

# Spend Time With God

Proverbs 2:1-5 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> My son, if you **accept my words** and **store up** my commands within you, <sup>2</sup> **turning your ear** to wisdom and **applying your heart** to understanding, <sup>3</sup> and if you **call out** for insight and **cry aloud** for understanding, <sup>4</sup> and if you **look for it** as for silver and **search for it** as for hidden treasure, <sup>5</sup> then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

## History

1 & 2 Samuel  
1 & 2 Kings  
1 & 2 Chronicles

The Israelite Monarchy

+/- 1000 BC - 500 BC

A Civil War --- 2 nations  
Israel  
Judah

2 Chronicles 13:18 (NIV)

<sup>18</sup> **The men of Israel** were subdued on that occasion, and **the men of Judah** were victorious because they relied on the LORD, the God of their fathers.

Kings

Prophets

## I. Unexpected Lessons

### A. Good Kings/Bad Kings

2 Chronicles 14:2-4 (NIV)

<sup>2</sup> Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God. <sup>3</sup> He removed the foreign altars and the high places, smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles. <sup>4</sup> He commanded Judah to seek the LORD, the God of their fathers, and to obey his laws and commands.

1 Kings 16:25 (NASB)

<sup>25</sup> Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, and acted more wickedly than all who *were* before him.

**Isaiah 55:8 (NIV)**

<sup>8</sup> **"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD.**

## B. God's concern

1 Kings 21:20-21, 25 (NIV)

<sup>20</sup> Ahab said to Elijah, "So you have found me, my enemy!" "I have found you," he answered, "because you have sold yourself to do evil in the eyes of the LORD. <sup>21</sup> 'I am going to bring disaster on you. I will consume your descendants and cut off from Ahab every last male in Israel--slave or free. . . .<sup>25</sup> (There was never a man like Ahab, who sold himself to do evil in the eyes of the LORD, urged on by Jezebel his wife.

1 Kings 21:27-29 (NIV)

<sup>27</sup> When Ahab heard these words, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and fasted. He lay in sackcloth and went around meekly. <sup>28</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite: <sup>29</sup> "Have you noticed how Ahab has humbled himself before me? Because he has humbled himself, I will not bring this disaster in his day, but I will bring it on his house in the days of his son."

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 (NIV)

<sup>9</sup> Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders <sup>10</sup> nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> **And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.**

## C. God is Sovereign (The Big Picture)

A people, a land, a covenant, a message for all people, a redeeming God

2 Kings 18:26-31 (NIV)

<sup>26</sup> Then Eliakim son of Hilkiah, and Shebna and Joah said to the field commander, "Please speak to your servants in Aramaic, since we understand it. Don't speak to us in Hebrew in the hearing of the people on the wall." <sup>27</sup> But the commander replied, "Was it only to your master and you that my master sent me to say these things, and not to the men sitting on the wall--who, like you, will have to eat their own filth and drink their own urine?" <sup>28</sup> Then the commander stood and called out in Hebrew: "Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria! <sup>29</sup> This is what the king says: Do not let Hezekiah deceive you. He cannot deliver you from my hand. <sup>30</sup> **Do not let Hezekiah persuade you to trust in the LORD when he says, 'The LORD will surely deliver us; this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.'** <sup>31</sup> "Do not listen to Hezekiah. This is what the king of Assyria says: Make peace with me and come out to me. Then every one of you will eat from his own vine and fig tree and drink water from his own cistern,

2 Kings 19:27-28 (NIV) [from Isaiah re: the Assyrians]

<sup>27</sup> **"But I know where you stay and when you come and go and how you rage against me.** <sup>28</sup> Because you rage against me and your insolence has reached my ears, I will put my hook in your nose and my bit in your mouth, and I will make you return by the way you came.'

Job 23:10 (NIV)

<sup>10</sup> But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV)

<sup>16</sup> Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup> So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

### Prayer

Heavenly Father grant me an understanding heart, listening ears and eyes to perceive your majesty and glory. May your word take root in my heart and direct my steps. Awaken me each morning as one being taught, Holy Spirit lead me in a path that will bring God's best to my life. Through all I say and do may Jesus be glorified. Amen.