

One Year Bible – Week 41

Summary: Colossians / 1Thessalonians Reading

In the book of Colossians, Paul cautions the church against “hollow and deceptive philosophy” (2:8) that threatens to lead them astray. He addresses this concern by emphasizing the supremacy and sufficiency of Jesus Christ.

The first letter to the Thessalonians is likely to a young church of gentile converts. In this letter, Paul takes a more pastoral tone and attempts to give an accurate perspective to the questions of the church, particularly regarding death and Christ’s return.

Summary: Jeremiah Reading

The initial content of the book of Jeremiah are warnings to Judah. Interestingly, the life of the prophet Jeremiah is used several times as a living analogy to Judah. (see for instance: 13:1-14; 14:1-9; 16:1-9)

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

➤ *OT* – The book of Jeremiah uses poignant imagery such as comparing Judah to a prostitute and being promiscuous toward following other god’s. (see for instance: 2:20-25; 3:1-11) God’s people have treated their relationship with God as his people with disregard and disrespect. Yet even as God’s people have related to him as an unfaithful and promiscuous spouse, God still loves them and welcomes them to come back to him. (3:12-14) Do we sometimes treat God the same as the nation of Judah? Are we promiscuous with our affections toward God, seeking after and giving ourselves to aspirations, habits, and desires that are a cheap alternative to God’s perfect love? – *Oct 4*

Small Group Questions:

- 1) *NT* – Read Col 1:15-20. What stands out to you in this description of Jesus? Why do you think Paul chose these words? Are there any descriptions here that are new for you? What does this passage teach us about Jesus? How does the message of this passage lead us to live in our lives? – *Oct 4*
- 2) *NT* – Read Col 2:8-9. Remember that Paul is talking to believers in this letter. With this in mind, how are people taken captive through

“hollow and deceptive philosophy?” What can you do to protect against being one of these people? – *Oct 6*

- 3) *NT* – Read Col 3:12-17. In this passage a list is given for how a believer should live. Why does this passage indicate we are to live in such a way? In verses 12-14, what would you say is most difficult for you to live out on a regular basis? How consistently do you feel that you live with v16? What would it take to live more consistently with v16? What do you suppose is meant by verse 17? – *Oct 7*
- 4) *NT/OT* – Read Jer 4:3-4 and Col 2:9-13. How would you explain what is meant by the phrase “circumcise your hearts?” (Jer 4:4) What is God telling us as his people in these two passages? Is this a one time event or ongoing? What is necessary for us to live as a person with a circumcised heart? – *Oct 4 & 6*
- 5) *OT* – Contrast these verses: Jer 5:21 & 6:10 with the words of Jeremiah’s prayer Jer 10:23-24. What would you say are significant differences between the two? What words would you use to describe each? What do these verses indicate that we should be careful to avoid in our relationship with God? How do these happen? What should we strive for in our relationship with God? What makes this difficult? – *Oct 5 & 8*

Journal the Psalms this week:

Read Psalm 77:7-9. Are you or have you asked any of these questions? What do you suppose the Psalmist was feeling when he wrote these words? Can you relate to these feelings? Journal your responses to these questions. – *Oct 5*

Reading Schedule:

Jer = Jeremiah / Col = Colossians / 1Th = 1Thessalonians / Ps = Psalms / Pr = Proverbs



Oct 4 – Jer 2:31-4:18 / Col 1:1-20 / Ps 76:1-12 / Pr 24:21-22
Oct 5 – Jer 4:19-6:14 / Col 1:21-2:7 / Ps 77:1-20 / Pr 24:23-25
Oct 6 – Jer 6:15-8:7 / Col 2:8-23 / Ps 78:1-31 / Pr 24:26
Oct 7 – Jer 8:8-9:26 / Col 3:1-17 / Ps 78:32-55 / Pr 24:27
Oct 8 – Jer 10:1-11:23 / Col 3:18-4:18 / Ps 78:56-72 / Pr 24:28-29
Oct 9 – Jer 12:1-14:10 / 1Th 1:1-2:9 / Ps 79:1-13 / Pr 24:30-34
Oct 10 – Jer 14:11-16:15 / 1Th 2:10-3:13 / Ps 80:1-19 / Pr 25:1-5