

Leviticus 24
Psalm 31
Ecclesiastes 7
Il Timothy 3
The Discipline of Grace 4

#### PRAY:

Father show us who you are. Show us your person, your power, your purposes. Overwhelm us with a knowledge of you that penetrates our minds and imbeds itself in the deepest recesses of our hearts. Let this knowledge so change our hearts that it results in our lives being lived in light of who you are, what you have done and what you say is true about us in Jesus Christ.

Notes Thoughts Questions:



### AS YOU READ THROUGH TODAY'S PASSAGES REFLECT ON THESE QUESTIONS:

What are some things revealed in these passages about the person and character of God? Who is he? What is he like?

What are some things that God has done to reveal who he is?

Who are you in light of God's work? What is it that God is saying about you?

How should knowing who God is, what he has done and what he says about you change how you live?



#### The Lamps

**24** The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup> "Command the people of Israel to bring you pure oil from beaten olives for the lamp, that a light may be kept burning regularly. <sup>3</sup> Outside the veil of the testimony, in the tent of meeting, Aaron shall arrange it from evening to morning before the LORD regularly. It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations. <sup>4</sup> He shall arrange the lamps on the lampstand of pure gold before the LORD regularly.

#### **Bread for the Tabernacle**

<sup>5</sup> "You shall take fine flour and bake twelve loaves from it; two tenths of an ephah shall be in each loaf. <sup>6</sup> And you shall set them in two piles, six in a pile, on the table of pure gold before the LORD. <sup>7</sup> And you shall put pure frankincense on each pile, that it may go with the bread as a memorial portion as a food offering to the LORD. <sup>8</sup> Every Sabbath day Aaron shall arrange it before the LORD regularly; it is from the people of Israel as a covenant forever. <sup>9</sup> And it shall be for Aaron and his sons, and they shall eat it in a holy place, since it is for him a most holy portion out of the LORD's food offerings, a perpetual due."

### **Punishment for Blasphemy**

<sup>10</sup> Now an Israelite woman's son, whose father was an Egyptian, went out among the people of Israel. And the Israelite woman's son and a man of Israel fought in the camp, <sup>11</sup> and the Israelite woman's son blasphemed the Name, and cursed. Then they brought him to Moses. His mother's name was Shelomith, the daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan. <sup>12</sup> And they put him in custody, till the will of the LORD should be clear to them.

<sup>13</sup> Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>14</sup> "Bring out of the camp the one who cursed, and let all who heard him lay their hands on his head, and let all the congregation stone him.
<sup>15</sup> And speak to the people of Israel, saying, Whoever curses his God shall bear his sin.
<sup>16</sup> Whoever blasphemes the name of the LORD shall surely be put to death. All the

congregation shall stone him. The sojourner as well as the native, when he blasphemes the Name, shall be put to death.

#### An Eye for an Eye

<sup>17</sup> "Whoever takes a human life shall surely be put to death. <sup>18</sup> Whoever takes an animal's life shall make it good, life for life. <sup>19</sup> If anyone injures his neighbor, as he has done it shall be done to him, <sup>20</sup> fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; whatever injury he has given a person shall be given to him. <sup>21</sup> Whoever kills an animal shall make it good, and whoever kills a person shall be put to death. <sup>22</sup> You shall have the same rule for the sojourner and for the native, for I am the LORD your God." <sup>23</sup> So Moses spoke to the people of Israel, and they

brought out of the camp the one who had cursed and stoned him with stones. Thus the people of Israel did as the LORD commanded Moses.

Notes
Thoughts
Questions:



# **PSALM 31**

#### **Into Your Hand I Commit My Spirit**

**31** To the Choirmaster. A Psalm of David.

- In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me!
- Incline your ear to me;
   rescue me speedily!
   Be a rock of refuge for me,
   a strong fortress to save me!
- For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me;
- you take me out of the net they have hidden for me, for you are my refuge.
- Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.
- <sup>6</sup> I hate those who pay regard to worthless idols, but I trust in the LORD.
- I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction; you have known the distress of my soul,
- and you have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy; you have set my feet in a broad place.
- Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body also.
- For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones waste away.

Notes
Thoughts
Questions:

Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach, especially to my neighbors, and an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me.

- <sup>12</sup> I have been forgotten like one who is dead;
  - I have become like a broken vessel.
- For I hear the whispering of many—
  terror on every side!—
  as they scheme together against me,
  as they plot to take my life.
- But I trust in you, O LORD;

I say, "You are my God."

- 15 My times are in your hand;
  - rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!
- Make your face shine on your servant; save me in your steadfast love!
- <sup>17</sup> O LORD, let me not be put to shame,

for I call upon you;

let the wicked be put to shame;

let them go silently to Sheol.

- 18 Let the lying lips be mute,
  - which speak insolently against the righteous in pride and contempt.
- <sup>19</sup> Oh, how abundant is your goodness,

which you have stored up for those who fear you

and worked for those who take refuge in you,

in the sight of the children of mankind!

In the cover of your presence you hide them

from the plots of men;

you store them in your shelter

from the strife of tongues.

21 Blessed be the LORD,

for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me when I was in a besieged city.

<sup>22</sup> I had said in my alarm,

"I am cut off from your sight."

But you heard the voice of my pleas for mercy

when I cried to you for help.

- Love the LORD, all you his saints!

  The LORD preserves the faithful but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.
- Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD!



## **ECCLESIASTES 7**

### The Contrast of Wisdom and Folly

- **7** A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of birth.
- It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for this is the end of all mankind, and the living will lay it to heart.
- Sorrow is better than laughter,
  for by sadness of face the heart is made glad.
- The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.
- It is better for a man to hear the rebuke of the wise than to hear the song of fools.
- For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fools; this also is vanity.
- Surely oppression drives the wise into madness, and a bribe corrupts the heart.

Better is the end of a thing than its beginning,

and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

- <sup>9</sup> Be not quick in your spirit to become angry,
  - for anger lodges in the heart of fools.
- Say not, "Why were the former days better than these?"
  - For it is not from wisdom that you ask this.
- <sup>11</sup> Wisdom is good with an inheritance,
  - an advantage to those who see the sun.
- For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money,

  and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom preserves the life of him who has it.
- <sup>13</sup> Consider the work of God:
  - who can make straight what he has made crooked?
- <sup>14</sup> In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of adversity consider: God has made the one as well as the other, so that man may not find out anything that will be after him.
- <sup>15</sup> In my vain life I have seen everything. There is a righteous man who perishes in his righteousness, and there is a wicked man who prolongs his life in his evildoing. <sup>16</sup> Be not overly righteous, and do not make yourself too wise. Why should you destroy yourself? <sup>17</sup> Be not overly wicked, neither be a fool. Why should you die before your time? <sup>18</sup> It is good that you should take hold of this, and from that withhold not your hand, for the one who fears God shall come out from both of them.
  - <sup>19</sup> Wisdom gives strength to the wise man more than ten rulers who are in a city.
  - <sup>20</sup> Surely there is not a righteous man on earth who does good and never sins.
- <sup>21</sup> Do not take to heart all the things that people say, lest you hear your servant cursing you. <sup>22</sup> Your heart knows that many times you yourself have cursed others.
- <sup>23</sup> All this I have tested by wisdom. I said, "I will be wise," but it was far from me. <sup>24</sup> That which has been is far off, and deep, very deep; who can find it out?
- <sup>25</sup> I turned my heart to know and to search out and to seek wisdom and the scheme of things, and to know the wickedness of folly and the foolishness that is madness. <sup>26</sup> And I find something more bitter than death: the woman whose heart is snares and nets, and whose hands are fetters. He who pleases God escapes her, but the sinner is taken by her. <sup>27</sup> Behold, this is what I found, says the Preacher, while adding one thing to another to find the scheme of things— <sup>28</sup> which my soul has sought repeatedly, but I have not found. One man among a

thousand I found, but a woman among all these I have not found. <sup>29</sup> See, this alone I found, that God made man upright, but they have sought out many schemes.

Notes
Thoughts
Questions:



## II TIMOTHY 3

#### **Godlessness in the Last Days**

3 But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. <sup>2</sup> For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup> heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, <sup>4</sup> treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, <sup>5</sup> having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. <sup>6</sup> For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, <sup>7</sup> always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. <sup>8</sup> Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith. <sup>9</sup> But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.

#### All Scripture Is Breathed Out by God

You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, <sup>11</sup> my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. <sup>12</sup> Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. <sup>13</sup> But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it <sup>15</sup> and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.



## THE DISCIPLINE OF GRACE BY JERRY BRIDGES

Notes
Thoughts
Questions:

Read Chapter 4 pages 53-61a of The Discipline of Grace. Underline key sentences and meaningful passages. Once the chapter is finished, you will answer some questions to help you process your reading.



JOURNAL A PRAYER TO THE LORD FROM YOUR READING TODAY.