

KSW9 to Mar 2

February 25 Su Reading 56 — Leviticus 9:22 - 10:3 — Unauthorized Fire

9:22 *Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he came down from offering the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings.* ²³ *And Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting, and when they came out they blessed the people, and the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people.* ²⁴ *And fire came out from before the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the pieces of fat on the altar, and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.*

10:1 *Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it and laid incense on it and offered unauthorized fire before the LORD, which he had not commanded them.* ² *And fire came out from before the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD.* ³ *Then Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD has said: 'Among those who are near me I will be sanctified, and before all the people I will be glorified.'" And Aaron held his peace.*

ESV Footnote

(10:1) Or *strange*

I Will Be Sanctified — These two brothers had just seen the miraculous fire come from God to consume the sacrifices Aaron had placed on the altar, and they were amazed along with all who saw it (9:24). They also apparently saw it as something magical they could experiment with, so they constructed their own way to worship God. Whereas God had instructed Aaron exactly what he should do in presenting offerings, no instructions were given to Nadab and Abihu to do what they did (10:1). They wanted to worship God in their own way. Their fundamental fault was explained by God as not treating Him as holy: “*Among those who are near me I will be sanctified*” (10:3), meaning “I will be treated as holy.” We see other times in the OT that individuals or groups of people did not treat God as holy, and they paid the penalty for it. I think many Christians today have loosened their appreciation of the holiness of God. God lives within us, and He is our Father and our Friend, but He is still holy, and we should treat Him as such. When we pray to Him, we should respect His holiness. We are talking to the Creator of the universe and the Savior of our souls. Worship Him in holiness!

[Holy God We Praise Thy Name - YouTube](#)

Holy God, we praise Thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before Thee.
All on earth Thy scepter claim;
all in heav'n above adore Thee.
Infinite, Thy vast domain;
everlasting is Your reign.
Fill the heavens with sweet accord,
Holy, holy, holy Lord.

— Ignace Franz (b. 1719)

February 26 M Reading 57 — 1 Chronicles 12:16-18 — The Spirit Clothed Amasai

¹⁶ *And some of the men of Benjamin and Judah came to the stronghold to David.* ¹⁷ *David went out to meet them and said to them, “If you have come to me in friendship to help me, my heart will be joined to you; but if to betray me to my adversaries, although there is no wrong in my hands, then may the*

God of our fathers see and rebuke you.” ¹⁸ Then the Spirit clothed Amasai, chief of the thirty, and he said,

“We are yours, O David,
and with you, O son of Jesse!
Peace, peace to you,
and peace to your helpers!
For your God helps you.”

Then David received them and made them officers of his troops.

Clothed with Peace — David was in danger from King Saul and had fled to Ziklag, but many loyal supporters followed him. Amasai was one of them, but David challenged his loyalty by asking if he came in friendship or in betrayal (v. 17). Before he answered, “*the Spirit clothed Amasai*” (v. 18). This expression of being “*clothed*” with the Spirit was used regarding only two other people in the OT, one being Gideon, about whom we already read in Judges 6:34, and the other being Zechariah (2 Chron. 24:20). Gideon was clothed with power, he had called for people to come to fight with him; Amasai was clothed with a message of peace and with a prophecy of God’s presence and help (v. 18). That sounds like our NT commission, doesn’t it? Even better than being temporarily “*clothed*” with the Holy Spirit, we are permanently indwelt by Him. Our message is also one of peace. Jesus came “*preaching good news of peace*” (Acts 10:36; cf. Eph. 2:17) and was “*making peace by the blood of his cross*” (Col. 1:20). Now, Jesus “*himself is our peace*” (Eph. 2:14), and “*the fruit of the Spirit is ... peace...*” (Gal. 5:22).

[Wonderful Peace - YouTube](#)

What a treasure I have in this wonderful peace,
Buried deep in the heart of my soul;
So secure that no power can mine it away,
While the years of eternity roll.

Peace! Peace! Wonderful peace,
Coming down from the Father above;
Sweep over my spirit forever, I pray,
In fathomless billows of love.

— Warren D. Cornell (b. 1858)

ACCOUNTABILITY TIME!

February 27 Tu Reading 58 — 2 Chronicles 15:1-9 — Azariah Encourages King Asa

¹ The Spirit of God came^[fn] upon Azariah the son of Oded, ² and he went out to meet Asa and said to him, “Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin: The LORD is with you while you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you. ³ For a long time Israel was without the true God, and without a teaching priest and without law, ⁴ but when in their distress they turned to the LORD, the God of Israel, and sought him, he was found by them. ⁵ In those times there was no peace to him who went out or to him who came in, for great disturbances afflicted all the inhabitants of the lands. ⁶ They were broken in pieces. Nation was crushed by nation and city by city, for God troubled them with every sort of distress. ⁷ But you, take courage! Do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded.”

⁸ As soon as Asa heard these words, the prophecy of Azariah the son of Oded, he took courage and put away the detestable idols from all the land of Judah and Benjamin and from the cities that he had

taken in the hill country of Ephraim, and he repaired the altar of the LORD that was in front of the vestibule of the house of the LORD.^{[fn] 9} And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and those from Ephraim, Manasseh, and Simeon who were residing with them, for great numbers had deserted to him from Israel when they saw that the LORD his God was with him.

ESV Footnotes

(15:1) Or was

(15:8) Hebrew *the vestibule of the LORD*

Prophesied Reward — Today we see another OT example of the Holy Spirit “coming upon” someone (v. 1). This otherwise unknown man named Azariah was used by God to be a prophet (verse 8 calls his message “*the prophecy of Azariah*”). We saw earlier that one of the names of the Holy Spirit is “*the Spirit of prophecy*” (Rev. 19:10). Azariah first proclaimed the principle that God is with those who seek Him (2 Chron. 15:2). He looked back in time and repeated the statement David made to his son, Solomon, “*If you seek him, he will be found by you*” (1 Chron. 28:9). He looked back even further to the vacillating time of the judges when worship of Yahweh was periodically abandoned, and they were “*without a teaching priest and without law*” (2 Chron. 15:3). It was only when they were in distress that “*they turned to the LORD*” (v. 4). We need to remember when we are distressed that trouble is sometimes brought on by God in order to turn hearts toward Him (v. 6). The core of Azariah’s prophecy from the Holy Spirit was this promise of victory: “*...your work shall be rewarded*” (v. 7). That “*work*” was the cleansing of Judah and Benjamin from the worship of false gods, and King Asa was therefore challenged to “*take courage*.” Because of that prophecy from the Holy Spirit, Asa continued his reforms and “*great numbers ... deserted to him from Israel*” (v. 9). He reigned for an amazing 41 years. God rewards obedience.

[Trust and Obey - YouTube](#)

But we never can prove the delights of His love
Until all on the altar we lay;
For the favor He shows, for the joy He bestows,
Are for them who will trust and obey.

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

— John Sammis (1887)

ACCOUNTABILITY TIME! If you are up to date in your reading as of today, please [click here](#) to leave your email address or let me know at accbiblead@gmail.com.

ACCOUNTABILITY REMINDER

February 28 W Reading 59 — 2 Chronicles 18:12-27 — Micaiah Predicts Disaster

¹² And the messenger who went to summon Micaiah said to him, “Behold, the words of the prophets with one accord are favorable to the king. Let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak favorably.” ¹³ But Micaiah said, “As the LORD lives, what my God says, that I will speak.” ¹⁴ And when he had come to the king, the king said to him, “Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall I refrain?” And he answered, “Go up and triumph; they will be given into your hand.” ¹⁵ But the king said to him, “How many times shall I make you swear that you speak to me nothing but the truth in the name of the LORD?” ¹⁶ And he said, “I saw all Israel scattered on the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd. And the LORD said, ‘These have no master; let each return to his

home in peace.”¹⁷ And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “Did I not tell you that he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil?”¹⁸ And Micaiah said, “Therefore hear the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing on his right hand and on his left.¹⁹ And the LORD said, ‘Who will entice Ahab the king of Israel, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?’ And one said one thing, and another said another.”²⁰ Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD, saying, ‘I will entice him.’ And the LORD said to him, ‘By what means?’²¹ And he said, ‘I will go out, and will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’ And he said, ‘You are to entice him, and you shall succeed; go out and do so.’²² Now therefore behold, the LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of these your prophets. The LORD has declared disaster concerning you.”

²³ Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah came near and struck Micaiah on the cheek and said, “Which way did the Spirit of the LORD go from me to speak to you?”²⁴ And Micaiah said, “Behold, you shall see on that day when you go into an inner chamber to hide yourself.”²⁵ And the king of Israel said, “Seize Micaiah and take him back to Amon the governor of the city and to Joash the king’s son,”²⁶ and say, ‘Thus says the king, Put this fellow in prison and feed him with meager rations of bread and water until I return in peace.’”²⁷ And Micaiah said, “If you return in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me.” And he said, “Hear, all you peoples!”

Speaking Only the Truth — The Holy Spirit is mentioned only once in this passage (v. 23), and it came from the mouth of a false prophet, Zedekiah, who was influenced by a lying spirit sent by God. That is disturbing, isn’t it? Although God cannot do evil, He occasionally used evil people and spirits to accomplish His purposes, as we saw earlier when “*the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and a harmful spirit from the LORD tormented him*” (1 Sam. 16:14). King Ahab of Israel was a wicked man and God had determined to end his life, using the prophet, Micaiah, to predict it. The king knew that Micaiah always told the truth, and that it was only negative concerning Ahab. The summoning messenger begged Micaiah to speak favorably to the king, but the prophet declared that only “*what my God says, that will I speak*” (2 Chron. 18:13). It cost him imprisonment, but he was determined to only do what was right. Is that the way we live? The Holy Spirit has given us what is right in God’s Word. Are we always obedient, or might we sometimes lie when threatened by a negative consequence for telling the truth? King Ahab insisted on hearing only the truth from Micaiah, but he either didn’t recognize it as truth, or he chose to ignore its warning. He paid for it with his life. When we know the truth, we must walk in it.

[Teach Me, O LORD, Thy Way of Truth - YouTube](#)

Teach me, O LORD, Thy way of truth,
and from it I will not depart;
That I may steadfastly obey,
give me an understanding heart.

In Thy commandments make me walk,
for in Thy law my joy shall be;
Give me a heart that loves Thy will,
from discontent and envy free.

— unidentified author

ACCOUNTABILITY REMINDER If you are up to date in your reading as of today, but did not report yesterday, please [click here](#) to leave your email address or let me know at accbibleread@gmail.com.

ACCOUNTABILITY FINAL DAY

February 29 Th Extra Reading — Psalm 89:19-37 — God's Promises to David

- 19 *Of old you spoke in a vision to your godly one,^[fn] and said:
 "I have granted help to one who is mighty;
 I have exalted one chosen from the people.*
- 20 *I have found David, my servant;
 with my holy oil I have anointed him,*
- 21 *so that my hand shall be established with him;
 my arm also shall strengthen him.*
- 22 *The enemy shall not outwit him;
 the wicked shall not humble him.*
- 23 *I will crush his foes before him
 and strike down those who hate him.*
- 24 *My faithfulness and my steadfast love shall be with him,
 and in my name shall his horn be exalted.*
- 25 *I will set his hand on the sea
 and his right hand on the rivers.*
- 26 *He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father,
 my God, and the Rock of my salvation.'*
- 27 *And I will make him the firstborn,
 the highest of the kings of the earth.*
- 28 *My steadfast love I will keep for him forever,
 and my covenant will stand firm^[fn] for him.*
- 29 *I will establish his offspring forever
 and his throne as the days of the heavens.*
- 30 *If his children forsake my law
 and do not walk according to my rules,^[fn]*
- 31 *if they violate my statutes
 and do not keep my commandments,*
- 32 *then I will punish their transgression with the rod
 and their iniquity with stripes,*
- 33 *but I will not remove from him my steadfast love
 or be false to my faithfulness.*
- 34 *I will not violate my covenant
 or alter the word that went forth from my lips.*
- 35 *Once for all I have sworn by my holiness;
 I will not lie to David.*
- 36 *His offspring shall endure forever,
 his throne as long as the sun before me.*
- 37 *Like the moon it shall be established forever,
 a faithful witness in the skies." Selah*

ESV Footnotes

(89:19) Some Hebrew manuscripts *godly ones*

(89:28) Or *will remain faithful*

(89:30) Or *my just decrees*

My Holiness — In this passage, focusing on David's kingdom and his successors, God refers to "*my steadfast love*" (vv. 24, 28, 33) and "*my faithfulness*" (vv. 24, 33). Then, in verse 35, He speaks of holiness in the context of truth: "*I have sworn by my holiness; I will not lie to David.*" One must be

truthful to be holy, and God is our example. He said, “*Once for all I have sworn by my holiness.*” It was a truth that would last (“*Once for all...*”), and it was an absolute truth that could be relied on (“...*I have sworn*”). Can your words be counted on? If they can, you stand out as different in the culture around you, which often laughs at the idea of always being truthful. Even some Christians cave into the idea that there is such a thing as a “little white lie.” Not if you are holy! As Paul instructed us, “*Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth...*” (Eph. 4:25). Let’s build a reputation for being truthful because of our desire to be holy.

I found no video for this hymn:

Go thou, in life's fair morning—
Go in the bloom of youth—
And buy, for thine adorning,
The precious pearl of truth.
Secure this heav'nly treasure,
And bind it on thy heart;
And let not worldly pleasure
E'er cause it to depart.

— Anonymous

ACCOUNTABILITY FINAL DAY! If you have not yet reported for this month, please let me know your reading status today at accbibleread@gmail.com.

March 1 F Reading 60 — 2 Chronicles 20:13-17 — Jahaziel Promises Victory

¹³ *Meanwhile all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children.*

¹⁴ *And the Spirit of the LORD came^[fn] upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, son of Benaiah, son of Jeiel, son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly.* ¹⁵ *And he said, “Listen, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the LORD to you, ‘Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed at this great horde, for the battle is not yours but God’s.*

¹⁶ *Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz. You will find them at the end of the valley, east of the wilderness of Jeruel.* ¹⁷ *You will not need to fight in this battle. Stand firm, hold your position, and see the salvation of the LORD on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem.’ Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed. Tomorrow go out against them, and the LORD will be with you.”*

ESV Footnote

(20:14) Or was

Blowing Spirit — Earlier in this chapter, Judah’s King Jehoshaphat was told that a huge three-nation army from the southeast had come to fight Judah. The king called for fasting, gathered people to the temple court, and prayed a lengthy prayer for God’s help, concluding with, “*We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you*” (v. 12). The Lord’s answer was immediate as “*the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel ... a Levite ... in the midst of the assembly*” (v. 14). Nothing more is known about Jahaziel, but the Holy Spirit came upon him powerfully with a very detailed prophecy of what was going to happen, how Judah would not have to fight, and that they would see God give them the victory. The end of this chapter tells us that in the morning, the people of Judah, led by musicians, went to the appointed place, only to find that God had set the three opposing nations against each other and all of them had been killed. Most of us probably feel like Jahaziel — just one in the crowd — but the Holy Spirit, like the wind, still “*blows where it wishes ... but you do not know where it*

comes from or where it goes" (John 3:8). You might be moved by the Spirit to say something to a crowd of people or to a single individual that will give them encouragement to tackle a task, to trust God, or to direct them in an important step in their lives. Blow, Spirit, blow!

O Spirit of the Living God – YouTube

Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow
until our minds are free
From mists of error, clouds of doubt,
which blind our eyes to Thee.
Burn, wing-ed fire! Inspire our lips
with flaming love and zeal,
To preach to all Thy great good news,
God's glorious commonweal.

— Henry H. Tweedy (b. 1868)

March 2 Sa Reading 61 — Isaiah 35:1-10 — Coming Home

- ¹ *The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;*
- ² *it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.*
- ³ *Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.*
- ⁴ *Say to those who have an anxious heart,
"Be strong; fear not!"
Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you."*
- ⁵ *Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;*
- ⁶ *then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;*
- ⁷ *the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.*
- ⁸ *And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
It shall belong to those who walk on the way;*

- even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.^[fn]*
- ⁹ *No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.*
- ¹⁰ *And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

ESV Footnote

(35:8) Or if they are fools, they shall not wander in it

Highway of Holiness — When the people of Israel were slaves in Egypt, God promised them, “*I will redeem you ... I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham ... I will give it to you*” (Ex. 6:6, 8). He led them through the Red Sea and eventually into the land of Canaan. Almost 700 years later, Judah was facing a 70-year exile in Babylon, and Isaiah was giving them hope that “*God ... will come and save you*” (Isa. 35:4) and lead them back to Zion. Isaiah then prophesied about another rescue by God, when the Messiah would come, healing the blind, deaf, lame, and mute (vv. 5-6), and open “*a highway ... called the Way of Holiness*” (v. 8). That is the spiritual Highway to Heaven, the ultimate Promised Land. It is called “*the Way of Holiness*” because only “*the redeemed shall walk there*” (v. 9), those cleansed by the blood of Christ and separated by God as being holy. Along that Way and in that Land, “*the ransomed of the LORD shall return ... with singing ... [with] everlasting joy ... [and] gladness*” (v. 10).

[Walking Up the King's Highway - YouTube](#)

It's a highway to heaven;
None can walk up there
But the pure in heart.
It's a highway to heaven,
Walking up the King's highway.
— Mary Gardner & Thomas
Andrew Dorsey (1940)