

**“Through the Bible in a Year with Pastor Don and the FBC Family”
May 18, 2016**

- ✓ **1 Chronicles 6:1-81.** The genealogy of Levi and their settlements.
- ✓ **1 Tim. 4:6-16.** “Exercise” with respect to godliness.
- ✓ **Psalms 78:13-29.** Man’s unfaithfulness juxtaposed with God’s faithfulness.

COMMENTS:

1 Chronicles 6:1-81. The fact that 81 verses are dedicated to the tribe of Levi indicates that it was truly of great importance for the Israelites. Its great importance lies in the fact that it is from this tribe that descend the high priests of Israel—both the priesthood and kingdom together form a major theme in Chronicles. Verses 54-81 show the extent of the tribe of Levi to be nationwide. Levi has no tribal territory of its own, but is given towns and lands by every other tribe. God scattered the Levites among the people throughout the nation so that those who were seeking truth could obtain that truth from those who were experts in the things of the Temple, all of which pointed to the Coming Messiah.

1 Tim. 4:6-16. In this section Paul exhorts Timothy to teach the Word of God and “exercise” (Γύμναζε, where we get the world gymnasium) himself toward godliness, although he does not tell us exactly what spiritual “disciplines” he has in mind—however, consider Paul’s self-discipline in 1 Cor. 9:24-27. Note the implications of unlimited atonement in verse 10 in that Christ is called the Savior of all men, not just believers. Note the threefold division of teaching to be done in a local church in verse 13: reading the Word of God, preaching/exhortation, and doctrine/teaching. Note the exhortation for Timothy to guard his own spiritual life *and* doctrine in verse 16; both realms are critically important. Even the pastor, no matter how diligently he studies and teaches, can fall into carnality if he loses sight of God as the greatest good of his life. Note the awesome responsibility of the pastor not only for his own spiritual life, but also his “hearers.” This “salvation” refers to temporal deliverance, not salvation from Hell, which is accomplished by God alone and cannot be lost. The key for everyone is to keep growing *daily* in relationship with God by *knowledge and by love*.

Psalms 78:13-29. This section outlines the marvelous deeds of the Lord that the people of God *continued* to forget. Note the anthropopathic language in verses 41 and 56—we know that God cannot be “tested” as per our study in James, and by understanding the nature of God (simple, immutable). There is also the anthropopathism of God getting angry in verse 21. God does not get angry. This is all figurative language to communicate what looked like anger as the righteousness of God was executed in the form of divine discipline on His rebellious people. In spite of the inexcusable behavior of the Jews, the faithfulness of God continues, culminating in the long promised Messiah, Jesus Christ, born of the Jews.

Romans 11:36 For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.