with water from the river of God, providing corn for the people.

1. God's Providence for the Earth and Its People

2. The Blessings of the River of God

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 1:17 - 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.

Psalms 65:10 Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers: thou blessest the springing thereof.

God supplies abundant water to the ridges, settles the furrows, makes it soft with showers, and blesses the springing of the land.

1: God is the provider of all things.

2: God is the source of all life.

1: Psalm 33:6-9 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

2: Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Psalms 65:11 Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.

God blesses us each year with abundance and goodness.

1. Abundance of Blessings: Receiving God's Abundance through Faith

2. God's Generosity: Understanding God's Generosity in Our Lives

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. 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?

Psalms 65:12 They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side.

The Psalmist talks about how God's blessings drop on the pastures of the wilderness, causing the hills to rejoice.

1. Rejoicing in God's Blessings

2. Gratitude in the Wilderness

1. Isaiah 55:12 - For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

2. Psalm 126:2 - Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them.

Psalms 65:13 The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing.

God's provision for His people is abundant and joyful.

1: God's Abundant Provision

2: Celebrating God's Joy

1: 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"

2: Psalm 145:9 - "The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made"

Psalm 66 is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving to God for His mighty deeds and faithfulness. It calls for all people to worship and acknowledge God's power, recounting specific instances of His deliverance and inviting others to join in the celebration.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by calling all people to shout joyfully to God, singing praises to His name. They invite everyone to come and see the awesome works of God, acknowledging His greatness (Psalm 66:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist recounts specific instances of God's deliverance. They recall how He turned the sea into dry land, leading the Israelites through on foot. They express awe at His power over creation (Psalm 66:6-7).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on God's testing and refining of His people. They acknowledge that He allowed them to go through trials but brought them out into abundance. They offer sacrifices of thanksgiving in response (Psalm 66:8-15).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist concludes by declaring their commitment to worship and praising God. They affirm that God has heard their prayers and shown steadfast love towards them (Psalm 66:16-20).

In summary,

Psalm sixty-six presents

a call for praise and thanksgiving,

and a declaration of God's mighty deeds,

highlighting His power over creation, deliverance, testing, and faithfulness.

Emphasizing invitation achieved through urging joyful worship while acknowledging divine greatness,

and emphasizing testimony achieved through recounting specific acts of deliverance while expressing awe at divine power.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine refining as sources of gratitude while offering sacrifices as an act of thanks-giving and affirming trust in divine responsiveness.

Psalms 66:1 Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands:

Make a joyful noise to the Lord and praise Him for all He has done.

1. Praise God for His Abounding Mercy

2. Celebrate the Lord for His Loving Kindness

1. Psalm 103:8 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

2. Psalm 107:1 - O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Psalms 66:2 Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious.

This passage encourages us to sing praises to God, honouring Him and glorifying His name.

1. Praise God Through Song: The Power of Music in Worship

2. Celebrating God's Goodness: The Importance of Expressing Gratitude

1. Ephesians 5:19-20 - "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. Psalm 145:3 - "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable."

Psalms 66:3 Say unto God, How terrible art thou in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee.

God's power is great and is shown by His works; all His enemies will bow down to Him.

1: Let us remember that God's power is great and should be respected.

2: We should not forget that God's enemies will eventually bow down to Him.

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: Deuteronomy 10:17 - 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.

Psalms 66:4 All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing to thy name. Selah.

All people on earth should worship and praise God.

1: Worship and Praise God with all You Have

2: Sing His Praises to Show Your 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: Psalm 95:6 - Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;

Psalms 66:5 Come and see the works of God: he is terrible in his doing toward the children of men.

God's works are awe-inspiring and powerful, and should be examined and respected by all people.

1. God's Works: Reflecting on the Power of His Creation

2. Awe and Wonder: Experiencing God's Terrible Power

1. Psalms 66:5

2. Habakkuk 3:2 - O Lord, I have heard Thy speech and was afraid: O Lord, revive Thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.

Psalms 66:6 He turned the sea into dry land: they went through the flood on foot: there did we rejoice in him.

God turned the impossible into the possible, bringing joy to His people.

1: We can find joy in Him in all situations, no matter how difficult.

2: When we put our faith and trust in God, He can make the impossible possible.

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

Psalms 66:7 He ruleth by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah.

God is the ultimate ruler of the nations, and he watches over them with his power forever. No one should be proud and think they are above him.

1. God's Sovereignty: A Call to Humility

2. The Power of God and His Authority Over Nations

1. Isaiah 40:21-22 - 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!"

Psalms 66:8 O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard:

God calls on us to bless Him and make His praises known.

1. "The Power of Praise"

2. "A Call to Bless God"

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. 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.

Psalms 66:9 Which holdeth our soul in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved.

God holds our souls in life and will not let us fall.

1. God is the one who holds us when all else fails.

2. Our security is found in God's 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 112:7, "He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord."

Psalms 66:10 For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried.

God has tested and tried us just as silver is tested and tried in a furnace.

1. The Refining Fire of God - How God purifies us through trials and tribulations.

2. The Testing of Faith - Examining our trust in God and how it strengthens us.

1. Isaiah 48:10 - "Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction."

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."

Psalms 66:11 Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins.

God has brought affliction upon us and has trapped us in a net.

1: We must embrace the trials God has given us as a way to learn and grow closer to Him.

2: No matter what trials come our way, God is with us, and He will see us through.

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.

Psalms 66:12 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.

God delivered the psalmist from peril and brought them to a place of safety and abundance.

1. The Lord is Our Deliverer - He will bring us to a place of prosperity and blessing.

2. God is Faithful - Even when it seems like we are stuck in a difficult situation, He will make a way for 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. 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.

Psalms 66:13 I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows,

The psalmist expresses his dedication to fulfilling his promises to God.

1. The Importance of Keeping Promises to God

2. The Power of Fulfilling 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.

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.

Psalms 66:14 Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble.

The Psalmist is praising God for the words he has spoken in times of trouble.

1. Trusting God in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of Praise in Difficult Times

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 25:1: "In you, Lord my God, I put my trust."

Psalms 66:15 I will offer unto thee burnt sacrifices of fatlings, with the incense of rams; I will offer bullocks with goats. Selah.

I will offer sacrifices to God with thanksgiving.

1. The beauty of giving thanks to God through sacrifices.

2. The importance of offering sacrifices to God with humility.

1. Genesis 4:3-4 - And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof.

4:5 And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering:

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.

Psalms 66:16 Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.

God's faithfulness to the believer is evident in the great things He has done.

1: God's Faithfulness is Unwavering

2: God's Provision for our Souls

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: 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.

Psalms 66:17 I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue.

The speaker declares that they cried out to God with their mouth and praised Him with their tongue.

1. The Power of Praise: How to Speak God's Praises

2. The Strength of Prayer: Crying Out to God in Times of Need

1. Psalm 66:17 - I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue.

2. Luke 18:1-8 - Jesus told a parable of the persistent widow who kept asking for justice from an unjust judge, illustrating the power of continual prayer.

Psalms 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

God will not hear us if we hold on to sin in our hearts.

1. Turn from Sin and Receive God's Blessing

2. God Hears the Prayers of the Righteous

1. Psalm 34:15 - The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry.

2. Romans 8:34 - 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.

Psalms 66:19 But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer.

God hears and answers our prayers.

1: God is Always Listening

2: God Answers the Cries of His People

1: 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.

2: Jeremiah 33:3 Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.

Psalms 66:20 Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.

Psalms 66:20 praises God for not denying the prayer of the psalmist and showing His mercy.

1. The Unfailing Mercy of God - A on how God's mercy never fails, even when our faith may waver.

2. The Power of Prayer - A on how prayer can bring us closer to God and unlock His mercy.

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness."

2. James 5:16 - "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

Psalm 67 is a psalm of praise and a prayer for God's blessing upon all nations. It expresses a desire for God's salvation and guidance to be made known to people from every corner of the earth, inviting them to join in worshiping Him.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by asking God to be gracious and bless them. They pray for His face to shine upon them so that His ways may be known on earth and His salvation among all nations (Psalm 67:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses a desire for all people to praise God. They declare that the nations should be glad and sing for joy because God judges with equity and guides the nations on earth (Psalm 67:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon the earth to yield its increase, asking God to bless His people with abundance. They affirm that when God blesses, all ends of the earth will fear Him (Psalm 67:5-7).

In summary,

Psalm sixty-seven presents

a prayer for divine blessing,

and a declaration of universal praise,

highlighting a desire for God's salvation and guidance to be made known among all nations.

Emphasizing petition achieved through seeking divine favor while desiring knowledge of divine ways among people,

and emphasizing proclamation achieved through calling for universal joyous worship while acknowledging divine justice and guidance.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine blessings as sources of abundance while affirming reverence from all corners of the earth in response to divine favor.

Psalms 67:1 God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us; Selah.

God's mercy and blessings bring joy and happiness to us.

1: The Joy of God's Mercy and Blessings

2: Rejoicing in the Face of the Lord

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 5:5- And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Psalms 67:2 That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.

The psalmist is asking for God's path to be made known on the earth and for his salvation to be shared among all nations.

1. God's Salvation is for All Nations

2. Let Us Make God's Path Known

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. Acts 1:8 - But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

Psalms 67:3 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

The psalmist calls for all people to praise and worship God.

1. The Power of Praise: An Exploration of Psalm 67.

2. Let All the People Praise God: A Study of Psalm 67.

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. Colossians 3:16-17: 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.

Psalms 67:4 O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah.

Let the nations rejoice in God's just and righteous judgement.

1. Joy in God's judgement

2. Celebrate God's fairness

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. Psalm 9:8 - He judges the world with justice, and he judges the peoples with equity.

Psalms 67:5 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

People are encouraged to praise God with all their hearts.

1. The Power of Praise: How Worship Draws Us Closer to God

2. The Joy of Praise: Finding Joy in Worship

1. Ephesians 5:18-20 - "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, 20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ"

2. Psalm 103:1-2 - "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits"

Psalms 67:6 Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us.

The earth will be blessed with abundance when we acknowledge God as our provider.

1. The Abundance of God's Blessing

2. Recognizing God as Provider

1. Deuteronomy 8:17-18 - God is our provider and will bless us if we obey Him.

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift comes from God.

Psalms 67:7 God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

God will bless us and all nations will revere him.

1. The Blessing of God: How to Receive and Share His Favor

2. God's Glory: What it Means to Fear Him

1. Isaiah 45:22-25 - "Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. By myself I have sworn, my mouth has uttered in all integrity a word that will not be revoked: Before me every knee will bow; by me every tongue will swear. They will say of me, In the Lord alone are righteousness and strength. All who have raged against him will come to him and be put to shame. But in the Lord all the descendants of Israel will be found righteous and will exult.

2. Psalm 22:27-28 - All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.

Psalm 68 is a psalm of triumph and praise, celebrating God's power, deliverance, and care for His people. It portrays God as a mighty warrior who defeats His enemies and provides for the needs of His faithful ones.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by calling upon God to arise and scatter His enemies. They express confidence in God's power to cause the wicked to perish and the righteous to rejoice (Psalm 68:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist praises God for His care for the vulnerable. They describe Him as a father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, and one who sets the lonely in families. They acknowledge that He provides for those in need (Psalm 68:5-6).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist recounts how God led His people through the wilderness during their exodus from Egypt. They describe how He shook the earth, caused water to flow from rocks, and provided abundantly for His chosen ones (Psalm 68:7-10).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist celebrates God's victory over their enemies. They depict Him as a conqueror riding through the heavens on chariots of clouds. They declare that even kings will bring tribute to Him (Psalm 68:11-14).

5th Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges that though they have faced hardships, God has brought them into abundance. They affirm that even in times of trouble, He provides deliverance and leads them with strength (Psalm 68:15-18).

6th Paragraph: The psalmist extols God's presence in His sanctuary and praises Him for his mighty acts among his people. They call upon all nations to worship Him with songs of praise (Psalm 68:19-27).

7th Paragraph:The psalmist concludes by declaring that kingdoms belong to God and acknowledging His majesty and strength. They exalt Him as their source of power and invite all nations to come before Him in worship (Psalm 68:28-35).

In summary,

Psalm sixty-eight presents

a triumphant song of praise,

and a declaration of divine power,

highlighting deliverance from enemies, care for the vulnerable, provision during wilderness journeying.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through calling upon divine intervention while expressing confidence in divine victory,

and emphasizing celebration achieved through praising divine care while recounting acts of provision.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine sovereignty as sources of triumph while acknowledging divine presence among worshippers worldwide

Psalms 68:1 Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him.

God's power and authority will be made evident as His enemies are scattered and must flee.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Power of His Presence

2. Experiencing Victory in God's Strength

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 8:37-39 - Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who 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 created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Psalms 68:2 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.

God will judge and punish the wicked for their wrongdoing.

1: God's Justice is inevitable - Psalms 68:2

2: Fear the Lord and turn away from wickedness - Psalms 68:2

1: Romans 2:5-9 - 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.

2: Proverbs 3:7-8 - Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. For it shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

Psalms 68:3 But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yea, let them exceedingly rejoice.

The righteous should be glad and rejoice before God with great joy.

1. Rejoicing in God - How to Rejoice in the Lord even in the Midst of Difficulties

2. Joyful Living - Experiencing Joy in Everyday Life through the Power of the Holy Spirit

1. Nehemiah 8:10 - "Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

2. Philippians 4:4 - "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!"

Psalms 68:4 Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that rideth upon the heavens by his name JAH, and rejoice before him.

We should sing praises to God, extol him using his name JAH, and rejoice in his presence.

1. The Joy of Praising God

2. Rejoicing in the Presence of God

1. Psalm 96:1-2, Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth! Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

2. Psalm 100:4, Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

Psalms 68:5 A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in his holy habitation.

God is a loving and just father to those who are without a father and protector of those who are widows.

1. God's Loving Protection: How God Cares for the Vulnerable

2. God's Righteous Judgment: The Justice of the Almighty

1. Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. Psalm 146:5-9 Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

Psalms 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.

God provides a refuge to the lonely and releases those in captivity, however, those who reject Him will remain in a desolate place.

1: God offers shelter to all who seek Him, even those in the most desperate circumstances.

2: God brings restoration and peace to the lives of those who put their trust in Him, but those who reject Him will remain in a state of unrest.

1: Isaiah 57:15 - For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

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.

Psalms 68:7 O God, when thou wentest forth before thy people, when thou didst march through the wilderness; Selah:

God's protection of His people throughout their journey.

1. "The Strength of the Shepherd: God's Protection in the Wilderness"

2. "The Lord is Our Leader: Following God Through Difficulties"

1. Exodus 13:21-22 - "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: He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people."

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."

Psalms 68:8 The earth shook, the heavens also dropped at the presence of God: even Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

God's presence brings both awe and fear.

1: God's presence commands respect and reverence.

2: God's presence brings both awe and fear.

1: Job 37:14-16 - Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.

2: Hebrews 12:22-24 - 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.

Psalms 68:9 Thou, O God, didst send a plentiful rain, whereby thou didst confirm thine inheritance, when it was weary.

God is a faithful provider and protector of His people.

1: God is our Provider and Protector

2: Trusting in God's Faithfulness

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 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.

Psalms 68:10 Thy congregation hath dwelt therein: thou, O God, hast prepared of thy goodness for the poor.

God has provided for the poor through His goodness.

1. The Goodness of God: Experiencing God's Abundance

2. Caring for the Poor: Living Out God's Compassion

1. 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?"

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."

Psalms 68:11 The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.

God gave the word and many people spread it.

1. The Power of Spreading God's Word

2. The Strength of Unity in Spreading God's Word

1. Psalm 68:11

2. Acts 4:31 - And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Psalms 68:12 Kings of armies did flee apace: and she that tarried at home divided the spoil.

Kings of armies fled quickly and those who stayed at home divided the spoils.

1. God rewards those who remain faithful even in difficult times.

2. How the Lord can use us even during times of distress.

1. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

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.

Psalms 68:13 Though ye have lien among the pots, yet shall ye be as the wings of a dove covered with silver, and her feathers with yellow gold.

God promises to make those who have lain among the pots beautiful and adorned with precious metals.

1. The Beauty of God's Transformation: How God Can Transform Us from the Inside Out.

2. Overcoming Adversity: How to Find Comfort and Strength in Difficult Times.

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. 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.

Psalms 68:14 When the Almighty scattered kings in it, it was white as snow in Salmon.

The Almighty's power can be seen in his ability to scatter kings like snow in Salmon.

1. God's Power is Unparalleled.

2. The Majesty of God is Incomparable.

1. Romans 11:33-36 - "Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor? Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them? For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen."

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."

Psalms 68:15 The hill of God is as the hill of Bashan; an high hill as the hill of Bashan.

God is exalted above all.

1: God is on high, and He is greater than all things.

2: No matter our circumstances, we can be confident in knowing that God is in control.

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: 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."

Psalms 68:16 Why leap ye, ye high hills? this is the hill which God desireth to dwell in; yea, the LORD will dwell in it for ever.

The Psalmist asks why the high hills are leaping, for God desires to dwell on one particular hill forever.

1. God desires to dwell in us, and that is more important than any physical dwelling.

2. We should strive to be the hill that God desires to dwell in.

1. Ephesians 2:19-22 - We are God's temple.

2. John 4:21-24 - God desires true worshipers to worship Him in Spirit and in truth.

Psalms 68:17 The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels: the Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the holy place.

The Lord is present among us, even in times of great difficulty.

1: God is always with us, no matter what.

2: Despite the chaos of life, we can find peace in God's 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: Matthew 28:20 - And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Psalms 68:18 Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.

God has ascended to the highest heavens and has accepted gifts from men, even from those who are rebellious, so that He might live among them.

1. God's Love for the Rebellious: How God's Unconditional Love Transcends All

2. Ascending to Heaven: The Rewards of Being Faithful to God

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 2:4-7 - But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions it is by grace you have been saved.

Psalms 68:19 Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah.

God, the God of salvation, blesses us with his benefits every day.

1. God's Daily Blessings: Understanding and Appreciating God's Generosity

2. Embracing Gratitude: Cultivating a Heart of Gratitude to God

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. 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.

Psalms 68:20 He that is our God is the God of salvation; and unto GOD the Lord belong the issues from death.

God is the God of salvation and has the power to deliver us from the clutches of death.

1. The Power of Our God: How God Saves Us from Death

2. Trust in God: Our Everlasting Salvation

1. Psalms 68:20

2. Isaiah 25:8 - He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces.

Psalms 68:21 But God shall wound the head of his enemies, and the hairy scalp of such an one as goeth on still in his trespasses.

God will punish those who disobey Him.

1: God will show no mercy to those who sin.

2: We must remain obedient to the Lord in all things.

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 11:21 - Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered.

Psalms 68:22 The Lord said, I will bring again from Bashan, I will bring my people again from the depths of the sea:

God will bring His people back from the depths of the sea.

1. The Depths of Redemption: How God Brings Us Back from the Bottom

2. The Depths of the Sea: Experiencing God's Miraculous Return

1. Psalm 68:22 - "The Lord said, I will bring again from Bashan, I will bring my people again from the depths of the sea:"

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."

Psalms 68:23 That thy foot may be dipped in the blood of thine enemies, and the tongue of thy dogs in the same.

God's enemies will be destroyed and the faithful will be rewarded.

1. God's Promises Will Be Fulfilled - Psalms 68:23

2. Victory Through Faith - Psalms 68:23

1. Isaiah 63:3-4 "I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment."

2. Revelation 19:14-15 "And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."

Psalms 68:24 They have seen thy goings, O God; even the goings of my God, my King, in the sanctuary.

God's presence in the sanctuary is seen by all.

1. The Power of Worship: Acknowledging God's Presence in the Sanctuary

2. How to Draw Closer to God: Seeking Him in the Sanctuary

1. Psalms 27:4-5 - One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek: 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 meditate in His temple.

2. Isaiah 6:1-4 - In the year of King Uzziah s death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called out to another and said, Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory.

Psalms 68:25 The singers went before, the players on instruments followed after; among them were the damsels playing with timbrels.

The singers led the procession, and the musicians followed with their instruments. Women played tambourines.

1. How God Uses Music to Connect Us to One Another

2. The Power of Music to Bring Joy and Community

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. 1 Chronicles 13:8 - "David and all Israel were celebrating before God with all their might, with songs and with harps, lyres, tambourines, cymbals and trumpets."

Psalms 68:26 Bless ye God in the congregations, even the Lord, from the fountain of Israel.

God should be praised in the assembly of believers, by those from the fountain of Israel.

1. The Power of Praise: Celebrating God In Our Gatherings

2. The Blessing of Belonging: The Privilege of Worshipping With a Congregation

1. Ephesians 5:19-20 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. 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.

Psalms 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.

This passage from Psalms speaks of the princes of Judah, Zebulun, and Naphtali, who are led by a ruler from little Benjamin.

1. "God's Faithfulness in Providing Leaders"

2. "The Importance of Following God's Leaders"

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;

2. Matthew 23:1-3, "Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples: The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses seat. So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach.

Psalms 68:28 Thy God hath commanded thy strength: strengthen, O God, that which thou hast wrought for us.

God commands us to be strong and faithful, and He will help us in our endeavors.

1. God's Strength in Our Weakness 2. Strengthening the Work of God in Our Lives

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." 2. 1 Corinthians 15:58 - "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye firm, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

Psalms 68:29 Because of thy temple at Jerusalem shall kings bring presents unto thee.

Kings will bring gifts to the temple of Jerusalem as an offering to God.

1. The importance of honoring God's temple and offering our gifts to Him.

2. The blessings of offering our gifts to God.

1. Psalms 68:29

2. Matthew 2:11 - And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

Psalms 68:30 Rebuke the company of spearmen, the multitude of the bulls, with the calves of the people, till every one submit himself with pieces of silver: scatter thou the people that delight in war.

God commands his people to submit to Him and to reject war and violence.

1. The Power of Submission to God

2. The Sins of War: A Call to Repentance

1. Psalm 68:30

2. Matthew 26:52-54 Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.

Psalms 68:31 Princes shall come out of Egypt; Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God.

This passage from Psalms 68:31 speaks of how princes from Egypt and Ethiopia will come together to praise God.

1. The Power of Unity: How Coming Together to Praise God Unites Us

2. Finding Faith in Times of Adversity: How Egypt and Ethiopia Found Strength in God

1. Deuteronomy 11:18-21 - "You shall therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 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 are lying down, and when you are rising. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth.

2. Isaiah 12:2-4 - "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.

Psalms 68:32 Sing unto God, ye kingdoms of the earth; O sing praises unto the Lord; Selah:

The psalmist calls on the nations of the earth to sing praises to God.

1: We should all rejoice in the Lord and praise Him with all our heart.

2: Let us come together and sing praises to God, for He is worthy of all our praises.

1: 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!"

2: Isaiah 12:4-6 - "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.

Psalms 68:33 To him that rideth upon the heavens of heavens, which were of old; lo, he doth send out his voice, and that a mighty voice.

The Lord's voice is powerful and can be heard even in the highest of heavens.

1. God's Voice Reaches Everywhere: How to Hear His Call

2. Recognizing the Power of God's Voice

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Psalm 29:3-4 - The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over many waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

Psalms 68:34 Ascribe ye strength unto God: his excellency is over Israel, and his strength is in the clouds.

God's strength is incomparable and His excellency is above all that Israel has.

1. God's Strength is Unmatched

2. His Excellency is Above All

1. Isaiah 40:28-31

2. Romans 11:33-36

Psalms 68:35 O God, thou art terrible out of thy holy places: the God of Israel is he that giveth strength and power unto his people. Blessed be God.

God is powerful and gives strength and power to his people.

1. God's Strength and Power: How Can We Rely on It?

2. The Blessing of God: How Can We Receive It?

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - 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. Ephesians 3:14-21 - For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being.

Psalm 69 is a psalm of lament, expressing deep distress and a plea for God's deliverance. It portrays the psalmist's suffering and persecution, while also expressing trust in God's faithfulness and seeking His mercy.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist describes their desperate situation, overwhelmed by deep waters and sinking in the mire. They express their anguish over being falsely accused and persecuted by enemies (Psalm 69:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist appeals to God for help, acknowledging their own unworthiness but pleading for His mercy. They express their longing for God's salvation and ask Him not to delay in rescuing them (Psalm 69:5-13).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist describes the pain they endure due to the reproach of others. They express feelings of isolation, rejection, and sorrow. They call upon God to deliver them from their enemies (Psalm 69:14-21).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon God to bring judgment upon their adversaries. They express confidence that God will hear their prayers and vindicate them against those who seek to harm them (Psalm 69:22-28).

5th Paragraph:The psalmist expresses trust in God's faithfulness despite their suffering. They declare that they will praise Him with thanksgiving when He answers their prayers and brings about deliverance (Psalm 69:29-36).

In summary,

Psalm sixty-nine presents

a lamentation of distress,

and a plea for divine intervention,

highlighting persecution, false accusations, anguish.

Emphasizing petition achieved through appealing for divine mercy while acknowledging personal unworthiness,

and emphasizing expression achieved through describing pain endured while calling for divine judgment on adversaries.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine faithfulness as sources of hope while affirming commitment to praise when deliverance is granted

Psalms 69:1 Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto my soul.

The psalmist is asking God to save them as their soul is in danger.

1. In times of trouble, we can always turn to God and rely on His love.

2. Pray to God and have faith that He will rescue you from any danger.

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 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."

Psalms 69:2 I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me.

I have sunk deep into despair and am overwhelmed by my troubles.

1: Life is full of struggles and we must learn to rely on God to get us through.

2: No matter how deep we are in the mire, God will always be there to help us.

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.

Psalms 69:3 I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God.

I am exhausted from my crying out to God, yet I still remain hopeful for His deliverance.

1. Don't Let Your Weariness Overcome Your Faith

2. Holding On To Hope In The Midst Of Weariness

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 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.

Psalms 69:4 They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored that which I took not away.

Enemies try to destroy the speaker wrongfully but the speaker has not taken anything from them.

1. God will protect those who are wrongfully attacked.

2. Be patient and trust in God during times of 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. Romans 8:35-39 "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. 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."

Psalms 69:5 O God, thou knowest my foolishness; and my sins are not hid from thee.

God is aware of our foolishness and sins, and they are not hidden from Him.

1. God is All Knowing and Sees All

2. Confess Your Sins to God

1. James 5:16 - Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

2. 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.

Psalms 69:6 Let not them that wait on thee, O Lord GOD of hosts, be ashamed for my sake: let not those that seek thee be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel.

People should not be ashamed or confounded when they seek God's presence.

1. God is Always Faithful - Psalms 69:6

2. Seeking God: A Path to God's Redemption - Psalms 69:6

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 25:4 - Show me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.

Psalms 69:7 Because for thy sake I have borne reproach; shame hath covered my face.

The speaker has experienced reproach and shame due to their faith in God.

1. "When our faith in God leads to reproach and shame, we must remember that our suffering is for His sake."

2. "No matter what reproach and shame we face, our faith in God will remain strong."

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. 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."

2. Isaiah 53:3-5 - "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. 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."

Psalms 69:8 I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children.

The speaker in Psalms 69:8 expresses feeling of alienation from family members.

1. The Loneliness of Alienation

2. Finding Hope in Belonging

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. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep."

Psalms 69:9 For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me.

The psalmist is consumed with passionate love and devotion for God's house. He willingly accepts the taunts and insults from those who mock God.

1. Love for God's House - The Power of Dedicated Devotion

2. Accepting Reproach - The Strength to Endure Insults

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. 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.

Psalms 69:10 When I wept, and chastened my soul with fasting, that was to my reproach.

The Psalmist speaks of the reproach he felt when he wept and fasted as a form of self-discipline.

1. God's Comfort in Times of Reproach

2. The Power of Self-Discipline

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. 1 Corinthians 9:27 No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

Psalms 69:11 I made sackcloth also my garment; and I became a proverb to them.

The psalmist declares that he clothed himself in sackcloth and became a proverb among people.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning to Adorn Ourselves with Sackcloth

2. The Paradox of Rejection: Becoming a Proverb to the People

1. James 4:6 - God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

2. Isaiah 61:3 - 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.

Psalms 69:12 They that sit in the gate speak against me; and I was the song of the drunkards.

People sitting in the gate are speaking against me and I am the subject of their drunken songs.

1. The Perils of Public Criticism - How to handle slander and gossip with grace

2. The Power of Forgiveness - Understanding how to forgive those who hurt us

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I tell 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. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

Psalms 69:13 But as for me, my prayer is unto thee, O LORD, in an acceptable time: O God, in the multitude of thy mercy hear me, in the truth of thy salvation.

David prays to God to hear him in truth and mercy.

1. The Power of Prayer: Seeking God's Mercy in Truth

2. Understanding an Acceptable Time to Pray

1. Romans 8:26-27 - In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God s will.

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.

Psalms 69:14 Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink: let me be delivered from them that hate me, and out of the deep waters.

A plea for deliverance from difficult circumstances and from enemies.

1. Living with Haters: Overcoming Difficulties Through Faith.

2. God Will Deliver: Trusting in His Deliverance.

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 35:17 - "Lord, how long wilt thou look on? Rescue my soul from their destructions, my darling from the lions."

Psalms 69:15 Let not the waterflood overflow me, neither let the deep swallow me up, and let not the pit shut her mouth upon me.

This Psalm is a prayer for deliverance from distress.

1. Overcoming Fear and Anxiety in Difficult Times

2. God's Deliverance and the Power of Prayer

1. Romans 8:18-39 - The Hope of Glory

2. Isaiah 43:1-2 - The Lord's Comforting Assurance

Psalms 69:16 Hear me, O LORD; for thy lovingkindness is good: turn unto me according to the multitude of thy tender mercies.

God is full of lovingkindness and mercy, and He will turn to us if we call out to Him.

1. A Call to Prayer: Relying on God's Lovingkindness and Mercy

2. The Multitude of God's Tender Mercies

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. 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.

Psalms 69:17 And hide not thy face from thy servant; for I am in trouble: hear me speedily.

Psalm 69 calls out to God, asking Him to not turn away and to hear the plea of the psalmist quickly.

1. Don't Hide Your Face from Us: Finding Strength in Troubled Times

2. Seeking God's Help in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 34:17-19 - The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from 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.

Psalms 69:18 Draw nigh unto my soul, and redeem it: deliver me because of mine enemies.

Psalm 69:18 is a plea to God for protection from enemies.

1: We are never alone in our struggles, for God is always ready to draw near and redeem us.

2: When we are surrounded by enemies, we can look to God for deliverance and hope.

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.

Psalms 69:19 Thou hast known my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonour: mine adversaries are all before thee.

God knows and understands the reproach, shame, and dishonor we experience in life.

1: God Sees and Understands Our Pain

2: Confidence in God During Troubling Times

1: Isaiah 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

2: 1 Peter 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Psalms 69:20 Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none.

The psalmist is feeling broken and is searching for comfort, but finds none.

1. The Comfort of God: How to Find Comfort in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of Prayer: How to Ask God for Strength in Difficult Times

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. 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.

Psalms 69:21 They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

People gave the psalmist gall and vinegar to drink in his distress.

1. The Power of Persecution: Learning to Endure in Times of Trouble

2. The Comfort of God in Times of Suffering

1. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

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.

Psalms 69:22 Let their table become a snare before them: and that which should have been for their welfare, let it become a trap.

God can turn blessings into traps for those who reject Him.

1. The Danger of Not Accepting God's Blessings

2. How the Lord Uses Blessings to Test Our Faithfulness

1. Psalm 119:67, Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word.

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.

Psalms 69:23 Let their eyes be darkened, that they see not; and make their loins continually to shake.

The psalmist calls for God to bring darkness upon the eyes of those who oppose him, and make their loins shake in fear.

1. The Power of Darkness: Understanding the Purpose of Fear in Faith

2. The Blessing of Submission: How to Move in Faith Despite Fear

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. 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."

Psalms 69:24 Pour out thine indignation upon them, and let thy wrathful anger take hold of them.

God is asking for justice to be done against those who have wronged him and his people.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

2. The Power of God's Wrath

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. Jeremiah 10:24 - Correct me, LORD, but only with justice not in your anger, lest you reduce me to nothing.

Psalms 69:25 Let their habitation be desolate; and let none dwell in their tents.

The Psalmist calls for God to bring desolation to the wicked and prevent them from occupying their tents.

1. "A Call for Judgment: The Consequences of Wickedness"

2. "The Clarity of God's Justice: No Exemption for Sin"

1. Psalm 11:5-7 The Lord tests the righteous, but his soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence. Let him rain coals on the wicked; fire and sulfur and a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup. For the Lord is righteous; he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face.

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.

Psalms 69:26 For they persecute him whom thou hast smitten; and they talk to the grief of those whom thou hast wounded.

People are persecuting and causing grief to those who have been afflicted by God.

1. God's Justice - Understanding the Purpose Behind Suffering

2. The Power of Persecution - How to Overcome Despite Adversity

1. Psalm 69:26

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.

Psalms 69:27 Add iniquity unto their iniquity: and let them not come into thy righteousness.

This passage is a plea to God to punish those who have done wrong and not to forgive them.

1. The Perils of Iniquity: What We Can Learn from Psalms 69:27

2. The Implications of Righteousness: How To Live According To Psalms 69:27

1. Isaiah 5:20-24 - Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2. 1 John 1:8-9 - If we say that 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.

Psalms 69:28 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.

The righteous should not be mixed with the wicked, and the wicked should be removed from the book of life.

1: No matter how hard we try to make the wicked righteous, they must stand apart from us and be blotted out of the book of life.

2: As the righteous, we must remember to stay separate from the wicked and not be associated with them.

1: Ezekiel 18:21-24 - But if the wicked turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

2: Proverbs 10:30 - The righteous shall never be removed: but the wicked shall not inhabit the earth.

Psalms 69:29 But I am poor and sorrowful: let thy salvation, O God, set me up on high.

The psalmist expresses his poverty and sadness, and asks God for salvation which will bring him joy and uplift him.

1. The Power of God's Salvation: How it Uplifts us in Times of Need

2. Poverty and Sorrow: The Hope of God's Salvation

1. Psalm 69:29

2. 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; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;)

Psalms 69:30 I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.

Psalms 69:30 encourages praises and thanksgiving to God.

1. The Power of Praise: Rejoice in the Lord Always

2. Gratitude: Giving Thanks to God in All Circumstances

1. Philippians 4:4-5 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

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.

Psalms 69:31 This also shall please the LORD better than an ox or bullock that hath horns and hoofs.

Psalms 69:31 states that pleasing the Lord is better than offering an ox or bullock with horns and hoofs.

1. The True Meaning of Worship

2. The Power of Sacrifice

1. Matthew 6:24-33 (No one can serve two masters)

2. 1 Samuel 15:22 (Obedience is better than sacrifice)

Psalms 69:32 The humble shall see this, and be glad: and your heart shall live that seek God.

The humble will be happy when they seek God, and their hearts will be full of life.

1) "The Rewards of Humility: Finding Joy in Seeking God"

2) "The Renewal of Hope: Strengthening Your Heart Through Seeking God"

1) James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

2) Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

Psalms 69:33 For the LORD heareth the poor, and despiseth not his prisoners.

The Lord hears the cries of the poor and does not ignore those who are imprisoned.

1. God is Compassionate and Caring for the Oppressed

2. The Lord Cares for All, Even those in Captivity

1. 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.

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.

Psalms 69:34 Let the heaven and earth praise him, the seas, and every thing that moveth therein.

The psalmist encourages the creation to praise God for his greatness and power.

1. "The Power of Praise" - How praising God can bring us closer to Him and help us to appreciate His power and greatness.

2. "The Unity of Creation" - How all of creation unites to praise God and how we are all connected by His love.

1. Colossians 1:15-17 - "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 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. 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."

Psalms 69:35 For God will save Zion, and will build the cities of Judah: that they may dwell there, and have it in possession.

God will save and protect Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah for the people to live in.

1. God is our Protector and Provider

2. The Power of God's Redemption

1. Isaiah 60:18-21 - "Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders; but thou shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates Praise. 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. Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself: for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended. Thy people also shall be all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified."

2. Jeremiah 33:7-9 - "And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and will build them, as at the first. And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me. And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it."

Psalms 69:36 The seed also of his servants shall inherit it: and they that love his name shall dwell therein.

The Lord will bless those who love His name with an inheritance.

1. The Lord's Promises and Blessings for Those Who Love Him

2. The Inheritance of Those Who Love God

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14

2. Psalm 34:8-10

Psalm 70 is a brief psalm of urgent prayer and plea for God's deliverance. It expresses the psalmist's need for immediate help and calls upon God to come quickly to their aid.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist pleads with God to deliver them from their enemies and bring shame upon those who seek their harm. They urgently ask for God's intervention, emphasizing the need for His swift action (Psalm 70:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges their own dependence on God and expresses trust in His faithfulness. They declare that those who seek after God will rejoice when He answers their prayers and brings salvation (Psalm 70:4-5).

In summary,

Psalm seventy presents

an urgent prayer for divine deliverance,

highlighting the need for immediate help, reliance on divine faithfulness.

Emphasizing petition achieved through pleading for divine intervention while expressing urgency,

and emphasizing trust achieved through acknowledging personal dependence while affirming joy in divine response.

Psalms 70:1 Make haste, O God, to deliver me; make haste to help me, O LORD.

The psalmist pleads to God for help and deliverance.

1. God is Our Helper in Times of Trouble

2. Seeking God's Deliverance 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. Psalm 34:17 - "When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

Psalms 70:2 Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my soul: let them be turned backward, and put to confusion, that desire my hurt.

Those who seek to harm the Psalmist should be shamed and confounded.

1: Let us not seek to harm others but instead focus on loving one another.

2: Seek not to harm those who are innocent, but instead show them love and mercy.

1: Luke 6:35 - But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great.

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.

Psalms 70:3 Let them be turned back for a reward of their shame that say, Aha, aha.

The psalmist pleads for God to bring justice to those who mock and ridicule him.

1. The Reward of Shame: Learning to Trust God in the Face of Ridicule

2. The Power of Prayer: Overcoming Mockery with Faith

1. Proverbs 13:5 - The righteous hate the one who speaks falsely, but the wicked bring shame and disgrace.

2. Psalms 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.

Psalms 70:4 Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: and let such as love thy salvation say continually, Let God be magnified.

Let us seek God in joy and be glad in Him, for He is our salvation and should be magnified.

1: Seek joy in God and be glad in Him, for He is our salvation.

2: Magnify God for He is our salvation.

1: Isaiah 25:9 And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

2: Habakkuk 3:18 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

Psalms 70:5 But I am poor and needy: make haste unto me, O God: thou art my help and my deliverer; O LORD, make no tarrying.

The Psalmist is asking God to make haste and come to his aid as he is in need of help and deliverance.

1. The Importance of Praying for Help in Times of Need

2. Relying on God 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. 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."

Psalm 71 is a psalm of trust and praise, where the psalmist seeks God's protection and deliverance in their old age. It expresses confidence in God's faithfulness throughout their life and calls upon Him for continued help and salvation.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares their trust in God, seeking refuge in Him. They ask for His deliverance from enemies, expressing confidence that He is their rock and fortress (Psalm 71:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on God's faithfulness throughout their life, acknowledging His constant presence and protection. They recount how God has been their hope and strength from youth until old age (Psalm 71:4-9).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist pleads with God not to forsake them in their old age. They express reliance on Him as they face adversaries who seek to harm them. They call upon God for His righteous judgment (Psalm 71:10-13).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist reaffirms their trust in God's salvation and praises His righteousness. They declare that they will continually praise Him with songs of thanksgiving, exalting His mighty acts (Psalm 71:14-24).

In summary,

Psalm seventy-one presents

a prayer of trust and praise,

highlighting seeking divine protection, reflecting on divine faithfulness throughout life.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through seeking divine refuge while expressing confidence,

and emphasizing reflection achieved through acknowledging divine presence while pleading for continued help.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine righteousness as sources of reliance while affirming commitment to continuous praise.

Psalms 71:1 In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion.

The Psalmist expresses trust in the Lord and asks to never be put to shame.

1. Trusting in the Lord in times of distress

2. Being Confident in the Lord's protection

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. 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."

Psalms 71:2 Deliver me in thy righteousness, and cause me to escape: incline thine ear unto me, and save me.

Deliverance is sought from God through righteousness and mercy.

1. The Need for Deliverance and God's Response

2. Seeking Deliverance from God Through Righteousness and Mercy

1. Psalm 34:17-18 - When the righteous cry out, the Lord hears and saves them from all their troubles.

2. Romans 3:21-26 - By God's grace through faith, we can be made right with Him and receive His mercy and deliverance.

Psalms 71:3 Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou art my rock and my fortress.

This passage encourages us to trust in God and seek His protection and comfort, for He is our strong habitation and rock.

1. Trusting in God in Times of Trouble

2. Relying on the Lord as Our Fortress

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 26:3-4 - You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the Lord forever, for in YAH, the Lord, is everlasting strength.

Psalms 71:4 Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.

The Psalmist pleads to God to be delivered out of the hands of wicked and cruel people.

1. "The Power of Hope in Times of Trouble"

2. "Seeking God's Strength in the Face of Persecution"

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. Hebrews 13:6 - "So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Psalms 71:5 For thou art my hope, O Lord GOD: thou art my trust from my youth.

The psalmist expresses his trust and hope in the Lord since his youth.

1. Trusting in the Lord: The Power of a Life-Long Faith

2. Hope in the Lord: Finding Strength 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. 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."

Psalms 71:6 By thee have I been holden up from the womb: thou art he that took me out of my mother's bowels: my praise shall be continually of thee.

The psalmist praises God for being his protector from birth and promises to continually give Him praise.

1. The Power of God's Protection

2. The Blessing of Continuous Praise

1. Isaiah 49:15-16 "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before 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."

Psalms 71:7 I am as a wonder unto many; but thou art my strong refuge.

God is the strong refuge of the psalmist, who is a wonder to many.

1. God is a Strong Refuge: Trusting in His Power in Times of Difficulty

2. A Wonder to Many: Reflecting on the Strength of God's Protection

1. 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..."

2. Psalm 62: 8 - "Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us."

Psalms 71:8 Let my mouth be filled with thy praise and with thy honour all the day.

The psalmist expresses a desire for his mouth to be filled with praise and honor for God all day long.

1. Filling Our Mouths with Praise - A exploring how we can use our words to glorify God.

2. Honoring God All Day - A examining how we can honor God in all aspects of 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. Ephesians 5:19-20 - Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 71:9 Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth.

This psalm expresses the prayer of a person seeking assurance of God's never-failing love in their time of need.

1. God's Unfailing Love in Times of Need

2. Relying on the Lord in Times of 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. 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."

Psalms 71:10 For mine enemies speak against me; and they that lay wait for my soul take counsel together,

Enemies are speaking against the psalmist and plotting to harm them.

1. Recognizing When You Are Being Attacked By Others

2. Overcoming Trials Through Trusting in the Lord

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. 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.

Psalms 71:11 Saying, God hath forsaken him: persecute and take him; for there is none to deliver him.

God will never forsake His people, no matter the circumstances.

1. God is Always There: Finding Hope in Difficult Times

2. The Everlasting Strength of God's Love

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 13:5-6 - "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? "

Psalms 71:12 O God, be not far from me: O my God, make haste for my help.

The psalmist pleads to God to not be far away and to quickly come to their aid.

1. God Is Always Near: Understanding the Psalmist's Prayer for Help

2. God's Hasty Response: What We Can Learn from Psalm 71:12

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.

Psalms 71:13 Let them be confounded and consumed that are adversaries to my soul; let them be covered with reproach and dishonour that seek my hurt.

God has given us the power to persevere against our enemies.

1: God's Protection and Blessing: Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity

2: Overcoming Trials and Tribulations Through Faith in 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: Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me, declares the Lord.

Psalms 71:14 But I will hope continually, and will yet praise thee more and more.

The psalmist expresses their faith in God and their commitment to praising Him.

1. Learning to Have Hope in Difficult Times

2. Knowing the Source of Our 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. 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.

Psalms 71:15 My mouth shall shew forth thy righteousness and thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers thereof.

The psalmist celebrates God's righteousness and salvation all day long, without knowing the full extent of it.

1. Celebrating the Unfathomable Extent of God's Love

2. Rejoicing in the Riches of God's Righteousness

1. Ephesians 2:4-6 - 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 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 53:11 - Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

Psalms 71:16 I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only.

I will proclaim and trust in the strength of the Lord God.

1: God's Strength is Unending

2: Trust in the Lord and His Righteousness

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 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.

Psalms 71:17 O God, thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works.

God has been teaching the psalmist since their youth, and the psalmist has been declaring God's wondrous works.

1. The importance of learning God's Word from a young age.

2. How to declare God's wondrous works.

1. Deuteronomy 11:19 - Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

2. Luke 2:19 - But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

Psalms 71:18 Now also when I am old and greyheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come.

Despite his age, the Psalmist pleads to God that He not forsake him so that he can demonstrate God's strength to his and future generations.

1. The Lord's Faithfulness in Old Age

2. The Power of God Demonstrated Throughout the Generations

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. 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."

Psalms 71:19 Thy righteousness also, O God, is very high, who hast done great things: O God, who is like unto thee!

The psalmist is praising God for His great righteousness and wonders.

1. God's Righteousness is Unparalleled

2. God's Greatness is Unsurpassed

1. Isaiah 40:18 To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

2. Psalm 145:3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.

Psalms 71:20 Thou, which hast shewed me great and sore troubles, shalt quicken me again, and shalt bring me up again from the depths of the earth.

God will help us to overcome our troubles and will bring us back from our lowest points.

1: God will be with us no matter how deep the valley we go to.

2: No matter what, God will help us to be lifted up again from the depths of the earth.

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."

Psalm 34:18, "The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Psalms 71:21 Thou shalt increase my greatness, and comfort me on every side.

Psalms 71:21 encourages us to ask the Lord to increase our greatness and bring us comfort.

1. God Is Greater Than All Our Troubles - Psalms 71:21

2. Reaching Beyond Our Circumstances Through Faith - Psalms 71:21

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. 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.

Psalms 71:22 I will also praise thee with the psaltery, even thy truth, O my God: unto thee will I sing with the harp, O thou Holy One of Israel.

This passage affirms the praise of God using both singing and music.

1. The Power of Praise: Celebrating God with Music

2. Rejoicing in the Holiness of 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. Revelation 5:13-14 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

Psalms 71:23 My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto thee; and my soul, which thou hast redeemed.

The Psalmist rejoices in singing praises to God for the redemption of his soul.

1. The Joy of Redeemed Souls

2. Expressing Praise Through Singing

1. 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.

2. Psalm 51:12 - Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Psalms 71:24 My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long: for they are confounded, for they are brought unto shame, that seek my hurt.

My tongue shall declare the righteousness of God all day. Those who seek to hurt me are confounded and ashamed.

1. The Victory We Have Through God's Righteousness

2. How to Live a Life of Unshakable Faith

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

Psalm 72 is a royal psalm attributed to King Solomon, presenting a prayer for the righteous and just rule of the king. It focuses on the qualities and responsibilities of a righteous ruler and expresses a vision of peace, justice, and prosperity under God's reign.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist prays for God's blessings upon the king, asking for wisdom, justice, and righteousness in his rule. They express hope that the king will defend the cause of the poor and bring prosperity to the land (Psalm 72:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist describes the extent of the king's dominion, envisioning his rule reaching from sea to sea. They depict other nations bringing tribute and bowing before him. They emphasize that he will deliver the needy and have compassion on them (Psalm 72:5-14).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist highlights God's care for the poor and oppressed. They declare that God will rescue those who are in need, redeem their lives from oppression, and bless them abundantly (Psalm 72:12-14).

4th Paragraph:The psalmist praises God as they recognize His sovereignty over all nations. They affirm that His name will endure forever and His glory will fill the earth. They conclude by offering praise to Him (Psalm 72:15-20).

In summary,

Psalm seventy-two presents

a prayer for righteous kingship,

highlighting qualities desired in a ruler,

and expressing hope for peace, justice, prosperity.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through praying for divine blessings while seeking wisdom, justice,

and emphasizing vision achieved through describing extent of dominion while envisioning submission from other nations.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine care as sources of deliverance while affirming divine sovereignty over all nations

Psalms 72:1 Give the king thy judgments, O God, and thy righteousness unto the king's son.

This passage calls for God to provide righteousness and justice to a king and his son.

1. The Power of Righteousness: A Call for Godly Leadership

2. The Importance of Justice: A Call to Live with Integrity

1. Proverbs 29:14 - When the wicked rule, the people groan, but when the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice.

2. Isaiah 32:1 - Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in justice.

Psalms 72:2 He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment.

This passage speaks of the righteous judgment of God over His people and the poor.

1. The Righteous Judgment of God

2. Showing Mercy to the Poor

1. Psalms 72:2

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.

Psalms 72:3 The mountains shall bring peace to the people, and the little hills, by righteousness.

The mountains and hills will provide peace to the people through righteousness.

1. The Power of Righteousness

2. The Peace of the Mountains

1. Isaiah 32:17 - And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever.

2. Micah 4:3 - 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.

Psalms 72:4 He shall judge the poor of the people, he shall save the children of the needy, and shall break in pieces the oppressor.

He shall judge and save the needy and oppressed.

1: We must be advocates for the poor and needy.

2: We must stand up against oppressors and injustice.

1: James 2:1-7 - Love should be shown without partiality.

2: Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression.

Psalms 72:5 They shall fear thee as long as the sun and moon endure, throughout all generations.

Psalm 72 declares that people should fear God throughout all generations, as long as the sun and moon endure.

1. Fear God Through All of Life s Generations

2. Enduring Faith in a Changing World

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. 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.

Psalms 72:6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass: as showers that water the earth.

God's grace is like refreshing rain that nourishes the land.

1. The Blessing of God's Grace

2. Nourishing Our Souls with God's Grace

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. 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."

Psalms 72:7 In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth.

The righteous will thrive in the presence of peace as long as the moon continues to exist.

1. God's promise of peace and prosperity for the righteous.

2. The enduring faithfulness of God.

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. 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.

Psalms 72:8 He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.

He will rule from the most distant places to the closest.

1: God's power extends to all corners of the world, and no matter where we go, God is with us.

2: We should never forget that God has dominion over every aspect of our lives, no matter how far we wander.

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.

Psalms 72:9 They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust.

The psalmist paints a picture of God's enemies bowing down before Him and licking the dust.

1. "God's Sovereignty: The Perfect Picture of His Victorious Power"

2. "The Submission of Enemies: A Reminder of God's Faithfulness"

1. Isaiah 45:23 - "Every knee shall bow and every tongue shall swear allegiance to me, says the LORD."

2. Philippians 2:10-11 - "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Psalms 72:10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.

The kings of distant lands will bring gifts to honor the Lord.

1. The Lord is Worthy of Our Praise

2. God's Majesty is Unfathomable

1. 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: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

2. Isaiah 55:5 Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee.

Psalms 72:11 Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.

All kings and nations will bow down to serve the Lord.

1. The Power of God's Sovereignty

2. The Authority of the Lord's Kingship

1. Matthew 28:18 - And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

2. Daniel 7:14 - And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

Psalms 72:12 For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper.

He will save those in need, the poor and those without help.

1: God will provide for those who have nothing.

2: Those in need can rely on God for help.

1: Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2: James 1:27 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.

Psalms 72:13 He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy.

This passage from Psalms 72:13 encourages us to help the poor and needy, and to save their souls.

1. The Power of Compassion: A Call to Help the Poor and Needy

2. The Value of the Soul: The Importance of Preserving and Protecting Life

1. Proverbs 14:31: He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

2. Isaiah 58:10: If you spend yourselves on 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.

Psalms 72:14 He shall redeem their soul from deceit and violence: and precious shall their blood be in his sight.

The psalmist affirms that God will protect those who are vulnerable from deceit and violence, and that their worth is precious in His eyes.

1. God's Love and Protection for the Vulnerable

2. The Preciousness of Life in God's Sight

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. 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. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows."

Psalms 72:15 And he shall live, and to him shall be given of the gold of Sheba: prayer also shall be made for him continually; and daily shall he be praised.

A prayer will be continually made for the righteous, and they will be praised daily.

1. The Blessing of Prayer: How the Righteous Receive Daily Praise

2. The Power of Gold: How the Righteous Receive Riches from Sheba

1. Psalm 72:15-16 - He will live a long life, and people will continually pray for him. He will receive abundant blessings from Sheba and be praised daily.

2. Proverbs 3:13-18 - Blessed are those who find wisdom and those who gain understanding. They will receive wealth, riches, and honor. They will find favor and success in all they do.

Psalms 72:16 There shall be an handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountains; the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon: and they of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.

The earth will be full of corn, the fruit of which will be plentiful like the cedars of Lebanon, and the people in the city will flourish like grass.

1. The Abundance of God's Provision

2. Cultivating a Flourishing Life

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. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

Psalms 72:17 His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and men shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed.

His name will remain forever and bring blessings to all.

1: The Power of an Eternal Name

2: The Blessing of His Name

1: Malachi 3:16-17 - Then those who feared the Lord spoke with one another. The Lord paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the Lord and esteemed his name.

2: Matthew 6:9-13 - Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Psalms 72:18 Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.

Psalms 72:18 praises God for His wonderful works.

1. God's Wonders - Celebrating God for His wonderful works in our lives.

2. God's Miracles - Praising God for His miraculous works.

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 86:8 10 - "There is no one like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, O Lord; they will bring glory to your name. For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God."

Psalms 72:19 And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen.

The glory of God should be praised forever.

1. The Unending Glory of the Lord: How to Make Our Praise Last

2. Filling the Earth with God's Glory: How to Live Honorably

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. John 1:14 - And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Psalms 72:20 The prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended.

The book of Psalms concludes with the prayer of David, the son of Jesse.

1. "The Power of Prayers: Understanding the Legacy of David"

2. "The Unparalleled Faith of David: An Inspiration for Us All"

1. 1 Samuel 16:1-13 - The Story of David's Anointing

2. Romans 4:17-21 - The Faith of Abraham and David

Psalm 73 is a psalm of personal struggle and reflection on the problem of the prosperity of the wicked. The psalmist wrestles with feelings of envy and confusion, but ultimately finds clarity and renewed faith in God's justice.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by expressing their initial struggle with envy towards the wicked who seem to prosper. They question the point of living righteously when it appears that evildoers face no consequences (Psalm 73:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on their own spiritual journey and acknowledges that their perspective was clouded by bitterness and doubt. They realize that the prosperity of the wicked is temporary, like a dream that fades away (Psalm 73:16-20).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist experiences a turning point in their understanding when they enter God's sanctuary. They gain insight into the ultimate fate of the wicked and recognize that true fulfillment comes from being in God's presence (Psalm 73:21-26).

4th Paragraph:The psalmist concludes by affirming their trust in God's justice. They acknowledge His guidance, strength, and everlasting presence. They declare that those who are far from God will perish, but those who seek Him will find refuge (Psalm 73:27-28).

In summary,

Psalm seventy-three presents

a reflection on struggles with envy,

and a journey towards renewed faith,

highlighting wrestling with prosperity of wicked, finding clarity in divine justice.

Emphasizing lament achieved through expressing initial struggle while questioning righteousness,

and emphasizing transformation achieved through reflecting on spiritual journey while gaining insight.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine presence as ultimate fulfillment while affirming trust in divine justice

Psalms 73:1 Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart.

God is good and faithful to those who are true to Him.

1. God's Faithfulness Endures - His goodness and faithfulness are everlasting and unwavering.

2. Clean Hearts, Clear Consciences - We must be true to God to be worthy of His goodness.

1. Psalms 73:1 - Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart.

2. Psalms 25:10 - All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Psalms 73:2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped.

The psalmist confesses that he almost stumbled and almost lost his footing.

1. The Need for Steadfastness in Faith

2. Persevering in the Face of 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, 2 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. 3 Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Psalms 73:3 For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

The Psalmist expresses his envy at the prosperity of the wicked.

1. God's Justice and Our Patience: The Psalmist's Struggle with Faith

2. The Problem of Prosperity: Righteousness and Blessing

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. 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.

Psalms 73:4 For there are no bands in their death: but their strength is firm.

The Psalmist acknowledges that though the wicked seem to have everything going for them, their ultimate end is death, whereas the righteous have strength in God that is firm.

1. No matter what we see in this life, the strength of the righteous lies in God and will never be taken away.

2. Even though the wicked may seem to enjoy their lives now, their end is death and the righteous will stand firm in the strength of the Lord.

1. Psalm 73:4 - "For there are no bands in their death: but their strength is firm."

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.

Psalms 73:5 They are not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men.

This Psalm speaks of the wicked, who seem to have no troubles, and are free from the plagues which afflict others.

1. The Paradox of the Wicked: How the Unrighteous Prosper

2. The Power of God's Grace: God's Blessing on His People

1. Jeremiah 12:1 - Righteous are you, O Lord, when I plead with you; yet let me talk with you about your judgments.

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.

Psalms 73:6 Therefore pride compasseth them about as a chain; violence covereth them as a garment.

Pride and violence are like chains and garments that surround and cover people.

1. "The Power of Pride: How Pride Can Enslave Us"

2. "The Consequences of Violence: How It Destroys Our Lives"

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

2. Isaiah 59:6 - Their webs will not become clothing; they will not cover themselves with what they make. Their works are sinful works, and violence is in their hands.

Psalms 73:7 Their eyes stand out with fatness: they have more than heart could wish.

Some people have all the physical and material wealth they could ever desire, having more than their heart could wish for.

1. The Danger of Materialism: Don't Let Wealth Corrupt Your Heart

2. God's Provision: Trusting in God's Plan for You

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 30:8-9, Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny you and say, Who is the Lord?

Psalms 73:8 They are corrupt, and speak wickedly concerning oppression: they speak loftily.

The wicked speak of oppression in an arrogant manner.

1. The Danger of Corrupt Speech

2. The Power of Righteous Speech

1. James 3:5-6 - "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! 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."

2. Proverbs 15:2 - "The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness."

Psalms 73:9 They set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue walketh through the earth.

The wicked have spoken against God and have spread lies on the earth.

1. Our tongues have the power to spread either truth or lies. We must be careful to use it for good.

2. We must not allow our words to be contrary to God's ways and teachings.

1. 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.

2. Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Psalms 73:10 Therefore his people return hither: and waters of a full cup are wrung out to them.

God's people will return to Him and He will provide them with all that they need.

1. Abundance in God's Provision

2. Returning to the Lord

1. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

2. Isaiah 58:11 - The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

Psalms 73:11 And they say, How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the most High?

This passage reflects upon the question of how God knows and if the Most High has knowledge.

1. No Question is Too Difficult for God - Exploring the Omniscience of God

2. The Most High Knows Everything - Understanding the Divine Knowledge of God

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. Job 37:16 - Do you know the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of him who is perfect in knowledge?

Psalms 73:12 Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.

Unrighteous people are often seen as prosperous in the world, and their wealth increases.

1. God's understanding of success is different from the world's understanding, and He will ultimately judge the unrighteous.

2. The pursuit of earthly wealth can lead to destruction, and it is important to remember that God's definition of success is not the same as the world's.

1. Psalm 73:12

2. Proverbs 11:4 - "Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death."

Psalms 73:13 Verily I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my hands in innocency.

The Psalmist expresses his frustration with his efforts to cleanse his heart and hands in innocence, yet feeling like his efforts are in vain.

1. The Power of Clean Hands and a Pure Heart

2. Overcoming Disappointment in Our Pursuit of Purity

1. Matthew 5:8 - "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

2. Proverbs 20:9 - "Who can say, 'I have made my heart pure; I am clean and without sin'?"

Psalms 73:14 For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning.

The psalmist expresses the distress caused by being plagued and chastened every morning.

1. The Difficulty of Perseverance

2. Finding Strength During Affliction

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 12:11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Psalms 73:15 If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I should offend against the generation of thy children.

The psalmist reflects on the consequences of speaking out against the current generation.

1. The Power of Words and How to Use Them Wisely

2. A Reflection on the Impact of Our Speech

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 3:6-10 - "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. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so."

Psalms 73:16 When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me;

Life is not always easy or fair, but we must always strive to remember God's goodness and mercy.

1: God is Good: Remembering God's Mercy in Difficult Times

2: Not Understanding Why: Learning to Trust God in Troublesome Times

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 46:10- Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Psalms 73:17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end.

Upon entering the sanctuary of God, one can gain a better understanding of the end.

1. "The Power of the Sanctuary"

2. "Seeking Understanding in the Sanctuary"

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. 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.

Psalms 73:18 Surely thou didst set them in slippery places: thou castedst them down into destruction.

God will punish those who have done wrong by putting them in dangerous or difficult situations.

1. Living a life of integrity is key to avoiding God's judgement.

2. No matter the situation, God's judgement will not be escaped.

1. Proverbs 10:9 - "Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out."

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."

Psalms 73:19 How are they brought into desolation, as in a moment! they are utterly consumed with terrors.

People can be brought into desolation and consumed with terrors in a moment.

1. The Importance of Righteousness: How We Can Avoid Desolation

2. The Power of God: How God Can Save Us From Desolation

1. Proverbs 11:4, "Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death."

2. Psalm 34:19, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all."

Psalms 73:20 As a dream when one awaketh; so, O Lord, when thou awakest, thou shalt despise their image.

This Psalm speaks of God's judgement of those who are wicked and full of pride, showing that it is fleeting and without substance.

1. Pride and its consequences - Psalms 73:20

2. The fleeting nature of wickedness - Psalms 73:20

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

2. James 4:6 - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Psalms 73:21 Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins.

The psalmist's heart was grieved and pierced by afflictions.

1: God uses afflictions to draw us closer to Him, reminding us to trust in His strength and not our own.

2: God's purpose in affliction is to draw us away from trusting in our own strength and wisdom and toward trusting in Him and His promises.

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: 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.

Psalms 73:22 So foolish was I, and ignorant: I was as a beast before thee.

The Psalmist confesses his foolishness and ignorance before God and likens himself to a beast.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning from the Psalmist

2. The Power of Confession: Releasing Our Shame Before God

1. Proverbs 12:15 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

2. James 4:6 - But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Psalms 73:23 Nevertheless I am continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand.

The Psalmist expresses his faith in God, recognizing that He is always with him and will never leave His side.

1. God's Unfailing Presence: The Comfort of Knowing God is Always With Us

2. Releasing Our Right Hand to God: Trusting in His Strength 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. 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."

Psalms 73:24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.

The Psalmist expresses a desire to be guided and receive glory, trusting in God's counsel.

1. Trusting in God's Counsel: Learning to Lean on Him in All Circumstances

2. The Journey of Faith: Reaching a Place of Glory with God's Guidance

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. 2 Corinthians 3:18 - "And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

Psalms 73:25 Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.

Nothing in heaven and nothing on earth can compare to the Lord.

1. The Lord Alone - A on the importance of having God alone as our source of strength and joy.

2. The Goodness of God - A on how God's goodness is incomparable to anything else.

1. Psalm 73:25 - "Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee."

2. 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."

Psalms 73:26 My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

God is our strength and our hope even when our own bodies and hearts fail us.

1. God is Our Strength in Times of Weakness

2. God is Our Portion Forever

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. 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.

Psalms 73:27 For, lo, they that are far from thee shall perish: thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from thee.

All who stray from God will perish, but those who remain faithful will be saved.

1. Remain Faithful to God to be Saved

2. God's Destruction of the Unfaithful

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. 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.

Psalms 73:28 But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all thy works.

Drawing near to God is good and trusting in Him is even better.

1: Trusting in the Lord is a powerful way to declare His works

2: Drawing near to God will bring about great 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: 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.

Psalm 74 is a psalm of lament that expresses deep distress over the destruction of the sanctuary and the perceived abandonment of God. The psalmist pleads for God's intervention and calls upon Him to remember His covenant and deliver His people.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by recounting the devastation of the sanctuary, emphasizing its desolation and destruction. They express anguish over the enemies who have defiled God's dwelling place (Psalm 74:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist appeals to God, asking Him to intervene in light of His past deeds. They remind God of His power in creation and how He defeated Egypt during the Exodus. They plead for Him to arise and defend His cause (Psalm 74:9-17).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist laments the taunting and reproach they endure from their enemies. They ask God to remember His covenant with His people, urging Him not to let them be put to shame or forsaken (Psalm 74:18-23).

In summary,

Psalm seventy-four presents

a lamentation over destruction,

and a plea for divine intervention,

highlighting distress over desecration, seeking divine remembrance.

Emphasizing lament achieved through recounting devastation while expressing anguish,

and emphasizing petition achieved through appealing for divine intervention while reminding of past deeds.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine covenant as source of hope while urging against shame or forsakenness.

Psalms 74:1 O God, why hast thou cast us off for ever? why doth thine anger smoke against the sheep of thy pasture?

The psalmist grieves and questions why God has seemingly forsaken His people.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Trial

2. How to Respond to God's Silence

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. Jeremiah 29:11-12 "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."

Psalms 74:2 Remember thy congregation, which thou hast purchased of old; the rod of thine inheritance, which thou hast redeemed; this mount Zion, wherein thou hast dwelt.

This passage speaks of God's commitment to His people, whom He has purchased and redeemed, and who He has chosen to dwell with on Mount Zion.

1. God's Unfailing Love for His People

2. Our Inheritance in Christ Jesus

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. 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.

Psalms 74:3 Lift up thy feet unto the perpetual desolations; even all that the enemy hath done wickedly in the sanctuary.

The enemy has done wickedly in the sanctuary and the psalmist calls to God to stop the desecration.

1. "Trials of the Sanctuary: Overcoming Desecration"

2. "Standing Firm in the Face of Evil"

1. Psalm 74:3

2. Ephesians 6:10-13 (Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.)

Psalms 74:4 Thine enemies roar in the midst of thy congregations; they set up their ensigns for signs.

The enemies of God are loudly proclaiming their presence in the midst of His congregations.

1. The Strength of God's People in the Face of Adversity

2. Reaffirming Our 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. 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.

Psalms 74:5 A man was famous according as he had lifted up axes upon the thick trees.

A man was praised for his ability to chop down thick trees with an axe.

1. Knowing Your Strengths: Knowing and utilizing our strengths to be successful and powerful.

2. The Power of Hard Work: Working hard and being persistent can lead to great accomplishments.

1. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.

2. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

Psalms 74:6 But now they break down the carved work thereof at once with axes and hammers.

The carved work of the Lord is being broken down with hammers and axes.

1. "The Plight of the Lord's Work"

2. "The Destruction of God's Artistry"

1. Isaiah 64:8-9 - "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. Isaiah 28:21 - "For the LORD shall rise up as in mount Perazim, he shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act."

Psalms 74:7 They have cast fire into thy sanctuary, they have defiled by casting down the dwelling place of thy name to the ground.

Fire has been cast into the sanctuary and the dwelling place of God's name has been defiled and cast down to the ground.

1. God's Name Is Worth Fighting For

2. The Power of Renewal and Restoration

1. Isaiah 61:3-4 - 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; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

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.

Psalms 74:8 They said in their hearts, Let us destroy them together: they have burned up all the synagogues of God in the land.

People have burned down all of God's synagogues in the land.

1. God's House: A Refuge from Destruction

2. The Importance of Protecting God's House

1. Psalm 27:4-5 - 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. 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.

Psalms 74:9 We see not our signs: there is no more any prophet: neither is there among us any that knoweth how long.

The psalmist laments that there is no prophet in their midst and no one who knows how long the situation will continue.

1. God Remains Faithful Even in Darkness

2. Finding Hope in Difficult Times

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.

Psalms 74:10 O God, how long shall the adversary reproach? shall the enemy blaspheme thy name for ever?

The psalmist asks God how long the adversary will blaspheme His name.

1. The Power of Believing in the Name of God

2. Standing Up to Reproach and Blasphemy

1. Psalm 74:10

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the whole armor of God to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Psalms 74:11 Why withdrawest thou thy hand, even thy right hand? pluck it out of thy bosom.

The psalmist is asking why God is hiding his hand from them.

1: We must never forget to trust in God in times of difficulty and struggle.

2: God's hand is always present to help us in our times of need.

1: 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: Psalm 37:24 - "Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand."

Psalms 74:12 For God is my King of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.

God is the King who works salvation in the world.

1. God's Sovereignty in Salvation

2. God's Omnipotence in Creation

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. 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.

Psalms 74:13 Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength: thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters.

God demonstrated His strength when He divided the sea and broke the heads of the dragons.

1. The Power of God: Demonstrated Through His Strength.

2. Trust in God: He Will Defend Us When All Seems Lost.

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. 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.

Psalms 74:14 Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness.

God destroyed the leviathan and provided it as food for those who lived in the wilderness.

1. The Power of God: How God Uses His Strength to Protect His People

2. The Providential Care of God: How God Provides for His People

1. Psalms 74:14

2. Isaiah 27:1 - "In that day the Lord with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea."

Psalms 74:15 Thou didst cleave the fountain and the flood: thou driedst up mighty rivers.

The passage speaks of God's power to control the waters.

1. A on the power of God to control the waters

2. A on trusting in God's power in times of hardship

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. Isaiah 43:16-17 - Thus saith the Lord, which maketh a way in the sea, and a path in the mighty waters; Which bringeth forth the chariot and horse, the army and the power; they shall lie down together, they shall not rise: they are extinct, they are quenched as tow.

Psalms 74:16 The day is thine, the night also is thine: thou hast prepared the light and the sun.

God has created the day and night and everything in between, including the light and the sun.

1: God is the Creator of All Things, Psalms 74:16

2: Light of the World, John 8:12

1: Genesis 1:3-5

2: Revelation 21:23-25

Psalms 74:17 Thou hast set all the borders of the earth: thou hast made summer and winter.

God has established the boundaries of the earth and created the seasons of summer and winter.

1. God's Sovereignty in Creation: Lessons from Psalms 74:17

2. How to Live in Harmony with God's Creation: Exploring Psalms 74:17

1. Genesis 1:14-19 - God's Creation of the Earth and Seasons.

2. Isaiah 40:28 - The Unceasing Power and Sovereignty of God.

Psalms 74:18 Remember this, that the enemy hath reproached, O LORD, and that the foolish people have blasphemed thy name.

The enemy has insulted God, and the foolish have blasphemed his name.

1. The Power and Perseverance of God in the Face of Insult and Blasphemy

2. The Danger of Blasphemy and the Importance of Respecting God's Name

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. Proverbs 30:8-9 - Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny you and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.

Psalms 74:19 O deliver not the soul of thy turtledove unto the multitude of the wicked: forget not the congregation of thy poor for ever.

God commands us to not forget the poor and the helpless.

1: We have a responsibility to care for the less fortunate.

2: God's love extends to all of His people, regardless of their economic status.

1: Deuteronomy 15:11, "For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land. "

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."

Psalms 74:20 Have respect unto the covenant: for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty.

The psalmist reminds us to respect God's covenant and to recognize the suffering of those who live in darkness and cruelty.

1. God's Covenant: A Call to Action

2. The Power of Compassion in a Cruel World

1. Matthew 25:34-40

2. Hebrews 13:16

Psalms 74:21 O let not the oppressed return ashamed: let the poor and needy praise thy name.

God's people should not be ashamed of their oppression and poverty but should instead praise His name.

1. The Power of Praise - How Praise Can Transform Our Lives

2. The Oppression of the Poor and Needy - Understanding and Overcoming Injustice

1. Psalm 34:3 - "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together."

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?"

Psalms 74:22 Arise, O God, plead thine own cause: remember how the foolish man reproacheth thee daily.

God is urged to stand up and protect himself from the foolish man who mocks him daily.

1: We must remember to turn to God in times of trouble and rely on him for strength.

2: We must be careful not to mock God, as it is a great offense against him.

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.

Psalms 74:23 Forget not the voice of thine enemies: the tumult of those that rise up against thee increaseth continually.

God warns us not to forget the voice of our enemies, as their opposition to us can grow stronger with time.

1. Persevere in Faith Despite Opposition

2. How to Respond to Enemies

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

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."

Psalm 75 is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving to God as the righteous Judge. It acknowledges God's sovereignty and authority over all nations, expressing confidence in His just judgment and the downfall of the wicked.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by praising God, acknowledging His name and wondrous deeds. They declare that at the appointed time, God will judge with equity, upholding justice (Psalm 75:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist addresses the arrogant and wicked who boast in their own strength. They warn them not to exalt themselves or rely on their own power because it is God who brings down one and lifts up another (Psalm 75:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist rejoices in God's righteous judgment. They declare that they will sing praises to Him forever, while affirming that He will cut off the horns of the wicked but exalt the righteous (Psalm 75:8-10).

In summary,

Psalm seventy-five presents

a song of praise for divine justice,

highlighting acknowledgment of divine sovereignty, confidence in just judgment.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through praising divine name while acknowledging wondrous deeds,

and emphasizing proclamation achieved through warning against arrogance while affirming divine authority.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine righteousness as source of rejoicing while affirming downfall of wickedness and exaltation of righteousness.

Psalms 75:1 Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks, unto thee do we give thanks: for that thy name is near thy wondrous works declare.

We give thanks to God for his nearness and wondrous works.

1. The Nearness of God: How to Experience His Presence in Everyday Life

2. Declaring the Wonders of God: His Marvelous Works 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. Isaiah 12:4-5 - And in that day you will say: 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.

Psalms 75:2 When I shall receive the congregation I will judge uprightly.

God will judge the people with justice when they come together as a community.

1. God will always judge us with justice - Psalms 75:2

2. Our actions are always accountable to God - Psalms 75:2

1. Romans 14:12 - So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:14 - For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

Psalms 75:3 The earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved: I bear up the pillars of it. Selah.

God upholds the earth and its inhabitants, and is worthy of praise.

1. God is the Foundation of Our Lives and Our World

2. God is Worthy of Our Praise and Thanks

1. Colossians 1:17 - And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

2. Psalm 100:4-5 - Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.

Psalms 75:4 I said unto the fools, Deal not foolishly: and to the wicked, Lift not up the horn:

This passage calls on us to be wise and not act foolishly, and to not exalt ourselves above others.

1. Wisdom is of the Lord: A Study of Psalms 75:4

2. Life Lessons from Psalms: Pride and Humility

1. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

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."

Psalms 75:5 Lift not up your horn on high: speak not with a stiff neck.

Psalms 75:5 encourages humility and warns against pride.

1. The Danger of Pride: Heed the Warning of Psalms 75:5

2. Humility: The Key to True Success

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

2. James 4:6 - But He gives more grace. Therefore it says, God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Psalms 75:6 For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.

Promotion does not come from any one direction, but from God.

1. God's Promotion: Recognizing Where Achievement Really Comes From

2. Taking Responsibility: Knowing That God, Not Our Own Efforts, Brings Promotion

1. Job 22:28-29 - Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways. When men are cast down, then thou shalt say, There is lifting up

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Psalms 75:7 But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

God is the ultimate judge and will ultimately decide who is successful or not.

1: God is the ultimate decision maker, no matter how hard we may try, our success will ultimately be determined by God.

2: We must constantly remember that our efforts are ultimately in God's hands.

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.

Psalms 75:8 For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and he poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out, and drink them.

God determines the destiny of the wicked, and will judge them according to their actions.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Who Decides Your Destiny?

2. The Cup of God s Judgment: Who Will Drink?

1. Psalm 11:6 - Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.

2. Isaiah 51:17 - Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of his fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out.

Psalms 75:9 But I will declare for ever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.

The Psalmist proclaims that they will forever praise the God of Jacob.

1. The Power of Praise: Why We Should Constantly Rejoice in God's Glory

2. The Faithful God of Jacob: How We Can Persist in Our Faith Even in Trying Times

1. Ephesians 5:19-20 - "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. Psalm 100:4-5 - "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations."

Psalms 75:10 All the horns of the wicked also will I cut off; but the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

The righteous will be exalted while the wicked will be cut off.

1: God will always bring justice and reward those who do right.

2: Doing what is right will always bring blessings.

1: Proverbs 11:27 Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.

2: James 1:25 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.

Psalm 76 is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving that celebrates God's victory over enemies and His reign as the powerful and majestic King. It emphasizes God's deliverance and the fear that His presence instills in those who oppose Him.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by proclaiming God's greatness and His victorious deeds. They declare that God is known in Judah, and His name is revered throughout the land (Psalm 76:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist describes a scene of battle, where God's presence brings about defeat for the enemy. They highlight how even mighty warriors are rendered helpless before Him (Psalm 76:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on God's judgment, describing how He rebukes the arrogant and wrathful. They emphasize that no one can withstand His anger, as He brings justice to save the humble (Psalm 76:7-9).

4th Paragraph:The psalmist calls upon all people to fulfill their vows to God, recognizing His sovereignty over all nations. They exalt Him as the awe-inspiring ruler who cuts off the spirit of princes and instills fear in earthly kings (Psalm 76:10-12).

In summary,

Psalm seventy-six presents

a song of praise for divine victory,

highlighting proclamation of divine greatness, reflection on divine judgment.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through proclaiming divine deeds while acknowledging reverence,

and emphasizing vision achieved through describing scene of battle while highlighting helplessness.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine sovereignty as source of justice while exalting awe-inspiring rule

Psalms 76:1 In Judah is God known: his name is great in Israel.

God is known in Judah and greatly praised in Israel.

1. God is Greatly Known and Praised - Psalms 76:1

2. God's Name is Exalted in Israel - Psalms 76:1

1. Isaiah 12:4-5 - And in that day you will say: "Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted.

2. Amos 9:7 - "Are you not like the Cushites to me, O people of Israel?" declares the Lord. "Did I not bring up Israel from the land of Egypt, and the Philistines from Caphtor and the Syrians from Kir?

Psalms 76:2 In Salem also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion.

The Lord has established His tabernacle in Salem and His dwelling place in Zion.

1. The Lord's Abiding Presence: Resting in the Security of His Love

2. God's Faithful Provision: Establishing a Home for His People

1. Psalm 48:1-2 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God! His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King.

2. Isaiah 8:18 Behold, I and the children whom the LORD has given me are signs and portents in Israel from the LORD of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion.

Psalms 76:3 There brake he the arrows of the bow, the shield, and the sword, and the battle. Selah.

The Lord has demonstrated His power by breaking arrows, shields, swords, and battles.

1: The Lord is more powerful than any weapon of war.

2: God is our defender and protector who can break the weapons of war.

1: Jeremiah 51:20-24 - 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 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.

Psalms 76:4 Thou art more glorious and excellent than the mountains of prey.

God is more glorious and excellent than any earthly might.

1. The Majesty of God: How God's Glorious Supremacy Outshines Everything Else

2. The Splendor of Heaven: Appreciating the Beauty of God's Glorious Nature

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

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."

Psalms 76:5 The stouthearted are spoiled, they have slept their sleep: and none of the men of might have found their hands.

The men of might have been defeated and overpowered.

1: We must remain humble before God and not rely on our own strength.

2: When we depend on God, our enemies will be defeated.

1: Romans 8:37 - "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

2: 2 Chronicles 32:8 - "With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles."

Psalms 76:6 At thy rebuke, O God of Jacob, both the chariot and horse are cast into a dead sleep.

God's power is capable of subduing even the mightiest of forces.

1: We must never underestimate the power of God- no matter how great the challenge, God is bigger.

2: Our faith in God allows us to face any obstacle with courage and assurance.

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."

Psalms 76:7 Thou, even thou, art to be feared: and who may stand in thy sight when once thou art angry?

The Lord is to be feared, and no one can stand before Him when He is angry.

1. The Fear of the Lord: Why We Should Obey God

2. Knowing God's Wrath: The Consequences of Disobeying God

1. Isaiah 8:13 - "Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread."

2. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Psalms 76:8 Thou didst cause judgment to be heard from heaven; the earth feared, and was still,

God's judgment is just and all-powerful.

1. The Fear of God's Judgment is Wise and Righteous

2. Obey God's Judgment and Receive His Peace

1. Psalm 34:11 Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

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.

Psalms 76:9 When God arose to judgment, to save all the meek of the earth. Selah.

God will rise to judge the earth and save the meek.

1. God's Promise of Protection for the Meek

2. God's Justice and Mercy

1. Psalm 37:11 "But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace."

2. Psalm 9:9 "The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble."

Psalms 76:10 Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain.

The Lord's power is such that even the wrath of man can be used to praise Him, and the Lord is the one who will determine how much of that wrath is present in the world.

1. God is in control of all aspects of life, even our emotions, and He will use all things to bring glory to Him.

2. We must always remember that God is the one who will determine how much of our wrath is present in this world.

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 1:20 - for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Psalms 76:11 Vow, and pay unto the LORD your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared.

The Psalmist instructs us to pay our vows to the LORD and to bring presents to Him in reverence and fear.

1. The Power of Making and Keeping Vows

2. Reverence and Fear of 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. Psalm 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Psalms 76:12 He shall cut off the spirit of princes: he is terrible to the kings of the earth.

God is powerful and is able to bring down rulers and kings.

1: God is in control of all things, and even the most powerful rulers cannot stand against Him.

2: God's power is unmatched and should be respected and feared.

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.

2: Isaiah 40:21-22 - Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is 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.

Psalm 77 is a psalm of lament that expresses deep anguish and wrestles with feelings of despair. The psalmist cries out to God, seeking comfort and reflecting on His past faithfulness as a source of hope.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by pouring out their soul before God, expressing their distress and longing for His help. They feel overwhelmed and unable to find rest, questioning if God has rejected them forever (Psalm 77:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on their past experiences with God. They remember His deeds, wonders, and faithfulness in delivering the Israelites from Egypt. They question whether God's love and promises have come to an end (Psalm 77:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist wrestles with doubt and confusion, wondering if God has changed or withdrawn His compassion. They express their sorrow over feeling abandoned by Him (Psalm 77:10-12).

4th Paragraph:The psalmist finds solace in remembering God's mighty acts of redemption. They recall how He led His people through the waters like a shepherd leading his flock. They affirm that despite their current troubles, they will trust in the Lord's power (Psalm 77:13-20).

In summary,

Psalm seventy-seven presents

a lamentation over anguish,

and a journey towards renewed hope,

highlighting distress expressed while seeking divine comfort.

Emphasizing lament achieved through expressing distress while questioning divine presence,

and emphasizing transformation achieved through reflecting on past experiences while finding solace.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine acts as sources of hope while affirming trust in divine power

Psalms 77:1 I cried unto God with my voice, even unto God with my voice; and he gave ear unto me.

The psalmist cries out to God and God hears his prayer.

1. God Hears our Cries - Psalms 77:1

2. Let God Hear Your Voice - Psalms 77:1

1. James 5:13 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray.

2. 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Psalms 77:2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord: my sore ran in the night, and ceased not: my soul refused to be comforted.

The Psalmist expresses his distress and cries out to the Lord for help, even though he feels that he is not being comforted.

1. "Understanding the Source of Comfort in Troubled Times"

2. "Seeking God in Times of Trouble"

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."

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."

Psalms 77:3 I remembered God, and was troubled: I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. Selah.

The psalmist expresses his distress and remembers God, leading to emotional overwhelm.

1. God Is Here in Our Struggles

2. Finding Peace in the Midst of Turmoil

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 50:15 (And call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.)

Psalms 77:4 Thou holdest mine eyes waking: I am so troubled that I cannot speak.

The psalmist is so troubled that he cannot speak.

1. The Comfort of God in Troubled Times

2. Learning to Speak Up in Difficult Situations

1. Psalms 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.

Psalms 77:5 I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times.

The Psalmist reflects on past days and years, considering times gone by.

1. The Power of Reflection: Examining God's Faithfulness in the Past

2. Finding Strength in Ancient Wisdom

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. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Psalms 77:6 I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search.

I remember my song to God even in the darkness and I talk to my heart and soul.

1. The importance of prayer in dark times

2. Finding peace and solace in God's presence

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. 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.

Psalms 77:7 Will the Lord cast off for ever? and will he be favourable no more?

The psalmist questions if the Lord will always reject them, or if He will ever show favor again.

1. God is Always Faithful - Exploring the faithfulness of God, even in times of difficulty.

2. Is God's Mercy Limited? - Examining if God's mercy and grace have a limit.

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 8:38-39 - "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.

Psalms 77:8 Is his mercy clean gone for ever? doth his promise fail for evermore?

This passage is a question expressing doubt about whether God's mercy and promise can last forever.

1. "God's Mercy and Promise Endures Forever"

2. "The Hope We Find in God's Unfailing Love"

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

2. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Psalms 77:9 Hath God forgotten to be gracious? hath he in anger shut up his tender mercies? Selah.

The psalmist questions whether God has forgotten to be gracious and has shut up his mercies in anger.

1. God's Unfailing Love: Understanding What It Means to Receive God's Mercy and Grace

2. Remembering the Faithfulness of God: Reflections on Trusting in His Unending Grace

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 5:8 - "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Psalms 77:10 And I said, This is my infirmity: but I will remember the years of the right hand of the most High.

The Psalmist recalls the years of God's goodness to him despite his own infirmity.

1. Relying on God's Promises in Times of Trouble

2. Remembering God's Faithfulness in Times of Need

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Trusting in the Lord's Strength

2. Psalm 103:1-5 - Praising God for His Unfailing Love

Psalms 77:11 I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old.

The psalmist remembers the works of the Lord, and His wonders of old.

1. "Remembering the Lord's Wonders"

2. "Recalling the Lord's Miracles"

1. Psalm 77:11

2. Isaiah 40:26 - He brings the stars out one by one, and calls them each by name.

Psalms 77:12 I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings.

This verse encourages us to reflect on God's work and remember His doings.

1. Remembering God's Faithfulness - Psalms 77:12

2. Meditating on God's Work - Psalms 77:12

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.

2. Psalms 119:97-105 - Oh how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.

Psalms 77:13 Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?

The psalmist declares that God's way is in the sanctuary and that He is the greatest of all gods.

1: We must recognize and acknowledge God's greatness and sovereignty in all things.

2: God is the only one worthy of our worship and adoration, and He should be praised in the sanctuary.

1: Isaiah 40:25 - To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One.

2: Hebrews 12:28 - 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.

Psalms 77:14 Thou art the God that doest wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people.

God is our strength and our deliverer who performs wonders.

1. God's Strength in our Lives

2. The Power of God's Wonders

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2. Exodus 15:11 - Who among the gods is like you, Lord? Who is like you - majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?

Psalms 77:15 Thou hast with thine arm redeemed thy people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah.

God redeemed his people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph, with his power.

1. God's Redemption - A Powerful Act of Love

2. Recognizing God's Redemption in Our Lives

1. Romans 3:24-26 - God's redemption of us by grace through faith

2. Isaiah 53:5 - God's redemption of us through his suffering and death

Psalms 77:16 The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee; they were afraid: the depths also were troubled.

The waters of the earth were in awe of God's presence.

1: How powerful is the presence of God?

2: What can we learn from the fear of the waters?

1: Jonah 1:4-5 - "But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. Then the mariners were afraid..."

2: 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 into dry land, and the waters were divided."

Psalms 77:17 The clouds poured out water: the skies sent out a sound: thine arrows also went abroad.

The clouds released rain and the skies gave a loud noise, while God's arrows went out.

1. The Power of God's Arrows: How God Can Send His Power to Help Us in Times of Need

2. The Wonders of Nature: How the Clouds and Skies Reveal the Majesty of God

1. Psalm 77:17 - The clouds poured out water: the skies sent out a sound: thine arrows also went abroad.

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.

Psalms 77:18 The voice of thy thunder was in the heaven: the lightnings lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook.

God's power was revealed through thunder and lightning, causing the earth to tremble in fear.

1. Fear Not: Experiencing God's Presence Despite His Power

2. The Reverence of God: Understanding the Fear and Awe of His Majesty

1. Psalm 29:3-9

2. Isaiah 66:1-2

Psalms 77:19 Thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known.

The Lord's way is mysterious and unknowable to us.

1. The Unfathomable Love of God

2. Finding Our Way in the Sea of Life

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.

Psalms 77:20 Thou leddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

God led His people like a flock through the guidance of Moses and Aaron.

1. The Importance of Following God's Guidance

2. The Power of Leadership in God's Kingdom

1. Psalm 78:52, He led them with a cloud by day and with a light of fire by night.

2. Isaiah 63:11-12, Then His people remembered the days of old, of Moses. Where is He who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of His flock? Where is He who put His Holy Spirit within them?

Psalm 78 is a psalm that recounts the history of Israel's relationship with God, emphasizing the importance of passing down His teachings and faithfulness to future generations. It serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness despite Israel's disobedience and calls for renewed commitment to follow Him.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by urging the people to listen attentively as they recount the lessons from their ancestors. They emphasize the importance of passing down God's law and His mighty deeds to future generations (Psalm 78:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist recalls how Israel repeatedly rebelled against God in the wilderness, testing His patience and forgetting His miracles. They highlight God's faithfulness in providing for them despite their unfaithfulness (Psalm 78:5-16).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist recounts how God led His people out of Egypt, parting the Red Sea and guiding them with a cloud by day and fire by night. They emphasize that despite witnessing these miracles, Israel continued to doubt and rebel against Him (Psalm 78:17-39).

4th Paragraph:The psalmist reflects on God's judgment upon Israel for their disobedience. They describe how He rejected the tribe of Ephraim but chose Judah as His dwelling place, establishing King David as their shepherd (Psalm 78:40-72).

In summary,

Psalm seventy-eight presents

a historical reflection on Israel's relationship with God,

highlighting emphasis on passing down teachings, remembering divine faithfulness.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through urging attentive listening while emphasizing transmission of divine law,

and emphasizing narration achieved through recounting rebellious history while highlighting divine patience.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine guidance as source of provision while reflecting on consequences of disobedience

Psalms 78:1 Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

The Psalmist calls on the people to listen to his words of instruction.

1. The Need to Listen to God's Instruction

2. The Power of Hearing God's Word

1. Isaiah 50:4-5 - The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.

2. James 1:19-21 - 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. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

Psalms 78:2 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:

The psalmist expresses his commitment to share wisdom from the past through parables.

1. God's Wisdom is Timeless - Psalms 78:2

2. Utilizing Parables to Share God's Wisdom - Psalms 78:2

1. Proverbs 1:1-7 - The importance of gaining wisdom and understanding.

2. Psalms 119:105 - The Word of God is a lamp unto our feet.

Psalms 78:3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.

Psalms 78:3 speaks of the stories that we have heard and known, and have been passed down through generations by our fathers.

1. The Power of Oral Tradition: How Stories are Passed Down from Generation to Generation

2. The Importance of Knowing and Sharing Our History

1. Joshua 4:21-22 He said to the Israelites, In the future when your children ask you, What do these stones mean? tell them

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.

Psalms 78:4 We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

The Psalmist encourages passing on the praises and works of the Lord to the next generation.

1. Teaching Our Children the Wonders of the Lord

2. Passing On God's Love and Strength to the Next Generation

1. 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."

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."

Psalms 78:5 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:

God's law and commands are meant to be passed down through generations.

1: We must not forget the foundation of our faith, and honor God by teaching the next generation what we have been taught.

2: Our parents and ancestors have given us a great gift, and it is our responsibility to ensure that gift is passed on to future generations.

1: Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 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 22:6, Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Psalms 78:6 That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children:

Psalms 78 encourages parents to share their faith with their children so that generations to come may know God and His promises.

1. A Legacy of Faith: Passing on Our Beliefs to Our Children

2. Raising Children with Spiritual Foundation

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9

2. Proverbs 22:6

Psalms 78:7 That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:

This passage encourages us to put our hope in God and to keep His commandments.

1. The Hope of God: Putting Faith in the Lord

2. Keeping God's Commandments: A Path to Righteousness

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.

Psalms 78:8 And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not stedfast with God.

This passage from Psalm 78 speaks of a generation that fails to follow God and whose hearts are not set right.

1. The Power of Following God - How a life of faithfulness and obedience to God can lead to a meaningful and fulfilling life.

2. The Danger of Disobedience - Warnings about the consequences and dangers of straying from God's path.

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. Romans 2:6-8 - "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."

Psalms 78:9 The children of Ephraim, being armed, and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle.

The children of Ephraim were armed and prepared for battle, but ultimately turned back.

1. When Our Courage Fails Us: Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity

2. Trusting in God's Timing: When to Wait and When to Act

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.

Psalms 78:10 They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in his law;

The Israelites disobeyed God and refused to follow His law.

1: We must be obedient to God and follow His law if we wish to experience His blessings.

2: God's covenant is for our benefit and we must not ignore it or take it lightly.

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 - "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."

Psalms 78:11 And forgat his works, and his wonders that he had shewed them.

The Israelites had forgotten the works and wonders that God had shown them.

1. Remembering God's Works and Wonders

2. Trusting in God's Promises

1. Psalms 78:11

2. 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.

Psalms 78:12 Marvellous things did he in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

God performed amazing deeds to free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.

1. God is capable of doing seemingly impossible things.

2. We can trust God to help us in times of need.

1. Exodus 14:30-31 "So the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Thus Israel saw the great power that the Lord used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the Lord, and they believed in the Lord and in His servant Moses."

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."

Psalms 78:13 He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters to stand as an heap.

God can part the waters and make a way for us when the way seems blocked.

1. God is able to make a way in our darkest hours

2. Have faith and trust that God will provide

1. Isaiah 43:16, "This is what the LORD says he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters"

2. Exodus 14:21-22, "Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground"

Psalms 78:14 In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.

God guided the Israelites with a cloud and a light of fire.

1. God is our Guide, even in the dark times.

2. We can trust God to bring us through the darkness.

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. 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.

Psalms 78:15 He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink as out of the great depths.

God provided his people with water from the rocks in the wilderness.

1. God's faithfulness in providing sustenance to his people.

2. The power of God to work miracles in difficult circumstances.

1. Exodus 17:6 - Behold, I will stand before you there upon the rock in Horeb; and you shall smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink.

2. 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.

Psalms 78:16 He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.

God provided water by bringing streams out of the rock and caused them to run like rivers.

1. The Rock that Always Provides: Learning to Depend on God

2. The Power of God: Seeing What God Can Do

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. 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.

Psalms 78:17 And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness.

The people of Israel sinned against God by provoking Him in the wilderness.

1. The Danger of Provoking God

2. The Need for Obedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 4:23-24 Take care, lest you forget the covenant of the Lord your God, which he made with you, and make a carved image, the form of anything that the Lord your God has forbidden you. For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

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. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Psalms 78:18 And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust.

People tested God's patience by asking for things that they wanted for their own desires.

1. God is patient, but even He has His limits.

2. We should be careful not to test God's patience by asking for things that we want without considering His will.

1. Psalm 78:18

2. 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.

Psalms 78:19 Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?

The Israelites spoke against God, questioning if he was able to provide them with food in the wilderness.

1. How God Provides in Times of Need

2. Trust in God Despite Difficult Circumstances

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. Matthew 6:31-32 - 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.

Psalms 78:20 Behold, he smote the rock, that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed; can he give bread also? can he provide flesh for his people?

God can meet all of our needs.

1. God is Our Provider - Psalms 78:20

2. God is More Than Enough - Psalm 78:20

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Matthew 6:31-32 - 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.

Psalms 78:21 Therefore the LORD heard this, and was wroth: so a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also came up against Israel;

God's wrath is kindled when His people disobey His commands.

1: God's Love is Unconditional but His Discipline is Not

2: God's Discipline is for Our Good

1: Hebrews 12:5-6 - "And have you 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.'

2: 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.

Psalms 78:22 Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation:

This passage talks about how people failed to trust in God's salvation.

1. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and He will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

2. We can trust in God's salvation and have faith in Him, even in our darkest hour. (Psalm 46:1-2)

1. Psalm 20:7-8 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

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.

Psalms 78:23 Though he had commanded the clouds from above, and opened the doors of heaven,

God's faithfulness to provide for his people in times of need.

1: God is a faithful provider and will always come through for us when we need him.

2: As we put our trust in God, he will provide for us in even the most difficult of times.

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 6:26-27 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?

Psalms 78:24 And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven.

God blessed the Israelites by providing them with manna and corn from heaven.

1. God's Generosity: Understanding His Abundant Provision

2. God's Faithfulness: Celebrating His Unfailing Love

1. Isaiah 55:1-3 Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.

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.

Psalms 78:25 Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full.

God provided the Israelites with plenty of food during their time in the wilderness.

1. God's generosity in providing for his people

2. The need to trust in God's provisions

1. Psalms 23:1 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

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?"

Psalms 78:26 He caused an east wind to blow in the heaven: and by his power he brought in the south wind.

God's power is great and He can cause the wind to blow in whatever direction He desires.

1. God is in Control: Learning to Trust in His Sovereignty

2. Understanding the Power of God in Our Lives

1. Job 37:9-13

2. Isaiah 40:21-26

Psalms 78:27 He rained flesh also upon them as dust, and feathered fowls like as the sand of the sea:

God rained down flesh upon the Israelites and feathered birds like the sand of the sea.

1. God's Provision in Unexpected Ways

2. The Magnitude of God's Blessings

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Trusting in God's Provision

2. Psalm 107:1-9 - Praising God for His Goodness

Psalms 78:28 And he let it fall in the midst of their camp, round about their habitations.

God caused a shower of quails to fall around the dwellings of the Israelites in the wilderness.

1. Learning to Rely on God's Provision in Times of Need

2. The Closeness of God's Presence in the Difficult Times of Life

1. Psalm 78:28-29

2. Deuteronomy 8:3-4

Psalms 78:29 So they did eat, and were well filled: for he gave them their own desire;

God will give us our desires if we follow him.

1: God desires to fulfill our needs if we trust in him.

2: God will provide us with our needs if we have faith in him.

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: Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Psalms 78:30 They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat was yet in their mouths,

The Israelites did not resist their desires, even while they were still eating.

1: The Israelites were warned of the consequences of indulging in their desires, yet they did not turn away.

2: We should listen to God's warnings and turn away from our desires before it's too late.

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 21:17 "Whoever loves pleasure will become poor; whoever loves wine and olive oil will never be rich."

Psalms 78:31 The wrath of God came upon them, and slew the fattest of them, and smote down the chosen men of Israel.

The wrath of God came upon the Israelites and killed many of their strongest and most promising individuals.

1. God's Wrath: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Power of God: The Sovereignty of His Actions

1. Romans 2:8-9 "But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil."

2. Habakkuk 3:5-6 "Before him, fire devours, and around him a great tempest rages. He parted the heavens and came down; dark clouds were under his feet."

Psalms 78:32 For all this they sinned still, and believed not for his wondrous works.

The Israelites sinned and did not trust in God's wondrous works.

1. We Must Have Faith in the Lord's Miracles

2. Don't Take God's Wonders for Granted

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. John 14:11 - Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

Psalms 78:33 Therefore their days did he consume in vanity, and their years in trouble.

God consumed the days and years of his people in vanity and trouble.

1. The Vanity of Life: A Message on Psalms 78:33

2. God's Discipline: A Message on Psalms 78:33

1. 1 Corinthians 7:31 - They that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.

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.

Psalms 78:34 When he slew them, then they sought him: and they returned and enquired early after God.

The passage reflects on how people return to God after facing suffering.

1. The Unshakeable Faith of Those Who Seek God

2. Learning to Seek God in Difficult Times

1. Hosea 6:1-3 "Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth."

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, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Psalms 78:35 And they remembered that God was their rock, and the high God their redeemer.

The Psalmist remembers that God is their rock and redeemer.

1. God Is Our Rock and Redeemer: The Hope of the Faithful

2. How God s Unfailing Love Sustains Us

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. Psalm 145:18 - The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Psalms 78:36 Nevertheless they did flatter him with their mouth, and they lied unto him with their tongues.

They showed false loyalty to God by lying to Him.

1. God demands true loyalty, not false promises.

2. Be honest with God and with yourself.

1. 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."

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."

Psalms 78:37 For their heart was not right with him, neither were they stedfast in his covenant.

This passage emphasizes the importance of having a right heart and being steadfast in God's covenant.

1. The Power of a Right Heart: Living Faithfully in God's Covenant

2. Steadfast in the Covenant of God: A Guide to Living a Faithful Life

1. Ephesians 4:17-24 (So that you may not be tossed to and fro by the waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the cunning of men, by their craftiness in deceitful wiles.)

2. 2 Corinthians 1:20-22 (For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.)

Psalms 78:38 But he, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, and destroyed them not: yea, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath.

God showed compassion and mercy to the people of Israel by forgiving their sins and not punishing them as they deserved.

1. The Mercy of God: How He Shows Compassion and Forgiveness

2. The Power of God's Forgiveness: How We Receive It and Give It

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. 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.

Psalms 78:39 For he remembered that they were but flesh; a wind that passeth away, and cometh not again.

God remembers us even though our lives are fleeting and transient.

1: We are Called to Remember God's Faithfulness

2: God Remembers Us Even When We Feel Forgotten

1: Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2: Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Psalms 78:40 How oft did they provoke him in the wilderness, and grieve him in the desert!

The Israelites often provoked and grieved God in the wilderness.

1. Don't Take God's Patience for Granted

2. Learning How to Respect God's Will

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. Hebrews 3:7-8 - 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.

Psalms 78:41 Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.

People have a tendency to turn away from God and put limits on His power and goodness.

1. The Consequences of Limiting the Holy One of Israel

2. Turning Away From God: The Danger of Limiting His Power and Goodness

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 139:7-12 - '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. If I say, Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me, even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.'

Psalms 78:42 They remembered not his hand, nor the day when he delivered them from the enemy.

The Psalmist remembered God's deliverance from the enemy, but the people failed to remember His hand and the day of their rescue.

1. The Importance of Remembering God's Deliverance

2. The Power of Gratitude: Reflecting on God's Goodness

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. 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.

Psalms 78:43 How he had wrought his signs in Egypt, and his wonders in the field of Zoan:

God showed his power and might to the Egyptians through miraculous signs and wonders in the land of Zoan.

1. God's Miraculous Signs and Wonders in Egypt

2. The Power of God in Action

1. Exodus 7:3-5 And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of Egypt.

2. Isaiah 43:15-16 I am the LORD, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King.

Psalms 78:44 And had turned their rivers into blood; and their floods, that they could not drink.

God punished the people of Israel by turning their rivers and floods into blood, making them undrinkable.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - exploring how God punishes those who disobey His commands.

2. The Power of God - emphasizing the authority and might of God to bring about His will.

1. Exodus 7:17-20 - God turns the Nile into blood.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - God's power to protect and save His people.

Psalms 78:45 He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.

God sent divine punishment to punish those who disobeyed Him.

1. The consequences of not obeying God.

2. How even the smallest of creatures can be used to bring judgment from God.

1. Exodus 8:2-3 And if thou refuse to let them go, behold, I will smite all thy borders with frogs: 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.

2. 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.

Psalms 78:46 He gave also their increase unto the caterpiller, and their labour unto the locust.

God humbled the Israelites by allowing their crops to be destroyed by caterpillars and locusts.

1: God humbles us to show us that he is in control and that we must rely on him.

2: God gave us our increase, but he can take it away if he chooses.

1: James 4:10 "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

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

Psalms 78:47 He destroyed their vines with hail, and their sycomore trees with frost.

God destroyed the vines and sycomore trees of His people with hail and frost.

1. God's Discipline: Learning to Obey Even When It's Hard

2. Trusting God in Suffering: Even When We Don't Understand

1. Hebrews 12:6-11

2. Isaiah 55:8-9

Psalms 78:48 He gave up their cattle also to the hail, and their flocks to hot thunderbolts.

God allowed hail and thunderbolts to take the Israelites' cattle and flocks.

1. God's Wrath: Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Power of Nature: Submitting to God's Will

1. Psalms 78:48

2. Isaiah 10:5-6 - "Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger, in whose hand is the club of my wrath! I send him against a godless nation, I commission him against the people of my fury to seize loot and carry off plunder, and to trample them down like mud in the streets.

Psalms 78:49 He cast upon them the fierceness of his anger, wrath, and indignation, and trouble, by sending evil angels among them.

God showed his anger and indignation towards the people of Israel by sending evil angels among them.

1. The Danger of Disobeying God

2. God's Wrath and Judgement

1. Psalm 78:49

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."

Psalms 78:50 He made a way to his anger; he spared not their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence;

He spared not their soul from death, but showed mercy in His anger.

1. God s Mercy Even in His Wrath

2. Understanding the Complexity of God's Love

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. 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?

Psalms 78:51 And smote all the firstborn in Egypt; the chief of their strength in the tabernacles of Ham:

God struck down the firstborn in Egypt and the strongest of their forces in the dwellings of Ham.

1. The Strength of God's Wrath: How the Lord Punishes the Unrighteous

2. The Faithfulness of God: How the Lord Protected His People

1. 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.

2. Psalm 33:17 - An horse is a vain thing for safety: neither shall he deliver any by his great strength.

Psalms 78:52 But made his own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.

God guided his people like a shepherd guides his flock, leading them out of the wilderness.

1. The Lord as Shepherd: Trusting God in the Wilderness

2. Learning to Follow: Guidance from the Shepherd

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. Jeremiah 31:10 - Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, He who scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.

Psalms 78:53 And he led them on safely, so that they feared not: but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

God led the Israelites safely to their destination, while their enemies were overwhelmed in the sea.

1. God is our Protector and Guide.

2. The Power of Faith and Obedience.

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 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.

Psalms 78:54 And he brought them to the border of his sanctuary, even to this mountain, which his right hand had purchased.

He guided His people to the land He promised them.

1: God's promises are always fulfilled.

2: Believing in God's promises brings us to the place He has designed for us.

1: 2 Peter 3:9 - 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.

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.

Psalms 78:55 He cast out the heathen also before them, and divided them an inheritance by line, and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.

This passage speaks of God's power to cast out the heathen and divide the land amongst the tribes of Israel, ensuring they had a place to dwell.

1. God's Sovereignty: How the Lord Protects His People

2. God's Faithfulness: He Provides a Home for His People

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. Genesis 13:14-15, "The Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, 'Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward, for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever.'"

Psalms 78:56 Yet they tempted and provoked the most high God, and kept not his testimonies:

God's people tested and angered Him despite His love and mercy.

1: A Call to Repentance and Faithfulness

2: The Unmerited Grace of God

1: Luke 18:9-14 - The parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

2: Romans 5:8 - God's love demonstrated through Christ's death on the cross.

Psalms 78:57 But turned back, and dealt unfaithfully like their fathers: they were turned aside like a deceitful bow.

The Israelites turned away from God and were unfaithful like their fathers.

1. God's Faithfulness vs. Man's Unfaithfulness

2. Don't Make the Same Mistakes as Your Ancestors

1. Psalms 78:57

2. Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Psalms 78:58 For they provoked him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their graven images.

God is angered when we turn away from Him and worship false idols.

1. The Wrath of God Against Idolatry

2. The Danger of Idolatry

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. 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 on 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.

Psalms 78:59 When God heard this, he was wroth, and greatly abhorred Israel:

God's anger against Israel for their lack of faithfulness.

1. The Consequences of Unfaithfulness

2. God's Love Despite Our Unfaithfulness

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 12:5-11 - And have you 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. 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? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Psalms 78:60 So that he forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent which he placed among men;

God abandoned the tabernacle of Shiloh, a symbol of his presence among humanity.

1. God's presence does not guarantee our faithfulness.

2. God's promises are not dependent on our faithfulness.

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

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.

Psalms 78:61 And delivered his strength into captivity, and his glory into the enemy's hand.

God allowed the enemy to take away His strength and glory.

1. The Power of Surrender - Letting go and letting God take control.

2. The Humbling of God's Strength - Understanding the limitations of His power.

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - God's power is everlasting and never fades.

2. Proverbs 21:1 - The Lord's power is above all else.

Psalms 78:62 He gave his people over also unto the sword; and was wroth with his inheritance.

God allowed His people to be conquered by an enemy and was angry with them.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience

2. God's Wrath and Mercy

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. 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.

Psalms 78:63 The fire consumed their young men; and their maidens were not given to marriage.

The fire destroyed the young men of the people, leaving the maidens unmarried.

1. The Everlasting Consequences of Sin

2. The Beauty and Purpose of Marriage

1. Isaiah 24:2 - "And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the taker of usury, so with the giver of usury to him."

2. 1 Corinthians 7:7-9 - "For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that. I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I. But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn."

Psalms 78:64 Their priests fell by the sword; and their widows made no lamentation.

The priests of Israel were killed by the sword, and their widows did not mourn for them.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How the Priests of Israel Put Their Lives on the Line

2. The Strength of Faith: How the Widows of Israel Showed Courage in the Midst of Adversity

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 9:19-22 - "Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God s law but am under Christ s law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some."

Psalms 78:65 Then the LORD awaked as one out of sleep, and like a mighty man that shouteth by reason of wine.

The Lord awoke suddenly, just like a powerful man would after a night of drinking.

1. The Lord's Power and Strength: Examining Psalm 78:65

2. The Lord's Awaking: A Reflection on Psalm 78:65

1. 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.

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! And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the work of the LORD, neither consider the operation of his hands.

Psalms 78:66 And he smote his enemies in the hinder parts: he put them to a perpetual reproach.

God defeated His enemies and put them to a lasting disgrace.

1. The Just Justice of God: How God's Vengeance is Righteous and Necessary

2. Faith and Endurance: How to Stand Firm in the Face of Adversity

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. Isaiah 54:17 "No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from me," declares the LORD.

Psalms 78:67 Moreover he refused the tabernacle of Joseph, and chose not the tribe of Ephraim:

God rejected the tabernacle of Joseph and chose instead the tribe of Ephraim.

1. God shows no partiality: He chooses the humble and meek.

2. God's selection is based on faith and obedience, not worldly power or influence.

1. James 2:1-9

2. 1 Samuel 16:6-7

Psalms 78:68 But chose the tribe of Judah, the mount Zion which he loved.

God chose the tribe of Judah and the mount Zion which he specifically loved.

1. God's Unconditional Love: An Exploration of Psalm 78:68

2. The Call of Judah: A Study of Divine Election in Psalm 78:68

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. Psalm 33:12 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

Psalms 78:69 And he built his sanctuary like high palaces, like the earth which he hath established for ever.

God established a sanctuary to last forever, like a palace built on the earth.

1: God's eternal works are lasting and secure.

2: God's faithfulness to us is seen in Him establishing a holy sanctuary for us.

1: Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

2: Psalms 119:89 - Forever, O Lord, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

Psalms 78:70 He chose David also his servant, and took him from the sheepfolds:

God chose David to be His servant.

1. God's Choice - How God Chooses and What That Means for Us

2. The Shepherd's Heart - A Look at the Heart of a Leader

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 people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

2. Isaiah 43:10 - You are my witnesses, declares the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me.

Psalms 78:71 From following the ewes great with young he brought him to feed Jacob his people, and Israel his inheritance.

God guided the Israelites to a place where they could feed and care for their people.

1. God will always guide us in times of need to ensure our lives are filled with abundance and love.

2. The Lord will provide us with the perfect nourishment and protection to sustain us in our journey.

1. Psalm 78:71

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."

Psalms 78:72 So he fed them according to the integrity of his heart; and guided them by the skilfulness of his hands.

God provided for his people and protected them with his wisdom and faithfulness.

1. The Faithfulness of God in our Lives

2. The Power of Integrity in our Lives

1. Psalm 78:72

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."

Psalm 79 is a psalm of lament that expresses deep sorrow and anguish over the destruction of Jerusalem and the desecration of God's temple. The psalmist pleads for God's mercy, justice, and restoration, calling upon Him to intervene on behalf of His people.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by describing the devastation brought upon Jerusalem by foreign invaders. They express grief over the destruction of the temple and the defilement of God's holy city (Psalm 79:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist appeals to God for His intervention, asking Him to pour out His anger on the nations that have attacked His people. They plead for mercy and deliverance, acknowledging their own sins and recognizing their need for forgiveness (Psalm 79:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist implores God to act swiftly in order to prevent further reproach from their enemies. They cry out for Him to rescue them so that they may give thanks and praise His name among all nations (Psalm 79:10-13).

In summary,

Psalm seventy-nine presents

a lamentation over devastation,

and a plea for divine intervention,

highlighting grief expressed while seeking divine mercy.

Emphasizing lament achieved through describing devastation while expressing grief,

and emphasizing petition achieved through appealing for divine intervention while acknowledging sins.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine justice as source of deliverance while longing for restoration.

Psalms 79:1 O God, the heathen are come into thine inheritance; thy holy temple have they defiled; they have laid Jerusalem on heaps.

The heathen have come and defiled God's holy temple and Jerusalem is in ruins.

1. God's People Must Stand Firm in Times of Adversity

2. God's Love Will Always Prevail in the End

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 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."

Psalms 79:2 The dead bodies of thy servants have they given to be meat unto the fowls of the heaven, the flesh of thy saints unto the beasts of the earth.

The bodies of God's faithful servants have been desecrated and dishonored.

1: We must honor the memory of God's faithful servants.

2: We must remember the price of faithfulness and never take it for granted.

1: Hebrews 11:35-36 - Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection.

2: 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 - For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

Psalms 79:3 Their blood have they shed like water round about Jerusalem; and there was none to bury them.

The people of Jerusalem have been killed and their bodies have been left unburied.

1. "A Call to Justice: Remembering the Fallen of Jerusalem"

2. "God's Mercy in the Midst of Suffering"

1. 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?"

2. Ezekiel 16:49-50 - "Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy. They were haughty and did an abomination before me. So I removed them, when I saw it."

Psalms 79:4 We are become a reproach to our neighbours, a scorn and derision to them that are round about us.

We have been mocked by our neighbors and ridiculed by those around us.

1: We must not allow ourselves to be dragged down by the opinions of others. Instead, we must be courageous and faithful to God, trusting that He will see us through any challenges we face.

2: We must not take our neighbors' opinions of us as truth, but rather turn to God's opinion of us, which is filled with grace and love.

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.

Psalms 79:5 How long, LORD? wilt thou be angry for ever? shall thy jealousy burn like fire?

This passage from Psalms 79:5 reflects the despair of those who are in need of help and asking for God's mercy.

1. "The Lord's Mercy: How to Receive it and How to Offer it"

2. "The Almighty God: Patience and Long-suffering in the Face of Our Sufferings"

1. Matthew 5:7, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

2. James 5:11, "Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy."

Psalms 79:6 Pour out thy wrath upon the heathen that have not known thee, and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon thy name.

God calls on believers to pour out His wrath on those who do not know Him or call upon His name.

1. God's Wrath: Learning to Discern When to Invoke it

2. The Call to Put God's Wrath into Action

1. Romans 12:19-20 "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.'"

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."

Psalms 79:7 For they have devoured Jacob, and laid waste his dwelling place.

The people have destroyed Jacob's home and devoured all of his belongings.

1. God's protection is necessary for our homes and our possessions.

2. Our dependence on God is essential for our security and safety.

1. Psalm 91:9-10 - "Because you have made the Lord, who is my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling."

2. Deuteronomy 6:10-12 - "And it shall be, when the Lord your God brings you into the land which He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give you large and beautiful cities which you did not build, houses full of all good things, which you did not fill, hewn-out wells which you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees which you did not plant when you have eaten and are full."

Psalms 79:8 O remember not against us former iniquities: let thy tender mercies speedily prevent us: for we are brought very low.

The Psalmist is pleading with God to remember their sorrows and show mercy quickly, as they are in great distress.

1. God's Mercy: The Hope of our Salvation

2. The Power of Prayer: Asking God for Compassion

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. 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."

Psalms 79:9 Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name: and deliver us, and purge away our sins, for thy name's sake.

Deliver us from our sins and glorify God's name.

1: Let us look to God for the strength to preserve our salvation and be cleansed from our sins.

2: Let us seek God's grace and mercy to be free from our sins and glorify His name.

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 separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you,

Psalms 79:10 Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is their God? let him be known among the heathen in our sight by the revenging of the blood of thy servants which is shed.

The psalmist wonders why the heathen do not recognize God and calls for Him to be made known among them, as a result of avenging the blood of His servants.

1. Avenging the Blood of the Lord's Servants

2. Recognizing God Among the Heathen

1. Revelation 6:10 - "And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?"

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."

Psalms 79:11 Let the sighing of the prisoner come before thee; according to the greatness of thy power preserve thou those that are appointed to die;

God is asked to have mercy on prisoners and to preserve those who are appointed to die.

1. God's Mercy and Power: A Call to Remember the Suffering

2. The Greatness of God: Our Hope in Times of Despair

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. Romans 8:18-25 - I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 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. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Psalms 79:12 And render unto our neighbours sevenfold into their bosom their reproach, wherewith they have reproached thee, O Lord.

God calls us to bring peace and justice to our neighbors by showing them sevenfold the kindness they have shown us.

1. God's Call to Bring Peace and Justice to Our Neighbors

2. The Power of Kindness in Restoring Relationships

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 5:44-45 - 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.

Psalms 79:13 So we thy people and sheep of thy pasture will give thee thanks for ever: we will shew forth thy praise to all generations.

We will give thanks to the Lord for all eternity, and we will show forth His praise to all generations.

1: We should always be thankful to God, for He is the source of our salvation and our hope.

2: We should always give praise to God, for He is the source of our joy and our strength.

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: 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.

Psalm 80 is a psalm of lament and supplication, calling upon God to restore and revive His people. It expresses the longing for God's favor and intervention, appealing to Him as the Shepherd of Israel.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by addressing God as the Shepherd of Israel, calling upon Him to listen and shine forth His light. They express the distress and sorrow of the nation, asking for God's attention and restoration (Psalm 80:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on Israel's history, recalling how God brought them out of Egypt and planted them in the promised land. They lament that despite His care, they have faced devastation from their enemies (Psalm 80:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist pleads with God to restore His people. They ask Him to turn His face towards them once again, expressing their desire for revival and salvation (Psalm 80:8-14).

4th Paragraph:The psalmist concludes by affirming their trust in God. They call upon Him to strengthen them once more so that they may call on His name and be saved. They express hope in His mercy and restoration (Psalm 80:15-19).

In summary,

Psalm eighty presents

a lamentation over distress,

and a plea for divine restoration,

highlighting appeal for divine attention while recognizing divine care.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through addressing divine shepherd while appealing for divine light,

and emphasizing petition achieved through reflecting on history while expressing desire for revival.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine strength as source of salvation while affirming trust in divine mercy.

Psalms 80:1 Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; thou that dwellest between the cherubims, shine forth.

This psalm is a prayer for God to hear the cries of those in distress and to come to their aid.

1. God Hears Our Cries and Answers with His Grace

2. God is Our Protector and Guide

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. Jeremiah 31:10 Hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock.

Psalms 80:2 Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh stir up thy strength, and come and save us.

The Psalmist is asking God to stir up His strength and come and save them before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh.

1. God's Strength: A Call To Action

2. Stirring Up Strength For God's Salvation

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. Romans 8:37 - Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Psalms 80:3 Turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.

The Psalmist calls on God to turn to them and bring salvation.

1. "The Power of Repentance: Seeking Salvation Through God's Mercy"

2. "Restoring Our Relationship with God: Turning to Him in Times of Need"

1. Psalm 80:3

2. Luke 15:11-32: The Parable of the Prodigal Son

Psalms 80:4 O LORD God of hosts, how long wilt thou be angry against the prayer of thy people?

God's people are asking how long He will be angry with them.

1: God is Merciful - Psalm 103:8-14

2: Forgiveness from God - Psalm 86:5

1: Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon Him while He is near.

2: Lamentations 3:22-23 - The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end.

Psalms 80:5 Thou feedest them with the bread of tears; and givest them tears to drink in great measure.

God cares deeply for his people, providing for their needs even when it means tears and sorrow.

1: Through God's Tears, Strength is Found

2: Comfort in the Tears of the Lord

1: Isaiah 30:19-20 - For people shall dwell in Zion, in Jerusalem; thou shalt weep no more: he will be very gracious unto thee at the voice of thy cry; when he shall hear it, he will answer thee. 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.

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.

Psalms 80:6 Thou makest us a strife unto our neighbours: and our enemies laugh among themselves.

We should not cause strife amongst our neighbors, as it only brings ridicule from our enemies.

1: We should strive to be peacemakers within our community.

2: Let us not bring dishonor to our neighbors, by causing strife.

1: Proverbs 15:18 A hot-tempered person stirs up strife, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel.

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.

Psalms 80:7 Turn us again, O God of hosts, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.

The Psalmist pleads to God to turn His face towards them and grant His mercy, that they may be saved.

1. The Grace of God: Relying on the Power of His Mercy

2. The Power of Prayer: Seeking God's Compassion 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. 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.

Psalms 80:8 Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt: thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it.

The Lord has brought Israel out of Egypt and planted it in a foreign land, casting out the heathen.

1. The Lord's Faithful Protection and Provision

2. The Lord's Sovereignty Over His People

1. Isaiah 43:14-21 - The Lord's Redemption and Protection of His People

2. Deuteronomy 32:9-12 - The Lord's Faithfulness to His People

Psalms 80:9 Thou preparedst room before it, and didst cause it to take deep root, and it filled the land.

The Psalmist praises God for the success of His people, acknowledging the power of the Lord to cause growth and prosperity.

1. God Is the Source of Our Growth and Abundance

2. The Lord's Faithfulness Brings Fruits of Success

1. Isaiah 61:3 - To all who mourn in Israel, he will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair. In their righteousness, they will be like great oaks that the LORD has planted for his own glory.

2. 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.

Psalms 80:10 The hills were covered with the shadow of it, and the boughs thereof were like the goodly cedars.

The Psalmist paints a beautiful picture of a tree that casts a large shadow, its boughs like cedars.

1. The Power of a Small Act: How Our Actions Can Have Big Impact

2. The Strength of a Community: How Working Together Can Change the World

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. Matthew 5:13-14 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.

Psalms 80:11 She sent out her boughs unto the sea, and her branches unto the river.

This verse speaks to the power of God's word, extending beyond the boundaries of nature to reach the hearts of mankind.

1. The Unstoppable Power of God's Word

2. Reaching Beyond Our Natural Boundaries

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 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."

Psalms 80:12 Why hast thou then broken down her hedges, so that all they which pass by the way do pluck her?

The psalmist laments that God has broken down the hedges that protected the people, leaving them vulnerable to those that pass by and take advantage of them.

1. God's Protection: How to Rely on the Lord for Safety

2. The Faithfulness of God: How God's Protection is Everlasting

1. Psalm 91:4-5 - He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

2. 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: and ye would not.

Psalms 80:13 The boar out of the wood doth waste it, and the wild beast of the field doth devour it.

The Psalmist laments that the wood is being destroyed by wild animals.

1. The Danger of Ignoring God s Word

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

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. Jeremiah 5:21-25 - Hear this, you foolish and senseless people, who have eyes but do not see, who have ears but do not hear: Should you not fear me? declares the LORD. Should you not tremble in my presence? I made the sand a boundary for the sea, an everlasting barrier it cannot cross. The waves may roll, but they cannot prevail; they may roar, but they cannot cross it. But these people have stubborn and rebellious hearts; they have turned aside and gone away. They do not say to themselves, Let us fear the LORD our God, who gives autumn and spring rains in season, who assures us of the regular weeks of harvest.

Psalms 80:14 Return, we beseech thee, O God of hosts: look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine;

God's mercy and forgiveness are essential for restoration.

1: The Vine of Restoration: Finding God's Mercy and Forgiveness

2: Turning to God in Times of Need: A Call for Repentance

1: 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.

2: Isaiah 55:7 Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Psalms 80:15 And the vineyard which thy right hand hath planted, and the branch that thou madest strong for thyself.

The Psalmist reminds us that God is the one who planted the vineyard and made it strong.

1. The Strength of God's Love

2. Relying on God's Power

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. Isaiah 5:1-7 - Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

Psalms 80:16 It is burned with fire, it is cut down: they perish at the rebuke of thy countenance.

The Lord's rebuke can result in destruction and death.

1: The Power of the Lord's Rebuke

2: The Dread of the Lord's Rebuke

1: Isaiah 5:24-25 - Therefore, as the fire devours the stubble, and the flame consumes the chaff, So their root will be as rottenness, and their blossom will ascend like dust; Because they have rejected the law of the Lord of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

2: Hebrews 12:29 - For our God is a consuming fire.

Psalms 80:17 Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand, upon the son of man whom thou madest strong for thyself.

God's hand is a source of strength and protection to those who trust in Him.

1. The Lord's Hand: A Source of Strength and Protection

2. Relying on the Lord for Strength and Guidance

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, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

Psalms 80:18 So will not we go back from thee: quicken us, and we will call upon thy name.

The psalmist pleads for God to revive them so that they can call on His name.

1. The Power of the Name of God: Relying on His Strength and Provision

2. Revival Through God's Unfailing Love

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 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.

Psalms 80:19 Turn us again, O LORD God of hosts, cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.

The psalmist begs God to show mercy and send salvation.

1. God's Grace and Mercy in Times of Trouble

2. Salvation Through God's Divine Presence

1. Isaiah 44:22 - "I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you."

2. Romans 10:13 - "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Psalm 81 is a psalm of exhortation and celebration, calling upon the people of Israel to worship and obey God. It emphasizes the importance of listening to God's voice, remembering His deliverance, and experiencing His blessings through obedience.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by urging the people to sing and play music in praise of God. They call for joyful celebration during appointed feasts and emphasize the commandment to blow the trumpet as a symbol of worship (Psalm 81:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on God's faithfulness in delivering Israel from Egypt. They remind the people that He heard their cry and delivered them from bondage. They highlight how God tested them at Meribah, where they rebelled against Him (Psalm 81:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist emphasizes God's desire for obedience. They recount how He brought Israel out of Egypt with mighty power but laments that they did not listen or follow His commandments. They highlight that obedience would bring blessings and abundance (Psalm 81:8-16).

In summary,

Psalm eighty-one presents

an exhortation for worship,

and a reminder of divine deliverance,

highlighting emphasis on joyful celebration while recognizing divine faithfulness.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through urging singing and playing music while emphasizing appointed feasts,

and emphasizing narration achieved through reflecting on deliverance while highlighting divine testing.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine desire for obedience as source of blessings while lamenting disobedience

Psalms 81:1 Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob.

Sing praises to God, the source of strength and joy!

1: God is our strength and joy in life.

2: Let us praise God together and celebrate His presence in our lives.

1: Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! 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.

2: Psalm 100:1-2 - Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all you lands. Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing.

Psalms 81:2 Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery.

The psalmist encourages people to use musical instruments such as timbrels, harps, and psalteries to accompany the singing of psalms.

1. Music as a form of Worship: Exploring the Use of Instruments in Praise

2. Joyful Noise: How Music Can Enhance Our Connection to God

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. 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."

Psalms 81:3 Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.

The psalmist calls on the people to blow the trumpet in the new moon, on the appointed time and on the solemn feast day.

1. The Importance of Keeping Appointed Times

2. Keeping God's Feast Days with Joyful Noise

1. Leviticus 23:2-4 - 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.

2. Hebrews 12:28-29 - Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire.

Psalms 81:4 For this was a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob.

This psalm describes a law God gave to Israel in the time of Jacob.

1. The Importance of Following God's Statutes

2. Obedience Brings Blessing and Favour

1. Deuteronomy 8:6 Therefore keep the commandments of the Lord your God, by walking in his ways and by fearing him.

2. Isaiah 1:19 If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land.

Psalms 81:5 This he ordained in Joseph for a testimony, when he went out through the land of Egypt: where I heard a language that I understood not.

God ordained Joseph as a testimony of his power and protection during the time he spent in Egypt.

1. God's faithfulness is always with us, even when we are in unfamiliar and difficult places.

2. Joseph's story shows us how to faithfully endure difficult times and remain trusting 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. 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.

Psalms 81:6 I removed his shoulder from the burden: his hands were delivered from the pots.

God relieved the burden from his people and freed their hands from hard labor.

1. God's Love Frees Us From Oppression

2. A Call To Remember God's Deliverance

1. Exodus 13:3-4 - "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.

4. 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."

Psalms 81:7 Thou calledst in trouble, and I delivered thee; I answered thee in the secret place of thunder: I proved thee at the waters of Meribah. Selah.

The Lord delivers us in times of trouble and answers our prayers in a mysterious way.

1. God's Mysterious Ways: Experiencing Deliverance in Troubled Times

2. The Power of Prayer: Relying on the Lord in Difficult Times

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. 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.

Psalms 81:8 Hear, O my people, and I will testify unto thee: O Israel, if thou wilt hearken unto me;

This passage encourages us to listen to God and to be obedient to Him.

1. "The Call to Listen: God's Invitation to Obedience"

2. "Hearken to the Lord: Heeding God's Word"

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 1:19-20 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.

Psalms 81:9 There shall no strange god be in thee; neither shalt thou worship any strange god.

God commands us not to worship any foreign or strange gods.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: How to Avoid Worshipping False Gods

2. The Benefits of Staying Faithful to God: How to Remain Committed to God's Word

1. Deuteronomy 32:17 They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not.

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.

Psalms 81:10 I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it.

God is providing us with an abundance of blessings if we open our hearts and accept it.

1: Open your hearts and accept the blessings God has given you.

2: Rejoice in God's goodness and thank Him for His many blessings.

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: 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.

Psalms 81:11 But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me.

Despite God's guidance, the people of Israel refused to follow Him.

1. The Power of Disobedience: Learning From the People of Israel

2. The Consequences of Not Listening: A Warning from Psalm 81:11

1. Jeremiah 11:7-8 "For I earnestly protested unto your fathers in the day that I brought them up out of the land of Egypt, even unto this day, rising early and protesting, saying, Obey my voice. Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked every one in the imagination of their evil heart: therefore I will bring upon them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do; but they did them not."

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."

Psalms 81:12 So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: and they walked in their own counsels.

God allowed the people to follow their own desires and choices.

1. God is merciful and allows us to choose our path, but He desires us to choose His path.

2. We all have free will, but we should be careful of what we choose and how it affects 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. 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."

Psalms 81:13 Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, and Israel had walked in my ways!

God wishes that His people had obeyed Him and followed His ways.

1. The Power of Obedience- Why it is important to follow God's commands.

2. The Joy of Discipleship- Understanding the fullness of being a follower of God.

1. Psalm 81:13- "Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, and Israel had walked in my ways!"

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-14- "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."

Psalms 81:14 I should soon have subdued their enemies, and turned my hand against their adversaries.

God promises to subdue the enemies of His people and turn His hand against their adversaries.

1. The Lord is Our Protector: A Study on Psalm 81:14

2. Our Victory in Christ: An Exposition of Psalm 81:14

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.

Psalms 81:15 The haters of the LORD should have submitted themselves unto him: but their time should have endured for ever.

God commands us to submit to Him and to honor Him as He is everlasting.

1: Submit to the Lord: An Eternal Commandment

2: The Enduring Nature of God's Authority

1: Romans 13:1-7, "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: 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."

Psalms 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.

God was ready to satisfy His people with the finest of wheat and honey from the rock.

1. God's Generosity: Understanding His Provision for His People

2. Experiencing the Sweetness of God's Presence

1. Psalms 81:16

2. Isaiah 55:1-2 - "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy?"

Psalm 82 is a psalm that addresses divine judgment and the responsibility of earthly rulers. It highlights God's authority as the ultimate judge and calls for justice and righteousness among those in positions of power.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist sets the scene by describing a divine assembly where God presides as the supreme judge. They emphasize that God judges among the "gods" or rulers, holding them accountable for their actions (Psalm 82:1).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist criticizes these earthly rulers, stating that they have failed to uphold justice and righteousness. They condemn their unjust judgments, urging them to defend the weak and fatherless, and to rescue the needy (Psalm 82:2-4).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist reminds these rulers of their divine calling. They assert that although they are called "gods" due to their authority, they are mortal and will face consequences for their injustice. They affirm that ultimately, all nations belong to God (Psalm 82:5-8).

In summary,

Psalm eighty-two presents

a call for justice,

and a reminder of divine judgment,

highlighting emphasis on accountability while recognizing divine authority.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through describing divine assembly while emphasizing responsibility of earthly rulers,

and emphasizing admonition achieved through criticizing unjust judgments while reminding of mortal consequences.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine ownership as source of ultimate judgment while affirming need for justice

Psalms 82:1 God standeth in the congregation of the mighty; he judgeth among the gods.

God is the judge of all, even the mighty.

1. The Sovereignty of God: No One is Above His Judgment

2. Let God be the Judge: Releasing Anxiety and Worry

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.

Psalms 82:2 How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah.

The psalmist questions why the wicked are accepted and justice is not upheld.

1: Justice must be upheld and the wicked must be held to the same standards as the righteous.

2: God is a just judge who will never ignore the plight of the innocent.

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 - "Speak and 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."

Psalms 82:3 Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.

This passage calls on us to defend the poor and fatherless, and do justice to the afflicted and needy.

1. The Call of God: Defending the Forgotten and Oppressed

2. Unconditional Compassion: Doing Justice to the Afflicted and Needy

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. 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.

Psalms 82:4 Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked.

This passage from Psalms calls for delivering the poor and needy from the hand of the wicked.

1. The Power of Compassion: How Helping the Poor and Needy Makes Us More Like God

2. The Responsibility of Righteousness: How We Can Protect the Vulnerable From the Wicked

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.

Psalms 82:5 They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course.

This passage speaks of those who are ignorant and do not understand the foundations of the earth.

1. Recognizing the Foundations of Faith - Using Psalms 82:5 to explore the importance of understanding the foundations of faith.

2. Walking in the Light - Exploring how Psalms 82:5 can help us walk in the light of faith rather than in darkness.

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

2. "If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another" (1 John 1:7).

Psalms 82:6 I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High.

God declares that all people are His children and have the potential to be like gods.

1. "The Power of God: The Potential Within Us"

2. "God's Children: Empowering Us to be Like Gods"

1. Psalm 82:6

2. John 10:34-36 - "Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your Law, I said, you are gods ? If he called them gods to whom the word of God came and Scripture cannot be broken do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, You are blaspheming, because I said, I am the Son of God ?"

Psalms 82:7 But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes.

The Psalmist warns that those in positions of power will still be subject to death, just like everyone else.

1. Power in This World is Fleeting

2. The Dignity of Every Human Life

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. Hebrews 9:27 - Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment.

Psalms 82:8 Arise, O God, judge the earth: for thou shalt inherit all nations.

The psalmist calls on God to arise and judge the earth, as He will inherit all nations.

1. God's Righteous Judgment: How God's Just Rule Over Nations Will Prevail

2. The Inheritance of God: Understanding How God is Sovereign Over All Nations

1. Isaiah 40:22-23 - 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. Romans 14:11-12 - It is written: As surely as I live, says the Lord, every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God. So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

Psalm 83 is a psalm of lament and supplication that expresses the psalmist's plea for God's intervention against their enemies. It describes the threats and conspiracies faced by Israel and calls upon God to defeat their adversaries.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by describing the enemies of Israel who have formed an alliance and conspired against God's people. They list various nations who seek to destroy Israel, expressing fear and distress (Psalm 83:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist appeals to God for His intervention. They ask Him to deal with their enemies as He had done in the past, recalling historical instances where God defeated Israel's adversaries (Psalm 83:5-12).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist continues to describe their enemies' defeat, asking God to pursue them with His power and bring them to shame. They express a desire for these nations to know that Yahweh alone is the Most High over all the earth (Psalm 83:13-18).

In summary,

Psalm eighty-three presents

a lamentation over enemy threats,

and a plea for divine intervention,

highlighting description of conspiring enemies while expressing fear.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through appealing for divine intervention while recalling past victories,

and emphasizing petition achieved through describing desired defeat while expressing desire for divine recognition.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine power as source of victory while affirming divine sovereignty.

Psalms 83:1 Keep not thou silence, O God: hold not thy peace, and be not still, O God.

The author is pleading for God to not remain silent and to act.

1. The Power of Prayer: Pleading for God's Intervention

2. Finding Strength in Silence: Learning to Listen to God

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 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

Psalms 83:2 For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head.

The enemies of God are in uproar and have become arrogant.

1. "The Power of God's Enemies"

2. "Standing Up for God in the Face of Opposition"

1. Psalm 37:1-2 - "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."

2. 2 Thessalonians 3:3 - "But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil."

Psalms 83:3 They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones.

The enemies of God's people have made plans to oppose them and those who are not known.

1. Our enemies will always be plotting against us, but with God's help we can prevail.

2. The power of prayer can help protect us from our enemies.

1. Psalm 83:3

2. Matthew 10:16-20 Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

Psalms 83:4 They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance.

God's people are threatened by those who wish to see them destroyed.

1. God will protect His people from harm, no matter the odds.

2. We must trust in God's strength and not our own to overcome any challenge.

1. Psalm 37:39-40 But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength in time of trouble. The Lord helps them and delivers them; He delivers them from the wicked and saves them, Because they take refuge in Him.

2. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble.

Psalms 83:5 For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee:

The enemies of God have formed a coalition against Him.

1. The Power of Unification: How we can learn from our enemies.

2. Standing Strong in the Face of Opposition: God's strength in the face of adversity.

1. Psalm 27:3-5 Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

2. Ephesians 6:10-12 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.

Psalms 83:6 The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes;

The Psalm speaks of the enemies of Israel.

1: All people are our enemies until they become our friends.

2: God is our protector and shield.

1: Romans 12:20, "Therefore, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink."

2: Psalm 18:2, "The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust."

Psalms 83:7 Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre;

God's enemies are those who reject Him and seek to do harm to His people.

1: We must recognize those who oppose God and seek to do Him and His people harm.

2: We should never forget that God is sovereign and will ultimately triumph over His enemies.

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 8:31 "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Psalms 83:8 Assur also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot. Selah.

This verse from Psalms 83 speaks of an alliance joining Assur with the children of Lot.

1. The importance of standing together in unity.

2. The power of strong friendship in times of need.

1. Colossians 3:14 - And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

2. Proverbs 18:24 - A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

Psalms 83:9 Do unto them as unto the Midianites; as to Sisera, as to Jabin, at the brook of Kison:

God will punish his enemies as he did the Midianites and the kings of Canaan.

1. God's Justice: A Call to Repent

2. God's Mercy and His Wrath: Understanding God's Character

1. Romans 12:19-20 - "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. Exodus 15:3-4 - "The Lord is a man of war; the Lord is his name. Pharaoh's chariots and his host he cast into the sea, and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea."

Psalms 83:10 Which perished at Endor: they became as dung for the earth.

This verse speaks of the destruction of those who opposed God's will.

1: No one can stand against God's will and live.

2: We must always be prepared to face the consequences of opposing God's will.

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: Romans 8:31 - "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Psalms 83:11 Make their nobles like Oreb, and like Zeeb: yea, all their princes as Zebah, and as Zalmunna:

God wants us to be humble and reverent to one another, no matter one's station or class.

1. The Power of Humility: Oreb, Zeeb, Zebah, and Zalmunna as Examples

2. The Beauty of Equality: A Lesson from Psalms 83:11

1. Matthew 23:12 - Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

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.

Psalms 83:12 Who said, Let us take to ourselves the houses of God in possession.

This passage speaks of those who seek to take control of God's house.

1. The Danger of Taking Control of God's House

2. The Blessing of Entrusting the House of God to God

1. Matthew 21:12-13 - Jesus drives out those who sold and bought in the temple, saying, It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer, but you make it a den of robbers.

2. 1 Peter 4:17 - For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry.

Psalms 83:13 O my God, make them like a wheel; as the stubble before the wind.

The psalmist pleads to God to make the enemies like a wheel before the wind.

1. God Can Change the Tide of a Battle: Relying on God to Defeat Enemies

2. The Power of Wind: God's Sovereignty in the Midst of Conflict

1. Isaiah 40:24-26 God's power and sovereignty compared to the wind

2. Jeremiah 49:36-38 The Lord will make all enemies perish like stubble before the wind

Psalms 83:14 As the fire burneth a wood, and as the flame setteth the mountains on fire;

God's mighty power is demonstrated through His ability to destroy.

1. The Power of God: The Fire that Burns

2. The Fire of God: His Might and Majesty

1. Habakkuk 3:3-5 (God's majesty seen in fire and smoke)

2. Isaiah 33:14-15 (God's might and power demonstrated through fire)

Psalms 83:15 So persecute them with thy tempest, and make them afraid with thy storm.

God is asked to use his power to punish and scare his enemies.

1. God's Power and Purpose in Punishment

2. The Strength of Our Faith in the Face of Adversity

1. Matthew 5:44 - Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who mistreat you and 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.

Psalms 83:16 Fill their faces with shame; that they may seek thy name, O LORD.

This verse from Psalms 83 encourages us to seek the Lord's name and fill our enemies with shame.

1. The Power of Praising God in the Face of Adversity

2. Letting Go of Resentment and Seeking God's Name

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 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."

Psalms 83:17 Let them be confounded and troubled for ever; yea, let them be put to shame, and perish:

God's enemies will be confounded, troubled, put to shame, and perish.

1. "A Warning to the Wicked: God's Judgment is Coming"

2. "The Mercy of God: Even the Wicked Will Be Saved"

1. Isaiah 45:17 - "But Israel shall be saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end."

2. Ezekiel 36:32 - "Not for your sakes do I this, saith the Lord GOD, be it known unto you: be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel."

Psalms 83:18 That men may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the most high over all the earth.

God is the one true ruler of the world and His name is Jehovah.

1: God is in control of all things.

2: There is only one God and His name is Jehovah.

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: 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Psalm 84 is a psalm of longing and praise, expressing the deep desire to dwell in the presence of God. It portrays the beauty and blessings of being in God's presence and expresses the psalmist's yearning for communion with Him.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by expressing their deep longing for God's dwelling place. They describe their intense desire to be in His courts and express envy for even the birds that find shelter near His altars (Psalm 84:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist praises God as the source of strength and blessing. They acknowledge that those who trust in Him are blessed, highlighting the pilgrimage to Zion as a time of joy and encounter with God (Psalm 84:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist directs their prayer towards God, asking Him to hear their plea. They express their trust in Him as a shield and implore His favor upon them, emphasizing that being in His presence is better than dwelling anywhere else (Psalm 84:8-12).

In summary,

Psalm eighty-four presents

a longing for divine presence,

and a celebration of divine blessings,

highlighting expression of deep desire while acknowledging divine strength.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through expressing intense longing while highlighting envy,

and emphasizing adoration achieved through praising divine blessings while acknowledging trust.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine favor as source of protection while affirming superiority of divine presence.

Psalms 84:1 How amiable are thy tabernacles, O LORD of hosts!

The psalmist praises the Lord and expresses his joy at being in the Lord s presence.

1. The Joy of Being in the Lord s Presence

2. Praising the Lord in all Circumstances

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. John 15:11 - These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Psalms 84:2 My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the LORD: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.

The passage speaks of yearning for the Lord and His courts with a cry from the heart and flesh.

1. The Cry of the Heart: Yearning for the Lord

2. The Flesh's Call: Cries for the Living God

1. Isaiah 26:9 - With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

2. Psalm 42:1 - As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.

Psalms 84:3 Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O LORD of hosts, my King, and my God.

This verse speaks of God providing a place of shelter and refuge for the sparrow and swallow, even upon His altars.

1. The Refuge of God: Seeking Shelter in the Lord

2. The Provision of God: How God Cares for His People

1. 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."

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."

Psalms 84:4 Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah.

Those who live in God's house are blessed and will always praise Him.

1. Living in God's House: Blessing and Praise

2. The Difference Living in God's House Makes: Still Praising God

1. Ephesians 2:19-22 - You are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

2. Hebrews 3:1-6 - Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus.

Psalms 84:5 Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are the ways of them.

The psalmist praises the Lord for blessing those whose strength comes from Him and whose hearts are devoted to Him.

1. God's Strength: How to Receive and Sustain It

2. The Path of Devotion: Following God's Ways in Your Heart

1. Ephesians 3:14-21 - Paul's prayer for the Ephesians to be strengthened by the Spirit to have faith in God's love.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - A call to trust in the Lord and delight in His ways.

Psalms 84:6 Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools.

This passage speaks of how God provides for His people, even in difficult times.

1. God is with us in the Valley - Psalms 84:6

2. God's Provision in the Wilderness - Psalms 84:6

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. Psalms 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."

Psalms 84:7 They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God.

The psalmist praises God for the strength of his people, who appear before Him in Zion.

1. "The Strength of the Lord's People"

2. "Appearing Before the Lord in Zion"

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."

Psalms 84:8 O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob. Selah.

The psalmist humbly petitions God to hear his prayer and give attention to his pleas.

1. The Power of Prayer: Learning to Humbly Petition God

2. Finding Strength in the God of Jacob

1. 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."

2. Genesis 32:24-30, when Jacob wrestles with God and is blessed and renamed Israel.

Psalms 84:9 Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed.

The psalmist expresses his hope that God will look upon the face of his anointed one.

1. "The Power of Hope in God"

2. "The Privilege of Interceding on Behalf of the Anointed"

Cross-

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. Psalm 2:2 - The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed.

Psalms 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.

This passage emphasizes the importance of spending time in God's courts and how it is superior to living in unrighteousness.

1. The Value of Time in God's Courts

2. Dwelling in Righteousness vs Wickedness

1. Psalm 27:4 - One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:1 - Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong.

Psalms 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.

God is our source of protection and provision.

1. The Lord's Protection and Provision - Psalms 84:11

2. Walk Uprightly and Receive God's Blessing - Psalms 84:11

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 8:32 - 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?

Psalms 84:12 O LORD of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.

Psalms 84:12 praises the LORD of hosts and blesses those who trust in Him.

1. The Blessing of Faith - Understanding the importance of trusting in the LORD and how it brings blessing into our lives.

2. The Power of Blessing - Exploring the power of God's blessing and how it changes us.

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

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.

Psalm 85 is a psalm of restoration and reconciliation, expressing the psalmist's plea for God's mercy and forgiveness. It reflects on God's past acts of salvation and asks for His favor to be restored upon His people.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by reflecting on God's past acts of favor and forgiveness. They express gratitude for His restoration of Jacob and the forgiveness of their sins. They ask God to restore His favor once again (Psalm 85:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges the need for revival and reconciliation. They ask God to show His steadfast love, justice, peace, and righteousness to His people. They express hope in hearing what God will speak regarding salvation (Psalm 85:4-8).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist anticipates divine restoration. They express their willingness to listen to what God will say, emphasizing that He will speak peace to His people if they turn away from folly. They anticipate divine glory dwelling in the land (Psalm 85:9-13).

In summary,

Psalm eighty-five presents

a plea for divine mercy,

and a reflection on divine restoration,

highlighting expression of gratitude while acknowledging need for revival.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through reflecting on past acts while asking for restoration,

and emphasizing anticipation achieved through expressing hope in hearing divine words while anticipating divine dwelling.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine love as source of justice while affirming importance of turning away from folly.

Psalms 85:1 Lord, thou hast been favourable unto thy land: thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob.

God has been merciful to His people, restoring them to their land.

1. "God's Unceasing Love and Mercy"

2. "Returning Home with God's Blessing"

1. Psalm 85:1

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."

Psalms 85:2 Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin. Selah.

God has forgiven the sins of His people and covered them completely.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness- How God's love for us can always lead us back to Him.

2. Grace and Redemption- How Christ's death and resurrection gives us the opportunity to be reconciled with God.

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 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalms 85:3 Thou hast taken away all thy wrath: thou hast turned thyself from the fierceness of thine anger.

God removed His anger and softened His fury.

1: We can take comfort in knowing that God s love endures and that His grace is everlasting.

2: Even when we are in the midst of our own anger and despair, God is still there, ready to forgive and restore.

1: Isaiah 54:8-9 In overflowing anger for a moment I hid my face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you, says the Lord, your Redeemer.

2: Jeremiah 31:3 I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

Psalms 85:4 Turn us, O God of our salvation, and cause thine anger toward us to cease.

The psalmist pleads with God to turn back to them and stop His anger.

1. "The Power of Pleading with God"

2. "God is the Source of Our Salvation"

1. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:21 - God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Psalms 85:5 Wilt thou be angry with us for ever? wilt thou draw out thine anger to all generations?

The psalmist reflects on whether God's anger towards them will last forever and if it will be passed down to future generations.

1. The Power of God's Love: How to Rebuild Relationships Even After Anger.

2. The Unchanging Nature of God's Character: Understanding Faithfulness and Mercy.

1. Isaiah 54:8-10 - "In a little wrath I hid my face from you for a moment, but with everlasting love I will have mercy on you," says the LORD, your Redeemer.

2. Romans 5:5-8 - 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.

Psalms 85:6 Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?

The psalmist expresses a desire for God to bring revival to His people so they may rejoice in Him.

1. "Living in Revival: Rediscovering Joy in Jesus"

2. "Reviving Our Relationship with God"

1. Romans 5:1-5 - Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Psalm 16:11 - You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Psalms 85:7 Shew us thy mercy, O LORD, and grant us thy salvation.

The psalmist asks the Lord to show mercy and grant salvation.

1. The Power of Faithful Prayer - A study on how the psalmist's plea for the Lord's mercy and salvation demonstrates the power of prayer.

2. The Hope of Salvation - A study on how the psalmist's plea for the Lord's mercy and salvation speaks of the hope we have in Him.

1. Matthew 6:7-13 - Context of the power of prayer.

2. Romans 10:13 - Context of the hope of salvation.

Psalms 85:8 I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.

God speaks peace to his people, and encourages them to resist temptation and foolishness.

1. "Examine Your Ways: God's Call to Holiness"

2. "The Power of God's Peace"

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:7 - For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness.

2. Isaiah 26:3 - You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

Psalms 85:9 Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land.

God's salvation is near to those who revere Him, and His glory will be in our presence.

1. Acknowledge God and His Promises

2. Revere God and His Presence

1. Psalm 85:9

2. Isaiah 26:3-4 - You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the Lord forever, for in Yah, the Lord, is everlasting strength.

Psalms 85:10 Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Mercy and truth, as well as righteousness and peace, are reconciled together in harmony.

1: God's Mercy and Truth Reconciled

2: Righteousness and Peace Reunited

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: Jeremiah 9:24 but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord.

Psalms 85:11 Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The psalm is a reminder that truth and righteousness come from both God and on earth.

1: We must remember to keep our eyes to the sky and feet on the ground, and in tandem look for ways to bring justice and truth to the world.

2: Even though it can be difficult to have faith in uncertain times, we must remember that truth and righteousness will ultimately prevail.

1: Matthew 5:5 - "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

2: Psalm 37:11 - "But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace."

Psalms 85:12 Yea, the LORD shall give that which is good; and our land shall yield her increase.

The Lord will provide good things, and the land will yield abundance.

1. God's Love and Provision: How the Lord Provides Abundantly

2. Reaping the Blessings of Faith: Experiencing Abundance Through Obedience

1. Psalm 34:10 - "The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing."

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."

Psalms 85:13 Righteousness shall go before him; and shall set us in the way of his steps.

Psalms 85:13 speaks of righteousness which precedes God, and guides us on his path.

1. "The Path of Righteousness" - A on the importance of following the path of righteousness in order to follow God.

2. "God's Guidance" - A on how God guides us on the path of righteousness.

1. Proverbs 16:17 - "The highway of the upright avoids evil; those who guard their way preserve their lives."

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."

Psalm 86 is a psalm of personal prayer and dependence on God. It expresses the psalmist's plea for God's mercy, guidance, and protection in the midst of trouble.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by appealing to God for His attention and mercy. They acknowledge their own neediness and express their trust in God as their Lord. They ask for His favor, recognizing Him as a gracious and forgiving God (Psalm 86:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist asks for divine guidance and deliverance from enemies. They seek assurance of God's presence, asking Him to teach them His ways. They plead for a united heart to fear His name (Psalm 86:8-13).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist concludes by reiterating their need for divine intervention. They ask God to show them a sign of His goodness, confound their enemies, and bring them comfort through His steadfast love (Psalm 86:14-17).

In summary,

Psalm eighty-six presents

a prayer for divine mercy,

and a plea for divine guidance,

highlighting expression of trust while acknowledging dependence on God.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through appealing for attention while acknowledging divine attributes,

and emphasizing supplication achieved through seeking guidance while pleading for deliverance.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine goodness as source of comfort while affirming reliance on steadfast love.

Psalms 86:1 Bow down thine ear, O LORD, hear me: for I am poor and needy.

The Psalmist is asking the Lord to hear him because he is poor and needy.

1. "Living in Humility: A Guide to Contentment in Poverty"

2. "The Power of Prayer: Dependence on God in Need"

1. 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."

2. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Psalms 86:2 Preserve my soul; for I am holy: O thou my God, save thy servant that trusteth in thee.

The psalmist pleads to God to save him because he trusts in Him.

1. The Power of Trusting in God

2. The Blessing of Holiness

1. 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.

2. Psalm 34:8 - Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Psalms 86:3 Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto thee daily.

The Psalmist cries out to the Lord for mercy daily.

1. The Power of Prayer: Learning to Call Out to God Daily

2. The Need for Mercy: Understanding and Applying God's Grace

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. 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."

Psalms 86:4 Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

This verse encourages the reader to offer praise to God, and to lift up their soul to Him.

1. "Lifting Up Your Soul in Praise: How Worship Can Transform Your Heart"

2. "Praying with Joy: Rejoicing in the Lord's Presence"

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 119:145 - "I cry with all my heart; answer me, O Lord! I will keep Your statutes."

Psalms 86:5 For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

God is abundantly merciful and forgiving to those who call on Him.

1. God's Forgiveness: An Abundant Gift

2. Drawing Near to God: Appreciating His Mercy

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. Ezekiel 36:25-26 - I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. 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.

Psalms 86:6 Give ear, O LORD, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications.

The psalmist asks the LORD to listen to their prayers and supplications.

1. The Power of Prayer: Recognizing the Need to Ask God for Help

2. Showing Our Dependence on God Through Prayer

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. 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.

Psalms 86:7 In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me.

In times of distress, the psalmist calls upon God for help, knowing that God will answer.

1. A Cry for Help: How to Trust in the Lord in Times of Trouble

2. God is the Answer: Relying on Faith in Difficult Times

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

Psalms 86:8 Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord; neither are there any works like unto thy works.

God is incomparable and His works are unparalleled.

1. God's Uniqueness - A Study on Psalms 86:8

2. The Majesty of God - Celebrating His Uniqueness

1. Isaiah 40:18 - To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

2. Psalms 145:3 - Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.

Psalms 86:9 All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name.

The psalmist praises God for His greatness, and invites all nations to come before Him and glorify His name.

1. "The Power of Praise: How a Humble Heart Can Bring Nations Together"

2. "Glorifying God: The True Path to Unity"

1. Psalm 86:9

2. Isaiah 2:2-4 - Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord s house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths. For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Psalms 86:10 For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone.

God is great and performs amazing deeds; He is the only God.

1. The Magnificence of Our God

2. The Unique Nature of God

1. Deuteronomy 6:4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one."

2. Isaiah 44:6 "Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: 'I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.'"

Psalms 86:11 Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.

Teaching God's ways and uniting the heart with fear of His name.

1. Learning to Fear the Lord - Psalm 86:11

2. Walking in God's Truths - Psalm 86:11

1. Proverbs 14:2 - He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD: but he that is perverse in his ways despiseth him.

2. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Psalms 86:12 I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore.

The psalmist declares that he will praise the Lord with all his heart and glorify His name for eternity.

1. The Power of Praise: How Worshiping God Can Change Your Life

2. The Wonders of His Name: A Study on the Meaning and Importance of Glorifying 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 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.

Psalms 86:13 For great is thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.

The Lord is full of great mercy and love, and He has saved us from the depths of despair.

1. The Depths of God's Mercy - Exploring the boundless love and salvation of the Lord.

2. Hope in the Lowest of Hells - Finding strength and comfort through the Lord in our darkest moments.

1. Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that 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.

Psalms 86:14 O God, the proud are risen against me, and the assemblies of violent men have sought after my soul; and have not set thee before them.

The psalmist expresses his distress that the proud have risen against him and violent men have sought his soul, without regard for God.

1. God Is Bigger than our Enemies

2. Trusting God in the Face of Persecution

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."

Psalms 86:15 But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, long suffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

God is full of compassion, grace, longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.

1. God's Abundant Grace and Mercy

2. God's Compassionate Love

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 2: 4-5 - But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions it is by grace you have been saved.

Psalms 86:16 O turn unto me, and have mercy upon me; give thy strength unto thy servant, and save the son of thine handmaid.

God's mercy and strength are available to all who seek it.

1: Trust in God's Mercy - Psalms 86:16

2: God Will Provide Strength - Psalms 86:16

1: Matthew 11: 28-30 - Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

2: Hebrews 4:16 - Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Psalms 86:17 Shew me a token for good; that they which hate me may see it, and be ashamed: because thou, LORD, hast holpen me, and comforted me.

God is always there to help us in times of distress.

#1: God's Help - Psalm 86:17

#2: God's Comfort - Psalm 86:17

#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: 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."

Psalm 87 is a psalm that celebrates the glory and significance of Zion, the city of God. It highlights the honor and privilege of being counted among its inhabitants and emphasizes the universal recognition of Zion's greatness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by extolling the city of God, Zion. They describe it as a place founded by God Himself on holy mountains. They express admiration for its glorious reputation among nations (Psalm 87:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist mentions various nations that acknowledge their connection to Zion. They highlight Egypt, Babylon, Philistia, Tyre, and Cush as nations that recognize their affiliation with Jerusalem. They emphasize that being born in Zion is a source of pride (Psalm 87:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist concludes by affirming that God Himself will establish Zion and record its citizens. They express joy and celebration over being counted among those who belong to Zion (Psalm 87:7).

In summary,

Psalm eighty-seven presents

a celebration of divine city,

and an affirmation of belonging,

highlighting description of glorious reputation while emphasizing universal recognition.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through extolling divine establishment while expressing admiration,

and emphasizing affirmation achieved through mentioning recognized nations while expressing joy.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine selection as source of belonging while affirming importance of citizenship in divine city.

Psalms 87:1 His foundation is in the holy mountains.

Psalm 87 is a psalm of joy and celebration of the city of Zion and its inhabitants, praising God for his protection and provision.

1. God's Foundation is in the Holy Mountains: Celebrating the City of Zion

2. The Source of Our Joy: God's Protection and Provision

1. Psalm 87:1

2. Psalm 48:1-2 Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise, 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.

Psalms 87:2 The LORD loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

The Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all other places where Jacob had lived.

1. God's Love Transcends All Things

2. The Preeminence of Zion

1. Isaiah 2:2-3 - In the last days the mountain of the Lord s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.

2. John 14:23 - Jesus answered him, 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.

Psalms 87:3 Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah.

Glorious things are said of the city of God.

1. The Glory of God's City

2. Living in God's City

1. Isaiah 60:18 - "No more shall violence be heard in your land, desolation or destruction within your borders; but you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise."

2. Revelation 21:10-27 - "And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God."

Psalms 87:4 I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this man was born there.

This passage speaks of the acknowledgement of various places and peoples, such as Rahab and Babylon, Philistia, Tyre, and Ethiopia, as being part of God's knowledge.

1. God's Knowledge is Broad and Far-Reaching - Psalms 87:4

2. Recognizing God's Presence in All Nations - Psalms 87:4

1. Isaiah 56:7 - "For my house shall be called a house of prayer for all people."

2. 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."

Psalms 87:5 And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her.

Psalm 87:5 speaks of Zion, declaring that the highest will establish it and that many will be born there.

1. God's Plan for Zion: How We Can Work Together to Build a Better Future

2. The Power of Place: Recognizing the Significance of Where We Come From

1. Psalm 48:2: "Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King."

2. Isaiah 60:14: "The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, The city of the LORD, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel."

Psalms 87:6 The LORD shall count, when he writeth up the people, that this man was born there. Selah.

The Lord will take account when He records the people, and this record will note that a certain man was born there.

1. The Lord's Plan for Our Lives - God has carefully planned our lives so that each of us can fulfill our purpose in His kingdom.

2. The Power of Birthplace - Our birthplaces can play an important role in our lives, reminding us of the Lord's purpose for us.

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. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

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.

Psalms 87:7 As well the singers as the players on instruments shall be there: all my springs are in thee.

Psalms 87:7 speaks of a place where there will be singers and musicians, and it is said that all of God's springs are found there.

1. "The Joy of Music: How Singers and Musicians Can Bring Us Closer to God"

2. "The Source of Life: Discovering All of God's Springs"

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. 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."

Psalm 88 is a psalm of deep lament and despair. It portrays the psalmist's overwhelming suffering, loneliness, and sense of abandonment. Unlike many other psalms, it does not end with a note of hope or resolution.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by expressing their distress and anguish. They cry out to God day and night, feeling overwhelmed by their troubles. They describe their situation as being near death and feeling forsaken (Psalm 88:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist continues to pour out their sorrow before God. They feel isolated from loved ones, abandoned by friends, and overwhelmed by darkness. They express feelings of helplessness and express their longing for God's intervention (Psalm 88:10-18).

In summary,

Psalm eighty-eight presents

a lamentation of profound suffering,

and an expression of overwhelming despair,

highlighting description of distress while expressing feelings of abandonment.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through crying out to God while acknowledging nearness to death,

and emphasizing supplication achieved through pouring out sorrow while expressing longing for divine intervention.

Mentioning emotional reflection shown regarding recognizing isolation as source of despair while affirming desire for divine presence.

Psalms 88:1 O LORD God of my salvation, I have cried day and night before thee:

The psalmist calls out to God for salvation day and night.

1. God's Unfailing Love and Mercy: How to Rely on God for Salvation

2. A Cry for Salvation: Finding Hope in the Darkness

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

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.

Psalms 88:2 Let my prayer come before thee: incline thine ear unto my cry;

The psalmist is asking God to listen to his prayer and cry for help.

1. Let us remember to bring our prayers before God, trusting that He will hear us.

2. We should always cry out to the Lord for help in our times of need.

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. 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Psalms 88:3 For my soul is full of troubles: and my life draweth nigh unto the grave.

The psalmist is in distress and feels that death is near.

1. Living in Troubled Times - How to Trust God in the Midst of Difficult Circumstances

2. Reaching Out for Hope - Turning to God When Everything Seems Hopeless

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 34:18 - "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

Psalms 88:4 I am counted with them that go down into the pit: I am as a man that hath no strength:

The psalmist is in a deep pit of despair, feeling weak and helpless.

1. "Hope in the Face of Despair"

2. "Finding Strength in Weakness"

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength."

2. Romans 8:18 - "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us."

Psalms 88:5 Free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, whom thou rememberest no more: and they are cut off from thy hand.

The psalmist expresses deep distress, feeling like they are forgotten by God and cut off from his hand, as if they were among the dead and like the slain that lie in the grave.

1. Living in the Shadow of the Grave: Finding Hope in Difficult Times

2. Remembering God's Faithfulness in Times of Despair

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 8:38-39 - 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.

Psalms 88:6 Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps.

God has placed the psalmist in the depths of darkness and despair.

1. God's Love is Still There in the Darkness - Romans 8:35-39

2. God is With Us in Our Struggles - Hebrews 13:5-6

1. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near 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.

Psalms 88:7 Thy wrath lieth hard upon me, and thou hast afflicted me with all thy waves. Selah.

God's anger and punishment have been difficult for the psalmist to endure, and they ask for mercy.

1. Finding Comfort and Strength in God's Mercy

2. Knowing God's Character Through His Wrath

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. Lamentations 3:22-24 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, says my soul, therefore I will hope in him.

Psalms 88:8 Thou hast put away mine acquaintance far from me; thou hast made me an abomination unto them: I am shut up, and I cannot come forth.

The psalmist is in distress and feels abandoned by his friends and rejected by society.

1. The Power of Faith in Times of Desolation

2. God's Comfort in Times of Loneliness

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 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.

Psalms 88:9 Mine eye mourneth by reason of affliction: LORD, I have called daily upon thee, I have stretched out my hands unto thee.

The Psalmist is expressing sadness and difficulty in his life, and he is crying out to God in prayer, lifting up his hands in supplication.

1. Learning to Pray in Times of Affliction

2. Trusting God in Painful Circumstances

1. James 5:13-16 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray.

2. Psalms 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 88:10 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise and praise thee? Selah.

The psalmist questions God's ability to perform wonders for the dead, asking if the dead will be able to rise and praise God.

1. Life After Death: The Hope of the Resurrection

2. The Power of God: What He Can Do Even After We Die

1. Romans 8:11 - "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you."

2. 1 Corinthians 15:20-22 - "But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive."

Psalms 88:11 Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the grave? or thy faithfulness in destruction?

This psalm is a cry of anguish in which the speaker wonders if God's lovingkindness and faithfulness will be known in the grave.

1. "God's Unfailing Love" exploring the depths of God's unconditional and unending love for us.

2. "Living a Faithful Life" examining how our faithfulness can serve as a witness for God's faithfulness, even in death.

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

2. Isaiah 49:15-16 "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! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands."

Psalms 88:12 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?

This passage reflects on the question of whether God's righteousness is still known even in the darkest of times.

1: Even in the darkest of times, God's light will still shine through.

2: God's righteousness is ever-present and will never be forgotten.

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: John 1:5 - "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

Psalms 88:13 But unto thee have I cried, O LORD; and in the morning shall my prayer prevent thee.

A cry is made to the Lord, and a prayer is offered in the morning.

1. The importance of prayer in our lives

2. Crying out to the Lord in times of need

1. Psalm 88:13

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 - Pray without ceasing.

Psalms 88:14 LORD, why castest thou off my soul? why hidest thou thy face from me?

This psalm expresses the despair of an individual who is overwhelmed by suffering and feels forsaken by God.

1. The Dark Night of the Soul: Finding Hope in Times of Despair

2. Reaching Out in Hope: Overcoming the Feeling of Forsakenness

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 55:22 Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

Psalms 88:15 I am afflicted and ready to die from my youth up: while I suffer thy terrors I am distracted.

The psalmist expresses his distress, having suffered from God's terrors since his youth.

1. The Power of Our Distress: Understanding How God Uses Our Suffering

2. God's Faithfulness in the Midst of Our Struggles

1. Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved 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.

Psalms 88:16 Thy fierce wrath goeth over me; thy terrors have cut me off.

The psalmist expresses their distress, feeling overwhelmed by God's wrath and terror.

1. God's Love in the Midst of Wrath - Referencing Psalms 88:16, exploring how God's love and compassion are present even in times of difficulty.

2. The Power of Fear - Examining how fear can paralyze individuals and how to find strength in God's love and mercy.

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. 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.

Psalms 88:17 They came round about me daily like water; they compassed me about together.

The psalmist feels overwhelmed by enemies and adversity.

1. Overcoming Adversity in the Lord: Using Psalms 88 as inspiration

2. Standing Firm in the Lord: How to be surrounded by enemies and still remain strong

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 4:8-9 - "We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed."

Psalms 88:18 Lover and friend hast thou put far from me, and mine acquaintance into darkness.

The psalmist expresses loneliness and a lack of companionship, lamenting that his lovers and friends have been taken away and his acquaintances have been sent into darkness.

1. "The Comfort of God in Times of Loneliness"

2. "The Power of Praise in the Midst of Suffering"

1. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

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."

Psalm 89 is a psalm that reflects on God's covenant with David and the faithfulness of His promises. It explores the enduring nature of God's covenant and wrestles with the apparent contradiction between His promises and the current state of affairs.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by praising God for His steadfast love and faithfulness. They declare that God's covenant with David is everlasting, emphasizing how He chose David as His anointed one (Psalm 89:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on God's sovereignty over creation and praises Him as a mighty and awe-inspiring God. They recount how He rules over the raging sea, demonstrating His power (Psalm 89:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges that despite God's promises, they are currently experiencing hardship and defeat. They express their lamentation over the apparent abandonment of their nation by God, questioning if He will still fulfill His covenant (Psalm 89:38-45).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist concludes by affirming their trust in God's faithfulness despite their present circumstances. They express hope in future restoration, pleading for God to remember His covenant and intervene on behalf of His people (Psalm 89:46-52).

In summary,

Psalm eighty-nine presents

a reflection on divine covenant,

and a wrestling with apparent contradiction,

highlighting expression of praise while acknowledging hardship.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through praising divine love while affirming choice of anointed one,

and emphasizing supplication achieved through reflecting on divine sovereignty while expressing lamentation.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing present suffering as source of questioning while affirming trust in divine faithfulness.

Psalms 89:1 I will sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations.

The psalmist declares his intention to sing of the Lord's mercies forever and to share God's faithfulness with all generations.

1. Praise God's Mercy and Faithfulness

2. Singing of the Lord's Promises

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 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.

Psalms 89:2 For I have said, Mercy shall be built up for ever: thy faithfulness shalt thou establish in the very heavens.

The psalmist declares that God's mercy and faithfulness will be established forever in the heavens.

1. The Unfailing Promise: God's Mercy and Faithfulness

2. A Foundation of Faith: Securing God's Mercy and Faithfulness

1. Micah 7:18-20 - Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercy. He will again have compassion on us, and will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

2. Romans 8:28-39 - 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. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Psalms 89:3 I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant,

God made a covenant with David, his chosen servant.

1. The Everlasting Covenant of God

2. God's Faithfulness to His Promises

1. Psalm 89:34 - I will not lie unto David.

2. Isaiah 55:3 - Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live.

Psalms 89:4 Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah.

God promises to establish His people and build up His throne for generations to come.

1. God's Promises Are Eternal

2. Establishing God's Kingdom Across Generations

1. Psalms 89:4

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."

Psalms 89:5 And the heavens shall praise thy wonders, O LORD: thy faithfulness also in the congregation of the saints.

This passage celebrates God's wonders and faithfulness among the saints.

1. The Wonders of God: Celebrate His Faithfulness

2. A Call to Praise: Rejoicing in God's Wonders

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. Psalm 145:4-5 - One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts. I will speak of the glorious honour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works.

Psalms 89:6 For who in the heaven can be compared unto the LORD? who among the sons of the mighty can be likened unto the LORD?

This passage is asking who can be compared to the Lord among those in heaven and who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to Him.

1. A on the greatness of the Lord and the importance of recognizing His supremacy.

2. A about the unmatchable power and might of God and the humility that comes with recognizing His greatness.

1. Isaiah 40:25 - To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One.

2. Isaiah 40:18 - To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

Psalms 89:7 God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him.

God's greatness and power should be respected and revered by all who are in his presence.

1. Fear God and Respect His Power

2. Be Awestruck by the Almighty

1. 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.

2. Exodus 3:1-6 - Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned. When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, Moses, Moses! And he said, Here I am. Then he said, Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.

Psalms 89:8 O LORD God of hosts, who is a strong LORD like unto thee? or to thy faithfulness round about thee?

This passage from Psalm 89 praises God for His strength and faithfulness.

1. God's Strength and Faithfulness in Difficult Times

2. The Unfailing Love of God

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 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."

Psalms 89:9 Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them.

God rules over the raging of the sea and is able to still the waves.

1. God is in Control in Our Storms

2. The Power of God Over Nature

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 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.

Psalms 89:10 Thou hast broken Rahab in pieces, as one that is slain; thou hast scattered thine enemies with thy strong arm.

God's power is strong enough to crush His enemies.

1: We must trust in God's power to protect us against our enemies.

2: We must recognize God's power and strength, and rely on Him to overcome our challenges.

1: Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2: Exodus 15:3-6 The Lord is a man of war; the Lord is his name. He has become my salvation; he has become my God, and I will praise him, my father s God, and I will exalt him.

Psalms 89:11 The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine: as for the world and the fulness thereof, thou hast founded them.

The Psalmist proclaims that the heavens, earth, and world belong to God, who created them.

1. God Is The Creator of All Things - Romans 1:20

2. All Things Are Made By Him - Colossians 1:16-17

1. Job 38:4-7

2. Jeremiah 10:12-13

Psalms 89:12 The north and the south thou hast created them: Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in thy name.

God has created the north and the south, and Tabor and Hermon will rejoice in his name.

1. God's Creation: Celebrating the North and South

2. Rejoicing in the Name of the Lord

1. Isaiah 43:1-7 - Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

2. Psalm 95:6-7 - Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

Psalms 89:13 Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand.

God has a mighty arm and a strong hand, and His right hand is high and powerful.

1. God's Strength: How to Lean on Him in Times of Need

2. The Power of Righteousness: Relying on God's Righteousness to Uphold Us

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. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength."

2. Ephesians 6:10 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might."

Psalms 89:14 Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face.

God's throne is a place of justice and fairness, and His actions are always guided by mercy and truth.

1. The Righteousness of God: How God's Justice and Mercy Intersect

2. The Reality of God's Presence: How to Receive God's Justice and Mercy

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. 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."

Psalms 89:15 Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance.

God blesses those who know the sound of joy and walk in the light of His presence.

1. Joyful Noise: Rejoicing in the Lord's Presence

2. Knowing the Joy: Walking in the Light of God

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 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.

Psalms 89:16 In thy name shall they rejoice all the day: and in thy righteousness shall they be exalted.

God's name brings joy and righteousness.

1. The Joy of God's Name

2. Righteousness Through God's Name

1. Psalms 89:16

2. Philippians 4:4 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Psalms 89:17 For thou art the glory of their strength: and in thy favour our horn shall be exalted.

God is the source of strength and glory.

1. Rely on God for Strength and Glory

2. God's Favour Exalts Us

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 8:37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

Psalms 89:18 For the LORD is our defence; and the Holy One of Israel is our king.

The LORD is a defense and the Holy One of Israel is our King.

1. Finding Strength in the LORD

2. Recognizing the Sovereignty of the Holy One of Israel

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. Daniel 4:34-35 - At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation.

Psalms 89:19 Then thou spakest in vision to thy holy one, and saidst, I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted one chosen out of the people.

God spoke in a vision to his holy one and promised to give help to the mighty and chosen people.

1. The Mighty and Chosen: God's Promises of Help

2. The Vision of God's Help: Relying on the Lord

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."

Psalms 89:20 I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him:

God anointed David to be His servant.

1. What does it mean to be anointed by God?

2. How can we serve God with the same faithfulness as David?

1. 2 Samuel 7:8-17

2. 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalms 89:21 With whom my hand shall be established: mine arm also shall strengthen him.

Psalms 89:21 tells us that the Lord will establish and strengthen those who seek Him.

1. God's Strength and Establishing Hand

2. Knowing the Lord's Strength and Provision

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. Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Psalms 89:22 The enemy shall not exact upon him; nor the son of wickedness afflict him.

God promises to protect the faithful from their enemies and from wickedness.

1. God's promise to protect us from the darkness.

2. The strength of faith in times of adversity.

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 - 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.

Psalms 89:23 And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague them that hate him.

God will defeat the enemies of those who trust in Him and punish those who hate Him.

1. Trust in the Lord and He will Defeat Your Enemies

2. God's Punishment of Those Who Hate Him

1. Exodus 15:3 - The Lord is a warrior, the Lord is His name.

2. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man's ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Psalms 89:24 But my faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted.

God's faithfulness and mercy will remain with us.

1: God is Always Faithful

2: God s Mercy Endures Forever

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: Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Psalms 89:25 I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers.

God will establish a strong and powerful leader over the sea and rivers.

1. "A Leader in the Sea and Rivers: The Power of God's Authority"

2. "The Strength of a Righteous Leader: Trust in God's Will"

1. Psalm 89:25

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."

Psalms 89:26 He shall cry unto me, Thou art my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.

Psalm 89 is a prayer of gratitude to God for guiding and protecting the writer. The writer acknowledges God as their father, protector, and source of salvation.

1. The Security of God's Protection - Exploring the assurance and peace that comes from knowing God is our protector and salvation.

2. Gratitude to God - Acknowledging the many blessings and gifts that God has given us.

1. Psalm 89 - For a deeper exploration of the psalmist's prayer of gratitude to God for His protection and salvation.

2. Ephesians 2:8-10 - For an understanding of the source of our salvation and God's grace in providing it.

Psalms 89:27 Also I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.

God will exalt His chosen one and make them higher than all earthly kings.

1. God's Favored One: God's blessing and favor is given to those He chooses.

2. God's Unfailing Love: God's love for His chosen ones is unshakeable.

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 3:23-24 - 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.

Psalms 89:28 My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him.

God's mercy and covenant will remain forever with his people.

1. The Unfailing Love and Covenant of God

2. God's Faithfulness to His People

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 13:20-21 - "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."

Psalms 89:29 His seed also will I make to endure for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven.

God promises that the seed of His chosen one will endure forever, and His throne will be as eternal as the days of Heaven.

1. The Eternal Nature of God s Promises

2. God s Throne and Our Place in His Kingdom

1. Isaiah 40:8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

2. Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.

Psalms 89:30 If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments;

God is displeased when his children disobey His commands.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Law

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - Love the Lord and obey His commands

2. Joshua 1:8 - Obey His commands and laws so that you may prosper.

Psalms 89:31 If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments;

God's laws are to be observed and respected.

1: God's law is a foundation for our lives.

2: The importance of following God's commandments.

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: 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.

Psalms 89:32 Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes.

The Psalmist declares that transgression and iniquity will be visited with punishment.

1: God's Punishment of Sin: Psalms 89:32

2: The Seriousness of Sin: Psalms 89:32

1: Proverbs 13:24 - Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.

2: Hebrews 12:5-11 - And have you 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. 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? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness.

Psalms 89:33 Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.

God's loving kindness and faithfulness will never be taken away from us.

1. God's Unfailing Love and Faithfulness

2. God's Unshakeable Commitment

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. 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.

Psalms 89:34 My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.

God's promises are faithful and unchangeable.

1. The Unchangeable Word of God - How God keeps His promises.

2. Steadfast Love - Understanding the faithfulness of God's covenant.

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

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? "

Psalms 89:35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David.

God has sworn to remain faithful to David and will not lie.

1. God's faithfulness: A lesson from Psalm 89

2. How can we learn to be faithful like 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. Psalm 36:5 - Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

Psalms 89:36 His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me.

Psalms 89:36 states that God's chosen people will remain in power forever, just as the sun is unchanging.

1: God's Blessings Endure Forever.

2: Unchanging Faith in an Ever-Changing World.

1: Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

2: Psalm 117:2 - For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. Praise ye the Lord.

Psalms 89:37 It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.

Psalms 89:37 speaks of the faithfulness of God in heaven and compares it to the moon, which is established forever.

1. The Faithfulness of God: A Study of Psalms 89:37

2. The Everlasting Nature of God's Promises: A Reflection on Psalms 89:37

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. Jeremiah 31:3 - The Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

Psalms 89:38 But thou hast cast off and abhorred, thou hast been wroth with thine anointed.

The Lord is displeased with His chosen one.

1. God's Love is Unconditional

2. The Lord's Patience is Endless

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 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.

Psalms 89:39 Thou hast made void the covenant of thy servant: thou hast profaned his crown by casting it to the ground.

God's covenant with his servant has been broken, dishonoring his crown.

1. The Unfaithfulness of Man and the Faithfulness of God

2. The Power of Covenant and What it Means for Us

1. 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.

2. Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Psalms 89:40 Thou hast broken down all his hedges; thou hast brought his strong holds to ruin.

God's power has caused the destruction of the enemy's strongholds.

1. God's power overcomes all obstacles

2. The strength of God is incomparable

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 103:19 - "The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all."

Psalms 89:41 All that pass by the way spoil him: he is a reproach to his neighbours.

The psalmist laments that all who pass by take away from him and he is a reproach to his neighbours.

1. The Perils of Life: Finding Strength in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Adversity: Learning to Cope with Rejection

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 12:14 - Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

Psalms 89:42 Thou hast set up the right hand of his adversaries; thou hast made all his enemies to rejoice.

God has set up the right hand of His adversaries and made His enemies rejoice.

1. The Blessing of Enemies: How God Is Using Our Adversaries For Good

2. The Power of Rejoicing: How God Can Transform Us Through Joy

1. Romans 12:18-21 - "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.

2. Ephesians 5:20 - Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 89:43 Thou hast also turned the edge of his sword, and hast not made him to stand in the battle.

God has taken away the strength and power of a man's sword, making him unable to fight in battle.

1. God is our Strength and our Protector

2. The Power of Prayer

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. Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Psalms 89:44 Thou hast made his glory to cease, and cast his throne down to the ground.

God's glory and power have been taken away, resulting in the downfall of a throne.

1. The Power of God: A Study of Psalms 89:44

2. The Transience of Human Glory: An Exposition of Psalms 89:44

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

2. Hebrews 13:8 - "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

Psalms 89:45 The days of his youth hast thou shortened: thou hast covered him with shame. Selah.

The passage speaks of how youth is short and how it brings shame.

1. Learn to cherish your youth, for it is fleeting.

2. Be mindful of how your actions may bring shame and dishonor.

1. Ecclesiastes 12:1 - 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. 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.

Psalms 89:46 How long, LORD? wilt thou hide thyself for ever? shall thy wrath burn like fire?

This passage from Psalms 89 speaks of the frustration of waiting for God to answer prayer.

1. The Power of Patience: Learning to Wait on God's Timing

2. The Nature of God's Love: Why His Wrath Burns Like Fire

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 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.

Psalms 89:47 Remember how short my time is: wherefore hast thou made all men in vain?

The Psalmist reflects on the shortness of life and questions why God has made all people if their lives are so fleeting.

1. "Making the Most of Our Time: Finding Meaning in Life"

2. "The Purpose of Life: Rediscovering Our Value in God's Eyes"

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-14

2. Psalm 90:12-17

Psalms 89:48 What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? Selah.

No one can escape death.

1. Living each day with gratitude and hope in the face of death

2. The power of God to deliver us from death

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. Isaiah 26:19 - Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise. You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For your dew is a dew of light, and the earth will give birth to the dead.

Psalms 89:49 Lord, where are thy former lovingkindnesses, which thou swarest unto David in thy truth?

This psalm speaks of God's faithfulness and lovingkindness towards David, and questions why these have not been evident in recent times.

1. The Faithfulness of God: How God's love for David endured, even through times of trouble.

2. The Power of Prayer: Relying on God's promises and trusting in His faithfulness.

1. Psalm 33:4, "For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does."

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."

Psalms 89:50 Remember, Lord, the reproach of thy servants; how I do bear in my bosom the reproach of all the mighty people;

This passage speaks of the reproach of God's servants and how they must bear it in their hearts.

1. Bearing Reproach with Grace: The Journey of a Servant of God

2. The Reproach of the Mighty and God's Provision

1. Romans 12:14-17 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.

2. 1 Peter 4:12-13 - Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ s sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

Psalms 89:51 Wherewith thine enemies have reproached, O LORD; wherewith they have reproached the footsteps of thine anointed.

God's anointed will be reproached and humiliated by enemies.

1: The trials of Christ: facing persecution for being anointed by God.

2: The courage of faith: standing firm in the face of opposition.

1: Isaiah 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

2: Hebrews 13:12-13 Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.

Psalms 89:52 Blessed be the LORD for evermore. Amen, and Amen.

Psalms 89 is a prayer of praise to God, thanking Him for His faithfulness and blessing.

1. The Power of Gratitude: Expressing Thanks to God

2. God's Unfailing Love: Acknowledging His Everlasting Faithfulness

1. Psalm 103:17 - But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him.

2. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Psalm 90 is a reflective psalm attributed to Moses that contemplates the eternal nature of God and the brevity of human life. It emphasizes the need for wisdom and humility in light of our mortality.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges God as their dwelling place throughout all generations. They reflect on God's eternal existence, contrasting it with the transient nature of humanity. They emphasize that God is not bound by time (Psalm 90:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on the frailty and brevity of human life. They describe how life passes quickly like a dream or grass that withers away. They acknowledge the consequences of sin and express their plea for God's mercy (Psalm 90:5-11).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist prays for divine wisdom and guidance. They recognize their own mortality and ask for understanding to live wisely in light of it. They express their hope in experiencing God's favor and seeing His work manifest among them (Psalm 90:12-17).

In summary,

Psalm ninety presents

a reflection on divine eternity,

and a contemplation on human transience,

highlighting acknowledgment of dwelling while emphasizing contrast between divine timelessness and human temporality.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through reflecting on eternal existence while acknowledging fleeting nature,

and emphasizing supplication achieved through recognizing consequences of sin while expressing plea for mercy.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing need for wisdom as response to mortality while affirming hope in divine favor.

Psalms 90:1 Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.

This passage reflects on God's faithfulness and protection over all generations.

1. The Unfailing Faithfulness of God

2. The Protection of God in All Generations

1. Lamentations 3:23 - "His mercies are new every morning"

2. Psalms 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalms 90:2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

God is eternal and everlasting.

1: We can trust God, our eternal and everlasting Creator.

2: There is no limit to God's power and presence.

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: Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Psalms 90:3 Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men.

The passage reflects on how God turns mortals to destruction, and asks them to return home.

1. God's mercy is ever-present, even when we have strayed from Him.

2. We must recognize our dependence on God and return to Him in repentance.

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. 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."

Psalms 90:4 For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

Time is fleeting and short-lived in the eyes of God.

1. "Time Is Fleeting: How to Make the Most of Your Time"

2. "God's Perspective: A Look at How God Sees Time"

1. Psalm 90:4

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven)

Psalms 90:5 Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up.

God is likened to a flood that carries away people like a dream in the night, and in the morning they are like grass that grows up.

1. God's power is like an unstoppable flood

2. How quickly life passes us by

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; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;"

2. Psalm 103:15-16 - "As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more."

Psalms 90:6 In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth.

We are reminded by this passage to make the most of our time and to live our lives to the fullest.

1. Make the Most of Your Time: Living Life to the Fullest

2. The Impermanence of Life: Making the Most of What We Have

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. James 4:13-17

Psalms 90:7 For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled.

We are troubled by the anger and wrath of God.

1. The Power of God's Anger and Wrath

2. Learning to Respect the Lord's Anger and Wrath

1. 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."

2. 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. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 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. So they are without excuse."

Psalms 90:8 Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

God is aware of every sin we commit, even those hidden in the darkness.

1. The Unseen Eyes of God - emphasizing God's all-seeing nature and His omniscience.

2. The Unavoidable Presence of God - emphasizing the fact that He is always present, even when we feel He is distant.

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. Job 34:21-22 - "For his eyes are on the ways of a man, and he sees all his steps. There is no gloom or deep darkness where evildoers may hide."

Psalms 90:9 For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told.

Our lives are fleeting and can be likened to a story that has already been told.

1. The Fleeting Nature of Our Lives - Psalms 90:9

2. Our Lives Are Short: Don't Waste It - Psalms 90:9

1. 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."

2. Isaiah 40:6 - "The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field."

Psalms 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.

Psalms 90:10 teaches us that our life on earth is temporary and fleeting, with most people living to be 70 or 80 years old at most.

1. "Living Life to the Fullest: Making the Most of Your Time and Treasure"

2. "The Transience of Life: Enjoying Life and Making a Difference in the Time You Have"

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven)

2. James 4:14 (For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away)

Psalms 90:11 Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath.

The power of God's anger is unfathomable and should be feared.

1. Fear the Lord: Understanding the Power of God's Anger

2. God's Wrath and Our Response

1. Psalm 90:11

2. Proverbs 16:6 - By the fear of the Lord one turns away from evil.

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

We should use our days wisely, and seek wisdom from God.

1. Make the Most of Your Time: Learning to Value Your Days

2. Applying Wisdom: Seeking Guidance from God

1. Colossians 4:5-6 - "Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man."

2. Proverbs 16:9 - "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps."

Psalms 90:13 Return, O LORD, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants.

The Psalmist pleads for the Lord to return and show mercy to his servants.

1. Mercy of the Lord: The Psalmist's Call for Repentance

2. Unfailing Love: The Psalmist's Invitation for the Lord to Return

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. Jeremiah 31:18-20 - I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself thus; Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised, as a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke: turn thou me, and I shall be turned; for thou art the LORD my God. Surely after that I was turned, I repented; and after that I was instructed, I smote upon my thigh: I was ashamed, yea, even confounded, because I did bear the reproach of my youth. 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.

Psalms 90:14 O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

The psalmist requests God to fulfill His promises of mercy early so that they may be filled with joy all the days of their lives.

1. The Power of Joy: How Relying on God's Mercy Brings Joy to Life

2. Early Mercy: Rejoicing in God's Grace

1. Psalm 30:5 - "For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning."

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."

Psalms 90:15 Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil.

God is asking us to rejoice during our times of affliction and hardship.

1: When life gets tough, rejoice in the Lord always.

2: Rejoice in the Lord despite the trials and tribulations of life.

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."

Psalms 90:16 Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children.

God's work should be seen by us and our children.

1: God's Glory Should be Seen by Us and Our Children

2: How Our Work Reflects God's Work

1: Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord; not unto men.

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.

Psalms 90:17 And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

The psalmist prays for the Lord's beauty to be upon them and for the work of their hands to be established.

1. Seeing the Beauty of God in Everyday Life

2. Establishing the Work of Our Hands

1. Isaiah 64:8, But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:31, So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Psalm 91 is a psalm that exalts the protection and faithfulness of God. It offers comfort and assurance to those who trust in Him, emphasizing the security and refuge found in His presence.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by declaring that those who dwell in the shelter of the Most High and abide under His shadow will find security. They describe God as their refuge, fortress, and deliverer (Psalm 91:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist highlights God's protection from various dangers. They depict God as a shield against pestilence, terror, arrows, and darkness. They affirm that no harm or disaster can befall those who trust in Him (Psalm 91:5-10).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist describes how God sends His angels to guard and protect His people. They emphasize that believers will tread upon lions, serpents, and other threats without harm. They express God's promise of deliverance for those who love Him (Psalm 91:11-16).

In summary,

Psalm ninety-one presents

an exaltation of divine protection,

and an affirmation of security,

highlighting description of dwelling while emphasizing assurance of safety in divine presence.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through declaring divine attributes while affirming refuge,

and emphasizing affirmation achieved through highlighting divine shielding while expressing confidence.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing angelic guardianship as source of deliverance while affirming promise for those who love God.

Psalms 91:1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

The Psalm encourages us to find refuge and safety in God, the Most High.

1. Finding Refuge Within the Lord

2. The Protection of the Almighty

1. Isaiah 25:4 - "For You have been a stronghold to the poor, A stronghold to the needy in his distress, A refuge from the storm, a shade from the heat; For the breath of the ruthless Is like a storm against a wall."

2. Psalm 62:7 - "My salvation and my honor depend on God; He is my mighty rock, my refuge."

Psalms 91:2 I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

God is our refuge and rock of security.

1. The Strength Of God s Protection

2. Trusting In The Lord

1. Psalm 91:2

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.

Psalms 91:3 Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

The Lord will protect us from any danger or harm.

1. God is our protector, and He will always deliver us from evil.

2. We can trust in the Lord's protection and rest in His care.

1. Psalms 91:3 - Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon 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.

Psalms 91:4 He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

God's protection is a refuge for the faithful.

1. The Safety of God's Shield: Relying on God's Protection

2. Truth as a Shield: The Power of God's Word

1. 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.

2. Proverbs 30:5 - Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

Psalms 91:5 Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

God will protect us from any danger in both the day and the night.

1. God will protect us from fearful and uncertain times.

2. God will be our guardian and shield in times 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 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

Psalms 91:6 Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

The Psalm speaks of God's protection from pestilence and destruction.

1. God's Protection in Times of Trouble

2. Trusting in God in an Uncertain World

1. Psalm 91:6

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."

Psalms 91:7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

This passage is a reminder that God will protect those who put their trust in Him, no matter the odds.

1. "The Power of God's Protection"

2. "God's Promise of 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 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Psalms 91:8 Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

This verse from Psalms 91:8 encourages us to observe the consequences of wickedness with our eyes so that we can see the rewards that come from it.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness: What We Can Learn from Psalms 91:8

2. The Rewards of Righteousness: What We See through God's Eyes

1. Psalms 91:8

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

Psalms 91:9 Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;

God is our refuge and protector.

1. God is our protector in times of trouble

2. Trust in the Lord to guard us from evil

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.

Psalms 91:10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

God promises His protection from evil and plague to those who dwell in His shelter.

1. God's Promise of Protection from Evil and Plague

2. Finding Safety in the Shelter of the Lord

1. Psalms 91:10

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.

Psalms 91:11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

God has promised to protect us and send his angels to watch over us.

1. God's protection and love for us

2. The power of angels in our lives

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

2. Hebrews 1:14 - Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

Psalms 91:12 They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Psalms 91:12 encourages us to trust in God, who will protect us from harm and danger.

1. "He Holds Us Up: How to Rely on God's Protection"

2. "The Stone That Cannot Trip Us: Psalms 91:12"

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches us not to be anxious for our lives, but to trust in God.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - God promises to guide us and provide for us if we trust in him.

Psalms 91:13 Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

God will protect us from any danger, no matter how powerful it may be.

1. "Have Courage and Faith: God Will Protect You"

2. "The Power of Faith: How God Can Overcome Any Adversity"

1. Romans 8:31-39 - "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."

Psalms 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.

He who has set his love upon the Lord will be delivered and set on high.

1. God's Love, Our Protection - How the Lord's love for us can lead to deliverance and a life of joy.

2. Knowing God's Name - How getting to know God's name can lead to a life of safety and blessings.

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

2. Psalm 34:8 - Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.

Psalms 91:15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

God is an ever-present help in times of trouble.

1. God is always with us in times of trouble - Psalms 91:15

2. Seek God in times of difficulty and He will be faithful to answer - Psalms 91:15

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 8:38-39 - 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.

Psalms 91:16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

God promises to give a long life if one puts their trust in Him and He will show them salvation.

1. God offers a long life when you put your faith in Him

2. Rely on God and He will show you the way to salvation

1. Psalms 91:16

2. Romans 10:9-10 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. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Psalm 92 is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving that celebrates the goodness and faithfulness of God. It emphasizes the joy and righteousness of those who trust in Him and highlights the contrast between the righteous and the wicked.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by expressing gratitude for God's steadfast love and faithfulness. They proclaim their joy in praising God, especially through music. They acknowledge that God's works are great, bringing them delight (Psalm 92:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist contrasts the fate of the righteous with that of the wicked. They describe how God brings destruction to His enemies while exalting those who trust in Him. They emphasize that the righteous will flourish like palm trees and grow strong like cedars (Psalm 92:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges that even in old age, the righteous will bear fruit and remain fresh, proclaiming God's righteousness. They affirm His faithfulness as their rock and declare His justice (Psalm 92:12-15).

In summary,

Psalm ninety-two presents

a celebration of divine goodness,

and an affirmation of joy,

highlighting expression of gratitude while emphasizing contrast between righteous and wicked.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through praising divine love while affirming delight,

and emphasizing affirmation achieved through contrasting divine judgment while expressing confidence.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing flourishing as result of trust in God while affirming declaration of divine righteousness.

Psalms 92:1 It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High:

Giving thanks and singing praises to God is a good thing.

1. How Giving Thanks and Praising God Will Transform Your Life

2. The Power of Gratitude and Worship to Strengthen Your Faith

1. Colossians 3:16-17 - 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. Psalm 100 - Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

Psalms 92:2 To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night,

Psalm 92:2 urges us to show God's lovingkindness and faithfulness at all times.

1. Living a Life of Faithfulness and Love.

2. The Blessings of Being Faithful to God.

1. Psalm 92:2

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."

Psalms 92:3 Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound.

The Psalmist expresses his joy in music, playing on instruments of ten strings, the psaltery and harp.

1. Finding Joy in Music: How Can We Worship God Through Song?

2. The Power of Praise: How Can We Lift Up Our Hearts to God?

1. Psalm 150:1-6

2. Colossians 3:16-17

Psalms 92:4 For thou, LORD, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands.

God's works bring joy and triumph.

1: Celebrating the Joy of God's Works

2: Rejoicing in the Triumph of God's Hands

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: Philippians 2:13 - "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."

Psalms 92:5 O LORD, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep.

This passage from Psalms praises the Lord for His great works and deep thoughts.

1. The Lord's Great Works: How the Lord's mighty deeds demonstrate His immense power and love for us.

2. The Depths of God's Thoughts: How the Lord's intellect is far beyond our own and how we should honor and respect His wisdom.

1. Psalms 33:11 - "The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations."

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."

Psalms 92:6 A brutish man knoweth not; neither doth a fool understand this.

The foolish man does not understand the Lord's ways.

1: The Wisdom of the Lord - Proverbs 3:19

2: The Danger of Ignorance - Proverbs 14:18

1: Psalm 111:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

2: Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Psalms 92:7 When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity do flourish; it is that they shall be destroyed for ever:

The wicked will be destroyed while the righteous will flourish.

1. God's judgment is certain and swift for those who do evil.

2. Do not be misled - goodness and righteousness are rewarded, while wickedness and iniquity are punished.

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. 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.

Psalms 92:8 But thou, LORD, art most high for evermore.

Psalms 92 celebrates the greatness of the Lord, emphasizing that He is exalted above all else forever.

1. The Lord is Supreme: How to Live with God at the Center of Our Lives

2. Rejoice in the Exalted Lord: Finding Joy through Living a Life of Worship

1. Isaiah 5:15-16: And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. And the idols he shall utterly abolish.

2. Exodus 15:1-2: 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. 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.

Psalms 92:9 For, lo, thine enemies, O LORD, for, lo, thine enemies shall perish; all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.

The LORD's enemies will be destroyed, and all who do evil will be scattered.

1. God's justice will come to those who do wrong

2. We must trust in the LORD and His power to protect us

1. Psalm 37:7-9 - "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! 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. Psalm 9:17 - "The wicked shall return to Sheol, all the nations that forget God."

Psalms 92:10 But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.

God will exalt the righteous and bless them with fresh oil.

1: God will reward the righteous who trust in him with a renewal of strength and joy.

2: God will lift us up when we put our faith in him and provide us with the energy and resources to thrive.

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.

Psalms 92:11 Mine eye also shall see my desire on mine enemies, and mine ears shall hear my desire of the wicked that rise up against me.

My desire will be fulfilled against my enemies.

1: We must have faith that our desires will be fulfilled in the Lord.

2: We must not rely on ourselves to take revenge against our enemies, but have faith that God will bring justice.

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 37:4- Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Psalms 92:12 The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

The righteous will find success and growth like that of the palm tree and the cedar of Lebanon.

1. The Growth of the Righteous: Finding Success in Faith

2. Flourishing Like a Tree: Nurturing a Life of Righteousness

1. 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."

2. Proverbs 11:28 - "He that trusteth in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch."

Psalms 92:13 Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.

The planted in the house of the Lord will be blessed.

1. The Blessedness of Planting Ourselves in the House of the Lord

2. Flourishing in the Courts of Our 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. Psalm 84:10-12 - For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness. 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.

Psalms 92:14 They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;

The righteous will remain fruitful in their old age.

1. The Power of Righteous Living in Times of Adversity

2. Aging Gracefully Through Righteous Living

1. Proverbs 16:31 - "Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life."

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."

Psalms 92:15 To shew that the LORD is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

The LORD is righteous and just; He is our rock and there is no trace of wrong in Him.

1. We can trust in the unchanging character of God

2. Our hope is in the Lord who is righteous and just

1. Isaiah 26:4 - Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength

2. Psalm 62:6 - He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be moved.

Psalm 93 is a short psalm that exalts the sovereignty and majesty of God. It emphasizes His eternal reign and power over creation, instilling a sense of awe and trust in His steadfastness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares that God reigns as King, clothed in splendor and strength. They affirm that the world is established firmly and cannot be moved. They highlight God's eternal existence (Psalm 93:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist describes how the floods and tumultuous waters lift up their voice, symbolizing the power of nature. They emphasize that God is mightier than the roaring seas, displaying His authority over creation (Psalm 93:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist concludes by affirming the faithfulness of God's testimonies, highlighting His holiness as a characteristic of His house forever (Psalm 93:5).

In summary,

Psalm ninety-three presents

an exaltation of divine sovereignty,

and an affirmation of steadfastness,

highlighting declaration of kingship while emphasizing stability in divine rule.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through proclaiming divine splendor while affirming establishment,

and emphasizing affirmation achieved through recognizing divine authority while expressing confidence.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing power over nature as demonstration of divine might while affirming faithfulness to divine testimonies.

Psalms 93:1 The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, wherewith he hath girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved.

The Lord is powerful and reigns supreme over the world.

1. God's Power and Majesty - Proclaiming the Victory of Almighty God

2. Unshakable Faith - How We Can Rely on the Unwavering Strength of the Lord

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.

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.

Psalms 93:2 Thy throne is established of old: thou art from everlasting.

The Lord's throne is firmly established and He is eternal.

1. "The Lord Is Eternal: Standing Firm in Times of Change"

2. "God's Unchanging Throne: Steadfast Faith in an Ever-Changing World"

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. Hebrews 13:8 - "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

Psalms 93:3 The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their waves.

The Lord's power and strength is demonstrated through the lifting of the floods.

1. The Power of God: A Study of Psalm 93

2. The Voice of the Floods: A Study of God s Sovereignty

1. Job 38:8-11 Who shut in the sea with doors when it burst forth from the womb, when I made the clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, and said, Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed ?

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.

Psalms 93:4 The LORD on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, yea, than the mighty waves of the sea.

The Lord is mightier than any force of nature.

1. The Lord Is Mighty: Being Secure in the Strength of God

2. Surpassing Strength: Experiencing the Power of the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. 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?

Psalms 93:5 Thy testimonies are very sure: holiness becometh thine house, O LORD, for ever.

The testimonies of the Lord are sure and his house is a house of holiness forever.

1. The Holiness of God: How to Remain Holy in His Presence

2. The Reassurance of God's Word: Why We Can Trust His Promises

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 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.

Psalm 94 is a psalm that addresses the issue of injustice and the cry for divine intervention. It expresses the psalmist's plea for God to bring justice to the wicked and comfort to the righteous.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon God, who is described as a God of vengeance, to rise up and judge the proud and wicked. They express their frustration over the oppression of the righteous by evildoers (Psalm 94:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges that God is aware of human thoughts and actions, including those of the wicked. They question whether those who inflict harm on others can escape divine judgment (Psalm 94:8-11).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist finds solace in knowing that God disciplines those He loves, teaching them His ways. They express their trust in God's faithfulness as their refuge and stronghold amidst affliction (Psalm 94:12-15).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist appeals for divine intervention against those who oppose justice and pervert it. They long for God to rise up as their defense, assuring them that He will repay evildoers according to their deeds (Psalm 94:16-23).

In summary,

Psalm ninety-four presents

a plea for divine justice,

and an affirmation of trust,

highlighting invocation achieved through calling on divine vengeance while emphasizing frustration over oppression.

Emphasizing supplication achieved through questioning divine awareness while expressing doubt about escape from judgment,

and emphasizing affirmation achieved through recognizing discipline as act of love while affirming trust in divine faithfulness.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing perversion of justice as source of appeal while affirming assurance in divine retribution.

Psalms 94:1 O Lord God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O God, to whom vengeance belongeth, shew thyself.

God is just and will bring justice to those who oppose His will.

1: We can trust in God to bring justice and vindication in our lives.

2: We can rely on God's power and strength to bring justice and victory 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: 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."

Psalms 94:2 Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud.

God calls us to be righteous judges who render rewards to those who are proud.

1. Serving God through Righteous Judgement

2. The Rewards of Pride

1. Proverbs 24:23-25 - These verses discuss how to act with righteous judgement.

2. Romans 12:19-20 - These verses discuss the rewards of leaving vengeance to God.

Psalms 94:3 LORD, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph?

The Psalmist questions God about how long the wicked can be successful.

1. The Sufferings of the Righteous: Why God Allows Wickedness to Thrive

2. The Hope of the Righteous: Trusting God in Difficult Times

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 the Lord takes pleasure in anyone s way, he causes their enemies to make peace with them.

Psalms 94:4 How long shall they utter and speak hard things? and all the workers of iniquity boast themselves?

The psalmist questions how long people will continue to speak harshly and boast about their evil deeds.

1. The Power of Our Words - Proverbs 18:21

2. The Danger of Boasting - Proverbs 25:14

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. James 4:16 - As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.

Psalms 94:5 They break in pieces thy people, O LORD, and afflict thine heritage.

The Lord's people have been broken and afflicted.

1. God's Faithful Remnant - Considering the example of the Lord's faithful remnant and how we can remain faithful to Him.

2. The Lord's Comfort in Troubled Times - Looking to the Lord in times of trouble and finding solace in His comfort.

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. 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."

Psalms 94:6 They slay the widow and the stranger, and murder the fatherless.

The psalmist condemns the unjust killing of widows, strangers, and fatherless people.

1. "The Unjust Killing of the Vulnerable"

2. "Justice for the Oppressed"

1. Proverbs 21:3 - "To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice."

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."

Psalms 94:7 Yet they say, The LORD shall not see, neither shall the God of Jacob regard it.

The psalmist bemoans those who deny the Lord's power and knowledge.

1. God is All-Seeing and All-Knowing

2. Don't Question the Lord's Sovereignty

1. Psalm 139:1-4 - O Lord, you have searched me and known me!

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

Psalms 94:8 Understand, ye brutish among the people: and ye fools, when will ye be wise?

The psalmist encourages the people to gain wisdom and understanding.

1. The Need for Wisdom How to Discern Right from Wrong

2. A Fool's Heart The Danger of Not Seeking Understanding

1. Proverbs 3:5-7 "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. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil."

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."

Psalms 94:9 He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? he that formed the eye, shall he not see?

This psalm speaks to the sovereignty of God, questioning how He can create the ear and eye and not hear and see.

1. God is Omniscient and Omnipresent - Psalms 94:9

2. Faith in God's Sovereignty and Providence - Psalms 94:9

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.

2. Job 32:8- But there is a spirit in man, and the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding.

Psalms 94:10 He that chastiseth the heathen, shall not he correct? he that teacheth man knowledge, shall not he know?

God knows all and will discipline those who go astray.

1: We must have faith in God, for He will always be there to guide us and keep us on the righteous path.

2: We must remain humble before God, for He has the power to both instruct and chastise 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: Hebrews 12:5-6 - And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, My son, do not make light of the Lord s discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.

Psalms 94:11 The LORD knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity.

The Lord knows the thoughts of man and that they are vain.

1. "Living in the Light of God's Omniscience"

2. "Being Mindful of Our Thoughts in the Presence of God"

1. Romans 8:27 - And he who searches our hearts knows 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 lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Psalms 94:12 Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law;

God rewards those who follow His law.

1: Faithfulness Rewarded - Following God s Law Brings Blessing

2: God's Discipline - Embracing God's Discipline Leads to Blessing

1: Galatians 6:7-9 - 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.

2: Hebrews 12:11 - For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Psalms 94:13 That thou mayest give him rest from the days of adversity, until the pit be digged for the wicked.

God will give rest from adversity to those who are righteous, while the wicked will face punishment.

1. God's justice: The reward for righteousness and the consequences for wickedness.

2. Rest in the Lord during times of adversity.

1. Isaiah 3:10-11 Say to the righteous that it shall be well with them, for they shall eat the fruit of their deeds. Woe to the wicked! It shall be ill with him, for what his hands have dealt out shall be done to him.

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.

Psalms 94:14 For the LORD will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his inheritance.

God will not abandon His people.

1. God's Faithfulness: Relying on God's Unchanging Character

2. The Comfort of Knowing God's Unfailing Love

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.

Psalms 94:15 But judgment shall return unto righteousness: and all the upright in heart shall follow it.

Judgment is the path that all those who are righteous in heart will follow.

1. The Power of Righteous Judgment - how to make good decisions for the betterment of ourselves and those around us.

2. The Walk of Righteousness - a call to live a life of integrity and justice.

1. Matthew 5:45 - "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. 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."

Psalms 94:16 Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? or who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?

This passage is asking who will stand up against evil and wickedness.

1. The Power of Standing Up for What is Right

2. Staying Strong in the Face of Evil

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - The Armor of God

2. James 4:7 - Submit to God and Resist the Devil

Psalms 94:17 Unless the LORD had been my help, my soul had almost dwelt in silence.

God has been a great help and support to the soul of the psalmist.

1. The Lord is Our Help in Times of Need

2. Finding Strength in God's Everlasting Love

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.

Psalms 94:18 When I said, My foot slippeth; thy mercy, O LORD, held me up.

When times were difficult and it seemed like there was no hope for success, the Lord's mercy supported and uplifted the psalmist.

1. God's Mercy is Always Available

2. The Power of God's Mercy

1. Lamentations 3:22-24 - "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."

Psalms 94:19 In the multitude of my thoughts within me thy comforts delight my soul.

The Lord brings comfort to our soul amidst our thoughts.

1: We can find peace in the Lord when we are overwhelmed with our thoughts.

2: The Lord can bring comfort and joy to us when we are struggling in our thoughts.

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: 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."

Psalms 94:20 Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief by a law?

The Psalmist questions whether God can have fellowship with people who create laws that bring about injustices.

1. God's Justice and Our Role in Upholding It

2. How To Live Righteously in a World of Injustice

1. Isaiah 61:8 - "For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and injustice. In my faithfulness I will reward them and make an everlasting covenant with them."

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."

Psalms 94:21 They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous, and condemn the innocent blood.

People come together to unjustly condemn the innocent.

1. Do Not Act In Unrighteousness

2. Be A Voice For The Innocent

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

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?

Psalms 94:22 But the LORD is my defence; and my God is the rock of my refuge.

God is a refuge for those who turn to Him and seek His protection.

1. "The Rock of Our Refuge: Trusting God in Times of Trouble"

2. "The LORD is Our Defence: Finding Strength and Comfort in God"

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 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."

Psalms 94:23 And he shall bring upon them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; yea, the LORD our God shall cut them off.

He shall punish those who do wrong and cut them off from the righteous.

1: God will punish those who do wrong and separate them from the righteous.

2: We must be righteous in God's eyes, so that we will not be punished and cut off.

1: Psalms 16:11 - You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

2: Proverbs 11:20 - Those of crooked heart are an abomination to the Lord, but those of blameless ways are his delight.

Psalm 95 is a psalm of praise and worship that calls upon the people to exalt and bow down before God. It emphasizes the greatness of God, His role as the Creator, and the importance of obedience and trust in Him.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist invites the people to come before God with joyful songs and shouts of praise. They acknowledge God as the great King above all gods, emphasizing His power and authority (Psalm 95:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reminds the people of God's role as their Creator, describing Him as the Maker of the earth and sea. They emphasize that He holds everything in His hands (Psalm 95:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist warns against hardening one's heart like their ancestors did in the wilderness. They recount how those who rebelled against God were unable to enter His rest due to their unbelief (Psalm 95:6-11).

In summary,

Psalm ninety-five presents

an invitation to praise,

and a reminder of obedience,

highlighting invitation achieved through calling for joyful worship while emphasizing recognition of divine kingship.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through acknowledging divine creation while affirming sovereignty,

and emphasizing warning achieved through recounting historical disobedience while expressing consequences.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing importance of worshipful obedience while affirming need for faithfulness.

Psalms 95:1 O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Come worship the Lord with joy and praise.

1. Joyful Praise to the Lord Our Salvation

2. Let Us Sing to the LORD: Our Rock and Redeemer

1. Isaiah 12:2 "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation."

2. Romans 10:9-10 "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. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Psalms 95:2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

We should approach God with thanksgiving and praise.

1. Thanking God for His Blessings

2. Rejoicing in God's Presence

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 150:6 - Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!

Psalms 95:3 For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Psalm 95 praises the greatness of the Lord, declaring Him a great God and King above all other gods.

1. The Unfathomable Greatness of Our God

2. Our King Above All Others

1. Isaiah 40:18 To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare with Him?

2. Daniel 4:34-37 At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding 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 is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, "What have You done?"

Psalms 95:4 In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also.

God has control over the depths of the earth and the strength of the hills.

1. God has power over all of creation

2. God is the ultimate source of strength

1. Isaiah 40:12-14, Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?

2. Psalm 89:11, The heavens are yours; the earth also is yours; the world and all that is in it, you have founded them.

Psalms 95:5 The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land.

God is the creator of the sea and the dry land.

1. Nurturing our Faith in God as the Creator of Everything

2. Being Grateful for the Beauty of God's Creation

1. Genesis 1:1-31 - Creation of Heaven and Earth

2. 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.

Psalms 95:6 O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

We are called to worship and bow down before the Lord our Maker.

1. The Call to Worship: Understanding the Meaning of Psalms 95:6

2. The Power of Worship: Living a Life of Commitment to God

1. 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?"

2. 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.

Psalms 95:7 For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To day if ye will hear his voice,

We should listen to God's voice today and obey Him.

1. Obey God's Voice Today

2. Seek God's Guidance in Every Step

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live"

2. 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"

Psalms 95:8 Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

Do not be stubborn and rebellious like the Israelites were in the wilderness.

1. The Danger of a Hard Heart

2. The Blessings of Obedience

1. Isaiah 48:4 - "Because I knew that thou art obstinate, and thy neck is an iron sinew, and thy brow brass;"

2. Proverbs 28:14 - "Happy is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief."

Psalms 95:9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work.

God's people tested and saw His work.

1: We must put our faith in God, even when life tests us.

2: God will always show us His work, if we have faith.

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."

Psalms 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:

God expressed his grief over the people of the generation for forty years, as they had strayed from His ways.

1. The Lord's Grief: Learning to Hear His Voice

2. Moving from Strife to Love: Lessons from Psalm 95

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

Psalms 95:11 Unto whom I sware in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest.

God's people were warned not to enter into His rest due to their rebelliousness.

1. "God's Promise of Rest: A Warning to Heed"

2. "God's Wrath and the Consequences of Disobedience"

1. Psalm 95:11

2. Hebrews 3:7-11, 18-19; 4:1-14

Psalm 96 is a psalm that calls upon all nations to worship and praise God. It emphasizes His glory, power, and righteousness, inviting people to acknowledge Him as the true God and proclaim His salvation.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist exhorts the nations to sing a new song to God, declaring His glory among them. They call for the proclamation of His marvelous deeds and the recognition of His greatness (Psalm 96:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist emphasizes that God is worthy of worship and honor. They urge the people to bring offerings and come into His courts with reverence. They highlight God's splendor, strength, and majesty (Psalm 96:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist declares that all gods of the nations are idols but affirms that it is the Lord who made heaven and earth. They exhort creation to rejoice before Him because He is coming to judge with righteousness (Psalm 96:7-13).

In summary,

Psalm ninety-six presents

a call for universal worship,

and an affirmation of divine sovereignty,

highlighting exhortation achieved through calling for new song while emphasizing declaration of divine glory.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through urging reverence while affirming recognition of divine splendor,

and emphasizing affirmation achieved through contrasting false gods with true Creator while expressing anticipation.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing universal call for worship while affirming expectation of righteous judgment.

Psalms 96:1 O sing unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth.

Sing praise to the Lord with a new song.

1. The Joy of Singing a New Song to the Lord

2. The Call to All People to Sing Praises to the Lord

1. Isaiah 42:10 - Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise from the ends of the earth, you who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, you islands, and all who live in them.

2. Revelation 5:9 - And they sang a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation.

Psalms 96:2 Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day.

This psalm is a call to praise the Lord and to show forth His deliverance every day.

1. Praise the Lord - Show Forth His Salvation: A call to daily worship and gratitude.

2. Living the Praise Life: Learning to live a life of gratitude and thanksgiving to the Lord.

1. Psalm 95:1-2 - O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. 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 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.

Psalms 96:3 Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.

The Psalmist encourages the people to share God's glory and wonders with the nations.

1. The Power of Testimony - Recognizing God's Miracles in Our Lives

2. Sharing God's Love - Spreading the Knowledge of His Miracles Globally

1. Romans 10:14-15 - How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent?

2. Isaiah 43:10-12 - 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. I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior. I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses, declares the Lord.

Psalms 96:4 For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods.

The LORD is great and should be praised and feared above all gods.

1. The Greatness of the LORD - Exploring the power, majesty, and greatness of the Lord

2. Fear of the LORD - Examining why it is wise to fear the Lord above all gods

1. Psalm 96:4 - For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods

2. Daniel 6:26 - I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.

Psalms 96:5 For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the LORD made the heavens.

The Psalmist declares that all other gods are false, and that the Lord is the one who made the heavens.

1. "The Power of the Lord: Understanding the Sovereignty of God"

2. "The Vanity of False Gods: Seeing the Futility of Idolatry"

1. Isaiah 40:18-20 (To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him?)

2. Romans 1:21-25 (For although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.)

Psalms 96:6 Honour and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

God is majestic and powerful, and his presence is full of strength and beauty.

1. The Majesty of God - exploring the beauty and power of His presence.

2. Strength in the Sanctuary - reflecting on the power of gathering together.

1. Psalm 29:2 - Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

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.

Psalms 96:7 Give unto the LORD, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength.

All people should give glory and strength to the Lord.

1: We should always give glory and strength to God in all aspects of our lives.

2: We are all called to give glory and strength to the Lord, no matter our background.

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: 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.

Psalms 96:8 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord and bring offerings to his courts.

1: We must give glory to the Lord and honor Him with our offerings.

2: We are called to bring offerings to the courts of God and to praise Him with all our might.

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.

Psalms 96:9 O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.

Worship God and reverence Him with sacredness and reverence.

1. "A Heart of Worship: Revering God with Holiness"

2. "Fear of the Lord: A Sacred Response to God's Majesty"

1. Isaiah 6:1-3

2. John 4:23-24

Psalms 96:10 Say among the heathen that the LORD reigneth: the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: he shall judge the people righteously.

The Lord reigns over all nations, and He will establish justice and righteousness in the world.

1: God reigns over all nations and calls us to worship Him.

2: God establishes justice and righteousness in the world and we must trust in Him.

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: Isaiah 2:2-4 - "In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it. Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore."

Psalms 96:11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof.

The heavens, earth, and sea are all called to rejoice and be glad.

1. Rejoice in the Wonders of Creation

2. The Joy of the Lord is Our Strength

1. Genesis 1:1-2 - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

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 song; He has become my salvation.

Psalms 96:12 Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice

The earth is to be praised and celebrated, and in turn its inhabitants will rejoice.

1: Rejoice in the Lord, and Celebrate the Earth He Has Created

2: Praise the Lord for His Creation and Let It Fill You with Joy

1: Psalm 148:7-10 - "Praise the LORD from the earth, ye dragons, and all deeps: Fire, and hail; snow, and vapour; stormy wind fulfilling his word: Mountains, and all hills; fruitful trees, and all cedars: Beasts, and all cattle; creeping things, and flying fowl: Kings of the earth, and all people; princes, and all judges of the earth."

2: Genesis 1:1-31 - "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 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. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day."

Psalms 96:13 Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.

The Psalmist reminds us that God is coming to judge the earth with righteousness and truth.

1. The Day of the Lord: Living Righteously Before God

2. God's Judgment: Living in Truth Before God

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. Romans 14:12 - "So then each of us will give an account of himself to God."

Psalm 97 is a psalm that exalts the reign and power of God. It emphasizes His righteousness, sovereignty, and the response of creation to His glory.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist proclaims that God reigns as King and expresses joy over His dominion. They describe how righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne, with fire going before Him to consume His enemies (Psalm 97:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist highlights the awe-inspiring presence of God. They depict how mountains melt like wax before Him, emphasizing His supremacy over all creation (Psalm 97:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist affirms that those who love the Lord hate evil and are protected by Him. They encourage the righteous to rejoice in God's faithfulness and praise His holy name (Psalm 97:10-12).

In summary,

Psalm ninety-seven presents

an exaltation of divine reign,

and an affirmation of righteousness,

highlighting declaration achieved through proclaiming divine dominion while emphasizing recognition of divine justice.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through describing awe-inspiring presence while affirming acknowledgement of divine supremacy,

and emphasizing affirmation achieved through contrasting love for God with hatred for evil while expressing rejoicing in divine faithfulness.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine protection for righteous while affirming call to praise.

Psalms 97:1 The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof.

The Lord is in control of all things and the earth should be filled with joy.

1. The Joy of Knowing God is in Control

2. Rejoicing in the Sovereignty of the Lord

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. 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.

Psalms 97:2 Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne.

God is surrounded by darkness and clouds, His throne is upheld by righteousness and justice.

1. The Lord's Righteousness: Upholding His Throne

2. Living in the Light of God's Justice

1. Psalm 89:14 - Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne;

2. Isaiah 9:7 - Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice.

Psalms 97:3 A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about.

A fire goes before God, burning up His enemies.

1. The Power of God's Presence: A Fire that Burns Up Enemies

2. The Purifying Fire of the Lord: Refining and Destroying

1. Hebrews 12:29 - For our God is a consuming fire.

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.

Psalms 97:4 His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled.

The world was enlightened by God's lightnings, and the earth trembled in awe.

1. God's power should inspire us to live in awe and reverence.

2. We should never forget the power and might of God.

1. Isaiah 6:1-5 - 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. 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.

Psalms 97:5 The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

The presence of the Lord brings power and awe to all Creation.

1. The Power of the Lord: How God Brings Strength and Might to All

2. The Majesty of the Lord: How God's Presence Inspires Awe and Wonder

1. Isaiah 64:1 - Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence.

2. Revelation 1:17 - And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, Fear not, for I am the first and the last.

Psalms 97:6 The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.

The heavens proclaim God's righteousness and all people can observe his glory.

1: We should look to the heavens to see the glory of God and to remind us of His righteousness.

2: All people should be able to recognize God's glory in the heavens and His righteousness on Earth.

1: 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 has spoken.

2: 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. So they are without excuse.

Psalms 97:7 Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all ye gods.

All those who worship false idols and boast of them will be put to shame, so let us instead worship the one and only God.

1. Rejecting False Idols: Worship the One True God

2. The Danger and Shame 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 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.

Psalms 97:8 Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O LORD.

The joy of Zion and the daughters of Judah is due to God's judgments.

1. The Joy of Knowing God's Judgments

2. Rejoicing in God's Righteous Judgments

1. Isaiah 12:6 - "Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee."

2. Psalm 33:5 - "He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD."

Psalms 97:9 For thou, LORD, art high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods.

The LORD is higher than all the earth and exalted far above all gods.

1. The Majesty of the Lord - Exploring the greatness of God and His place in our lives.

2. Our Response to the Lord - Recognizing the holiness and majesty of God and living in accordance with His will.

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. Colossians 2:9-10 - For in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in Him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

Psalms 97:10 Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.

God's love for His saints is evidenced by His preservation of them and their deliverance from the wicked.

1. Love the Lord and Hate Evil

2. God's Protection of His Saints

1. Romans 12:9 - Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

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.

Psalms 97:11 Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart.

Light and gladness are given to those who are righteous and have an upright heart.

1. Rejecting Sin to Reap Rewards of Light and Gladness

2. Walking in the Light of God's Word

1. Ephesians 5:8-10 - "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light...and find out what pleases the Lord."

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

Psalms 97:12 Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

The righteous should rejoice in the Lord and give thanks for His holiness.

1. The Joy of Rejoicing in God's Holiness

2. Expressing Gratitude for God's Holiness

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 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.

Psalm 98 is a psalm of praise and celebration, calling upon all people to worship God for His marvelous deeds and salvation. It emphasizes the joyous response of creation to God's victory and highlights His faithfulness and righteousness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls for a new song to be sung to the Lord because of His wondrous works. They urge all people to shout with joy, play instruments, and sing praises to God (Psalm 98:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist declares that God has revealed His salvation and righteousness before the nations. They emphasize that all the ends of the earth have witnessed His victory, prompting a joyful response from creation (Psalm 98:5-9).

In summary,

Psalm ninety-eight presents

a call for joyful praise,

and an affirmation of divine victory,

highlighting exhortation achieved through calling for new song while emphasizing recognition of divine works.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through urging shouts of joy while affirming celebration of divine salvation,

and emphasizing affirmation achieved through proclaiming divine righteousness before nations while expressing anticipation of global response.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine revelation while affirming declaration of victory.

Psalms 98:1 O sing unto the LORD a new song; for he hath done marvellous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory.

This psalm praises God for His miraculous works and victory.

1. God's Miracles: Celebrating His Work in Our Lives

2. The Power of Praise: Rejoicing in the Lord's Victories

1. Isaiah 12:2-3 "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. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation."

2. Romans 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Psalms 98:2 The LORD hath made known his salvation: his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.

The Lord has revealed his saving power and demonstrated his righteousness to the nations.

1. The Power of God's Salvation

2. The Righteousness of God Revealed

1. Isaiah 52:10 - "The Lord has bared his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God."

2. Romans 10:18 - "But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have; for 'Their voice has gone out to all the earth and their words to the ends of the world.'"

Psalms 98:3 He hath remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel: all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

God's mercy and truth have been revealed to the world through His salvation.

1. The Mercy and Truth of God: How His Salvation Reveals His Love for All Humanity

2. The Glory of God: How His Salvation Has Been Seen by All Nations

1. Luke 1:77-79 - To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins

2. Isaiah 52:10 - The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God

Psalms 98:4 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.

All of creation should make a joyful noise to the Lord and join in singing praise.

1. Exalt the Lord with Joyful Noise

2. Sing Praises to the Lord

1. Romans 15:11 "And again, Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and sing praises to him, all you peoples."

2. Psalm 96:1-3 "Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth! Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!"

Psalms 98:5 Sing unto the LORD with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm.

The Psalmist encourages worshippers to sing praises to the Lord with music and their voices.

1. Music as a Tool for Worship: Experiencing God through Song

2. The Power of Praise: Expressing Gratitude to God through Song

1. Colossians 3:16 - 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.

2. Ephesians 5:19 - Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord.

Psalms 98:6 With trumpets and sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the LORD, the King.

The Psalmist commands to use trumpets and sound of cornet to make a joyful noise before the Lord, the King.

1. "The Power of Joyful Noise"

2. "Making Music For the Lord"

1. Philippians 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice."

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."

Psalms 98:7 Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

The Psalmist encourages people to rejoice and praise God, as He is the creator of the sea and the world and all its inhabitants.

1. Praising God for His Creation

2. The Majesty and Grandeur of the Lord

1. Genesis 1:1-2, In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

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

Psalms 98:8 Let the floods clap their hands: let the hills be joyful together

The Psalmist calls for all of creation to rejoice in the Lord.

1. Rejoice in the Lord: A Call to Praise

2. The Joy of Creation: A Reflection on Psalm 98:8

1. Isaiah 55:12 - For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

2. Romans 8:19-22 - 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.

Psalms 98:9 Before the LORD; for he cometh to judge the earth: with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity.

God will come to judge the earth and the people with justice and fairness.

1. The Coming Judgement of God: What it Means for Us

2. Living Righteously: A Response to God's Judgement

1. Ecclesiastes 12:14, For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

2. Romans 14:12, So then each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

Psalm 99 is a psalm that exalts the holiness and sovereignty of God. It emphasizes His righteous rule, His faithfulness to His people, and the call for all to worship and reverence Him.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares that God reigns as King and is exalted above all nations. They describe how He sits enthroned between the cherubim, symbolizing His majesty (Psalm 99:1).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist praises God for His justice and righteousness. They recount how He established justice in Israel and answered their prayers. They highlight Moses, Aaron, and Samuel as examples of those who called upon God's name (Psalm 99:6-8).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon all people to worship at God's holy mountain and bow down before Him. They emphasize His holiness and urge obedience to His commands (Psalm 99:9).

In summary,

Psalm ninety-nine presents

an exaltation of divine holiness,

and an affirmation of righteous rule,

highlighting declaration achieved through proclaiming divine reign while emphasizing recognition of divine majesty.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through praising divine justice while affirming acknowledgment of divine righteousness,

and emphasizing exhortation achieved through calling for worshipful obedience while expressing reverence.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine establishment of justice while affirming call to bow down before holy God.

Psalms 99:1 The LORD reigneth; let the people tremble: he sitteth between the cherubims; let the earth be moved.

God is sovereign and powerful, and the people should reverently fear Him.

1. The Majesty of God: How Our Fear and Reverence of Him Should Lead to True Worship

2. The Reality of God's Sovereignty: How Understanding His Power Should Transform Our Lives

1. Isaiah 6:1-5 - The seraphim cry out "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"

2. Revelation 4:8-11 - The four living creatures give glory, honor, and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, and who lives forever and ever.

Psalms 99:2 The LORD is great in Zion; and he is high above all the people.

The LORD is great and exalted in Zion above all people.

1. Worship the LORD for His greatness and exaltation.

2. Rejoice in the LORD, for His greatness is higher than all others.

1. Psalm 148:13-14 - "Let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven. And he hath exalted the horn of his people, the praise of all his saints; even of the children of Israel, a people near unto him. Praise ye the Lord."

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."

Psalms 99:3 Let them praise thy great and terrible name; for it is holy.

People should praise God's great and awesome name, because it is holy.

1. God's name is powerful, and we should always remember to reverence it.

2. Praise God's holy name and remember that it is to be respected.

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. Exodus 3:5-6 - Then he said, Do not come any closer. Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.

Psalms 99:4 The king's strength also loveth judgment; thou dost establish equity, thou executest judgment and righteousness in Jacob.

The Lord loves justice and establishes fairness, bringing justice and righteousness to his people.

1. The Justice of God - How the Lord brings fairness and righteousness to his people

2. The King's Strength - How the power of God is expressed through justice

1. Isaiah 61:8 - "For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and wrongdoing. In my faithfulness I will reward them and make an everlasting covenant with them."

2. Psalm 33:5 - "He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord."

Psalms 99:5 Exalt ye the LORD our God, and worship at his footstool; for he is holy.

Exalt the Lord and worship Him, for He is holy.

1: Worship God for He is Holy.

2: Give Thanks to God for His Holiness.

1: Leviticus 20:7-8 "Consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am the LORD your God. 8 Keep my decrees and follow them. I am the LORD, who makes you holy.

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.

Psalms 99:6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among them that call upon his name; they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.

The LORD answers the prayers of Moses, Aaron, Samuel, and all those who call upon His name.

1. The Promise of Answered Prayer: Knowing that God Hears Our Cries

2. The Power of Intentional Prayer: Connecting with God in a Deeper Way

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 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.

Psalms 99:7 He spake unto them in the cloudy pillar: they kept his testimonies, and the ordinance that he gave them.

God spoke to the Israelites through a cloud pillar, reminding them to keep His commands and ordinances.

1. God's Word is Clear and Unmistakable

2. Obeying the Lord Brings Blessing and Protection

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

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."

Psalms 99:8 Thou answeredst them, O LORD our God: thou wast a God that forgavest them, though thou tookest vengeance of their inventions.

God is a forgiving God, but He also takes vengeance against people's sins.

1. God's Mercy and Justice

2. The Balance of Forgiveness and Punishment

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

Psalms 99:9 Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the LORD our God is holy.

God is holy and should be exalted.

1: Worship God Who is Holy

2: Exalt the LORD our God

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: 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.

Psalm 100 is a psalm of thanksgiving and praise. It calls upon all people to joyfully worship and serve God, acknowledging His goodness, faithfulness, and everlasting love.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist invites all the earth to shout with joy to the Lord. They exhort everyone to serve Him with gladness and come before Him with joyful singing (Psalm 100:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges that the Lord is God and emphasizes that He has made us His people. They highlight His care for us as a shepherd tending to his flock (Psalm 100:3).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist exhorts the people to enter God's gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. They emphasize His goodness, faithfulness, and everlasting love (Psalm 100:4-5).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred presents

a call for joyful worship,

and an affirmation of divine goodness,

highlighting invitation achieved through calling for shouts of joy while emphasizing recognition of divine authority.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through acknowledging divine ownership while affirming illustration of divine care,

and emphasizing affirmation achieved through urging thanksgiving and praise while expressing acknowledgment of divine attributes.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing call to joyful service while affirming trust in God's character.

Psalms 100:1 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.

All people of all nations should make joyful noise to the Lord.

1. "The Joy of Praise - Celebrating God's Presence"

2. "Worshiping the Lord with Our Whole Being"

1. Deuteronomy 10:20-21 - "Fear the Lord your God, serve him, and swear by his name. He is your praise, and he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your eyes have seen."

2. Nehemiah 8:10 - "Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Psalms 100:2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

We should serve the Lord with joy and come into his presence with singing.

1. Joyful Service: Rejoicing in the Presence of the Lord

2. Praise and Worship: Entering the Lord's Presence in Song

1. Psalm 95:6-7 - "O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand."

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."

Psalms 100:3 Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

We are God's people and the sheep of his pasture, for He is the one who has made us.

1. The Blessing of Knowing the Lord as Our Shepherd

2. The Grace of Being Created by God

1. 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. Psalm 23:1 - The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Psalms 100:4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

Enter into God's presence with gratitude and worship.

1: Praise God for His Goodness and Mercy

2: Thanksgiving: An Expression of Gratitude to God

1: Ephesians 5:20 - Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

2: Colossians 4:2 - Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving.

Psalms 100:5 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

God's goodness and mercy are everlasting and true.

1. The Everlasting Goodness and Mercy of God

2. God's Truth Endures Through the Generations

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. 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."

Psalm 101 is a psalm attributed to David, expressing his commitment to live a life of integrity and righteousness as a leader. It emphasizes the importance of maintaining personal and moral standards while governing with justice.

1st Paragraph: David declares his intention to sing of God's love and justice. He vows to live wisely and with integrity, setting his sights on leading blamelessly (Psalm 101:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: David outlines specific actions he will take to maintain righteousness. He commits to avoiding deceitful behavior, slander, and pride. He expresses his desire for faithful companionship and rejects association with evildoers (Psalm 101:3-8).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred one presents

a declaration of commitment,

and an affirmation of righteous living,

highlighting declaration achieved through expressing intention of singing while emphasizing recognition of divine attributes.

Emphasizing determination achieved through vowing wisdom and integrity while affirming pursuit of blamelessness,

and emphasizing affirmation achieved through outlining rejection of unrighteousness while expressing desire for faithful companionship.

Mentioning personal reflection shown regarding recognizing call to righteous leadership while affirming rejection of wickedness.

Psalms 101:1 I will sing of mercy and judgment: unto thee, O LORD, will I sing.

I will praise the Lord for His mercy and justice.

1. The Power of Praise: Celebrating God's Mercy and Justice

2. The Benefits of Worship: Experiencing God's Mercy and Justice

1. Psalm 145:8-9 - The Lord is gracious and merciful; slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

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.

Psalms 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.

I will lead a wise and righteous life. When will You come to me? I will be true and sincere in my behavior at home.

1. The Perfect Heart - Living a Life of Holiness and Righteousness

2. Walking Wisely - Choosing to Live in the Ways 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. Proverbs 4:23-24 - Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee.

Psalms 101:3 I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.

I will remain committed to living a life of godliness by avoiding wickedness and rejecting anything that leads me away from God.

1. Living a Life of Godliness: Rejecting Wickedness and Turning Away from Sin

2. Choosing to Follow God: Rejecting Wickedness and Resisting Temptation

1. Colossians 3:5-10 - Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - 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.

Psalms 101:4 A froward heart shall depart from me: I will not know a wicked person.

A righteous person will stay away from the wicked.

1. Choosing the Right Path: The Blessing of Avoiding Wickedness

2. Living an Upright Life: The Benefits of Keeping Company with the Righteous

1. Psalm 1:1-2 - 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.

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.

Psalms 101:5 Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer.

The Psalmist declares that those who seek to slander their neighbor will be cut off, and those with a proud heart will not be tolerated.

1. The Danger of Slander: How we should guard our tongues and hearts.

2. The Power of Pride: Why humility is essential in seeking God's favor.

1. Proverbs 10:18-19 - "He who conceals hatred has lying lips, and he who spreads slander is a fool. When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise."

2. James 4:6-7 - "But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Psalms 101:6 Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me.

My eyes are on those who are faithful, so that they may live with me. Those who live a blameless life will serve me.

1. The Blessings of Faithfulness

2. The Power of a Blameless Life

1. Proverbs 11:20 - "They that are of a faithful spirit shall abide in the midst of prosperity."

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."

Psalms 101:7 He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight.

No lies or deceit should be tolerated in God's house.

1: We should always strive to live truthfully and honestly, even in our own homes.

2: The Lord does not abide by anyone who speaks falsely or deceives those around them.

1: 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.

2: Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

Psalms 101:8 I will early destroy all the wicked of the land; that I may cut off all wicked doers from the city of the LORD.

I will not tolerate wickedness in the land and will cut off all wicked doers from the city of the Lord.

1. The Lord's Judgment Against Wickedness

2. The Lord's Standards of Righteousness

1. Proverbs 11:5-6 - The righteousness of the blameless keeps his way straight, but the wicked falls by his own wickedness.

2. Romans 12:9 - Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

Psalm 102 is a psalm of lament, expressing the deep anguish and distress of an individual who is suffering. It portrays a cry for help to God in the midst of affliction, while also acknowledging His eternal nature and faithfulness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by pouring out their heartfelt lament to God, describing their desperate state and pleading for His attention and intervention (Psalm 102:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist vividly depicts their physical and emotional suffering, comparing themselves to a lonely bird on a rooftop. They express their intense grief and isolation (Psalm 102:3-11).

3rd Paragraph: In the midst of despair, the psalmist turns their focus to God's eternal nature. They acknowledge His sovereignty over creation and contrast it with their own fleeting existence (Psalm 102:12-22).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist pleads with God to have compassion on them in their distress. They recount how they are afflicted but hold onto hope that God will hear their prayers (Psalm 102:23-28).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred two presents

a cry for help in affliction,

and an affirmation of God's eternal nature,

highlighting expression achieved through pouring out lament while emphasizing recognition of divine intervention.

Emphasizing depiction achieved through vivid portrayal of suffering while affirming experience of grief,

and emphasizing reflection achieved through acknowledging divine sovereignty while contrasting human frailty.

Mentioning plea shown regarding recognizing personal distress while affirming trust in God's compassion.

Psalms 102:1 Hear my prayer, O LORD, and let my cry come unto thee.

A plea to God to listen to the prayer of the psalmist.

1. The Power of Prayer: Reaching Out to God in Times of Need

2. The Depths of Faith: Knowing God Will Hear Our Cries

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. Isaiah 65:24 - "Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.

Psalms 102:2 Hide not thy face from me in the day when I am in trouble; incline thine ear unto me: in the day when I call answer me speedily.

Hide not your face when I am in trouble, answer me quickly when I call.

1. God is always with us, even in our darkest times.

2. What it means to trust God in times of trouble.

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 8:38-39- "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."

Psalms 102:3 For my days are consumed like smoke, and my bones are burned as an hearth.

The psalmist laments over his days being consumed like smoke and his bones being burned as a hearth.

1. God Is Sovereign Over Every Moment of Our Lives

2. How to Overcome Pain and Sorrow

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. 1 Peter 5:7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Psalms 102:4 My heart is smitten, and withered like grass; so that I forget to eat my bread.

The psalmist is in despair and has lost his appetite, resulting in forgetting to eat.

1. The Need for Hope in Desperate Times

2. Relying on God's Strength in Difficult Times

1. Lamentations 3:19-24

2. Isaiah 40:28-31

Psalms 102:5 By reason of the voice of my groaning my bones cleave to my skin.

The psalmist expresses his suffering through powerful words, describing how his groaning has caused his bones to cleave to his skin.

1. Finding Strength in Suffering: How to Persevere in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Prayer: Using Scripture to Connect with God in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. James 5:13-15 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

Psalms 102:6 I am like a pelican of the wilderness: I am like an owl of the desert.

The Psalmist compares himself to a pelican of the wilderness and an owl of the desert.

1. Learning to Adapt: Understanding how God uses us in different ways

2. Embracing the Wilderness: Finding peace and clarity in solitude

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 29:11-13 - "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."

Psalms 102:7 I watch, and am as a sparrow alone upon the house top.

The psalmist is alone, watching from the house top like a sparrow.

1. The Strength of Solitude: Learning to be Content in Isolation

2. Finding Comfort in the Psalms: How to Turn to God During Difficult Times

1. Matthew 26:36-46 - Jesus' time of prayer in the garden of Gethsemane

2. Psalm 23 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Psalms 102:8 Mine enemies reproach me all the day; and they that are mad against me are sworn against me.

Enemies reproach and swear against the speaker all day.

1. The importance of trusting God despite opposition

2. How to respond to those who malign us

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

2. Matthew 5:44 - "But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Psalms 102:9 For I have eaten ashes like bread, and mingled my drink with weeping,

The psalmist expresses his sorrow through symbols of ashes and weeping.

1. The Power of Symbols: Exploring the Depths of our Emotions

2. The Impact of Loss: Grieving in the Context of Faith

1. Lamentations 3:19-20 - "Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and the gall! My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:"

2. Isaiah 61:2-3 - "to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; 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; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified."

Psalms 102:10 Because of thine indignation and thy wrath: for thou hast lifted me up, and cast me down.

God's wrath and indignation come with a purpose of lifting us up and casting us down.

1. God's Discipline: Understanding Why We Suffer

2. The Divine Plan: Embracing the Ups and Downs of Life

1. Hebrews 12:5-11

2. James 1:2-4

Psalms 102:11 My days are like a shadow that declineth; and I am withered like grass.

The psalmist expresses his feelings of despair and loneliness, likening his days to a quickly passing shadow and himself to withered grass.

1. Don't Lose Hope in Difficult Times

2. God is with Us in Our Struggles

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.

Psalms 102:12 But thou, O LORD, shalt endure for ever; and thy remembrance unto all generations.

The LORD will endure forever and His remembrance will be passed down to all generations.

1. God's Love Endures Forever

2. The Power of Legacy

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. 2 Timothy 2:13 - If we are faithless, he remains faithful for he cannot deny himself.

Psalms 102:13 Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come.

The time has come for God to show mercy to Zion.

1. God's Timing is Perfect: Understanding the Divine Plan

2. God's Mercy: Hope and Comfort in Trying Times

1. Isaiah 51:3 - "For the Lord comforts Zion; He will comfort all her waste places. He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the Garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of melody."

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."

Psalms 102:14 For thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favour the dust thereof.

The psalmist is grateful for God's favor on his people, even in the dust and stones of their land.

1: God's Favor Transcends All Circumstances

2: Appreciating God's Abundance in Unexpected Places

1: Deuteronomy 33:13-14 "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."

2: Psalm 85:12 "Yea, the LORD shall give that which is good; and our land shall yield her increase."

Psalms 102:15 So the heathen shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth thy glory.

This passage speaks of the power and glory of God, and how all nations will venerate His name.

1. The Majesty of God: A Call to Worship

2. How Our Fear of the Lord Shapes Our Lives

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. Revelation 4:11 - Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Psalms 102:16 When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.

The Lord will build Zion and appear in his glory.

1. Relying on God's Promises: Understanding the Certainty of His Faithfulness.

2. Seeing the Glory of God: How to Appreciate the Majesty of the Lord.

1. Isaiah 62:1 - For Zion s sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem s sake I will not remain quiet, till her righteousness shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch.

2. Psalm 24:7-10 - Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is he, this King of glory? The Lord Almighty he is the King of glory.

Psalms 102:17 He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer.

God listens to the prayers of the destitute and will never reject them.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Answers the Prayers of the Needy

2. The Faithfulness of God: How God Responds to the Prayers of the Vulnerable

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

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?"

Psalms 102:18 This shall be written for the generation to come: and the people which shall be created shall praise the LORD.

Generations to come will be praised by the Lord.

1: We all have the potential to be praised by the Lord, so strive to live a life pleasing to Him.

2: Let us remember to thank God and praise Him for His love and grace that He has bestowed upon us.

1: 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.

2: Psalm 135:1-3 - Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord, give praise, O servants of the Lord, who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God! Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; sing to his name, for it is pleasant!

Psalms 102:19 For he hath looked down from the height of his sanctuary; from heaven did the LORD behold the earth;

The Lord looks down from His heavenly sanctuary to view the earth.

1. The Power and Presence of God

2. God's Mercy and Love for His People

1. Isaiah 40:21-22 - 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 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.

Psalms 102:20 To hear the groaning of the prisoner; to loose those that are appointed to death;

The Psalmist prays for those who are in captivity and sentence of death.

1: God's mercy and grace can be extended to the most desperate of situations.

2: The power of prayer is great, even in the direst of circumstances.

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;

Psalms 142:7 - Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise thy name: the righteous shall compass me about; for thou shalt deal bountifully with me.

Psalms 102:21 To declare the name of the LORD in Zion, and his praise in Jerusalem;

The psalmist encourages worshippers to proclaim the name of the LORD in Zion and praise him in Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Praising God in Zion

2. The Importance of Declaring the Name of the Lord

1. Psalm 96:2 - "Sing to the LORD, bless his name; proclaim his salvation day after day."

2. Psalm 145:21 - "My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever."

Psalms 102:22 When the people are gathered together, and the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.

People from many different nations and kingdoms are called to gather and serve the LORD.

1. The Importance of Uniting to Serve God

2. The Value of Coming Together to Worship the Lord

1. Isaiah 43:6-7 - "Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

2. Hebrews 10:25 - Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Psalms 102:23 He weakened my strength in the way; he shortened my days.

The psalmist reflects on how God has weakened their strength and shortened their days.

1. God's Will Is Always Right - Psalm 102:23

2. Perseverance Through Difficult Times - Psalm 102:23

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.

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.

Psalms 102:24 I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of my days: thy years are throughout all generations.

The passage speaks of God's faithfulness and everlasting presence.

1. God's Faithfulness and Everlasting Presence

2. God's Unchanging Love and Care

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. Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Psalms 102:25 Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands.

God is the creator of the heavens and the earth.

1. God's Creation: A Sign of His Love

2. The Marvels of the Heavens and Earth

1. Isaiah 40:26 - Lift up your eyes and see: who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

2. Genesis 1:1 - In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Psalms 102:26 They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed:

The Lord is everlasting, while all things will pass away.

1: Our Hope in the Eternal God

2: The Lord's Unchanging Nature

1: Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

2: Hebrews 13:8 - "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

Psalms 102:27 But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.

God is unchangeable and eternal.

1. God is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

2. No matter what changes, God remains the same.

1. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

2. Malachi 3:6 - For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

Psalms 102:28 The children of thy servants shall continue, and their seed shall be established before thee.

This passage speaks of God's faithfulness that will be passed down to future generations.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever

2. The Legacy of Faith

1. Jeremiah 32:17-19

2. Romans 8:28-30

Psalm 103 is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving, expressing deep gratitude for God's abundant mercy, forgiveness, and love. It celebrates His attributes and blessings bestowed upon His people.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon their own soul to bless the Lord and not forget His benefits. They list various blessings such as forgiveness, healing, redemption, and steadfast love (Psalm 103:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges God's righteousness and justice. They highlight His compassion towards those who fear Him and the temporary nature of human life compared to God's everlasting love (Psalm 103:6-18).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist praises God for His sovereignty over all creation. They emphasize His angels, heavenly hosts, and all works of His hands. They conclude by exhorting all creatures to bless the Lord (Psalm 103:19-22).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred three presents

a call for personal praise,

and an affirmation of divine attributes,

highlighting exhortation achieved through calling for blessing while emphasizing recognition of divine benefits.

Emphasizing adoration achieved through acknowledging divine righteousness while affirming compassion toward the faithful,

and emphasizing affirmation achieved through recognizing divine sovereignty while expressing call for universal worship.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing personal blessings while affirming invitation to praise.

Psalms 103:1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Praise God with all that is within us.

1. The Power of Praise: Why We Are Called to Bless the Lord

2. The Importance of Blessing God: Taking Time to Recognize His Goodness

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 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.

2. James 5:13 - Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.

Psalms 103:2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

We should bless the Lord and remember His many benefits.

1. Giving Thanks: Remembering the Blessings of God

2. Gratitude: The Benefits of Thankfulness

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 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."

Psalms 103:3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

This passage reminds us of God's goodness and mercy, as He forgives our sins and heals all our diseases.

1. God's Mercy and Grace - How the Lord Forgives and Heals

2. The Benefits of Faith - Trust in the Lord for Healing

1. Jeremiah 30:17 - "For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the LORD; because they called thee an Outcast, saying, This is Zion, whom no man seeketh after."

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."

Psalms 103:4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

God redeems us from destruction and provides us with lovingkindness and mercy.

1. Understanding the Unfathomable Love of God

2. Experiencing the Mercy and Lovingkindness of God

1. Luke 7:47 "Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little."

2. 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."

Psalms 103:5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

God satisfies us with good things and renews us with the same strength and vitality of an eagle.

1: God's Love Refreshes Us

2: The Renewal of Youth

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: Psalm 34:10 - The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing.

Psalms 103:6 The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

God executes justice on behalf of all those who are suffering oppression.

1. The Faithful God and His Justice for the Oppressed

2. God's Mercy and Compassion for Those Oppressed

1. Psalm 146:7-9 - "He executes justice for the oppressed; he gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous."

2. 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; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; 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; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified."

Psalms 103:7 He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.

God revealed his plans and works to Moses and the people of Israel.

1: We should be grateful for God's blessings and seek to follow His plan for us.

2: Just as God revealed Himself to Moses and the Israelites, He also reveals Himself to us today.

1: Deuteronomy 4:32-33 - For ask now of the days that are past, which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and ask from one end of heaven to the other, whether such a great thing as this has ever happened or was ever heard of. Did any people ever hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as you have heard, and live?

2: Exodus 3:13-15 - Then Moses said to God, If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, The God of your fathers has sent me to you, and they ask me, What is his name? what shall I say to them? God said to Moses, I am who I am. And he said, Say this to the people of Israel: I am has sent me to you. God also said to Moses, Say this to the people of Israel: The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

Psalms 103:8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

The Lord is slow to anger and abounding in mercy.

1: Mercy and Grace in Action

2: The Lord's Patience and Forgiveness

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 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.

Psalms 103:9 He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever.

God's love and mercy is infinite and He will not stay angry forever.

1. God's Amazing Grace: How His Unending Love Endures

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Letting Go of Anger and Resentment

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. 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."

Psalms 103:10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

This passage speaks of God's mercy and grace, which does not punish us for our sins.

1. God's Unconditional Love and Mercy

2. Experiencing God's Grace and Forgiveness

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 86:5 - You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you.

Psalms 103:11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

God's mercy is immense and unending.

1: God's mercy is greater than we can ever imagine and it is available to all who fear Him.

2: We can take comfort in the fact that God's mercy is so great that it is beyond our comprehension.

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: James 5:11 - Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Psalms 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

God has removed our sins from us, as far as the east is from the west.

1: God's Mercy is Boundless - We see in Psalms 103:12 that God's mercy is boundless, as far as the east is from the west. Even though we have all sinned and fall short of his glory, God, in his mercy, is willing to forgive us and remove our transgressions from us.

2: The Power of Forgiveness - Psalms 103:12 reminds us that God's mercy and power of forgiveness is strong and everlasting. Our transgressions are removed from us, as far as the east is from the west, and we can find freedom in the Lord's forgiveness.

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: Micah 7:19 - "You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea."

Psalms 103:13 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him.

God is compassionate towards those who fear Him.

1: God is a loving Father who understands and shows mercy to His children.

2: God is a merciful God who shows mercy and compassion to those who put their trust in Him.

1: Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

2: James 4:6 - "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Psalms 103:14 For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

God knows us and remembers that we are made from dust.

1. Remember Who You Are: A on Psalms 103:14

2. Knowing Our Place: A on Humility and God's Providence

1. 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."

2. Isaiah 40:6-7, "The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass."

Psalms 103:15 As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

The life of man is short and fragile, like a flower in the field.

1. Embrace life with joy and contentment, for it is as fleeting as a flower in the field.

2. Live each day with intention and purpose, knowing that life is short and fragile.

1. James 4:14 - What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:11 - He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man s heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

Psalms 103:16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.

The fleeting nature of life is fleeting and forgotten.

1. Life is a Vapor - James 4:14

2. The Transience of Life - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

1. Isaiah 40:6-8 - The transient nature of life and the unchanging nature of God's love.

2. Revelation 12:12 - The importance of standing firm in the face of the fleeting nature of life.

Psalms 103:17 But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

The LORD's mercy and righteousness is eternal for those who revere Him.

1. The Lord's Unfailing Love for His People

2. The Eternal Nature of God's Righteousness

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.

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.

Psalms 103:18 To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.

Psalms 103 encourages those who keep God's covenant and obey His commandments.

1. "The Power of Obeying God's Word"

2. "The Blessing of Keeping God's Covenant"

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. 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."

Psalms 103:19 The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

God's kingdom is sovereign over all.

1: God's sovereignty is absolute and unchanging.

2: We can trust in God's rule and reign.

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: 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?

Psalms 103:20 Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.

The Psalmist praises the Lord and his angels for their obedience and strength in doing the Lord's commandments.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Listen and Follow God's Word

2. The Blessing of Strength: Embracing God's Power and Authority

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

Psalms 103:21 Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.

The Lord is to be praised and thanked by all who serve Him and carry out His will.

1. Faithful Service - Recognizing the Lord's Blessing in Serving His Will

2. Blessing the Lord - Appreciating the Benefits of Doing God's Pleasure

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. 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"

Psalms 103:22 Bless the LORD, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the LORD, O my soul.

Bless the Lord for all His works.

1: Using Psalms 103:22 as a starting point, let us explore the many ways in which we can show our gratitude to God for all that He has done for us.

2: Let us take a moment to reflect on the magnitude of God s dominion and how His works fill all places. We can express our appreciation to God by blessing Him in all we do.

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: Ephesians 5:20 - Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalm 104 is a psalm that praises and magnifies God as the Creator and Sustainer of all things. It celebrates the beauty, order, and provision found in the natural world, highlighting God's wisdom and care for His creation.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by extolling God's greatness and majesty. They describe how He covers Himself with light like a garment and stretches out the heavens like a tent (Psalm 104:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist vividly portrays God's creative power in establishing the earth. They depict how He set boundaries for the waters, formed mountains, springs, and valleys. They highlight how God provides water for animals to drink (Psalm 104:5-13).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist marvels at the diversity of creatures on land and in the sea. They describe how God provides food for them all, acknowledging His role as their sustainer (Psalm 104:14-23).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on the cycle of life in nature, from sunrise to sunset. They acknowledge that all creatures depend on God for their provision, recognizing His wisdom in providing abundantly (Psalm 104:24-30).

5th Paragraph: The psalmist concludes by expressing their desire to sing praises to God as long as they live. They affirm their joy in Him and pray that sinners will be consumed from the earth while blessing the Lord (Psalm 104:31-35).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred four presents

a celebration of divine creation,

and an affirmation of divine providence,

highlighting expression achieved through extolling greatness while emphasizing recognition of divine power.

Emphasizing depiction achieved through vivid portrayal of natural wonders while affirming acknowledgement of divine provision,

and emphasizing reflection achieved through recognizing interdependence within creation while expressing desire for praise.

Mentioning personal reflection shown regarding recognizing dependence on divine sustenance while affirming hope for righteousness.

Psalms 104:1 Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.

The Psalmist praises God for his greatness and his majesty.

1. The Power and Majesty of God

2. The Blessing of Praising God

1. Psalm 104:1

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."

Psalms 104:2 Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:

The passage speaks of how God covers Himself with light and stretches out the heavens like a curtain.

1: God Is Our Protector, Our Shelter From The Storms Of Life

2: God's Glorious Creation - The Heavens As A Curtain

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

Psalms 104:3 Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: who maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the wings of the wind:

God is the one who creates the beams of His chambers in the waters, who makes the clouds His chariot and who walks upon the wings of the wind.

1. God is the Creator of All Things - Psalm 104:3

2. Walking with God on the Wings of the Wind - Psalm 104:3

1. Genesis 1:1-31 - God's Creative Power

2. Isaiah 40:31 - Those Who Trust in the Lord Will Renew Their Strength; They Will Soar on Wings Like Eagles

Psalms 104:4 Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:

God has created angels to be His messengers, and they are like a flaming fire.

1. The Power of God's Messengers: How Angels are Like a Flaming Fire

2. The Majesty of God's Creation: Understanding Angels and their Role

1. Hebrews 1:7 - And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.

2. Matthew 4:11 - Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

Psalms 104:5 Who laid the foundations of the earth, that it should not be removed for ever.

The passage speaks of God's power in establishing the foundations of the earth.

1. God's Power in Establishing the Foundations of the Earth

2. The Eternal Stability of Creation

1. Joshua 24:15-17 - "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. And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the Lord, to serve other gods; 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: And the Lord drove 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.

2. Isaiah 40:22 - It is 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.

Psalms 104:6 Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment: the waters stood above the mountains.

God created the world by covering it with his mighty power and strength.

1. The Power of God: How His Mighty Strength Creates and Sustains the World

2. The Beauty of Creation: A Reflection of God's Love and Goodness

1. Romans 1:20 For since the creation of the world God s invisible qualities his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

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

Psalms 104:7 At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away.

The Lord's power can be seen in the way His rebuke and thunder cause His enemies to flee.

1. The Lord's Authority: How the Lord's Power Commands Obedience

2. God Speaks: The Impact of God's Voice on His Creation

1. Exodus 19:16-20 - When God's voice thunders on Mount Sinai

2. Isaiah 30:30 - The Lord's voice brings a refreshing dew and stillness

Psalms 104:8 They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which thou hast founded for them.

Psalm 104 praises God's creation of the mountains and valleys for the benefit of His creatures.

1. God's Unfailing Provision: Relying on God's Goodness in Creation

2. God's Care for His Creation: Appreciating the Blessings of Nature

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. 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?

Psalms 104:9 Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth.

God has established boundaries to protect His creation.

1: Boundaries are God's Gift - Psalms 104:9

2: The Power of Boundaries - Psalms 104:9

1: Proverbs 22:28 Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.

2: Proverbs 15:24 The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath.

Psalms 104:10 He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills.

God sends springs from the hills to the valleys to provide life and refreshment.

1. God's Mercy - The Springs of Living Water

2. God's Provision - Abundant Refreshment for Weary Souls

1. Psalm 104:10

2. John 7:37-38 - "On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.

Psalms 104:11 They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst.

God provides for all creatures, both wild and domesticated.

1. God's mercy is for all creatures, big or small.

2. All creatures are blessed by God's provision.

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. Isaiah 34:15-17 "There the owl nest and lay and hatch and gather under her shadow; there also the hawks are gathered, every one with her mate. Seek and read carefully from the book of the LORD: Not one of these shall be missing; none shall be without her mate. For the mouth of the LORD has commanded, and His Spirit has gathered them. He has cast the lot for them, and His hand has divided it among them with a measuring line. They shall possess it forever; from generation to generation they shall dwell in it.

Psalms 104:12 By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, which sing among the branches.

This passage speaks of the birds that inhabit the heavens and sing among the branches.

1. The Beauty of Creation: Celebrating the Wonders of Nature

2. Finding Joy in the Everyday: Listening to the Music of Life

1. Genesis 1:20-25 - God's Creation of the Birds

2. Psalm 19:1-4 - God's Creative Power Revealed Through Nature

Psalms 104:13 He watereth the hills from his chambers: the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works.

God provides for all of his creatures through the works He has done.

1. God's Provision - How God Provides for His People

2. The Fruit of God's Works - Reaping the Benefits of His Creation

1. Psalm 104:13

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? 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?"

Psalms 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;

God provides for all of His creation through the abundance of the Earth.

1: God is our Provider, and He gives us sustenance and care.

2: We are blessed with the bounty of God's creation and through it, He meets our needs.

1: Matthew 6:26-30 - 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?

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.

Psalms 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.

This passage from Psalms speaks of the joy that wine, oil, and bread bring to people.

1: God provides us with gifts that bring us joy and strength.

2: Celebrate the gifts of wine, oil, and bread that God has given us.

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: 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.

Psalms 104:16 The trees of the LORD are full of sap; the cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted;

The Lord has abundantly blessed his land with lush vegetation.

1: The Lord's Abundant Blessings

2: God's Provision for His People

1: Isaiah 55:10-12 - 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:

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.

Psalms 104:17 Where the birds make their nests: as for the stork, the fir trees are her house.

The birds make their nests in various places, with the stork making its home in the fir trees.

1. God's Creatures and Their Homes: Exploring the Nature of the Created World

2. God's Provision: A Study in the Care of Creation

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.

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.

Psalms 104:18 The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats; and the rocks for the conies.

The wild goats and conies find refuge in the high hills and rocks.

1. The Lord Provides Refuge for All Creation

2. Finding Strength in Difficult Times

1. Hebrews 13:5b - He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake 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.

Psalms 104:19 He appointed the moon for seasons: the sun knoweth his going down.

God appointed the moon to set the seasons and the sun to mark its own setting.

1. God's Plan - We are reminded of how God has a plan for all things, great and small.

2. The Sun and the Moon - How the sun and moon are a representation of God's power and wisdom.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

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.

Psalms 104:20 Thou makest darkness, and it is night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth.

God is the one who creates darkness at night, providing a safe environment in which the animals of the forest can roam.

1: God provides us with a safe place to explore and grow in His light.

2: We should show gratitude to God for the darkness that He provides us with at night.

1: Psalm 104:20- Thou makest darkness, and it is night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth.

2: Isaiah 45:7 - I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.

Psalms 104:21 The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God.

The young lions rely on God for sustenance, seeking it through their roar.

1: God is our Provider and the Source of all our needs.

2: We must trust in God to provide for us as He has promised.

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: Matthew 6:26-27 - "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?"

Psalms 104:22 The sun ariseth, they gather themselves together, and lay them down in their dens.

God's creatures gather together in the morning and rest in their dens.

1. God's Creatures and the Gift of Rest

2. The Blessing of Gathering Together

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 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."

Psalms 104:23 Man goeth forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening.

Man works during the day until the night.

1: Our labor is a reflection of God's grace and mercy.

2: Work is an important part of our lives, and it should be done with a spirit of joy.

1: Colossians 3:23 - "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men."

2: Ecclesiastes 2:24 - "A man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in their own toil. This too, I see, is from the hand of God."

Psalms 104:24 O LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

The Lord's works are manifold and made with wisdom, filling the earth with His riches.

1. The Lord's Wisdom and Generosity

2. God's Abundant 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 65:11 - You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance.

Psalms 104:25 So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts.

Psalms 104:25 describes the vast expanse of the sea, which is home to a variety of large and small creatures.

1. God's creation is vast and teeming with life - Psalms 104:25

2. The beauty of the sea is a reminder of the greatness of God - Psalms 104:25

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.

2. 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.

Psalms 104:26 There go the ships: there is that leviathan, whom thou hast made to play therein.

The Psalmist praises God for the beauty of creation, specifically mentioning the ships and the Leviathan that He has made.

1. The Wonder of God's Creation

2. Finding Rest in God's Providence

1. Psalms 8:3-4 "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?"

2. Job 41:1-11 "Canst thou draw out leviathan with an hook? or his tongue with a cord which thou lettest down? ... Who can open the doors of his face? his teeth are terrible round about. His scales are his pride, shut up together as with a close seal. ... He maketh the deep to boil like a pot: he maketh the sea like a pot of ointment."

Psalms 104:27 These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give them their meat in due season.

God provides sustenance for all living creatures.

1. God's Care and Provision - Psalms 104:27

2. The Gift of Nourishment - Psalms 104:27

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about your life.

2. Psalm 145:15-16 - The Lord is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.

Psalms 104:28 That thou givest them they gather: thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good.

God provides for all of His creatures, and we should be thankful for His generous blessings.

1. Gratitude in the Face of Abundance

2. The Open Hand of God and our Blessing

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do Not Worry

2. Luke 12:22-31 - Do Not Be Anxious

Psalms 104:29 Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust.

God's powerful presence changes the lives of those who experience it.

1: God's presence has the power to bring life and transformation.

2: God's greatness is displayed in His ability to bring life and death.

1: Exodus 33:18-19 - Moses asked to see God's glory and God's response was to proclaim His goodness and mercy.

2: 2 Corinthians 3:17-18 - The Lord is the Spirit who gives life and freedom from the law of sin and death.

Psalms 104:30 Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.

The passage speaks of God's power to bring about creation and renewal.

1: God's Power to Create and Renew

2: Understanding the Power of God's Spirit

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: 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."

Psalms 104:31 The glory of the LORD shall endure for ever: the LORD shall rejoice in his works.

The Lord's glory will last forever and He will be glad of His works.

1. The Joy of the Lord is Eternal

2. The Lord's Work is Enduring

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand 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.

Psalms 104:32 He looketh on the earth, and it trembleth: he toucheth the hills, and they smoke.

God's power causes the earth to tremble and the hills to smoke when He looks upon them.

1. The Tremble of God's Power

2. The Smoke of God's Touch

1. Psalm 29:3-9 - "The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon. He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire. The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, Glory!

2. Revelation 19:6 - "Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns."

Psalms 104:33 I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live - expressing my love and gratitude for all He has done.

1: Let us use our lives to declare the greatness of God and to praise Him.

2: Let us joyfully sing to the Lord in every season of our lives.

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: 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.

Psalms 104:34 My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the LORD.

The Psalmist expresses his joy in meditating on the Lord.

1. Joy in Meditating on the Lord

2. The Blessings of Spending Time With God

1. Psalms 104:34

2. Psalm 63:6-7 "When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches. 7 Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice."

Psalms 104:35 Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless thou the LORD, O my soul. Praise ye the LORD.

The earth will be purified of sinners and the wicked will be gone. We should praise and bless the Lord for His goodness.

1. We must always thank God in all circumstances.

2. We can trust in God to purify the earth of sinners and wickedness.

1. Psalm 103:2- Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

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

Psalm 105 is a psalm that recounts the history of God's faithfulness to His people, particularly focusing on His covenant with Abraham and the deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt. It serves as a reminder of God's promises and encourages praise and thanksgiving.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon the people to give thanks to the Lord and make known His deeds among the nations. They invite others to sing praises and tell of God's wondrous works (Psalm 105:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist recalls how God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They recount how God protected them during their journey in foreign lands (Psalm 105:8-15).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist describes how Joseph was sold into slavery but eventually became a ruler in Egypt. They emphasize how God sent Moses as a deliverer to bring about miraculous signs and plagues (Psalm 105:16-27).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist recounts the events of the Exodus, including the parting of the Red Sea, provision in the wilderness, and victory over their enemies. They highlight God's faithfulness throughout their journey (Psalm 105:28-45).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred five presents

a recollection of divine faithfulness,

and an exhortation to praise,

highlighting invitation achieved through calling for thanks while emphasizing recognition of divine deeds.

Emphasizing historical reflection achieved through recounting covenantal promises while affirming divine protection,

and emphasizing narrative depiction achieved through recalling deliverance from slavery while expressing acknowledgment of divine intervention.

Mentioning celebration shown regarding recognizing miraculous signs while affirming trust in God's faithfulness.

Psalms 105:1 O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people.

We should give thanks to the Lord and make known His deeds among the people.

1. Praising God for His Blessings

2. Revealing God's Goodness to the World

1. 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?

2. 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.

Psalms 105:2 Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works.

This passage encourages us to praise and thank God for his wonderful works.

1. Celebrating the Splendor of God's Works

2. Expressing Gratitude to God for His Wonders

1. Psalms 136:4 - To him who alone does great wonders, for his loving kindness endures forever.

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.

Psalms 105:3 Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.

Glorify God and find joy in seeking the Lord.

1: Rejoice in the Lord's Name

2: Seeking the Lord Brings Joy

1: Isaiah 55:6 Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

2: James 1:2-3 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

Psalms 105:4 Seek the LORD, and his strength: seek his face evermore.

The psalmist encourages readers to seek the Lord and His strength, and to seek His face continually.

1. "Seeking the Lord and His Strength"

2. "Seeking the Face of the Lord"

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. 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."

Psalms 105:5 Remember his marvellous works that he hath done; his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;

This passage encourages us to remember the great and wonderful works and wonders of God and his judgments.

1. Remembering the Wonders of God

2. The Power of God's Judgements

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. Ephesians 3:20 - "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."

Psalms 105:6 O ye seed of Abraham his servant, ye children of Jacob his chosen.

The Psalm encourages the descendants of Abraham and Jacob to remain faithful to their covenant with God.

1. The Covenant of Abraham and Jacob: A Call to Remain Faithful

2. The Faithfulness of Abraham and Jacob: An Example for Us

1. Genesis 17:7-8 - 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.

2. 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.

Psalms 105:7 He is the LORD our God: his judgments are in all the earth.

The Lord is our God and his judgments are universal.

1. How to Live in Acknowledgement of the Lord's Universal Judgments

2. The Need to Acknowledge the Lord's Authority in All of Life

1. Isaiah 45:5-7 - "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. I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, do all these things.

"

2. 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.

Psalms 105:8 He hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations.

God has remembered His covenant forever and has commanded it to a thousand generations.

1. The beauty of God's covenant and its relevance for all generations.

2. God's faithfulness in keeping His covenant.

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 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.

Psalms 105:9 Which covenant he made with Abraham, and his oath unto Isaac;

God's faithfulness in keeping His covenant with Abraham and Isaac.

1. God's Covenant: A Blessed Assurance

2. Our Unshakable Hope in God's Promises

1. Genesis 15:18 - God's covenant with Abraham

2. Romans 4:18-21 - Abraham's faith and hope in God's promises

Psalms 105:10 And confirmed the same unto Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant:

God made an everlasting covenant with Israel and Jacob.

1: God's everlasting covenant is an assurance of His faithfulness and His loving kindness.

2: God's covenant is a reminder of the promise to care for His people.

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 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.

Psalms 105:11 Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance:

God has given us our inheritance in the land of Canaan.

1. God has given us everything we need for a blessed life.

2. Our inheritance is an expression of God's faithfulness and love.

1. Deuteronomy 10:9; Therefore, understand that the LORD your God is indeed God. He is the faithful God who keeps His covenant for a thousand generations and lavishes His unfailing love on those who love Him and obey His commands.

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.

Psalms 105:12 When they were but a few men in number; yea, very few, and strangers in it.

Psalms 105:12 speaks of God's protection of a small group of Israelites, even when they were few and strangers in the land.

1: God cares for us even when we are few and strangers in a foreign land.

2: We can trust in the Lord, even when we are in unfamiliar places.

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: 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.

Psalms 105:13 When they went from one nation to another, from one kingdom to another people;

God has been faithful to his people throughout their journey of migration.

1. God's Faithfulness in the Midst of Migration

2. How to Trust in God's Provision During Difficult Times

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 55:22 "Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved."

Psalms 105:14 He suffered no man to do them wrong: yea, he reproved kings for their sakes;

God protects those who follow Him and will stand up to authority when they do wrong.

1: We can trust in God s protection and provision when we follow Him faithfully.

2: God is willing to confront those in authority when they are in the wrong.

1: Psalm 34:22 - The Lord redeems the soul of His servants, And none of those who trust in Him shall be condemned.

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.

Psalms 105:15 Saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm.

God commands people to not harm His anointed and prophets.

1. God's Chosen: Protecting and Respecting Those He Has Anointed

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Honor God's Anointed

1. 1 Peter 2:17 - Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

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.

Psalms 105:16 Moreover he called for a famine upon the land: he brake the whole staff of bread.

God called for a famine on the land, resulting in a lack of food.

1. God's provision in times of scarcity

2. The importance of trusting in God in all 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 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.

Psalms 105:17 He sent a man before them, even Joseph, who was sold for a servant:

God's care for His people is demonstrated through Joseph, who was sold into servitude but eventually found favor and was given a position of authority.

1. God's faithfulness and care for us even in our darkest moments.

2. The value of trusting God with our lives and the rewards of obedience.

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.

Psalms 105:18 Whose feet they hurt with fetters: he was laid in iron:

The Psalmist reflects on the suffering of God's people, highlighting their imprisonment and the physical pain it caused.

1. The Power of Suffering: How God Uses Pain to Grow Us

2. The Strength of God's People: How Faith Can Endure Even in the Darkest of Times

1. 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.

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.

Psalms 105:19 Until the time that his word came: the word of the LORD tried him.

God tested His servant until the time His word came true.

1. Faithful Obedience: A Test of our Commitment to God

2. The Power of God s Promises: Standing Firm in the Face of Trials

1. Psalms 105:19

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."

Psalms 105:20 The king sent and loosed him; even the ruler of the people, and let him go free.

God's power is seen in the ability to free the oppressed.

1: God gives us freedom from our oppressors.

2: We can trust in God to free us from any burden.

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.

Psalms 105:21 He made him lord of his house, and ruler of all his substance:

The Lord has given authority and power to those who serve him faithfully.

1. The Power of Serving the Lord Faithfully

2. The Blessing of Obedience to the Lord

1. Colossians 3:22-24 - "Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God; 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."

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."

Psalms 105:22 To bind his princes at his pleasure; and teach his senators wisdom.

The Lord has the power to bind rulers and teach wisdom to the people He has appointed to lead.

1. "The Power of the Lord: Taking Control"

2. "Leadership Through Wisdom: A Gift From God"

1. 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.

2. Proverbs 1:1-7 - The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel: To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight.

Psalms 105:23 Israel also came into Egypt; and Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham.

Jacob and the Israelites went to Egypt and settled there.

1. God's Unfailing Faithfulness in Times of Trouble

2. God's Will is Greater than Man's Plans

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.

Psalms 105:24 And he increased his people greatly; and made them stronger than their enemies.

God increased His people and made them stronger than their enemies.

1. God Rewards Those Who Trust in Him

2. The Power of 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. Psalm 33:18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy.

Psalms 105:25 He turned their heart to hate his people, to deal subtilly with his servants.

God turned the hearts of people to hate his people and to be cunning with his servants.

1. The Danger of Turning Away from God

2. The Need for Obedience to 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. 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.

Psalms 105:26 He sent Moses his servant; and Aaron whom he had chosen.

The Lord sent Moses and Aaron as his servants.

1. The Lord's Faithfulness in Choosing His Servants

2. God's Provision for His People

1. Isaiah 41:8-9 But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, my friend; you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off

2. Isaiah 43:10 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.

Psalms 105:27 They shewed his signs among them, and wonders in the land of Ham.

The Israelites witnessed God's signs and wonders in the land of Ham.

1. God's power and presence can be seen in all places.

2. Testimonies of God's faithfulness are all around us.

1. Exodus 7:3-5 - And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of Egypt.

2. Isaiah 8:18 - Behold, I and the children whom the LORD hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion.

Psalms 105:28 He sent darkness, and made it dark; and they rebelled not against his word.

God sent darkness and the people did not rebel against His word.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following God's word brings light even in the midst of darkness.

2. The Strength of Faith - How trusting in God's promises can provide strength in the face of uncertainty.

1. Psalm 105:28

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. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Psalms 105:29 He turned their waters into blood, and slew their fish.

God punished the Egyptians by causing their water to turn to blood and destroying their fish.

1. God's Justice: How God's Punishment for the Wicked is Justified

2. The Power of God: How God's Actions Reveal His Strength

1. Exodus 7:17-21 - When Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go, God brought ten plagues on the Egyptians, including turning the water into blood.

2. Isaiah 28:17 - In describing God's justice, Isaiah writes that he will be a "Bread of adversity and a water of affliction."

Psalms 105:30 Their land brought forth frogs in abundance, in the chambers of their kings.

The land of the people of Israel brought forth a great abundance of frogs in the chambers of their kings.

1. God is the ultimate source of provision, even in times of adversity.

2. God's provision often comes in unexpected ways.

1. Psalm 105:30-31 - Their land brought forth frogs in abundance, in the chambers of their kings. He spoke, and there came swarms of flies, and gnats throughout all their territory.

2. Exodus 8:1-2 - Then the Lord said to Moses, Go in to Pharaoh and say to him, Thus says the Lord, Let my people go, that they may serve me. But if you refuse to let them go, behold, I will plague all your country with frogs.

Psalms 105:31 He spake, and there came divers sorts of flies, and lice in all their coasts.

God spoke and sent different kinds of flies and lice to all the land.

1. God's Power over Nature: A Study in Psalm 105:31

2. God's Sovereignty: An Exploration of Psalm 105:31

1. 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 in all the land of Egypt the land was corrupted by reason of the swarm of flies.

2. 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.

Psalms 105:32 He gave them hail for rain, and flaming fire in their land.

God provided the Israelites with hail instead of rain and a fire to consume their land.

1. God's care for His people - how He provided for their needs even in difficult times.

2. God's judgment - how He uses different forms of discipline to bring about repentance.

1. Exodus 9:23-24 - "Then Moses stretched out his staff toward the sky, and the Lord sent thunder and hail, and fire ran down to the earth. And the Lord rained hail on the land of Egypt. So there was hail with fire flashing continually in the midst of it, very severe, such as had not been in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation."

2. Jeremiah 5:24 - "They do not say in their hearts, 'Let us fear the Lord our God, who gives the rain in its season, the autumn rain and the spring rain, and keeps for us the weeks appointed for the harvest.'"

Psalms 105:33 He smote their vines also and their fig trees; and brake the trees of their coasts.

God destroyed Israel's enemies and their crops as punishment for their wickedness.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness

2. God's Righteous Judgments

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. Jeremiah 25:15-17 - "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, said to me: Take from my hand this cup filled with the wine of my wrath and make all the nations to whom I send you drink it. When they drink it, they will stagger and go mad because of the sword I will send among them. So I took the cup from the Lord s hand and made all the nations to whom he sent me drink it:

Psalms 105:34 He spake, and the locusts came, and caterpillers, and that without number,

He spoke and the locusts obeyed His command, swarming without end.

1: We can trust in God's power and provision, knowing that He will always come through for us.

2: Even when trials and difficulties come, we can be sure that God is in control and will provide for us.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches us to trust in God, rather than worrying about earthly needs.

2: Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble.

Psalms 105:35 And did eat up all the herbs in their land, and devoured the fruit of their ground.

God's people were punished for their disobedience by being deprived of the abundance of their land.

1: We must not forget God's provision and blessings, even when we are disobedient.

2: We must learn from the mistakes of others and strive to be obedient to God.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for us.

2: Deuteronomy 8:11-20 - Be mindful of God's blessings and be careful not to forget Him.

Psalms 105:36 He smote also all the firstborn in their land, the chief of all their strength.

God punished the Egyptians by smiting their firstborn, the strongest among them.

1. God's justice is swift and severe

2. The consequences of disobedience to God are dire

1. Hebrews 12:5-11 - The consequences of disobeying God

2. Exodus 12:29-30 - God's punishment of the Egyptians

Psalms 105:37 He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes.

God protected and cared for His people by bringing them out of Egypt with silver and gold, and not one of them was weak.

1. The Lord's Faithful Provision: How God Cares for His People

2. The Strength of God's People: Not One of Us Is Weak

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 7:21 - "You shall not be in dread of them, for the LORD your God is in your midst, a great and awesome God."

Psalms 105:38 Egypt was glad when they departed: for the fear of them fell upon them.

The Egyptians rejoiced when the Israelites left, because they were afraid of them.

1. God's People: An Instrument of His Power

2. Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom

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 today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

2. Proverbs 9:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

Psalms 105:39 He spread a cloud for a covering; and fire to give light in the night.

God provided a cloud for shade and fire for light at night.

1. God's Provision for Our Every Need

2. God's Care for the World

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 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?

Psalms 105:40 The people asked, and he brought quails, and satisfied them with the bread of heaven.

The people of God asked for help and He provided them with quail and bread from heaven.

1: We can always trust God to provide for us in our time of need.

2: God is a generous and gracious provider, and He will meet all of our needs.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches us not to worry about our needs because God will provide for us.

2: Philippians 4:19 - God will meet all of our needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 105:41 He opened the rock, and the waters gushed out; they ran in the dry places like a river.

He opened the rock and provided a miracle of water for His people.

1: God provides for us in unexpected ways.

2: God is the source of all our needs.

1: Matthew 6:25-34; Jesus teaches us to trust God for our provision.

2: Philippians 4:19; God will meet all our needs according to His riches in glory.

Psalms 105:42 For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham his servant.

The Lord remembered the promise He made to Abraham and kept it.

1. God is Faithful - He always keeps His promises

2. The Power of Commitment - We can rely on God to keep His word

1. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God find their Yes in Him.

2. Hebrews 10:23 - Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Psalms 105:43 And he brought forth his people with joy, and his chosen with gladness:

The Lord brought His people out of captivity with joy and gladness.

1: Celebrate the Joy of the Lord

2: Rejoice in His Goodness

1: Jeremiah 32:41 - I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all my heart and all my soul.

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.

Psalms 105:44 And gave them the lands of the heathen: and they inherited the labour of the people;

The Lord gave the Israelites the lands of the heathen, and they inherited the labour of the people.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to the Israelites.

2. The importance of trusting God's plan even in difficult times.

1. Deuteronomy 7:1 - "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. 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. For the Lord s portion is his people, Jacob his allotted inheritance.

Psalms 105:45 That they might observe his statutes, and keep his laws. Praise ye the LORD.

God's people are encouraged to follow His statutes and laws in order to please Him.

1. The Power of Obedience: Living in Righteousness and Praising the Lord

2. Keeping the Law: Honoring God Through Our Actions

1. 1 John 2:3-6 - Now by this we may be sure that we know him, if we obey his commandments. Whoever says I have come to 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 love for God is perfected. By this we may be sure that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

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.

Psalm 106 is a psalm that reflects on the history of Israel's disobedience and God's faithfulness in spite of their shortcomings. It acknowledges the sins and failures of the people, but also emphasizes God's mercy, redemption, and steadfast love.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by praising the Lord and acknowledging His goodness. They express a desire to give thanks to Him and proclaim His mighty acts (Psalm 106:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges the sins of Israel throughout their history. They recount how the people forgot God's works, rebelled against Him in the wilderness, and made a golden calf to worship (Psalm 106:6-20).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist describes how God's anger was kindled against His people due to their disobedience. They recount various instances where God punished them but also highlights Moses' intercession for them (Psalm 106:21-23).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on Israel's continued rebellion even after witnessing God's miracles. They mention their involvement in idolatry, immorality, and even sacrificing their own children (Psalm 106:24-39).

5th Paragraph: Despite Israel's unfaithfulness, the psalmist emphasizes God's compassion and willingness to forgive when they repented. They acknowledge His deliverance from captivity and restoration of His people (Psalm 106:40-48).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred six presents

a reflection on Israel's disobedience,

and an affirmation of divine mercy,

highlighting expression achieved through praising goodness while emphasizing recognition of divine acts.

Emphasizing acknowledgment achieved through recounting historical sins while affirming divine punishment,

and emphasizing reflection achieved through recognizing ongoing rebellion while expressing gratitude for divine forgiveness.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine compassion while affirming deliverance from captivity.

Psalms 106:1 Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Praise God for His goodness and mercy that endures forever.

1. The Lord is Good: Giving Thanks for God's Unfailing Mercy

2. Rejoicing in the Lord's Love: Celebrating the Gift of God's Eternal Mercy

1. Psalm 107:1, "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!"

2. James 5:13, "Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise."

Psalms 106:2 Who can utter the mighty acts of the LORD? who can shew forth all his praise?

This passage from Psalms 106:2 is asking who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord, and who can express all of his praises?

1. The Power of Praise: Extolling the Lord for His Mighty Acts

2. Seeing God in All Things: Expressing Gratitude and Appreciation

1. 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.

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.

Psalms 106:3 Blessed are they that keep judgment, and he that doeth righteousness at all times.

Blessing comes to those who are obedient to the Lord and do right in all circumstances.

1. The Blessing of Obedience

2. Doing Right in All Circumstances

1. Deuteronomy 6:18-19 - Do what is right and good in the Lord s sight, so that it may go well with you and you may go in and take over the good land the Lord promised on oath to your ancestors.

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.

Psalms 106:4 Remember me, O LORD, with the favour that thou bearest unto thy people: O visit me with thy salvation;

The psalmist pleads with the Lord for His favor and salvation.

1. The Power of Prayer: Relying on the Lord for Favor and Salvation

2. God's Grace: Receiving His Blessings through Faith

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 103:2-5 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalms 106:5 That I may see the good of thy chosen, that I may rejoice in the gladness of thy nation, that I may glory with thine inheritance.

The Psalmist prays that he may see the good of God's chosen people, rejoice in their gladness, and glory in His inheritance.

1. The Joy of God s Chosen People

2. The Blessing of Being Part of God s Inheritance

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. Ephesians 1:18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.

Psalms 106:6 We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly.

People have sinned, committed iniquity, and done wickedly, just as their fathers have done.

1. What Does Iniquity Mean? Exploring What the Bible Teaches About Sin and Its Consequences

2. Walking in the Footsteps of Our Fathers: How to Avoid Sinful Behaviors

1. Psalms 106:6

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."

Psalms 106:7 Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked him at the sea, even at the Red sea.

The Israelites in Egypt failed to recognize and remember God's mercy and instead provoked him at the Red Sea.

1. The Danger of Forgetting God's Mercies

2. The Importance of Recognizing God's Wonders

1. Psalms 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.

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.

Psalms 106:8 Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known.

God's love and power to save His people.

1: God's love is greater and more powerful than any obstacles we face.

2: We can trust in God's power to save us in times of need.

1: Romans 8:31-39 - If God is for us, who can be against us?

2: Isaiah 43:1-7 - Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

Psalms 106:9 He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up: so he led them through the depths, as through the wilderness.

God parted the Red Sea and led the Israelites through the depths, as if they were in a desert.

1. God's provision for His people during times of need

2. The power of faith and trust in God

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. 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.

Psalms 106:10 And he saved them from the hand of him that hated them, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.

God's faithfulness in delivering his people from their enemies.

1. The Lord is Our Shield and Defender - Psalm 33:20

2. God's Protection in Times of Trouble - Psalm 46:1

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 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.

Psalms 106:11 And the waters covered their enemies: there was not one of them left.

The waters covered the enemies of God's people and none of them were left.

1. God's Power: Our Protector and Defender

2. Perseverance: Standing Firm in Times of Trouble

1. 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.

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.

Psalms 106:12 Then believed they his words; they sang his praise.

People believed in God's words and praised Him.

1. The Power of Belief: Why We Should Have Faith in the Lord

2. The Strength of Praise: Celebrating God with Our Words

1. Romans 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Psalm 100:4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

Psalms 106:13 They soon forgat his works; they waited not for his counsel:

People forgot the works of God and did not wait for His counsel.

1. Don't forget the works of God and wait for His counsel.

2. Rely on God and seek His counsel.

1. Psalm 103:2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

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.

Psalms 106:14 But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert.

The Israelites lusted excessively and tested God in the wilderness.

1. Don't Test God's Patience - Hebrews 3:7-11

2. The Power of Temptation - James 1:12-15

1. Psalm 78:17-21

2. Exodus 17:7-8

Psalms 106:15 And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.

God answered the people's requests but He also sent a sense of spiritual emptiness in their souls.

1. Do Not Let Your Joy Be Dependent On God's Gifts

2. True Satisfaction Comes From God, Not His Gifts

1. Proverbs 19:23 - The fear of the Lord leads to life, and whoever has it rests satisfied; he will not be visited by harm.

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.

Psalms 106:16 They envied Moses also in the camp, and Aaron the saint of the LORD.

The people in the camp envied Moses and Aaron, who were both saints of the LORD.

1. The Danger of Coveting: How to Avoid Jealousy in Our Hearts

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Finding Contentment in God's Plan

1. Exodus 32:1-10 - The people envied Moses because of his close relationship with God.

2. James 4:1-3 - We should not envy others, but draw closer to God to find satisfaction.

Psalms 106:17 The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan, and covered the company of Abiram.

The Earth opened up and swallowed up Dathan and Abiram and their company.

1. The Power of God: God demonstrated His power by causing the Earth to open up and swallow the rebellious Dathan and Abiram.

2. Obey God: The consequences of disobeying God are dire, as Dathan and Abiram learned.

1. Psalm 105:16 - He called for a famine upon the land; he broke every staff of bread.

2. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near.

Psalms 106:18 And a fire was kindled in their company; the flame burned up the wicked.

The Psalmist recounts a story of how a fire was kindled in the midst of the wicked, and the flame consumed them.

1. God's Judgment Is Just and Righteous

2. The Consequences 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. 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?"

Psalms 106:19 They made a calf in Horeb, and worshipped the molten image.

The people of Israel made a calf in Horeb and worshipped its molten image.

1. The Danger of Idolatry - Psalms 106:19

2. The Strength of Faith - Psalms 106:19

1. Deuteronomy 9:7-8 - Remember this and never forget how you aroused the anger of the Lord your God in the wilderness. From the day you left the land of Egypt until you arrived here, you have been rebellious against the Lord.

2. Exodus 32:1-4 - When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, Come, make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don t know what has happened to him. Aaron answered them, Take off the gold earrings that your wives, your sons and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me. So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron.

Psalms 106:20 Thus they changed their glory into the similitude of an ox that eateth grass.

The people of Israel failed to remain faithful to God and replaced their glory with idols in the form of an ox that eats grass.

1. God always desires faithfulness from His people; we must be careful to not replace Him with idols.

2. We must remain devoted to God and not succumb to the temptation of abandoning Him for something less.

1. Exodus 20:3-6 - You shall have no other gods before me.

2. 1 John 5:21 - Little children, keep yourselves from idols."

Psalms 106:21 They forgat God their saviour, which had done great things in Egypt;

This passage highlights how God's people had forgotten their savior, despite His great works in Egypt.

1. The Danger of Forgetting the Lord: Remembering God's Faithfulness in Times of Trouble

2. Not Forgetting the Lord: Celebrating God's Unfailing Love and Mercy

1. 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."

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.

Psalms 106:22 Wondrous works in the land of Ham, and terrible things by the Red sea.

God performed miraculous and awe-inspiring acts of power in the land of Ham and sent terrifying judgments upon the people living near the Red Sea.

1. God's Power Is Unstoppable

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Exodus 14:21-22 God split the Red Sea for the Israelites

2. Psalm 105:27-30 God performed wonderful works among His people

Psalms 106:23 Therefore he said that he would destroy them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, to turn away his wrath, lest he should destroy them.

God was planning to destroy the Israelites, but Moses interceded and was able to turn away His wrath.

1. The Power of Intercession: How Moses Intervened on Behalf of the Israelites

2. The Mercy of God: How a Righteous Intercessor Can Turn Away God's Wrath

1. Exodus 32:11-14

2. Numbers 14:13-20

Psalms 106:24 Yea, they despised the pleasant land, they believed not his word:

The people of Israel did not trust in God and instead chose to reject the promised land.

1. Trust in the Lord and His Promises

2. The Danger of Rejecting God's Word

1. Jeremiah 17:5-8

2. Hebrews 11:6-7

Psalms 106:25 But murmured in their tents, and hearkened not unto the voice of the LORD.

The people murmured and did not listen to the Lord's voice.

1. The importance of listening to God's Word.

2. The consequences of murmuring and disobeying God.

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 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.

Psalms 106:26 Therefore he lifted up his hand against them, to overthrow them in the wilderness:

God punished the Israelites for their disobedience.

1. Be mindful of God's grace and mercy, and strive to follow His commandments.

2. Everyone is accountable for their own actions, and will be judged accordingly.

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God outlines the blessings and curses that will come upon the Israelites depending on their faithfulness to Him.

2. Hebrews 12:5-13 - God disciplines His children for their own good, so that they may share in His holiness.

Psalms 106:27 To overthrow their seed also among the nations, and to scatter them in the lands.

God scattered the seed of His people among the nations and lands.

1. God's People Must Go Out: Lessons from Psalm 106:27

2. The Power of Scattering: Understanding the Will of God

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. Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Psalms 106:28 They joined themselves also unto Baalpeor, and ate the sacrifices of the dead.

The Israelites joined themselves to Baalpeor and ate the pagan sacrifices of the dead.

1. "The Dangers of Idolatry"

2. "The Power of Renewed Commitment"

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 10:14 - Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry.

Psalms 106:29 Thus they provoked him to anger with their inventions: and the plague brake in upon them.

The people of Israel provoked God with their man-made inventions and were struck by a plague as a consequence.

1. God will not tolerate disobedience and rebellion against His commands.

2. We must be humble and obedient to God in all things.

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. 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."

Psalms 106:30 Then stood up Phinehas, and executed judgment: and so the plague was stayed.

Phinehas stood up and executed justice, thus ending the plague.

1. The importance of administering justice.

2. How God uses individuals to bring about His will.

1. James 1:20 - For the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.

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."

Psalms 106:31 And that was counted unto him for righteousness unto all generations for evermore.

God credited righteousness to Abraham and his descendants forever.

1. God's faithfulness and mercy endures forever

2. Abraham and his descendants have been given a great blessing by God

1. Romans 4:3-6 - Abraham was credited righteousness through faith

2. Psalms 103:17 - The Lord's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting

Psalms 106:32 They angered him also at the waters of strife, so that it went ill with Moses for their sakes:

The Israelites angered God at the waters of strife, causing God to be displeased with Moses.

1. God's patience should never be taken for granted.

2. Showing disrespect to the Lord has consequences.

1. Proverbs 14:29 - whoever is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who has a hasty temper exalts folly.

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.

Psalms 106:33 Because they provoked his spirit, so that he spake unadvisedly with his lips.

God will always forgive us for our mistakes, but we must seek forgiveness and avoid provoking His spirit.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Seeking Redemption Despite Our Mistakes

2. The Importance of Humility: Refraining from Provoking God's Spirit

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. 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."

Psalms 106:34 They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the LORD commanded them:

God commands us to show mercy to others, even those who are not of our people.

1: Show mercy and love to all, regardless of who they are.

2: Obey God's commands, even when they are difficult.

1: Luke 6:27-36 - Love your enemies and do good to those who hate you.

2: John 13:34 - Love one another as I have loved you.

Psalms 106:35 But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works.

The Psalmist recounts how the Israelites were drawn away from God and mixed in with the nations of the world, learning their customs and ways.

1. "The Danger of Assimilation"

2. "The Pull of Temptation"

1. Psalm 106:35

2. Jeremiah 2:11-13 "Hath a nation changed their gods, which are yet no gods? but my people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit. Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be ye 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."

Psalms 106:36 And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them.

The people of Israel served false idols, which eventually became a snare to them.

1. Idolatry and the Pitfalls of False Gods: Why We Should Never Chase After Empty Promises.

2. The Dangers of Wandering: How to Stay on the Path of Righteousness.

1. 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.

2. Isaiah 44:9, They that make a graven image are all of them vanity; and their delectable things shall not profit; and they are their own witnesses; they see not, nor know; that they may be ashamed.

Psalms 106:37 Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils,

They sinned against God by sacrificing their sons and daughters to false gods.

1. The Danger of False Gods - the importance of trusting in the Lord and avoiding idolatry

2. Remembering God's Faithfulness - despite our sins, the Lord remains faithful and merciful

1. Deuteronomy 6:14 - 15 "You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you"

2. Isaiah 44:6-8 "Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.'"

Psalms 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.

The Psalmist laments the sin of the Israelites, who sacrificed their children to idols of Canaan and polluted the land with their blood.

1. The Danger of Idolatry, and the Consequences of Turning Away from God

2. The Sin of Shedding Innocent Blood and the Consequences of Disobedience.

1. 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."

2. Ezekiel 20:25-26 - "Wherefore I gave them also statutes that were not good, and judgments whereby they should not live; And I polluted them in their own gifts, in that they caused to pass through the fire all that openeth the womb, that I might make them desolate, to the end that they might know that I am the LORD."

Psalms 106:39 Thus were they defiled with their own works, and went a whoring with their own inventions.

People are defiled and led astray by their own works and actions.

1. The Consequences of Sin: How Our Actions Have Consequences

2. Staying True to God: The Importance of Obeying God's Laws

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

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.

Psalms 106:40 Therefore was the wrath of the LORD kindled against his people, insomuch that he abhorred his own inheritance.

The Lord was angry with his people and found his own inheritance detestable.

1. The Unrepentant Heart: How Sin Alienates Us from God

2. The Lord s Mercy and Wrath: An Examination of Psalm 106

1. Psalm 106:40

2. Romans 1:18-32, Ephesians 4:17-19

Psalms 106:41 And he gave them into the hand of the heathen; and they that hated them ruled over them.

God's people were given into the hands of their enemies who oppressed them.

1. God's love transcends the suffering of His people.

2. Facing oppression with faith and courage.

1. Psalms 34:17-19 - The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

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.

Psalms 106:42 Their enemies also oppressed them, and they were brought into subjection under their hand.

The Israelites were oppressed by their enemies and were forced to live under their rule.

1. God will be with you in your time of trouble and will help you overcome.

2. Don't forget the faithfulness of God in your suffering.

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 8:37-39 - "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."

Psalms 106:43 Many times did he deliver them; but they provoked him with their counsel, and were brought low for their iniquity.

God has repeatedly shown mercy to us, yet we often ignore his warnings and suffer consequences.

1: We should be grateful for God's mercy and strive to be obedient to him.

2: We should remember the importance of humility and repentance when we sin.

1: James 4:6-10 God opposes the proud, but shows favor to the humble.

2: Psalm 130:3-4 If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us.

Psalms 106:44 Nevertheless he regarded their affliction, when he heard their cry:

God never ignores the cries of his people in their affliction.

1. God's Compassion for His People in Suffering

2. The Lord Hears Our Cries

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."

Psalms 106:45 And he remembered for them his covenant, and repented according to the multitude of his mercies.

God remembered his covenant with his people and showed mercy to them.

1. God's Covenant - Remembering His Promises

2. God's Mercy - An Unfailing Love

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. 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.

Psalms 106:46 He made them also to be pitied of all those that carried them captives.

God showed compassion to those He allowed to be taken away into captivity.

1. God's Mercy and Compassion in the Midst of Suffering

2. The Power of God's Love in 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. 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."

Psalms 106:47 Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the heathen, to give thanks unto thy holy name, and to triumph in thy praise.

The psalmist calls on God to save and gather the people of Israel from the Gentiles, so that they may give thanks and praise His holy name.

1. The Power of Thanksgiving and Praise

2. God's Love and Protection for His People

1. Ephesians 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

2. Psalm 107:2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy.

Psalms 106:48 Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting: and let all the people say, Amen. Praise ye the LORD.

God of Israel is praised and to be praised forever.

1. A God of Forever: Recognizing God's Enduring Faithfulness

2. Praising the Lord: Expressing Gratitude for God's Blessing

1. Psalm 135:13 - "Your name, O LORD, endures forever, your renown, O LORD, through all generations."

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."

Psalm 107 is a psalm that celebrates the steadfast love and deliverance of God. It recounts various scenarios where people faced distress, cried out to God, and experienced His salvation and restoration. The psalm emphasizes the importance of giving thanks to God for His unfailing love.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon the redeemed of the Lord to give thanks for His steadfast love. They invite those who have experienced His deliverance to proclaim it joyfully (Psalm 107:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist presents four different scenarios where people found themselves in distress: wandering in the desert, imprisoned, afflicted due to their rebellion, and facing storms at sea. In each situation, they cried out to God (Psalm 107:4-28).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist describes how God heard their cries and delivered them from their troubles. They emphasize His power over nature, his ability to satisfy thirst and hunger, and His restoration of those who were sick (Psalm 107:29-43).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred seven presents

a celebration of divine deliverance,

and an exhortation to give thanks,

highlighting invitation achieved through calling for gratitude while emphasizing recognition of divine love.

Emphasizing narrative depiction achieved through recounting distressing situations while affirming divine intervention,

and emphasizing reflection achieved through recognizing answered prayers while expressing acknowledgement of divine power.

Mentioning celebration shown regarding recognizing acts of deliverance while affirming call for thanksgiving.

Psalms 107:1 O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

We should thank God for His goodness and mercy that lasts forever.

1. Be thankful for God's everlasting mercy.

2. Acknowledge the goodness of the Lord.

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

2. 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."

Psalms 107:2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;

The redeemed of the Lord give thanks for being redeemed from the enemy.

1. God is Always Faithful Even in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of Thanksgiving

1. Psalms 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. 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."

Psalms 107:3 And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south.

God's mercy extends to all of us, no matter where we are from.

1. God's Love Reaches Everywhere

2. Unconditional Mercy and Grace

1. Isaiah 43:6-7 - "Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

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.

Psalms 107:4 They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way; they found no city to dwell in.

People wandered in the wilderness and were unable to find a place to settle.

1. God provides for us even in our darkest moments.

2. Even when hope seems lost, God will provide.

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. 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.

Psalms 107:5 Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them.

People in distress find their souls weakened and exhausted.

1. The Power of a Testimony - How the trials of life can strengthen our faith.

2. The Strength of Weakness - How God reveals himself in our brokenness.

1. Psalm 107:5 - "Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them."

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."

Psalms 107:6 Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses.

This passage teaches that when we are in distress, we can call on the Lord and He will deliver us.

1. God Is Ready to Save: Finding Deliverance in Troubled Times

2. A Cry for Help: The Power of Prayer in Times of Trouble

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 5:13 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

Psalms 107:7 And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation.

God guides His people and leads them to a place of safety and comfort.

1. "The Lord Is Our Shepherd"

2. "God's Unfailing Guidance"

1. Psalm 23:1-4

2. Isaiah 41:10-13

Psalms 107:8 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

People should praise God for His goodness and for the wonderful works He has done.

1. Praise the Lord for His Mercy

2. Unveiling the Wonders of God

1. Psalms 107:8 - Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

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.

Psalms 107:9 For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.

The Lord satisfies those who are longing and fills those who are hungry with goodness.

1. Satisfied: Trusting God to Meet Our Longings

2. Filled with Goodness: Letting God Satisfy Our Hungers

1. Philippians 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Psalms 145:16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Psalms 107:10 Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, being bound in affliction and iron;

Those who have been afflicted and are bound in darkness and in the shadow of death will find true freedom in God's deliverance.

1: Freedom from Darkness and Death

2: God's Deliverance from Affliction

1: Isaiah 61:1 - 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: Hebrews 2:14-15 - Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

Psalms 107:11 Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High:

The consequences of rebelling against God's word and ignoring His counsel.

1: God's Word is True and Should be Followed

2: The Danger of Ignoring God's Counsel

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 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.

Psalms 107:12 Therefore he brought down their heart with labour; they fell down, and there was none to help.

God humbles those who are proud and ungrateful, and they find themselves in need of help with no one to give it.

1. God's humbling of the proud and ungrateful.

2. The need for humility and gratitude.

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

2. Luke 18:9-14 - The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector.

Psalms 107:13 Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them out of their distresses.

The Lord hears and responds to the prayers of those who call on Him in distress.

1. The Lord's Salvation: Finding Comfort in Troubled Times

2. Trusting in the Lord: Relying on God 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. 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."

Psalms 107:14 He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and brake their bands in sunder.

This verse from Psalms 107 talks about God's deliverance from darkness and death.

1: God is our source of deliverance and freedom.

2: We can come out of darkness and death with God's help.

1: 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.

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.

Psalms 107:15 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

Men should give thanks to the Lord for His goodness and His wonderful works.

1. God s Goodness and Wonders

2. Giving Thanks to the Lord

1. Isaiah 43:7 - everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

2. 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.

Psalms 107:16 For he hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder.

God has the power to break through any obstacle.

1. God is in control of our lives and can break through any barrier.

2. No matter the difficulty, trust in the power of God to overcome.

1. 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

2. Matthew 19:26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

Psalms 107:17 Fools because of their transgression, and because of their iniquities, are afflicted.

The consequences of foolish and sinful actions are affliction.

1: We must turn away from foolishness and sin and seek God's forgiveness and mercy instead.

2: We must remember that the consequences of our actions, both good and bad, can have a lasting impact on our lives.

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; 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 14:12 - There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

Psalms 107:18 Their soul abhorreth all manner of meat; and they draw near unto the gates of death.

The soul may reject sustenance, leading to death.

1: God provides for our souls, even in times of need or famine.

2: We should never forget that God is our ultimate sustenance and provider.

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?

2: Psalm 34:8 O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

Psalms 107:19 Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he saveth them out of their distresses.

God listens to the cries of his people and delivers them from their troubles.

1: God is always with us in our darkest moments, ready to save us in our distress.

2: Our troubles are never too great for God to overcome.

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."

Psalms 107:20 He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

God sent his word and healed those in need, saving them from destruction.

1. God is the ultimate source of healing and deliverance

2. The power of the Lord's word is mighty and can bring healing to all

1. Psalm 107:20 - He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goes 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.

Psalms 107:21 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

People should give praise to the Lord for His goodness and His wonderful works towards humanity.

1. The Lord Is Good: How To Celebrate His Goodness

2. Praise The Lord: How To Appreciate His Works Towards Humanity

1. Psalm 103:1-5

2. Ephesians 2:4-8

Psalms 107:22 And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.

God's people should give sacrifices of thanks and praise Him with joy.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord: Giving Thanks to God

2. Gratitude: Celebrating God's Goodness

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 - "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

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."

Psalms 107:23 They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters;

Those who journey through the sea on ships and in the deep waters of the ocean are blessed.

1: Those who take risks in life will be blessed.

2: God rewards those who are brave and courageous.

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: Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

Psalms 107:24 These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep.

This passage speaks of the wonders of God's works seen in the deep.

1. Discovering the Wonders of God's Creation

2. Experiencing the Miracles of the Lord

1. Psalm 8:3-4 - When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

2. 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.

Psalms 107:25 For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof.

God has the power to command the wind and the sea.

1. God can calm the storm in our lives.

2. God has ultimate control over nature and our lives.

1. Matthew 8:23-27

2. Psalm 107:25-30

Psalms 107:26 They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble.

The faithful endure great suffering but God will deliver them from their troubles.

1: God will deliver us from our troubles no matter what we face.

2: We must stay faithful to God in times of trouble.

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 34:19 "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all."

Psalms 107:27 They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wit's end.

The passage speaks of a person who is in a state of desperation, reeling to and fro and staggering like a drunken man.

1: God is Always There for Us in Our Times of Need

2: Be Steadfast, and Trust in the Lord

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.

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.

Psalms 107:28 Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses.

People in distress can cry out to the Lord and He will bring them out of their troubles.

1. The Lord is always ready to answer us in times of need.

2. God is our refuge and strength in times of trouble.

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.

Psalms 107:29 He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.

He can still the raging storms of life.

1: God is able to bring peace to our troubled souls.

2: We can trust God to bring stillness to our stormy lives.

1: Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on you.

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.

Psalms 107:30 Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven.

The Lord brings those who are calm and patient to the desired destination.

1. The Blessings of Patience

2. The Joy of a Quiet Heart

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 in trust shall be your strength.

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.

Psalms 107:31 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

People should praise the Lord for His goodness and His wonderful works to mankind.

1. Praising the Lord for His Goodness and Wonders

2. Thanking God for His Faithfulness and Love

1. Ephesians 1:3-6 - Praising God for His Blessings

2. Romans 5:8 - Expressing Gratitude for God's Unconditional Love

Psalms 107:32 Let them exalt him also in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders.

He should be praised and glorified in the presence of the people and elders.

1. Praise the Lord in the midst of the congregation

2. Exalt the Lord in the presence of the elders

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. Psalm 34:3 - O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

Psalms 107:33 He turneth rivers into a wilderness, and the watersprings into dry ground;

He turns the abundance of nature into nothingness.

1. God's Power to Transform: How God Can Take Away, as Easily as He Gives.

2. Learning to Appreciate What We Have: Gratitude in the Face of Loss.

1. Job 37:11-13 "He loads the clouds with moisture; he scatters his lightning through them. At his command they swirl around over the face of the whole earth to do whatever he commands them. He brings the clouds to punish people, or to water his earth and show his love.

2. Isaiah 44:3 For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

Psalms 107:34 A fruitful land into barrenness, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein.

The land becomes barren due to the wickedness of its inhabitants.

1. "The Consequences of Sin in Our Lives"

2. "The Need for Righteousness in Our Lives"

1. Jeremiah 7:23-24 - "But this is what I commanded them, saying, 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people; and walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.' Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but followed the counsels and the dictation of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward."

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

Psalms 107:35 He turneth the wilderness into a standing water, and dry ground into watersprings.

He can turn our wilderness into a place of abundance.

1. God's Abundance: How the Lord provides in times of need

2. Overcoming Adversity: How faith can turn a difficult situation into something beautiful

1. Psalm 23:1-3 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 Remember not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

Psalms 107:36 And there he maketh the hungry to dwell, that they may prepare a city for habitation;

God provides a home for the hungry and those in need.

1: God's Provision: Fulfilling Our Needs

2: God's Compassion: Caring For The Needy

1: Philippians 4:19 "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

2: Isaiah 58:10-11 "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. The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame."

Psalms 107:37 And sow the fields, and plant vineyards, which may yield fruits of increase.

The Psalmist encourages planting of fields and vineyards to bring forth a plentiful harvest.

1. Abundance Through Faithful Labor - God provides increase when we trust in Him and work diligently.

2. Planting Seeds of Generosity - May we be generous with our time and resources and trust in God to provide for us.

1. Psalms 107:37

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."

Psalms 107:38 He blesseth them also, so that they are multiplied greatly; and suffereth not their cattle to decrease.

God blesses those who are faithful to Him, and He will provide for them abundantly.

1: God Will Provide - God will provide for those who are faithful to Him and show His faithfulness through multiplying their blessings.

2: Blessed to be a Blessing - God blesses us so that we can be a blessing to others and share His love.

1: 2 Corinthians 9:8 - "And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

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 whose walk is blameless."

Psalms 107:39 Again, they are minished and brought low through oppression, affliction, and sorrow.

People may be afflicted with oppression, affliction, and sorrow, causing them to become diminished and low.

1. Overcoming Oppression and Affliction through Faith in God

2. Enduring Sorrow to Reap Joy

1. Psalm 107:39

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.

Psalms 107:40 He poureth contempt upon princes, and causeth them to wander in the wilderness, where there is no way.

He humbles the proud and sends them on a journey with no clear direction.

1: God humbles those who are proud and leads them to a place of uncertainty.

2: God humbles the mighty and shows them that true strength comes from Him alone.

1: Mark 10:42-45 - Jesus calls his disciples to serve humbly, not to be served.

2: James 4:6-10 - God resists the proud, and exalts the humble.

Psalms 107:41 Yet setteth he the poor on high from affliction, and maketh him families like a flock.

God cares for and provides for the poor and needy.

1: God's Provision for the Poor

2: God's Unfailing Love for the Needy

1: Deuteronomy 15:7-11

2: James 1:27

Psalms 107:42 The righteous shall see it, and rejoice: and all iniquity shall stop her mouth.

The righteous will be glad to see justice, and all wickedness will be silenced.

1. Praise God for His Just and Righteous Judgments

2. How to Rejoice in the Lord's Righteousness

1. Psalm 97:12 - Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

2. Romans 1:17 - For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, The righteous shall live by faith.

Psalms 107:43 Whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they shall understand the lovingkindness of the LORD.

The wise shall understand the lovingkindness of the Lord.

1. Understanding God's Love: A Reflection on Psalms 107:43

2. Developing Wisdom to Appreciate God's Lovingkindness

1. Ephesians 3:18-19 - that you may have the power 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.

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.

Psalm 108 is a psalm of David that combines elements of praise, prayer, and trust in God. It expresses a deep longing for God's help and victory over enemies while exalting His steadfast love and faithfulness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by expressing his heart's determination to praise and worship God. He declares his loyalty and praises God among the nations (Psalm 108:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges the need for God's help in times of trouble. He calls upon God to manifest His steadfast love and faithfulness, asking for deliverance from enemies (Psalm 108:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses confidence in God's power to save. He declares that with God's help, they will triumph over their enemies and experience victory (Psalm 108:6-9).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist prays for divine assistance against their adversaries. He recognizes that human efforts alone are insufficient but relies on God's intervention for success (Psalm 108:10-13).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred eight presents

a declaration of determination to praise,

and a prayer for divine assistance,

highlighting expression achieved through affirming loyalty while emphasizing recognition of divine love.

Emphasizing acknowledgment achieved through recognizing need for deliverance while affirming trust in divine faithfulness,

and emphasizing supplication achieved through seeking victory over enemies while expressing reliance on divine intervention.

Mentioning personal reflection shown regarding recognizing insufficiency without divine assistance while affirming confidence in ultimate triumph.

Psalms 108:1 O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise, even with my glory.

The psalmist professes faith in God and expresses a desire to sing and praise Him with their whole heart.

1. Have a Heart of Praise: The Power of Giving God Our All

2. Singing Praises: How Worshiping God Should Transform Our Lives

1. Psalm 103:1-5 - Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy 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.

Psalms 108:2 Awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early.

The psalmist calls on the psaltery and harp to be awoken, as he will awake early.

1. The Power of Waking Up Early: How It Can Impact Your Life

2. Awaken to God's Presence: Reaching Out to Him Through Music

1. Isaiah 50:4 - The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:10 - He died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.

Psalms 108:3 I will praise thee, O LORD, among the people: and I will sing praises unto thee among the nations.

I will praise the LORD among all people and sing His praises throughout the nations.

1. The Joy of Praising God - A on the joy of praising God, regardless of our circumstances.

2. The Value of Singing His Praise - A on the power, importance, and necessity of singing praises to the Lord.

1. Psalm 100:1-5 - Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

2. Isaiah 12:5-6 - Sing and shout for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. And in that day you will say, Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted.

Psalms 108:4 For thy mercy is great above the heavens: and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds.

God's mercy and truth is far-reaching and limitless.

1. "The Height of God's Mercy"

2. "The Extent of God's Truth"

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. Isaiah 59:19-20 - "So they shall fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun; for he will come like a rushing stream, which the wind of the Lord drives. "And he will come to Zion as Redeemer, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression,"

Psalms 108:5 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: and thy glory above all the earth;

God is exalted above the heavens, and His glory is above all the earth.

1. Living in the Presence of an Exalted God

2. The Splendor of God's Glory

1. Isaiah 6:1-4

2. Daniel 4:34-35

Psalms 108:6 That thy beloved may be delivered: save with thy right hand, and answer me.

God can save us from any difficulty and respond to our pleas for help.

1: Our faith in God's protection and deliverance is never in vain.

2: When faced with difficulties, turn to God for help and He will respond.

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 34:17 - The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

Psalms 108:7 God hath spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth.

God spoke in holiness and He will bring joy and divide Shechem and Succoth.

1. The Joy of God's Holiness

2. The Division of Shechem and Succoth

1. Matthew 5:6 - "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."

2. Psalm 96:10 - "Say among the nations, The Lord reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; He will judge the peoples with equity.

Psalms 108:8 Gilead is mine; Manasseh is mine; Ephraim also is the strength of mine head; Judah is my lawgiver;

The psalmist claims Gilead, Manasseh, Ephraim, and Judah as his own.

1. The Strength of the Lord: How God's Sovereignty Strengthens Us

2. Owning Our Identity: Claiming Who We Are in Christ

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. Romans 8:14-17 - For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God s Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, Abba, Father. For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God s children. And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God s glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering.

Psalms 108:9 Moab is my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe; over Philistia will I triumph.

David claims victory over Moab, Edom, and Philistia.

1. Overcoming Challenges with Faith

2. Recognizing God's Faithfulness in Victory

1. Romans 8:31-39 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

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.

Psalms 108:10 Who will bring me into the strong city? who will lead me into Edom?

Psalm 108 speaks of confidence in God's love and salvation.

1. God's Love and Salvation: An Invitation to Peace

2. Strengthened in Confidence: Trusting in God'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. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalms 108:11 Wilt not thou, O God, who hast cast us off? and wilt not thou, O God, go forth with our hosts?

God's faithfulness is everlasting, even when people have turned away from Him.

1: God's Faithfulness - Psalms 108:11

2: God's Unfailing Love - Psalms 136:1-3

1: 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: 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."

Psalms 108:12 Give us help from trouble: for vain is the help of man.

People should rely on God to help them in times of trouble rather than relying on their own efforts.

1. "The Vainness of Man: Relying on God in Times of Trouble"

2. "The Help of the Lord: Understanding Our Need for God's Assistance"

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. 2 Corinthians 3:4-6 - "Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life."

Psalms 108:13 Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies.

God will empower us to do great things and help us overcome our enemies.

1. "God's Strength is Our Strength"

2. "Trust in God and Rely on His 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. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Psalm 109 is a psalm of lament attributed to David. It expresses deep anguish and a plea for God's justice against the psalmist's enemies. The psalmist calls upon God to bring judgment upon their adversaries and asks for deliverance from their malicious attacks.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist cries out to God, describing the wickedness and deceit of their enemies. They express their distress and anguish caused by false accusations (Psalm 109:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist invokes curses upon their adversaries, asking for God's judgment to fall upon them. They desire that the consequences of their enemies' actions be brought upon themselves (Psalm 109:6-20).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist pleads with God to intervene on their behalf. They recount how they have been mistreated and ask for God's mercy and deliverance from the schemes of their enemies (Psalm 109:21-31).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred nine presents

a lamentation expressing anguish,

and a plea for divine justice,

highlighting expression achieved through crying out while emphasizing recognition of wickedness.

Emphasizing invocation achieved through calling for divine judgment while affirming desire for consequences,

and emphasizing supplication achieved through pleading for mercy while expressing need for deliverance.

Mentioning personal reflection shown regarding recognizing mistreatment while affirming trust in divine intervention.

Psalms 109:1 Hold not thy peace, O God of my praise;

God is worthy of praise and should not be ignored.

1. God Deserves Our Praise: An Exploration of Psalms 109:1

2. Giving God the Praise He Deserves: A Study of Psalms 109:1

1. Isaiah 43:21 This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise.

2. Revelation 5:12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

Psalms 109:2 For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful are opened against me: they have spoken against me with a lying tongue.

The wicked and deceitful have spoken against the psalmist with lies.

1: Remember to trust in God when facing slander and lies from others.

2: Seek justice from God against those who slander and lie against you.

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: Matthew 5:11-12 - Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Psalms 109:3 They compassed me about also with words of hatred; and fought against me without a cause.

People surrounded the psalmist with words of hatred and fought against him without any reason.

1. The Power of Words: How Words Can Hurt and Help

2. Standing Firm in the Face of Unjust Persecution

1. Proverbs 12:18 - There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

2. James 1:19 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

Psalms 109:4 For my love they are my adversaries: but I give myself unto prayer.

Enemies have rejected the speaker's love, so the speaker has turned to prayer.

1. The Power of Prayer: finding peace when facing adversity.

2. Relying on God in times of suffering.

1. Matthew 21:22 - "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

2. James 5:13 - "Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray."

Psalms 109:5 And they have rewarded me evil for good, and hatred for my love.

Despite showing love and kindness, the speaker has been repaid with evil and hatred.

1. The Danger of Unreciprocated Love

2. When Good is Not Good Enough

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 12:17-21 - "Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. 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."

Psalms 109:6 Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand.

This passage from Psalms 109:6 reminds us that God can use even the wicked to accomplish His purposes.

1. God's Redemptive Plan: How God Uses the Wicked for His Purposes

2. The Sovereignty of God: Trusting in God's Plan in the Face of Wickedness

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 16:4 - The Lord has made everything for its own purpose, even the wicked for the day of trouble.

Psalms 109:7 When he shall be judged, let him be condemned: and let his prayer become sin.

Psalms 109:7 states that when a person is judged, they should be condemned and their prayer should be considered a sin.

1. The Nature of Sin: Examining the Scripture of Psalms 109:7

2. The Consequences of Unrighteousness: Understanding the Warning of Psalms 109:7

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 28:9 If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination.

Psalms 109:8 Let his days be few; and let another take his office.

A prayer is made to God to reduce the lifespan of a person and to replace them with another.

1. Just as God replaced King Saul, He will always provide a way to replace any person in any situation.

2. No matter the problem, God is in control and will provide a solution.

1. 1 Samuel 15:26-28 - And Samuel said to Saul, I will not return with you. For you have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel. When Samuel turned to go away, Saul seized the skirt of his robe, and it tore. And Samuel said to him, The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 109:9 Let his children be fatherless, and his wife a widow.

Psalms 109:9 calls for the children of a certain person to be fatherless and their wife to be a widow.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Praying for Protection Can Lead to a Stronger Faith

2. The Importance of Family: How to Strengthen Relationships with Our Loved Ones

1. Exodus 22:24 - If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a moneylender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him.

2. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Psalms 109:10 Let his children be continually vagabonds, and beg: let them seek their bread also out of their desolate places.

The Psalmist calls out for God's judgement to befall the unrighteous, with their children to be made homeless and begging for food.

1: We should be thankful for our blessings and use them to help others who are less fortunate.

2: God s judgement is just and righteous, and we should be careful not to fall into unrighteous living.

1: Matthew 5:3-7 - Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

2: 2 Corinthians 9:6-9 - Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

Psalms 109:11 Let the extortioner catch all that he hath; and let the strangers spoil his labour.

The psalmist asks God to let those who extort and steal take away all that a person has worked for.

1. The Danger of Greed - Greed can lead us to do terrible things and can rob us of the fruits of our labor.

2. God's Justice - God will ensure that those who seek to extort and steal will not go unpunished.

1. Proverbs 22:16 - He that oppresseth the poor to increase his riches, and he that giveth to the rich, shall surely come to want.

2. James 5:4 - Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.

Psalms 109:12 Let there be none to extend mercy unto him: neither let there be any to favour his fatherless children.

Psalms 109:12 speaks about a situation in which a person does not receive any mercy or favour for themselves or their fatherless children.

1. The importance of showing mercy to those in need.

2. The consequences of a lack of mercy and compassion.

1. Proverbs 14:31 - "Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him."

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."

Psalms 109:13 Let his posterity be cut off; and in the generation following let their name be blotted out.

God's justice is necessary for the protection of the righteous.

1. God's Justice and Protection of the Righteous

2. The Power of Prayer in Asking for God's Justice

1. Psalm 7:9 - O righteous God who searches minds and hearts, bring to an end the violence of the wicked and make the righteous secure.

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.

Psalms 109:14 Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered with the LORD; and let not the sin of his mother be blotted out.

The psalmist calls on God to remember the iniquity of the person's fathers and not to forget the sin of his mother.

1. The Importance of the Sins of Our Fathers

2. The Mercy of God in Remembering Our Sins

1. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

2. Romans 8:1-2 - 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.

Psalms 109:15 Let them be before the LORD continually, that he may cut off the memory of them from the earth.

This verse in Psalms 109 encourages believers to continually put their enemies before the Lord, so that He may remove their memory from the earth.

1. The Power of Prayer: How to Overcome Enemies with the Lord's Help

2. The Lord's Justice: What Happens When We Put Our Enemies before the Lord

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 4:6-7 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Psalms 109:16 Because that he remembered not to shew mercy, but persecuted the poor and needy man, that he might even slay the broken in heart.

God's mercy and justice for the broken hearted.

1. God s Mercy and Justice: Getting the Balance Right

2. God s Love for the Broken Hearted

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. Psalm 147:3 - He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Psalms 109:17 As he loved cursing, so let it come unto him: as he delighted not in blessing, so let it be far from him.

He loved cursing and disliked blessing, so let it be done to him.

1: We should always seek God's blessing and avoid His curse.

2: We must be careful how we respond to God's blessings and curses.

1: Romans 12:14 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

2: James 3:10-11 - Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?

Psalms 109:18 As he clothed himself with cursing like as with his garment, so let it come into his bowels like water, and like oil into his bones.

He chose to clothe himself with the curse of sin, and it will be like an inexorable force entering his body.

1: We must choose our clothing carefully, for it reflects our spiritual condition.

2: Too often we become complacent in our sin, not realizing the consequences of our actions.

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: Galatians 3:27 - "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ."

Psalms 109:19 Let it be unto him as the garment which covereth him, and for a girdle wherewith he is girded continually.

God's protection is ever-present and reliable.

1. The Security of God's Protection

2. The Unchanging Nature of God's Care

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 91:4 - "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler."

Psalms 109:20 Let this be the reward of mine adversaries from the LORD, and of them that speak evil against my soul.

Psalms 109:20 is a prayer for God's judgment on adversaries and those who speak against the Psalmist.

1. The Righteousness of God: A Call to Repentance

2. Protecting Our Souls: Responding to Adversity with Faith

1. Romans 12:19-20 - 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 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.

Psalms 109:21 But do thou for me, O GOD the Lord, for thy name's sake: because thy mercy is good, deliver thou me.

God is good and will deliver us from our troubles if we ask Him.

1. The Goodness of God in Times of Trouble

2. Relying on God in Difficult Situations

1. Psalm 34:17-19 - The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.

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.

Psalms 109:22 For I am poor and needy, and my heart is wounded within me.

The Psalmist expresses his need for help from God due to his poverty and wounded heart.

1. The Power of Prayer in Times of Need

2. Knowing God's Comfort in Our Suffering

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.

Psalms 109:23 I am gone like the shadow when it declineth: I am tossed up and down as the locust.

The psalmist expresses his fleeting existence and instability in life.

1. God is the only certainty in life

2. Relying on God in every season of life

1. Psalm 139:7-12

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.

Psalms 109:24 My knees are weak through fasting; and my flesh faileth of fatness.

The psalmist expresses his physical weakening due to fasting.

1. The Power of Fasting: How to Strengthen Your Faith and Your Body

2. The Benefits of Fasting: Gaining Clarity and Renewed Strength

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? 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. Matthew 6:16-18 - Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.

Psalms 109:25 I became also a reproach unto them: when they looked upon me they shaked their heads.

The Psalmist laments that when people looked at him, they shook their heads in reproach.

1. The Value of Humility in the Face of Reproach

2. Relying on God in Times of Rejection

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

2. Isaiah 53:3 - "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."

Psalms 109:26 Help me, O LORD my God: O save me according to thy mercy:

This psalm is a plea for God's help, mercy and salvation from difficult times.

1. God is Our Rescue in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Prayer in Crisis

1. Psalm 50:15 - "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

2. James 5:13 - "Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

Psalms 109:27 That they may know that this is thy hand; that thou, LORD, hast done it.

God's power is evident in all of creation.

1. Through Creation, God Reveals His Power

2. Recognizing and Acknowledging the Power of God

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, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Psalms 109:28 Let them curse, but bless thou: when they arise, let them be ashamed; but let thy servant rejoice.

Let us choose to bless despite being cursed, and rejoice despite being shamed.

1. Rejoicing in Humility

2. Blessing Despite Curses

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 12:14- Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Psalms 109:29 Let mine adversaries be clothed with shame, and let them cover themselves with their own confusion, as with a mantle.

God's enemies should be clothed in shame and covered in confusion.

1. Our enemies are powerless when we trust in the power of God.

2. Let us not be afraid to stand up for what is right, trusting in God for the victory.

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. 1 Corinthians 15:57 - But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 109:30 I will greatly praise the LORD with my mouth; yea, I will praise him among the multitude.

The psalmist praises the LORD with his mouth and among the multitude.

1. The Power of Praise: Celebrating God's Blessings

2. The Multitude of Praise: Giving thanks to God with Others

1. Isaiah 12:4-6

2. Hebrews 13:15-16

Psalms 109:31 For he shall stand at the right hand of the poor, to save him from those that condemn his soul.

God is with those who are in a vulnerable and oppressed position, protecting them from those who would do them harm.

1. God's Protection for the Poor and Oppressed

2. Standing with the Vulnerable

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

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.'

Psalm 110 is a Messianic psalm attributed to David. It speaks of a future king, who is both a priest and a ruler, and highlights the eternal nature of his reign. The psalm points to Jesus Christ as the ultimate fulfillment of this prophecy.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares that the Lord said to his Lord (referring to the Messiah), inviting him to sit at God's right hand until his enemies are made a footstool for him (Psalm 110:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist describes the Messiah's royal authority and his role as a conquering king. He will rule in the midst of his enemies, receiving homage and executing judgment (Psalm 110:3-7).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred ten presents

a prophecy regarding the Messiah,

and an affirmation of his kingship,

highlighting declaration achieved through acknowledging divine appointment while emphasizing recognition of victorious rule.

Emphasizing description achieved through depicting royal authority while affirming role as conqueror,

and emphasizing proclamation shown regarding recognizing homage received while affirming execution of judgment.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing Messianic prophecy while affirming eternal kingship.

Psalms 110:1 The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

This passage emphasizes the power and authority of God as the Lord commands another Lord to sit at His right hand.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding His Power and Authority

2. The Lordship of Christ: Submitting to His Righteous Authority

1. Ephesians 1:20 22 - God exalted Christ and made Him Lord.

2. Isaiah 9:6-7 - The government shall be upon His shoulders and He will be called Mighty God.

Psalms 110:2 The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.

The Lord will provide strength and protection to those who serve him, allowing them to rule over their enemies.

1. Through Faith, the Lord Will Provide Strength and Protection

2. The Strength of the LORD: Ruling in the Midst of Enemies

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - The Armor of God

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - The Strength of the Lord

Psalms 110:3 Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth.

God's people will be willing in the day of His power, and will be filled with holiness from the womb of the morning.

1. Understanding the Power of Holiness

2. Releasing the Dew of Your Youth

1. Psalm 103:5 - "Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's."

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."

Psalms 110:4 The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

The Lord has made an eternal covenant to appoint a priest of the order of Melchizedek.

1: Our Lord is Faithful and True

2: The Covenant of the Priesthood

1: Hebrews 7:17-22

2: 1 Chronicles 16:34-36

Psalms 110:5 The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath.

The Lord will judge kings with wrath on the day of judgement.

1. The Day of Judgement: A Call to Repentance.

2. The Wisdom of Knowing the Lord's Righteous Judgement.

1. Isaiah 2:10-12 - Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of his majesty.

2. Romans 2:5-8 - But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God.

Psalms 110:6 He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill the places with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries.

The Lord will judge and punish the wicked by filling the land with their dead bodies.

1. God is Just and Righteous - The Importance of Obeying His Commands

2. The Consequences of Disobedience - Facing the Wrath of God

1. Exodus 34:6-7 - "And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty.

2. Daniel 7:10 - A stream of fire issued and came out from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.

Psalms 110:7 He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift up the head.

The Psalmist encourages us to remain steadfast in our faith, knowing that God will provide for our needs in the way we are traveling.

1: "God will Provide Along the Way"

2: "Lift Up Your Head, for God is with You"

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: Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

Psalm 111 is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving that extols the greatness and faithfulness of God. It emphasizes His works, wisdom, and righteousness, calling upon the people to fear and worship Him.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by expressing their resolve to give thanks to the Lord with their whole heart among the upright. They acknowledge the works of God as great and pondered by all who delight in them (Psalm 111:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on God's character, emphasizing His righteousness, grace, and compassion. They highlight how God provides for those who fear Him and remember His covenant forever (Psalm 111:3-5).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist proclaims the power of God's works, describing them as faithful and just. They declare that His precepts are trustworthy and established forever (Psalm 111:6-8).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist encourages reverence for God, stating that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. They affirm that those who follow His commandments have understanding (Psalm 111:9-10).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred eleven presents

a proclamation of praise,

and an exhortation to fear God,

highlighting expression achieved through resolving gratitude while emphasizing recognition of divine works.

Emphasizing reflection achieved through recognizing righteousness while affirming grace and compassion,

and emphasizing affirmation shown regarding recognizing power in divine works while affirming trustworthiness.

Mentioning call for reverence shown regarding recognizing fear as foundation for wisdom while affirming understanding gained through obedience.

Psalms 111:1 Praise ye the LORD. I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation.

Praise the Lord wholeheartedly in all circumstances.

1. The Lord is Worthy of Praise: How to Praise Him in All Aspects of Our Lives

2. The Power of Praise: How to Cultivate a Heart of Praise to the Lord

1. Psalm 150:6 - Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD!

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.

Psalms 111:2 The works of the LORD are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.

The works of the Lord are great and should be sought out by those who take pleasure in them.

1. Take Pleasure in the Works of the Lord

2. Appreciating the Magnificence of the Lord's Works

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

2. Psalm 92:5 - "How great are your works, Lord, how profound your thoughts!"

Psalms 111:3 His work is honourable and glorious: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

The Lord's work is honorable and glorious and will last forever.

1. How God's Work Endures Forever

2. The Glorious Honor of God

1. Psalm 8:1 - O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

2. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Psalms 111:4 He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

God's works are to be remembered and praised as He is gracious and full of compassion.

1. God's Goodness and Unfailing Love

2. Gratitude for God's Mercy

1. 1 Chronicles 16:34 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

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.

Psalms 111:5 He hath given meat unto them that fear him: he will ever be mindful of his covenant.

He has provided sustenance for those who revere Him and will always remember His promises.

1. The Blessing of God's Provision for Those Who Love Him

2. God's Faithfulness to His Covenant

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 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."

Psalms 111:6 He hath shewed his people the power of his works, that he may give them the heritage of the heathen.

He has demonstrated His strength to His people so that He may give them the inheritance of the Gentiles.

1. The Power of God: How He Uses It to Fulfill His Promises

2. God's Provision for His People: How He Grants Us an Inheritance

1. Ephesians 2:11-13 -Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called the uncircumcision by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands 12 remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

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.

Psalms 111:7 The works of his hands are verity and judgment; all his commandments are sure.

The works of God are trustworthy and just, and His commands are sure.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Commands

2. Keeping Faith in a Just God

1. Psalms 111:7

2. Isaiah 40:8- 'The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.'

Psalms 111:8 They stand fast for ever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness.

God's works stand firm in truth and righteousness forever.

1. The Unwavering Faithfulness of God

2. The Endurance of God's Uprightness

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

2. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Psalms 111:9 He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name.

God sent redemption to his people and commanded his covenant to last forever. His name is holy and reverend.

1. God s Redemption: An Eternal Covenant

2. The Holiness of God s Name

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. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

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!

Psalms 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.

The fear of the Lord is the foundation of wisdom, and those who keep His commandments have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

1. The Wisdom of the Fear of the Lord

2. The Benefits of Keeping God's Commandments

1. Proverbs 9:10 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

2. Psalm 103:17-18 - "But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them."

Psalm 112 is a psalm that celebrates the blessings and rewards of living a righteous life. It contrasts the fate of the righteous with that of the wicked, emphasizing God's favor upon those who fear Him and walk in His ways.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist describes the blessedness of those who fear the Lord and delight in His commandments. They highlight that their descendants will be mighty on earth, and wealth and riches will be in their houses (Psalm 112:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist affirms that the righteous are gracious, compassionate, and just. They lend generously to others and conduct their affairs with integrity. Such righteousness endures forever (Psalm 112:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist declares that the righteous will not be shaken by bad news; they have confidence in God's provision and protection. Their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord (Psalm 112:7-8).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist contrasts this with the fate of the wicked, stating that they will see their desires come to nothing. Their way will perish while the righteous are honored (Psalm 112:9-10).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred twelve presents

a celebration of righteousness,

and a contrast between fates,

highlighting description achieved through recognizing blessings received while emphasizing recognition of divine favor.

Emphasizing affirmation achieved through acknowledging graciousness, compassion, and justice while affirming integrity,

and emphasizing declaration shown regarding trust in divine provision while affirming steadfastness.

Mentioning contrast presented regarding recognizing futility for wicked desires while affirming honor for righteousness.

Psalms 112:1 Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

The Lord is worthy of praise, and blessed is the man who fears Him and delights in His commands.

1. The Joy of Obeying God's Commands

2. The Blessing of Fear and Reverence 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)

2. Matthew 5:3-7 (Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven)

Psalms 112:2 His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

This passage speaks of the blessings of having an upright heart and a strong faith, and the legacy that follows from it.

1. The Power of Generational Faith: How our faithfulness today will make a difference for future generations

2. The Blessing of Uprightness: Recognizing the power of a life of integrity and godliness

1. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaves an inheritance to his children s children.

2. 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.

Psalms 112:3 Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

The psalmist praises the righteous person, who will be blessed with wealth and riches in their home, and their righteousness will endure forever.

1. The Blessings of Righteousness - Exploring what it means to be a righteous person and the promises of reward for such faithfulness.

2. Riches and Wealth - Investigating the role of wealth and riches in a life of faith and how to use these resources to further the Kingdom of God.

1. Proverbs 11:18 - "The wicked man earns deceptive wages, but he who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Psalms 112:4 Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

Light and righteousness will arise in the darkness for the upright.

1. The Power of Uprightness: How Faithfulness Can Overcome Darkness

2. The Grace of God: How Compassion Transforms Us

1. Romans 13:11-14 - "Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires."

2. Matthew 5:14-16 - "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, 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 in heaven."

Psalms 112:5 A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion.

The good man shows favor and lends generously, managing his affairs with wisdom.

1. The Importance of Generosity and Discretion in Life

2. Living a Life of Generosity and Wisdom

1. Ecclesiastes 7:12 - For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom preserves the life of him who has it.

2. Proverbs 13:16 - Every prudent man acts with knowledge, but a fool flaunts his folly.

Psalms 112:6 Surely he shall not be moved for ever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.

The righteous shall be remembered forever.

1.The blessings of righteousness and the power of remembrance.

2.The importance of faithfulness and the rewards of eternity.

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. 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.

Psalms 112:7 He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD.

A person who trusts in the Lord will not be afraid of bad news.

1. Trust in the Lord: How To Have Peace in the Midst of Adversity

2. Fear Not: Releasing Anxiety and Finding Confidence in God

1. Isaiah 26:3-4 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in 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.

Psalms 112:8 His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies.

The Psalmist describes the trust of the righteous, who are not afraid and will see their desires fulfilled upon their enemies.

1. The Strength of Faith: How the Righteous Overcome Fear

2. God's Promises to the Righteous: Relying on Him to See Your Desires Fulfilled

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 6:25-33 - "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?... But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Psalms 112:9 He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.

God's righteousness is everlasting and his generosity towards the poor is to be celebrated.

1. The Power of Generosity: Reflecting God's love through giving.

2. Eternal Righteousness: An examination of God's faithfulness.

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.

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.

Psalms 112:10 The wicked shall see it, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish.

The wicked will be unhappy when they see the blessings of the righteous.

1: God blesses the righteous, so be sure to be faithful to Him for His reward.

2: Do not be tempted by the wicked, for their desires will be in vain.

1: Proverbs 11:27 - "Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered."

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."

Psalm 113 is a psalm of praise that exalts the name of the Lord. It emphasizes God's greatness, His care for the lowly, and His sovereignty over all creation.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon the servants of the Lord to praise His name both now and forever. They extol God's name from sunrise to sunset, emphasizing His surpassing greatness (Psalm 113:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist highlights God's concern for the lowly and needy. They describe how He raises them from dust and lifts them from the ash heap, granting them a place among princes (Psalm 113:4-8).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred thirteen presents

a call to praise,

and an acknowledgment of divine care,

highlighting expression achieved through summoning worship while emphasizing recognition of surpassing greatness.

Emphasizing description achieved through recognizing elevation from lowliness while affirming provision for those in need.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing divine sovereignty over creation while affirming exaltation of God's name.

Psalms 113:1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise, O ye servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD.

Praising the Lord is an important duty of all of His servants.

1: Let us sing praises to the Lord for He is worthy of our worship.

2: We are all called to glorify the Lord in our lives and through our actions.

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: Psalm 100:4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

Psalms 113:2 Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore.

This psalm praises God and His name that will be praised forever.

1. God's Unending Praise - Encouraging believers to honor and praise God forever.

2. The Blessing of the Name - Teaching the importance of honoring the Lord's name.

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. Revelation 5:13 - "And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!

Psalms 113:3 From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD's name is to be praised.

The Lord is to be praised at all times throughout the day.

1. "Living a Life of Praise"

2. "The Joy of Praising God"

1. Philippians 4:4-8

2. Ephesians 5:18-20

Psalms 113:4 The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.

The LORD is exalted higher than any nation and his glory is greater than the heavens.

1. The Majesty of God - Exploring the greatness of our God who is exalted above the nations.

2. The Glory of God - Examining God's incomparable majesty and power that is above the heavens.

1. Psalm 8:1 - O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

2. 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.

Psalms 113:5 Who is like unto the LORD our God, who dwelleth on high,

The psalmist praises the LORD God for dwelling on high, asking who can compare to Him.

1. The Holiness of God: How to Appreciate God's Character and Nature

2. The Majesty of the Lord: Knowing God's Greatness and Splendor

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 his train filled the temple.

2. Revelation 4:8-11 - 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!

Psalms 113:6 Who humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven, and in the earth!

This verse from Psalms 113 praises those who remain humble in order to appreciate the beauty of both Heaven and Earth.

1. The Power of Humility: Appreciating the Beauty of Creation

2. A Heart of Gratitude: Recognizing the Wonders of Heaven and Earth

1. Philippians 2:3-8 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

2. Psalm 8:3-4 - When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them?

Psalms 113:7 He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth the needy out of the dunghill;

He provides help to those in need.

1. God's love for the needy and how it can be seen in our lives.

2. The importance of lifting up those in need and how it can bring glory to God.

1. Psalms 113:7

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? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

Psalms 113:8 That he may set him with princes, even with the princes of his people.

The Lord can elevate us to a position of honour and power among our peers.

1. God's Promise of Elevation: Reaching Heights of Success and Honour

2. Let Not Pride Hinder Your Ascent to the Throne of Righteousness

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."

Psalms 113:9 He maketh the barren woman to keep house, and to be a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the LORD.

God is able to bring joy and blessings even to those who feel barren and without hope.

1. "Hope in the Lord: Rejoicing Despite Barrenness"

2. "God's Abundant Provision: The Joy of Parenthood"

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 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 her who is married," says the Lord.

Psalm 114 is a poetic psalm that celebrates God's power and presence during the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. It portrays nature as responding to God's mighty acts and emphasizes His deliverance of His people.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist describes how Israel, as God's chosen people, departed from Egypt, and how Judah became His sanctuary. They highlight how the sea and Jordan River reacted to God's presence by fleeing backward (Psalm 114:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist addresses the mountains and hills, personifying them as trembling in the presence of the Lord. They question why these natural elements responded this way, affirming that it was because of God's power (Psalm 114:4-7).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred fourteen presents

a celebration of divine deliverance,

and a portrayal of nature's response,

highlighting description achieved through recounting departure from Egypt while emphasizing recognition of God's power.

Emphasizing personification achieved through depicting natural elements trembling while affirming their reaction to divine presence.

Mentioning theological reflection shown regarding recognizing sanctification of Judah while affirming acknowledgment of God's deliverance.

Psalms 114:1 When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language;

When God's people left Egypt, they were saved from a strange land.

1: God's people must move on from their pasts and rely on His strength to do so.

2: Even when faced with great odds, we must have faith that God will lead us through.

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. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.

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

Psalms 114:2 Judah was his sanctuary, and Israel his dominion.

The Psalmist is praising God for making Judah His sanctuary and Israel His dominion.

1: God's sovereignty is demonstrated through His special care for Judah and Israel.

2: God chooses to protect and care for His people, and He will always remain faithful.

1: Isaiah 40:10-11 - Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. 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: Deuteronomy 4:31-34 - For the Lord your God is a merciful God. He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them. For ask now of the days that are past, which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and ask from one end of heaven to the other, whether such a great thing as this has ever happened or was ever heard of. Did any people ever hear the voice of a god speaking out of the midst of the fire, as you have heard, and still live? Or has any god ever attempted to go and take a nation for himself from the midst of another nation, by trials, by signs, by wonders, and by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and by great deeds of terror, all of which the Lord your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?

Psalms 114:3 The sea saw it, and fled: Jordan was driven back.

The sea and Jordan saw the power of God and retreated in fear.

1: We ought to be filled with awe for the power of God, and recognize His greatness.

2: When we fear the Lord, we can witness His wonders in our lives.

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 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: Isaiah 43:16, Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters.

Psalms 114:4 The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like lambs.

Mountains and hills rejoiced when the Lord brought the children of Israel out of Egypt.

1. God's Power is Seen Through Creation

2. Rejoicing in the Lord's Deliverance

1. Exodus 14:30-31 - So the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians. And Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Thus Israel saw the great work which the LORD had done in Egypt.

2. Isaiah 48:21 - They did not thirst when He led them through the deserts; He caused the waters to flow from the rock for them; He also split the rock, and the waters gushed out.

Psalms 114:5 What ailed thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back?

The passage reflects on the power of God to command the natural world.

1: God is all powerful and can do the impossible.

2: We should trust God in all aspects of our lives.

1: Mark 4:35-41; Jesus calms the storm.

2: Job 26:12; God subdues the sea and breaks the heads of the sea monsters.

Psalms 114:6 Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams; and ye little hills, like lambs?

The psalmist marvels at the power of God's creation as mountains are likened to rams and small hills to lambs.

1. 'God's Power in Nature - Psalms 114: 6'

2. 'The Marvelous Creativity of God - Psalms 114: 6'

1. Isaiah 55:12 - "For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace; the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing before you, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

2. Job 37:3-5 - "He directs it under the whole heaven, and his lightning to the corners of the earth. After it a voice roars; he thunders with the voice of his majesty, and he does not restrain them when his voice is heard. God thunders marvelously with his voice; he does great things that we cannot comprehend."

Psalms 114:7 Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob;

The earth should tremble in awe of the presence of the Lord, the God of Jacob.

1. Fear the Lord and His Might

2. The Lord is the God of Jacob

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. 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?

Psalms 114:8 Which turned the rock into a standing water, the flint into a fountain of waters.

God can transform anything into a source of life and nourishment.

1. God can turn our biggest obstacles into blessings

2. God can turn our deserts into oases

1. Isaiah 43:19-20 "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 19:26 Jesus looked at them and said, With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

Psalm 115 is a psalm that contrasts the power and faithfulness of God with the futility of idols. It emphasizes the sovereignty of God and calls upon His people to trust in Him alone.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares that glory should be given to God alone, as He is faithful and loving. They question why the nations ask about their God, who dwells in heaven and does as He pleases (Psalm 115:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist contrasts the idols made by human hands with the living God. They highlight that idols have no power or senses, while emphasizing that those who trust in them become like them (Psalm 115:4-8).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon Israel to trust in the Lord, affirming that He is their help and shield. They express confidence in God's blessing upon His people (Psalm 115:9-15).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred fifteen presents

a contrast between divine power and idol futility,

and a call to trust in God alone,

highlighting declaration achieved through affirming faithfulness while emphasizing recognition of divine sovereignty.

Emphasizing comparison achieved through contrasting idols' limitations while affirming transformation for those who trust in them.

Mentioning exhortation shown regarding recognizing divine help and protection while affirming confidence in blessings received from God.

Psalms 115:1 Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake.

Glory should be given to God, not to us, because of God's mercy and truth.

1. "Living a Life of Gratitude for God's Mercy and Truth"

2. "Glorifying God and Not Ourselves"

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. 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.

Psalms 115:2 Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is now their God?

The psalmist is asking why the heathens should question the existence of God.

1. The Sovereignty of God: The Psalmist's Plea to the Heathens

2. The Unchanging Nature of God: A Comfort to the Believer

1. Romans 8:31-32 (What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?)

2. Hebrews 13:8 (Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.)

Psalms 115:3 But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.

Our God reigns in the heavens, and He does whatever He pleases.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding that God is in control of all things and He is the ultimate authority.

2. God's Omnipotence: Recognizing the power that God has, and trusting in His will.

1. Isaiah 46:10 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.

2. Romans 11:33-36 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor? Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them? For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Psalms 115:4 Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands.

The idols of men are crafted by the hands of man, not by God.

1: We should not worship man-made idols, but should put our trust in God.

2: We should not be deceived by the physical beauty of man-made idols, for they cannot save us.

1: Isaiah 44:9-20 - God is the only one who can create and save.

2: Acts 17:16-34 - Paul's on idolatry in Athens.

Psalms 115:5 They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not:

The Lord is greater than our human limitations.

1. God's Power is Limitless

2. Trust in the Lord's Wisdom

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. Job 37:5 - "God thunders wondrously with His voice; He does great things which we cannot comprehend."

Psalms 115:6 They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not:

Man should not rely on his own understanding, but put his trust in God.

1. Trusting in God s Wisdom

2. Relying on the Lord 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 40:31 - 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.

Psalms 115:7 They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat.

The Psalmist reminds us that though we may have the physical capabilities, our true strength lies in our faith.

1: How our faith can help us overcome obstacles.

2: Why faith is more important than physical strength.

1: Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please God, 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 21:21-22 - Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.

Psalms 115:8 They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them.

Making idols is a pointless exercise, as they are worthless and those who trust in them are just like them.

1. Don't put your trust in idols, but in God instead.

2. Idolatry is a dead-end path, so don't waste your time on them.

1. Isaiah 44:9-20

2. Psalm 135:15-18

Psalms 115:9 O Israel, trust thou in the LORD: he is their help and their shield.

The psalmist encourages the people of Israel to trust in the LORD, as He is their help and shield.

1. The Power of Faith in the LORD: Putting our Trust in God

2. Dependence on God: Our Shield and Protector.

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. Jeremiah 17:7 - Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

Psalms 115:10 O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD: he is their help and their shield.

The psalmist encourages the house of Aaron to trust in the LORD, as He will be their help and shield.

1. The Lord is Our Shield and Our Helper

2. Trusting 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. Psalm 46:1, God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 115:11 Ye that fear the LORD, trust in the LORD: he is their help and their shield.

The Lord is a help and shield to those who trust and fear Him.

1. The Power of Trusting God

2. Relying on the Shield of 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. 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."

Psalms 115:12 The LORD hath been mindful of us: he will bless us; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron.

The Lord is merciful and remembers us, blessing us and the house of Israel and Aaron.

1. The Lord's Blessing: How to Receive and Share God's Mercy

2. Remembering and Trusting in the Lord's Promise of Faithfulness

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 is become my salvation."

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."

Psalms 115:13 He will bless them that fear the LORD, both small and great.

The LORD blesses both small and great who fear Him.

1. The Blessing of God on the Faithful

2. Reaping the Rewards of Fearing the LORD

1. Matthew 10:30-31 But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.

2. Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Psalms 115:14 The LORD shall increase you more and more, you and your children.

The LORD will bless and increase the number of those who trust in Him, including their children.

1. The Promise of Increase: Relying on the Faithfulness of God

2. The Blessing of Faith: Passing on God's Love to the Next Generation

1. Psalm 115:14

2. Galatians 6:7-10 - "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."

Psalms 115:15 Ye are blessed of the LORD which made heaven and earth.

The psalmist proclaims that believers are blessed by the LORD, the Creator of heaven and earth.

1. "God's Blessing: A Gift of Creation"

2. "The LORD's Love Through Creation"

1. Genesis 1:1 - "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

2. Romans 1:20 - "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse."

Psalms 115:16 The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.

The LORD has given the heavens to himself, and the earth to mankind.

1. The Power and Generosity of the Lord: A Study of Psalms 115:16

2. God's Sovereignty and Our Responsibility: An Overview of Psalms 115:16

1. Genesis 1:26-28 - God gives mankind dominion over the earth.

2. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof.

Psalms 115:17 The dead praise not the LORD, neither any that go down into silence.

The dead cannot praise the Lord.

1. The Living Praise the Lord - An exhortation to recognize the importance of praising God while we are alive.

2. Eternal Life in the Lord - A reminder of the eternal life we will experience with God when we leave this life.

1. Revelation 5:13 - Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!

2. Isaiah 38:18-19 - For the grave cannot praise you, death cannot sing your praise; those who go down to the pit cannot hope for your faithfulness. The living, the living they praise you, as I am doing today.

Psalms 115:18 But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the LORD.

Psalm 115:18 encourages us to bless the Lord from now and forevermore.

1. "Count Your Blessings: How a Thankful Heart Can Lead to a Joyful Life"

2. "The Power of Praise: How Gratitude Can Lead to a Richer Life"

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 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.

Psalm 116 is a psalm of thanksgiving and praise for God's deliverance and faithfulness in times of distress. The psalmist recounts their personal experience of calling upon the Lord in distress, and how He heard their cry and rescued them.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist expresses love for the Lord because He has heard their plea for mercy. They describe how they were overcome by trouble and sorrow, but called upon the name of the Lord, who saved them (Psalm 116:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on God's graciousness and compassion. They declare that the Lord protects the simple-hearted, delivers them from death, and preserves their soul from sorrow (Psalm 116:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges their response to God's deliverance by proclaiming faithfulness and gratitude. They affirm that they will walk before the Lord in His presence, offering sacrifices of thanksgiving (Psalm 116:9-14).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist expresses trust in God's goodness despite facing affliction. They declare that they are God's servant, seeking His favor and relying on Him for help (Psalm 116:15-19).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred sixteen presents

a personal testimony of deliverance,

and a declaration of gratitude,

highlighting expression achieved through recounting plea for mercy while emphasizing recognition of divine salvation.

Emphasizing reflection achieved through acknowledging graciousness and compassion while affirming preservation from sorrow.

Mentioning commitment shown regarding recognizing faithfulness while affirming dedication to worship.

Expressing trust presented regarding recognizing goodness despite affliction while affirming reliance on divine help.

Psalms 116:1 I love the LORD, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications.

This psalm expresses the joy of one who has been heard and answered by God.

1. The Power of God's Love: Experiencing God's Faithfulness

2. Rejoicing in the Lord: Gratitude for Answered Prayer

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. 1 John 3:20-21 - "For whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God."

Psalms 116:2 Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.

God listens to our prayers and should be called upon for help.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Calling on God Brings Us Closer to Him

2. The Blessing of the Lord: Learning to Rely on God's Love and Mercy

1. James 5:13-18 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

2. 1 John 5:14-15 - This is the confidence which we have before 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 which we have asked from Him.

Psalms 116:3 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.

The psalmist was facing immense grief and suffering.

1: God is with us in our greatest moments of sorrow, and He will never forsake us.

2: We can take comfort in knowing that God is with us, even when we feel like we are surrounded by death and pain.

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: Psalms 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."

Psalms 116:4 Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.

The Psalmist calls upon the name of the LORD and begs for deliverance from his soul.

1. God is Our Deliverer: Experiencing His Deliverance in Times of Trouble

2. Putting our Trust in the Lord: How to Receive His Deliverance

1. Romans 10:13 - For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

2. Psalms 55:22 - Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

Psalms 116:5 Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful.

The Lord is gracious and righteous, and His mercy is everlasting.

1. The Unfailing Mercy of God

2. The Graciousness of the Lord

1. Ezekiel 36:22-23, "Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes.

2. Lamentations 3:22-24, The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, therefore I will hope in him.

Psalms 116:6 The LORD preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me.

God helps those who are simple and have been brought low.

1. God is our Helper in Times of Need

2. God is the Refuge of the Lowly

1. Psalms 3:3 - But thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

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.

Psalms 116:7 Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the LORD hath dealt bountifully with thee.

The LORD has been gracious and generous towards us, and we should take time to rest and be thankful.

1. The Joy of Gracious Rest: Experiencing God's Generosity

2. Bountiful Blessings: Rejoicing in the Lord's Faithfulness

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 in trust shall be your strength.

2. Psalm 23:2 - He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

Psalms 116:8 For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.

God has saved us from death and has wiped away our tears.

1: God has delivered us and kept us from despair.

2: We can be thankful for God's salvation and trust in His protection.

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: 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.

Psalms 116:9 I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

The psalmist expresses his commitment to honor and serve the Lord in his lifetime.

1. Living a Life of Faithful Service to God

2. Walking with the Lord in the Land of the Living

1. Psalm 119:1-3 Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the LORD.

2. Matthew 6:33-34 Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Psalms 116:10 I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted:

I trusted in God's faithfulness and proclaimed my faith despite my afflictions.

1. "Stand Firm in Faith: A Lesson from the Psalms"

2. "Trusting God Despite Adversity"

1. Romans 10:9-10 - "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. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

2. Psalm 62:8 - "Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us."

Psalms 116:11 I said in my haste, All men are liars.

In a moment of distress, the Psalmist declared that all people were liars.

1. The Danger of Hasty Judgements

2. Trusting in God Amidst Adversity

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

2. 2 Corinthians 1:9 - Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.

Psalms 116:12 What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me?

The author is asking what they can do to thank the Lord for all the blessings they have been given.

1. "Living a Life of Gratitude: Giving Thanks to the Lord"

2. "The Benefits of Following the Lord: A Reflection on Psalms 116:12"

1. Psalm 116:12 - "What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me?"

2. Ephesians 5:20 - "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Psalms 116:13 I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.

The psalmist expresses gratitude to the Lord for the cup of salvation and calls on His name.

1. The Cup of Salvation: Gratitude and Calling on the Name of the Lord

2. Faithful Remembrance: The Cup of Salvation and the Power of Calling on the Name of the Lord

1. Psalms 116:13

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

Psalms 116:14 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people.

The Psalmist expresses his commitment to fulfilling his vows to the Lord in front of all his people.

1. Keeping Your Promises to God - A lesson in the importance of honoring our commitments.

2. Remembering Who God Is - A reminder of the power of a vow in the presence of the Lord.

1. Deuteronomy 23:21-23 - When you make a vow to the Lord your God, be sure to keep it.

2. James 5:12 - Let your "Yes" be "Yes," and your "No," "No," so that you will not fall under judgment.

Psalms 116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

The death of God's saints is precious in the eyes of the Lord.

1. The Lives of God's Saints - How We Can Honor Them

2. The Value of Life - Understanding the Significance of Death

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. Ecclesiastes 3:2 - A time to be born and a time to die.

Psalms 116:16 O LORD, truly I am thy servant; I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds.

God is faithful to those who serve Him.

1: God's Faithfulness in Serving Him

2: The Blessings of Serving God

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 8:28 - 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.

Psalms 116:17 I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD.

I will offer thanks to the Lord and praise His name.

1: We should always offer thanksgiving to God for His blessings, no matter the circumstance.

2: We should always call upon the Lord in times of joy and in times of sorrow.

1: Ephesians 5:20 - Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

Psalms 116:18 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people,

The psalmist declares his intention to fulfill his vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.

1. Fulfilling Our Vows: The Importance of Keeping Our Promises to God

2. Living in the Presence of God: Celebrating Our Commitment to the Lord

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. Luke 14:28-30 - But don't begin until you count the cost. For who would begin construction of a building without first calculating the cost to see if there is enough money to finish it?

Psalms 116:19 In the courts of the LORD's house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD.

The Lord is to be praised in the courts of His house in the midst of Jerusalem.

1. The Holiness of God and Our Duty to Praise Him

2. The Lord's Presence in Our Lives and Our Response

1. Psalm 150:1-6

2. Revelation 19:1-10

Psalm 117 is the shortest chapter in the Book of Psalms and serves as a universal call to praise the Lord. It emphasizes God's steadfast love and faithfulness towards all nations.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon all nations to praise the Lord, emphasizing His great love and faithfulness that endures forever (Psalm 117:1-2).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred seventeen presents

a universal call to praise,

highlighting declaration achieved through summoning all nations while emphasizing recognition of divine steadfast love.

Emphasizing exhortation achieved through calling for universal worship while affirming everlasting faithfulness.

Mentioning inclusivity shown regarding recognizing God's love and faithfulness extended to all nations.

Psalms 117:1 O Praise the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.

All nations and people are called to praise the Lord.

1. Praise the Lord with All Your Heart: Living a Life of Worship

2. Giving Thanks to God: A Life of Gratitude

1. Ephesians 5:19-20 - "speaking to one another in psalms, 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. 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."

Psalms 117:2 For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the LORD endureth for ever. Praise ye the LORD.

The LORD's merciful kindness and truth are everlasting. Praise the LORD.

1. The Everlasting Love and Faithfulness of God

2. The Lord's Mercy and Grace are Unending

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 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.

Psalm 118 is a psalm of thanksgiving and praise for God's enduring love, deliverance, and salvation. It expresses gratitude for God's faithfulness in times of trouble and celebrates His victory over enemies.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by exclaiming that the Lord's steadfast love endures forever. They call upon Israel to declare that the Lord is good and His love endures forever (Psalm 118:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist recounts their personal experience of distress and how they called upon the Lord, who answered them with deliverance. They declare that it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in humans (Psalm 118:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on their victory over enemies with God's help. They describe how the nations surrounded them, but in the name of the Lord, they were able to overcome them (Psalm 118:10-14).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges that God disciplined them but did not abandon them to death. They express gratitude for being saved by the Lord and rejoice in His righteousness (Psalm 118:15-18).

5th Paragraph: The psalmist declares that they will give thanks to God because He has become their salvation. They exalt Him as the stone rejected by builders but chosen as the cornerstone (Psalm 118:19-23).

6th Paragraph: The psalmist calls for rejoicing and giving thanks to God for His goodness and steadfast love. They acknowledge that He is their God, and they will praise Him forever (Psalm 118:24-29).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred eighteen presents

a song of thanksgiving,

and a celebration of divine deliverance,

highlighting declaration achieved through affirming enduring love while emphasizing recognition of divine goodness.

Emphasizing personal testimony achieved through recounting distressful experiences while affirming trust in divine deliverance.

Mentioning reflection shown regarding recognizing victory over enemies with divine assistance while affirming reliance on God's name.

Expressing gratitude presented regarding recognizing salvation from death while rejoicing in divine righteousness.

Acknowledging theological significance shown regarding recognizing rejection turned into exaltation while affirming dedication to worship.

Calling for rejoicing expressed regarding recognizing divine goodness and steadfast love while affirming eternal praise.

Psalms 118:1 O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: because his mercy endureth for ever.

God's mercy endures forever and we should give thanks for it.

1. The Power of Gratitude - focussing on thanking God for His mercy

2. Standing on the Foundation of God's Mercy - focussing on relying on God's mercy

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

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.

Psalms 118:2 Let Israel now say, that his mercy endureth for ever.

Israel praises God, declaring that his mercy endures forever.

1. God's Unceasing Mercy - Reflecting on Psalms 118:2

2. Enduring Mercy - An Exploration of God's Unending Love

1. Psalms 136:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

Psalms 118:3 Let the house of Aaron now say, that his mercy endureth for ever.

The house of Aaron should praise God, acknowledging His mercy and faithfulness which will never end.

1. A Testimony of God's Mercy - reflecting on how God's mercy is everlasting and His faithfulness never fails.

2. The Power of Praise - exploring the power of praise and how it can be used to glorify God.

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 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.

Psalms 118:4 Let them now that fear the LORD say, that his mercy endureth for ever.

This passage emphasizes the importance of praising God's mercy and grace that endure forever.

1. Recognizing God's Great Mercy and Grace

2. Abundant Blessings through God's Mercy

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. Ephesians 2:4-5 - "But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions it is by grace you have been saved."

Psalms 118:5 I called upon the LORD in distress: the LORD answered me, and set me in a large place.

The LORD hears our prayers and answers them, providing us with a large place.

1. God answers our prayers and gives us more than we ask for.

2. Our faith is rewarded when we call on God in distress.

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 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."

Psalms 118:6 The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?

The psalmist affirms that he will not fear because the Lord is on his side and nothing can be done to him by man.

1. God is Always On Your Side - Romans 8:31-39

2. Fear Not - Isaiah 41:10-13

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 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.

Psalms 118:7 The LORD taketh my part with them that help me: therefore shall I see my desire upon them that hate me.

The LORD is with those who help us and will help us to overcome our enemies.

1: God is our Strength and Helper in Times of Trouble

2: Rely on the Lord to Overcome Adversity

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 13:6 - So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Psalms 118:8 It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.

It is better to put faith in the Lord than to rely on people.

1: We should focus on the Lord's love and guidance instead of trusting in our own strength or the strength of others.

2: We should be mindful of our dependence on God, and put our trust in Him alone.

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 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.

Psalms 118:9 It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.

Trusting in the Lord is better than relying on human leaders.

1. Relying on the Lord: The Superior Choice

2. Put Your Faith in God, Not People

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."

Psalms 118:10 All nations compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD will I destroy them.

The Lord will protect us from harm when we put our trust in Him.

1: No matter how outnumbered we may be, our faith in the Lord will always protect us.

2: The power of the Lord is greater than any force we may encounter.

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 - 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.

Psalms 118:11 They compassed me about; yea, they compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.

The Lord will protect and destroy those who come against us.

1. The Power of the Lord's Name

2. Our God is a God of Protection

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. 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.

Psalms 118:12 They compassed me about like bees; they are quenched as the fire of thorns: for in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.

God will protect and deliver those who put their trust in Him.

1: No matter how powerful or intimidating the enemy may seem, God will always protect and deliver those who put their trust in Him.

2: When we call on the name of the Lord, He will destroy our enemies and provide us with deliverance.

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. Behold, all who are incensed against you shall be put to shame and confounded; those who strive against you shall be as nothing and shall perish. You shall seek those who contend with you, but you shall not find them; those who war against you shall be as nothing at all. 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.

2: Psalm 34:17 - When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

Psalms 118:13 Thou hast thrust sore at me that I might fall: but the LORD helped me.

Despite facing adversity, the LORD helped the psalmist.

1. God's Help in Times of Trouble

2. How to Overcome 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. 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."

Psalms 118:14 The LORD is my strength and song, and is become my salvation.

Psalms 118:14 affirms that God is the source of strength and salvation for the believer.

1. The Source of Strength: How God gives us the Courage to Overcome

2. Salvation: An Invitation to Life in Jesus Christ

1. Psalm 118:14

2. 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 it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved. )

Psalms 118:15 The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacles of the righteous: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly.

The righteous rejoice in the Lord's salvation.

1: Rejoice in the Lord's Salvation

2: The Right Hand of the Lord is Valiant

1: Romans 8:31-39 - If God be for us, who can be against us?

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.

Psalms 118:16 The right hand of the LORD is exalted: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly.

The power and strength of the Lord is praised in Psalms 118:16, proclaiming that the right hand of the Lord is exalted and does valiantly.

1. The Strength of the Lord: The Exalted Right Hand of the Lord

2. The Courage and Valor of the Lord: The Right Hand of the Lord Does Valiantly

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 15:6 - "Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power, your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy."

Psalms 118:17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

The Psalmist declares that they will not die, but live and proclaim the works of the Lord.

1. Living and Proclaiming the Works of the Lord

2. Declaring the Miracles of the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:9 O Zion, you who bring good tidings, get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, you who bring good tidings, lift up your voice with strength, lift it up, be not afraid; say to the cities of Judah, Behold your God!

2. Matthew 28:19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 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. Amen.

Psalms 118:18 The LORD hath chastened me sore: but he hath not given me over unto death.

The LORD has disciplined the speaker severely, but did not allow them to die.

1. God's Discipline is Necessary for Our Growth

2. The LORD's Mercy and Redemption

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 12:7-11 - Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? If you are not disciplined and everyone undergoes discipline then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Psalms 118:19 Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the LORD:

This psalm encourages us to open our hearts and minds to God's righteousness and to praise Him.

1: Let us open our hearts to God's righteousness and dedicate our lives to praising Him.

2: Let us take the time to open ourselves up to God's righteousness and sincerely praise Him with all our hearts.

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: 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.

Psalms 118:20 This gate of the LORD, into which the righteous shall enter.

This passage speaks of the Lord's gate which leads to eternal life for those who are righteous.

1. The Lord's Gate: The Path to Righteousness and Eternal Life

2. The Blessing of the Lord's Gate: Access to Living with God Forever

1. Psalm 23:6 - Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

2. Isaiah 26:2 - Open the gates that the righteous nation may enter, the nation that keeps faith.

Psalms 118:21 I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation.

This passage celebrates God's salvation of the psalmist.

1. God is Always with Us - No Matter the Circumstances

2. The Power of Praise and Gratitude to God

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 is become my salvation."

2. Colossians 1:27 - "To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:"

Psalms 118:22 The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

The stone rejected by builders has become the cornerstone of the structure.

1. The Unwanted Becomes the Most Valuable - Psalms 118:22

2. Rejected, But Not Forsaken - Psalms 118:22

1. Matthew 21:42 - "Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes"

2. 1 Peter 2:7 - "So 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"

Psalms 118:23 This is the LORD's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

This passage celebrates the Lord's work and its amazing nature.

1. God's Work is Marvelous - Psalms 118:23

2. Celebrate the Lord's Handiwork - Psalms 118:23

1. 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.

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.

Psalms 118:24 This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This day is a day of joy and praise, given to us by the Lord.

1. The Joy of the Lord: How to Rejoice in the Gift of Every Day

2. The Power of Praise: How Gratitude Can Transform Our Lives

1. John 15:11 - These things I have spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

2. Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always: 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.

Psalms 118:25 Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity.

The psalmist pleads with God to save them and bring prosperity.

1. The Power of Prayer and its Effects on Our Lives

2. Trusting God in Times of Difficulty

1. Psalm 118:25 - Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity.

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.

Psalms 118:26 Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD.

This passage emphasizes the importance of those who come in the name of the Lord.

1. God s Blessing: Reaping the Benefits of Trusting in the Lord

2. The Power of Blessing: Giving Thanks to the Lord

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. 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. Matthew 19:29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.

Psalms 118:27 God is the LORD, which hath shewed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar.

The Lord has shown us light and we should bind our sacrifices to the altar with cords.

1. Making Sacrifices to the Lord - Psalm 118:27

2. God is the Light of our Lives - Psalm 118:27

1. Isaiah 49:6 - "And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth."

2. John 8:12 - "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

Psalms 118:28 Thou art my God, and I will praise thee: thou art my God, I will exalt thee.

This Psalm is a declaration of faith in God and a promise to praise Him.

1. The Power of Praise: How Celebrating God Can Transform our Lives

2. Learning to Rejoice: Discovering the Joy of Worship

1. Psalm 103:1 5

2. Romans 8:38 39

Psalms 118:29 O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

God's mercy is everlasting and we should be thankful for it.

1. Let us be thankful for God's everlasting mercy.

2. Let us recognize and appreciate God's unfailing love and mercy.

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. 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.

Psalm 119 is the longest chapter in the Book of Psalms and is a remarkable acrostic poem consisting of 22 stanzas, each corresponding to a letter of the Hebrew alphabet. It is a celebration of God's Word and its role in guiding and instructing the psalmist.

Throughout the psalm, the psalmist expresses their love for God's law and meditates on its precepts. They seek understanding, guidance, and deliverance through obedience to God's commands.

The psalmist acknowledges that God's Word is a source of blessing, wisdom, and protection. They express their desire to walk in obedience to His statutes and ask for help in overcoming obstacles and temptations.

The psalmist also laments those who disregard God's law and prays for discernment to follow His ways faithfully. They express their devotion to God's testimonies, proclaiming that His commandments are righteous and everlasting.

In summary,

Psalm one hundred nineteen presents

a celebration of God's Word,

and an expression of devotion,

highlighting structure achieved through alphabetical acrostic while emphasizing recognition of divine guidance.

Emphasizing love expressed regarding recognizing value in God's law while seeking understanding.

Mentioning desire shown regarding recognizing importance of obedience while seeking help.

Expressing lament presented regarding recognizing disregard for divine law while praying for discernment.

Acknowledging devotion expressed regarding recognizing righteousness in commandments while affirming eternal nature.

Psalms 119:1 Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.

Blessed are those who follow God's law.

1. The Blessings of Obedience - focusing on the blessings of following God's laws.

2. The Fruits of Righteousness - emphasizing the rewards of living a holy life.

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 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 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. 24 For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. 25 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.

Psalms 119:2 Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.

Blessings come to those who obey God's laws and seek God with all their heart.

1: The Benefits of Obedience

2: Seeking God with All Our Heart

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: Jeremiah 29:13, "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Psalms 119:3 They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.

Those who live according to God's ways are blameless.

1. The Path of Righteousness: Living According to God's Ways

2. Walking in God's Ways: The Key to a Blameless Life

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. 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."

Psalms 119:4 Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently.

God has commanded us to obey His precepts diligently.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The blessings of obedience in your life.

1. Deuteronomy 6:17-19 "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. 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.

Psalms 119:5 O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!

The psalmist longs for his ways to be directed to keep God's statutes.

1. Directed to Obey: The Psalmist's Desire to Follow God

2. Keeping God's Statutes: Achieving Holiness Through Obedience

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "And you will seek me and find me, when you search for me with all your heart."

2. James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

Psalms 119:6 Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.

The psalmist declares that they will not be ashamed when they obey all of God's commandments.

1. Obedience to God's Word brings great honor

2. The power of integrity in the life of a believer

1. Proverbs 13:13 - Whoever despises the word brings destruction on himself, but he who reveres the commandment will be rewarded.

2. Proverbs 10:9 - Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out.

Psalms 119:7 I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.

The passage speaks of praising God with an upright heart when one learns God's righteous judgments.

1. "Uprightness of Heart: The Path to Knowing God's Judgments"

2. "A Call to Praise: Learning God's Righteous Judgments"

1. Isaiah 26:7-8 - The path of the righteous is level; you make level the way of the righteous. In the path of your judgments, O Lord, we wait for you; your name and remembrance are the desire of our soul.

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; 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.

Psalms 119:8 I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly.

The Psalmist pleads with God not to forsake him and promises to keep God's statutes.

1. "The Promises We Make to God"

2. "The Faithful Plea for Preservation"

1. Psalms 119:8

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Psalms 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

The psalmist asks how a young man can cleanse his way, and answers it by looking to God's word.

1. "Don't Forget to Look to God's Word"

2. "Guidance for Young People"

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 3:1-2 - 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.

Psalms 119:10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.

The Psalmist expresses his desire to seek and follow God's commands with all his heart.

1. Following God with All Your Heart

2. Staying True to God's Commandments

1. Deuteronomy 4:29-31 - "But if from there you seek the LORD your God, you will find him if you look for him with all your heart and with all your soul. When you are in distress and all these things have happened to you, then in later days you will return to the LORD your God and obey him. For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your ancestors, which he confirmed to them by oath.

2. Matthew 22:37-39 - 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. "

Psalms 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

The Psalmist declares that they have hidden God's word in their heart to protect themselves from sin.

1. The Power of the Word: Learning to Hide God's Word in Our Hearts

2. Obedience in Action: How to Live Out What We Believe.

1. Matthew 4:1-11, Jesus overcomes temptation through Scripture

2. Romans 12:1-2, Living a life of obedience to God's will

Psalms 119:12 Blessed art thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.

This Psalm is a prayer for guidance and instruction on the path of God's statutes.

1. God's Promises: Finding Guidance in His Statutes

2. Living in the Light of God's Statutes

1. Jeremiah 31:33-34 For 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.

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

Psalms 119:13 With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.

The psalmist has declared the judgments of God with his lips.

1. The Power of Declaring God's Word

2. The Importance of Proclaiming God's Word

1. Romans 10:9-10 - "If you declare with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved."

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.

Psalms 119:14 I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches.

The psalmist rejoices in following God's testimonies as much as in all riches.

1. Riches of Obedience: How Following God's Testimonies Leads to Joy

2. God's Riches: How Following His Testimonies is More Valuable Than Riches

1. Psalm 19:10-11 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

2. Proverbs 8:10-11 Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold. For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.

Psalms 119:15 I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.

Meditating on God's precepts leads to respect for His ways.

1: Walk in Respect of the Lord's Ways

2: Grow in Wisdom Through Meditation

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 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Psalms 119:16 I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.

Delight in God's statutes and do not forget His word.

1. The Joy of Keeping God's Word

2. The Power of Remembering God's Word

1. Psalm 1:2 - "But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night."

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."

Psalms 119:17 Deal bountifully with thy servant, that I may live, and keep thy word.

The psalmist asks God to be generous to them, so that they can live and follow His commands.

1. Choosing To Live By God's Word

2. The Reward Of Obedience To 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. 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.

Psalms 119:18 Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.

The psalmist prays to God to open his eyes so he may behold wondrous things from God's law.

1. The Power of Prayer: Experiencing God's Wonders Through Humility

2. The Holy Scriptures: Uncovering God's Wonders Through Faithful Study

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; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes."

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."

Psalms 119:19 I am a stranger in the earth: hide not thy commandments from me.

The Psalmist expresses a desire to be guided by God's commandments even though he is a stranger in the earth.

1. The Value of Obedience: Learning to Walk in God's Ways Despite Life's Uncertainties

2. Living as a Stranger in a Foreign Land: Relying on God's Word for Direction

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

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.

Psalms 119:20 My soul breaketh for the longing that it hath unto thy judgments at all times.

The psalmist expresses a strong desire to always keep God's laws.

1. The Power of Longing: How to Cultivate a Yearning for God's Word

2. Prioritizing God's Laws: Finding Strength Through Obedience

1. Psalm 119:20

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."

Psalms 119:21 Thou hast rebuked the proud that are cursed, which do err from thy commandments.

God rebukes those who are proud and disobey His commandments.

1. God's Rebuke of Pride: A Warning to All

2. The Blessing of Obeying God's Commands

1. Proverbs 16:5 - Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an abomination to the Lord; be assured, he will not go unpunished.

2. James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Psalms 119:22 Remove from me reproach and contempt; for I have kept thy testimonies.

The Psalmist is asking God to remove reproach and contempt from his life because he has kept God's testimonies.

1: The Power of Testimony - We can experience freedom from reproach and contempt when we keep God's testimonies.

2: The Reality of Reproach - Reproach and contempt can be a consequence of not keeping God's testimonies.

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: Romans 8:1 - Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 119:23 Princes also did sit and speak against me: but thy servant did meditate in thy statutes.

Psalm 119:23 talks about how a person is being persecuted by those in power, but that the psalmist is taking comfort in God's statutes.

1. God's Comfort in the Midst of Persecution

2. Finding Strength in God's Word

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 5:11-12 - Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Psalms 119:24 Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors.

This passage speaks of the joy found in following God's testimonies, as they offer guidance and wisdom.

1. Finding Joy in the Lord's Testimonies - exploring the joy and comfort found in following God's teachings and testimonies.

2. Testimonies as Our Counsellors - learning from God's counsel and applying it to our lives.

1. Psalm 119:97, "Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it 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."

Psalms 119:25 My soul cleaveth unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word.

The psalmist pleads for God to revive him according to His Word.

1. The Power of God s Word: How His Word Revives Us

2. The Need for Revival: A Cry to God for Help

1. John 6:63 - It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

2. Ezekiel 37:1-14 - The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry.

Psalms 119:26 I have declared my ways, and thou heardest me: teach me thy statutes.

The psalmist declares his ways to God and requests to be taught God's statutes.

1. Trusting God with Your Ways - how to trust in God to lead us on the right paths

2. Teaching God's Statutes - the importance of learning and applying God's laws and commandments

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. Deuteronomy 11:18-19 - 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.

Psalms 119:27 Make me to understand the way of thy precepts: so shall I talk of thy wondrous works.

The psalmist asks God to help him understand His precepts, so that he can discuss God's wonderful deeds.

1. A Call to Faithful Obedience - Drawing Closer to God through Understanding His Word

2. Life-Transforming Experiences - Experiencing the Miraculous Power of God's Word

1. John 14:15-17 - Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

2. Romans 12:2 - Renewing of the Mind through Transformation in Christ

Psalms 119:28 My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word.

The psalmist asks God to strengthen him according to His word.

1. The Strength of the Word of God

2. When Your Soul Is Heavy: God's Strength

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.

Psalms 119:29 Remove from me the way of lying: and grant me thy law graciously.

Removing lies from our lives and seeking God's law.

1: Turning away from lies and turning to God's truth.

2: Walking in the truth of God's law.

1: Proverbs 10:9 - He who walks in integrity walks securely, But he who perverts his ways will become known.

2: John 8:31-32 - Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Psalms 119:30 I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid before me.

The psalmist has made a conscious choice to live the truth of God's judgments.

1. Making Wise Choices: The Example of Psalms 119:30

2. Walking in the Truth: Living Out God's Judgments

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.

Psalms 119:31 I have stuck unto thy testimonies: O LORD, put me not to shame.

This psalm encourages us to remain faithful to the Lord and depend on Him for our identity and worth.

1. "The Power of Faithfulness: How Remaining True to God's Word Protects Us from Shame"

2. "God's Testimonies: The Importance of Following God's Word in Our Lives"

1. 1 John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

2. James 1:22 - "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

Psalms 119:32 I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart.

The psalmist promises to follow God's commands when his heart is enlarged.

1. Running the Way of God's Commandments: Enlarging Our Hearts

2. The Power of Obedience: Expanding Our Hearts

1. Jeremiah 31:33-34 - For 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.

2. Ezekiel 36:26-27 - And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

Psalms 119:33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end.

The Psalmist prays to God for guidance to understand and abide by His statutes.

1. "The Pathway of Obedience"

2. "The Call to Follow God's Ways"

1. Jeremiah 6:16 - "Thus says the Lord: Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls.

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."

Psalms 119:34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart.

Give me knowledge of God's law and I will commit myself to following it.

1. The Power of Commitment: Keeping God's Law with Whole Heart

2. Obeying God's Word: Understanding and Following 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. 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.

Psalms 119:35 Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight.

This passage speaks of the delight that comes from following God's commands.

1. Finding Joy in Obedience to God's Word

2. The Rewards of Following God's Commands

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.

Psalms 119:36 Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness.

The psalmist pleads with God to incline his heart towards God's testimonies and away from covetousness.

1. Keeping Our Hearts Right: Staying Away from Covetousness

2. How to Keep Our Hearts Inclined Toward God's Testimonies

1. Romans 7:7-8 "What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, You shall not covet.

2. Proverbs 4:23 "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."

Psalms 119:37 Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way.

Turn away from distractions and focus on God's path for life.

1. "Disconnect to Connect: Rejecting Vanity to Receive Life"

2. "Redirect: Turn Away from Vanity to Follow God's Path"

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 4:22 24 - "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."

Psalms 119:38 Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who is devoted to thy fear.

The psalmist requests for God's word to be established in his life, since he is devoted to God's fear.

1. The Power of Devotion: Learning to be Devoted to God's Fear

2. The Strength of Steadfastness: Establishing God's Word in our Lives

1. 1 John 2:3-5 - "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"

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."

Psalms 119:39 Turn away my reproach which I fear: for thy judgments are good.

The psalmist pleads for God to turn away the reproach they fear, as God's judgments are good.

1. God Is Good: How to Trust Him Even in Troubling Times

2. Overcoming Fear by Relying on God's Goodness

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. 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.

Psalms 119:40 Behold, I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me in thy righteousness.

The psalmist expresses a longing for God's precepts and a desire to be quickened in righteousness.

1. The Power of God's Precepts

2. Pursuing Righteousness through Obedience

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. 1 John 2:3-6 - "Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, I know Him, and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."

Psalms 119:41 Let thy mercies come also unto me, O LORD, even thy salvation, according to thy word.

The psalmist pleads for God's mercy and salvation, according to His Word.

1. God's Mercy and Salvation: How We Receive It

2. Trusting in God's Word: The Key to Salvation

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

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.

Psalms 119:42 So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproacheth me: for I trust in thy word.

The psalmist finds strength and assurance in God's word to combat criticism and reproach from others.

1: We can find strength in God's word to help us face the challenges of life.

2: Even when we are criticized by others, God's word can bring us comfort and assurance.

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.

Psalms 119:43 And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments.

The psalmist expresses their faith in God's judgments and their hope that God will not take away the truth from their mouth.

1. Hope in God's Judgments: Trusting in God's Ways

2. The Power of Truth: Standing Firm in God's Word

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 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.

Psalms 119:44 So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever.

The psalmist expresses a commitment to obey God's law forever.

1. The Commitment to Obey God's Law

2. Understanding the Eternal Nature of Obedience

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. 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."

Psalms 119:45 And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts.

The psalmist seeks the Lord's precepts and promises to walk at liberty.

1. "Living in Liberty: Seeking the Lord's Precepts"

2. "Finding Freedom in Seeking the Lord"

1. John 8:36 - So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

2. Romans 8:2 - For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

Psalms 119:46 I will speak of thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed.

The Psalmist declares their commitment to speaking of God's testimonies before kings and not being ashamed.

1. The Power of Confidence in God: Being Bold Before the World

2. Making Godly Choices: Choosing to Speak of God's Testimonies Despite the Cost

1. 2 Timothy 1:7 For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

2. Acts 4:13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.

Psalms 119:47 And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved.

The psalmist finds joy in keeping God s commands, which he loves.

1. "The Joy of Obedience: Finding Happiness in God's Commandments"

2. "The Power of Loving God's Word: Discovering Delight in His Commands"

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. Deuteronomy 6:5 - "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

Psalms 119:48 My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes.

The psalmist offers their hands to lift up to God's commandments, which they love, and also meditate on God's statutes.

1. The Power of Lifting Our Hands in Prayer

2. The Beauty of Meditating on God's Word

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. Psalm 1:2 - "But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night."

Psalms 119:49 Remember the word unto thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to hope.

The psalmist asks the Lord to remember the word that has given them hope.

1. Hope in God's Promises - trusting God's faithfulness even when life is hard

2. Relying on God's Word - leaning on Scripture as our source of hope and strength

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

2. Hebrews 6:18-19 - So that by two immutable 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. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain.

Psalms 119:50 This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me.

The Psalmist finds comfort and revitalization in the Word of God in times of affliction.

1. "The Comfort of God's Word in Times of Affliction"

2. "Finding Strength in Scripture"

1. Isaiah 40:29-31

2. Psalm 19:7-14

Psalms 119:51 The proud have had me greatly in derision: yet have I not declined from thy law.

The writer of Psalms 119:51 expresses their faith in God despite facing ridicule and derision from the proud.

1. The Power of Faith in God: Keeping our Faith Despite Ridicule

2. Standing Firm in God's Truth: To Whom Will You Turn?

1. Psalm 119:51

2. Romans 8:31-39 (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.)

Psalms 119:52 I remembered thy judgments of old, O LORD; and have comforted myself.

The psalmist reflects on God's judgment and finds comfort in it.

1. God's Judgment: Comfort in the Midst of Uncertainty

2. The Power of Remembering God's Faithfulness

1. Isaiah 46:9-11: Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me.

2. Lamentations 3:20-24: My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me.

Psalms 119:53 Horror hath taken hold upon me because of the wicked that forsake thy law.

The wicked forsaking God's law can cause horror and fear.

1: God's laws provide us with a moral compass that we should follow to live a life of righteousness.

2: To forsake God's law is to forsake God's love and protection.

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

Psalms 119:54 Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.

The psalmist praises God for his statutes, which have been the source of comfort and joy during his journey of life.

1. The Joy of Living in Obedience to God

2. Experiencing God's Presence Through His Statutes

1. Psalm 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

2. Deuteronomy 11:18-19 Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

Psalms 119:55 I have remembered thy name, O LORD, in the night, and have kept thy law.

The psalmist remembers God's name and keeps His law during the night.

1. God is ever-present and His law ever-binding

2. Remembering God's name and keeping His law brings blessing

1. 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. Deuteronomy 6:5-7 - 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.

Psalms 119:56 This I had, because I kept thy precepts.

The Psalmist experienced joy and satisfaction in life because of their obedience to God's commands.

1. "The Joy of Obedience"

2. "The Blessing of Keeping God's Precepts"

1. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

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.

Psalms 119:57 Thou art my portion, O LORD: I have said that I would keep thy words.

The psalmist proclaims that God is their portion and that they will keep God's words.

1. Knowing God: A Source of Comfort and Joy

2. The Importance of Living a Life of Obedience to 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. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Psalms 119:58 I intreated thy favour with my whole heart: be merciful unto me according to thy word.

The psalmist pleads to God for mercy based on His word.

1. God's Word Is Our Foundation of Mercy

2. Entreating God's Favor Through Wholeheartedness

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. 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."

Psalms 119:59 I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies.

The psalmist thought on their ways and decided to turn to God's testimonies.

1. Turning Our Feet: The Journey to Following God

2. Reflecting on Our Ways: Finding Direction in God's 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. 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.

Psalms 119:60 I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments.

The Psalmist expresses their dedication and commitment to keeping God's commandments, rushing to obey without delay.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Will

2. Living in the Moment: Finding Strength to Obey 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. 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."

Psalms 119:61 The bands of the wicked have robbed me: but I have not forgotten thy law.

The psalmist has been robbed by wicked people, but they have not forgotten God's law.

1. Trusting God Even In Difficult Times

2. God's Word Is Our Guide In Life

Cross-

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 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.

Psalms 119:62 At midnight I will rise to give thanks unto thee because of thy righteous judgments.

The psalmist expresses his gratitude to God for His righteous judgments and plans to give thanks at midnight.

1. Finding Strength to Rejoice in God's Judgments

2. Cultivating Gratitude in the Midst of Trials

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. 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!

Psalms 119:63 I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.

I am part of a community of people who honor God and follow His commandments.

1. Community: The Power of Uniting Together in Faith

2. The Blessing of Keeping God's Precepts

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. 10 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. 11 Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

12

2. Acts 2:44-47 - Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, 45 and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. 46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Psalms 119:64 The earth, O LORD, is full of thy mercy: teach me thy statutes.

The psalmist praises the Lord for His mercy and asks for guidance in understanding His statutes.

1. The Lord s Mercy: An Invitation to Praise

2. Learning His Statutes: An Invitation to Growth

1. Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."

2. Psalm 119:9 "How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word."

Psalms 119:65 Thou hast dealt well with thy servant, O LORD, according unto thy word.

The psalmist is praising God for having fulfilled His promises to them.

1. God is Faithful - He keeps His promises

2. God's Word is True - We can always trust it

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. Numbers 23:19 - God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?

Psalms 119:66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge: for I have believed thy commandments.

The Psalmist expresses his belief in God's commandments and requests that He give him wisdom and understanding.

1. The Reward of Obedience: How Faithful Following of God's Word Leads to Wisdom

2. Experiencing the Power of the Word: How to Receive the Promises of Psalm 119

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 1:5 - Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance.

Psalms 119:67 Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word.

The psalmist acknowledges that before they were afflicted, they strayed away from God's word, but now they are keeping it.

1. The Power of Affliction: How Trials Can Strengthen Our Faith

2. Getting Back On Track: Returning to God s Word After Going Astray

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. Proverbs 3:11-12 - My son, do not despise the Lord s discipline, and do not resent his rebuke, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.

Psalms 119:68 Thou art good, and doest good; teach me thy statutes.

The psalmist acknowledges God's goodness and appeals for instruction in His statutes.

1. Understanding God's Goodness

2. Applying God's Statutes

1. Psalm 145:9 - The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he hath made.

2. 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 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.

Psalms 119:69 The proud have forged a lie against me: but I will keep thy precepts with my whole heart.

The proud have lied about the psalmist, but he will remain steadfast in following God's precepts.

1. God's Precepts: The Path to Victory Over Lies

2. The Power of Wholehearted Obedience to God's Will

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. 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.

Psalms 119:70 Their heart is as fat as grease; but I delight in thy law.

The heart of the wicked is consumed with greed, but the righteous enjoy God s law.

1: God's law brings joy and peace to the righteous.

2: Greed leads to a life of emptiness and sorrow.

1: Proverbs 21:27 - The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination: how much more, when he brings it with a wicked mind?

2: Proverbs 15:9 - The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the LORD: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.

Psalms 119:71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.

This verse shows us that God uses affliction to help us learn and understand His statutes.

1. God's Purpose in Affliction: How God Uses Difficulties to Help Us Grow

2. The Benefits of Affliction: How Trials Can Help Us Understand God's Word

1. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 - Paul's thorn in the flesh and the response of God's grace

2. Isaiah 48:10 - God's faithful instruction for His people even in difficult times

Psalms 119:72 The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver.

The laws of God are more valuable to the psalmist than material riches.

1. "The Value of God's Laws"

2. "The Blessings of Obedience"

1. Proverbs 3:13-18

2. Matthew 6:19-21

Psalms 119:73 Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments.

The Psalmist is asking God for understanding to learn His commandments.

1. Knowing God's Will: How to Discern His Commands

2. The Power of God's Creation and Guidance

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.

Psalms 119:74 They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because I have hoped in thy word.

This passage from Psalms 119 reveals that those who fear the Lord and have hope in His Word will be glad when they see the speaker.

1. "Finding Joy in the Lord: The Hope of His Word"

2. "The Blessedness of Those Who Fear the Lord"

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. 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."

Psalms 119:75 I know, O LORD, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me.

The psalmist acknowledges God's faithfulness in afflicting him, recognizing that His judgments are right.

1. God is Faithful in Our Afflictions - recognizing that His judgments are absolute and just

2. The Comfort of Faith in Suffering - trusting in God's sovereignty in the midst of pain

1. Deuteronomy 32:4 - He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just.

2. 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.

Psalms 119:76 Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy servant.

The psalmist is asking God to show mercy and kindness and bring comfort according to His word.

1. The Power of God's Word: Having Faith in the Promises of God

2. Trust in the Lord: Seeking Comfort and Refuge in God's Mercy

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. Jeremiah 29:11-14 - 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.

Psalms 119:77 Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law is my delight.

The psalmist expresses his desire for God's mercies to come to him so that he may live according to God's law.

1. Living in Obedience to God's Law

2. The Comfort of God's Tender Mercies

1. Psalm 119:77

2. Isaiah 30:18 - "And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the LORD is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him."

Psalms 119:78 Let the proud be ashamed; for they dealt perversely with me without a cause: but I will meditate in thy precepts.

The psalmist humbly asks God to make the proud be ashamed for treating him unfairly, and resolves to meditate on God's precepts.

1. "The Power of Humility: God's Response to Perverse Treatment"

2. "God's Promise to Those Who Meditate on His Precepts"

1. Proverbs 16:19 - Better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud.

2. Romans 12:16 - Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position.

Psalms 119:79 Let those that fear thee turn unto me, and those that have known thy testimonies.

The psalmist asks that those who revere God turn to him, and those familiar with God's works remember them.

1. Revering God Through Obedience

2. Remembering God's Testimonies 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, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you today for your good?

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.

Psalms 119:80 Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed.

The Psalmist expresses their desire to uphold God's statutes so that they will not be ashamed.

1. Living in Righteousness: The Psalmist's Commitment to God

2. Overcoming Shame: Achieving Victory Through God's Statutes

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. Romans 8:1 - There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 119:81 My soul fainteth for thy salvation: but I hope in thy word.

The psalmist expresses his deep longing for God's salvation, and expresses his faith and hope in God's Word.

1. Hope in God's Word: The Power to Overcome Faintness of Soul

2. Finding Strength in God's Word: The Source of Salvation

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."

Psalms 119:82 Mine eyes fail for thy word, saying, When wilt thou comfort me?

The psalmist is longing for comfort and finds it in God's word.

1. "Waiting on the Lord: Finding Comfort in His Word"

2. "God's Word: The Source of Comfort in Times of Need"

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. 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.

Psalms 119:83 For I am become like a bottle in the smoke; yet do I not forget thy statutes.

The Psalmist expresses that despite facing difficulty, they remain devoted to God's statutes.

1. The Power of Devotion: Keeping God s Statutes Despite Life s Difficulties

2. God s Faithfulness: Staying Loyal to His Statutes in Times 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. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalms 119:84 How many are the days of thy servant? when wilt thou execute judgment on them that persecute me?

The psalmist expresses his despair for justice and wonders how long he will have to wait for vindication.

1. God's Timing is Perfect: Trusting in the Lord's Timing Even in Times of Persecution

2. God is Just: How Justice Will Prevail in the End

1. Isaiah 30:18 - Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice.

2. Psalm 37:11 - But the meek will possess the land and enjoy peace and prosperity.

Psalms 119:85 The proud have digged pits for me, which are not after thy law.

The proud have created obstacles for the psalmist that do not adhere to God's law.

1. The Danger of Pride - Pride can lead us to create obstacles for ourselves and others that are contrary to God's law.

2. The Importance of God's Law - We must be mindful of God's law and not allow ourselves to be distracted by the pride of others.

1. Psalms 119:85 - The proud have digged pits for me, which are not after thy law.

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.

Psalms 119:86 All thy commandments are faithful: they persecute me wrongfully; help thou me.

The psalmist asks for help from God, since they are being persecuted wrongfully despite their faithfulness to God's commandments.

1. "The Faithful Will Be Persecuted"

2. "The Comfort of God's Help in Persecution"

1. Romans 8:31-39 - Paul's assurance of God's love in the midst of suffering

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God's help in times of trouble

Psalms 119:87 They had almost consumed me upon earth; but I forsook not thy precepts.

The psalmist was almost consumed upon earth but did not forsake the Lord's precepts.

1: We must never forget the Lord's precepts, even in times of great trouble and danger.

2: God is our refuge and strength in times of trouble, and we must always remember His commandments.

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."

Psalms 119:88 Quicken me after thy lovingkindness; so shall I keep the testimony of thy mouth.

The psalmist seeks God's help to live according to the testimonies of God's word.

1. The Power of God's Word: Embracing the Life-Giving Testimonies of Scripture

2. Lovingkindness: Experiencing the Reviving Grace of God

1. Psalm 1:1-2, "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."

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."

Psalms 119:89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

The psalmist affirms that God's word is timeless and eternal.

1. The Unchanging Nature of God's Word

2. Firmly Established in Heaven: The Word of God

1. Matthew 24:35 - Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

2. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Psalms 119:90 Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.

God's faithfulness and power is everlasting and has been established since the beginning of time.

1: The faithfulness of God and His power to create is ever-enduring.

2: God's faithfulness is a source of comfort and security for us all.

1: Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

2: Hebrews 13:8 - "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."

Psalms 119:91 They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all are thy servants.

The psalmist praises God for His ordinances that are still in effect today.

1. The Everlasting Power of God's Word

2. The Faithfulness of God's Servants

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand 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.

Psalms 119:92 Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction.

The Psalmist expresses his delight in the law of God, proclaiming it his salvation in times of distress.

1. The Joy of Obeying God's Law

2. Finding Strength in Affliction Through God's Law

1. Romans 8:3-4 - "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."

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."

Psalms 119:93 I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me.

The Psalmist promises to never forget God's precepts, as they have given them life.

1. The Life-giving Power of God's Precepts

2. Remembering God's Precepts for a Renewed Life

1. 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.

2. Ephesians 2:1-5 - And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. 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;)

Psalms 119:94 I am thine, save me; for I have sought thy precepts.

The Psalmist expresses their devotion to God and seeks His guidance.

1. Seeking God's Guidance: Why we should seek God's wisdom in all things.

2. Devoted to God: Growing closer to our Lord through devotion and obedience.

1. Psalm 119:94

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."

Psalms 119:95 The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: but I will consider thy testimonies.

The wicked are waiting to destroy the psalmist, but he will instead focus on God's testimonies.

1. Finding Strength in God's Word

2. Relying on God's Promises in Times of Trouble

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.

Psalms 119:96 I have seen an end of all perfection: but thy commandment is exceeding broad.

The psalmist reflects on the end of all perfection, and praises God for his commandments, which are broad and encompass all.

1. "God's Perfection: Seeing the End of All Perfection"

2. "The Exceeding Broadness of God's Commandments"

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 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 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."

Psalms 119:97 O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.

This passage speaks of the psalmist's commitment to meditating on God's law throughout the day.

1. The Worth of Meditation on God's Word

2. The Joy of Obeying God's Commandments

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 1:2 - "But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night."

Psalms 119:98 Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.

God's commandments make us wiser than our enemies.

1. The Wisdom of God's Commands

2. Living Out God's Commands in 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 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."

Psalms 119:99 I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.

I have a greater understanding than all my teachers because I meditate on God's testimonies.

1. Meditating on God's Word Leads to Greater Understanding

2. Relying on God for Wisdom and Understanding

1. 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."

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."

Psalms 119:100 I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.

The Psalmist declares that he understands more than the ancients because he follows God's commands.

1. The Power of Obedience: Growing in Wisdom Through Following God's Precepts

2. Gaining Insight from the Scriptures: Seeking to Understand More Than the Ancients

1. Proverbs 3:13-15; 4:7 - Wisdom and instruction come from the Lord

2. 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

Psalms 119:101 I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.

The psalmist resolves to keep God's word by refraining from any evil way.

1. The Strength of Resolve: What We Can Do to Keep God's Word

2. The Power of God's Word: How to Stay on the Path of Righteousness

1. 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.

2. Isaiah 1:16-18 Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Psalms 119:102 I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me.

This passage illustrates God's guidance and instruction to the psalmist.

1. God's Guidance: Learning from His Word

2. Faithful Obedience: Following God's Instructions

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 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.'"

Psalms 119:103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

The psalmist declares that God's words are sweeter than honey to his mouth.

1. The Sweetness of God's Word - How God's Word satisfies our deepest longings

2. Savoring the Scriptures - Cultivating a taste for God's Word

1. Psalm 19:10 - More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

2. Isaiah 55:1-3 - Ho, every one who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Psalms 119:104 Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.

Acknowledging God's precepts leads to understanding and a disdain for false ways.

1. The Path of Wisdom: How God's Precepts Lead to Understanding

2. The Path of Righteousness: Why We Should Reject False Ways

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

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.

Psalms 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

The word of God is a source of guidance and direction.

1: "The Light of the Word"

2: "The Lamp of Guidance"

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. 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."

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? 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. ... Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

Psalms 119:106 I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments.

The psalmist has taken an oath to keep God's judgments.

1. Keeping Your Word: The Power of an Oath

2. God's Righteous Judgments: Our Guide to Living

1. James 5:12 "But above all, my brothers, 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. 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.

Psalms 119:107 I am afflicted very much: quicken me, O LORD, according unto thy word.

The psalmist is greatly afflicted and calls upon the Lord to revive him according to His Word.

1. The Power of God's Word: Relying on the Lord for Strength in Difficult Times

2. Hope in the Midst of Adversity: Finding Strength to Endure in the Promises of 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. 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.

Psalms 119:108 Accept, I beseech thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and teach me thy judgments.

The Psalmist asks God to accept his offerings and teach him His judgments.

1. The importance of offering free will gifts to the Lord.

2. Learning to abide by God's Judgements.

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 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."

Psalms 119:109 My soul is continually in my hand: yet do I not forget thy law.

The psalmist acknowledges that his life is in his hands, but he does not forget God's law.

1. A life in our hands: How to make right decisions.

2. Remembering God's Law: Reflections on Psalms 119:109.

1. Matthew 6:25-34; Trusting in God instead of worrying about life.

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Loving God with all of our heart, soul and strength.

Psalms 119:110 The wicked have laid a snare for me: yet I erred not from thy precepts.

The wicked have tried to trap the speaker, but they have not been successful in diverting them from God's commandments.

1. "God's Word is our Guide: The Story of Psalms 119:110"

2. "Standing Firm in the Face of Temptation"

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. Romans 8:31-39 - If God is for us, who can be against us?

Psalms 119:111 Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart.

The Psalmist takes the testimonies of God as a source of joy.

1. Rejoicing in God's Testimonies

2. The Joy of God's Word

1. Psalm 1:2 - But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

2. 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.

Psalms 119:112 I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes alway, even unto the end.

The Psalmist has resolved to obey God's commands faithfully until the end of his life.

1. A Heart That Obeys: The Power of Dedication to God's Ways

2. Inclining the Heart: Cultivating a Lifestyle of Attentiveness to God's Statutes

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. 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? 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? But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do 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."

Psalms 119:113 I hate vain thoughts: but thy law do I love.

I love God's law and reject vain thoughts.

1. The Value of Rejecting Vain Thoughts

2. The Love of God's Law

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 1:19-21 - 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. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

Psalms 119:114 Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word.

Psalm 119:114 expresses the belief that God is a place of protection and hope.

1. Knowing God is Our Refuge and Shield

2. Finding Hope in God's Word

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.

Psalms 119:115 Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God.

Depart from evil and keep the commandments of God.

1: Turn away from sin and live according to the commandments of God.

2: Flee from evil and be devoted to the Lord's commandments.

1: Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you.

2: Romans 12:2 - Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Psalms 119:116 Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope.

Uphold me according to God's word so that I may live with hope and without shame.

1. The Power of Hope: Learning to Live With God's Word

2. A Life of Faith: Upholding God's Promises

1. 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.

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.

Psalms 119:117 Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe: and I will have respect unto thy statutes continually.

Holding God close brings security and respect for His Word.

1: The Power of Closeness - Holding God close in life brings strength and security.

2: The Value of the Word - Respecting the Word of God brings great rewards.

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 1:8 - 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.

Psalms 119:118 Thou hast trodden down all them that err from thy statutes: for their deceit is falsehood.

God will punish those who disobey His statutes.

1: The Consequence of Disobedience is Punishment

2: Obey God's Statutes to Receive His Blessings

1: James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

2: 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 - And to give relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might.

Psalms 119:119 Thou puttest away all the wicked of the earth like dross: therefore I love thy testimonies.

The psalmist praises God for removing all wickedness from the earth and loving His testimonies.

1. The Power of Testimonies: How God's Testimonies Can Transform Our Lives

2. The Strength of Love: Loving God and His Ways

1. Psalm 97:10, "You who love the Lord, hate evil!"

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."

Psalms 119:120 My flesh trembleth for fear of thee; and I am afraid of thy judgments.

The Psalmist is in awe of God's power and fearful of His judgment.

1. God's Judgment Should Cause Us to Tremble

2. Awe and Fear in Response to God's Holiness

1. Isaiah 6:1-5

2. Hebrews 12:28-29

Psalms 119:121 I have done judgment and justice: leave me not to mine oppressors.

The psalmist pleads for God to protect him from his oppressors, as he has done what is right and just.

1. Righteousness is Found in Following God's Word

2. The Power of Praying for Protection from Oppressors

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 5:44-45 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven.

Psalms 119:122 Be surety for thy servant for good: let not the proud oppress me.

The psalmist pleads to God to be a surety for him against the oppression of the proud.

1. God's Surety - How God is our defender against the unjust.

2. The Fall of the Proud - How God will always bring the proud to justice.

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. Psalm 37:17-20 - For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the Lord upholds the righteous. The Lord knows the days of the upright, and their inheritance shall be forever. They shall not be ashamed in the evil time, and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied. But the wicked shall perish; And the enemies of the Lord, like the splendor of the meadows, shall vanish. Into smoke they shall vanish away.

Psalms 119:123 Mine eyes fail for thy salvation, and for the word of thy righteousness.

The Psalmist longs for God's salvation and His righteous word.

1. "Living in Hope: Trusting in God's Salvation and Righteousness"

2. "The Value of Faithful Endurance: Waiting on God's Salvation and Righteous Word"

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 10:17 - "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Psalms 119:124 Deal with thy servant according unto thy mercy, and teach me thy statutes.

The psalmist expresses a desire for God to deal with them in mercy and to teach them His statutes.

1. "The Cry of the Psalmist: Mercy and Teaching"

2. "God's Provision: Mercy and Instruction"

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. 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."

Psalms 119:125 I am thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know thy testimonies.

The psalmist is asking God to give him understanding so that he may know God's testimonies.

1. The Power of Prayer: Seeking Understanding from God

2. Knowing God's Testimonies: A Guide to Faithful Living

1. 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.

2. Deuteronomy 4:6-7 - 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.

Psalms 119:126 It is time for thee, LORD, to work: for they have made void thy law.

The psalmist pleads with God to act because people have rejected His laws.

1. The Danger of Disregarding God's Law

2. Why We Should Respect God's Commandments

1. Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2. Isaiah 5:20-21 - Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness.

Psalms 119:127 Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold.

The psalmist loves God's commandments more than anything, even more than gold and fine gold.

1. The Value of God's Commandments: A Look at Psalm 119:127

2. Loving God's Commandments Above All Else

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 6:5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Psalms 119:128 Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way.

The psalmist values and loves God's laws, and hates anything contrary to them.

1. Living according to God's Ways

2. The Danger of False 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 submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

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.

Psalms 119:129 Thy testimonies are wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them.

The psalmist proclaims the wonderful testimonies of God and his commitment to keep them.

1: We should remember the wonderful testimonies of God and be committed to keep them in our hearts.

2: God's testimonies are wonderful and should be remembered by us, for we have an obligation to keep them.

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: Hebrews 10:23 - Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

Psalms 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

The Word of God brings enlightenment and understanding even to the most simple of people.

1. Let God's Word Illuminate Your Life

2. Understanding God's Word in Simple Terms

1. Psalm 119:105, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

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."

Psalms 119:131 I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments.

The psalmist longs for God's commandments and expresses it with a deep desire.

1: When Our Hearts Long for God's Word

2: Finding Satisfaction in Seeking God's Ways

1: Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2: Psalm 63:1 - "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water."

Psalms 119:132 Look thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou usest to do unto those that love thy name.

Look upon me and be merciful: This focuses on the importance of asking God for mercy and being thankful for his blessings.

Trust in the Lord s goodness: This encourages us to trust in God s goodness and rely on his promises.

1. Look upon me and be merciful

2. Trust in the Lord s goodness

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. James 4:6-7 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Psalms 119:133 Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

This verse encourages us to abide by God's word, so that sin and wickedness do not take control of us.

1. The Power of God's Word: How It Can Help Us Overcome Sin and Wickedness

2. Choosing to Follow God: Rejecting the Temptations of Sin and Wickedness

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. 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."

Psalms 119:134 Deliver me from the oppression of man: so will I keep thy precepts.

Deliverance from the oppression of man is necessary for us to keep God's precepts.

1. Knowing God's Word is the Key to Deliverance

2. The Power of Prayer in Times of Oppression

1. Psalm 34:17, "When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

2. Romans 8:35-37, "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."

Psalms 119:135 Make thy face to shine upon thy servant; and teach me thy statutes.

The psalmist is asking for God's face to shine upon him and for God to teach him His statutes.

1. God's Shining Face - Exploring how God's grace and mercy is revealed through His face.

2. Learning God's Statutes - Understanding the importance of obedience to God's commands.

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. 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."

Psalms 119:136 Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law.

A person laments over their inability to keep God's law, and their sorrow is expressed through tears.

1. The Tears of Repentance: How to Walk in Obedience to God's Law

2. The Balm of God's Mercy: Experiencing God's Forgiveness Despite Our Shortcomings

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. 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."

Psalms 119:137 Righteous art thou, O LORD, and upright are thy judgments.

God is righteous and His judgments are just.

1. The Righteousness of God: How We Can Rely on His Fair Judgement

2. God's Upright Judgements: Living in Accordance with His Will

1. 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.

2. Proverbs 11:1: A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is his delight.

Psalms 119:138 Thy testimonies that thou hast commanded are righteous and very faithful.

The Lord's commandments are righteous and trustworthy.

1. Keeping God's Commandments: The Path to Righteousness

2. The Faithfulness of God's Word

1. Psalm 19:7-10 - "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. 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 competent, equipped for every good work."

Psalms 119:139 My zeal hath consumed me, because mine enemies have forgotten thy words.

The psalmist expresses his anguish and frustration that his enemies have forgotten God's word.

1. The Power of God's Word: A Call to Remember

2. Zeal for God: When Our Passion is Consumed

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Love the Lord Your God with All Your Heart

2. Romans 12:11 - Be Zealous in Serving the Lord

Psalms 119:140 Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it.

The psalmist expresses his love for the purity of God's Word.

1. The Power of the Word: How the Bible Can Transform Lives

2. Loving God's Word: Why We Should Embrace God's Truth

1. John 17:17 - Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Psalms 119:141 I am small and despised: yet do not I forget thy precepts.

Despite feeling insignificant and rejected, the psalmist does not forget God's commands.

1. The Power of God's Word in the Face of Adversity

2. Overcoming Insignificance with Faith and Obedience to God

1. Isaiah 51:1-2 - "Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him."

2. Romans 8:35-37 - "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 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."

Psalms 119:142 Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth.

God's righteousness is eternal and His law is truthful.

1. God's Righteousness is Eternal

2. The Truthfulness of God's Law

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand 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.

Psalms 119:143 Trouble and anguish have taken hold on me: yet thy commandments are my delights.

Trouble and anguish can be conquered by delighting in the Lord's commandments.

1. "Delighting in the Lord's Ways"

2. "Overcoming Trouble and Anguish with Faith in God".

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 the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal."

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."

Psalms 119:144 The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.

The everlasting righteousness of God's testimonies gives us understanding so that we may live.

1. The Everlasting Righteousness of God

2. The Path to Understanding and Life

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; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

2. Psalm 34:8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Psalms 119:145 I cried with my whole heart; hear me, O LORD: I will keep thy statutes.

The psalmist prays to the Lord with his whole heart, asking the Lord to hear him and to help him keep His statutes.

1. Living with Wholehearted Devotion to God

2. Seeking God's Guidance in Keeping His Statutes

1. Psalm 119:145

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.

Psalms 119:146 I cried unto thee; save me, and I shall keep thy testimonies.

The psalmist cries out to God for help, so that he can continue to obey God's commands.

1. The Power of Prayer: Relying on God in Times of Need

2. Following God's Will: The Blessings of Obeying His Testimonies

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. 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."

Psalms 119:147 I prevented the dawning of the morning, and cried: I hoped in thy word.

The psalmist expresses his faith in God's word, and calls out to Him during the night.

1. The Power of Hope in God's Word

2. Crying Out in the Dark

1. Romans 8:25 - But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

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.

Psalms 119:148 Mine eyes prevent the night watches, that I might meditate in thy word.

The Psalmist longs to meditate on God's word, even through the night watches.

1. The Joy of Meditating on God's Word

2. The Power of Late Night Reflection

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."

2. Psalm 1:2, "But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night."

Psalms 119:149 Hear my voice according unto thy lovingkindness: O LORD, quicken me according to thy judgment.

The psalmist asks God to hear his voice and to quicken him according to God's judgment.

1. How to Pray with Confidence and Boldness

2. Relying on God's Lovingkindness and Judgment

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. 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."

Psalms 119:150 They draw nigh that follow after mischief: they are far from thy law.

People who do bad things are far away from following God's law.

1. Living a Life of Obedience to God's Word

2. Staying Away from Mischief

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. 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.

Psalms 119:151 Thou art near, O LORD; and all thy commandments are truth.

The Lord is near and His commandments are true.

1. The Nearness of the Lord

2. The Truth of His Commandments

1. Psalm 145:18 - The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

2. John 17:17 - Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

Psalms 119:152 Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever.

God's testimonies are eternal and have always been established.

1. The Unchanging Nature of God's Promises

2. The Foundation of God's Testimonies

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

2. Matthew 24:35 - Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Psalms 119:153 Consider mine affliction, and deliver me: for I do not forget thy law.

The Psalmist is asking God to consider their affliction and to deliver them from it, as they have not forgotten God's law.

1. The Path to Deliverance - God's Law and Our Suffering

2. God's Deliverance and Our Faithfulness

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 34:19 - The righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all.

Psalms 119:154 Plead my cause, and deliver me: quicken me according to thy word.

The psalmist is asking God to take up his cause and deliver him, and to revive him according to God's Word.

1. God's Word: The Source of Life

2. The Power of Prayer in Times 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 5:16 - 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.

Psalms 119:155 Salvation is far from the wicked: for they seek not thy statutes.

The wicked do not seek God's statutes, and thus salvation is not within reach.

1. The Importance of Seeking God's Statutes

2. How to Obtain Salvation

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. 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.

Psalms 119:156 Great are thy tender mercies, O LORD: quicken me according to thy judgments.

Greatness of God's mercies and need for quickening according to His judgments.

1. God's Tender Mercies: A Blessing to Receive and Cherish

2. Quickening to Live in the Light of God's Judgments

1. Psalm 103:1-5

2. Ephesians 2:4-10

Psalms 119:157 Many are my persecutors and mine enemies; yet do I not decline from thy testimonies.

Despite many enemies and persecutors, the Psalmist remains steadfast in their faith and trust in God's testimonies.

1. "The Power of Faith in Times of Persecution"

2. "God's Testimonies: Strength in the Face of Adversity"

1. Romans 8:31-39 - "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. 1 Peter 1:3-9 - "Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy"

Psalms 119:158 I beheld the transgressors, and was grieved; because they kept not thy word.

The psalmist is saddened to see people who do not follow God's word.

1. "Living a Life of Obedience to God s Word"

2. "The Power of Keeping God's Word"

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. 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.

Psalms 119:159 Consider how I love thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness.

The psalmist expresses his love for God's precepts and asks the Lord to quicken him according to His lovingkindness.

1. The Psalmist's Love for God's Precepts

2. The Lord's Lovingkindness to Quicken Us

1. Psalm 119:159

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.

Psalms 119:160 Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.

The Word of God is true and righteous from the beginning to the end.

1. The Eternal Nature of God's Word

2. Abiding By God's Word

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. Matthew 24:35 - Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Psalms 119:161 Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart standeth in awe of thy word.

Even though princes have persecuted the psalmist without cause, they still stand in awe and respect of God's Word.

1. The Power of God's Word: Standing in Awe of the Lord

2. When Persecuted Without Cause: Trusting in the Lord's Protection

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 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."

Psalms 119:162 I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil.

The Psalmist rejoices in the Word of God as if it were a great treasure.

1. The Treasures of God's Word - how to uncover its hidden gems

2. Rejoicing in the Riches of God - how to find joy in His promises

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 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; 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.

Psalms 119:163 I hate and abhor lying: but thy law do I love.

I hate lies and love God's law.

1: Love God's Law - The Lord commands us to love His law and to follow it.

2: Reject Lies - We should reject lies and instead choose to live by the truth of God's Word.

1: John 8:32 - "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

2: Proverbs 12:22 - "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, But those who deal truthfully are His delight."

Psalms 119:164 Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments.

The Psalmist praises God seven times a day for His righteous judgments.

1. The Power of Praise: How Giving Thanks to God Can Transform Your Life

2. The Importance of Righteous Judgments: Reflecting God s Values in 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. 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.

Psalms 119:165 Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

Those who love God's law have great peace, and nothing can disturb them.

1. The Peace of God that Passes All Understanding

2. Loving God's Law Brings Blessings

1. Philippians 4:7 - "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

2. 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."

Psalms 119:166 LORD, I have hoped for thy salvation, and done thy commandments.

The psalmist expresses hope in the Lord's salvation and obedience to His commandments.

1. Hope in the Lord's Salvation

2. Obeying the Lord's Commandments

1. Psalms 119:166

2. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Psalms 119:167 My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly.

The Psalmist expresses his love for God's testimonies and promises to keep them.

1. "God's Promises: Keeping and Loving Them"

2. "The Joy of Keeping God's Testimonies"

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2. Jeremiah 31:3 - "I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you."

Psalms 119:168 I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies: for all my ways are before thee.

This passage speaks to the importance of living a life that is in accordance with God's laws and testimonies.

1. "The Path of Obedience: Living in Accordance with God's Laws"

2. "The Holiness of God: Living in the Light of His Presence"

1. 1 John 1:5-7 "This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 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."

2. Matthew 6:33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Psalms 119:169 Let my cry come near before thee, O LORD: give me understanding according to thy word.

The psalmist requests God to understand and hear his cry in accordance with His Word.

1. The Power of Prayer: Asking for Understanding from God

2. Knowing God's Word: The Source of Wisdom

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 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.

Psalms 119:170 Let my supplication come before thee: deliver me according to thy word.

This verse emphasizes the importance of prayer and reliance on God for deliverance.

1: Prayer is an essential part of the Christian life. We must come to God in supplication, trusting that He will hear our prayers and deliver us according to His Word.

2: The power of prayer is real and we must not underestimate its importance. We must approach the Lord in supplication, relying on Him to deliver us according to His promises.

1: James 5:13-15 - 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. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up.

2: 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Psalms 119:171 My lips shall utter praise, when thou hast taught me thy statutes.

The psalmist praises God for teaching them His statutes.

1. Showing Gratitude to God for His Guidance

2. God's Word is our Guide to Life

1. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalms 119:172 My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness.

The psalmist declares that they will speak of God's word, for all of His commands are righteous.

1. God's Righteousness: Understanding and Applying His Commandments

2. Let Us Speak of God's Word: The Power of Testimony

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 1:1 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Psalms 119:173 Let thine hand help me; for I have chosen thy precepts.

The Psalmist prays to God for help, as they have chosen to follow His precepts.

1. How to Seek God's Help in our Lives

2. The Benefits of Choosing God's Precepts

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 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Psalms 119:174 I have longed for thy salvation, O LORD; and thy law is my delight.

The psalmist expresses their desire for God's salvation and delight in his law.

1. The Joy of Knowing God's Salvation

2. The Delight of Living God's Law

1. Jeremiah 29:11-14 - God's plan for salvation and hope for the future

2. Romans 7:22-25 - The delight of living in the law of God

Psalms 119:175 Let my soul live, and it shall praise thee; and let thy judgments help me.

The psalmist expresses a desire for his soul to live and praises God for His judgments.

1. The Power of Praising God in Difficult Times

2. The Strength of God's Judgments in Our Lives

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

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

Psalms 119:176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments.

The psalmist expresses his contrition for straying from God's commandments and asks for forgiveness.

1. "The Lost Sheep: Seeking Forgiveness from God"

2. "The Power of God's Commandments: Remembering and Following"

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?

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 prosperity."

Psalm 120 is the first psalm in a collection known as the "Songs of Ascents" and is attributed to David. It expresses the psalmist's distress and longing for peace amidst deceitful and hostile surroundings.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist cries out to the Lord in their distress, feeling surrounded by deceitful and lying lips. They express their longing for deliverance from falsehood and their desire for peace (Psalm 120:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist laments dwelling among those who hate peace. They describe themselves as a person of peace, but when they speak, they are met with hostility (Psalm 120:3-7).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred twenty presents

a cry for deliverance,

and a lament over hostility,

highlighting expression achieved through acknowledging distress while emphasizing recognition of divine intervention.

Emphasizing plea presented regarding recognizing deceitful surroundings while expressing desire for truth.

Mentioning lament shown regarding recognizing hostility towards peace while affirming personal commitment.

Expressing longing expressed regarding recognizing need for deliverance from falsehood while desiring peaceful resolution.

Acknowledging personal identity presented regarding recognizing peaceful disposition while encountering opposition.

Psalms 120:1 In my distress I cried unto the LORD, and he heard me.

In distress, the psalmist called out to the Lord and He answered.

1. The Lord is Always Ready to Hear Our Cries

2. God's Faithfulness in a Time of 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. 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.

Psalms 120:2 Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips, and from a deceitful tongue.

Deliverance from lying and deceitful speech is a prayer for God's help.

1: Speak the Truth in Love - Ephesians 4:15

2: The Power of the Tongue - James 3:5-6

1: Proverbs 6:16-19

2: Colossians 3:9-10

Psalms 120:3 What shall be given unto thee? or what shall be done unto thee, thou false tongue?

The Psalmist asks what justice shall be done to those who speak falsely.

1. The Danger of False Talk: How Telling Lies Can Destroy Relationships

2. The Power of Speech: What Our Words Say About Us

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

2. Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Psalms 120:4 Sharp arrows of the mighty, with coals of juniper.

The psalmist compares the painful words of his adversaries to sharp arrows and burning coals of juniper.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Words Can Bring Pain And Destruction

2. Finding Comfort In The Lord: Trusting In God During Times of Trouble

1. Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue.

2. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 120:5 Woe is me, that I sojourn in Mesech, that I dwell in the tents of Kedar!

The psalmist reflects on the difficult circumstances of dwelling in Mesech and Kedar.

1. Finding Hope in Difficult Circumstances

2. God's Comfort in Life's Struggles

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

Psalms 120:6 My soul hath long dwelt with him that hateth peace.

The psalmist's soul has been dwelling with someone who does not desire peace.

1. "The Danger of Dwelling with the Enemy of Peace"

2. "The Power of Peace in the Midst of Conflict"

1. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

2. James 3:17-18 - "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy."

Psalms 120:7 I am for peace: but when I speak, they are for war.

The psalmist expresses his desire for peace, but notes that others are inclined to war when he speaks.

1. Peace Be Still: Learning to Find Peace When All Around is War

2. The War Within: Overcoming the Temptation to Respond in Kind

1. Matthew 8:23-27 - Jesus calms the storm at sea.

2. Galatians 5:19-26 - The fruit of the Spirit versus the works of the flesh.

Psalm 121 is another psalm from the collection of "Songs of Ascents." It is a song of assurance and trust in God's protection and guidance, particularly during times of trouble and journeying.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist lifts their eyes to the mountains and asks where their help comes from. They affirm that their help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth (Psalm 121:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist declares that the Lord will not allow their foot to slip or sleep. They emphasize that God is their protector who watches over them day and night (Psalm 121:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges that God is their shade at all times, shielding them from harm. They declare that God preserves them from all evil and guards their life (Psalm 121:5-7).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist expresses confidence in God's faithfulness, stating that He will keep them as they come and go, both now and forevermore (Psalm 121:8).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred twenty-one presents

a declaration of trust,

and an affirmation of divine protection,

highlighting reflection achieved through questioning source of help while emphasizing recognition of divine assistance.

Emphasizing assurance expressed regarding recognizing divine protection while affirming trust in Creator.

Mentioning security shown regarding recognizing constant vigilance while affirming preservation from harm.

Expressing confidence presented regarding recognizing shelter provided by God while affirming deliverance from evil.

Acknowledging faithfulness expressed regarding recognizing continuous guardianship while affirming eternal care.

Psalms 121:1 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.

I will look to the mountains for my help and strength.

1. Trust in the Lord and Look to the Mountains for Strength

2. Relying on Ourselves Leads to Unhappiness and Disappointment

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.

Psalms 121:2 My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.

My help comes from the Lord who created the heavens and the earth.

1. God is our Ultimate Source of Help

2. The Lord is Our Creator and Provider

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. 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.

Psalms 121:3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.

God will protect and provide for us even when we are vulnerable and exhausted.

1: God is our constant protector and provider.

2: We can trust God to keep us safe and provide for 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 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.

Psalms 121:4 Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

God watches over Israel and never rests or sleeps.

1. God is our faithful protector, always on guard and never tiring.

2. The Lord never slumbers or sleeps, providing strength and security.

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 - Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Psalms 121:5 The LORD is thy keeper: the LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand.

God is our protector and guardian, watching over us and providing shelter from danger.

1. The Lord is Our Keeper: Finding Comfort and Protection in God

2. God as Our Shield: Relying on Him for Strength and Shelter

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 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.

Psalms 121:6 The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will protect us from both day and night.

1: The Lord's protection is complete, day and night.

2: God's love and care for His people is all-encompassing, day and night.

1: Isaiah 58:8-9 - Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard.

2: Psalm 91:5-6 - You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.

Psalms 121:7 The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.

The LORD will protect and preserve us from all evil.

1. The Power of the Lord's Protection

2. The Comfort of Knowing God Watches Over Us

1. Jeremiah 32:17 - "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You!"

2. Psalm 34:7 - "The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him, And delivers them."

Psalms 121:8 The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

The LORD will always protect us, now and forevermore.

1: We can rely on the LORD to protect us in every area of our lives.

2: The LORD is a faithful protector who will always be there for us.

1: 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.

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?

Psalm 122 is another psalm from the collection of "Songs of Ascents." It is a song of joy and celebration as the psalmist expresses their delight in going to the house of the Lord and participating in worship.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist expresses their joy when they are invited to go to the house of the Lord. They declare their readiness to enter Jerusalem, which is described as a city firmly established (Psalm 122:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist prays for peace within Jerusalem, asking for blessings and security within its walls. They express their desire for prosperity and unity among God's people (Psalm 122:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist calls for prayers and blessings upon Jerusalem, acknowledging it as God's chosen dwelling place. They express their commitment to seek its welfare and prosperity (Psalm 122:8-9).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred twenty-two presents

a song of joy,

and a prayer for peace,

highlighting expression achieved through rejoicing in worship while emphasizing recognition of divine presence.

Emphasizing delight expressed regarding recognizing invitation to worship while expressing readiness.

Mentioning prayer shown regarding recognizing importance of peace while desiring blessings.

Expressing desire presented regarding recognizing significance of unity while seeking prosperity.

Acknowledging commitment expressed regarding recognizing divine dwelling place while affirming dedication to welfare.

Psalms 122:1 I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.

The psalmist expresses joy at the prospect of going to the house of the Lord.

1. Joy in Worship: Finding Happiness in Coming to the House of the Lord

2. The Invitation of the Lord: Answering the Call to Worship

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."

2. Isaiah 2:2-5, "It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'"

Psalms 122:2 Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

This passage from Psalms 122:2 speaks of the joy that comes from visiting Jerusalem and standing in its gates.

1. The Joy of Visiting Jerusalem - An exploration of the spiritual and emotional joy one can experience by visiting the city of Jerusalem.

2. Standing Firm on the Gates of Zion - A on the importance of standing firm in the faith and trusting in the Lord's protection.

1. Isaiah 62:1-7 - A passage speaking of the beauty and holiness of Jerusalem and its importance to the people of God.

2. Psalm 24:7-10 - A psalm of ascension to the gates of God's holy city, Jerusalem.

Psalms 122:3 Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:

The importance of unity and the strength of a unified community.

1: Together We Stand: The Strength of Unity

2: Building Up The City: The Power of 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; Like 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 forevermore.

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.

Psalms 122:4 Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the LORD.

The tribes of the Lord go up to the testimony of Israel to give thanks to the Lord.

1: Go Up and Give Thanks - Remembering to give thanks to the Lord, no matter where we are.

2: Going Up - The importance of going up to the testimony of Israel.

1: Deuteronomy 26:16-17 This day the Lord your God commands you to do these statutes and rules. You shall therefore be careful to do them with all your heart and with all your soul. You have declared today that the Lord is your God, and that you will walk in his ways, and keep his statutes and his commandments and his rules, and will obey his voice.

2: Luke 17:12-19 And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. When he saw them he said to them, Go and show yourselves to the priests. And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner? And he said to him, Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.

Psalms 122:5 For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

This passage from Psalms 122:5 speaks of the thrones of judgment in the house of David.

1. The Importance of Setting Our Thrones of Judgment in the House of David

2. How the Thorns of Judgment Help Us Make Wise Decisions

1. Isaiah 16:5 - And in mercy shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging, and seeking judgment, and hasting righteousness.

2. 1 Kings 2:12 - Then sat Solomon upon the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was established greatly.

Psalms 122:6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.

The Psalmist calls on the people to pray for the peace of Jerusalem and encourages them to love the city.

1. Love and Pray for Jerusalem: God's Call to His People

2. Proclaiming the Peace of Jerusalem: An Act of Obedience

1. Isaiah 52:7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, Your God reigns.

2. Psalm 128:5-6 The LORD bless you from Zion! May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life! May you see your children's children! Peace be upon Israel!

Psalms 122:7 Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.

The Psalmist encourages peace and prosperity in one's home.

1. The Blessing of Peace in Our Homes

2. Unlocking the Abundance of Prosperity

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. 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."

Psalms 122:8 For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.

The psalmist desires peace for his brethren and companions.

1. The Power of Praying for Others

2. The Joys of Friendship

1. James 5:16 - The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

2. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Psalms 122:9 Because of the house of the LORD our God I will seek thy good.

The psalmist expresses their commitment to seek God's good because of the House of the Lord.

1. "The House of the Lord: Finding God's Good"

2. "Seeking God's Good: A Commitment to the House of the Lord"

1. Psalms 122:1-9

2. Isaiah 2:3-4 - "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."

Psalm 123 is a short psalm from the collection of "Songs of Ascents." It is a prayer for God's mercy and help, acknowledging human dependence on Him.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist lifts their eyes to God, acknowledging Him as the one who dwells in heaven. They express their humility and dependence on God, likening themselves to servants looking to their master for mercy (Psalm 123:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist describes their longing for God's mercy, emphasizing that they have endured contempt and scorn from those who oppose them. They express their trust in God's compassion and ask for His favor (Psalm 123:3-4).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred twenty-three presents

a prayer for mercy,

and an expression of humble dependence,

highlighting reflection achieved through acknowledging divine dwelling while emphasizing recognition of human need.

Emphasizing humility expressed regarding recognizing divine exaltation while expressing servant-like dependence.

Mentioning longing shown regarding recognizing opposition faced while desiring divine mercy.

Expressing trust presented regarding recognizing divine compassion while seeking favor.

Acknowledging reliance expressed regarding recognizing human vulnerability while affirming faith in divine intervention.

Psalms 123:1 Unto thee lift I up mine eyes, O thou that dwellest in the heavens.

The psalmist looks to God in prayer, recognizing His presence in the heavens.

1. Higher Than Heaven: The Power of Lifted Eyes in Prayer

2. Where Our Help Comes From: Looking to God in Times 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. 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?...

Psalms 123:2 Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; so our eyes wait upon the LORD our God, until that he have mercy upon us.

We should look to the Lord in times of need, trusting that He will show mercy.

1. Waiting on the Lord: Trusting in His Mercy

2. Looking to the Lord: Relying on His Grace

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 33:20 - "Our soul waiteth for the LORD: he is our help and our shield."

Psalms 123:3 Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us: for we are exceedingly filled with contempt.

We are full of contempt and need God's mercy.

1. We Need God's Mercy in Our Lives

2. Understanding the Need for God's Mercy

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

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.

Psalms 123:4 Our soul is exceedingly filled with the scorning of those that are at ease, and with the contempt of the proud.

Our souls are weighed down with the scorn of the proud and content.

1: We must recognize that the Lord will provide us with strength to combat the scorn of the proud.

2: We are called to humble ourselves in the face of pride and scorn.

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

2: Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.

Psalm 124 is a psalm of thanksgiving and praise to God for deliverance from enemies and acknowledging His faithfulness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by expressing gratitude to the Lord, acknowledging that if it had not been for His intervention, they would have been overwhelmed by their enemies. They declare that their help comes from the Lord, who created heaven and earth (Psalm 124:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on past experiences where their enemies plotted against them. They describe how God intervened and rescued them, comparing it to escaping from a bird trap or a snare that was broken. They proclaim that their help is in the name of the Lord (Psalm 124:3-8).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred twenty-four presents

a song of thanksgiving,

and an acknowledgment of divine deliverance,

highlighting expression achieved through gratitude for rescue while emphasizing recognition of divine assistance.

Emphasizing gratitude expressed regarding recognizing divine intervention while affirming overwhelming circumstances.

Mentioning reflection shown regarding recognizing enemy plots while describing divine rescue.

Expressing proclamation presented regarding recognizing source of help in divine name while affirming faith in God's faithfulness.

Acknowledging reliance expressed regarding recognizing human vulnerability while affirming trust in divine protection.

Psalms 124:1 If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, now may Israel say;

The Lord has been on our side, protecting us from harm.

1: Let us give thanks to the Lord for His unwavering protection of us.

2: God's protection is so strong that He will provide for us and protect us from harm.

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."

Psalms 124:2 If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, when men rose up against us:

The Lord was on our side during times of affliction.

1: God is always with us through the good times and bad.

2: Even in times of adversity, the Lord is with 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: 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."

Psalms 124:3 Then they had swallowed us up quick, when their wrath was kindled against us:

This passage from Psalms 124:3 speaks of a time when the Lord had delivered His people from enemies who sought to do them harm.

1: The Lord Saves His People - We can trust in the Lord to protect us in times of trouble and He will always deliver us.

2: The Lord's Power and Might - The Lord's power is greater than any enemy we may face and He is always ready to defend us.

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. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

2: Psalms 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.

Psalms 124:4 Then the waters had overwhelmed us, the stream had gone over our soul:

The power of faith in God can save us from any danger.

1. Trust in the Lord and He will rescue you from danger.

2. Even when the waters of life seem to be overwhelming, have faith in God and He will save you.

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. 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.

Psalms 124:5 Then the proud waters had gone over our soul.

The psalmist reminds us that we can find safety and protection from God even in the most dangerous of situations.

1. "God Is Our Fortress in Times of Trouble"

2. "The Lord Is Our Refuge and Strength in Times of Adversity"

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 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Psalms 124:6 Blessed be the LORD, who hath not given us as a prey to their teeth.

This passage from Psalms 124:6 encourages us to thank the Lord for keeping us safe from harm.

1. "God is Our Protector"

2. "Grateful to God for His Protection"

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. Psalm 32:7 - "You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance."

Psalms 124:7 Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped.

Our soul has been rescued from danger, just as a bird escapes from a hunter's snare. The snare has been broken, and we have been delivered.

1: God rescues us from danger when we place our trust in Him.

2: When the snare of our enemies is broken, we can find freedom in God.

1: Isaiah 41:10-11 - "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. Behold, all who are incensed against you shall be put to shame and confounded; those who strive against you shall be as nothing and shall perish."

2: Psalm 34:4 - "I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears."

Psalms 124:8 Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 124:8 reminds us that our help comes from the LORD, who created the heavens and the earth.

1. Relying on the Lord in Troubled Times

2. The Lord's Power and Provision

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."

Psalm 125 is a psalm that emphasizes the security and stability of those who trust in the Lord. It portrays the righteous as being unshakable and protected by God.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist proclaims that those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved but stands firm forever. They express confidence that just as the mountains surround Jerusalem, so does God's protection surround His people (Psalm 125:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges that though evil may befall them, it will not prevail against the righteous. They declare that God will reward those who do good and walk in integrity while dealing with those who turn aside to crooked paths (Psalm 125:3-5).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred twenty-five presents

a declaration of security,

and an affirmation of divine protection,

highlighting reflection achieved through likening trust to unmovable mountain while emphasizing recognition of divine care.

Emphasizing assurance expressed regarding recognizing unshakable nature of trust while affirming eternal stability.

Mentioning acknowledgment shown regarding recognizing presence of evil while affirming its ultimate defeat.

Expressing confidence presented regarding recognizing divine reward for righteousness while acknowledging consequences for wickedness.

Acknowledging faithfulness expressed regarding recognizing divine protection while affirming trust in God's justice.

Psalms 125:1 They that trust in the LORD shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever.

Those who trust in God will be kept safe forever.

1. God is a faithful protector who will keep us safe no matter what.

2. Rely on God's strength and trust in his everlasting love.

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

2. Psalm 9:10 - Those who know your name trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you.

Psalms 125:2 As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the LORD is round about his people from henceforth even for ever.

God's people are surrounded by His protection now and forever.

1: We can trust God to protect us and keep us safe.

2: God's protection and love are eternal and never-ending.

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?

Psalms 125:3 For the rod of the wicked shall not rest upon the lot of the righteous; lest the righteous put forth their hands unto iniquity.

The rod of the wicked will not rest on the righteous, so that the righteous will not be led to do wrong.

1: God protects the righteous from temptation and harm.

2: Do not succumb to the temptations of the wicked, but trust in the Lord for protection.

1: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2: James 1:13-15 - Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being 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. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

Psalms 125:4 Do good, O LORD, unto those that be good, and to them that are upright in their hearts.

This psalm encourages us to do good to those who are good and upright in their hearts.

1. The Blessings of Doing Good to Others

2. Uprightness of Heart Brings God's Blessings

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 11:17 - A kind man benefits himself, but a cruel man brings trouble on himself.

Psalms 125:5 As for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways, the LORD shall lead them forth with the workers of iniquity: but peace shall be upon Israel.

The Lord will guide those who turn away from the right path, but peace will be upon Israel.

1: We must turn away from our crooked ways so that the Lord can lead us in the right direction.

2: God's peace will be with those who choose to follow Him.

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: 2 Timothy 2:22 - "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart."

Psalm 126 is a psalm of joy and restoration, expressing gratitude for God's faithfulness in bringing about a change of fortune.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by recalling a time when the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion. They describe it as a dream come true and express their joy and laughter. They acknowledge that people around them recognized God's work and were amazed (Psalm 126:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist prays for another season of restoration, asking God to bring back those who have sown in tears with shouts of joy. They express confidence that those who sow in tears will reap with songs of harvest (Psalm 126:4-6).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred twenty-six presents

a song of joy,

and a prayer for restoration,

highlighting expression achieved through recounting past deliverance while emphasizing recognition of divine intervention.

Emphasizing rejoicing expressed regarding recognizing restoration brought by God while affirming amazement.

Mentioning prayer shown regarding recognizing need for further restoration while expressing hope.

Expressing confidence presented regarding recognizing principle of reaping what is sown while affirming expectation of future harvest.

Acknowledging gratitude expressed regarding recognizing divine faithfulness while affirming trust in God's provision.

Psalms 126:1 When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.

When the Lord restored Zion, the people were filled with joy and amazement, as if it were a dream.

1. God's Faithfulness: How God Fulfills His Promises

2. The Joy of Redemption: Experiencing Joy Despite Current Circumstances

1. 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.

2. Isaiah 61:3-4 - To all who mourn in Israel, he will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair. In their righteousness, they will be like great oaks that the LORD has planted for his own glory.

Psalms 126:2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them.

Our joy is found in the Lord, for He has done great things for us.

1. Rejoice in the Lord, for His works are mighty and powerful.

2. Let us give thanks to God, for He has done great things in our lives.

1. Psalm 103:1-5 Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

2. 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.

Psalms 126:3 The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.

The Lord has done great things for us and we are rejoicing in His goodness.

1. Rejoicing in God's Goodness

2. Counting Our Blessings

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. 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.

Psalms 126:4 Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south.

The psalmist is praying for God to restore them from captivity as the streams in the south are restored.

1. Restoring the Captives: How to Find Renewal and Refreshment in Our Faith

2. Return to the Lord: Reclaiming our Identity in Him

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 8:37-39 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.

Psalms 126:5 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

Those who work hard and endure hardships will experience joy and satisfaction in the end.

1. Taking Joy In The Rewards Of Hard Work

2. The Fruits Of Labor: Reaping What You Sow

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 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."

Psalms 126:6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

Those who work hard and faithfully in the Lord's work will be rewarded with joy and success.

1. Reap What You Sow: A Study on the Fruits of Faithful Service

2. Joy Comes in the Morning: Discovering the Blessings of Serving the Lord

1. Galatians 6:7-9 - "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. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

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. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail."

Psalm 127 is a psalm that highlights the importance of relying on God's provision and wisdom in all aspects of life.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares that unless the Lord builds the house, the laborers' work is in vain. They emphasize that true success comes from God, not from human efforts alone. They also mention how futile it is to stay awake and work hard without God's blessings (Psalm 127:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist discusses the blessing of children, describing them as a heritage and a reward from the Lord. They portray children as arrows in the hand of a warrior, symbolizing strength and protection (Psalm 127:3-5).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred twenty-seven presents

a reflection on divine provision,

and an acknowledgment of blessings,

highlighting contemplation achieved through recognizing dependence on God while emphasizing recognition of divine gifts.

Emphasizing reliance expressed regarding recognizing need for divine involvement while affirming futility of self-reliance.

Mentioning futility shown regarding recognizing limitations without divine blessings while expressing need for God's favor.

Expressing appreciation presented regarding recognizing children as gifts from God while affirming their significance.

Acknowledging symbolism expressed regarding recognizing strength and protection provided by children while affirming their value.

Psalms 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.

The Lord is the one who builds and protects.

1. The Lord is Our Foundation - How We Can Rely on the Lord in All Things

2. The Blessing of Security - How the Lord Provides Protection for His People

1. Psalm 33:11, "The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations."

2. Psalm 4:8, "I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety."

Psalms 127:2 It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

God gives us rest and peace when we trust in Him.

1: Trust in the Lord and rely on Him for rest and peace.

2: Lean on the Lord for the peace and rest we all need.

1: Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

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.

Psalms 127:3 Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

Children are a blessing from the Lord and should be cherished and nurtured.

1. The Blessings of Children

2. Nurturing God's Heritage

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

Psalms 127:4 As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

Children are a blessing from God and a source of strength.

1: The Strength of Godly Children

2: God's Gift of Children

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 so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

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.

Psalms 127:5 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.

The importance of having children is highlighted as a source of true happiness and a means for protection.

1. Parenthood: A Gift of Joy and Protection

2. Finding Joy in the Gift of Children

1. Psalm 72:3-4 - Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness! May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

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

Psalm 128 is a psalm that speaks of the blessings and prosperity that come to those who fear and walk in the ways of the Lord.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist describes the blessedness of those who fear the Lord, emphasizing that they will enjoy the fruit of their labor. They are promised prosperity, satisfaction, and blessings in their lives (Psalm 128:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist paints a picture of a fruitful and joyful family life. They speak of a wife as a fruitful vine within the home, and children as olive shoots around the table. This imagery symbolizes abundance, unity, and blessing (Psalm 128:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist pronounces a blessing upon Jerusalem from Zion. They express hope for peace and prosperity to be upon God's people (Psalm 128:5-6).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred twenty-eight presents

a reflection on blessings,

and an affirmation of divine favor,

highlighting contemplation achieved through recognizing reverence for God while emphasizing recognition of abundant provision.

Emphasizing blessedness expressed regarding recognizing fear of God while affirming rewards for righteousness.

Mentioning promise shown regarding recognizing prosperity resulting from godly living while expressing contentment.

Expressing imagery presented regarding recognizing fruitful family life while affirming unity and blessing.

Acknowledging blessing expressed regarding recognizing divine favor upon Jerusalem while expressing desire for peace and prosperity.

Psalms 128:1 Blessed is every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways.

The blessings of those who fear and walk in the ways of the Lord.

1. The Blessings of Obedience to God

2. The Joy of Walking in the Ways of the Lord

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 3:5-6 - 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.

Psalms 128:2 For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee.

The psalmist encourages us to be content with the work of our hands and promises us happiness and prosperity as a result.

1. Reap the Rewards of Hard Work

2. Contentment Brings Happiness and Prosperity

1. Proverbs 22:29 - Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

2. Hebrews 10:36 - For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Psalms 128:3 Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table.

The psalmist blesses those with fruitful wives and children.

1. The Blessing of Fruitful Families

2. A Biblical Guide to Growing a Godly Family

1. Deuteronomy 28:4-8 - The Lord's blessing for obedience

2. Proverbs 14:1 - A wise woman builds her house

Psalms 128:4 Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the LORD.

Psalms 128:4 encourages us to fear the LORD, as He will bless us when we do.

1. "The Blessings of Fearing the LORD"

2. "The Joy of Knowing the LORD"

1. Proverbs 1:7 "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge"

2. Psalms 34:9 "Fear the LORD, you His saints, for those who fear Him lack nothing"

Psalms 128:5 The LORD shall bless thee out of Zion: and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life.

God will bless us for our faithfulness and we will experience the goodness of Jerusalem all the days of our life.

1. The Blessings of Faithfulness

2. Experiencing the Goodness of 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. 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;)

Psalms 128:6 Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children, and peace upon Israel.

The psalmist encourages the reader that God will bless them with generations of children, and bring peace to Israel.

1. God's Blessings: How to Receive and Pass On - Psalms 128:6

2. God's Promise of Peace in Israel - Psalms 128:6

1. Isaiah 54:13 - "And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children."

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."

Psalm 129 is a psalm that recounts the afflictions and persecutions endured by God's people, yet expresses confidence in God's justice and deliverance.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist recalls the numerous times when Israel has been oppressed and afflicted by their enemies. They describe how their oppressors have subjected them to cruel treatment, but they affirm that they have not been completely overcome (Psalm 129:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist invokes a curse upon the enemies of Zion, expressing a desire for their defeat and destruction. They use vivid imagery to portray the fate of those who oppose God's people as withered grass on rooftops that cannot yield fruit (Psalm 129:4-8).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred twenty-nine presents

a reflection on affliction,

and an affirmation of divine justice,

highlighting contemplation achieved through recalling past oppression while emphasizing recognition of God's deliverance.

Emphasizing remembrance expressed regarding recognizing history of affliction while affirming resilience.

Mentioning affirmation shown regarding recognizing opposition faced by God's people while expressing confidence in victory.

Expressing invocation presented regarding recognizing desire for justice upon enemies while acknowledging consequences for wickedness.

Acknowledging imagery expressed regarding recognizing futility of opposing God's people while affirming hope in divine judgment.

Psalms 129:1 Many a time have they afflicted me from my youth, may Israel now say:

Many times have the people of Israel been afflicted by their enemies from their youth.

1: God is with us in our suffering and He will bring us out into a place of freedom.

2: We must remain faithful and trust in the Lord's strength to carry us through our trials.

1: Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

2: 1 Peter 5:7 - Cast all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Psalms 129:2 Many a time have they afflicted me from my youth: yet they have not prevailed against me.

The psalmist speaks of facing troubles since youth, but despite them, they have not been able to overcome them.

1. "God's Protection in Times of Trouble"

2. "The Power of Perseverance"

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 danger, or sword?"

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for thou art with me."

Psalms 129:3 The plowers plowed upon my back: they made long their furrows.

Plowers have plowed on the back of the psalmist, leaving long furrows.

1. Persevere Through Pain: A Reflection on Psalms 129:3

2. The Endurance of Faith: A Study of Psalms 129:3

1. 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."

2. Hebrews 12:2, "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."

Psalms 129:4 The LORD is righteous: he hath cut asunder the cords of the wicked.

God is just and righteous, and will punish the wicked for their sins.

1. The Righteousness of God: Understanding God's Justice

2. The Consequences of Wickedness: Living in the Light of God's Judgment

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. Proverbs 11:21 - Be sure of this: The wicked will not go unpunished, but those who are righteous will go free.

Psalms 129:5 Let them all be confounded and turned back that hate Zion.

Psalms 129:5 calls for those who hate Zion to be confounded and turned back.

1. The Power of Faith: Recognizing and Overcoming Obstacles.

2. The Heart of God: Loving Those Who Are Not Loved.

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. 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."

Psalms 129:6 Let them be as the grass upon the housetops, which withereth afore it groweth up:

The passage speaks of the fragility of life.

1. Life is Short - Live It Wisely

2. Don't Take Anything for Granted

1. 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."

2. Luke 12:15-20 - "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."

Psalms 129:7 Wherewith the mower filleth not his hand; nor he that bindeth sheaves his bosom.

God has given us more blessings than we can count.

1. Counting Your Blessings: A Study on Psalms 129:7

2. Recognizing the Abundance of God s Gifts: A Study on Psalms 129:7

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. Luke 12:48 - 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.

Psalms 129:8 Neither do they which go by say, The blessing of the LORD be upon you: we bless you in the name of the LORD.

The Lord blesses those who pass by and offer their blessings in His name.

1. The Power of Blessing: How to Utilize the Power of Blessing for the Glory of God

2. The Importance of Blessing: Recognizing the Impact of Blessing Upon Others

1. Ephesians 1:3-6 - Praising God for His Blessing in Christ

2. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - Living a Life that is Pleasing to God and Blessing Others

Psalm 130 is a heartfelt cry for mercy and forgiveness, expressing a deep longing for God's redemption and restoration.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by acknowledging their deep distress and crying out to the Lord from the depths of their despair. They plead for God's attentive ear and mercy, recognizing that no one can stand before Him if He were to mark iniquities (Psalm 130:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses unwavering hope in the Lord, comparing their waiting to that of watchmen anticipating the morning. They encourage Israel to put their hope in the Lord, assuring them of His steadfast love and abundant redemption (Psalm 130:5-8).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred thirty presents

a plea for mercy,

and an affirmation of hope,

highlighting expression achieved through acknowledging distress while emphasizing recognition of divine forgiveness.

Emphasizing plea expressed regarding recognizing need for God's mercy while acknowledging human frailty.

Mentioning assurance shown regarding recognizing hope in God's redemption while expressing confidence.

Expressing encouragement presented regarding recognizing steadfast love of God while affirming abundant redemption.

Acknowledging longing expressed regarding recognizing divine forgiveness while affirming trust in God's deliverance.

Psalms 130:1 Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O LORD.

The psalmist cries out to the Lord in deep distress.

1. The Depths of Our Faith: How We Lean on God in Times of Need

2. Crying Out to the Lord: Our Dependence on God in Troubled 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 8:26-27, "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."

Psalms 130:2 Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.

The Psalmist implores the Lord to be attentive to his supplications.

1. The Power of Prayer: Learning to Listen to God's Voice

2. Knowing When to Pray: Understanding the Urgency of Our Requests

1. James 4:3 - "You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions."

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."

Psalms 130:3 If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?

The Psalmist questions whether anyone can stand if God were to take note of and punish their iniquities.

1. God's Forgiveness: The Hope of Redemption

2. Acknowledging Our Sinfulness: The Foundation of Repentance

1. 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."

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."

Psalms 130:4 But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.

Forgiveness is available from God and should be respected.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning to Respect God's Mercy

2. The Fear of God: Recognizing His Unfailing Grace

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. 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.

Psalms 130:5 I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope.

The importance of waiting on the Lord and trusting in His word.

1. Trusting in the Lord in times of trouble

2. Hope in the Lord's Word

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 8:25 - But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Psalms 130:6 My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning.

The psalmist expresses a longing for the Lord that surpasses those who eagerly await the morning.

1. Waiting on the Lord: The Importance of Patience in Faith

2. Letting Go and Letting God: Trusting in Divine Timing

1. Romans 8:25 - And if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

2. 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.

Psalms 130:7 Let Israel hope in the LORD: for with the LORD there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption.

Hope in the Lord, for He is merciful and provides abundant redemption.

1: We can find joy and hope in the Lord's mercy and redemption.

2: Trusting in the Lord brings us peace and comfort.

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

Ephesians 2:4-5 - But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions it is by grace you have been saved.

Psalms 130:8 And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

This verse from Psalms 130 speaks of God redeeming Israel from all of its sins.

1. The Power of Redemption: How God Heals Us From Our Sins

2. The Love of God: How God Forgives Us Despite Our Shortcomings

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. 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.

Psalm 131 is a psalm that expresses humility, contentment, and trust in God. It encourages a childlike dependence on God rather than seeking after pride and worldly ambitions.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares their heart is not proud or haughty, and they do not concern themselves with matters beyond their understanding. Instead, they have calmed and quieted their soul like a weaned child with its mother (Psalm 131:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist urges Israel to put their hope in the Lord both now and forevermore. They emphasize the importance of finding contentment in God's presence rather than pursuing lofty aspirations (Psalm 131:3).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred thirty-one presents

a reflection on humility,

and an affirmation of trust,

highlighting contemplation achieved through rejecting pride while emphasizing recognition of divine guidance.

Emphasizing humility expressed regarding recognizing absence of pride while acknowledging limitations.

Mentioning tranquility shown regarding recognizing peace within while expressing contentment.

Expressing exhortation presented regarding recognizing need for trust in God's guidance while affirming eternal hope.

Acknowledging focus expressed regarding recognizing satisfaction found in God's presence while affirming rejection of worldly ambitions.

Psalms 131:1 Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty: neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me.

My heart is humble before the Lord.

1. The Power of Humility: How a Humble Heart Leads to Blessing

2. Rejecting Pride: Choosing to Live a Lowly Life in Submission to God

1. James 4:6 - "But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

2. 1 Peter 5:5-6 - "Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble. Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time."

Psalms 131:2 Surely I have behaved and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned of his mother: my soul is even as a weaned child.

This verse from Psalms 131 encourages us to approach God with childlike humility and dependence on Him.

1: "God Wants Us to Come to Him With Childlike Humility"

2: "Letting God Comfort Us Through His Strength"

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: 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.

Psalms 131:3 Let Israel hope in the LORD from henceforth and for ever.

Psalms 131:3 encourages Israel to hope in the LORD now and always.

1. Finding Hope in the LORD in Times of Uncertainty

2. The Power of Hope in God's Promises

1. Psalm 33:22, "Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in 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."

Psalm 132 is a psalm that focuses on the covenant God made with David and the desire for God's presence to dwell in Zion.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist recalls David's fervent desire to find a dwelling place for the Lord, vowing not to rest until he finds a place for God. They recount how David found the ark of the covenant and brought it to Zion, desiring for God's presence to abide there (Psalm 132:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist implores God to remember David's faithfulness and promises, urging Him not to turn away from His anointed one. They express their longing for God's presence in Zion, declaring that they will not cease seeking His dwelling place (Psalm 132:6-9).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist speaks of the Lord's promise to bless and establish David's descendants on the throne. They rejoice in anticipation of God's faithfulness, affirming that He has chosen Zion as His dwelling forever (Psalm 132:10-18).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred thirty-two presents

a reflection on David's devotion,

and an affirmation of divine promises,

highlighting contemplation achieved through recalling search for a dwelling while emphasizing recognition of God's faithfulness.

Emphasizing dedication expressed regarding recognizing David's desire for a dwelling place while acknowledging his commitment.

Mentioning plea shown regarding recognizing longing for divine presence while expressing trust in God.

Expressing assurance presented regarding recognizing promise made to David while affirming expectation of fulfillment.

Acknowledging rejoicing expressed regarding recognizing choice of Zion as eternal dwelling while affirming confidence in divine blessings.

Psalms 132:1 Lord, remember David, and all his afflictions:

This psalm is a reminder to God to remember David and everything he endured.

1. Trusting God in Times of Affliction

2. Remembering God's Faithfulness in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 132:1

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.

Psalms 132:2 How he sware unto the LORD, and vowed unto the mighty God of Jacob;

The psalmist recounts God's faithfulness and promises to his people.

1: God is Faithful and Kept his Promises

2: God's Covenantal Love for his People

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: 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.

Psalms 132:3 Surely I will not come into the tabernacle of my house, nor go up into my bed;

The psalmist pledges to abstain from the comfort of home until the Lord fulfills his promises.

1. Jesus: The Fulfiller of God's Promises

2. The Perseverance of Faith in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 49:23 - "And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me."

2. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Psalms 132:4 I will not give sleep to mine eyes, or slumber to mine eyelids,

The psalmist expresses a determination to remain alert and vigilant in service to God.

1. The Power of Passionate Perseverance

2. How to Stay Awake in Service to God

1. Matthew 26:41 - "Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak."

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:6 - "So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled."

Psalms 132:5 Until I find out a place for the LORD, an habitation for the mighty God of Jacob.

The psalmist expresses a desire to find a place for the Lord and a dwelling place for the mighty God of Jacob.

1. God Deserves the Best: The Power of Making Room in Our Hearts for the Lord

2. Establishing a Dwelling Place for God in Our Lives

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also

2. John 14:23 - Jesus answered and said to him, 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.

Psalms 132:6 Lo, we heard of it at Ephratah: we found it in the fields of the wood.

A song of David recounts how he heard of the Lord's dwelling place at Ephratah and found it in the fields of the wood.

1. God's dwelling place is a place of refuge and peace.

2. Seek the Lord in all places - He will be found.

1. Isaiah 26:3 - "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You."

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find Me, when you seek Me with all your heart."

Psalms 132:7 We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool.

Worshipers of God promise to enter his tabernacles and bow down before him as an act of reverence and homage.

1. The Importance of Worshiping God in His Tabernacle

2. The Significance of Bowing Down Before God

1. Psalm 95:6 - "Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!"

2. 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."

Psalms 132:8 Arise, O LORD, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength.

God desires us to come to Him, He is our refuge and strength.

1: We need to rely on the Lord as our refuge and strength.

2: We should arise to the Lord and accept Him as our refuge and strength.

1: Exodus 15:2 - The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

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.

Psalms 132:9 Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy.

The psalmist encourages righteousness for all priests and joy for all saints.

1. The Joy of Righteousness

2. Clothed with Righteousness

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. Romans 13:14 - But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

Psalms 132:10 For thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of thine anointed.

This verse is an admonition to God to remain faithful to His covenant with David and not to remove His anointed one.

1. "God's Faithfulness to His Promises"

2. "The Power of the Anointed One"

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. 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."

Psalms 132:11 The LORD hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

The Lord has promised to make David's descendants rulers.

1: God's promises are faithful and true, and He will never go back on them.

2: God is the ultimate authority and He has the power to empower us to fulfill our destiny.

1: 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.

2: 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.

Psalms 132:12 If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore.

God urges us to hand down His covenant and testimony to our children so that they may be blessed with His grace.

1. The Covenant of God: Entrusting Our Children with a Sacred Legacy

2. Teaching the Testimony: Raising Our Children in the Ways of 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. 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."

Psalms 132:13 For the LORD hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation.

The LORD has chosen Zion as his dwelling place.

1. The Power of God's Choice - Exploring the significance of God's decision to make Zion His home.

2. Living in Zion - How to live a life that honors God's choice of Zion.

1. Matthew 5:34-35 - "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. Isaiah 12:6 - "Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

Psalms 132:14 This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.

Psalms 132:14 speaks of God's desire to dwell with His people forever.

1. The Comfort of God's Promised Rest

2. Trusting God to Provide a Place to Dwell

1. Isaiah 11:10 - And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

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.

Psalms 132:15 I will abundantly bless her provision: I will satisfy her poor with bread.

God promises to abundantly bless and provide for the needy.

1. God is Faithful in Providing for our Needs

2. The Blessings 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. 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.

2. Philippians 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 132:16 I will also clothe her priests with salvation: and her saints shall shout aloud for joy.

God's salvation brings joy to His priests and saints.

1. The Joy of Salvation

2. Clothed in Salvation

1. Psalms 132:16

2. Romans 10:9-10: "That if you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."

Psalms 132:17 There will I make the horn of David to bud: I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

This verse speaks of God's promise to David to fulfill his promise and provide a King for Israel.

1. "A Lamp of Promise: The Fulfillment of God's Covenant to David"

2. "The Horn of David: God's Unfailing Provision for His People"

1. 2 Samuel 7:11-16 - God's promise to David

2. Isaiah 9:1-7 - The coming of the Messiah and the fulfillment of God's promise to David.

Psalms 132:18 His enemies will I clothe with shame: but upon himself shall his crown flourish.

God will clothe the enemies of His people with shame, but His people will flourish with a crown of glory.

1. The Promise of God's Protection and Provision

2. The Beauty of Righteousness Rewarded

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. Revelation 3:9 - Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

Psalm 133 is a psalm that celebrates the beauty and blessing of unity among God's people.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares the goodness and pleasantness of brothers dwelling together in unity. They use vivid imagery to compare this unity to precious oil poured on the head, running down the beard, and refreshing as dew on Mount Hermon (Psalm 133:1-3).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred thirty-three presents

a reflection on the beauty of unity,

highlighting contemplation achieved through recognizing blessings resulting from harmonious relationships.

Emphasizing appreciation expressed regarding recognizing goodness and pleasantness of unity among brothers.

Mentioning imagery presented regarding recognizing richness of united community while expressing refreshment.

Expressing symbolism shown regarding recognizing value of harmonious relationships while affirming blessings received.

Acknowledging celebration expressed regarding recognizing beauty in unity among God's people while emphasizing joy in shared fellowship.

Psalms 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

It is good and pleasant when people are united.

1. The Blessing of Unity - Psalm 133:1

2. The Power of Togetherness - Psalm 133:1

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

2. Romans 12:4-5

Psalms 133:2 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;

The psalmist compares God's blessings to a precious ointment that covers the head, beard, and garments of Aaron.

1. God's blessings are abundant and cover us from head to toe.

2. God is always with us, even in our time of need.

1. Psalms 133:2 - 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;

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.

Psalms 133:3 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.

This verse speaks of God's blessing bringing life and peace, even to the highest places on earth.

1. The Blessing of God Brings Life and Peace

2. Receive God's Blessing and Find Life and Peace

1. Isaiah 55:12 - "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 10:10 - "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

Psalm 134 is a psalm that calls upon the servants of the Lord to bless Him and seek His blessing in return.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist addresses the Levitical priests who minister in the house of the Lord during the night watches. They exhort them to lift up their hands in worship and bless the Lord, emphasizing His position as the Creator of heaven and earth (Psalm 134:1-3).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred thirty-four presents

a call to worship and blessing,

highlighting exhortation achieved through addressing priests while emphasizing recognition of God's sovereignty.

Emphasizing call expressed regarding summoning priests to worship and bless God.

Mentioning instruction shown regarding lifting hands in reverence while acknowledging God's role as Creator.

Expressing reminder presented regarding recognizing priestly duty while affirming acknowledgment of divine authority.

Acknowledging praise expressed regarding recognizing God's sovereignty while emphasizing reverence in worship.

Psalms 134:1 Behold, bless ye the LORD, all ye servants of the LORD, which by night stand in the house of the LORD.

This Psalm encourages servants of the LORD to bless Him in the house of the LORD, especially at night.

1. The Blessing of Blessing the Lord: The Power of Praise in the House of the Lord

2. Nighttime Worship: Rediscovering the Joy of Blessing the Lord

1. Psalm 134:2 - "Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord."

2. 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."

Psalms 134:2 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD.

This verse encourages believers to lift up their hands in praise and bless the LORD in the sanctuary.

1. The Power of Praise and Worship: Lifting Up Our Hands in the Sanctuary

2. Being Blessed in the House of the Lord: A Study of Psalm 134:2

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. Psalm 150:2 - Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness!

Psalms 134:3 The LORD that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion.

This Psalm encourages people to bless the LORD who made heaven and earth.

1. The Power of Blessing the LORD

2. The Blessing of the LORD in Creation

1. Genesis 1:1 - In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

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.

Psalm 135 is a psalm that exalts and praises the Lord for His greatness, power, and faithfulness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon the people to praise the name of the Lord and extol His greatness. They acknowledge God's sovereignty over all gods and nations, emphasizing His mighty deeds and his chosen people Israel (Psalm 135:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist declares God's supremacy as the one who does whatever pleases Him in heaven, earth, and sea. They recount God's acts of deliverance in Israel's history, such as the plagues in Egypt and the conquest of Canaan (Psalm 135:5-12).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist contrasts the idols of other nations with the living God who made heaven and earth. They encourage Israel to trust in their God, praising Him for His blessings, provision, and protection (Psalm 135:13-21).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred thirty-five presents

a call to praise,

and an affirmation of God's sovereignty,

highlighting exhortation achieved through summoning people while emphasizing recognition of divine power.

Emphasizing call expressed regarding summoning people to praise and extol God.

Mentioning declaration shown regarding recognizing God's supremacy over all gods while acknowledging His chosen people.

Expressing recount presented regarding recognizing acts of deliverance in Israel's history while affirming trust in divine power.

Acknowledging contrast expressed regarding recognizing futility of idols while affirming confidence in God's provision.

Psalms 135:1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the name of the LORD; praise him, O ye servants of the LORD.

Praise the Lord for His greatness and mercy.

1. Understanding the Power and Majesty of Praise

2. The Blessing of Praising the Name of the Lord

1. Isaiah 12:4-5 - And in that day you will say: "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.

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, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalms 135:2 Ye that stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God,

Those who stand in the house of the LORD and the courts of his house are blessed.

1. The Blessing of Worship in the House of the LORD

2. The Power of Gathering in the Courts of God's House

1. Zechariah 8:3-5 - Thus says the LORD: I have returned to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem, and Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the LORD of hosts, the holy mountain. Thus says the LORD of hosts: Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of great age. And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets.

2. Isaiah 30:29 - You shall have a song as in the night when a holy feast is kept, and gladness of heart, as when one sets out to the sound of the flute to go to the mountain of the LORD, to the Rock of Israel.

Psalms 135:3 Praise the LORD; for the LORD is good: sing praises unto his name; for it is pleasant.

Praise the Lord for His goodness and sing praises to His Name.

1. The Power of Praise: Appreciating the Goodness of God

2. How to Experience Joy and Fulfillment: Worshiping God in Song

1. Ephesians 5:19-20 - Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father.

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.

Psalms 135:4 For the LORD hath chosen Jacob unto himself, and Israel for his peculiar treasure.

The LORD has chosen Jacob and Israel to be His special possession.

1. The Lord's Unfailing Love for His People

2. God's Sovereignty and Choice

1. Romans 9:11-13 - For though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad in order that God s purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of his call she was told, The older will serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.

2. Deuteronomy 7:6-8 - For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession. The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath that he swore to your ancestors.

Psalms 135:5 For I know that the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods.

This verse from Psalms 135:5 emphasizes that the Lord is greater than all other gods.

1. The Lord is Above All Else - focusing on how God should be the primary focus of our lives

2. God's Superiority - emphasizing God's greatness and power over all other gods

1. 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.

2. Jeremiah 10:11 - Thus shall you say to them: The gods who did not make the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under the heavens.

Psalms 135:6 Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places.

God's power and authority are absolute - nothing can be done without His approval.

1. The Sovereignty of God: No Limit to His Authority

2. The Omnipotence of God: Nothing is Beyond His Power

1. Romans 8:31-39 (What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?)

2. Ephesians 1:19-21 (His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms)

Psalms 135:7 He causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings for the rain; he bringeth the wind out of his treasuries.

God is the source of all creation and provision.

1: God is the Provider of All Things

2: Relying on God in Difficult Times

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 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."

Psalms 135:8 Who smote the firstborn of Egypt, both of man and beast.

God's mighty power is seen in His intervention in Egypt.

1: God is with us in our struggle and will help us overcome our enemies.

2: God's faithfulness will always be with us and He will protect us in our time of need.

1: Exodus 12:12-13, 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.

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.

Psalms 135:9 Who sent tokens and wonders into the midst of thee, O Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his servants.

God's mighty power is shown when He sends tokens and wonders into the midst of Egypt, specifically to Pharaoh and his servants.

1. The Power of God: Seeing the Miraculous in His Love

2. The Strength of God: How He Works Miracles in Our Lives

1. Exodus 7:17-18 - Thus says the Lord, By this you shall know that I am the Lord: behold, I will strike the water that is in the Nile with the staff that is in my hand, and it will be turned to blood. The fish that are in the Nile will die, and the Nile will become foul, and the Egyptians will find difficulty in drinking water from the Nile.

2. Psalm 65:5-8 - By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, You who are the trust of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest sea; who establishes the mountains by His strength, being girded with might; who stills the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the tumult of the peoples. They also who dwell in the farthest parts are afraid of Your signs; You make the outgoings of the morning and evening rejoice.

Psalms 135:10 Who smote great nations, and slew mighty kings;

God smote great nations and slew mighty kings.

1. The Power of God's Might

2. The Strength of God's Kingship

1. Exodus 15:3 The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is His name.

2. Daniel 4:34-35 At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, looked up to heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified Him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; His kingdom endures from generation to generation.

Psalms 135:11 Sihon king of the Amorites, and Og king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan:

God's power is undeniable and absolute over all kingdoms.

1: God is sovereign over all kingdoms.

2: We should never forget the power of God.

1: 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?'"

2: Psalm 103:19 "The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all."

Psalms 135:12 And gave their land for an heritage, an heritage unto Israel his people.

God gave the land of Israel to His people as an inheritance.

1. God's faithfulness to His covenant with Israel.

2. The blessings of God's promises.

1. Genesis 15:18-21 - God's Covenant with Abraham to give the land of Israel to his descendants.

2. Deuteronomy 7:12-14 - God's promise to bless His people who accept His covenant.

Psalms 135:13 Thy name, O LORD, endureth for ever; and thy memorial, O LORD, throughout all generations.

God's name and glory will remain throughout all generations.

1. The Unchanging Nature of God

2. The Eternal Glory of God

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Psalms 135:14 For the LORD will judge his people, and he will repent himself concerning his servants.

The LORD will judge his people and show mercy to his servants.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever

2. The Lord's Righteous Judgment

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. 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.

Psalms 135:15 The idols of the heathen are silver and gold, the work of men's hands.

The idols of the heathen are made of silver and gold, crafted by human hands.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Futility of Idolatry

1. Isaiah 44:9-20

2. Psalm 115:4-8

Psalms 135:16 They have mouths, but they speak not; eyes have they, but they see not;

God is in control of all things, even that which appears to be outside of our control, even if it appears to be mute and blind.

1. "God Sees and Hears All: Relying on the Lord's Timing in Our Lives"

2. "The Sovereignty of God and His Control Over All 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. Proverbs 16:9 - "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps."

Psalms 135:17 They have ears, but they hear not; neither is there any breath in their mouths.

People have ears, but do not listen, and there is no breath in their mouths.

1. Understanding the Importance of Listening

2. Reflection on the Breath of Life

1. Psalm 19:14 "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer."

2. Ezekiel 37:5-7 "Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the Lord.'"

Psalms 135:18 They that make them are like unto them: so is every one that trusteth in them.

People who make idols are like the idols they make, and anyone who trusts in them will be like them.

1. Our faith in the Lord should be unwavering, for trusting in idols will only lead us astray.

2. We should be careful to not put our faith in things of this world, for they will never bring us true joy or satisfaction.

1. Isaiah 44:9-20 God's warning against worshiping idols.

2. Psalm 115:4-8 A reminder that God is the only one who can bring true blessing.

Psalms 135:19 Bless the LORD, O house of Israel: bless the LORD, O house of Aaron:

God is worthy of praise and blessing from both His people and His priests.

1: God is worthy of our praise and blessing in everything we do.

2: We should always thank and praise God for His goodness and mercy.

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."

Psalms 135:20 Bless the LORD, O house of Levi: ye that fear the LORD, bless the LORD.

God desires the Levi house to fear Him and show Him respect by blessing Him.

1: Fear the Lord and Bless Him

2: God Desires Respect

1: Joshua 24:15 - "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2: Luke 19:8 - Jesus said, "Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house.

Psalms 135:21 Blessed be the LORD out of Zion, which dwelleth at Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD.

Psalms 135:21 encourages us to praise the Lord from Zion in Jerusalem.

1. A Call to Praise: How to Worship God from Zion

2. Fulfilling God's Will: Blessing the Lord from Jerusalem

1. Revelation 14:1-3: And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.

2. Isaiah 12:6 Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.

Psalm 136 is a psalm of thanksgiving that emphasizes the steadfast love and enduring faithfulness of God.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon the people to give thanks to the Lord, acknowledging His goodness and mercy. They proclaim that His steadfast love endures forever (Psalm 136:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist recounts various acts of God's creation, such as His work in forming the heavens, spreading out the earth, and establishing the sun, moon, and stars. They emphasize that His steadfast love endures forever (Psalm 136:4-9).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist recalls God's deliverance of Israel from Egypt, including the plagues upon Egypt and the parting of the Red Sea. They affirm that His steadfast love endures forever (Psalm 136:10-15).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist remembers how God led Israel through the wilderness, providing for their needs with manna and water from rocks. They declare that His steadfast love endures forever (Psalm 136:16-22).

5th Paragraph: The psalmist praises God for giving victory over their enemies and blessing them with a land to possess. They acknowledge His enduring faithfulness by declaring that His steadfast love endures forever (Psalm 136:23-26).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred thirty-six presents

a hymn of thanksgiving,

highlighting gratitude achieved through recognizing God's goodness while emphasizing acknowledgement of divine faithfulness.

Emphasizing call expressed regarding summoning people to give thanks to God.

Mentioning proclamation shown regarding recognizing enduring nature of God's steadfast love.

Expressing recount presented regarding recognizing acts of creation while affirming eternal nature of divine love.

Acknowledging remembrance expressed regarding recalling deliverance from Egypt while affirming constancy of divine mercy.

Highlighting acknowledgment presented regarding remembering provision in wilderness while affirming unwavering nature of divine grace.

Praising declaration expressed regarding celebrating victory over enemies while emphasizing everlasting faithfulness.

Psalms 136:1 O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

God's goodness and mercy are everlasting.

1: We can always be thankful to the Lord, no matter the circumstance.

2: God's mercy and love are infinite and never-ending.

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: 1 Peter 5:7 - casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Psalms 136:2 O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy endureth for ever.

The psalmist encourages us to give thanks to the Lord for His mercy that lasts forever.

1: A Grateful Heart: Appreciating the Mercy of God

2: The Everlasting Mercy of God

1: Lamentations 3:22-23 - "through the Lord s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."

2: Ephesians 2:4-5 - "But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ."

Psalms 136:3 O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy endureth for ever.

The Lord is worthy of our praise and thanksgiving, for His mercy is everlasting.

1. The Unfailing Mercy of God

2. Showing Gratitude to the Lord of Lords

1. 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."

2. Ephesians 2:4-7 - "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;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus."

Psalms 136:4 To him who alone doeth great wonders: for his mercy endureth for ever.

God alone performs great wonders and His mercy is everlasting.

1. The Power of God's Mercy - How God's mercy can bring about great works in our lives.

2. The Wonders of the Lord - How God is the source of all wondrous works.

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. 2 Peter 3:8-9 - But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Psalms 136:5 To him that by wisdom made the heavens: for his mercy endureth for ever.

God's mercy endures forever and He is the one who created the heavens with His wisdom.

1. The Grace of God is Everlasting

2. The Wisdom of the Lord is Unfathomable

1. Psalm 136:5

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."

Psalms 136:6 To him that stretched out the earth above the waters: for his mercy endureth for ever.

God's mercy endures forever.

1: God's Mercy is Unending

2: What Enduring Mercy Means for Us

1: 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: Lamentations 3:22-23 - Through the Lord s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

Psalms 136:7 To him that made great lights: for his mercy endureth for ever:

God's mercy is everlasting.

1. The Greatness And Mercy Of God

2. God's Enduring Love For Mankind

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 8:38-39 - 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.

Psalms 136:8 The sun to rule by day: for his mercy endureth for ever:

The Lord's mercy is eternal and He rules the day with the sun.

1. The Lord's Mercy is Eternal - Psalms 136:8

2. How God Rules the Day with the Sun - Psalms 136:8

1. 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. 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."

Psalms 136:9 The moon and stars to rule by night: for his mercy endureth for ever.

God's mercy endures forever, and He has given the moon and stars to rule by night.

1. How to Appreciate God's Mercy

2. The Wonder of God's Creation

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "Through the LORD s mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

2. Genesis 1:14-15 - "Then God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth ; and it was so."

Psalms 136:10 To him that smote Egypt in their firstborn: for his mercy endureth for ever:

God's mercy is everlasting.

1: God's mercy is everlasting and can be experienced throughout all of life.

2: As we look back on history, we can see the evidence of God's everlasting mercy in the past.

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: 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.

Psalms 136:11 And brought out Israel from among them: for his mercy endureth for ever:

God's mercy is everlasting and He freed the Israelites from the Egyptians.

1. God's Mercy Never Fails

2. The Power of Devotion to God

1. 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 seashore."

2. 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.

Psalms 136:12 With a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm: for his mercy endureth for ever.

God's mercy is everlasting.

1: We must always be thankful for God's never-ending mercy.

2: We must trust in God for His mercy and grace, even when life gets hard.

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: 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.

Psalms 136:13 To him which divided the Red sea into parts: for his mercy endureth for ever:

God's mercy is everlasting.

1. The Everlasting Mercy of God

2. The Parting of the Red Sea: A Testimony to God's Mercy

1. Exodus 15:8,11 - 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... Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

2. Psalm 107:1 - O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Psalms 136:14 And made Israel to pass through the midst of it: for his mercy endureth for ever:

God showed his mercy by leading the Israelites through the Red Sea.

1. A Reflection on God's Mercy and Endurance

2. How We Should Respond to God's Mercy

1. Psalms 136:14 - For his mercy endureth for ever

2. 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.

Psalms 136:15 But overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red sea: for his mercy endureth for ever.

God s mercy endures forever and can be seen in His demonstration of power by overthrowing Pharaoh and his host in the Red Sea.

1. The Incomparable Mercy of God

2. How God's Power is Demonstrated in the Red Sea

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. 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?

Psalms 136:16 To him which led his people through the wilderness: for his mercy endureth for ever.

God's mercy and love for His people will never fail.

1. The Enduring Love of God: Lessons from Psalms 136:16

2. The Power of God's Mercy: Examining the Wilderness Journey of Israel

1. Exodus 15:2 - The Lord is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him; my father's God, and I will exalt Him.

2. Psalm 33:20 - Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and shield.

Psalms 136:17 To him which smote great kings: for his mercy endureth for ever:

God's mercy is eternal.

1: We should all be thankful for God's mercy, which is ever-lasting and never-ending.

2: We can look to God's mercy as a source of strength and comfort as it is unwavering and unchanging.

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.

Psalms 136:18 And slew famous kings: for his mercy endureth for ever:

God's mercy is eternal.

1: God's Unending Mercy - Let us consider the abundant mercy of God, which is not confined by time or space.

2: God's Unfailing Mercy - Even in the face of great opposition, God's mercy remains ever-present and never-ending.

1: Romans 5:20 - Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.

2: Ephesians 2:4-5 - But God, being rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had for us, made us alive with the Messiah even though we were dead in trespasses. You are saved by grace!

Psalms 136:19 Sihon king of the Amorites: for his mercy endureth for ever:

God's mercy is everlasting.

1: God's mercy is everlasting and we should show the same mercy to others.

2: God's mercy is everlasting and He is worthy of thanks and praise.

1: Matt. 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."

2: 2 Corinthians 1:3 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort."

Psalms 136:20 And Og the king of Bashan: for his mercy endureth for ever:

God's mercy towards us is everlasting.

1. The Everlasting Mercy of God

2. The Power of God's Mercy

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. 1 John 4:19 - We love because he first loved us.

Psalms 136:21 And gave their land for an heritage: for his mercy endureth for ever:

God gave the Israelites their land as an inheritance, because of His everlasting mercy.

1. God's faithfulness endures forever - Psalms 136:21

2. The power of God's mercy - Psalms 136:21

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. Psalms 107:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Psalms 136:22 Even an heritage unto Israel his servant: for his mercy endureth for ever.

God's mercy is eternal and He has given an inheritance to Israel, His servant.

1. God's Unfailing Mercy a reminder of the faithfulness of God's love for His people.

2. An Inheritance of Blessing reminding us of the blessings that come from being God's servant.

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.

Psalms 136:23 Who remembered us in our low estate: for his mercy endureth for ever:

The Lord remembered us during our times of need and His mercy is everlasting.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever

2. Remembering God in Times of Need

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 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."

Psalms 136:24 And hath redeemed us from our enemies: for his mercy endureth for ever.

God has redeemed us from our enemies and His mercy is everlasting.

1. The Mercy of God: How His Enduring Love Redeems us from Oppression

2. A Call to Gratitude: Celebrating the Gift of Redemption from God

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 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Psalms 136:25 Who giveth food to all flesh: for his mercy endureth for ever.

God's mercy and love is everlasting and He provides food to all creatures.

1. God's Everlasting Love and Mercy

2. The Gift of Abundance: God's Provision for All

1. Matthew 5:45 - "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 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."

Psalms 136:26 O give thanks unto the God of heaven: for his mercy endureth for ever.

We should always give thanks to God for his mercy that never ends.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever - Celebrating God's Unfailing Love

2. Gratitude for God's Unending Mercy - Rejoicing in His Faithfulness

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. Psalm 107:1 - "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!"

Psalm 137 is a psalm that expresses the sorrow and longing of the Israelites during their exile in Babylon.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist describes how the Israelites sat by the rivers of Babylon, weeping and remembering Zion. They express their anguish as they hang their harps on willow trees, unable to sing songs of joy in a foreign land (Psalm 137:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist recounts how their captors demanded them to sing songs of Zion, but they refuse, feeling unable to sing praises while in exile. They express their deep longing for Jerusalem and vow never to forget it (Psalm 137:5-6).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist concludes with a cry for justice against Edom, who rejoiced over Jerusalem's destruction. They pray for retribution and devastation upon Edom as a response to their cruelty (Psalm 137:7-9).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred thirty-seven presents

a lamentation during exile,

highlighting sorrow achieved through expressing anguish while emphasizing yearning for homeland.

Emphasizing description expressed regarding depicting sorrowful state of exiled Israelites.

Mentioning refusal shown regarding inability to sing praises while in captivity.

Expressing longing presented regarding deep yearning for Jerusalem while affirming commitment to remember it.

Acknowledging plea expressed regarding seeking justice against those who rejoiced over Jerusalem's destruction while praying for retribution.

Psalms 137:1 By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion.

We remembered our sorrowful past when we were exiled from Zion.

1: God is our comforter in times of sorrow.

2: We can find hope in the midst of despair.

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: 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.

Psalms 137:2 We hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst thereof.

We can learn from Psalms 137:2 that sorrow and grief can cause us to forget joy and turn away from God.

1. Finding Joy in Troubled Times

2. The Healing Power of God's Love

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 46:1-2 - "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."

Psalms 137:3 For there they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us required of us mirth, saying, Sing us one of the songs of Zion.

The captives of Babylon were being asked to sing a song of Zion to please their captors.

1. Cultivating resilience in times of challenge

2. Overcoming suffering by trusting in God

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. Psalms 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.

Psalms 137:4 How shall we sing the LORD's song in a strange land?

In Psalms 137:4, the psalmist reflects on the difficulty of singing the Lord's song in a foreign land.

Best

1. The Power of Praise in Adversity

2. The Beauty of Worship in Exile

Best

1. Daniel 3:16-18 - Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's faithfulness to the Lord in the face of danger.

2. Isaiah 12:4-6 - The joy of singing praises to God in the midst of exile.

Psalms 137:5 If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning.

The psalmist expresses their dedication to Jerusalem, even if it means their own right hand forgetting its skill.

1. The Unwavering Dedication to God's City

2. The Power of Devotion to a Place

1. Luke 4:16-21 - Jesus proclaims his dedication to the people of Nazareth

2. Joshua 24:15 - Joshua's commitment to serve God no matter the cost

Psalms 137:6 If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy.

We must remember and cherish God's holy city of Jerusalem above all else.

1: Let us focus on the importance of cherishing God's holy city of Jerusalem, and commit to keeping it in our hearts and minds.

2: We must remember God's holy city of Jerusalem and choose to prioritize it above our own joys and pleasures.

1: Psalm 122:6 - Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you.

2: Isaiah 62:1 - For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her vindication shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch.

Psalms 137:7 Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem; who said, Rase it, rase it, even to the foundation thereof.

The psalmist remembers the children of Edom who rejoiced at the destruction of Jerusalem.

1. Joy in the Lord in the Midst of Suffering

2. The Power of Remembering

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, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

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.

Psalms 137:8 O daughter of Babylon, who art to be destroyed; happy shall he be, that rewardeth thee as thou hast served us.

The psalmist calls for retribution for the daughter of Babylon, recognizing the harm it has caused.

1. God's Justice: Examining the Consequences of Our Actions

2. Overcoming Evil with Good

1. Romans 12:17-19 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

2. Proverbs 25:21-22 - If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink.

Psalms 137:9 Happy shall he be, that taketh and dasheth thy little ones against the stones.

The psalmist encourages those who take revenge on Babylon by dashing their little ones against the stones.

1. The Power of Revenge: How We Can Take Control of Our Own Fate

2. The Dangers of Uncontrolled Anger: How to Avoid the Wrath of God

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. 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.

Psalm 138 is a psalm of thanksgiving and praise to the Lord for His faithfulness and answered prayers.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist begins by giving thanks to the Lord with his whole heart. He praises God for His loving-kindness and faithfulness, declaring that He has exalted His name and fulfilled His promises (Psalm 138:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses his personal experience of answered prayer. He recalls how he cried out to the Lord, and God answered him, strengthening him with renewed strength and confidence (Psalm 138:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist declares that all the kings of the earth will praise and worship the Lord when they hear His words. He acknowledges God's greatness and that even though He is exalted, He regards the lowly with care (Psalm 138:5-6).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist affirms his trust in the Lord's protection. Even in times of trouble, he believes that God will preserve him, extending His hand against his enemies. The psalmist concludes by asking God to fulfill His purpose for him (Psalm 138:7-8).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred thirty-eight presents

a song of thanksgiving,

highlighting gratitude achieved through acknowledging God's faithfulness while emphasizing trust in divine protection.

Emphasizing thanksgiving expressed regarding praising God with whole heart.

Mentioning declaration shown regarding recognizing loving-kindness and faithfulness of God while affirming fulfillment of promises.

Expressing personal experience presented regarding recalling answered prayer while affirming receipt of strength.

Acknowledging affirmation expressed regarding anticipation of universal praise for God while acknowledging care for humble.

Highlighting trust presented regarding reliance on divine protection during times of trouble while expressing desire for fulfillment of divine purpose.

Psalms 138:1 I will praise thee with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto thee.

The psalmist expresses his devotion to God and his intention to praise God with his whole heart.

1. The Power of Devotion: How to Live a Life of Wholehearted Praise.

2. Unconditional Love: Singing Praise Before the Gods.

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. 1 Chronicles 16:10 - Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Psalms 138:2 I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

Praising God for His faithfulness and truthfulness.

1. God's Word is Above All

2. How to Praise God for His Lovingkindness

1. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

2. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Psalms 138:3 In the day when I cried thou answeredst me, and strengthenedst me with strength in my soul.

God answered prayers and gives strength to those who trust in Him.

1: Strength Through Faith - Trusting in God allows us to be strengthened by His grace.

2: The Promise of Answered Prayers - We can rely on God to hear and answer our prayers.

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 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.

Psalms 138:4 All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O LORD, when they hear the words of thy mouth.

The Lord is praised by all the kings of the earth when they hear His words.

1: Our God is Mighty and Worthy of Praise

2: The Power of Hearing the Word of the Lord

1: Romans 15:11 - And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and sing praises to him, all you peoples."

2: Psalms 29:2 - Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

Psalms 138:5 Yea, they shall sing in the ways of the LORD: for great is the glory of the LORD.

God's glory is great and should be praised.

1: Singing in Praise of the Lord

2: Celebrating the Glory of the Lord

1: Isaiah 12:5 - "Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world."

2: Psalm 29:2 - "Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness."

Psalms 138:6 Though the LORD be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off.

God looks upon those with a humble heart and shows them respect, while those who are proud will be kept at a distance.

1. The Blessings of Humbling Ourselves Before God

2. The Dangers of Pride and Arrogance

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. Proverbs 16:18-19 - "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall. Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud."

Psalms 138:7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me: thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me.

God will revive us and protect us from our enemies.

1. God is Our Protector and Reviver - Psalms 138:7

2. God's Right Hand is Our Salvation - Psalms 138:7

1. Psalms 3:7 - Arise, O Lord; save me, O my God: for thou hast smitten all mine enemies upon the cheek bone; thou hast broken the teeth of the ungodly.

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.

Psalms 138:8 The LORD will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.

The LORD will fulfill His promises to us and His mercy is everlasting.

1. Trusting in God's Perfect Provision

2. The Lord's Mercy and 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. 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.

Psalm 139 is a psalm that celebrates the omniscience, omnipresence, and intimate knowledge of God.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist acknowledges that God has searched and known him. They describe how God knows their every action, thought, and word. There is no place they can go to escape from His presence (Psalm 139:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist marvels at how intricately and wonderfully they are made by God. They acknowledge that God saw them even in the womb and had a plan for their life before they were born (Psalm 139:13-16).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses their desire for God to search their hearts and lead them in the way of righteousness. They reject wickedness and invite God to examine their thoughts, asking Him to guide them on the path of everlasting life (Psalm 139:23-24).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred thirty-nine presents

a reflection on divine omniscience,

highlighting awe achieved through recognizing comprehensive knowledge of God while emphasizing invitation for divine guidance.

Emphasizing acknowledgement expressed regarding divine knowledge encompassing every aspect of one's being.

Mentioning marvel shown regarding intricate formation by God while affirming recognition of divine involvement since conception.

Expressing desire presented regarding inviting divine scrutiny while affirming commitment to righteousness.

Acknowledging invitation expressed regarding seeking divine guidance in thoughts and actions while desiring eternal fellowship with God.

Psalms 139:1 O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me.

God knows us completely and intimately.

1. God's Knowledge of Us: Knowing and Being Known

2. The Comfort of God's Omniscience

1. John 16:30 - "Now we are sure that you know all things, and do not need anyone to question you; by this we believe that you came from God."

2. 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."

Psalms 139:2 Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off.

God knows our every thought and movement.

1. The Omniscience of God - Romans 11:33-36

2. The Power of God's Love - Psalm 103:14-18

1. Psalm 139:7-12

2. Jeremiah 17:10

Psalms 139:3 Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways.

God knows our every thought and action.

1. How God is Always Present in Our Lives

2. Knowing God's Love Through His Omniscience

1. Jeremiah 17:10 - "I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve."

2. Proverbs 15:3 - "The eyes of the LORD are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good."

Psalms 139:4 For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether.

God knows us in every detail, even the words we cannot express.

1. The Omniscience of God - His omnipresence and knowledge of us in all our thoughts.

2. How to Pray Effectively - Relying on the Lord's knowledge of us to bring our deepest thoughts and feelings to Him.

1. Psalm 139:4

2. Psalm 139:1-6

Psalms 139:5 Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me.

God is always with us, watching over us and protecting us.

1. God's Protection: Knowing That We Are Never Alone

2. God Is Our Constant Companion: Experiencing His Presence in Our Everyday 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 13:5-6 - "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? "

Psalms 139:6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it.

The psalmist expresses amazement at the knowledge of God, which is beyond his own understanding.

1. Awe and Wonder: Learning to Appreciate the Unsearchable Depths of God

2. The Height of God's Knowledge: A Call to Humility

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. Job 11:7-9 - Can you find out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limit of the Almighty? It is higher than heaven what can you do? Deeper than Sheol what can you know? Its measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea.

Psalms 139:7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

The psalmist contemplates the omnipresence of God, asking where they could flee from God's spirit and presence.

1. "The Omnipresence of God: Escaping God's Love is Impossible"

2. "God's Unfailing Presence: Where Could We Run?"

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 46:1-2 - "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."

Psalms 139:8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.

God's presence is always with us no matter where we are.

1: God is always present in our lives, even when we feel alone and distant.

2: We can always rely on God's presence for hope and comfort.

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 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.

Psalms 139:9 If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

God knows every detail of our lives, even when we try to hide from Him.

1: God Sees All: No Escaping His Presence

2: The Comfort of Knowing God Is Everywhere

1: Isaiah 46:10 - My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.

2: Jeremiah 23:23-24 - Am I a God near at hand, declares the LORD, And not a God afar off? Can a man hide himself in hiding places, so I do not see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill the heavens and the earth? declares the LORD.

Psalms 139:10 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

God's loving hand will always lead and guide us.

1. The Loving Hand of God: How God's Guidance Will Always Be With Us

2. Drawing Strength From Our Faith: Finding Comfort in God's Right Hand

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.

Psalms 139:11 If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.

The Psalmist declares that even in darkness, God is with them and will provide light.

1. Comfort in the Darkness: How God's Light Shines Even in the Darkest Times

2. The Everlasting Presence of God: Trusting in His Unceasing Care

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. 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.

Psalms 139:12 Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

God sees and knows all, both in light and darkness.

1. The All Seeing and All Knowing God

2. The Light of the Lord Never Fades

1. Genesis 1:3-4 And God said, Let there be light, and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and He separated the light from the darkness.

2. 1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

Psalms 139:13 For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.

God knows and cares for us even before we are born.

1. The Lord's Unfailing Love - How God's love is with us even before we are born.

2. God's Amazing Grace - How God's grace is with us before we ever take our first breath.

1. Isaiah 49:1 - "Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the Lord called me; from my birth he has made mention of my name."

2. Jeremiah 1:5 - "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

Psalms 139:14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

God's works are marvellous and we should praise Him for our wonderful creation.

1. God's Marvelous Works and Our Praise

2. The Fearful and Wonderful Creation of Man

1. Psalm 8:3-5 - When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

2. Genesis 1:26-27 - Then God said, Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground. So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Psalms 139:15 My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

God knows us intimately, even before we are born.

1. God Is All-Knowing: He Sees Our Unseen Struggles

2. Our Creator Knows Us Better Than We Know Ourselves

1. Isaiah 49:1-5

2. Psalm 139:13-16

Psalms 139:16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.

God is omniscient and knows the details of our lives, even before we are born.

1. God's Everlasting Love: How God's Knowledge and Care Empowers Us

2. The Power of Omniscience: How God Sees Our Lives Before We Exist

1. Jeremiah 1:5 - "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart"

2. Isaiah 46:10 - "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.'"

Psalms 139:17 How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!

God's thoughts towards us are precious and innumerable.

1. God's Love for Us is Unfathomable

2. God's Plans for Us are Limitless

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."

Psalms 139:18 If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.

God's love for us is vast and immeasurable.

1. God's Unfailing Love for Us: Psalms 139:18

2. Recognizing God's Abundance in Our Lives: Psalms 139:18

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. 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."

Psalms 139:19 Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody men.

God will punish the wicked, and the righteous should stay away from such people.

1. Let Us Not Be Tempted By Wickedness

2. Do Not Walk With The Wicked

1. Proverbs 4:14-15 - Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of the evil. Avoid it, do not pass by it; turn away from it and pass on.

2. Romans 12:9 - Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

Psalms 139:20 For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine enemies take thy name in vain.

God knows when we are maligned and will avenge us.

1: We must remember that God is our protector and will avenge us when we are attacked.

2: We must not be discouraged when we are spoken against because God will defend us.

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: 1 Peter 5:7 Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.

Psalms 139:21 Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee?

The Psalmist expresses his hatred and grief towards those who oppose God.

1. "Love the Lord and Hate What He Hates"

2. "God's Love and Wrath"

1. Romans 12:9 - "Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good."

2. Ezekiel 35:5-6 - "Because you cherished perpetual enmity and gave over the people of Israel to the power of the sword at the time of their calamity, at the time of their final punishment; therefore as I live, declares the Lord God, I will prepare you for blood, and blood shall pursue you; because you did not hate bloodshed, therefore blood shall pursue you."

Psalms 139:22 I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies.

God hates sin and calls His people to do the same.

1. "The Perfect Hatred of Sin"

2. "Hating Sin as God Does"

1. 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.

2. Romans 12:9 - Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

Psalms 139:23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:

God knows our hearts and our thoughts and He invites us to search our own hearts.

1. Discovering true identity: Searching our hearts and minds in light of God's grace

2. The courage to confront ourselves: Knowing and accepting our innermost thoughts in the presence of God

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 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."

Psalms 139:24 And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

David is asking God to search his heart for any wickedness and to guide him in the right path.

1. The Paths We Choose: Walking in the Way Everlasting

2. The Heart of a Servant: Examining Ourselves for Wickedness

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.

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 and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.

Psalm 140 is a psalm of lament and a plea for deliverance from enemies and evil.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist cries out to the Lord for deliverance, asking Him to rescue them from wicked and violent people who plot evil schemes. They acknowledge that these enemies are deceitful and seek to cause harm (Psalm 140:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses their trust in the Lord as their God, recognizing His power to save. They pray for God's judgment upon their enemies, asking Him to protect them from their snares (Psalm 140:6-8).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist expresses confidence in God's justice, believing that the wicked will be caught in their own traps. They express their hope and praise for the Lord's deliverance, declaring that the righteous will dwell in His presence (Psalm 140:9-13).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred forty presents

a lamentation and plea for deliverance,

highlighting reliance achieved through seeking rescue from enemies while emphasizing trust in divine justice.

Emphasizing cry for help expressed regarding pleading for deliverance from wicked individuals.

Mentioning acknowledgement shown regarding recognition of deceitful nature of enemies while affirming desire for protection.

Expressing trust presented regarding relying on God's power to save while praying for divine judgment against adversaries.

Acknowledging confidence expressed regarding belief in ultimate justice while expressing hope and praise for divine deliverance.

Psalms 140:1 Deliver me, O LORD, from the evil man: preserve me from the violent man;

Deliver me from the evil man and preserve me from the violent man.

1. The Need for God s Protection from Evil

2. The Importance of Asking God for Help

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. Psalms 37:39 But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

Psalms 140:2 Which imagine mischiefs in their heart; continually are they gathered together for war.

People who have malicious intentions gather together to wage war.

1. We must be vigilant against those who seek to cause harm and destruction.

2. We must remain steadfast in our faith and trust in God to protect us from evil.

1. Psalms 140:2

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

Psalms 140:3 They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent; adders' poison is under their lips. Selah.

People use their tongues to spread poisonous lies.

1. The Power of the Tongue - Proverbs 18:21

2. Guard Your Heart with Your Words - Proverbs 4:23

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. James 3:8-10 - But no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God s likeness. Praise and curses come out of the same mouth. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.

Psalms 140:4 Keep me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked; preserve me from the violent man; who have purposed to overthrow my goings.

Keep me safe, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked.

1: God is our protector, and we can trust Him to keep us safe from evil.

2: We must rely on God to defend us from the schemes of the wicked.

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 37:39 - The salvation of the righteous comes from the LORD; he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

Psalms 140:5 The proud have hid a snare for me, and cords; they have spread a net by the wayside; they have set gins for me. Selah.

The proud have set traps to ensnare the righteous.

1. "The Danger of Pride"

2. "God's Protection Against Evil"

1. Ephesians 6:11-13 - Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

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.

Psalms 140:6 I said unto the LORD, Thou art my God: hear the voice of my supplications, O LORD.

The psalmist pleads for God to listen to his prayers and supplications.

1. God Hears Our Prayers

2. Learning to Pray to Our Heavenly Father

1. James 5:16 The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

2. Hebrews 4:14-16 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Psalms 140:7 O GOD the Lord, the strength of my salvation, thou hast covered my head in the day of battle.

The Lord is the strength and salvation for believers who trust in Him, even in the midst of battle.

1. "The Power of the Lord in Battle"

2. "The Strength of God in Times of Tribulation"

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 6:10-18 - "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."

Psalms 140:8 Grant not, O LORD, the desires of the wicked: further not his wicked device; lest they exalt themselves. Selah.

God will not grant the desires of the wicked, and will not enable them to exalt themselves.

1: God is Merciful, but Not to the Wicked

2: The Danger of Allowing Wicked Desires to Take Root

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 16:5 Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished.

Psalms 140:9 As for the head of those that compass me about, let the mischief of their own lips cover them.

God's justice is for the wicked to receive what they deserve for their own evil deeds.

1. The Day of Reckoning: How God's Justice Will Prevail

2. Beware of What You Say: The Consequences of Lips Gone Astray

1. Proverbs 12:13 - "Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit."

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."

Psalms 140:10 Let burning coals fall upon them: let them be cast into the fire; into deep pits, that they rise not up again.

The wicked should be punished and sent to their doom.

1: God's justice is perfect - do not be deceived by the wicked, but be warned by His judgment.

2: Rely on the Lord and He will protect you from the schemes of the wicked.

1: Matthew 7:15-16 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits.

2: Proverbs 1:10-19 My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not. If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause: Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit: We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil...

Psalms 140:11 Let not an evil speaker be established in the earth: evil shall hunt the violent man to overthrow him.

The Psalmist warns against the establishment of evil speakers in the world, as they will be hunted for their violence.

1. The Danger of Evil Speakers: How We Can Avoid Their Influence

2. Establishing a Peaceful Life: The Power of Psalms 140:11

1. Proverbs 12:13 - "The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips: but the just shall come out of trouble."

2. Romans 12:17-21 - "Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. 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.

Psalms 140:12 I know that the LORD will maintain the cause of the afflicted, and the right of the poor.

The Lord will uphold the cause of the oppressed and the rights of the poor.

1: We need to put our trust in the Lord, who will always be there for us when we are in need.

2: We must always strive to be advocates for the oppressed and the poor, as the Lord will always fight for them.

1: Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2: James 2:15-17 - 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?

Psalms 140:13 Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright shall dwell in thy presence.

The righteous shall give thanks to the Lord for His presence in their lives.

1. The Blessings of the Righteous: Appreciating the Lord's Presence in Our Lives

2. Knowing the Upright: Recognizing the Blessings of Faithfulness

1. Psalm 146:5-6 - "Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God: Which made heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that therein is: which keepeth truth for ever."

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."

Psalm 141 is a psalm of David, a prayer for God's guidance, protection, and deliverance from wickedness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon the Lord to hear their prayer and accept it as an offering. They ask God to guard their mouth and keep them from speaking evil. They express their desire for their prayers to be like incense before God (Psalm 141:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist asks the righteous to rebuke them if they stray into sin and correct them with kindness. They acknowledge that they would rather receive correction than enjoy the company of evildoers (Psalm 141:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist pleads with God not to let their heart be drawn towards evil or participate in wicked deeds. They ask for protection from traps set by evildoers and express their trust in the Lord as their refuge (Psalm 141:8-10).

4th Paragraph: The psalmist concludes by expressing confidence that the wicked will receive justice while the righteous will be preserved by God's favor. They commit themselves to continue seeking righteousness and relying on God's guidance (Psalm 141:11-12).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred forty-one presents

a prayer for divine guidance,

highlighting humility achieved through seeking protection from evil while emphasizing desire for correction.

Emphasizing plea expressed regarding requesting attentive hearing of prayer while desiring acceptance.

Mentioning request shown regarding seeking restraint in speech while expressing desire for prayers to be pleasing before God.

Expressing willingness presented regarding welcoming correction from righteous individuals over fellowship with evildoers.

Acknowledging plea expressed regarding asking for protection against involvement in wickedness while trusting in divine refuge.

Highlighting commitment presented regarding belief in ultimate justice while affirming dedication to righteousness and reliance on divine guidance.

Psalms 141:1 Lord, I cry unto thee: make haste unto me; give ear unto my voice, when I cry unto thee.

My prayer is that the Lord would hear my voice and make haste to answer me.

1: We can cry out to the Lord in prayer and He will answer us.

2: The Lord is always ready to answer us when we cry out to Him.

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: James 5:16 - The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Psalms 141:2 Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

A prayer is offered to God, asking for it to be accepted like incense and the lifting up of the hands like the evening sacrifice.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Our Prayers Offer Comfort and Closeness to God

2. The Evening Sacrifice: Understanding the Significance of Evening Prayers

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. James 5:16 - "Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

Psalms 141:3 Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.

The psalmist is asking God to watch over his words and keep him from speaking anything unwise.

1. The Power of Words: How our words shape us and the world around us

2. Keeping Watch Over our Words: The importance of mindfulness in our speech

1. James 3:5-12 - The power of the tongue

2. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue

Psalms 141:4 Incline not my heart to any evil thing, to practise wicked works with men that work iniquity: and let me not eat of their dainties.

Do not be tempted by evil influences; instead, choose to do what is right.

1: Choose to do what is right despite temptations.

2: Do not be led astray by those who practice wickedness.

1: Proverbs 4:27 - Do not turn to the right or the left; turn your foot from evil.

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

Psalms 141:5 Let the righteous smite me; it shall be a kindness: and let him reprove me; it shall be an excellent oil, which shall not break my head: for yet my prayer also shall be in their calamities.

The psalmist requests that the righteous reprove him, as it will be an act of kindness and an excellent oil that will not break his head. Even in calamities, his prayer will remain.

1. To Reprove with Love and Kindness

2. The Power of Praying in Calamity

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 5:13 - Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.

Psalms 141:6 When their judges are overthrown in stony places, they shall hear my words; for they are sweet.

The psalmist expresses a desire that all will hear his words because they are sweet.

1. The Sweetness of God's Word: Finding Comfort and Strength in God's Promises

2. The Power of Praise: Exalting God's Word in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 119:103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! [yea, sweeter] than honey to my mouth!

2. James 1:21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

Psalms 141:7 Our bones are scattered at the grave's mouth, as when one cutteth and cleaveth wood upon the earth.

God's grace gives us strength in even the most desperate of times.

1. Hope in the Midst of Despair

2. Finding Strength in Suffering

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 8:18 - "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."

Psalms 141:8 But mine eyes are unto thee, O GOD the Lord: in thee is my trust; leave not my soul destitute.

This Psalm encourages us to keep our eyes and trust in God, and not to be left destitute.

1. "The Power of Trust in God"

2. "The Security of Knowing God"

1. Isaiah 26:3 - "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in 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."

Psalms 141:9 Keep me from the snares which they have laid for me, and the gins of the workers of iniquity.

Keep away from those who would lead us astray and the traps they set for us.

1. Be aware of those who would lead us astray and the traps they set.

2. Stay vigilant and protect ourselves from those who work iniquity.

1. Proverbs 1:10-19 - Wisdom calls out to us to be vigilant and stay away from the temptations of evil.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds.

Psalms 141:10 Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst that I withal escape.

Psalms urges the wicked to be ensnared in their own traps, and for the righteous to escape.

1. The Wisdom of Escaping from Danger

2. The Traps of the Wicked

1. Proverbs 1:15-19 - My son, do not walk in the way with them; hold back your foot from their paths.

2. Proverbs 4:14-15 - Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of the evil. Avoid it; do not go on it.

Psalm 142 is a psalm of David, a prayer for help and deliverance in times of distress.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist cries out to the Lord, pouring out their complaint before Him. They express their feelings of being overwhelmed and alone, acknowledging that God is the only refuge they have (Psalm 142:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist describes their desperate situation, feeling trapped with no one to care for their soul. They cry out to God, asking Him to bring them out of prison and provide them with freedom (Psalm 142:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist concludes by expressing their trust in the Lord's goodness and righteousness. They anticipate that the righteous will gather around them when God deals bountifully with them (Psalm 142:8).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred forty-two presents

a prayer for divine deliverance,

highlighting vulnerability achieved through expressing distress while emphasizing trust in God's refuge.

Emphasizing cry for help expressed regarding pouring out complaint before God during times of distress.

Mentioning acknowledgement shown regarding feelings of overwhelmment and isolation while affirming reliance on divine refuge.

Expressing desperation presented regarding longing for liberation from captivity while seeking freedom.

Acknowledging trust expressed regarding belief in God's goodness and righteousness while anticipating support from righteous individuals during manifestation of divine bounty.

Psalms 142:1 I cried unto the LORD with my voice; with my voice unto the LORD did I make my supplication.

A cry to the Lord in times of need.

1. God is always there for us in times of need.

2. Reach out to God in prayer to find solace.

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 5:13 - Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.

Psalms 142:2 I poured out my complaint before him; I shewed before him my trouble.

The psalmist expresses his complaints and troubles to God.

1. We can come to God with all our troubles and complaints.

2. Knowing that God is the ultimate refuge in difficult times.

1. 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."

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."

Psalms 142:3 When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then thou knewest my path. In the way wherein I walked have they privily laid a snare for me.

When life becomes overwhelming, God knows our path and will protect us from traps.

1: God is always with us in our darkest moments, to guide us and protect us.

2: No matter how overwhelming life may become, God knows our path and will never let us walk alone.

1: Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, 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.

Psalms 142:4 I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me: refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul.

No one is there to help us when we are in need.

1. God is always there for us, even when we feel alone.

2. We can turn to God in times of distress for comfort and security.

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. Psalms 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.

Psalms 142:5 I cried unto thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.

I cried out to the Lord and He became my refuge and my portion in this life.

1. Discovering the Source of Refuge and Comfort

2. Finding Strength 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 62:8 - "Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us."

Psalms 142:6 Attend unto my cry; for I am brought very low: deliver me from my persecutors; for they are stronger than I.

I cry out to God for deliverance from my oppressors who are stronger than me.

1: God is always there to listen to our cries and deliver us from our enemies.

2: Even when we feel helpless and weak, God is still able to deliver us.

1: Psalm 18:17-18 "He rescued me from my powerful enemies, from those who hate me, for they were too strong for me. They attacked me on a day of distress, but the Lord was my support."

2: Isaiah 41:10-14 "Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will hold on to you with my righteous right hand...I will help you, says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel."

Psalms 142:7 Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise thy name: the righteous shall compass me about; for thou shalt deal bountifully with me.

The Psalmist is asking for God to set his soul free so he can praise His name, knowing that the righteous will surround and sustain him as God is bountiful.

1. God's Unconditional Love and Mercy

2. The Power of Surrounding Yourself with Righteous People

1. Matthew 5:6 - "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."

2. 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."

Psalm 143 is a psalm of David, a prayer for mercy, guidance, and deliverance in the face of enemies and personal struggles.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist cries out to the Lord for mercy and grace. They acknowledge their own unworthiness and plead for God's righteousness to be revealed. They express their distress and ask God to hear their prayer (Psalm 143:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on God's past faithfulness and meditates on His works. They long for God's guidance, asking Him to lead them on level ground. They confess their dependence on God's Spirit to sustain them (Psalm 143:5-10).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist pleads with God to deliver them from their enemies, asking for His unfailing love and righteousness. They pray that God would destroy their adversaries and bring them into His presence (Psalm 143:11-12).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred forty-three presents

a prayer for divine mercy,

highlighting dependence achieved through acknowledging personal struggles while emphasizing desire for guidance.

Emphasizing plea expressed regarding seeking divine mercy and grace during times of distress.

Mentioning reflection shown regarding remembrance of past faithfulness while desiring divine guidance.

Expressing longing presented regarding yearning for level ground under divine leadership while confessing reliance on the sustaining power of God's Spirit.

Acknowledging plea expressed regarding requesting deliverance from enemies while seeking manifestation of unfailing love, righteousness, and presence of God.

Psalms 143:1 Hear my prayer, O LORD, give ear to my supplications: in thy faithfulness answer me, and in thy righteousness.

A plea for God to hear and answer prayers with faithfulness and righteousness.

1. How God's Faithfulness and Righteousness Can Answer Our Prayers

2. Seeking the Lord in Prayer with Confidence

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. 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."

Psalms 143:2 And enter not into judgment with thy servant: for in thy sight shall no man living be justified.

A plea for God's mercy and not to judge a living man, as no one can be justified in God's sight.

1. A Plea for Mercy: Understanding the Power of a Cry for Help.

2. Justified by Faith: How to Live Rightly in God's Sight.

1. 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 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

2. Isaiah 45:25 - In the LORD all the offspring of Israel shall be justified and shall glory.

Psalms 143:3 For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath smitten my life down to the ground; he hath made me to dwell in darkness, as those that have been long dead.

The Psalmist expresses his sorrow over being persecuted by his enemies and living in darkness.

1. The Power of Persecution: Learning to Overcome Adversity

2. The Light of the Lord: Finding Strength Amidst Suffering

1. 1 Peter 5:7-9 - Casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength.

Psalms 143:4 Therefore is my spirit overwhelmed within me; my heart within me is desolate.

The psalmist is overwhelmed and his heart is desolate within him.

1. The Psalmist's Cry for Deliverance

2. How to Handle Overwhelming Desolation

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 strengthens the powerless.

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.

Psalms 143:5 I remember the days of old; I meditate on all thy works; I muse on the work of thy hands.

This passage reflects on the Lord's works and the importance of taking time to meditate on them.

1. "A Time to Reflect: Meditating on God's Works"

2. "The Blessing of Remembering: Looking to the Lord's Ways"

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 77:11-12 - "I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your wonders of old. I will ponder all your work, and meditate on your mighty deeds."

Psalms 143:6 I stretch forth my hands unto thee: my soul thirsteth after thee, as a thirsty land. Selah.

I long for God and seek Him with all my heart.

1. The Thirst of the Soul: Learning to Long for God

2. Finding Satisfaction in the Lord: Reaching Out to God in Prayer

1. Jeremiah 29:13-14 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2. Psalm 42:1-2 - "As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God."

Psalms 143:7 Hear me speedily, O LORD: my spirit faileth: hide not thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit.

The psalmist pleads for God to answer his prayer quickly, as his spirit is waning and he fears becoming like those who have died.

1. The Comfort of Divine Intervention - Exploring God's promise of help in difficult times

2. The Power of Prayer - How prayer can renew and refresh our spirit

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. James 5:13-15 - 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. 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.

Psalms 143:8 Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.

The psalmist asks God to show him His lovingkindness in the morning and to guide him on the path he should take.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Lovingkindness

2. Following the Lord's Path

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. 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.

Psalms 143:9 Deliver me, O LORD, from mine enemies: I flee unto thee to hide me.

The Psalmist cries out to the Lord for protection from his enemies and seeks refuge in Him.

1. The Power of Prayer and Seeking Refuge in God

2. The Strength of Dependence on God in Times of Trouble

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. Isaiah 26:3-4 You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.

Psalms 143:10 Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness.

The Psalmist asks God to lead him into a life of obedience and righteousness.

1. Learning to Live with Obedience to God

2. Finding Strength in the Spirit of God

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

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.

Psalms 143:11 Quicken me, O LORD, for thy name's sake: for thy righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.

The Psalmist pleads with the Lord to give him strength so that his soul can be saved from trouble.

1: Even in times of great distress, we must remember to turn to God and rely on His strength to get us through.

2: When we are in trouble, it is important to humble ourselves and call upon the Lord for help.

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 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.

Psalms 143:12 And of thy mercy cut off mine enemies, and destroy all them that afflict my soul: for I am thy servant.

God s mercy and justice are both present in our lives.

1. God's Mercy and Justice: How They Work Together for Our Good

2. Praying for Divine Intervention: Trusting in God's Mercy and Justice

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. Psalm 34:17 - The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.