

One Year Bible – Week 32

Summary: Romans / 1 Corinthians Reading

Romans closes with a list of recognition of people who Paul commends as laborers in God's kingdom.

Corinth was the largest city of its day next to Rome. It was known for sexual immorality and debauchery. In this letter Paul addresses a host of problems that the Corinthian church is dealing with which have come to his attention.

Summary: 2 Chronicles / Ezra Reading

This week in Second Chronicles we read of Judah's all time best king Josiah. After Josiah, a few more kings rule until Jerusalem falls to the Babylonians and all who survive are exiled to Babylon.

The Book of Ezra accounts post-exilic Israel as they return to Jerusalem to rebuild the Temple. It begins with a decree from King Cyrus of Persia allowing the Jews to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple to their God.

Things to Look For and Questions to Ponder as You Read:

- *OT* – God used the kings of Persia to deliver Israel from exile. Though King Cyrus of Persia did not himself, he allowed the Jews to worship the God of Israel. The first part of the temple to be rebuilt was the altar; even before the foundation. It was as if to say, our worship to God is most important. – *Aug 6*
- *NT* – In his closing remarks of the book of Romans, Paul says these words: "I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me." (Romans 15:30) Not everyone is in the position or called to act in dramatic ways for God such as traveling across the world and starting new churches. However, as Paul writes here, prayer is an important aspect of partnership in ministry with those who are. What people or organizations can you join with in their struggle for the sake of God's Kingdom? – *Aug 2*

Small Group Questions:

- 1) *NT* – Read 1Cor 1:18. Looking also at the surrounding context, what does Paul mean by "foolishness to those who are perishing?" Why do you think Paul is making this contrast between foolishness for those perishing and

power of God for those being saved? How does understanding Paul's meaning here help us as we live for God now? – *Aug 5*

- 2) *NT* – Read 1Cor 4:9-21. Describe in your own words the picture Paul gives of the life of a disciple of Christ. In verses 16-17 Paul urges the Corinthian church to imitate the way of life Paul lives for Jesus. What do you think Timothy would have told the Corinthian church? How can Paul's words in v13 "we have become the scum of the earth," and in v20 "the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power," relate together when spoken of Paul and his followers? What is the picture of a faithful believer that you get from reading this passage? What are some ways that we can live more consistent with this picture today? – *Aug 8*

Journal the Psalms this week:

Remember that whenever you read "The LORD" all in capital letters you are not reading the same as "The Lord" not all in capital letters. "The LORD" all in capital letters is the personal name of God. Some have pronounced it Yahweh (yā – way) but however God's name is pronounced, we do know that when we read "The LORD" we are reading his personal name. Thus when we see his personal name in Scripture we will write it as the consonants "YHWH" in this flyer.

Psalms 27:14 reads: "Wait for YHWH; be strong and take heart and wait for YHWH." The Psalmist is saying to wait for God; not just a distant cosmic God but the personal God who is YHWH (the only God). Journal your thoughts about YHWH as our personal God then respond to the Psalmist's call for us to wait upon him. What does waiting for YHWH look like in your life? – *Aug 5*

Reading Schedule:

2Ch = 2 Chronicles / Ro = Romans / 1Co = 1 Corinthians / Ps = Psalms /
Pr = Proverbs



Aug 2 – 2Ch 32:1-33:13 / Ro 15:23-16:7 / Ps 25:16-22 / Pr 20:16-18
Aug 3 – 2Ch 33:14-34:33 / Ro 16:8-27 / Ps 26:1-12 / Pr 20:19
Aug 4 – 2Ch 35:1-36:23 / 1Co 1:1-17 / Ps 27:1-6 / Pr 20:20-21
Aug 5 – Ezra 1:1-2:7 / 1Co 1:18-2:5 / Ps 27:7-14 / Pr 20:22-23
Aug 6 – Ezra 3:1-4:24 / 1Co 2:6-3:4 / Ps 28:1-9 / Pr 20:24-25
Aug 7 – Ezra 5:1-6:22 / 1Co 3:5-23 / Ps 29:1-11 / Pr 20:26-27
Aug 8 – Ezra 7:1-8:20 / 1Co 4:1-21 / Ps 30:1-12 / Pr 20:28-30