

**BIBLE READING LIST FOR JULY 10-16**

<p><u>July 10</u> Hosea 7-11</p>	<p>Ahaz was a wicked king of Judah (II Chronicles 28:1). Because of their sin, God delivered them to the Northern kingdom and many were carried captive. God sent a prophet to tell them to release their captives (verses 9-11). He reminded them that they didn't win because God was blessing them; Judah lost because God was chastising them.</p>
<p><u>July 11</u> Hosea 12-14 II Chronicles 27-28</p>	<p>We need to be careful about comparing ourselves to others. Someone's being worse than us does not mean we are right with God. He will use the ungodly to chastise His people. We are held to a higher standard because we have been taught the Word of God.</p>
<p><u>July 12</u> Isaiah 1-4</p>	<p>Also note in II Kings 16:7 that Ahaz sought the help of Assyria instead of trusting God, much as Christians today sometimes turn to the world for help when God doesn't seem to be helping them. But see the cost. First, he made himself the servant of the Assyrian king (verse 7). Second, he sent what belonged to God to pay the Assyrians for their help (verse 8). It seemed to work at first (verse 9), but the consequences that followed were worse than the original problem. First, Ahaz brought back the design for a heathen altar because of his contact with Assyria (verses 10-12). Then after Assyria had been invited into the region, they soon returned and took the Northern kingdom captive.</p>
<p><u>July 13</u> Isaiah 5-8</p>	<p>Seeking the world's help costs us freedom and that which is most valuable to us. It also divides our heart and allows the world to gain control over the people of God.</p>
<p><u>July 14</u> Isaiah 9-11</p>	<p>It was in this environment that Hosea illustrated the nation's spiritual adultery and Micah predicted captivity. But he also promised a future Kingdom (chapter 4), because of the future King who would be born in Bethlehem (5:2). Isaiah also gave many Messianic promises. God was chastening His people, but the was to cleanse them, not to cast them away. We are His forever, though He has to deal with our sin.</p>
<p><u>July 15</u> Isaiah 12:1-14:27 II Kings 16</p>	
<p><u>July 16</u> II Kings 17 Micah 1-2</p>	