



SEPTEMBER 26

GCC 2021 READING PLAN

II Samuel 22
Galatians 2
Ezekiel 29

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.

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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?



II SAMUEL 22

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David's Song of Deliverance

22 And David spoke to the LORD the words of this song on the day when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. ² He said,

"The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,

³ my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,

my shield, and the horn of my salvation,

my stronghold and my refuge,

my savior; you save me from violence.

⁴ I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,

and I am saved from my enemies.

⁵ "For the waves of death encompassed me,

the torrents of destruction assailed me;

⁶ the cords of Sheol entangled me;

the snares of death confronted me.

⁷ "In my distress I called upon the LORD;

to my God I called.

From his temple he heard my voice,

and my cry came to his ears.

⁸ "Then the earth reeled and rocked;

the foundations of the heavens trembled

and quaked, because he was angry.

⁹ Smoke went up from his nostrils,

and devouring fire from his mouth;

glowing coals flamed forth from him.

- 10 He bowed the heavens and came down;
thick darkness was under his feet.
- 11 He rode on a cherub and flew;
he was seen on the wings of the wind.
- 12 He made darkness around him his canopy,
thick clouds, a gathering of water.
- 13 Out of the brightness before him
coals of fire flamed forth.
- 14 The LORD thundered from heaven,
and the Most High uttered his voice.
- 15 And he sent out arrows and scattered them;
lightning, and routed them.
- 16 Then the channels of the sea were seen;
the foundations of the world were laid bare,
at the rebuke of the LORD,
at the blast of the breath of his nostrils.
- 17 "He sent from on high, he took me;
he drew me out of many waters.
- 18 He rescued me from my strong enemy,
from those who hated me,
for they were too mighty for me.
- 19 They confronted me in the day of my calamity,
but the LORD was my support.
- 20 He brought me out into a broad place;
he rescued me, because he delighted in me.
- 21 "The LORD dealt with me according to my righteousness;

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according to the cleanness of my hands he rewarded me.

22 For I have kept the ways of the LORD

and have not wickedly departed from my God.

23 For all his rules were before me,

and from his statutes I did not turn aside.

24 I was blameless before him,

and I kept myself from guilt.

25 And the LORD has rewarded me according to my righteousness,

according to my cleanness in his sight.

26 "With the merciful you show yourself merciful;

with the blameless man you show yourself blameless;

27 with the purified you deal purely,

and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous.

28 You save a humble people,

but your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down.

29 For you are my lamp, O LORD,

and my God lightens my darkness.

30 For by you I can run against a troop,

and by my God I can leap over a wall.

31 This God—his way is perfect;

the word of the LORD proves true;

he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.

32 "For who is God, but the LORD?

And who is a rock, except our God?

33 This God is my strong refuge

and has made my way blameless.

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34 He made my feet like the feet of a deer
and set me secure on the heights.

35 He trains my hands for war,
so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.

36 You have given me the shield of your salvation,
and your gentleness made me great.

37 You gave a wide place for my steps under me,
and my feet did not slip;

38 I pursued my enemies and destroyed them,
and did not turn back until they were consumed.

39 I consumed them; I thrust them through, so that they did not rise;
they fell under my feet.

40 For you equipped me with strength for the battle;
you made those who rise against me sink under me.

41 You made my enemies turn their backs to me,
those who hated me, and I destroyed them.

42 They looked, but there was none to save;
they cried to the LORD, but he did not answer them.

43 I beat them fine as the dust of the earth;
I crushed them and stamped them down like the mire of the streets.

44 "You delivered me from strife with my people;
you kept me as the head of the nations;
people whom I had not known served me.

45 Foreigners came cringing to me;
as soon as they heard of me, they obeyed me.

46 Foreigners lost heart

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and came trembling out of their fortresses.

- 47 "The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock,
and exalted be my God, the rock of my salvation,
48 the God who gave me vengeance
and brought down peoples under me,
49 who brought me out from my enemies;
you exalted me above those who rose against me;
you delivered me from men of violence.
50 "For this I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations,
and sing praises to your name.
51 Great salvation he brings to his king,
and shows steadfast love to his anointed,
to David and his offspring forever."

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GALATIANS 2

Paul Accepted by the Apostles

2 Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. ²I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain. ³But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. ⁴Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery—⁵to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you. ⁶And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me. ⁷On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised ⁸(for he who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised

worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles),⁹ and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.¹⁰ Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

Paul Opposes Peter

¹¹ But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned.¹² For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party.¹³ And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.¹⁴ But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

Justified by Faith

¹⁵ We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners;¹⁶ yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

¹⁷ But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not!¹⁸ For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor.¹⁹ For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God.²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.²¹ I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

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EZEKIEL 29

Prophecy Against Egypt

29 In the tenth year, in the tenth month, on the twelfth day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me:² "Son of man, set your face against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and prophesy against him and against all Egypt;³ speak, and say, Thus says the Lord GOD:

"Behold, I am against you,

Pharaoh king of Egypt,

the great dragon that lies

in the midst of his streams,
that says, 'My Nile is my own;
I made it for myself.'

⁴ I will put hooks in your jaws,
and make the fish of your streams stick to your scales;
and I will draw you up out of the midst of your streams,
with all the fish of your streams
that stick to your scales.

⁵ And I will cast you out into the wilderness,
you and all the fish of your streams;
you shall fall on the open field,
and not be brought together or gathered.

To the beasts of the earth and to the birds of the heavens
I give you as food.

⁶ Then all the inhabitants of Egypt shall know that I am the LORD.

"Because you have been a staff of reed to the house of Israel, ⁷ when they grasped you with the hand, you broke and tore all their shoulders; and when they leaned on you, you broke and made all their loins to shake. ⁸ Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will bring a sword upon you, and will cut off from you man and beast, ⁹ and the land of Egypt shall be a desolation and a waste. Then they will know that I am the LORD.

"Because you said, 'The Nile is mine, and I made it,' ¹⁰ therefore, behold, I am against you and against your streams, and I will make the land of Egypt an utter waste and desolation, from Migdol to Syene, as far as the border of Cush. ¹¹ No foot of man shall pass through it, and no foot of beast shall pass through it; it shall be uninhabited forty years. ¹² And I will make the land of Egypt a desolation in the midst of desolated countries, and her cities shall be a desolation forty years among cities that are laid waste. I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and disperse them through the countries.

¹³ "For thus says the Lord GOD: At the end of forty years I will gather the Egyptians from the peoples among whom they were scattered, ¹⁴ and I will restore the fortunes of Egypt and bring them back to the land of Pathros, the land of their origin, and there they shall be a lowly kingdom. ¹⁵ It shall be the most lowly of the kingdoms, and never again exalt itself above the nations. And I will make them so small that they will never again rule over the nations. ¹⁶ And it

shall never again be the reliance of the house of Israel, recalling their iniquity, when they turn to them for aid. Then they will know that I am the Lord GOD.”

¹⁷In the twenty-seventh year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: ¹⁸“Son of man, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon made his army labor hard against Tyre. Every head was made bald, and every shoulder was rubbed bare, yet neither he nor his army got anything from Tyre to pay for the labor that he had performed against her. ¹⁹Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will give the land of Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and he shall carry off its wealth and despoil it and plunder it; and it shall be the wages for his army. ²⁰I have given him the land of Egypt as his payment for which he labored, because they worked for me, declares the Lord GOD.

²¹“On that day I will cause a horn to spring up for the house of Israel, and I will open your lips among them. Then they will know that I am the LORD.”

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JOURNAL A PRAYER TO THE LORD FROM YOUR READING TODAY.