

8. (Week of July 15, 2018)

Women in the Days of the Kings

Memory Verse: *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.*
2 Cor 5:10 (NIV)

- Sun:** 1 Kings 10:1-10, 13; Matthew 12:42 – In what ways is the Queen of Sheba an example to us? See especially the New Testament application of this story (Matt.12:42).
- Mon:** 1 Kings 16:29-33; 17:1, 8-24; Luke 4:25-26 – Trace the steps in the development of the widow's faith. What use did Jesus make of her example in Luke 4:25-26?
- Tue:** 1 Kings 18:1-19, 40; 19:1-2 – What do you learn here about Jezebel? (See also 16:29-32.)
- Wed:** 1 Kings 21:1-16, 25-26; 2 Kings 9:30-37 – Repeat Tuesday's question. What kind of influence did Jezebel have on her husband? What kind of influence do you have on your spouse?
- Thu:** 2 Kings 4:1-17 – Compare this widow (4:1-7) with the earlier widow of Zarephath (Monday's reading). How is the Shunammite woman an example to us? How was she rewarded?
- Fri:** 2 Kings 4:18-37; 8:1-6 – Repeat the last two questions from yesterday's reading.
- Sat:** 2 Chronicles 22:1-4, 10-12; 23:1-15, 20; 24:7 – List the evil deeds done by Athaliah. What was her relationship to Jezebel?

9. (Week of July 22, 2018)

Esther

Memory verse: *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.* Rom 8:28 (NIV)

- Sun:** Esther 1 – Evaluate the character and conduct of King Xerxes (Ahasuerus) and Queen Vashti.
- Mon:** Esther 2 – What are the outstanding qualities of Esther? By what steps did she become queen?
- Tue:** Esther 3 – Describe Haman's character. What parallels do you see with Hitler's treatment of the Jews.
- Wed:** Esther 4 – "For such a time as this" (v. 14): How is the providence of God seen in the position of Queen Esther? "If I perish, I perish": (v. 16): What character trait do you see here in Esther?
- Thu:** Esther 5 – How does Esther show her wisdom? How does Haman show his pride?
- Fri:** Esther 7:1-8:10 – Compare the story of Esther with what you know of Joseph (OT) and Daniel. How did God use her in a way similar to these men?
- Sat:** Esther 9:1-17 – How was Esther God's instrument in the salvation of the Jews? How can you be God's instrument on behalf of his people?

10. (Week of August 5, 2018)

The Women of Proverbs

Memory Verse: *Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.*
Prov 31:30 (NIV)

- Sun:** Proverbs 5 – Summarize the warning given here against sexual immorality. Summarize the encouragement to fidelity in marriage.
- Mon:** Proverbs 6:20-35 – What are the consequences of sexual immorality?
- Tue:** Proverbs 7 – In this and in previous readings, how is the character and conduct of the immoral woman described?
- Wed:** Proverbs 11:16, 22; 14:1; 18:22; 19:13-14; 21:9, 19 – Contrast the two kinds of women described in these verses. Which are you most like?
- Thu:** Proverbs 31:1-9 – What virtues did King Lemuel's mother encourage him to exhibit?
- Fri:** Proverbs 31:10-20 – List the qualities of a virtuous wife. In which of these areas do you need to grow?
- Sat:** Proverbs 31:21-21 – Repeat yesterday's question. Also, (to husband and children) how much appreciation do you express to your wife and mother?

11. (Week of August 12, 2018)

Elizabeth and Mary

Memory Verse: *"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."*
1 Pet 5:5b (NIV)

- Sun:** Luke 1:5-25 – What kind of woman was Elizabeth? How did God show favor to her?
- Mon:** Luke 1:26-45 – Contrast Mary's reception to the angel's announcement with Zechariah's in yesterday's reading.
- Tue:** Luke 1:46-66 – What does Mary's song reveal about God? About Mary herself?
- Wed:** Luke 2:1-20 – See verse 19: What do you suppose "all these things" were that Mary was treasuring in her heart?
- Thu:** Luke 2:21-40 – How were Joseph and Mary exemplary parents? Explain the meaning of Simeon's words to Mary in verses 34-35.
- Fri:** Luke 2:41-52; 8:19-21; 11:27-28 – What was Mary's unique hardship in being the mother of Jesus?
- Sat:** John 2:1-12; 19:25-27; Acts 1:12-14 – Repeat yesterday's question. What is our last picture of Mary given in the Scriptures (Acts 1:12-14)?