

Bible Reading Notes

May 2019 - 2 Chronicles

These notes are easy to install on most phones or tablets.

Install the 'PrayerMate' App and you'll find it under 'subscribe to online feeds' and 'Devotional'. It's called St Philemon's Bible Notes. If you have any problems, email alice@stphilemons.co.uk.

How to use these Bible reading notes

These Bible reading notes are a resource to help you dig into God's word and allow it to change your life. 'A little and often' is a good motto. If you miss a day (or several!), don't feel guilty; just pick up wherever the notes have got to. Here's a guide to get the most out of these notes:

1. Find a time and place where you can be quiet but awake.
2. Ask God to help you understand.
3. Use the notes to help you think about the passage:
 - *'Read' sections get you thinking for yourself about the verses.*
 - *'Apply' sections suggest how they make a difference to you.*
4. Pray about what you have read.
5. Look for an opportunity to share with someone what God has told you.

Wednesday 1 May

Who are we?

The books of Chronicles were written after God's people had returned from exile in Babylon. They were a smaller, weaker, scared nation, and the unnamed Chronicler is trying to remind them who they are! He does that by looking back over Israel's past, with some particular focuses.

In the first book the Chronicler took us from Adam to king David. We pick up the story with David's son, Solomon.

Read 2 Chronicles 1:1-17

The kings of Israel are one of the Chronicler's big focus to explain who Israel really are.

- What clues do we get about Solomon's priorities in this passage? What's his attitude to God?
- How does God respond to this? What is the result for Solomon? For the people of Jerusalem?
- What do you think the Chronicler wants to teach the smaller people of Israel about the importance of the kings to the nation?

Apply

The kings of the Old Testament point forward to the greatest king and son of David, Jesus.

- How does Solomon in this passage foreshadow Jesus? (think about his attitudes/priorities etc.)
- What will be the result for us of having such a king?

Pray – thank God for a king who values wisdom and God over riches for himself.

Thursday 2 May

Two buildings

The two buildings in this chapter help us think about the two institutions that the Chronicler wants to tell us are central to the existence and salvation of God's people.

Read 2 Chronicles 2:1-10

(Tyre was a nearby allied nation to Israel.)

- What are the two buildings that Solomon will build?
- What does the first building need to be like? Why does it need to be built that way? What is it for?

Read 2 Chronicles 2:11-18

We don't hear much about the palace, but we do hear about the king who will live there.

- What's the relationship between God, King Solomon and his people, according to King Hiram?

Apply

Sometimes we can be short-sighted about God's blessings and doubt his love for us.

- How does God show his love for his people in 2 Chronicles? How might this help us when we feel hard done-by by God?

Pray – thank God for his love for us, and for the relationship between us, our King and God.

Friday 3 May

The House of the LORD

Bear in mind the word 'temple' in Hebrew is same as the normal word for 'house'.

Read Chapter 3:1

Araunah's threshing-floor was where David had sacrificed to God to ask forgiveness for a sin that had brought God's anger and judgement on Israel, and where God forgave him and stopped his judgement there and then.

- Why do you think David and Solomon thought this was a fitting place to build the temple?

Read Chapter 3:3-7, 10-12, 4:1-5, 7, 16-18, 19-22, 5:1 (and all of 3:2-5:1 if you have time)

Try to imagine yourself inside the temple as you read.

- What's the purpose of the temple (remember what the word means)?
- How are the materials of the temple fit for that purpose? What would it have been like? What does that tell us about the God who would dwell there?

Apply

- Put together what we learn about God from v1 and from the rest of the chapter. Why is it good news that these things are true at once?
- Do we have a view of God big enough that fits the temple and knows even that is too poor for God's house? (1:6)

Pray – for a bigger and more complete view of God in light of that.

Saturday 4 May

Making a house a home

The temple is done and it's time to bring in the Ark, a symbolic footstool for God and so a sign of his presence.

Read 2 Chronicles 5:2-14

The Ark had been travelling around for years in the Tent of Meeting.

- What is the significance of bringing the Ark to the temple?
- Who is there for it? What do you think this day would have been like to be a part of?
- What happens at the end of the chapter? What does this mean for the people and the temple?

Apply

God promised Abraham that he would make his family into a people, with a land, under God's blessing.

- How do we see fulfilment of each of those promises in this passage?

This passage points us to an even greater fulfilment of those promises in the future.

- How does this passage help us look forward more to that fulfilment? What will God's presence look like for us in the future? (See Revelation 21:1-5)

Pray

Pray looking forward to the day we see that greater fulfilment.

Sunday 5 May

Settling down

God has come to dwell in the temple that Solomon had built – and now Solomon tells what that means.

Read 2 Chronicles 6:1-12

- What had God not done before that he has done now?
- Why does that make this such a big moment in Israel's history? (Think about the fundamental difference between the Tent of Meeting and the Temple – why is that so important?)

The time of Saul and David was a time of regular war.

- How might God's promise to David have felt to an ordinary Israelite at that kind of time?

Apply

- How are our times like the time of David? (see Ephesians 6:12) How do we see that in our lives?
- From yesterday, what can we look forward to that's even greater than the temple? (Rev 21:1-5) When do you find it most difficult to do that?
- How does today's passage help us at those times? How could we call it to mind?

Pray

Ask God to help you trust his promise of future eternal peace even in the spiritual war of today.

Monday 6 May

He stood... and then knelt

We're still at the high-point of the Old Testament as God settles to dwell permanently with his people, and the dynasty of great king David, is on the throne.

Read 2 Chronicles 6:12-17

The platform is about 8ft long and wide and 5ft high.

- What would you think a person is saying about themselves by standing on a big bronze platform like this?
- What does Solomon do that's surprising therefore? What does Solomon say about God? What does he say about his family?
- Why do you think Solomon's attitude is good news for Israel?

Apply

- Think of the things you've done and built (family, career, ministry, anything you're proud of). Do you have the same attitude that Solomon has to his family and the temple? How might our approach to such things look different if we did?

Pray asking God for the eyes to see that every good thing we have is from him by grace.

Tuesday 7 May

May your eyes be open

The temple and the throne are the key parts of Israel's true identity for the Chronicler. This passage helps understand the place of the temple in Israel.

Read as much of 2 Chronicles 6:18-42 as you can. 6:18-21, 26-27, 32-33, 40-42 if you're pressed for time.

- What does Solomon know about the temple? (v18)
- What does it mean for it to be God's dwelling-place if it can't contain him? (v20-21)
- Across the rest of the passage, what is the place of the temple in the people's relationship with God? What happens if you pray in it or toward it? Why?

Apply

The temple has long been destroyed.

- What is the equivalent for us today? (John 2:19-22)
- How does this help us to understand the place of Jesus for us? (Try substituting him into the passage).

Pray

In Jesus name. Remember that if you come in Jesus name, if you 'turn towards him', then God will hear from heaven and forgive us, do what we ask (if it is in his will) and uphold our cause.

Wednesday 8 May

Fear and joy

Solomon has just asked that God hear his people's prayers and have his eyes open to the Temple. God answers him immediately!

Read 2 Chronicles 7:1-10

- How does God show his presence? What does that tell us about him?

The point of animal sacrifices like these was to make a person/place/area holy, and to give thanks to God.

- What is striking about the sacrifices in this passage? Why are they done that way?
- What is the attitude of the people and priests to God? Why do you think that is particularly, in light of God's character that we thought about in the first question?

Apply

God lived with the people of Israel, and he lives *in* us.

- Why is that amazing, in view of God's character and our character?
- What had to happen to make us fit for that?

Pray

Thank God that he makes a way that he, a Holy God, can live in a sinful people. His love endures forever!

Thursday 9 May

The Covenant

The consecration of the Temple has been a time of national celebration for Israel. Here God speaks to round it all off.

Read 2 Chronicles 7:11-22

- What are the promises made about the temple?
- What are the warnings? Why do you think that God is telling Solomon this now, at the height of all the celebration? What dangers in Israel and Solomon's thinking was God warning about?
- What are the promises made about the throne? What are the warnings? (that may be a trick question...)

Apply

Thinking that we can get protection with the things of God without honouring God himself is to treat the things of God like magic talismans/lucky charms.

- How are we tempted to do that with the things of God (church, Bible/Bible reading, the Lord's Supper, baptism, anything you can think of)?

Pray

Ask God to help us hold onto Him and not just his things. Thank him that the covenant with David was unconditional, and that's why he sent us king Jesus!

Friday 10 May

Solomon's glory

Solomon was an ambiguous king who got a lot wrong. But he did trust in God, and the Chronicler wants to show how God blesses such a king.

Read 2 Chronicles 8:1-10

- What did Solomon's reign mean for the towns and cities of Israel? What did it mean for the enemies of Israel (the Hittites etc.)?

Read 2 Chronicles 8:11-18

Solomon sinned by marrying a non-Jew.

- How did he nevertheless do right in that situation?
- How else does he honour God?
- How do vv17-18 sum up Solomon's reign well?

Apply

We have a greater king in Jesus than Solomon. It might help you appreciate him to write down some of the blessings that come to us from Jesus' rule.

Sometimes the consequences of sin can't be easily escaped.

- How has that been the case for you? How can you still honour God in that situation? How is Solomon an encouragement to us in this?

Pray thanking God for the blessings of Jesus' rule, and that even in dealing with the consequence of sin we can still act in a way that pleases Him.

Saturday 11 May

The glory of the king

So great is Solomon's kingdom that the Queen of Sheba (from Southern Arabia) comes to see if it's as great as everyone says.

Read 2 Chronicles 9:1-12

- What are the amazing things about Solomon that overwhelm the Queen?
- What is the result of Solomon's rule for Israel?
- What is the result for the Queen (v12)? What is her response to Solomon's glory? (v8)

Apply

Solomon's glory is but a tiny glimpse of Jesus' glory.

- How are the things that are glorious about Solomon shown even more in Jesus?
- What happens to those who come to Jesus like the Queen came to Solomon? How so?
- When do you feel hard done by by Jesus? How has he out-given you, and how will he do so in the future?

Pray

- Praise Jesus for his many glories – list them!
- Pray for God to help us believe that we can't out-give Jesus.

Sunday 12 May

The Golden Age

Where should little, broken Israel find their hope and identity? The Chronicler looks to their past to remind them of where success really comes from.

Read 2 Chronicles 1:11-12, 9:13-31

Check out the footnotes in your Bible to see how much gold Solomon had.

- How is Solomon's wealth and power shown to us in this passage? How does it benefit his people?
- Why do you think the Chronicler is interested in telling the poor Israelite kingdom of today about Solomon's gold stores?
- Why did Solomon become so wealthy?

Apply

The priorities of our leaders matter immensely.

- What should we be wanting the leaders of our church, our households, our country to prioritise? How can they do that?
- How does Jesus give us the lead in preferring wisdom from God to treasure/glory?

Pray for us and our leaders to follow the lead of Solomon, and ultimately of Jesus, in seeking God's wisdom rather than personal success.

Monday 13 May

A kingdom divided

The golden age of Solomon is over. Now Rehoboam is to ascend to the throne – but all is not well in Israel.

Read 2 Chronicles 10:1-19

Who is to blame for this episode? It's complicated...

- In what way is Rehoboam to blame? How is he shown to be foolish?
- In what way is Solomon to blame?
- In what way is Jeroboam to blame?
- Who is ultimately behind the split in the kingdom (v15)?

The Chronicler probably doesn't dwell on the sin of David and Solomon that brought God's judgement because he wants to focus on the importance of David's line to Israel's future.

Apply

- Are you at risk of making the same mistake as Rehoboam? Do we respect the elders in our church? God appointed elders (though not every elderly person) to rule his church.
- What do you make of the idea that God is ultimately sovereign over bad situations like this? Do you find it comforting? Troubling?

Pray – process your answers to those questions with God.

Tuesday 14 May

Abandoning Israel

The kingdom of David has just divided into Israel in the north and Judah in the south.

Read 2 Chronicles 11:1

- What's Rehoboam's first instinct in response to Jeroboam's rebellion? What do you think of it?

Read 2 Chronicles 11:2-23

- Why is Judah sent home?

Remember that the Chronicler wants to convince little, scared Israel that they should put their hope in David's dynasty.

- How does the split in the kingdom threaten that? How is Rehoboam shown to be in the right in this passage?

Apply

Sometimes, God's way of doing things can seem strange!

- How does this passage help us to trust him when that's the case for us?
- When can Jesus' kingdom seem under threat to you? And what can you look to for assurance when we see those threats?

Pray for help to trust God when his promises seem distant, on the basis of what he has already done.

Wednesday 15 May

Start as you mean to go on?

Rehoboam has taken power and obeyed God's commands, not fighting back against Jeroboam's rebellion and the priests and Levites have flocked to his side. It's looking up for Judah.

Read 2 Chronicles 12:1-5

- What does Rehoboam do? What does that suggest about his attitude to God before?
- What is God's response? How is it fitting?

Read 2 Chronicles 12:6-16

- What is the response of Israel (Judah) to God's anger?
- Why does God still let them be subject to Shishak?
- How would you sum up Rehoboam's reign?

Apply

The Bible encourages confidence in God, but never complacency without him.

- How do you find yourself showing Rehoboam's attitude toward God?
- When you do find yourself serving other things, how does it compare to serving God?

Pray – let's humble ourselves before God in repentance for the ways we abandon him.

Thursday 16 May

Tactical mistakes

From now on the Chronicler is taking us king by king - they're a mixed bag!

Read 2 Chronicles 13:1-22

This is the rebel kingdom of Israel vs. God's kingdom.

- How do the two sides measure up?
- Why is Abijah confident of victory despite that?
- Think about the contrast of Jeroboam's tactic against Abijah's. Which one would we expect to work? How does it turn out? Why?

Apply

We might think 'Well of course sticking with God will win!'

- When do you find yourself struggling to have confidence that God's methods (preaching the gospel, prayer, church) are going to win? What spiritual victories can we look to in our lives and in Bible history?

Pray that we'd trust God to win his way.

A footnote on Royal Polygamy

You will probably notice that the kings of Israel had a lot of wives and concubines (a bit like wives but with fewer rights and less status), a practice known as polygamy.

Polygamy is both foolish and sinful:

1. Jesus says that marriage as God made and intended it was for one man and one woman.
2. In the Old Testament polygamy almost always has disastrous consequences for those concerned. (Please turn over the page)

(Continued) In Chronicles the kings' many wives do show something of their strength, chiefly because of the cost involved, and can also be used by God to strengthen the nation.

But simply because God describes something (and in his providence can use it for good) does not mean he fully approves. Titus 1:6 gives the standard for New Testament leaders.

Friday 17 May

The Humble King

Asa ascends to the throne. Will he be a good king?

Read 2 Chronicles 14:1-8

- How does Asa show wisdom? What is the outcome for him and the people?
- How does Asa use the time of peace well?

Read 2 Chronicles 14:9-15

- Why does Asa trust God will help them?

Apply

Asa trusted God would help Israel on the basis of his character and his name/honour.

- Why does God's character mean we can be confident he will help us as we fight sin and Satan? What about God's name/honour?

Pray for God's help as you fight today against your sin and temptation – and take comfort like Asa!

Saturday 18 May

Asa took courage

Under God, Asa had beaten Israel's enemies on the outside – but what about their problems on the inside?

Read 2 Chronicles 15:1-7

Remember Asa just went to take on a big enemy army!

- Why might God's command in v7 be surprising? Why is it necessary?
- How does what God says in vv2-6 help Asa? What is it like to live under God's blessing?

Read 2 Chronicles 15:8-19

- How would you describe the action Asa took? Do you think it would have been easy?
- What is the result?

Apply

- What kind of leaders should we be looking for? What characteristics does a good church leader have?
- How do we see Jesus being passionate about the holiness of God's people? What action is he taking to look after it? And why is that good news for us?

Pray that our leaders would be able to be courageous and concerned for our holiness, and thank God that Jesus is working to cleanse his people.

Sunday 19 May

Feet of clay

The Chronicler wants the people to remember that commitment to the Temple worship and the line of David is what will build Israel up again.

Read 2 Chronicles 16:1-6

- What is the threat, and Asa's response? How does it work out for him? What do you think of it?

Read 2 Chronicles 16:7-14

- What should Asa have remembered? What is his response to being challenged?
- How does it work out for him? Why is this chapter so surprising, given the Chronicler's emphasis and Asa's past?

Apply

The people don't just need any king – they need one who trusts in God and *keeps* trusting.

- How are we sometimes forgetful like Asa? How can you help yourself remember God's past mercies to you?
- Do you ever find yourself responding to challenges from others like Asa? How would you like to respond instead? Pray about that.

Monday 20 May

Jehoshaphat

Asa started well and finished badly. Let's find out whether his son Jehoshaphat did any better!

Read 2 Chronicles 17:1-9

- How did Jehoshaphat deal with idolatry negatively? (vv3-6)
- How did he deal with it positively? (vv7-9)
- What is God's view of him? Whose footsteps was Jehoshaphat following in?

Read 2 Chronicles 17:10-19

- What is the result of Jehoshaphat's seeking God?

Even Asa's army was only around 580,000, half of Jehoshaphat's!

Apply

We might not worship physical idols, but there are things we put before God.

- What steps might we take to deal with them negatively? (e.g. why are their promises lies?)
- And positively (e.g. why does God fulfil our needs that the idol promises to, but better?)

Pray for God's help in dealing with your idols, and thank him for Jesus work in you to defeat them.

Tuesday 21 May

Two Kings

Jehoshaphat of Judah goes to war today on the side of an unlikely ally – Ahab, one of the worst kings of Israel.

Read 2 Chronicles 18:1-19:3

- What does Ahab's rejection of God mean for the people of Israel?
- How does God judge Ahab? Why is this a frightening prospect for people?

Ahab has refused to listen to God's truth, so God judges him by sending him lying prophets.

- How is God's sovereignty ironically shown?
- How does Jehoshaphat come out of this passage?

Apply

Unlike Jehoshaphat, Jesus brings sinful people onto God's side, rather than being drawn onto theirs!

Ahab was judged because he refused to listen to God – his heart was hardened.

- How can we avoid the same thing happening to us?
See Hebrews 3:12-13 especially.

Pray for our church to be encouraging one another in this way.

Pray for church leaders everywhere and in our church to follow Jesus' way rather than Jehoshaphat's.

Wednesday 22 May

Delegation

We learn a bit more about how Jehoshaphat governed Israel well in today's passage.

Read 2 Chronicles 19:4-11

- How did Jehoshaphat show his personal concern for the godliness of Judah?
- What were his priorities for the judges? And for those administering the law of the Lord?
- What will be the consequence of failure? What about of success?

Apply

For the Chronicler, a good king in David's line will set authorities up under him to rule his people.

- Who does Jesus set up to rule over his church underneath him?
- How can this passage help us understand what the priorities of pastors/elders/leaders should be? And what their job is?
- How can this help us to pray for our leaders?

Pray – give thanks to Jesus for the leaders he has appointed over us for our good, and pray for them to be godly in the way they shepherd us.

Thursday 23 May

The battle is God's

We're still with king Jehoshaphat of Judah – the Chronicler is reminding Israel of how they were a great nation before, and how to become strong again – the temple and the kings in David's line.

Read 2 Chronicles 20:1-13

- How does the situation look for Israel? Where is the king's confidence found?
- How is the temple important in this?

Read 2 Chronicles 20:14-30

- How is God's amazing promise in v17 fulfilled?
- How does the king encourage the people to respond? How is that shown in their actions?
- How do the Chronicler's two big themes work together in this passage?

Apply

The king at the temple intercedes on his people's behalf, God hears, and the king leads them to victory.

- How do we see Jesus bringing these two threads of temple (the place God dwells and hears us) and kingship, leading God's people into battle?

Give thanks to God for how Jesus is our king and the place where we meet God, for how he makes us strong.

Friday 24 May

Mixed blessings

We come to the end of Jehoshaphat's reign today. The Chronicler gives us a mixed picture of his impact.

Read 2 Chronicles 20:31-37

- How was Jehoshaphat a good king?
- How did he fail? Where have we seen this failure before? (Look at chapter 18 for a refresher)
- What happened to his work?

Apply

The Chronicler wanted the people to understand where success would come from as a nation, and also where it wouldn't.

- Why might Jehoshaphat's temptation have been relevant to Israel as they felt small and vulnerable?
- Where might we be vulnerable to the same temptation? What compromising alliances can you think of that might be dangerous for the people of God today?

Of course, that isn't to say Christians shouldn't work with others – but we need to be wary of tying God's church to them as Jehoshaphat tied Israel.

Pray that God would help us trust him to look after us, rather than ally ourselves to his enemies.

Saturday 25 May

Judgement and mercy

Israel has had a run of quite good kings. That all changed when Jehoram took the throne.

Read 2 Chronicles 21:1-20

- How does Jehoram disobey God?
- What is God's judgement? Where does it fall?

As ever in Chronicles, the fate of the king and the people of Israel are one.

- How does God show mercy? And why?
- How might that have been an encouragement to the people of Israel when they were small and in danger?

Apply

God's promises are trustworthy, even in the face of extreme disobedience by his people.

- How can that be a comfort to us today, as a church and as individuals? What promises of God can we hold onto?
- Think about God's promise of a descendant of David reigning for ever and how that enables mercy to be shown to his sinful people.

Pray through some of God's promises, claiming them from him and asking that he fulfil them.

Sunday 26 May

A bad influence

Bad king Jehoram is dead – unfortunately for Israel, the worst is not yet over.

Read 2 Chronicles 22:1-6

- How is Ahaziah disobedient to God?
- Where does his disobedience come from?

Read 2 Chronicles 22:7-9

- Who seemed to be behind Ahaziah's downfall? And who was really behind it?
- Who else's influence do we see in this passage for good?

Apply

- How do we see in Jehoshaphat's influence here a little picture of the power of Jesus' goodness?

Ahaziah became evil at least in part because of his mother and his advisors.

- Do we take seriously the idea that the people we listen to can influence us for evil? (1 Cor 15:33)
- How can we avoid being influenced by bad advice without abandoning people? Some of the people who give us that kind of advice might be close by!

Pray for wisdom from God in thinking about this issue.

Monday 27 May

Athaliah

Evil Queen Athaliah has tried to wipe out God's chosen family, David's descendants.

Read 2 Chronicles 22:10-23:21

This passage could easily be made into a film! Try and imagine the action scene by scene.

- How is the future king saved?
- What drives Jehoiada? What is his first concern?
- What does the defeat of Athaliah mean for the people of Israel?
- How do we see God at work here?

Apply

Athaliah's rule would have been a dark time.

- How can this passage be an encouragement to us when things seem to be going wrong for the church?
- What would it look like for us to have Jehoiada's faith?

Pray for eyes to see God's work in dark times, and to trust him when we can't see.

Tuesday 28 May

Rebuilding

Remember, the Chronicler wants Israel to see that their hope is best placed in God's temple, and in his promise to the line of David.

Read 2 Chronicles 24:1-16

- What is Joash keen to do? What is behind his desire?
- How do we see God's people at their best here? And what has made them behave like this?

But we see some hints that all is not well here:

- Can you see the Chronicler's clues that all is about to go wrong? Who is really behind Judah honouring of God?
- What honour is Jehoiada granted? Why?

Apply

God's people who have been saved from tyranny by his king and priest respond in radical generosity!

- Do we find ourselves giving gladly to the cause of the gospel? If so, how has that come about in us?
- If and when we struggle to give, how can Christ's rescue help our mindset?

Pray for an understanding of the slavery and evil we have been rescued from by Jesus, our better priest-king, and for him to be growing generosity in us.

Wednesday 29 May

Backsliding

Just when we had escaped from the darkest period of Judah's history, we get plunged straight back in...

Read 2 Chronicles 24:17-27

- How does Joash end up going astray?
- How is God's mercy shown to Judah?
- What is Joash's most heinous crime? Why is this so awful?

God judged Joash for his wickedness.

- What is ironic about Joash's death? (compare v17)

Apply

Joash repeats the mistake of Ahaziah and listens to the wrong people.

- What is one of the dangers of listening to and joining with those who hate God and his ways?
- How is Joash a warning against complacency for us?

Pray for God's help to keep trusting in and listening to him.

Thursday 30 May

Keeping going

Amaziah comes to the throne after his father has been assassinated by his officials.

Read 2 Chronicles 25:1-12

- Why is Amaziah's behaviour encouraging?
- What lesson does he need to learn about God?

Read 2 Chronicles 25:13-27

Amaziah is yet another king who starts well but can't finish well.

- What is the sign that God is going to destroy him? Why is it proof that he will be destroyed?
- How does he cause his own destruction?

Apply

- Why is stopping listening to God the most dangerous thing we can do? How can that help us to keep going?

We have a king who doesn't just start well, but keeps going!

- Do the failures of Chronicles make you more grateful for him?

Praise God for a king who doesn't stop part way through his mission but keeps trusting God.

Friday 31 May

Lord... do not reject your anointed one

It's our last day in 2 Chronicles, for now – let's take the chance to look back.

Read 2 Chronicles 6:40-42

We're back in Solomon's prayer at the dedication of the Temple.

- How does this passage sum up 2 Chronicles well? When have things gone well for Israel? When have they gone badly?
- Where does the Chronicler want the new generation of Israelites to put their hope and identity?

Apply

- How have Solomon's words found even greater fulfilment in Jesus?
- Looking back over Chronicles, how has it made you appreciate Jesus more as the fulfilment of God's promises to David and of the Temple?
- What do you want to take away from Judah and the kings' failures?

Take some time to ask God to dig those truths down deep into your heart.