

Money and the Church
2 Kings 12:1-16, Pew Bible p. 318
January 7, 2024

I. Command to Remodel the Temple (V. 1-8)

- A. The physical care of God's house is the spiritual responsibility of God's people.
- B. God's people give both from the heart and as a discipline.
- C. God's people must be led in their giving.
 - 1. There's a difference between leading and manipulating.
 - 2. Not everyone who wants to give knows how to give.

II. The Process of Remodeling the Temple (V. 9-16)

- A. Fundamental truths about Christian giving
 - 1. God does not need our money.
 - 2. Our money is a great way to express our devotion to Christ.
 - 3. Our money cannot replace our devotion to Christ.
 - 4. Our money requires a combination of trust and accountability.
 - 5. Everything our money builds is temporary, but the faith our money expresses is eternal.
- B. The house of God will always have a combination of committed givers and paid workers.
 - 1. Committed givers are needed because God commands it.
 - 2. Paid workers are needed because not everyone is qualified for every kind of work.

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read 2 Kings 12:1-16.
2. Have you ever been a part of a church which had a building/property in disrepair? What contributed to this situation? What did it say about the church?
3. How can giving money to God's church express devotion to God, as verses 5-6 imply about King Jehoshaphat? How is giving money as a Christian both an issue of the heart and a matter of discipline, as verses 4-5 imply?
4. Why did Judah need King Jehoshaphat's leadership in the matter of remodeling the temple, according to verses 7-8? In what ways do Christians today need to be led in giving to God's church?
5. What is the difference between being led in giving to God, which is what the king and the high priest were doing (V. 7-10), and being manipulated to give to God, which is an all too common problem in religious circles today?
6. What do verses 9-16 imply about the need for both committed givers and paid workers in the church? What happens if one of either is missing in the church today?
7. Pray for our church members to give sacrificially and joyfully to the gospel ministry of the church. Come to the church prayer meeting this Wednesday from 6:00–6:30 pm in Worship Center Room 103. Look for the prayer meeting sign, then enter through the outside door directly across from the Fellowship Center doors.

Church Reading Plan (1/8-1/14)

Hebrews 8-13

2 Corinthians 6:1-2 (ESV)

¹ Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ² For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting

- PRAYING for visitors to the church considering becoming followers of Christ and new believers seeking baptism.

Pray for Our Church Family Needs:

- PRAY for missions and missionaries:
Andy & Lindsay M. in Spain; Luke P. in Maricopa, Arizona; Nathan & Becky F. in Indonesia; Doug & Cheryl D. in Thailand; Jules S. in Thailand; and Sylvia M. and Andrew M. at ASU West, Glendale, Arizona.
- PRAY for all our students: elementary school, middle school, high school, and college. No matter whether they are in the classroom, an online setting, or a home school setting, our students are forming minds that need to focus on Christ.
- PRAY for family & friends of church members who need salvation or to renew their relationship with Jesus:
Sharon L. (children & grandchildren); Marge D. (son, Matthew); Rezwana D. (parents); Margaret J. (Tom & Bob); Sophia W. (husband); Ida S. (granddaughter & her husband); Charity M. (daughter); Kayla P. (nephew, Jordan); and Gary & Betty B. (grandchildren & siblings)
- PRAY for families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones:
Nancy C., Marie B., and Yvonne P & families (husband & father); Greg C. (wife); family of Sam B.; and Dorothy C. (sister's husband)
- PRAY for those struggling with ongoing health and other issues:
Michelle L. (health); Leon V. (chemo); Jan B. (health); Stan & Twyla H. (health & other issues); Mimi M. (health); Edna N. (health); Helene D. (eyesight); Ann C.-W. (pain); Elaine W. (health); John & Debbie P. (health); Ed G. (health); Marge D. (health); Anne W. (chest pain/lung issue); Michelle LaM. (upcoming procedure & CT scan; financial concerns); Sherri O. (heart issue); Ken & Darlene R. (health); Debbie B. (surgery recovery); Margaret J. (surgery recovery); Kelly J. (surgery recovery); Rita H. (hip surgery recovery); April H.-F. (upcoming surgery); Laura M. (health); and Nancy S. (rehab)
- PRAY for others that you are aware of.