

Agenda for ENGL 115: March 25

Announcements/Clarifications: The oral presentations should be 5-7 minutes; you can do a PPT or outline to support your presentation – you’d need to email that to me and Jean Shiota jean.shiota@sjsu.edu for uploading. Your presentations should cover the following (these are on the handout called “Oral Presentations” on the ENGL 115 Handouts page)

- A. Present your claim, argument, perspective, thesis – what were you trying to explain, explore, examine or prove
- B. Discuss the evidence – the specific passages you used or references from *The Bible and Its Influence* which you used to support your claim
- C. Explain how the evidence and/or your review of the text expanded or clarified your understanding of the text
- D. Share your conclusions

E. If you can provide a handout with your references or an outline of your paper, that will help your peers with the commentary

- ***Remember that compilers/redactors have put together the books of the Bible; so “the God says” or “the God wants” are not really accurate.

3:00-3:10

2. I Kings recap and continuation

Ch 1 – David is old; Abishag, young woman brought to “keep David warm”; Adonijah (next oldest of David’s living sons) wants to make himself king; he is allied with Joab and Abiathar; Nathan, David’s prophet, and Zadok, the priest, side with Bathsheba and her son Solomon; they want Solomon on the throne;

Ch 2 – as David is about to die, he commissions Solomon and basically says “get rid of Joab; get rid of Shimei”; Adonijah comes pleading to Bathsheba for one thing – the woman, Abishag, who kept David warm; Bathsheba tells Solomon; Solomon responds angrily – arranges for Adonijah’s death; banishes Abiathar;

Ch 3 – First indicates Solomon takes many wives; vs 5-14 – Solomon’s prayer for wisdom (in a dream); vs 16ff – example of his wisdom in dealing with two women claiming the same child; “don’t cut the baby in half”

Ch 8: Solomon, who has been responsible for seeing that the Temple is built, now has the Ark of the Covenant brought to the Temple.

Vs. 22-53 – are a combination of prayer and sermon of Solomon to God about being allowed to build the Temple and about God protecting the Temple

Vs. 56 to the end of the Chapter: Solomon blesses the people and they offer sacrifice

Ch 10: The Queen of Sheba comes to visit Solomon; she's coming to confirm whether Solomon truly is the person of wisdom she's heard about. She gives him riches/precious spices. In turn, Solomon gifts her.

Chs 11-13: Solomon's many wives, many loves—especially from groups God had told the people they should not marry with. Vs. 4 tells of how Solomon is being led astray and begins building altars to the gods/goddesses of other cultures. Vs. 9 God is angry, tells Solomon (Vs 11) about “tearing the kingdom from you” though this will not happen in Solomon's lifetime; also, God will give one tribe to “your son, for the sake of my servant David”

Adversaries of Solomon arise; major person is Jeroboam, who is given 10 tribes—the Northern Kingdom encompassed in the name Israel; Jerusalem must be kept for the descendants of David. Jeroboam eventually

establishes himself at Shechem and creates places of worship at Bethel and Dan, so that the people will not go up to Jerusalem to the Temple to worship. But establishing other places of worship is displeasing to God. Rehoboam, son of Solomon, has Jerusalem and Judah, the Southern Kingdom.

Chs 17-19: Stories of the Elijah, the major prophet of Israel during the reign of Ahab, a wicked king and his wife, Jezebel. Elijah is first sent to a widow, during a time of famine and works miracles there—one is to raise the widow's son from the dead.

Ch 18 the story of the battle between Elijah, prophet of Israel, and the hundreds of prophets of Baal and Asherah (Canaanite gods)—great story. Elijah, eventually tries to run and hide from the forces of Ahab; God calls him and tells Elijah to look for God to reveal himself. A famous passage follows—God is not in the wind, not in the earthquake, not in fire, but “in the sound of sheer silence”

Ch 19: 12 (sometimes translated as in a small whispering sound.)

Ch 22: summarizes more problems for Israel under corrupt kings; - **3:10 – 3:40**

II Kings

Ch 2—Elijah is taken up to heaven in a fiery chariot; Elisha is a follower of Elijah, and Elisha is the one who sees Elijah “taken up.” Elisha is also granted his one request of Elijah—to have a double portion of Elijah’s spirit—meaning to be twice as much a man of God as Elijah has been.

Chs. 3-5—more stories of Elisha’s role and the miraculous works he does.

Ch 23: tells of Josiah, the one good king of Judah and Jerusalem; he finds “The Book of the Law” and has it read to the people.

Chs 24-25 tell of the destruction of Jerusalem and of the Temple and the exile of the people into Babylon --**3:40 – 3:45**

Presentation of Ch. 13 from *The Bible and Its Influence* --**3:55 – 4:05**

Review of the material that introduces the Psalms

For Wednesday, March 27: Presenters for Oral Presentations prepare; Explanation of the Prophet assignment and Psalm paper --**4:05—4:15**

