



與

主

有約

260

舊約歷史

列王紀下

1-25章

(靈修篇)

260 讀經表 (列王紀下2011年5月至6月)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5/8	5/9 王上20	5/10 王上21	5/11 王上22	5/12 王下1	5/13 王下2	5/14
5/15	5/16 王下3	5/17 王下4	5/18 王下5	5/19 王下6	5/20 王下7	5/21
5/22	5/23 王下8	5/24 王下9	5/25 王下10	5/26 王下11	5/27 王下12	5/28
5/29	5/30 王下13	5/31 王下14	6/1 王下15	6/2 王下16	6/3 王下17	6/4
6/5	6/6 王下18	6/7 王下19	6/8 王下20	6/9 王下21	6/10 王下22	6/11
6/12	6/13 王下23	6/14 王下24	6/15 王下25	6/16 馬太1	6/17 馬太2	6/18
6/19	6/20 馬太3	6/21 馬太4	6/22 馬太5	6/23 馬太6	6/24 馬太7	6/25
6/26	6/27 馬太8	6/28 馬太9	6/29 馬太10	6/30 馬太11	7/1 馬太12	7/2
7/3	7/4 馬太13	7/5 馬太14	7/6 馬太15	7/7 馬太16	7/8 馬太17	7/9
7/10	7/11 馬太18	7/12 馬太19	7/13 馬太20	7/14 馬太21	7/15 馬太22	7/16
7/17	7/18 馬太23	7/19 馬太24	7/20 馬太25	7/21 馬太26	7/22 馬太27	7/23
7/24	7/25 馬太28	7/26 徒1	7/27 徒2	7/28 徒3	7/29 徒4	7/30

「與主有約260」舊約

自從2008年12月開始，萬民堂眾弟兄姐妹就一起參與「與主有約260」讀經操練計劃。目前我們已經將新約聖經全部通讀過一次，並且即將讀完列王記下，將舊約聖經的主要歷史作了粗略的閱讀。

之後，我們會再用一年的時間，重新閱讀新約一遍，將原來編寫的靈修篇材料，稍加整理，重新使用。待2012年中，在完成新約之後，將會閱讀舊約的智慧書卷，或是先知書。這樣，在5-6年內，我們將會一同走過新約聖經至少兩遍，舊約聖經一遍。

2008年教會為回應弟兄姐妹問卷調查所表示的需要：“希望能夠更有紀律、不間斷地將聖經（至少新約）讀完一遍，對聖經有更多、更深的認識”，開始構思一套“為萬民堂的信徒設計的讀經計劃，由全教會一同配合，鼓勵眾弟兄姐妹一起參與，建立經常靈修的屬靈好習慣。”

過去兩年半的時間，透過各個小組長積極的參與，每人承擔編寫不同書卷的讀經或靈修材料，每個月的聚集研討，以及眾弟兄姐妹們在主日崇拜，主日學，小組，或是個人靈修各方面的配搭參與，使得這個讀經計劃，逐漸看到果效，儲備聖經老師，信徒多有每日靈修，操練默想主話，禱告親近神。另外美工的弟兄姐妹也因此以其所長來參與服事。為這一切，我們感謝神的恩典。

我們邀請「萬民的天家同路人」，繼續投入「與主有約260」，天天親近主。這樣，聆聽神、親近主，就成為信徒每天生活的一部分，「直等到基督的特性在你們的生命中成形」（加4：19《現中本》）。

每日靈修 (Quiet Time QT 5 • 5 • 5) :

每週最少五天靈修。每天安排15分鐘讀經禱告(QT)：定時，定點，定量

QT 5 • 5 • 5 :

- 安靜5分鐘後，將經文慢慢的讀兩三遍。
- 用5分鐘默想經文中觸動你心的字句或意念，求聖靈顯明心中的感動與自己目前處境的關係，並求聖靈指引你當有的回應。
- 最後5分鐘，將經文和心中的感動化作禱告。
- 禱告後，安靜片時，然後把今天的感動簡單的記錄下來。

一天中的任何時候，操練「反復思想」感動你的經文。

週末與主有約

每逢星期六與星期日，回顧反思本週內所讀過的經文。用這時間沉潛在與神相遇的經歷中。

每天藉五個簡短的禱告，操練隨時與神同在：

1. 神啊，我屬祢！
2. 主耶穌，求你可憐我
3. 主啊，救我！
4. 天父，我感謝祢！
5. 主啊，我愛祢！

列王記下 第一章

8 回答說：「他身穿毛衣，腰束皮帶。」王說：「這必是提斯比人以利亞。」 9 於是，王差遣五十夫長，帶領五十人去見以利亞，他就上到以利亞那裡；以利亞正坐在山頂上。五十夫長對他說：「神人哪，王吩咐你下來！」 10 以利亞回答說：「我若是神人，願火從天上降下來，燒滅你和你那五十人！」於是火從天上降下來，燒滅五十夫長和他那五十人。 11 王第二次差遣一個五十夫長，帶領五十人去見以利亞。五十夫長對以利亞說：「神人哪，王吩咐你快快下來！」 12 以利亞回答說：「我若是神人，願火從天上降下來，燒滅你和你那五十人！」於是 神的火從天上降下來，燒滅五十夫長和他那五十人。 13 王第三次差遣一個五十夫長，帶領五十人去。這五十夫長上去，雙膝跪在以利亞面前，哀求他說：「神人哪，願我的性命和你這五十個僕人的性命在你眼前看為寶貴！」 14 已經有火從天上降下來，燒滅前兩次來的五十夫長和他們各自帶的五十人；現在願我的性命在你眼前看為寶貴！」 15 耶和華的使者對以利亞說：「你同著他下去，不要怕他！」以利亞就起來，同著他下去見王。

默想：

1. 最好將本章全部略讀一次，明白亞哈謝王的病，以及先知以利亞從神所得的預言。
2. 亞哈謝王對神及他的先知態度極其輕蔑，差派軍隊去拘捕以利亞來。他明顯的是希望改變先知所說亞哈謝必死的預言（4，6節），“神人”即指屬神的先知。以利亞回答的意思就是：既然王知道他確實是神的僕人，王就應當尊重並降服於他之下。這裡以利亞與亞哈謝王的軍隊三次重複的對峙，就是在表面誰是主導，誰更有權力，耶和華神？或是亞哈謝？火從天降就立時解決了這個問題，這是以利亞最後一個神蹟——呼喚天火燒滅軍兵。這再一次向以色列人顯明，他們必須敬畏神。
3. 神的審判是可怕的，但是他也是慈愛的。第三個軍長帶著正確謙卑的態度來見神的先知，為自己和他的士兵之命祈求，他們就得免災禍。
4. 我對神真實的態度是什麼？謙卑，高傲，蔑視，尊敬……？我在家中，工作單位，如何生活？是依賴神的恩慈與智慧？還是運用自己的地位與權威來掌控他人，助益自己的權益？

禱告：

繼續與神共處幾分鐘，邀請聖靈來光照我心中最深處的黑暗。與耶穌交談心中被光照到的黑暗之處：反省我對神的態度，對家庭，同事，朋友……。

結束時，以認罪及重新委身向神禱告，立志在我生命的每一個部分都要榮耀神、尊敬神。

2 Kings Chapter 1

8 They replied, "He had a garment of hair and had a leather belt around his waist." The king said, "That was Elijah the Tishbite." 9 Then he sent to Elijah a captain with his company of fifty men. The captain went up to Elijah, who was sitting on the top of a hill, and said to him, "Man of God, the king says, 'Come down!'" 10 Elijah answered the captain, "If I am a man of God, may fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men!" Then fire fell from heaven and consumed the captain and his men. 11 At this the king sent to Elijah another captain with his fifty men. The captain said to him, "Man of God, this is what the king says, 'Come down at once!'" 12 "If I am a man of God," Elijah replied, "may fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men!" Then the fire of God fell from heaven and consumed him and his fifty men. 13 So the king sent a third captain with his fifty men. This third captain went up and fell on his knees before Elijah. "Man of God," he begged, "please have respect for my life and the lives of these fifty men, your servants!" 14 See, fire has fallen from heaven and consumed the first two captains and all their men. But now have respect for my life!" 15 The angel of the LORD said to Elijah, "Go down with him; do not be afraid of him." So Elijah got up and went down with him to the king.

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter through to learn the ailment of Ahaziah and Elijah's prophecy from God.
2. Ahaziah showed complete contempt for God and his prophet by sending soldiers to arrest Elijah. He apparently wanted to get a reversal of the prophecy against him (v4, 6) and resorted to massive force to secure it. "Man of God" means prophet. Elijah replied that he was indeed a servant of God. For this reason the king should have submitted to him. The issue in this thrice repeated confrontation was, who is in charge and has more power, Yahweh or Ahaziah? Fire from heaven settled the controversy. This was the last miracle of Elijah – calling down the fire to consume the soldiers. It was intended to demonstrate to Israel once again that they must hold God in awe.
3. Yet the God who is terrible in judgment is also merciful. The third captain took the proper humble approach to God's prophet (vv. 13-14). He begged for his life and lives of his soldiers and they were spared.
4. What is truly my heart toward God? Humility, arrogance, contempt, respect? How do I live out my heart at family and workplace? Do I rely on God's mercy and wisdom or use my position and authority to control others and further my own gain?

PRAYER: Stay with God for a few moments. Invite the Holy Spirit to shine into even the darkest part of my heart. Talk with Jesus about what was revealed about my heart: toward God, family, and colleagues at work.....

End this time with a prayer of confession and re-dedication to honour and respect God in all areas of my life.

**** (DTFFWC) ****

(A Children Bible may be used for easier understanding)

Read: vv1-2

Activity: Pretend you fell off a second story porch onto a concrete sidewalk and no one was nearby. What would you do? Let each person speak or act out a response. King Ahaziah prayed. But did he pray to the right god?



第二章

1 耶和華要用旋風接以利亞升天的時候，以利亞與以利沙從吉甲前往。 2 以利亞對以利沙說：「耶和華差我往伯特利去，你可以在這裡等候。」以利沙說：「我指著永生的耶和華，又敢在你面前起誓，我必不離開你。」於是二人下到伯特利。 3 住伯特利的先知門徒出來見以利沙，對他說：「耶和華今日要接你的師傅離開你，你知道不知道？」他說：「我知道，你們不要作聲。」 4 以利亞對以利沙說：「耶和華差遣我往耶利哥去，你可以在這裡等候。」以利沙說：「我指著永生的耶和華，又敢在你面前起誓，我必不離開你。」於是二人到了耶利哥。 5 住耶利哥的先知門徒就近以利沙，對他說：「耶和華今日要接你的師傅離開你，你知道不知道？」他說：「我知道，你們不要作聲。」 6 以利亞對以利沙說：「耶和華差遣我往約旦河去，你可以在這裡等候。」以利沙說：「我指著永生的耶和華，又敢在你面前起誓，我必不離開你。」於是二人一同前往。 7 有先知門徒去了五十人，遠遠地站在他們對面；二人在約旦河邊站住。 8 以利亞將自己的外衣捲起來，用以打水，水就左右分開，二人走乾地而過。 9 過去之後，以利亞對以利沙說：「我未曾被接去離開你，你要我為你做甚麼，只管求我。」以利沙說：「願感動你的靈加倍地感動我。」 10 以利亞說：「你所求的難得。雖然如此，我被接去離開你的時候，你若看見我，就必得著；不然，必得不著了。」 11 他們正走著說話，忽有火車火馬將二人隔開，以利亞就乘旋風升天去了。 12 以利沙看見，就呼叫說：「我父啊！我父啊！以色列的戰車馬兵啊！」以後不再見他了。於是以利沙把自己的衣服撕為兩片。

默想：

1. 最好將本章全部略讀一次，明白以利亞升天後，以利沙如何繼承他的衣鉢。
2. 本段經文描繪一個領袖和他的徒弟同行在最後旅程上的一幅畫，二人心知肚明以利亞即將離去，傳達神話語及看守神百姓的工作將要交棒給以利沙。
3. 若我是那位將來的領袖（以利沙），當周圍的人竊竊私語地談到以利亞即將離我而去，我會有何感受？我是否有一位“以利亞”與我同行，一同經歷神的信實？
4. 身為萬民堂的一位基督的門徒，我是否忠心地事奉神以及弟兄姐妹？當我服事時，有否刻意與我的“以利沙”同行？另外，我是否有一位以利亞與我同行？

禱告：

祈求神將一位弟兄姐妹的名字放在我心中，可能是神為我預備的以利亞，或是以利沙。為這位信徒禱告，求神此項機會與他/她建立學習、教導、分享、指點的同工關係。

Chapter 2

1 When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. 2 Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. 3 The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?" "Yes, I know," Elisha replied, "so be quiet." 4 Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho. 5 The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?" "Yes, I know," he replied, "so be quiet." 6 Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So the two of them walked on. 7 Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. 8 Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground. 9 When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?" "Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied. 10 "You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not." 11 As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. 12 Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!" And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two.

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter through to learn how Elisha began his ministry after the departure of Elijah.
2. This passage painted a beautiful picture between a current leader and his student as they walked their final journey together both knowing that Elijah will leave and pass on his work and God's people to Elisha.
3. Now imagine I am the future leader (Elisha). How would I feel as people around me keep repeating that Elijah is moving on? Do I have an "Elijah" whom I can walk with and experience God's faithfulness?
4. As a Christ-follower at PGC, do I serve brothers and sisters and God faithfully? Am I walking with my Elisha when I serve? Do I have an Elijah walking with me?

PRAYER:

Ask God to bring to mind one person that may be the Elijah or Elisha that God has prepared for me. Pray for that person and for the possibility of establishing such relationship in mentoring, teaching, learning and sharing.

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: v4

Discussion: Elisha made a vow to follow Elijah. He would never leave Elijah. Parents, talk with your children about the meaning of your marriage vows. If you are single parent, talk openly with your children about the importance of commitment and vows in your home.



第三章

4 摩押王米沙牧養許多羊，每年將十萬羊羔的毛和十萬公綿羊的毛給以色列王進貢。 5 亞哈死後，摩押王背叛以色列王。 6 那時約蘭王出撒馬利亞，數點以色列眾人。 7 前行的時候，差人去見猶大王約沙法，說：「摩押王背叛我，你肯同我去攻打摩押嗎？」他說：「我肯上去，你我不分彼此，我的民與你的民一樣，我的馬與你的馬一樣。」 8 約蘭說：「我們從哪條路上去呢？」回答說：「從以東曠野的路上去。」 9 於是，以色列王和猶大王，並以東王，都一同去繞行七日的路程；軍隊和所帶的牲畜沒有水喝。

14 以利沙說：「我指著所事奉永生的萬軍耶和華起誓，我若不看猶大王約沙法的情面，必不理你，不顧你。 15 現在你們給我找一個彈琴的來。」彈琴的時候，耶和華的靈【原文作手】就降在以利沙身上。 16 他便說：「耶和華如此說：『你們要在這谷中滿處挖溝； 17 因為耶和華如此說：你們雖不見風，不見雨，這谷必滿了水，使你們和牲畜有水喝。』 18 在耶和華眼中這還算為小事，他也必將摩押人交在你們手中。」

默想：

1. 最好將本章全部略讀一次，了解以利沙開始在分裂王國時期的事奉工作。
2. 約蘭王似乎為了摩押之戰作了充分的準備，是嗎？猶大王約沙法提醒他忽略了哪一項最重要的準備？
3. 在我每天生活中，我是否讓神參與在每個抉擇上？或是只有像約蘭王一樣，當遇到極大困難時才想到神？留意他對神的忽略帶來多大的後果。
4. 我是否養成這樣的習慣，求神在尚未採取任何行動前，先來鑑察我的內心，並我的計劃？我是否願意等候並遵從神對我的回應指示？我是否目前正在作一個重要的決定？是什麼？

禱告：

放鬆安靜在神面前幾分鐘，以下面這首詩作為神對我的說話，聆聽並思想：要安靜，並知道我是神。讓我來作我想做的一切。

放手，承認你的軟弱，我要作一件新事。

在我面前歡喜，在我愛中放鬆，放下你的計劃，接受從上而來的安靜，在這裡逗留一會，我要作一件新事。

將我目前的計劃擺在神面前，邀請聖靈幫助我，辨明在這個計劃中我的用意與計劃；並給我喜樂順服的心，來跟從神對這件事的旨意。

Chapter 3

4 Now Mesha king of Moab raised sheep, and he had to pay the king of Israel a tribute of a hundred thousand lambs and the wool of a hundred thousand rams. 5 But after Ahab died, the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel. 6 So at that time King Joram set out from Samaria and mobilized all Israel. 7 He also sent this message to Jehoshaphat king of Judah: "The king of Moab has rebelled against me. Will you go with me to fight against Moab?" "I will go with you," he replied. "I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses." 8 "By what route shall we attack?" he asked. "Through the Desert of Edom," he answered. 9 So the king of Israel set out with the king of Judah and the king of Edom. After a roundabout march of seven days, the army had no more water for themselves or for the animals with them.

14 Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD Almighty lives, whom I serve, if I did not have respect for the presence of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, I would not pay any attention to you. 15 But now bring me a harpist." While the harpist was playing, the hand of the LORD came on Elisha 16 and he said, "This is what the LORD says: I will fill this valley with pools of water. 17 For this is what the LORD says: You will see neither wind nor rain, yet this valley will be filled with water, and you, your cattle and your other animals will drink. 18 This is an easy thing in the eyes of the LORD; he will also deliver Moab into your hands."

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter through to learn how Elisha began his ministry in the period of the Divided Kingdoms.
2. It seemed King Joram made all arrangements for the battle against Moab, or did he? What was the most important thing that Joram neglected but reminded by King Jehoshaphat?
3. Do I involve God in everyday decision making? Or only when I encounter great difficulties like Joram? Notice how this omission cost him dearly.
4. Have I developed the habit of asking God to examine my heart and my plans prior to any commitment or plan? Am I willing to wait for and follow through God's response? Am I in the process of making an important decision now? What is it?

PRAYER: Relax and stay quiet before God for a few minutes. Sing or read the following hymn as God speaks to me:

Be still and know that I am God. Let Me come and do all I want to do.

Let go, be weak, give in, give up. And I will do something new.

Rejoice in My presence, relax in My love. Lay aside your agenda and receive from above.

Quiet yourself and remain here a while. And I will do something new.

Layout my plans before God, ask the Holy Spirit to help me discern my intention and action in this particular decision. Give me a cheerful and obedient heart to follow his will for this matter before me.

**** (DTFFWC) ****



Read: vv11-12

Prayer: Israel's kings had to find a prophet to know God's will. We have the Bible and we can pray directly to God. Pray a prayer of thanksgiving and praise that your family can seek God's will directly through prayer and Bible study.

第四章

20 僕人抱去，交給他母親；孩子坐在母親的膝上，到晌午就死了。 21 他母親抱他上了樓，將他放在神人的床上，關上門出來。……25 婦人就往迦密山去見神人。神人遠遠地看見她，對僕人基哈西說：「看哪，書念的婦人來了！」 26 你跑去迎接她，問她說：你平安嗎？你丈夫平安嗎？孩子平安嗎？」她說：「平安。」 27 婦人上了山，到神人那裡，就抱住神人的腳。基哈西前來要推開她，神人說：「由她吧！因為她心裡愁苦，耶和華向我隱瞞，沒有指示我。」 28 婦人說：「我何嘗向我主求過兒子呢？我豈沒有說過，不要欺哄我嗎？」 29 以利沙吩咐基哈西說：「你束上腰，手拿我的杖前去；若遇見人，不要向他問安；人若向你問安，也不要回答；要把我的杖放在孩子臉上。」 30 孩子的母親說：「我指著永生的耶和華，又敢在你面前起誓，我必不離開你。」於是以利沙起身，隨著她去了。……36 以利沙叫基哈西說：「你叫這書念婦人來」；於是叫了她來。以利沙說：「將你兒子抱起來。」 37 婦人就進來，在以利沙腳前俯伏於地，抱起她兒子出去了。

默想：

1. 若有時間，最好將本章全部略讀一次，了解書念婦人與以利沙的關係，如何獲得一子，以及病死、復生的整個情節。
2. 我是否曾經因為破碎的夢想與渴望而感覺苦毒？這位書念婦人必定很了解這種感受。當以利沙預言她將獲一個兒子時，她根本不敢承認自己有這個相望。而當獲得的兒子病死時，她似乎寧願自己從未有過兒子。
3. 留意以利沙與這個在恐懼、憂傷和悔恨中的婦人之間的交談互動。思考一下，當我在恐懼、憂傷和悔恨之中時，神與我有怎樣的互動？從以利沙的回應，能否看到神在這樣的情況中他的角色會是如何？他會有怎樣的感受？有怎樣的回應？
4. 若是我能全心相信神的話，並神知道我的一切，並如同以利沙關心書念婦人一樣的關心我，我的生命會怎樣的的不同？我的禱告會有什麼不同？生活會有何不同？

禱告：

省察一下我的內心，是否有什麼深藏的慾望，不敢交託給神的。為什麼呢？和神對話，告訴他我的猶豫及保留，並聆聽神的回應。

Chapter 4

20 After the servant had lifted him up and carried him to his mother, the boy sat on her lap until noon, and then he died. 21 She went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, then shut the door and went out.25 So she set out and came to the man of God at Mount Carmel. When he saw her in the distance, the man of God said to his servant Gehazi, "Look! There's the Shunammite! 26 Run to meet her and ask her, 'Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is your child all right?'" "Everything is all right," she said. 27 When she reached the man of God at the mountain, she took hold of his feet. Gehazi came over to push her away, but the man of God said, "Leave her alone! She is in bitter distress, but the LORD has hidden it from me and has not told me why." 28 "Did I ask you for a son, my lord?" she said. "Didn't I tell you, 'Don't raise my hopes?'" 29 Elisha said to Gehazi, "Tuck your cloak into your belt, take my staff in your hand and run. Don't greet anyone you meet, and if anyone greets you, do not answer. Lay my staff on the boy's face." 30 But the child's mother said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So he got up and followed her. 36 Elisha summoned Gehazi and said, "Call the Shunammite." And he did. When she came, he said, "Take your son." 37 She came in, fell at his feet and bowed to the ground. Then she took her son and went out.

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter through to learn the story of the Shunammite woman, her son's illness, death and how Elisha brought him back to life.
2. Have I ever felt the bitterness of shattered hopes and desires? This barren woman from Shunem knows it intimately. When the prophet Elisha first prophesied that she would have a son, she wouldn't even let on that she desired a son. Then when her son died, she seems to wish she'd never hoped at all.
3. Notice Elisha's responded to the woman in her fear, grief, and regret and their interaction. Take a moment to think about the interaction God would have with me when I am in fear, grief or regret? How would God respond in such situations? What might be God's feeling? His response?
4. What might my life look like if I were to take God at his word, believing that he knows all about me and cares for me as tenderly as Elisha cared for the Shunammite? How might I pray differently? Live differently?

PRAYER:

Explore my own heart to see if there are any deep desires that I am afraid to trust God with. Have a conversation with Jesus. Tell him my hesitation and reservation to trust him for my secret desires and wishes. Listen for God's response.

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv8-10

Activity: The Shunammite woman and her husband helped Elisha. Do your church staff members have needs? What are ways your family can help your church staff members? Plan to carry out your ideas.



第五章

1 亞蘭王的元帥乃縵在他主人面前為尊為大，因耶和華曾藉他使亞蘭人得勝；他又是大能的勇士，只是長了大麻瘋。 2 先前亞蘭人成群地出去，從以色列國擄了一個小女子，這女子就服事乃縵的妻。 3 她對主母說：「巴不得我主人去見撒馬利亞的先知，必能治好他的大麻瘋。」 4 乃縵進去，告訴他主人說，以色列國的女子如此如此說。 5 亞蘭王說：「你可以去，我也達信於以色列王。」於是乃縵帶銀子十他連得，金子六千舍客勒，衣裳十套，就去了； 6 且帶信給以色列王，信上說：「我打發臣僕乃縵去見你，你接到這信，就要治好他的大麻瘋。」 7 以色列王看了信就撕裂衣服，說：「我豈是神，能使人死使人活呢？這人竟打發人來，叫我治好他的大麻瘋。你們看一看，這人何以尋隙攻擊我呢？」 8 神人以利沙聽見以色列王撕裂衣服，就打發人去見王，說：「你為甚麼撕了衣服呢？可使那人到我這裡來，他就知道以色列中有先知了。」 9 於是，乃縵帶著車馬到了以利沙的家，站在門前。 10 以利沙打發一個使者，對乃縵說：「你去在約旦河中沐浴七回，你的肉就必復原，而得潔淨。」 11 乃縵卻發怒走了，說：「我想他必定出來見我，站著求告耶和華——他神的名，在患處以上搖手，治好這大麻瘋。 12 大馬士革的河亞罷拿和法理法豈不比以色列的一切水更好嗎？我在那裡沐浴不得潔淨嗎？」於是氣忿忿地轉身去了。 13 他的僕人進前來，對他說：「我父啊，先知若吩咐你做一件大事，你豈不做嗎？何況說你去沐浴而得潔淨呢？」 14 於是乃縵下去，照著神人的話，在約旦河裡沐浴七回；他的肉復原，好像小孩子的肉，他就潔淨了。

默想：

1. 若有時間，最好將本章全部略讀一次，有關乃縵尋醫的經過，以及後續節外生枝的故事。
2. 乃縵將軍尋醫的旅程，是先去徵詢以色列王，然後被指引去到先知以利沙那裡。但是以利沙的傲慢態度及簡單指示，讓乃縵覺得受到冒犯、被人玩弄。因此他幾乎揮袖而去，不接受以利沙的指示。但是他的僕人誠懇且有智慧地勸說，使得乃縵謙卑地遵從以利沙的吩咐、依賴神的能力，最後果然獲得完全的康復。
3. 根據乃縵的故事，要得到醫治與拯救，我自己需要採取的重要的第一步驟是什麼？
4. 我曾否得到過神的醫治，無論是肉體的，感情的，財務的……？我在那方面與乃縵很相似——自滿，不信，驕傲？究竟是什麼？

禱告：

為神奇妙的醫治大能，及在我生命中的醫治而感謝神。祈求神指出我仍然缺乏謙卑來信靠神的地方，幫助我全心的順服神的旨意。

Chapter 5

1 Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy. 2 Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. 3 She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." 4 Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. 5 "By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. 6 The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy." 7 As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!" 8 When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." 9 So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. 10 Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed." 11 But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage. 13 Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'" 14 So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter through Naaman's story and the aftermath.
2. Naaman's journey for healing took him first to the king of Israel. Then he was brought to Elisha whose blunt and simple instructions offended Naaman. As a result, he quickly dismissed Elisha's instructions. But his servants persuaded him which led to his humble submission and reliance to God.
3. Often the first step to healing and redemption is practicing humility.
4. Have I ever been healed by God physically, emotionally, financially.....? In what way am I similar to Naaman, self-sufficient, disbelieving, and prideful? What is it specifically?

PRAYER:

Thank God for his wonderful healing power and his healing in my life in the past. Ask God to show me areas that I still lack humility to trust and obey him. And help me to submit wholeheartedly.



**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv13-14

Worship: As a family, sing a hymn of joy for God's healing power. Worship God and praise him for the miracles of everyday life. Close by singing, "Thank you, God."

第六章

24 此後，亞蘭王便哈達聚集他的全軍，上來圍困撒馬利亞。 25 於是撒馬利亞被圍困，有饑荒，甚至一個驢頭值銀八十舍客勒，二升鴿子糞值銀五舍客勒。 26 一日，以色列王在城上經過，有一個婦人向他呼叫說：「我主，我王啊！求你幫助。」 27 王說：「耶和華不幫助你，我從何處幫助你？是從禾場，是從酒醱呢？」 28 王問婦人說：「你有甚麼苦處？」她回答說：「這婦人對我說：『將你的兒子取來，我們今日可以吃，明日可以吃我的兒子。』 29 我們就煮了我的兒子吃了。次日我對她說：『要將你的兒子取來，我們可以吃。』她卻將她的兒子藏起來了。 30 王聽見婦人的話，就撕裂衣服；（王在城上經過）百姓看見王貼身穿著麻衣。 31 王說：「我今日若容沙法的兒子以利沙的頭仍在他項上，願 神重重地降罰與我！」 32 那時，以利沙正坐在家中，長老也與他同坐。王打發一個伺候他的人去；他還沒有到，以利沙對長老說：「你們看這兇手之子，打發人來斬我的頭；你們看著使者來到，就關上門，用門將他推出去。在他後頭不是有他主人腳步的響聲嗎？」 33 正說話的時候，使者來到，王也到了，說：「這災禍是從耶和華那裡來的，我何必再仰望耶和華呢？」

默想：

1. 若有時間，最好將本章全部略讀一次，有關先知以利沙的事奉。
2. 以色列王的惡行與政策，使得百姓身陷苦難當中。撒瑪利亞京城又遭亞蘭軍隊圍困，全城遭遇飢荒，民不聊生，甚至到了易子而食的地步。約蘭王在極度無助的情況下，怨尤先知，反面地承認神的超越性與偉大能力（27節）。穿上麻衣一般是代表悔改之意，但是此處以色列王的悔改卻是形式化與表面的（30節）。
3. 易子而食的慘況，未能使以色列王謙卑降服，卻是他非常憤怒！他責怪神不接納他“不心甘情願”的悔改來拯救他們，更加向神揮拳道：“這災禍是從耶和華那裡來的，我何必再仰望耶和華呢？”約蘭王的意思是說，“我該做的都做了，神啊，現在你為什麼還按兵不動呢？”
4. 約蘭王有的是悔改的外表表現（身穿麻衣），卻沒有真正的悔改，那是內心在神面前謙卑敬拜的實質。
5. 有沒有可能我所遭遇的苦難，事實上，是神慈愛的呼召，要我回轉悔改，歸回神那裡去得到醫治與拯救？是否我對神的憤怒，提醒我應當省察我個人與神的關係如何？

禱告：

以這段經文與神對話，將我的情況放在經文當中，向神詢問，也留些時間聆聽神對我的回應。並以整段經文，特別是最後一句，作為我對神的回覆以及委身。”我對保護我的上帝說：你為甚麼忘了我？我為甚麼得遭受仇敵的迫害？為甚麼不斷受苦？我為甚麼這樣悲傷？我為甚麼這樣沮喪？我要仰望上帝，還要再頌讚他；他是拯救我的上帝。”（詩42：9，11）

Chapter 6

24 Some time later, Ben-Hadad king of Aram mobilized his entire army and marched up and laid siege to Samaria. 25 There was a great famine in the city; the siege lasted so long that a donkey's head sold for eighty shekels of silver, and a quarter of a cab of seed pods for five shekels. 26 As the king of Israel was passing by on the wall, a woman cried to him, "Help me, my lord the king!" 27 The king replied, "If the LORD does not help you, where can I get help for you? From the threshing floor? From the winepress?" 28 Then he asked her, "What's the matter?" She answered, "This woman said to me, 'Give up your son so we may eat him today, and tomorrow we'll eat my son.' 29 So we cooked my son and ate him. The next day I said to her, 'Give up your son so we may eat him,' but she had hidden him." 30 When the king heard the woman's words, he tore his robes. As he went along the wall, the people looked, and they saw that, under his robes, he had sackcloth on his body. 31 He said, "May God deal with me, be it ever so severely, if the head of Elisha son of Shaphat remains on his shoulders today!" 32 Now Elisha was sitting in his house, and the elders were sitting with him. The king sent a messenger ahead, but before he arrived, Elisha said to the elders, "Don't you see how this murderer is sending someone to cut off my head? Look, when the messenger comes, shut the door and hold it shut against him. Is not the sound of his master's footsteps behind him?" 33 While he was still talking to them, the messenger came down to him. The king said, "This disaster is from the LORD. Why should I wait for the LORD any longer?"

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter about some of Elisha's ministries.
2. The evil deeds and policies of the king have led to intense suffering for the people. After a lengthy siege, Samaria was brought to the verge of starvation. Jehoram acknowledged God's superiority over him (v. 27). The sackcloth Jehoram wore represented repentance, but that repentance was very superficial (30).
3. Even the horror of cannibalism did not humble Jehoram, but made him angry! Jehoram blamed God for not accepting his grudging confession. In complaining, "Why should I wait on the Lord any longer?" Jehoram was saying "I've pushed the right buttons, God. Now, why haven't you started working?"
4. Jehoram had the outward display of repentance (wearing sackcloth) without true repentance which is the inner commitment to humble himself before the Lord.
5. Could misfortune and suffering, in fact be God's loving call for me to return to him in repentance or for healing and redemption? Could my anger toward God be a signal that I need to check my personal relationship with him?

PRAYER:

Use the following passage to converse with God. Ask God these tough questions and leave some time and space to listen to God's response. Then use the passage, especially the last sentence, as my response prayer to God to re-commit myself to him and his will.

"I say to God my Rock, 'Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?' Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God." (Ps 42:9,11)

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv16-17

Prayer: Elisha prayed for the servant, and God answered his prayer. As a family, pray for family, friends, and neighbors according to their needs. Ask God to let them become aware of God's help present with them.



第七章

3 在城門那裡有四個長大痲瘋的人，他們彼此說：「我們為何坐在這裡等死呢？」 4 我們若說，進城去吧！城裡有饑荒，必死在那裡；若在這裡坐著不動，也必是死。來吧，我們去投降亞蘭人的軍隊，他們若留我們的活命，就活著；若殺我們，就死了吧！」 5 黃昏的時候，他們起來往亞蘭人的營盤去；到了營邊，不見一人在那裡。 6 因為主使亞蘭人的軍隊聽見車馬的聲音，是大軍的聲音；他們就彼此說：「這必是以色列王賄買赫人的諸王和埃及人的諸王來攻擊我們。」 7 所以，在黃昏的時候他們起來逃跑，撇下帳棚、馬、驢，營盤照舊，只顧逃命。 8 那些長大痲瘋的到了營邊，進了帳棚，吃了喝了，且從其中拿出金銀和衣服來，去收藏了；回來又進了一座帳棚，從其中拿出財物來去收藏了。 9 那時，他們彼此說：「我們所做的不好！今日是有好信息的日子，我們竟不作聲！若等到天亮，罪必臨到我們。來吧，我們與王家報信去！」 10 他們就去叫守城門的，告訴他們說：「我們到了亞蘭人的營，不見一人在那裡，也無人聲，只有拴著的馬和驢，帳棚都照舊。」 11 守城門的叫了眾守門的人來，他們就進去與王家報信。

默想：

1. 若有時間，最好將本章全部略讀一次，有關神藉以利沙拯救瀕臨滅亡的北國。
2. 這四個長大痲瘋的，受社會的排斥的人，正想要去投奔敵人（4節），居然發現亞蘭軍隊已經逃離軍營，留下所有的供應：食物、牲畜、甚至財寶。在填飽了肚子後，他們決定這個大好的消息不能不告訴其他瀕臨死亡的男男女女，他們原先以為必死無疑的，現在竟然得到生機了。這是個正確的決定，因為他們將這個福音傳開，整個城的百姓得到拯救，解決了將亡的局勢。
3. 我身為基督的門徒，是否像這些長大痲瘋的人，也曾經是污穢、不配的；但是神賜給我得救的恩典，及生命的福氣。現在我步履 跚地開始向人分享我的信仰，卻發現，原來神早就已經在那些人的心中開始他的工作。那位餵飽了全城、獨行奇事的神，今天仍然施行奇事，將剛硬的心轉向他自己。

禱告：

祈求神將一位極需耶穌福音的“城裡”人放在我心中，為他禱告，求神賜我智慧、勇氣、以及適當的機會，與神同工，大膽地向他傳講神的好消息。

Chapter 7

3 Now there were four men with leprosy at the entrance of the city gate. They said to each other, "Why stay here until we die? 4 If we say, 'We'll go into the city'—the famine is there, and we will die. And if we stay here, we will die. So let's go over to the camp of the Arameans and surrender. If they spare us, we live; if they kill us, then we die." 5 At dusk they got up and went to the camp of the Arameans. When they reached the edge of the camp, no one was there, 6 for the Lord had caused the Arameans to hear the sound of chariots and horses and a great army, so that they said to one another, "Look, the king of Israel has hired the Hittite and Egyptian kings to attack us!" 7 So they got up and fled in the dusk and abandoned their tents and their horses and donkeys. They left the camp as it was and ran for their lives. 8 The men who had leprosy reached the edge of the camp, entered one of the tents and ate and drank. Then they took silver, gold and clothes, and went off and hid them. They returned and entered another tent and took some things from it and hid them also. 9 Then they said to each other, "What we're doing is not right. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves. If we wait until daylight, punishment will overtake us. Let's go at once and report this to the royal palace." 10 So they went and called out to the city gatekeepers and told them, "We went into the Aramean camp and no one was there—not a sound of anyone—only tethered horses and donkeys, and the tents left just as they were." 11 The gatekeepers shouted the news, and it was reported within the palace.

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter to learn how God saved the whole city through Elisha.
2. The four lepers, outcasts of their own society and deserters to their enemy (v4), discovered that the Arameans have fled their camp, leaving all their supplies: food, livestock, and even treasures. After having satisfied their own needs, they decided that the good news, that impending death has given way to the prospect of life, is too good to be kept from dying men and women. They made the right choice to spread the good news so entire city were saved and relieved of the dire situation.
3. As a follower of Christ, I am like the leper who was unclean and unworthy. Yet, God has given me the gift of salvation and his blessings in my life. Now, as I take my first hesitant steps toward sharing my faith, God will already be at work in the hearts of those I approach. The God who did the impossible and fed a starving city still does the impossible, turning hard hearts to himself today.

PRAYER:

Ask God to place in my heart someone "in the city" who desperately needs the good news of Jesus. Pray for him/her. Ask for wisdom, courage and opportunity to partner with God and to share with them my story of life with Jesus.



**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv19-20

Discussion: The officer did not benefit from God's promises because he refused to believe in God. Talk about the meaning of faith in each person's life. Then, pray for family, friends who do not believe in God.

第八章

16 以色列王亞哈的兒子約蘭第五年，猶大王約沙法還在位的時候，約沙法的兒子約蘭登基作了猶大王。 17 約蘭登基的時候年三十二歲，在耶路撒冷作王八年。 18 他行以色列諸王所行的，與亞哈家一樣；因為他娶了亞哈的女兒為妻，行耶和華眼中看為惡的事。 19 耶和華卻因他僕人大衛的緣故，仍不肯滅絕猶大，照他所應許大衛的話，永遠賜燈光與他的子孫。

默想：

1. 若有時間，最好將本章全部略讀一次，有關以利沙的神蹟事奉，他的哀哭等。
2. 經文中如何形容猶大的約蘭王？他娶了亞哈的女兒為妻，這對他可能會有什麼影響？我是否留意與我親近的人，對我會有怎樣的影響？
3. 約蘭王的父親約沙法與祖父亞撒都是“行耶和華眼中看為正的事”，為何他不跟隨父輩的榜樣？這與他娶了亞哈的女兒為妻是否有關？約沙法是否要負一部分的責任？或是約蘭自己應付全責？對於身為父母的，我們是否意識到，我們的行為與態度，對於兒女走上信仰的旅程有很大的影響？
4. 19節經文說到神是怎樣的一位神？這在我沮喪與失望之中，如何給我鼓勵與希望？

默想：

親愛的主，求你幫助我在凡事上選擇敬畏你、順從你。求你赦免我經常所犯的罪過，並在面臨試探時，拯救我脫離罪網。

Chapter 8

16 In the fifth year of Joram son of Ahab king of Israel, when Jehoshaphat was king of Judah, Jehoram son of Jehoshaphat began his reign as king of Judah. 17 He was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years. 18 He followed the ways of the kings of Israel, as the house of Ahab had done, for he married a daughter of Ahab. He did evil in the eyes of the LORD. 19 Nevertheless, for the sake of his servant David, the LORD was not willing to destroy Judah. He had promised to maintain a lamp for David and his descendants forever.

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter on more of Elisha's ministries and his cry.
2. How does the Scripture describe Jehoram King of Judah? How might his marriage to Ahab's daughter influence him? Am I aware of those I call friends and close associates and their influences on me?
3. How Jehoram "turned out" is quite surprising, considering Jehoram's father Jehoshaphat and Jehoram's grandfather both did "what was right in the eyes of the Lord". It appears things started to change when Jehoshaphat formed an alliance with Ahab, which may have contributed to Jehoram marrying Ahab's daughter. Was Jehoshaphat partly responsible for Jehoram's evil? Or was it all Jehoram's fault? For those who are parents, are we aware of how our actions and attitudes affect our children as they embark on the journey of faith?
4. What does verse 19 tell me about God? How does that give me encouragement and hope in the midst of despair and disappointment?

PRAYER:

Oh Lord, help me to choose to honour you and obey you. Forgive me for the many terrible mistakes I made and deliver me from temptations.

**** (DTFFWC) ****



Read: vv19

Worship: God proved patient and faithful for Judah even when they were not faithful. As a family, sing hymns and praise God for his faithfulness. Prayerfully reflect on God's faithfulness to your family. Sing, "God will take care of you."

第九章

11 耶戶出來，回到他主人的臣僕那裡，有一人問他說：「平安麼？這狂妄的人來見你有甚麼事呢？」回答說：「你們認得那人，也知道他說甚麼。」

17 有一個守望的人站在耶斯列的樓上，看見耶戶帶著一群人來，就說：「我看見一群人。」約蘭說：「打發一個騎馬的去迎接他們，問說：平安不平安？」18 騎馬的就去迎接耶戶，說：「王問說，平安不平安？」耶戶說：「平安不平安與你何干？你轉在我後頭吧！」守望的人又說：「使者到了他們那裡，卻不回來。」19 王又打發一個騎馬的去。這人到了他們那裡，說：「王問說，平安不平安？」耶戶說：「平安不平安與你何干？你轉在我後頭吧！」

22 約蘭見耶戶就說：「耶戶啊，平安嗎？」耶戶說：「你母親耶洗別的淫行邪術這樣多，焉能平安呢？」

31 耶戶進門的時候，耶洗別說：「殺主人的心利啊，平安嗎？」

默想：

1. 最好將本章全部略讀一次，有關耶戶登基後的行徑。
2. 「你母親耶洗別的淫行邪術這樣多，焉能平安呢？」（22節）這就是神對北國的控訴：不公義，以及拜假神。耶戶所作的是在警告以色列人，國中若有不公義及拜假神，就不可能會有真平安。
3. 本章與下一章說到神對亞哈及耶洗別家族的審判。此時神的審判來到，但耶洗別與約蘭仍然在尋找平安穩妥，卻無處可尋。耶穌來到世上，為我們帶來平安，使我們與父神和好；但是當他再來時，將帶來神的公義和審判。
4. “使人和睦的人有福了！因為他們必稱為神的兒子。”（太5：9）我是使人和睦的人嗎？我是否致力將人帶到神面前，使他們能與神和好？

禱告：

主耶穌，求你幫助我成為一個真正的和平者，帶領我周圍的人與你好，認識你，愛你。

Chapter 9

11 When Jehu went out to his fellow officers, one of them asked him, "Is everything all right? Why did this maniac come to you?" You know the man and the sort of things he says," Jehu replied.

17 When the lookout standing on the tower in Jezreel saw Jehu's troops approaching, he called out, "I see some troops coming." "Get a horseman," Joram ordered. "Send him to meet them and ask, 'Do you come in peace?'" 18 The horseman rode off to meet Jehu and said, "This is what the king says: 'Do you come in peace?'" "What do you have to do with peace?" Jehu replied. "Fall in behind me." The lookout reported, "The messenger has reached them, but he isn't coming back." 19 So the king sent out a second horseman. When he came to them he said, "This is what the king says: 'Do you come in peace?'"

22 When Joram saw Jehu he asked, "Have you come in peace, Jehu?" "How can there be peace," Jehu replied, "as long as all the idolatry and witchcraft of your mother Jezebel abound?"

31 As Jehu entered the gate, she asked, "Have you come in peace, you Zimri, you murderer of your master?"

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter on Jehu.
2. "How can there be peace as long as all the idolatry and witchcraft of your mother Jezebel abound?"(v22)? This verse lays out God's issues with the Northern Kingdom: injustice and worship of false gods. Jehu's actions serve as warning that there can be no true peace where there is injustice and idol worship.
3. This chapter and next summarized God's judgment and punishment against the family of Ahab and Jezebel. At the time of judgment, Jezebel and Joram were looking for peace, but peace could not be found. Jesus came to bring peace to this world so men and God can be reconciled. However, the second coming of Christ also represents God's judgment and righteousness.
4. Matt 5:9: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God." As a child of God, am I a peacemaker striving to bring people to reconcile with God?

PRAYER:

Jesus, help me to be a true peacemaker and bring people around me to be reconciled with you, to know and love you.

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv22

Activity: God used human warfare to punish disobedient rulers. Write letters expressing your concern for peace to your Member of Parliament in your area.



第十章

25 耶戶獻完了燔祭，就出來吩咐護衛兵和眾軍長說：「你們進去殺他們，不容一人出來！」護衛兵和軍長就用刀殺他們，將屍首拋出去，便到巴力廟的城去了，26 將巴力廟中的柱像都拿出來燒了；27 毀壞了巴力柱像，拆毀了巴力廟作為廁所，直到今日。28 這樣，耶戶在以色列中滅了巴力。29 只是耶戶不離開尼八的兒子耶羅波安使以色列人陷在罪裡的那罪，就是拜伯特利和但的金牛犢。30 耶和華對耶戶說：「因你辦好我眼中看為正的事，照我的心意待亞哈家，你的子孫必接續你坐以色列的國位，直到四代。」31 只是耶戶不盡心遵守耶和華以色列神的律法，不離開耶羅波安使以色列人陷在罪裡的那罪。

默想：

1. 最好將本章全部略讀一次，有關耶戶除滅國內對巴力的崇拜。
2. 聖經中很仔細地將耶戶為耶和華所作的事，包括毀滅巴力的廟、巴力眾先知和一切拜巴力的人，並巴力的眾祭司，以及亞哈的中子孫。為這些，巴力得到神的讚許。
3. 但是這個血腥的肅清卻留下許多問題：神預言的審判確是由耶戶以政治手腕實現了；但在他為神施行刑罰之際，自己卻落入徇私、殘暴，並更加陷入同樣的罪惡當中。
4. 耶戶忙碌地殺戮亞哈家族，毀滅任何與巴力有關的人，而他自己卻“不盡心遵守耶和華以色列神的律法”。是否可能耶戶在忙於各項“事工”，卻沒有謹慎遵守神的律法？我又怎樣，是否也是忙碌地作神的事工，但生活見證卻與神的旨意相違？

禱告：

用幾分鐘來審視我的生命；可能我為主非常地忙碌，作了很多好事。但，我是否花時間親近神，聆聽神的話？等候神的回應，在這一天中，常常回到這個問題上，繼續與神交談。

Chapter 10

25 As soon as Jehu had finished making the burnt offering, he ordered the guards and officers: "Go in and kill them; let no one escape." So they cut them down with the sword. The guards and officers threw the bodies out and then entered the inner shrine of the temple of Baal. 26 They brought the sacred stone out of the temple of Baal and burned it. 27 They demolished the sacred stone of Baal and tore down the temple of Baal, and people have used it for a latrine to this day. 28 So Jehu destroyed Baal worship in Israel. 29 However, he did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit—the worship of the golden calves at Bethel and Dan. 30 The LORD said to Jehu, "Because you have done well in accomplishing what is right in my eyes and have done to the house of Ahab all I had in mind to do, your descendants will sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation." 31 Yet Jehu was not careful to keep the law of the LORD, the God of Israel, with all his heart. He did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam, which he had caused Israel to commit.

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter on how Jehu destroyed Baal worship.
2. In the passage, the Bible carefully recorded that Jehu did for God including destroying Baal and its worshippers and Ahab's decedents in Israel. For that God has commanded Jehu.
3. But the bloody purge leaves questions. Indeed God's prophecy was fulfilled politically by Jehu. However, Jehu also used it for self-interest, savagery, and then he repeated the same sin that he has been destroyed.
4. Jehu was busy removing Ahab's family from power, destroying anyone who has association with Ahab and Baal. And yet, he was "not careful to keep the law of the Lord, the God of Israel, with all his heart". Is it possible that Jehu, who was so busy doing all kinds of "ministry", was not keeping the law of the Lord? What about me? Could I also be busy doing many ministries but living a life contrary to God's will?

PRAYER:

Spend a few minutes to reflect on my life. Perhaps I am very busy in God's ministry and doing a lot of good things for God. But, do I spend time with God and listen to God's word? Wait for God's response. During the day, come back and continue this conversation with God.

**** (DTFFWC) ****



Read: vv30-31

Prayer: Jehu obeyed God as he gained power; but as he ruled, he did not keep the law of the Lord. Ask God to bless your family as you seek to follow God's plan for your family. Commit yourselves to be faithful to him throughout life's ups and downs.

第十一章

17 耶何耶大使王和民與耶和華立約，作耶和華的民；又使王與民立約。
18 於是國民都到巴力廟，拆毀了廟，打碎壇和像，又在壇前將巴力的祭司瑪坦殺了。祭司耶何耶大派官看守耶和華的殿，
19 又率領百夫長和迦利人【或作親兵】與護衛兵，以及國中的眾民，請王從耶和華殿下來，由護衛兵的門進入王宮，他就坐了王位。
20 國民都歡樂，閭城都安靜。眾人已將亞她利雅在王宮那裡用刀殺了。
21 約阿施登基的時候年方七歲。

默想：

1. 最好將本章全部略讀一次，有關耶何耶大如何在亞她利雅的獨權下，為猶大國保留大衛的後裔。
2. 亞她利雅剿滅王室，篡位登上王位。但是約阿施獲約示巴拯救，被藏在聖殿中六年之久。這段時期，耶何耶大必定將神的律法教導給約阿施，約阿施以後成為猶大國中少數的賢王之一。
3. 我覺得耶何耶大有什麼值得我敬佩的？有什麼我不喜歡的？
4. 我是否喜歡作一個像耶何耶大這樣的教師、或領袖？所謂教師就是任何人可以從他有所學習，所謂領袖就是有其他人跟隨的人。就是在我們一般的朋友關係中，有時候可能在不自覺的當中，其中一位可能就是教師，另一位是向他學習的學生。

禱告：

為那些尊重我，不論好壞都向我學習的人禱告；這樣來看，我就是他們的教師，與領袖。問神要我接觸什麼人，去教導、帶領他；或是求問神，我當將什麼傳遞給他。

Chapter 11

17 Jehoiada then made a covenant between the LORD and the king and people that they would be the LORD's people. He also made a covenant between the king and the people. 18 All the people of the land went to the temple of Baal and tore it down. They smashed the altars and idols to pieces and killed Mattan the priest of Baal in front of the altars. Then Jehoiada the priest posted guards at the temple of the LORD. 19 He took with him the commanders of hundreds, the Carites, the guards and all the people of the land, and together they brought the king down from the temple of the LORD and went into the palace, entering by way of the gate of the guards. The king then took his place on the royal throne. 20 All the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was calm, because Athaliah had been slain with the sword at the palace. 21 Joash was seven years old when he began to reign.

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter to find out how Jehoiada preserved David's descendant from the mass murder of Athaliah and brought Joash to the throne.
2. Athaliah ruled over Judah for seven years after brutally murdering the royal family including her grandsons except Joash. He was rescued and hid in the temple. During that time, Jehoiada must have taken time to instruct Joash of God's law. Joash became one of the few good kings of Judah.
3. What about Jehoiada do I most admire or dislike?
4. How would I like, or not like, to resemble Jehoiada as a teacher and leader? Think of a teacher as anyone from whom others learn, and think of a leader as anyone who finds others following him or her. Even in friendships, sometimes one friend is the teacher and the other is the student, although they may not realize it.

PRAYER:

Pray for people who look up to me – either for good or bad. In that case, I am their teacher and leader. Ask God who he is asking me to reach out to as an informal teacher or leader. Or I may want to simply pray about what I pass on to others.

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv17-21

Prayer: As a family, list all the Sunday School teachers at your church. Spend time to thank God for each of the teachers. If you know any particular need of a teacher, pray for that too.



第十二章

1 耶戶第七年，約阿施登基，在耶路撒冷作王四十年。他母親名叫西比亞，是別是巴人。 2 約阿施在祭司耶何耶大教訓他的時候，就行耶和華眼中看為正的事； 3 只是邱壇還沒有廢去，百姓仍在那裡獻祭燒香。 4 約阿施對眾祭司說：「凡奉到耶和華殿分別為聖之物所值通用的銀子，或各人當納的身價，或樂意奉到耶和華殿的銀子， 5 你們當從所認識的人收了來，修理殿的一切破壞之處。」

默想：

1. 最好將本章全部略讀一次，有關約阿施宗教改革的實質。
2. “約阿施在祭司耶何耶大教訓他的時候，就行耶和華眼中看為正的事”（2節）。在耶何耶大的指導下，約阿施修葺聖殿，恢復敬拜。以色列人應當在神特定的地方，由祭司領導來獻祭敬拜；百姓繼續在邱壇以異教的方式獻祭燒香，而約阿施並沒有作出任何的干涉。當祭司耶何耶大去世後，約阿施就悖逆了神。歷代志下24章告訴我們，約阿施在眾首領的慫恿下，也轉去拜迦南的偶像。後來因為耶何耶大的兒子撒迦利亞責備約阿施及眾人背棄耶和華，約阿施甚至下令殺死他的救命恩人的兒子。
3. 約阿施的改革出了什麼問題？為什麼會在耶何耶大去世後就逐漸瓦解？以後亞蘭人的武力威脅，以及約阿施遭暗殺的事件，與以色列人膚淺的復興運動有什麼關係沒有？
4. 我對神的信心與委身有多真誠？我受到多少社會與其來自世界的文化潮流的影響？神的轉化生命的能力在我每天的生活中是否明顯易見？

禱告：

主啊，我的思想、態度、行為、舉止，很多時候都與你的旨意相違，受到世界的影響。求你保守我的心，使我堅定在你的話語上，拒絕向世界妥協。

Chapter 12

1 In the seventh year of Jehu, Joash became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem forty years. His mother's name was Zibiah; she was from Beersheba. 2 Joash did what was right in the eyes of the LORD all the years Jehoiada the priest instructed him. 3 The high places, however, were not removed; the people continued to offer sacrifices and burn incense there. 4 Joash said to the priests, "Collect all the money that is brought as sacred offerings to the temple of the LORD—the money collected in the census, the money received from personal vows and the money brought voluntarily to the temple. 5 Let every priest receive the money from one of the treasurers, then use it to repair whatever damage is found in the temple."

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter to learn the essence of Joash's religious renewal.
2. Joash served God until the priest Jehoiada died. Under Jehoiada's tutelage Joash repaired the temple and reinstated worship there. The Israelites were supposed to offer sacrifices to God only in designated areas under supervision of the priests. However, Joash didn't interfere with the people's continued worship and making sacrifices on the hilltops (high places) after pagan worship customs and practices. After the death of the priest, the king abandoned God. 2 Chron 24 tells us that King Joash himself turned to Canaanite practices, and even ordered the death of a son of his old mentor Jehoiada who rebuked him.
3. What's wrong with Joash's renewal? Why would it gradually collapsed after Jehoiada's death? What do the new threat of Arameans and assassination of Joash have anything to do with the superficiality of the renewal movement in Joash's reign?
4. How sincere is my devotion to God? How much have I been influenced by the society and its worldly culture? Is the transforming power of God apparent in my daily life?

PRAYER:

Lord, often my thought, attitude, action and behavior are contrary to your will and influenced by the world. Please keep my heart to be firmly grounded in your word and not to compromise with the world.

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv1-2

Activity: Jehoiada was Joash's teacher. List all the names of teachers for everyone of your family. Talk about the important roles teachers play in the life of your family. Pray for your teachers.



第十三章

1 猶大王亞哈謝的兒子約阿施二十三年，耶戶的兒子約哈斯在撒馬利亞登基作以色列王十七年。 2 約哈斯行耶和華眼中看為惡的事，效法尼八的兒子耶羅波安使以色列人陷在罪裡的那罪，總不離開。 3 於是，耶和華的怒氣向以色列人發作，將他們屢次交在亞蘭王哈薛和他兒子便哈達的手裡。 4 約哈斯懇求耶和華，耶和華就應允他，因為見以色列人所受亞蘭王的欺壓。 5 耶和華賜給以色列人一位拯救者，使他們脫離亞蘭人的手；於是以色列人仍舊安居在家裡。 6 然而他們不離開耶羅波安家使以色列人陷在罪裡的那罪，仍然去行，並且在撒馬利亞留下亞舍拉。

默想：

1. 有時間最好將本章全部略讀一次，有關北國的王以及以利沙的臨終事蹟。
2. 這個公式看起來是否很熟悉：“行惡 受壓迫 懇求 拯救”？這幾節經文中包含了這個環節，在士師記中反覆出現。第5節的“拯救者”是指一個神所呼召且受裝備為要將神的百姓從危險及壓迫中拯救出來的人。
3. 我們從大衛的身上看見真心悔過的榜樣，神對這樣悔改的人，以恩慈和祝福來回應。但是若悔改只是膚淺表面的，拒絕全身心的回轉歸向神，會帶來嚴重的後果，導致以色列最終的滅亡。
4. 這樣的結果僅僅發生在聖經時代嗎？或是這是人類的真實寫照？我有沒有什麼重複犯的罪過？這個很難克服的罪是什麼？

禱告：

將這個難克服的罪交給神，並禱告：

主啊，憐憫我，我犯了_____罪，得罪了你。
求你幫助我勝過我總想回去舊我的傾向。
主啊，感謝你雖然我有軟弱，你仍然賜福給我。

Chapter 13

1 In the twenty-third year of Joash son of Ahaziah king of Judah, Jehoahaz son of Jehu became king of Israel in Samaria, and he reigned seventeen years. 2 He did evil in the eyes of the LORD by following the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit, and he did not turn away from them. 3 So the LORD's anger burned against Israel, and for a long time he kept them under the power of Hazael king of Aram and Ben-Hadad his son. 4 Then Jehoahaz sought the LORD's favor, and the LORD listened to him, for he saw how severely the king of Aram was oppressing Israel. 5 The LORD provided a deliverer for Israel, and they escaped from the power of Aram. So the Israelites lived in their own homes as they had before. 6 But they did not turn away from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, which he had caused Israel to commit; they continued in them. Also, the Asherah pole remained standing in Samaria.

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, please read the whole chapter about the kings of northern kingdom and the last happenings of Elisha.
2. Do I find this pattern of “blessings→ sins→ judgment→ repentance→ deliverance→ sins” familiar? We saw that in the book of Judges. The term “deliverer”(v5) refers to the person whom God calls and equips to deliver God's people from danger and oppression.
3. We have seen examples of genuine repentance from sin (i.e. David). We saw God responded to such repentance with mercy and overflowing blessings. But the cycle of shallow and superficial repentance which resists a wholehearted turnaround, has such a serious effect that led to the ultimate destruction of Israel.
4. Do we only see the repeated pattern in Biblical times or is this a portrayal of human condition? Do I have any recurring sin that also falls in this pattern? What is this particular sin that I often find difficult to overcome?

PRAYER:

Commit this particular sin to God and pray:

Lord, have mercy on me as I've committed _____ against you!
Lord, help me to overcome my tendencies to go back to my old ways!
Lord, I thank you as your blessing and your mercy despite of my shortcomings.

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv4-5

Prayer: Petition is the type of prayer Jehoahaz used. Petition asks God for his solution to a particular problem. As a family, pray for God's help in situations you are facing today.



第十四章

23 猶大王約阿施的兒子亞瑪謝十五年，以色列王約阿施的兒子耶羅波安在撒馬利亞登基，作王四十一年。 24 他行耶和華眼中看為惡的事，不離開尼八的兒子耶羅波安使以色列人陷在罪裡的一切罪。 25 他收回以色列邊界之地，從哈馬口直到亞拉巴海，正如耶和華—以色列的神藉他僕人迦特希弗人亞米太的兒子先知約拿所說的。 26 因為耶和華看見以色列人甚是艱苦，無論困住的、自由的都沒有了，也無人幫助以色列人。 27 耶和華並沒有說要將以色列的名從天下塗抹，乃藉約阿施的兒子耶羅波安拯救他們。 28 耶羅波安其餘的事，凡他所行的和他的勇力，他怎樣爭戰，怎樣收回大馬士革和先前屬猶大的哈馬歸以色列，都寫在以色列諸王記上。 29 耶羅波安與他列祖以色列諸王同睡。他兒子撒迦利雅接續他作王。

默想：

1. 有時間最好將本章全部略讀一次，有關亞瑪謝王與耶羅波安二世。
2. 耶羅波安二世是以色列王國最成功最有名的統治者，他收復的疆土，直比大衛和所羅門朝代時的領土。他又奪得商業大道，這使以色列繁榮富強。但是以色列當時的社會很腐敗，富人欺壓窮人，為自己的利益行不公不義的事，使得窮人增加，且越發窮苦。阿摩司和何西亞兩位先知都是在這時期開始預言的事奉，他們指責耶羅波安二世敬拜假神，雖然經濟富庶，卻行不義欺壓窮人。
3. 雖然耶羅波安二世在當時，無論是政治上或社會上都是舉足輕重的君王，但聖經對他的記載卻是聊了數語。可能這就是聖經的角度，以永恆相較，世上的成就實在微不足道。神因為體恤以色列人的艱苦，在耶羅波安在任時，使他們不受外來的侵略，但是無論是王或是百姓，都沒有因此而轉向神。
4. 我怎麼看當前的成功人士？神怎麼看成功？最終真正重要的是，神怎樣看我在世上所作的一切，是否有永恆的價值，或是僅僅一片雲霧（各4：14）？

禱告：

思想，到那日當我見主時，主會怎樣對我說？
好，你這又忠心又良善的僕人！
或是，你這又惡又懶的僕人！
主啊，開我的眼睛，讓我以你永恆的眼光來看世上的事。

Chapter 14

23 In the fifteenth year of Amaziah son of Joash king of Judah, Jeroboam son of Jehoash king of Israel became king in Samaria, and he reigned forty-one years. 24 He did evil in the eyes of the LORD and did not turn away from any of the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit. 25 He was the one who restored the boundaries of Israel from Lebo Hamath to the Dead Sea, in accordance with the word of the LORD, the God of Israel, spoken through his servant Jonah son of Amitai, the prophet from Gath Hepher. 26 The LORD had seen how bitterly everyone in Israel, whether slave or free, was suffering; there was no one to help them. 27 And since the LORD had not said he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven, he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam son of Jehoash. 28 As for the other events of Jeroboam's reign, all he did, and his military achievements, including how he recovered for Israel both Damascus and Hamath, which had belonged to Judah, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Israel? 29 Jeroboam rested with his ancestors, the kings of Israel. And Zechariah his son succeeded him as king.

MEDITATION:

1. If time permits, read the whole chapter about Kings Amaziah and Jeroboam II.
2. Jeroboam II was Israel's most successful and notable ruler. The territory Jeroboam captured rivaled that held in David and Solomon's day. He gained control of the trade routes which made Israel rich. But Israelite society was disrupted, the rich corrupted the justice system in their favour, and poverty increased. Both Amos and Hosea began to prophesy during this period indicting this king for the worship of other gods and for injustice in the land, despite its wealth.
3. In view of the political and social significance of the time of Jeroboam II, it's striking that the Bible says so little about him. Perhaps the answer is found in perspective. Compared with eternity, worldly accomplishments count for little. God saw fit to give Israel relief from oppression under Jeroboam II. But neither king nor people used this last opportunity to turn to the Lord.
4. How do I see the "successful" individuals in my days? How would God see success? At the end of the day, what really matters is how God sees what I have done on earth, whether they are of eternal value or just like "a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes"(James 4:14).

PRAYER:

Consider: What will God say when I see Him on that day?
Well done!!! Good and faithful servant.
Or, You wicked and lazy servant!
Lord, open my eyes so that I may see the worldly things with your eternal perspective.

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv26-27

Discussion: We do not suffer alone. God is always aware of our pain. He has ways to help us. Describe feelings you have when you suffer. How has God helped you in such times? How has he used you to help someone else who suffered?



第十五章

1以色列王耶羅波安二十七年，猶大王亞瑪謝的兒子亞撒利雅登基，2 他登基的時候年十六歲，在耶路撒冷作王五十二年。他母親名叫耶可利雅，是耶路撒冷人。3 亞撒利雅行耶和華眼中看為正的事，效法他父親亞瑪謝一切所行的；4 只是邱壇還沒有廢去，百姓仍在那裡獻祭燒香。5 耶和華降災與王，使他長大癩瘋，直到死日，他就住在別的宮裡。他的兒子約坦管理家事，治理國民。6 亞撒利雅其餘的事，凡他所行的都寫在猶大列王記上。7 亞撒利雅與他列祖同睡，葬在大衛城他列祖的墳地裡。他兒子約坦接續他作王。

默想：

1. 有時間最好將本章全部略讀一次，閱讀有關亞撒利雅王及同時期北國王位連連更迭的情況。
2. 亞撒利雅又名烏西雅。以色列國在耶羅波安二世率領下的強盛，可匹配猶大國在亞撒利雅超過50年長期統治下的富庶。但是他後來變得驕傲，不順從摩西的律法，作了神限制只有祭司可作的事（代下26：16-21）。因此神以長大癩瘋來懲罰他。
3. 從歷史上得知，很少有人在得到世界的成功後，能夠保持屬靈的活力及忠心。正如所羅門的例子，亞撒利雅的早期成功，反使他跌倒。
4. 福勒神學院教授 Bob Clinton 以烏西雅為例來說明六個攔阻聖經人物不能有“至終完美”的其中一個原因。我對“至終完美”（Finish Well）有什麼了解？我如何能夠完美走完人生路？

禱告：

用些時間讀下頁的文章“「至終完美」的障礙”。特別留意不能“善終”的六個障礙。找出最接近我目前情況的一個障礙，用些時間思想。求神幫助，並將我從這個障礙中拯救出來。

Chapter 15

1 In the twenty-seventh year of Jeroboam king of Israel, Azariah son of Amaziah king of Judah began to reign. 2 He was sixteen years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-two years. His mother's name was Jekoliah; she was from Jerusalem. 3 He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, just as his father Amaziah had done. 4 The high places, however, were not removed; the people continued to offer sacrifices and burn incense there. 5 The LORD afflicted the king with leprosy until the day he died, and he lived in a separate house, Jotham the king's son had charge of the palace and governed the people of the land. 6 As for the other events of Azariah's reign, and all he did, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Judah? 7 Azariah rested with his ancestors and was buried near them in the City of David. And Jotham his son succeeded him as king.

MEDITATION:

1. Try to read the whole chapter about King Azariah and the successive kings of the northern kingdom.
2. Azariah is also called Uzziah. The revival of Israel's fortunes under Jeroboam II were matched by prosperity in Judah during Azariah's long reign of over 50 years. Unfortunately he became proud and in disobedience to the Mosaic Law, and performed functions that God had restricted to the priests (2 Chron. 26:16-21). For this sin God punished him with leprosy (v. 5).
3. History teaches us that few people have been able to maintain spiritual vitality and faithfulness when they attain what the world calls success. As with Solomon, Azariah's early success proved to be his undoing.
4. Bob Clinton used Uzziah as example to illustrate one of the barriers for Biblical leaders who did not finish well. What do I think of "Finishing Well"? How will I be able to finish well at the end of my life?

PRAYER:

Spend sometime reading Dr. Clinton's article on Finishing Well at <http://www.bobbyclinton.com/articles/downloads/3FinishWellArticles.pdf>
Pay special attention to the six barriers to finish well. Reflect on the one closest to my situation. Pray for God's help and deliverance from the barrier.

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv35

Activity: Jotham was basically a good king; however, he like king after king failed to stop the worship sins of the people. List sins that your family may be blinded by today. Pray about these sins asking God for his forgiveness.



「至終完美」的障礙

SIX BARRIERS TO FINISH WELL

第一次聽聞「Finishing Well (至終完美)」這個名詞，是初入福樂神學院唸書，領導學克林頓教授 (Robert Clinton) 非常嚴肅地挑戰學生的時候。這挑戰源起於他的研究，在比對聖經中百位左右的領袖生平後，他得到一個令人戰兢的結論：「少有領袖至終完美。」這些聖經人物中，三位才有一位至終完美。為避免同樣結果，他挑戰學生謹慎行完世途，面對人生與事奉，能夠「至終完美」。

這些年，華人教會領袖及信徒開始注意到這個詞彙中所隱藏的重要提醒。「至終完美」是我的翻譯，它代表著一生與主同行，見主面時，是一位「得勝者」。許多弟兄姊妹可能會覺得這標準高不可及。的確，成為得勝者不容易，但我們需明白，這完全是靠主的恩典，藉聖靈能力才能達到的。靠自己，我們會跌倒，但在恩典中，我們可以悔改，靠著主，跌倒了再站起來，繼續前進，至終奪標。面對試探及撒旦與其黑暗權勢，我們會在某些戰役 (Battles) 中失利，但「得勝者」是那在最後能靠主得勝這場屬靈戰爭 (War) 的人。「至終完美」就像跑馬拉松一樣，不僅是人生起點時的邁開步伐或最後一程的衝刺，更是一生歷程中續步前進努力的結果。對主的回應，一時不難，一年尚能應付，但要一生跟隨，就不是件容易的事了，而「至終完美」便是勝過一切挑戰應有的結果。希伯來書的作者勸我們當放下各樣的重擔，脫去容易纏累我們的罪，存心忍耐，奔那擺在我們前頭的路程 (來十二1)。歸向主、屬於主的人的人生道路中，一方面有艱難、困苦、不如意，因為神透過這些經歷，來模塑祂的兒女，使他們更成熟。一方面，撒旦並不會甘心，牠沿路設下陷阱，來自牠的試探、引誘，令主兒女防不勝防。

克林頓根據領袖個案比對研究，指出六個妨礙「至終完美」的關鍵障礙：

- 1.) 金錢財物 (Finances) 的運用不當與濫用；
- 2.) 權勢/權力 (Power) 的濫用；
- 3.) 引致崩潰挫敗的驕傲 (Pride)；
- 4.) 不正當的性關係 (Sex)；
- 5.) 不正常的家庭 (Family) 夫妻、親子關係；
- 6.) 停滯不前 (Plateauing)。

這幾個情形不只見於聖經人物，更是歷代聖徒的大忌。

金錢、權勢、性是近年來被非常注意的項目，因為許多一度被神重用的領袖，就是在這幾個問題上跌倒，引起極大的震盪，產生許多負面的影響，整體事奉大受虧損，個人的事奉生涯甚至因此終結，他們的生命也蒙上陰影。一般弟兄姊妹雖然沒有如此的影響力，卻往往因在這幾個方面的軟弱，無法持續跟隨主。表面上，不容易直接看出來，但生命的景況、內涵，與「至終完美」差距甚遠，令人惋惜。

驕傲往往是在事奉有成效後容易產生的後遺症，最主要的原因是，這時候人很容易不自覺地忘記「自己是誰」，更進一步應該是說忘了「誰是神」，忘記了神才是事奉果效背後的促成者。事奉時，我們需要對自我有

適度的看重，因為神要我們與祂同工，但過度看重，便成為不當的驕傲。這之間的平衡是微妙的，因為驕傲在初出現時，並不易察覺。驕傲的出現，表示我們已經不再是以基督為中心，我們「在乎」別人的評價，超過我們對神的順服與尊崇，也超過了對祂託付的執著，到一個地步，高抬自己超過神的地位，竊取神的榮耀。正因它不易被察覺，往往在覺醒時，已經太遲了，因為神阻擋驕傲的人。

與家庭成員 (夫妻、親子之間) 的關係健康，才會產生幸福美滿的人生與歷久彌新的事奉。不正常、不健康的家庭成員關係，將會摧毀這兩方面，這個觀念是華人教會近些年才比較有突破的。過去的神學觀中，對要「跟隨主便要全然犧牲」的瞭解，是既然連捨命都是必須的，更何況是擺上與家人的關係。只要我盡心「服事神」，神自然會「照顧」他們。這樣的觀念，造成許多服事主的人的家庭悲劇，至終影響事奉的成效，甚至是配偶或子女離棄神，信仰無法傳承。殊不知人的生命與事奉的成熟，是需要健康的社會關係網絡中孕育的，忽略、漠視或刻意抹滅的結果，等於親自拆毀你所要建立的人生與事奉。在今天，不健全的家庭 (Dysfunctional families) 不僅是社會問題，也是教會問題，許多人在能承擔事奉以前，亟需全面的恢復與更新，因為不健全的個人必然產生不健全的事奉「停滯不前」是最被疏忽的一種情況。罪中生活是「停滯不前」的一個原因，沈迷罪中，使人淪為魔鬼的信眾，當然無法，也不會跟隨基督。另一方面，「停滯不前」是當你我「自滿」，不再覺得需要學習也不想學習時出現的情況。在你我洋洋自得的時候，往往就是此「停滯不前」的前兆。若不及時自覺，你我得意、擅長的能耐、本事，可能就成為進入另一更高層面或更寬廣的事奉的絆腳石。「停滯不前」也意味著不再具有異象、願景，甘心安於現狀，生命、事奉失去焦點，生活中「照常」地進行著各樣活動，屬靈生命卻不再有生氣，而事工不見果效，就像船在大海中，失去動力，只有隨波逐流，任環境擺佈。

「停滯不前」是事奉主的人屬靈生命成長與事奉突破或更新，最無形、隱藏的障礙與殺手。這樣的危機時刻，我們一生中都會經歷幾次，關鍵在於你我「對焦」的能力，當我們覺得「尊主為大」似乎僅是一個口號時，殊不知它是維繫我們一生能行在正道上關鍵，「基督為中心」的人生，不論在順逆境中，都會是充滿活力，精彩絕倫。

除了這六項原因之外，還有一些讓人無法至終完美的相關因素，而未癒合的受傷情感 (Unhealed emotions) 與差人一截的心態 (Inferiority mindset) 就是其中的兩項。因這兩個原因，導致無法至終完美的關鍵在於，對「自我價值」沒有把握，無法肯定，使人無法具有正確的「自知」能力，更缺少跟隨主所需具備對神與對自己應有的信心，活在「傷害」與「比較」中，無法跳出苦境、悲情，進而奮力向前。

(作者：余亞弘，節錄自：<http://magazine.efccc.org/ArticleDetail.aspx?DocID=2544>，全文尚有「至終完美」的表徵，促成「至終完美」的幫助點等論點，值得詳加閱讀。)

第十六章

1利瑪利的兒子比加十七年，猶大王約坦的兒子亞哈斯登基。 2 他登基的時候年二十歲，在耶路撒冷作王十六年；不像他祖大衛行耶和華——他神眼中看為正的事， 3 卻效法以色列諸王所行的，又照著耶和華從以色列人面前趕出的外邦人所行可憎的事，使他的兒子經火， 4 並在邱壇上、山岡上、各青翠樹下獻祭燒香。 5 亞蘭王利汛和以色列王利瑪利的兒子比加上來攻打耶路撒冷，圍困亞哈斯，卻不能勝他。 6 當時亞蘭王利汛收回以拉他歸與亞蘭，將猶大人從以拉他趕出去。亞蘭人【有作以東人的】就來到以拉他，住在那裡，直到今日。 7 亞哈斯差遣使者去見亞述王提革拉毗列色，說：「我是你的僕人、你的兒子。現在亞蘭王和以色列王攻擊我，求你來救我脫離他們的手。」 8 亞哈斯將耶和華殿裡和王宮府庫裡所有的金銀都送給亞述王為禮物。 9 亞述王應允了他，就上去攻打大馬士革，將城攻取，殺了利汛，把居民擄到吉珥。

默想：

1. 請將本章略讀一遍，體會日漸衰微的南北國的情況。
2. 亞哈斯沒有跟隨大衛敬畏神的榜樣，卻跟隨以色列諸王，及臨近異教國家的習俗，甚至將他的兒子獻為人祭。亞蘭王從猶大手中攻取以拉他，並與以色列聯盟要侵襲猶大，這時亞哈斯並沒有求問耶和華神，卻去求亞述王提革拉毗列色來解救。亞哈斯不但沒有將自己降服在耶和華的引導之下，反而對亞述王自稱為其“僕人、兒子”。
3. 亞哈斯不明白他在神底下的地位，以及神在以色列之上的地位；他不但向耶和華獻祭，他將神殿中的金、銀，連同王宮府庫裡所有的金銀都送給亞述王。這樣，亞哈斯王將亞述王取代了神的地位，成為他的安全、福利的源頭。當神的子民背棄神，去追求其他方式以獲得安全或利益時，這就是拜偶像，會帶來神的刑罰。
4. 思想：神是我的安全、順利的根源嗎？若是，我如何表現出來，尤其是在痛苦困難的時候？若不是，我需要怎樣改變才能真正信賴神？

禱告：

慢慢地讀下面這段經文，讓經文進入我心中，讓聖靈針對我現今的情況，對我說話。以這些經文作為我向神的禱告。

“我遭遇災難的日子，他們來攻擊我；但耶和華是我的倚靠。他又領我到寬闊之處；他救拔我，因他喜悅我。”（詩 18:18-19）

Chapter 16

1 In the seventeenth year of Pekah son of Remaliah, Ahaz son of Jotham king of Judah began to reign. 2 Ahaz was twenty years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem sixteen years. Unlike David his father, he did not do what was right in the eyes of the LORD his God. 3 He followed the ways of the kings of Israel and even sacrificed his son in the fire, engaging in the detestable practices of the nations the LORD had driven out before the Israelites. 4 He offered sacrifices and burned incense at the high places, on the hilltops and under every spreading tree. 5 Then Rezin king of Aram and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel marched up to fight against Jerusalem and besieged Ahaz, but they could not overpower him. 6 At that time, Rezin king of Aram recovered Elath for Aram by driving out the people of Judah. Edomites then moved into Elath and have lived there to this day. 7 Ahaz sent messengers to say to Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria, "I am your servant and vassal. Come up and save me out of the hand of the king of Aram and of the king of Israel, who are attacking me." 8 And Ahaz took the silver and gold found in the temple of the LORD and in the treasuries of the royal palace and sent it as a gift to the king of Assyria. 9 The king of Assyria complied by attacking Damascus and capturing it. He deported its inhabitants to Kir and put Rezin to death.

MEDITATION:

1. Read the whole chapter to learn the declining state of both kingdoms.
2. Ahaz did not follow David's example of godliness (v. 2). Rather he followed the kings of Israel and those of his pagan neighbors and went so far as offering at least one of his sons as a human sacrifice. Aram had captured the town of Elath from Judah (v. 6; cf. 14:22). When Aram and Israel threatened to invade Judah, Ahaz did not seek Jehovah God but Tiglath-Pileser for deliverance. Rather than putting himself under Jehovah's direction he appealed to the king of Assyria as his "servant" and his "son" (v. 7).
3. Ahaz failed to see his role as being under God and God's role over Israel. Instead of making sacrifices to Jehovah he sent silver and gold from God's own temple to Tiglath-Pileser (v. 8) who replaced God as Ahaz's source of security and well-being. When God's people forsake God and pursue other powers that promise well-being, this is idolatry and will lead to judgment.
4. Ponder this: Is God truly my source of security and well-being? If so, how do I demonstrate that, especially in distress or difficulties? If not, what changes do I need in order to truly trust God?

PRAYER:

Read the following verses slowly, allow them to speak to my situations. Use these verses as a prayer of affirmation to God.

"They hit me when I was down, but God stuck by me. He stood me up on a wide-open field; I stood there saved—surprised to be loved!" (Ps 18:18-19, the Message)

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv3-9

Discussion: King Ahaz didn't follow God's way but those that did evil things. Who's your best? Do you sometimes follow your friend to do things you know are wrong? How can you not be influenced to do wrong?



第十七章

5 亞述王上來攻擊以色列遍地，上到撒馬利亞，圍困三年。6 何細亞第九年亞述王攻取了撒馬利亞，將以色列人擄到亞述，把他們安置在哈臘與歌散的哈博河邊，並瑪代人的城邑。7 這是因以色列人得罪那領他們出埃及地、脫離埃及王法老手的耶和華——他們的神，去敬畏別神，8 隨從耶和華在他們面前所趕出外邦人的風俗和以色列諸王所立的條規。9 以色列人暗中行不正的事，違背耶和華——他們的神，在他們所有的城邑，從瞭望樓直到堅固城，建築邱壇；

22 以色列人犯耶羅波安所犯的一切罪，總不離開，23 以致耶和華從自己面前趕出他們，正如藉他僕人眾先知所說的。這樣，以色列人從本地被擄到亞述，直到今日。

默想：

1. 請將本章略讀一遍，北國終於淪陷，百姓被擄，國破家亡。
2. 以色列的滅亡發生在何細亞拒絕向亞述王進貢，並轉向埃及求援時。京城撒瑪利亞經過三年圍困終被佔領，以色列民被迫遷徙。外族人被遷入安頓於此。自此，就不再有北國的存在
3. 自從開始舊約260的旅程以來，我與以色列人走過他們的歷史，從創世記，到埃及，到曠野，戰勝迦南人，到士師時代，大衛與所羅門的黃金時代，以後日益削弱的王國，至現在北國人民被逐出境。
4. 在整本聖經中的原則就是神要人為自己的罪來負責。在這將近200年的歷史中，神一直沒有施行他最後的審判，就是說明神的恩典。但是亞述的入侵提醒我們，神的審判必定會來到。今天神仍然對我們忍耐等候，不向我們的罪施行審判，也是他極大的恩典。聖經提醒我們，神是有恩慈的，但是神的刑罰也必然會來到。我們當聽神的警告。

禱告：

主啊，你對人類不斷地犯罪，心中是何等的憂傷。讀這句耶穌吩咐門徒的話，好像神在對我說；求神憐憫，求神加力。“總要徹醒禱告，免得入了迷惑。你們心靈固然願意，肉體卻軟弱了”（太 26:41）。

Chapter 17

5 The king of Assyria invaded the entire land, marched against Samaria and laid siege to it for three years. 6 In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and deported the Israelites to Assyria. He settled them in Halah, in Gozan on the Habor River and in the towns of the Medes. 7 All this took place because the Israelites had sinned against the LORD their God, who had brought them up out of Egypt from under the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. They worshiped other gods 8 and followed the practices of the nations the LORD had driven out before them, as well as the practices that the kings of Israel had introduced. 9 The Israelites secretly did things against the LORD their God that were not right. From watchtower to fortified city they built themselves high places in all their towns.

22 The Israelites persisted in all the sins of Jeroboam and did not turn away from them 23 until the LORD removed them from his presence, as he had warned through all his servants the prophets. So the people of Israel were taken from their homeland into exile in Assyria, and they are still there.

MEDITATION

1. If time allows, read through the whole chapter about the destruction of the northern kingdom, deportation of its people.
2. The final destruction of Israel came when Hoshea refused to pay Assyrian tribute and sought help from Egypt. Samaria was captured after a three-year siege, and the Israelites were deported. Foreigners were brought in to resettle the land. Israel, the northern kingdom, was no more.
3. Since starting OT 260, I have walked through this journey with the Israelites through generations, from the beginning of Genesis, to Egypt, to the desert, overcoming Canaanites, the days of the Judges, the glory days of king David and Solomon, the slow demise of the kingdom and now exile of the north kingdom.
4. The principle the author established echoes throughout Scripture. God holds man responsible for his sins. The nearly 200 years during which God withheld final judgment on Israel speaks of his grace. But the invasion of the Assyrians reminds us that judgment will surely come. God's patience today in withholding judgment on our sins still reflects his patience. The Bible reminds us that despite God's grace, judgment will surely come. And we need to heed the warning.

PRAYER:

*As I begin to appreciate God's grief in how far we've fallen, read this verse as if Jesus is speaking to me. Pray for mercy and strength.
"Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Matt 26:41)*

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv15

Prayer: How much are false gods worth? How much value do they add to your life? As a family, pray for forgiveness for worshiping modern idols such as television, materialism, and popularity.



第十八章

28 於是拉伯沙基站著，用猶大言語大聲喊著說：你們當聽亞述大王的話！
29 王如此說：『你們不要被希西家欺哄了；因他不能救你們脫離我的手。
30 也不要聽希西家使你們倚靠耶和華，說耶和華必要拯救我們，這城必不交在亞述王的手中。』 31 不要聽希西家的話！因亞述王如此說：『你們要與我和好，出來投降我，各人就可以吃自己葡萄樹和無花果樹的果子，喝自己井裡的水。 32 等我來領你們到一個地方與你們本地一樣，就是有五穀和新酒之地，有糧食和葡萄園之地，有橄欖樹和蜂蜜之地，好使你們存活，不至於死。希西家勸導你們，說耶和華必拯救我們；你們不要聽他的話。 33 列國的神有哪一個救他本國脫離亞述王的手呢？ 34 哈馬、亞珥拔的神在哪裡呢？西法瓦音、希拿、以瓦的神在哪裡呢？他們曾救撒馬利亞脫離我的手嗎？ 35 這些國的神有誰曾救自己的國脫離我的手呢？難道耶和華能救耶路撒冷脫離我的手嗎？』」

默想：

1. 請將本章略讀一遍，有關希西家王時期。
2. 亞述王以猶大的弱點說服他們投降，應承將他們安置在更加肥沃的土地，並譏諷神並不能拯救他的子民。不錯，猶大與耶路撒冷現在都已相當衰敗、不堪一擊。但是亞述軍長模仿神的口氣，若順從就能得生存，背叛就是死路一條。再一次，亞述王儼然以神自詡來作應許，就好像耶和華神的應許一般，相信他就能得享平安、豐足。
3. 我們常常會受引誘認為別人——配偶、朋友、父母、牧師——能滿足我們的需要。這個期望只會帶來失望。
4. 想想看，在我生命中很親密有哪一位，我將太高的期望放在他身上？這個星期當中，換一下角色，找機會來滿足一項他的需要。

禱告：

祈求神的赦免，因我不信靠神，卻過分依賴別人來滿足我的需要。也為這個人禱告，求主讓我能體察到他的需要，並學習體貼，並滿足他的一些需要。

Chapter 18

28 Then the commander stood and called out in Hebrew, "Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria! 29 This is what the king says: Do not let Hezekiah deceive you. He cannot deliver you from my hand. 30 Do not let Hezekiah persuade you to trust in the LORD when he says, 'The LORD will surely deliver us; this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.' 31 "Do not listen to Hezekiah. This is what the king of Assyria says: Make peace with me and come out to me. Then each of you will eat fruit from your own vine and fig tree and drink water from your own cistern, 32 until I come and take you to a land like your own—a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of olive trees and honey. Choose life and not death! "Do not listen to Hezekiah, for he is misleading you when he says, 'The LORD will deliver us.' 33 Has the god of any nation ever delivered his land from the hand of the king of Assyria? 34 Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena and Ivvah? Have they rescued Samaria from my hand? 35 Who of all the gods of these countries has been able to save his land from me? How then can the LORD deliver Jerusalem from my hand?"

MEDITATION

1. If time allows, read through the whole chapter about Hezekiah's reign.
2. The Assyrian call for surrender emphasized Judah's weakness, promised to resettle Judah's population in an even more fertile land, and ridiculed God's ability to save his people. It was true that Judah and Jerusalem were now weakened and vulnerable. But the Assyrian officer mimicked God in offering life for obedience, death for disobedience. Once again, the king of Assyria posed as God to make promises just like God to entice people to trust him for their security and prosperity.
3. We are often tempted to think that another person – spouse, friend, parent, pastor – can fulfill our needs. This expectation can only lead to disappointment.
4. Think. Who in my life I am placing unfair expectations on? During this week, instead, seek to fulfill a need of hers/his.

PRAYER:

Ask for God's forgiveness for not trusting him enough but to depend on others. Also pray for these people that I'll learn to discern and meet their needs.

**** (DTFFWC) ****



Read: vv31-32

Activity: Who are the Hezekiahs in the life of your family? Make a spiritual family tree showing the persons who persuaded each member to trust in God. Talk about ways family members are deceived today. Name persons who try to keep you from trusting in God. Pray for them.

第十九章

1 希西家王聽見，就撕裂衣服，披上麻布，進了耶和華的殿；
14 希西家從使者手裡接過書信來，看完了，就上耶和華的殿，將書信在耶和華面前展開。 15 希西家向耶和華禱告說：「坐在二基路伯上耶和華—以色列的神啊，你是天下萬國的神，你曾創造天地。 16 耶和華啊，求你側耳而聽！耶和華啊，求你睜眼而看！要聽西拿基立打發使者來辱罵永生神的話。 17 耶和華啊，亞述諸王果然使列國和列國之地變為荒涼， 18 將列國的神像都扔在火裡；因為它本不是神，乃是人手所造的，是木頭石頭的，所以滅絕它。 19 耶和華—我們的神啊，現在求你救我們脫離亞述王的手，使天下萬國都知道惟獨你—耶和華是神！」 20 亞摩斯的兒子以賽亞就打發人去見希西家，說：「耶和華—以色列的神如此說：『你既然求我攻擊亞述王西拿基立，我已聽見了。』」

默想：

1. 請將本章略讀一遍，數一下總共有多少“聽”和“聽見”。
2. 希西家聽見亞述王撒縵以色沒有任何一國的神曾從亞述軍隊救出他的百姓。希西家不作聲，他乃求神聽他們褻瀆神的話，並求神聽他的禱告。他求神為了神自己名的緣故施行拯救。
3. 最後，藉著以賽亞，神確實聽見了撒縵以色狂妄褻瀆的話，也聽見希西家的祈求，並應許要“拯救這城”。

禱告：

每天我都會聽周圍的人說話，我的同事、朋友、媒體……有時候我從他們那裡聽到的東西，是我不喜歡，或不同意的。我多數會怎樣反應？將這些經歷慢慢地告訴神，求神聆聽。
等候神，聆聽神怎樣對我說？我聽神所聽的嗎？我看神所看的嗎？

Chapter 19

1 When King Hezekiah heard this, he tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and went into the temple of the LORD.

14 Hezekiah received the letter from the messengers and read it. Then he went up to the temple of the LORD and spread it out before the LORD. 15 And Hezekiah prayed to the LORD: "LORD, the God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. 16 Give ear, LORD, and hear; open your eyes, LORD, and see; listen to the words Sennacherib has sent to ridicule the living God. 17 "It is true, LORD, that the Assyrian kings have laid waste these nations and their lands. 18 They have thrown their gods into the fire and destroyed them, for they were not gods but only wood and stone, fashioned by human hands. 19 Now, LORD our God, deliver us from his hand, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you alone, LORD, are God." 20 Then Isaiah son of Amoz sent a message to Hezekiah: "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: I have heard your prayer concerning Sennacherib king of Assyria.

MEDITATION:

1. Read through the chapter and count the number of times "listen" and "heard" were used.
2. Hezekiah heard Sennacherib's argument that no gods of any other nations rescued their people from the Assyrian army. 3. Hezekiah did not respond. Rather he let the Lord listen to the blasphemy words and his prayer. He asked God to act for his name's sake.
3. Finally through Isaiah, the Lord acknowledged that He heard both the blasphemy words by Sennacherib and Hezekiah's prayer.

PRAYER:

Everyday I listen to people around us, my colleagues, my friends, and the media. Sometimes I heard things from them that I do not like or agree with. What is my usual response? Bring any of those instances in front of our God, ask God listen to them. Then wait and listen to what God is speaking to me about these things. Do I hear what God hear? Do I see what God see?

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv3-4

Prayer: Hezekiah prayed for the small remnant who survived distress. Center your prayer time on God's remnant, the minority in our world who serve Jesus faithfully.



第二十章

1 那時，希西家病得要死。亞摩斯的兒子先知以賽亞去見他，對他說：「耶和華如此說：『你當留遺命與你的家，因為你必死，不能活了。』」 2 希西家就轉臉朝牆，禱告耶和華說： 3 「耶和華啊，求你記念我在你面前怎樣存完全的心，按誠實行事，又做你眼中所看為善的。」希西家就痛哭。 4 以賽亞出來，還沒有到中院【院或作城】，耶和華的話就臨到他，說： 5 「你回去告訴我民的君希西家說：耶和華—你祖大衛的神如此說：『我聽見了你的禱告，看見了你的眼淚，我必醫治你；到第三日，你必上到耶和華的殿。 6 我必加增你十五年的壽數，並且我要救你和這城脫離亞述王的手。我為自己和我僕人大衛的緣故，必保護這城。』」 7 以賽亞說：「當取一塊無花果餅來。」人就取了來，貼在瘡上，王便痊癒了。

默想：

1. 請將本章略讀一遍，希西家的晚年。
2. 希西家的禱告似乎很有效，再次打動神，神向希西家和耶路撒冷施憐憫。神記念他對大衛的應許，垂聽希西家的禱告：禱告時一項打動神的心，搖動神的手的屬靈操練。但是，根據生命陶造版聖經對禱告的定義：“與神對話，交流彼此的想法，討論共同合作的事情”。這兩種對禱告的看法，有沒有衝突？
3. 受到“成效至上”的社會，當我遇到困難的決定時，先去設法合理化、找出策略、理論、爭執的決定，總是遠遠大過希望尋求神得智慧與幫助的意願。
4. 這樣，我該怎麼禱告呢？

禱告：

以這首詩作為我今天的禱告，從心裡唱，重複幾次，並思想如何在詩歌中看到：“與神對話，交流彼此的想法，討論共同合作的事情”？

【我以禱告來到你跟前】

1. 我以禱告來到你跟前，我要尋求你，
我要站在破口之中，在那裡我尋求你，
 2. 主我是軟弱及無助，你卻是我的力量，
以你親切的手引導我，那就是我的得勝，
- 副歌： 每一次我禱告，我搖動你的手，
禱告做的事我的手不能做，
每一次我禱告，大山被挪移，
道路被鋪平，使列國歸向你。

Chapter 20

1 In those days Hezekiah became ill and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz went to him and said, "This is what the LORD says: Put your house in order, because you are going to die; you will not recover." 2 Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD, 3 "Remember, LORD, how I have walked before you faithfully and with wholehearted devotion and have done what is good in your eyes." And Hezekiah wept bitterly. 4 Before Isaiah had left the middle court, the word of the LORD came to him: 5 "Go back and tell Hezekiah, the ruler of my people, 'This is what the LORD, the God of your father David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will heal you. On the third day from now you will go up to the temple of the LORD. 6 I will add fifteen years to your life. And I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria. I will defend this city for my sake and for the sake of my servant David.'" 7 Then Isaiah said, "Prepare a poultice of figs." They did so and applied it to the boil, and he recovered.

MEDITATION:

1. Please read through the chapter concerning the last years of Hezekiah's life.
2. Hezekiah's prayer is again powerful in moving God to mercy for both Jerusalem and himself. God remembers the promise to David in answering Hezekiah's prayer. Prayer stands as the spiritual discipline that moves the heart and hand of God. However, according to the definition in Spiritual Formation Bible, "Prayer is interactive conversation with God about what we and God are thinking and doing together". Are there conflicts between the two?
3. Influenced by the result-driven society, when faced with tough decisions, my tendency to rationalize, develop strategies, reason and argue usually outweighs my desire to seek God for wisdom and help.
4. Knowing my tendency and my weakness, how do I pray??

PRAYER:

Use this song as my prayer today. While singing this song, consider how I may have this "interactive conversation with God about what we and God are thinking and doing together"?

[*Everytime I pray*]

- 1. I will come to You in prayer, I will seek Your face,
I will stand within the gap, There will I intercede.
2. I am meek and helpless, Lord, You, my strength shall be,
Guide me with Your gracious hand, There will my victory be.*

Chorus:

- For every time I pray, I move the hand of God,
My prayer does the thing, My hands cannot do,
For every time I pray, The mountains are removed,
The paths are made straight, And nations turn to You.*

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv4-6

Prayer: God healed Hezekiah. As you pray, pray for family members and friends who need healing. Ask God to strengthen your faith as you pray.



第二十一章

1 瑪拿西登基的時候年十二歲，在耶路撒冷作王五十五年。他母親名叫協西巴。 2 瑪拿西行耶和華眼中看為惡的事，效法耶和華在以色列人面前趕出的外邦人所行可憎的事。 3 重新建築他父希西家所毀壞的邱壇，又為巴力築壇，做亞舍拉像，效法以色列王亞哈所行的，且敬拜事奉天上的萬象； 4 在耶和華殿宇中築壇。耶和華曾指著這殿說：「我必立我的名在耶路撒冷。」 5 他在耶和華殿的兩院中為天上的萬象築壇， 6 並使他的兒子經火，又觀兆，用法術，立交鬼的和行巫術的，多行耶和華眼中看為惡的事，惹動他的怒氣； 7 又在殿內立雕刻的亞舍拉像。耶和華曾對大衛和他兒子所羅門說：「我在以色列眾支派中所選擇的耶路撒冷和這殿，必立我的名，直到永遠。 8 以色列人若謹守遵行我一切所吩咐他們的和我僕人摩西所吩咐他們的一切律法，我就不再使他們挪移離開我所賜給他們列祖之地。」 9 他們卻不聽從。瑪拿西引誘他們行惡，比耶和華在以色列人面前所滅的列國更甚。

默想：

1. 請將本章略讀一遍，看看愛神敬神的希西家王的兒子瑪拿西是個怎樣的王？
2. 我們幾乎無法理解瑪拿西怎可能是這樣一位邪惡的王。他所作的與他父親的有天淵之別。他重建他父親拆毀的邱壇，更有甚者，他對他父親的神完全不當一回事。聖經詳細地列出他如何將神的殿轉化為偶像敬拜的場所。
3. 瑪拿西殘酷邪惡的統治，帶來神對猶大的審判。瑪拿西長時間的掌權期間的惡行，深深烙印在猶大社會；以致約西亞登基進行改革的一切努力，仍無法將之扭轉過來。哈巴谷先知在約西亞時期事奉，他向神控訴猶大的無法無天（哈1：2-4）。
4. 在我們的家庭、小組、社區、教會，一如瑪拿西時代的猶大，我們的生活、思想、行為，是會深深影響我們的下代的。

禱告：（父母的禱告）

慈愛的主，你賜給我們一切所擁有的，你是我們一切祝福的源頭
感謝你讚美你，謝謝你賜的兒女
幫助我們為他們設立界限，但鼓勵他們去冒險
賜我們力量與勇氣來面對每個新的一天
願我們的孩子認識你，唯一的真神，並你差遣的耶穌基督
願聖靈幫助他們信望愛中成長，使他們認識和平、真理與美善
願他們的耳聽你的聲音，他們的眼在萬物中看到你的臨在
願他們的嘴宣揚你的話，願他們的心成為你的居所
願他們的手行善事，願他們的腳走在耶穌，你的兒子，我們的主的面前。

Chapter 21

1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-five years. His mother's name was Hephzibah. 2 He did evil in the eyes of the LORD, following the detestable practices of the nations the LORD had driven out before the Israelites. 3 He rebuilt the high places his father Hezekiah had destroyed; he also erected altars to Baal and made an Asherah pole, as Ahab king of Israel had done. He bowed down to all the starry hosts and worshiped them. 4 He built altars in the temple of the LORD, of which the LORD had said, "In Jerusalem I will put my Name." 5 In the two courts of the temple of the LORD, he built altars to all the starry hosts. 6 He sacrificed his own son in the fire, practiced divination, sought omens, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the eyes of the LORD, arousing his anger.

7 He took the carved Asherah pole he had made and put it in the temple, of which the LORD had said to David and to his son Solomon, "In this temple and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my Name forever. 8 I will not again make the feet of the Israelites wander from the land I gave their ancestors, if only they will be careful to do everything I commanded them and will keep the whole Law that my servant Moses gave them." 9 But the people did not listen. Manasseh led them astray, so that they did more evil than the nations the LORD had destroyed before the Israelites.

MEDITATION:

1. Please take time to read through the chapter.
2. It is almost incomprehensible how Manasseh could become such an evil king. His action seemed to be so far from that of his father Hezekiah. He re-constructed the idols and worship places which his father destroyed. To make it worse, he has shown total disrespect to his forefathers' God. The Scripture went into quite a bit of details regarding what he did to transform God's temple into evil worship.
3. Manasseh's brutal, idolatrous reign led God to pronounce irrevocable judgment on Judah. What Manasseh's lengthy rule did was to impress a pattern on Judah's society. That pattern became so deeply ingrained that all Josiah's efforts at reform were unable to change it. Habakkuk, who ministered in Josiah's time, complained to God that Judah's society was marred with entrenched injustice despite restoration of temple worship (Hab 1:2-4).
4. In families and in groups and communities, as in Manasseh's Judah, the lives we live can set the pattern for future generations.

PRAYER:

(Parent's Prayer)

Loving God, you are the giver of all we possess,
the source of all of our blessings.
We thank and praise you. Thank you for the gift of our children.
Help us to set boundaries for them, and yet encourage them to explore.
Give us the strength and courage to treat each day as a fresh start.
May our children come to know you, the one true God,
and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.
May your Holy Spirit help them to grow in faith, hope, and love,
so they may know peace, truth, and goodness.
May their ears hear your voice. May their eyes see your presence in all things.
May their lips proclaim your word. May their hearts be your dwelling place.
May their hands do works of charity.
May their feet walk in the way of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord.
Amen.

** (DTFFWC) **

Read: vv2-5

Discussion: As a family, talk about the influence of leaders. Does God consider some of the actions of your government leaders to be evil? Do you believe God will punish evil nations today? Would he punish our nation?



第二十二章

8 大祭司希勒家對書記沙番說：「我在耶和華殿裡得了律法書。」希勒家將書遞給沙番，沙番就看了。9 書記沙番到王那裡，回覆王說：「你的僕人已將殿裡的銀子倒出數算，交給耶和華殿裡辦事的人了。」10 書記沙番又對王說：「祭司希勒家遞給我一卷書。」沙番就在王面前讀那書。11 王聽見律法書上的話，便撕裂衣服，12 吩咐祭司希勒家與沙番的兒子亞希甘、米該亞的兒子亞革波、書記沙番和王的臣僕亞撒雅，說：13 「你們去為我、為民、為猶大眾人，以這書上的話求問耶和華；因為我們列祖沒有聽從這書上的言語，沒有遵著書上所吩咐我們的去行，耶和華就向我們大發烈怒。」

思想：

1. 請將本章讀一遍，體會約西亞宗教革新的熱誠。
2. 約西亞在發現律法書前已經開始修補神的聖殿，恢復原有的敬拜，所以他很有可能在發現那書前已經知道上帝的律法書。
3. 他希望再次有人將那“新發現的書”讀給他聽。這次聽的時候，上帝的話激勵他，並激發了非常強烈的意念去查究神的旨意。這引致了下一章記載的大規模屬靈改革。
4. 當我在每日靈修、小組查經、週日崇拜時，是否有期待神會通過當時的經文直接對我說話，與我會面？
5. 最近我什麼時候通過閱讀或聆聽聖經及講解，領受過神給我的話語？是什麼時候？什麼話語？哪一段經文？

祈禱：

以這首詩，作為我對神的懇求：

求主啟我昏沉雙耳，使我得聞真理美音；
天上歌曲在耳邊響起，世俗煩囂之聲遠離。
主啊，我今安靜等你，謹候、渴望知你心意；
懇求聖靈使我耳聰，聽見主聲。

Chapter 22

8 Hilkiyah the high priest said to Shaphan the secretary, "I have found the Book of the Law in the temple of the LORD." He gave it to Shaphan, who read it. 9 Then Shaphan the secretary went to the king and reported to him: "Your officials have paid out the money that was in the temple of the LORD and have entrusted it to the workers and supervisors at the temple." 10 Then Shaphan the secretary informed the king, "Hilkiyah the priest has given me a book." And Shaphan read from it in the presence of the king. 11 When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, he tore his robes. 12 He gave these orders to Hilkiyah the priest, Ahikam son of Shaphan, Akbor son of Micaiah, Shaphan the secretary and Asaiah the king's attendant: 13 "Go and inquire of the LORD for me and for the people and for all Judah about what is written in this book that has been found. Great is the LORD's anger that burns against us because those who have gone before us have not obeyed the words of this book; they have not acted in accordance with all that is written there concerning us."

MEDITATION

1. If time allows, read the whole chapter once to appreciate Josiah's zeal for renewal.
2. Josiah has been repairing God's temple and restoring worship in Jerusalem prior to `rediscovered.
3. He wanted to have the "newly-discovered book" read to him yet again. This time God's word inspired him and created a strong conviction to investigate God's will further which led to the massive spiritual reform in Chapter 23.
4. When I do my devotion or attend Sunday Worship or anytime I hear God's word being spoken, do I expect that God will meet me there and speak to me even through familiar passages and speakers?
5. When is the last time God spoke to me through reading or listening to his word? When? What was spoken? Where was the passage?

PRAYER:

*Sing or read this hymn as my petition to God.
Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear,
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see;
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv19

Prayer: God answered Josiah's prayers because he was humble and faithful. Pray for God's guidance in your faithful response to him. Get on your knees together as a family, bow your heads to the floor, and express your desire to be humble and faithful to God.



第二十三章

1王差遣人招聚猶大和耶路撒冷的眾長老來。 2 王和猶大眾人與耶路撒冷的居民，並祭司、先知，和所有的百姓，無論大小，都一同上到耶和華的殿；王就把耶和華殿裡所得的約書念給他們聽。 3 王站在柱旁，在耶和華面前立約，要盡心盡性地順從耶和華，遵守他的誠命、法度、律例，成就這書上所記的約言。眾民都服從這約。 4 王吩咐大祭司希勒家和副祭司，並把門的，將那為巴力和亞舍拉，並天上萬象所造的器皿，都從耶和華殿裡搬出來，在耶路撒冷外汲淪溪旁的田間燒了，把灰拿到伯特利去。 5 從前猶大列王所立拜偶像的祭司，在猶大城邑的邱壇和耶路撒冷的周圍燒香，現在王都廢去，又廢去向巴力和日、月、行星【或作十二宮】，並天上萬象燒香的人； 6 又從耶和華殿裡將亞舍拉搬到耶路撒冷外汲淪溪邊焚燒，打碎成灰，將灰撒在平民的墳上； 7 又拆毀耶和華殿裡變童的屋子，就是婦女為亞舍拉織帳子的屋子

默想：

1. 用些時間將本章讀完，見證約西亞改革的熱心。
2. 約西亞為王，他沒有等聖殿修葺工程完結，就招聚眾人，並親自朗讀摩西的律法給大家聽；接著他與神立約，百姓也重新立約（3節）。然後他就開始在猶大清除所有神所禁止的偶像敬拜儀式習俗。
3. 約西亞31年為王，並未能改變國家的前途，但是他持續事奉神的努力，深得神的喜悅。神並不要求我們成功，他呼召我們的是全人的委身順服。
4. 我每個月來參加聖餐聚會，也是來重新與神立約。如何立約？保羅稱：“將身體獻上、當作活祭將身體獻上，當作活祭，是聖潔的，是神所喜悅的；你們如此事奉乃是理所當然的。不要效法這個世界，只要心意更新而變化，叫你們察驗何為 神的善良、純全、可喜悅的旨意。”（羅12：1-2）

禱告：

以羅12：1-2作為我今天重新獻身的禱告，並在本週的每一天都以此重新向神委身。

Chapter 23

1 Then the king called together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. 2 He went up to the temple of the LORD with the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests and the prophets—all the people from the least to the greatest. He read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the LORD. 3 The king stood by the pillar and renewed the covenant in the presence of the LORD—to follow the LORD and keep his commands, statutes and decrees with all his heart and all his soul, thus confirming the words of the covenant written in this book. Then all the people pledged themselves to the covenant. 4 The king ordered Hilkiah the high priest, the priests next in rank and the doorkeepers to remove from the temple of the LORD all the articles made for Baal and Asherah and all the starry hosts. He burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron Valley and took the ashes to Bethel. 5 He did away with the idolatrous priests appointed by the kings of Judah to burn incense on the high places of the towns of Judah and on those around Jerusalem—those who burned incense to Baal, to the sun and moon, to the constellations and to all the starry hosts. 6 He took the Asherah pole from the temple of the LORD to the Kidron Valley outside Jerusalem and burned it there. He ground it to powder and scattered the dust over the graves of the common people. 7 He also tore down the quarters of the male shrine prostitutes that were in the temple of the LORD, the quarters where women did weaving for Asherah.

MEDITATION:

1. Spend time to read through this chapter to witness the great revival led by Josiah.
2. Josiah's zeal was so great that he did not wait for the completion of the temple renovation before he assembled the people and personally read some parts of the Mosaic Law to them. He then rededicated himself to God, and the people renewed their commitment to the covenant as a nation (v.3). Afterwards, he set out to rid Judah of all those practices against which God's word spoke.
3. Josiah's 31-year reign over Judah did not change the direction of his nation. But Josiah's consistent efforts to serve the Lord won him the divine accolade. God does not require us to be successful. He does, however, call us to be totally committed.
4. The monthly communion is an occasion when I come to renew my commitment with God. How do I do that? Paul urges us: "to offer [our] bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is [our] true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of [our] mind. Then [I] will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."(Rm 12:1-2)

PRAYER:

Use Rm 12:1-2 as a prayer of re-commitment to God for today and the rest of this week.



**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv1-3

Activity: As a family, discuss the covenant or commitment you have with each other. Write a covenant for your family with God. List all God has done for you. Describe what you promise to do for him. If you already have a covenant, review it together and renew your promises to God.

第二十四章

10 那時，巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒的軍兵上到耶路撒冷，圍困城。 11 當他軍兵圍困城的時候，巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒就親自來了。 12 猶大王約雅斤和他母親、臣僕、首領、太監一同出城，投降巴比倫王；巴比倫王便拿住他。那時是巴比倫王第八年。 13 巴比倫王將耶和華殿和王宮裡的寶物都拿去了，將以色列王所羅門所造耶和華殿裡的金器都毀壞了，正如耶和華所說的； 14 又將耶路撒冷的眾民和眾首領，並所有大能的勇士，共一萬人，連一切木匠、鐵匠都擄了去；除了國中極貧窮的人以外，沒有剩下的； 15 並將約雅斤和王母、后妃、太監，與國中的大官，都從耶路撒冷擄到巴比倫去了； 16 又將一切勇士七千人和木匠、鐵匠一千人，都是能上陣的勇士，全擄到巴比倫去了。

默想：

1. 約雅斤從他的父親約雅敬繼承了相當大的問題。因為父親約雅敬不聽主的先知的意見背叛了巴比倫。上位只有3個月，巴比倫尼布甲尼撒的軍隊下來攻擊耶路撒冷。當巴比倫大軍圍困耶路撒冷，尼布甲尼撒王親自出陣，約雅斤出城投降（12節）。可悲的是，他們正像先知所預言的（20：17-18，21：10-16，22：15-17），是按著神的命令而來。在接著的經文中，神幾乎不再出現，但列王紀上下清楚說明，是神選擇巴比倫人來成就他的旨意。
2. 猶大民眾大批的放逐開始，第一批就發生在此時期（14，16，結1：1-3），先知以西結也在放逐行列中。列王紀下後面，就再也沒有出現神的聲音。這對於極其需要神啟示的百姓，是多麼可怕的情境。
3. 在絕望的時候，有些人會禱告、悔改、尋求上帝的赦免與引導。但是聖經並沒有描述約雅斤回轉，約雅斤繼續行耶和華眼中看為惡的事。猶大人民和國王猶大就是如此遠離上帝。

禱告

以謙卑的心，讀下面的經文，作為我向神的認罪與悔改的禱告。

耶和華的膀臂並非縮短，不能拯救，耳朵並非發沉，不能聽見，但你們的罪孽使你們與神隔絕；你們的罪惡使他掩面不聽你們。（賽59：1-2）

Chapter 24

10 At that time the officers of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon advanced on Jerusalem and laid siege to it, 11 and Nebuchadnezzar himself came up to the city while his officers were besieging it. 12 Jehoiachin king of Judah, his mother, his attendants, his nobles and his officials all surrendered to him. In the eighth year of the reign of the king of Babylon, he took Jehoiachin prisoner. 13 As the LORD had declared, Nebuchadnezzar removed the treasures from the temple of the LORD and from the royal palace, and cut up the gold articles that Solomon king of Israel had made for the temple of the LORD. 14 He carried all Jerusalem into exile: all the officers and fighting men, and all the skilled workers and artisans—a total of ten thousand. Only the poorest people of the land were left. 15 Nebuchadnezzar took Jehoiachin captive to Babylon. He also took from Jerusalem to Babylon the king's mother, his wives, his officials and the prominent people of the land. 16 The king of Babylon also deported to Babylon the entire force of seven thousand fighting men, strong and fit for war, and a thousand skilled workers and artisans.

MEDITATION

1. Jehoiachin inherited a pretty big problem from his father Jehoiakim as he rebelled against Babylon (against the advice of the Lord's prophet). The Babylonians are now on the scene. When Nebuchadnezzar's troops were besieging Jerusalem, the Babylonian king personally visited Judah's capital, and Jehoiachin surrendered to him reigned only 3 months (v. 12). The sad news is that the Babylonians came at God's command, as the prophets have spoken. Although God is little mentioned in the following report, 1 & 2 Kings hold that God has chosen Babylonia to accomplish his purposes.
2. A large deportation of Judah's population followed in 597 B.C. The first of the deportations, which includes the prophet Ezekiel, took place at this time (vv14,16, Ezekiel 1:1-3). 2 Kings asserts that these deportations were effected by God, who "expelled [Jerusalem and Judah] from his presence"(v20). After this, God's voice is not heard from again in 2 Kings. What a frightening prospect for a people going through horrific changes.
3. For some people, times of desperation will cause their repentance and seeking after God. The people and king of Judah were so away from God that going to back the true God did not appear to be an option.

PRAYER:

With a humble heart, read this passage as my prayer of confession and repentance to God. *"Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear."* (Is 59:1-2)

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv10-16

Discussion: Will God ever not listen to our prayers? What could be the reason? Read Isaiah 59:1-2 and find the answer in v 2. Parent pray for every member of family for willingness to trust and obey God at all times.



第二十五章

8 巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒十九年五月初七日，巴比倫王的臣僕、護衛長尼布撒拉旦來到耶路撒冷， 9 用火焚燒耶和華的殿和王宮，又焚燒耶路撒冷的房屋，就是各大戶家的房屋。 10 跟從護衛長迦勒底的全軍就拆毀耶路撒冷四圍的城牆。 11 那時護衛長尼布撒拉旦將城裡所剩下的百姓，並已經投降巴比倫王的人，以及大眾所剩下的人，都擄去了。

27 猶大王約雅斤被擄後三十七年，巴比倫王以未米羅達元年十二月二十七日，使猶大王約雅斤抬頭，提他出監； 28 又對他說恩言，使他的位高過與他一同在巴比倫眾王的位， 29 給他脫了囚服。他終身常在巴比倫王面前吃飯。 30 王賜他所需用的食物，日日賜他一分，終身都是這樣。

思想：

1. 在列王紀下最後一章，主嚴厲地懲罰他所愛但是不順服的猶大人。現在猶大人被趕出應許之地流亡異地。縱觀我們“與主有約260”的旅程，我們看見神對他的子民的耐心，一再救贖他們從罪中出來。但公義的神絕不能忽視罪，審判必要臨到。南北國的罪是否太大以至他們不能得到赦免？神是否取消了他的救贖的計劃？
2. 列王紀下是在希望還是絕望中結束？被擄的約雅斤王在豪華的巴比倫王宮度日，神對大衛的應許似乎在此畫上句號。但是列王紀下的結尾還沒有完結。我們若仔細聆聽，還可以聽到那些失喪的人的聲音：“神啊，你為何永遠丟棄我們呢？你為何向你草場的羊發怒如煙冒出呢？求你紀念你古時所得來的會眾”（詩74：1-2）。
3. 當我們絕望懼怕神的判斷和對罪惡的懲罰，從經文中看到神的憐憫和愛。在絕望的判斷中，神的憐憫依然，最後幾節表明了大衛後裔的延續，以至救恩可以由主耶穌完成。

禱告：

今天，我要為神的救恩感謝他。這救恩全因為神對我的慈愛與忍耐。我的罪雖像硃紅、必變成雪白，雖紅如丹顏、必白如羊毛。讚美主，懲罰和判決並沒有最終的發言權。耶路撒冷和聖殿雖被摧毀。然而，新的耶路撒冷將被建立直到永遠。

為完成舊約260（一）而感謝神。

Chapter 25

8 On the seventh day of the fifth month, in the nineteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan commander of the imperial guard, an official of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. 9 He set fire to the temple of the LORD, the royal palace and all the houses of Jerusalem. Every important building he burned down. 10 The whole Babylonian army under the commander of the imperial guard broke down the walls around Jerusalem. 11 Nebuzaradan the commander of the guard carried into exile the people who remained in the city, along with the rest of the populace and those who had deserted to the king of Babylon.

27 In the thirty-seventh year of the exile of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the year Awel-Marduk became king of Babylon, he released Jehoiachin king of Judah from prison. He did this on the twenty-seventh day of the twelfth month. 28 He spoke kindly to him and gave him a seat of honor higher than those of the other kings who were with him in Babylon. 29 So Jehoiachin put aside his prison clothes and for the rest of his life ate regularly at the king's table. 30 Day by day the king gave Jehoiachin a regular allowance as long as he lived.

MEDITATION

1. In the last chapter of 2 Kings, the Lord severely punished people whom He loved by driving them out of the Promise Land into exile. Throughout our 260 journey since Genesis, we saw God's patience towards His people and His repeated redemptive acts. However, our Lord is also a righteous God who cannot overlook sin. The sins of the northern and southern were too great that they cannot be forgiven and God called off his salvation plan. Or did he?
2. Does 2 Kings end on a note of hope or despair? God's promise to David appears to end here, with this captive king living out comfortably at the Babylonian court. 2 Kings closes without closure. If we listen closely enough, we may hear the voices of the bereft: "O God, why do you cast us off forever? Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture? Remember your congregation"(Ps 74:1-2).
3. When we expect the final words being God's judgment and punishment towards sins, we see God's unexpected mercy and love. The significance of the last few verses spoke to God's mercy in the midst of His judgment. They also demonstrated the continuation of David's line which eventually led to Jesus our ultimate Saviour.

PRAYER:

Reflect on the God's mercy in my life and thank Him for his salvation. This salvation would not be possible without His patience for His people all throughout history (including me)! Praise Him that punishment and judgment are not the final words and evil won't have the final say. The old Jerusalem was destroyed and the old temple was burnt. However, the new Jerusalem and temple will last forever: Thank God for finishing the OT 260 (I).

**** (DTFFWC) ****

Read: vv8-10

Activity: God destroyed Jerusalem. As a family, list ways God has intervened in our world today due to sin. Are there spiritual solutions today? Plan a strategy your family can use to help people you know deal with sin.



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本冊《列王紀下靈修篇》由鄭智霖編寫。



萬民福音堂 Peoples Gospel Church
辦公室：恩典福音堂 201 TempoAve., North York
電話：416-499-0111，416-499-9879
網頁：www.peoplesgospelchurch.org