

## BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, October 5th, 2014

Passage: 1 Kings 11 (et al.)

Memory Passage: 1 Kings 11:13

### DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 Kings. 8:22-61.** As you read Solomon's prayer of dedication, which he offered after the temple was built and the ark of the covenant was placed in the Holy of Holies, please answer the following:

(b) What does Solomon ask God to do, and to what aspects of His character & work does he appeal (vs. 22-26)?

(c) Explain vs. 27-30, especially with regard to why the temple was built (cf. 8:10 & 13).

(d) The body of Solomon's prayer is easily outlined by his 7 petitions (vs. 31-32, 33-34, 35-36, 37-39, 40-43, 44-45, & 46-52), so for each one identify (1) the sin expected, (2) the expected response of the people, and (3) the expected response of God if the people obey.

(e) How does Solomon view God's covenant fulfilled, and in what role does he see himself with regard to the covenant?

### DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 Kings 9:1-9.** How does God respond to Solomon's prayer (vs. 3)?

(b) Explain the relationship between vs. 4 & 5 (notice that v. 4 begins with "if" and v. 5 begins with "then"), and how this relates to the covenants God made with Adam, Moses, and David.

(c) What would constitute disobedience on Israel's part (v. 6), what curse would follow (v. 7), and what would be the result seen by the watching world (vs. 8-9)?

(d) Future disobedience is assumed in the language of 1 Kings 8 & 9. What does the coming of Christ (the Promised Seed and eternal heir to David's throne) practically accomplish in the life of a new covenant believer in whose life sin is assumed by the Scriptures (in other words, what difference does it make today for you, a sinner, that Christ has come)?

### DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 Kings 10:23-24 & 11:1-8.** Explain what Solomon has done (vs. 1-3a) and what the results are (vs. 3b-8).

(b) Explain how the serpent has accomplished causing a king who has been blessed with the fame summarized in 10:23-24 to pursue the sinfulness described here?

(c) In what ways is your life marked by such a gap between your blessings and your sinfulness, and how do you as a New Covenant believer fight against the wiles of the serpent in order to crucify your own idolatry?

(d) If what you have been reading from 1 Kings was a movie, describe the next scene you would expect to see after the events of 11:1-8 were depicted.

**DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT****READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read 1 Kings 11:9-13.** Why does God respond with anger to Solomon's sinful actions (vs. 9-10)?
- (b) What does God promise to do as a result of these actions, and why is He justified to do this (vs. 11)?
- (c) Explain the grace God bestows upon Solomon, even in the midst of judgment, and upon what basis he gives this grace.
- (d) In what ways do you experience grace, even as you are being disciplined for sin, and upon what basis do you receive it?

**DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT****READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read 1 Kings 11:14-41.** God had given Solomon peace from adversaries (cf. 5:4), but as a result of his apostasy Solomon forfeits this rest. Two military adversaries are raised up in vs. 14-25.
- (b) Who was Jeroboam and for what adversarial purpose did God raise him up?
- (c) How does God remain faithful to his covenant with David, and through whom does he accomplish this?
- (d) Because Solomon broke God's covenant, the kingdom will be torn from him and given to 2 competing kings in a divided kingdom: Jeroboam over Israel, the 10 tribes to the north, and Rehoboam, Solomon's son, over Judah, the 2 southern tribes (see chapter 12 for the details of how God brings this about).

**DATE: October 5, 2014****PASSAGE: 1 Kings 11 (et al.)*****The Divided Kingdom***