

Dead in Our Loyalty
2 Kings 17:24-41, Pew Bible p. 324
March 10, 2024

I. Man's Search for a Higher Power (V. 24-28)

- A. No one is naturally loyal to God.
- B. Everyone is searching for a higher power.

II. Man's Lost Search (V. 29-33)

- A. Problems to our search for a higher power:
 - 1. Our tendency to ask the wrong people.
 - 2. Our tendency to hear the wrong way.
- B. Our ability to tell people about God will never surpass:
 - 1. Our knowledge of God.
 - 2. Our obedience to God.

III. God's Unchanging Word (V. 34-41)

- A. Loyalty to God requires renouncing our allegiance to all other powers.
 - 1. Fear no one else.
 - 2. Submit to no one else.
 - 3. Work for no one else.
 - 4. Give to no one else.
- B. Only the gospel of Jesus Christ can confront our disloyalty to God.

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read 2 Kings 17:24-41.
2. What do verses 25-26 say about the nations around Israel and their desire to be loyal to God? Is that true today? How do you know?
3. What does the King of Assyria's request to send an exiled, Israelite priest to his vassals in Samaria say about the lost world's interest in a higher power? What does that tell you about the lost world's interest in God?
4. Have you ever tried to add what you knew about God to your own preferences on how to live your life, as the Assyrian vassals did in verses 29 and 33? Why?
5. What does verse 34 say about what God thinks when we both fear God and fear other gods? Have you ever been divided in your loyalty to God? What did that look like?
6. How can you help break the cycle of disloyalty to God among your peers? Name one person in your life who has divided loyalty to God that you can proclaim the truth to and commit to praying for and witnessing to them.
7. Pray for our church members to not be enslaved to divided loyalty to God. Come to the church prayer meeting this Wednesday from 6:00–6:30 pm in Worship Center Room 103.

Church Reading Plan (3/11-3/17)

Read John 22-24

1 Chronicles 16:28-31 (ESV)

²⁸ Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! ²⁹ Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him! Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; ³⁰ tremble before him, all the earth; yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved. ³¹ Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice, and let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!"

Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting

- PRAYING for the Worship Director Search Committee as it searches for a new worship leader.

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); Gary & Betty B. (grandchildren & siblings); and V. family (Ashley & Jesse); Michelle LaM. (son)
- PRAY for families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones:
Dorothy C. (sister's husband & son-in-law); and Gary & Betty B. (her sister)
- PRAY for those struggling with ongoing health and other issues:
Michelle L. (health); Leon V. (chemo); Jan B. (health); Kelly J. (health); Debbie P. (health); Debbie B. (health); Marge D. (health); Rita H. (health); Mimi M. (health); Laura M. (health); April H.-F. (upcoming treatments); Helene D. (eyes/shoulders); Peggy T. (physical therapy); Jeff S. (serious health issues); Kathy W. (heart & other health concerns); Ken R. (kidney stone issues & infection); Michelle LaM. (awaiting test results); Sherri O. (upcoming heart surgery); and Ann C.-W. (headaches & vertigo)
- PRAY for others that you are aware of.