



NOVEMBER 2022

BIBLE READING PLAN

PSALM 89:11

11 The heavens *are* thine, the earth also is thine: *as for* the world and the fulness thereof, thou hast founded them.
12 The north and the south thou hast created them: Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in thy name.
13 Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand.
14 Justice and judgment *are* the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face.
15 Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance.
16 In thy name shall they rejoice all the day: and in thy righteousness shall they be exalted.
17 For thou *art* the glory of their strength: and in thy favour our horn shall be exalted.
18 For the LORD *is* our defence; and the Holy One of Israel is our king.

GOD EXALTS HIS CHOSEN ONE

19 Then thou spakest in vision to thy holy one, and saidst, I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted one chosen out of the people.
20 I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him:
21 With whom my hand shall be established: mine arm also shall strengthen him.
22 The enemy shall not exact upon him; nor the son of wickedness afflict him.
23 And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague them that hate him.
24 But my faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him; and in my name shall his horn be exalted.
25 I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers.
26 He shall cry unto me, Thou *art* my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.

GOD'S COVENANT STANDS FAST

27 Also I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.
28 My mercy will I keep for him forever, and my covenant shall stand fast with him.
29 His seed also will I make to endure for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven.
30 If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments;
31 If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments;
32 Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes.
33 Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.
34 My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.
35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David.
36 His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me.

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37 It shall be established for ever as the moon, and *as a* faithful witness in heaven. *Selah.*
38 But thou hast cast off and abhorred, thou hast been wroth with thine anointed.
39 Thou hast made void the covenant of thy servant: thou hast profaned his crown by casting it to the ground.
40 Thou hast broken down all his hedge; thou hast broken down all his bulwark:
41 All that pass by the way spoil him: he is a reproach to his neighbours.
42 Thou hast set up the right hand of his adversaries: thou hast made all his enemies to rejoice.
43 Thou hast also turned the edge of his sword, and hast not made him to stand in the battle.
44 Thou hast made his glory to cease, and cast his throne down to the ground.
45 The days of his youth hast thou shortened: thou hast covered him with shame. *Selah.*

PLEA FOR FULFILLMENT OF GOD'S PROMISE

46 How long, LORD? wilt thou hide thyself for ever? shall thy wrath burn like fire?
47 Remember how short my time is: wherefore hast thou made all men in vain?
48 What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? *Selah.*
49 Lord, where *are* thy former lovingkindnesses, which thou swarest unto David in thy truth?
50 Remember, Lord, the reproach of thy servants; how I do bear in my bosom the reproach of all the mighty people.
51 Wherewith thine enemies have reproached, O LORD; wherewith they have reproached the footsteps of thine anointed.
52 Blessed be the LORD for evermore. Amen, and Amen.

BOOK IV: PSALMS 90-106

PSALM 90

THE ETERNAL GOD

A Prayer of Moses the man of God.

1 LORD, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.
2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou *art* God.
3 Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men.

THE TIMELESS GOD

4 For a thousand years in thy sight *are* but as yesterday when it is past, and *as a* watch in the night.

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5 Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are *as a* sleep: in the morning they *are* like grass which groweth up.
6 In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth.
7 For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled.
8 Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.
9 For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told.
10 The days of our years *are* threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.
11 Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath.
12 So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

A PLEA FOR MERCY

13 Return, O LORD, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants.
14 O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
15 Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil.
16 Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children.
17 And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

PSALM 91

THE SECRET PLACE OF THE MOST HIGH

1 HE that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
2 I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.
3 Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.
4 He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.
5 Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;
6 Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.
7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.
8 Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.
9 Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;

PSALM 92:15

10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

THE CHARGE OF GOD'S ANGELS

11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.
12 They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.
13 Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shall thou trample under feet.
14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.
15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.
16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

PSALM 92

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD

A Psalm or Song for the sabbath day.

1 *It is a good thing* to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High:
2 To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night,
3 Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound.
4 For thou, LORD, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands.
5 O LORD, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep.
6 A brutish man knoweth not; neither doth a fool understand this.
7 When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity do flourish; *it is* that they shall be destroyed for ever:
8 But thou, LORD, *art* most high for evermore.
9 For, lo, thine enemies, O LORD, for, lo, thine enemies shall perish; all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.
10 But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.
11 Mine eye also shall see my desire on mine enemies, and mine ears shall hear my desire of the wicked that rise up against me.

THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL FLOURISH

12 The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
13 Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.
14 They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;
15 To shew that the LORD is upright: *he is* my rock, and *there is* no unrighteousness in him.

DAILY READINGS

Books: Isaiah, Zachariah, James, 2 Thessalonians

Check the boxes as you go to track your progress.

<input type="checkbox"/>	11/1	Isaiah 30
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/2	Isaiah 31-32
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/3	Isaiah 33
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<input type="checkbox"/>	11/15	Zechariah 1-2
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/16	Zechariah 3-4
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/17	Zechariah 5-6
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<input type="checkbox"/>	11/21	Zechariah 11
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/22	Zechariah 12
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/23	Zechariah 13-14
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/24	James 1
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/25	James 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/26	James 3
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/27	James 4
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/28	James 5
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/29	2 Thessalonians 1-2
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/30	2 Thessalonians 3

HOW DO I STUDY THE BIBLE?

R.E.A.P METHOD

This is a method of Bible study seeking to help you reap a harvest of love for Jesus, growth in the Gospel, and effectiveness for God's mission. It's built around four practices: Reading the text, Examining it thoroughly, Applying it to your life, and then Praying through it.

READ

Find today's passage in the Bible Reading Plan. Begin reading with a heart ready to hear God's voice and receive God's words. Pray for God to open your heart. Feel free to star, underline, and generally mark up your Bible. Pay special attention to key verses, words, and ideas.

EXAMINE

Take time to reflect on what you've read. Take notes. What verses stood out to you?

QUESTIONS FOR EXAMINATION:

01 What is going on in the passage? Here, we're looking for clues for understanding. What type of writing is this? (Story, Poetry, Discourse). What are the circumstances that the author is addressing? Any repeated words or key ideas?

02 What is the point of the passage? Here, we're trying to simply understand the author's intent. What are they teaching, explaining, or expressing in a raw sense?

03 What does this passage teach us about God? How does it reveal His nature, character, thoughts, ways, and goodness?

04 How does this passage point to Jesus? Remember, the Bible is all about Jesus! How does this passage point to His finished work in the Gospel, the power of the Holy Spirit, or your need for those powerful realities?

APPLY

Now that you've examined this passage, consider how to apply it to your own life.

QUESTIONS FOR APPLICATION:

01 How has God revealed Himself through this passage and how should I respond to Him? This could be worship, thankfulness, reverence, awe, need, love, desperation, hope, repentance, reflection, trust, faith and other responses. Write or consider why this is your response.

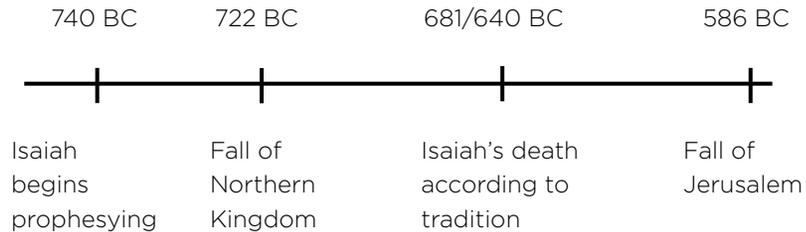
02 How does the point of this passage directly apply to my life? Is there any action you need to take in light of who God is and what this passage teaches? James 1:22, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." Are there immediate next steps? How will you live differently today because of what you just read?

PRAY

Pray through the passage and its meaning, asking God to change your heart and to change your life based on the time you've spent in God's Word.

ISAIAH

Timeline (Approximate)



Authorship and Purpose:

The book of Isaiah contains the prophecies of the prophet Isaiah, who was called by God in the year of King Uzziah's death. There is much debate among scholars about who exactly wrote the book and when it was written. That said, multiple books in the Bible identify Isaiah as the source for the prophecies contained in the whole book and functionally the book works best as one unified whole rather than a compilation from different authors from different time periods. Further, the book of Isaiah carries with it the same authority as the other books of the Bible and is an indispensable book within the whole of Scripture.

By the time Isaiah began prophesying, Israel was well on the decline in the eyes of God. Though recently there had been relative prosperity in both kingdoms, there had also been injustice, idolatry and lack of reliance on God. Through Isaiah, God announces His intention to pass judgment on His people for their sins if they do not repent. This judgment, however, is not without hope. There will be a future king who comes to bring about justice and restore Israel.

Reading Isaiah:

The book of Isaiah is the first of the major prophets in the Old Testament. It is filled with divine messages from God through Isaiah in the form of Hebrew poetry, with bits of narrative appearing in between. Remember that prophecy in its basic form is a message from God and prophets are essentially God's elected spokesperson. These messages can contain future hopes, but also contain God's message directly to Israel's present circumstances.

Hebrew poetry is very different from the contemporary poetry we are used to reading and can be difficult to follow. Often, the ideas communicated within each line or phrase will "rhyme" with each other, meaning the author will link lines together by repeating or building on a singular idea. This repetition adds more layers to the word picture being painted by the author. Ultimately, poetry communicates best when it connects on an emotional level. Allow the pictures painted by the poetry to connect, be it the pictures of Israel's sin, God's wrath, or the hope offered in repentance. The book is long but has repeating themes which are possible to track.

This section of Isaiah starts with an accusation of Jerusalem's leaders for making an alliance with Egypt, because Isaiah knows this will fail them. We see the rise and fall of Jerusalem through King Hezekiah and his foolishness in creating yet another alliance that will eventually lead to the exile. Isaiah's hope throughout the book is that the future Messiah will come and bring hope to the people.

Key Themes:

God is guiding all of human history.

The wrath of God is to be feared above all else.

Hold onto hope. The future is filled with hope, and God is fulfilling Isaiah's prophecies. A Messiah is on the way.

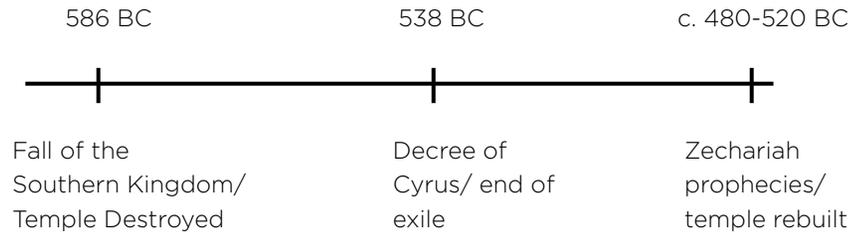
The people have lost faith. God is responding to people's faithlessness and gives them insight to why they are in suffering.

Structure:

1. God's Sovereign Word Spoken into the World (28-35)
2. Historical Transition: "In Whom Do You Now Trust?" (36-39)
3. Encouragement for God's Exiles: "The Glory of the Lord Shall Be Revealed" (40-55)

ZECHARIAH

Timeline (Approximate)



Authorship and Purpose:

Zechariah was both a prophet and a priest. He was a prophet by calling and a priest by family lineage. He began his ministry shortly after Haggai had begun his prophetic work. He had an intimate familiarity with the worship practices of the Jews due to his priestly heritage, even if he had never served in a completed temple due to its destruction around 586 BC.

Zechariah's name means "Yahweh remembers," which was appropriate to the purpose of his prophecies. Zechariah is a book of hope and encouragement. It is a reminder that God would remember His promises to His people, even after all the time they had spent in exile. They would still be judged for sin, but God would bring cleansing and restoration, and God would rebuild his people and his temple.

The setting for this book is that a moral reformation of the people had not occurred. Jerusalem was still only partially rebuilt and had no significance among the surrounding nations. The people concluded that God was absent from them. Many viewed faithful obedience as useless. It seemed to make more sense to forget God and to pursue the best life possible.

Reading Zechariah:

The book of Zechariah contains the clearest and the largest number of messianic (about the Messiah) passages among the Minor Prophets. In that respect, it's possible to think of the book of Zechariah as a kind of miniature book of Isaiah. Zechariah pictures Christ in both His first coming (Zechariah 9:9) and His second coming (9:10-10:12). Jesus will come, according to Zechariah, as Savior, Judge, and ultimately, as the righteous King ruling His people from Jerusalem (14:8-9).

The messianic prophecies were especially timely, because at the time God's people were discouraged. The chapters of Zechariah are filled with dreams (prophecies) and commissions to repentance and faithfulness. It's filled with the encouragement that a Messiah is coming, and that the people should ready themselves for his arrival.

Key Themes:

Repentance & Faithfulness - the call to turn away from sinful ways and return to the one true God.

Hope - God's people are called to place their hope in Him, and be spiritually renewed.

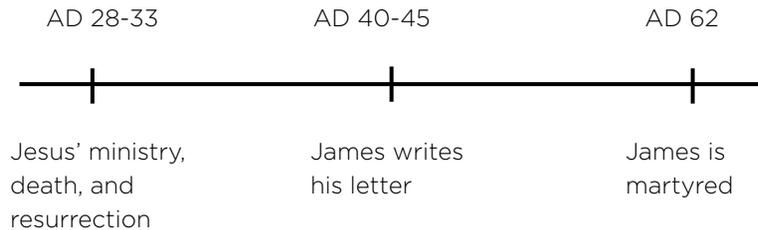
The Advent of the Messiah - a Messiah is coming. Christ is predicted to come in lowliness and humanity. He'll be rejected and struck down, but His kingship will not end. He is building an everlasting temple and will reign with peace and prosperity for God's glory.

Structure:

1. Eight visions and a call to repentance - (1-6)
2. Four Messages about fasting and the future - (7-8)
3. Two Oracles - (9-14)
 - Rejection of the Messiah by Israel - (9-11)
 - Messianic reign when Israel is delivered - (12-14)

JAMES

Timeline (Approximate)



Authorship and Purpose:

This letter was written by James, the half-brother of Jesus and leader of the Jerusalem church. It was probably written about A.D. 40-45 to Jewish Christians living outside Palestine.

James was likely not a follower of Christ during the Jesus's time on earth, but eventually became an apostle after he had seen and believed the Lord post-resurrection. After witnessing the Lord's resurrected body, James became one of the leaders of the church at Jerusalem. Peter singled him out among the other Christians there following Peter's miraculous release from prison. James made the deciding speech at the Jerusalem Council, and Paul called James one of the pillars of the church. He was also known as a peacemaker who led with wisdom and courage until he was murdered.

Reading James:

James's readers were suffering persecution and living in poverty. They were in social and spiritual conflict. Many believers were living in a worldly manner. James corrects them and challenges them to seek God's wisdom to work out these problems.

The book of James reads a lot like the wisdom in Proverbs. It's filled with

practical action for a faith-filled life. It's written to encourage God's people to act like God's people. The pages of James are filled with direct commands to pursue a life of holiness. He tells the Christians of the early church to give evidence of their faith in Christ by living out a lifestyle worthy of their calling. He is famously known by his writing, "faith without works is dead." He calls the church then (and now) to put action to their beliefs and walk it out. He also gives them a set of actions and character to avoid.

Key Themes:

Faith and works - The church is called to take action, live in a holy manner, and conduct themselves worthy to calling Jesus gave them. James calls the believers to ask in accordance with their faith, and live fully aligned with the Gospel in the nature of Jesus.

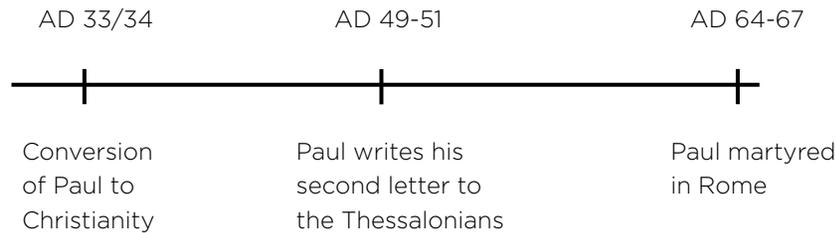
Wisdom and religion - James calls the church to stand in the face of trial and temptation, and to seek wisdom, listen to wisdom, and act on wisdom.

Structure:

1. The Testing of Faith & Responding to the Word - (1)
2. The Sin of Favoritism - (2:1-13)
3. Faith without Works Is Dead - (2:14-26)
4. Things to avoid - Division and Discord, Misuse of Wealth - (3-5)
5. Prayer & Encouragement - (5)

2 THESSALONIANS

Timeline (Approximate)



Authorship and Purpose:

Paul was a Jew that had persecuted the earliest Christians, and opposed the Jesus movement. He was well-versed and educated in all the Jewish customs and ways. Paul had a radical conversion to Christianity that can be recounted in Acts 8-9. He then went on to lead the early church, and spread the Gospel throughout the middle east and Asia.

Shortly after writing 1 Thessalonians, the apostle Paul received a report that the Thessalonian church had accepted the strange claim that “the day of the Lord has come”. Paul sent them a second letter to clarify the claims, and give the church renewed hope.

Reading 2 Thessalonians:

The church of Thessalonica, that had been founded by Paul, was fairly young. The Gospel had been presented to them, but after Paul abruptly left them due to opposition they were left with little support and training, and was under persecution.

Paul writes this letter to the church in response to hearing that the Thessalonians believed Jesus had either already come or was coming so

soon that the church had decided to stop their daily living and simply wait for Jesus’ arrival. Paul assumes that the Thessalonian church knew that the second coming of Jesus Christ would occur at the same time as the coming of the “day of the Lord.” Yet the Thessalonians may simply have fallen victim to a belief that the day of the Lord had already come. The persecution they were undergoing may have fueled their confusion about the end times.

Paul takes the opportunity to speak to them bluntly about their bad theology and behavior. He simultaneously encourages them in right thinking and conduct, and assures them of the coming Savior’s arrival.

Key Themes:

Encouragement - to encourage them in their steadfastness under persecution.

Correction - To correct their misunderstanding about the imminence of the Lord's return.

Action - To instruct the congregation on what disciplinary action to take toward those who refused to work

Structure:

1. Greetings & Thanksgiving - (1)
2. Instruction on Jesus’ coming and Christian conduct - (2)
3. Prayer and Warning - (3)