

2014

Session 10

The Summer Reading Challenge



THE BIBLE IN 90 DAYS™

WHOLE-CHURCH CHALLENGE

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Tonight's Outline

- Welcome Activities
- Reading Discussion (30 min)
- Video (20 min)
- Video Discussion
- This Coming Week's Reading
- Closing Prayer



Welcome Activities

- Opening Prayer

Reading Discussion

- Go figure: even after Jeremiah's repeated warnings, people were shocked at Jerusalem's fall. Any modern day events seem similar?
- How does the fall of Jerusalem (Lamentations 1) compare to the original fall?
- 'It is good for man to bear the yoke...' (Lamentations 3:27a). What yoke do you currently bear?

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Reconcile Ezekiel 12:21-25 with the argument that it has already been a long time and Christ still hasn't come again.
- What is your flock? (Ezekiel 34:1-6) Where is your flock?
- Imagine a pile of dry bones rattling together, clothed with tendons and then flesh (Ezekiel 37:7-8). Why this image?

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- We see Daniel's life as one of flawless faith. Why do you think that God never made Daniel a king?

Video

- Our video teacher is
Dr. John Walton



- Professor of Old Testament at
Wheaton College in Wheaton,
Illinois

Video Discussion

- Thoughts?
- Questions?
- Observations?
- Comments?

This Coming Week's Reading



- Daniel 9 through Matthew 26
- Use the Prophets printout – <http://www.stjohnsumc.cc/images/files/b90/Prophets.pdf>
- 12 minor prophets were found in one scroll – about the length of an average book of the Bible
- Look for writing style changes when you transition into the New Testament.

This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)

- Hosea Overview
 - God calls Hosea to marry a woman who is unfaithful to him, and then God tells him to remain true to her, symbolizing God's continued faithfulness in the face of Israel and Judah's repeated lack of faithfulness.
- Joel Overview
 - The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away.
- Amos Overview
 - The Lord sets a plumb line against his derelict people, Israel, sparing them no longer, but promising future restoration.

This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)

- **Obadiah Overview**
 - Obadiah prophesizes God's judgment against Edom.
- **Jonah Overview**
 - Remembered most for being swallowed by a big fish, Jonah's is the story of what happens when a man's will clashes with God's.
- **Micah Overview**
 - Micah reveals God's concern for justice in Israel and Judah.

This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)

- Nahum Overview
 - Nahum assures the people that God will destroy Nineveh, the capital of the enemy nation of Assyria.
- Habakkuk Overview
 - Habakkuk cries out to the Lord in fear and frustration; God replies that Habakkuk should “watch—and be utterly amazed.”
- Zephaniah Overview
 - Dire warnings to Judah, Jerusalem and surrounding nations.

This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)

- Haggai Overview
 - God chastises the Jews who had returned to Judah for rebuilding their own homes while his temple remained in ruins.
- Zechariah Overview
 - The Lord says, “Return to me . . . and I will return to you.”
- Malachi Overview
 - In the last book in the Old Testament, Israel is admonished for cheating God out of acceptable sacrifices and robbing him of whole tithes and offerings. But, as in Zechariah, God promises, “Return to me, and I will return to you.”

This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)

- Matthew Overview
 - This first book of the four Gospels (which means “Good News”), Matthew begins with the genealogy of Jesus. He does this to prove that Jesus is the Messiah who was promised.



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Closing Prayer