

## **Bible Readings Week 151**

**Monday: Luke 17:20-37** Like many today, the Pharisees said they wanted the Kingdom of God to come; but you can't want the Kingdom and reject the King. Satan knows how to take advantage of that longing; there have been many who claimed to be the Messiah. It is essential that these false Messiahs do not deceive us. Pray that God will help you discern between good and evil.

**Tuesday: Numbers 12:1-16** Moses was a humble and faithful man. Even after the accusations were made by Miriam and Aaron, he kept silent. He did not speak until v13 and this was to pray for his accuser. When we perceive accusations to be petty, false, or self-motivated, the right thing to do is to ignore them, leaving them up to God (see Isaiah 53:7). How do you deal with petty or false accusations?

**Wednesday: 2 Kings 16:1-20** Ahaz put his trust in himself and in man instead of in the living God. Therefore his reign was a disaster, probably the worst among the kings of Judah. The key was that Ahaz had no relationship with God. He was interested in spiritual things, and would even make great spiritual sacrifices but not to the living God. Who do you put your trust in - yourself, others or God?

**Thursday: Psalm 110:1 - 111:10** Psalm 110 is one of the Old Testament passages most quoted in the New Testament. It is quoted by Jesus, Peter, Paul and the writer of Hebrews. Psalm 111 is a song of praise. It begins with the Psalmist declaring praise to God (raising a Hallelujah), which has the sense of encouraging others to do likewise. Use the words of this Psalm in your worship today.

**Friday: Ezekiel 19:1 - 20:20** Chapter 19 described and prophesied the tragedy of the last few kings of Judah. When leaders over the people of God are ungodly and become rightful targets of God's judgment, there is reason for lamentation. In chapter 20 God mercifully spoke to the next generation and told them to not repeat the same mistakes as their fathers. Thank God that he is the God of second chances.

**Weekend: 1 Timothy 3:1-10** God has specific qualifications for leaders in the church. Natural or spiritual gifts in themselves do not qualify one for spiritual leadership. Leaders should be chosen primarily on how they match the qualifications listed here. Pray for Alan, the elders and all the leaders in the church. Pray for those attending the leadership training course that they will develop into spiritual leaders.