

January 1**God's Seven Day Creation****Genesis**

- 1:1-5** Creation on the first day
1:6-8 Creation on the second day
1:9-13 Creation on the third day
1:14-19 Creation on the fourth day
1:20-23 Creation on the fifth day
1:24-31 Creation on the sixth day
2:1-3 The reason for God's Sabbath on the seventh day

Note: God could have spoken all creation into existence on the very first day. But He created in daily sequence to demonstrate to man the need to plan ahead and be orderly in what he does

The Garden of Eden

- 2:4-6** The reason for no rain
2:7-9 The LORD's creation of man and placement in the Garden of Eden
2:10-14 The location of the Garden
- Note: These four rivers received their water from the river that flowed through the Garden prior to its' destruction in Noah's Flood. Two are north of Israel, and two were south of Israel. This explains God's special love for the land of Israel
- 2:15-17** The LORD's gracious provision and one prohibition
2:18-22 The reason the LORD created woman for the man
2:23-25 The man is to leave his father and his mother and cleave to his wife in marriage as one flesh
- Note: Marriage is a commitment to one another before God. Sexual relations are then permitted by God's moral law

Matthew**Jesus Christ's Genealogy**

- 1:1-6** From Abraham to David
1:7-11 From David to the Babylonian Captivity
1:12-17 From the Babylonian Captivity to Jesus Christ
1:18-23 The reason Joseph did not put away his wife Mary upon discovering her to be pregnant
1:24-25 The Virgin Birth and naming of Jesus

The Magi and King Herod

- 2:1-2** The Wise Men travel from the east to Jerusalem to see the child who was to become the King of the Jews
2:3-6 Herod the king inquires of the religious leaders regarding prophecies of the child's birth
2:7-8 Herod meets privately with the Wise Men, urging them to find the child and bring him word as to where he is living, in pretense of his desire to worship him
2:9-11 The Wise Men follow the same star they saw in the east until it shows them where the child is living, and present gifts in worship of him
2:12 The Wise Men do not report to Herod upon being warned of God in a dream, and depart to their country another way

Psalm 1:

- THE GODLY AND UNGODLY**
1:1-3 The promise of blessing on the godly
1:4-6 The promise of divine judgment on the ungodly

Proverbs

- 1:1-3** The purpose for Solomon's writing
1:4-6 How a wise person will respond to what he writes?

January 2**Genesis****3:1-5**

Eve is tempted by the serpent

Note: She is deceived, not knowing that it is the Devil who is speaking to her through the serpent, (cf. 2 Corinthians 11:3 and Revelation 12:9)

3:6-7

Eve eats the forbidden fruit and gives to Adam to eat

3:8-12

The LORD's inquiry as to why they hid in the garden when He came to visit them

3:13-15

The LORD's judgment on the serpent

Note: The first Gospel promise, (cf. Romans 16:20)

3:16

The LORD's judgment on Eve

3:17-19

The LORD's judgment on Adam

3:20-24

Adam and Eve's expulsion from the garden

Cain and Abel, Lamech and Seth**4:1-8**

The reason Cain murders his brother Abel

Note: Eve probably thought Cain would be the one through whom the serpent's head would be crushed, (cf. Genesis 3:15 with 4:1). Instead he murdered Abel under the influence of the serpent, the Devil, (1 John 3:12)

4:9-15

The LORD's judgment on Cain

4:16-18

Cain's relocation, birth of his son Enoch, and Enoch's descendants to Lamech

4:19-24

Lamech's bigamy and his warning to any who might seek to retaliate for his killing of a young man in self defense

Note: Cain's premeditated murder was a worse offense than Lamech's manslaughter

4:25-26

The birth of Seth to replace Abel and the beginning of the practice of calling out loud upon the name of the LORD

Note: This is because man has now scattered far from the land of Eden, and can no more approach God at the Garden itself. So believers built altars for sacrifice and turned towards Eden to call upon the name of the LORD, (cf. Genesis 12:8)

Matthew**2:13-15**

Joseph departs that night for Egypt when warned by God of Herod's intent to kill the Christ child

2:16-18

King Herod vents his anger when the Magi depart from Judea without reporting to him, by slaughtering the babies two years old and younger

2:19-21

Joseph returns with Mary and Jesus to Israel after being told by God of Herod's death

2:22-23

The reason Joseph chose to reside in Nazareth rather than in Judea

John's Baptism**3:1-6**

The response to John the Baptist's preaching and baptism of repentance

Psalm 2:**GOD'S BEGOTTEN SON ANOINTED KING OVER THE EARTH****2:1-3**

The rage against the LORD and His Son, and uniting to try to prevent His reign

Note: This will be fulfilled when Christ returns to conquer his enemies, (cf. Revelation 19:11-21)

2:4-6

The LORD's scorn at their attempt to prevent His begotten Son from being anointed king over the earth at Mount Zion

2:7-9

The Son's coming victorious crushing of all his enemies in coming to rule over this earth

2:10-12

Words of advice to kings and to judges in light of Christ's coming to reign

Proverbs**1:7**

What fools refuse to do who despise wisdom and instruction?

1:8-9

A reason why Solomon's son is told to hear the instruction of his father and to not forsake the law of his mother

January 3**Genesis****5:1-20****5:21-24****5:25-32****Adam's Genealogy through Noah**

Adam and Eve's offspring through the line of Seth to Enoch, and the length of their lives
 Enoch's offspring and his being taken from the earth by God without dying
 Adam and Eve's offspring through the line of Seth from Enoch to Noah's sons

Man's Wickedness in the Days of Noah**6:1-2**

The word "men" in verse one is "Adam" in the Hebrew, and in this case refers to the marriages of sons of God to the daughters of Adam and Eve, who would have been the most beautiful, (cf. 5:2 with 5:4)

Note: The sons of God are mentioned in the New Testament as being angels who left their estate in heaven to do this, as a scheme by the Devil to destroy the human race, (cf. Genesis 3:15 and Jude 6)

6:3-7

God intends to destroy the whole human race because of the wicked influence of the giant offspring from these marriages upon mankind, but gives man 120 years to repent

6:8-10

The reasons God intends to spare Noah and his family from being destroyed

Note: The phrase "perfect in his generations" is a reference to his offspring being in the untarnished blood line of Adam, and not of the giants, (cf. 5:3 "in his own likeness")

6:11-13

God informs Noah of His intent to destroy the human race due to worldwide violence

6:14-16

God instructs Noah regarding his building of an ark

6:17-22

God instructs Noah regarding his entrance into the ark with his family and animals

Noah's Flood**7:1-9**

Noah follows God's instructions for entering the ark over a period of seven days

7:10-16

The flood begins after God shuts the door of the ark

7:17-24

The time period for the flood, the extent of the flood upon the earth, and the destruction of all life – both human and animal

Matthew**3:7-8**

John's requires evidence of repentance before baptizing the Pharisees and Sadducees

3:9-12

John warns of a greater baptism by the One who will come after him

Note: Jesus performs two baptisms, both having nothing to do with water. The baptism with the Holy Spirit saves. The baptism with fire condemns

3:13-17

John baptizes Jesus upon his request, and is praised by the Father from heaven

Jesus' Forty Day Temptation in the Wilderness**4:1-2**

Jesus is led of the Holy Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the Devil, which the Devil does after Jesus has fasted for forty days and forty nights, and is hungry again

Note: Renewed hunger after such a prolonged time of not eating is a sign of danger

4:3-4

Jesus responds to the Devil's temptation regarding turning stones into bread

4:5-7

Jesus responds to the Devil's temptation regarding casting himself down from the pinnacle of the Temple in Jerusalem

4:8-11

Jesus responds to the Devil's temptation regarding giving him the kingdoms of this world in return for his worshipping the Devil

Psalm 3:**DAVID'S PLEA WHEN FLEEING ABSALOM****3:1-2**

David acknowledges a time when he thought his situation of danger to be hopeless

3:3-5

David testifies to God's hearing and enabling him to sleep overnight in safety

3:6-8

David's responds to God's answer with a renewed determination to not fear, and prayer for deliverance from his enemies for victory over his enemies

Proverbs**1:10-19**

Solomon warns his son to not participate with those who entice him to join with them in the shedding blood to rob others of their possessions

January 4**Genesis****8:1-14**

It takes a year for the earth to dry, (cf. 7:11 with 8:14)

8:15-19

Noah is told by God to go forth from the ark

8:20-22

Noah offers burnt offerings of every clean animal and bird, and the LORD determines in His heart to not curse the ground again because of man's sin

9:1-7

God blesses Noah and his sons, commanding them to replenish the earth, and authorizes man to shed the blood of any animal or man who murders a human being

9:8-17

The LORD sets His bow in the cloud as a sign of His covenant with Noah and his sons, to never again destroy all mankind with a flood

The Descendants of Noah's Sons**9:18-27**

Noah becomes drunk and when he awakens, blesses Japheth and Shem for not looking on his nakedness, does not bless Ham, and curses Ham's youngest son Canaan

Note: Ham's sin of looking on the nakedness of his father becomes a homosexual trait in his youngest son, Canaan and his offspring (i.e., Sodom and Gomorrah)**9:28-29**

The length of time Noah lived after the flood

10:1-5

Japheth's sons and the Gentile nations descended from him

10:6-20

Ham's sons and the Gentile nations descended from him

Note: Moses emphasizes Nimrod in light of the fact that he was the founder of the city of Babel from which the Babylonian empire emerged, and was the founder of Nineveh from which the Assyrian empire emerged. Moses was inspired to point out these two cities many years before they became Gentile world powers who invaded Israel and led both northern and southern Israel into captivity**10:21-32**

Shem's sons and the Gentile nations descended from him

Matthew**The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry in Galilee****4:12-16**

Jesus moves from Nazareth where he was raised as a boy to Capernaum, when he hears that John the Baptist has been imprisoned, a move which fulfills prophecy, (cf. Isaiah 9:1-2)

4:17-22

Jesus begins to preach repentance in light of the impending kingdom, and calls for Peter, Andrew, James and John to leave their nets and fishing business to follow Him and become fishers of men

Note: They had met Jesus earlier and followed him from Judea, (cf. John 1)**4:23-25**

Jesus travels throughout Galilee, becoming famous for his teaching on the coming kingdom of God, and for his healing of all kinds of sicknesses and diseases. Multitudes follow him from Syria, Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond Jordan

Psalm 4:**DAVID'S CONFIDENCE IN THE LORD'S PROTECTION****4:1-3**

His call for God's mercy in protecting him because he is godly in his conduct

4:4-5

David gives advice as to how to deal with one's anger during the night, while lying on one's bed

Note: The apostle Paul quotes this verse in Ephesians 4:26 from the Septuagint Greek translation which reads to "be angry and sin not"**4:6-8**

David expresses confidence in the LORD's protection, even though many are expressing their doubts

Proverbs**1:20-23**

Wisdom is personified, or spoken of like a person, as crying in the streets of the city and calling for the scorner to repent in order to find the knowledge of God

January 5**Genesis****11:1-9**

The Tower of Babel
 The LORD causes confusion in language in order to bring to a halt their building of a tower to reach into heaven, and in order to hinder the extent of their wickedness in being able to communicate with one language

Note: The idea of this tower being to escape any future flood, should the LORD bring another flood upon mankind

11:10-26

Shem's descendants after the flood to Terah and his three sons – Abram, Nahor, and Haran whose son is Lot

11:27-32

Terah's journey from Ur to the city of Haran with Abram and his family, including Lot, where he then dies

12:1-3

What the LORD had originally told Abram to do in his leaving Ur, (cf. Acts 7:2-4)

Note: Abram was to depart without his father or Lot with him. The translation should read, "Now the LORD had said," (cf. Acts 7:2-4)

Abram's Sojourn to Canaan and then Egypt**12:4-8**

Abram leaves Haran after his father dies and goes to Canaan where the LORD appears to him and informs him that he has arrived in the land He promised to give him, and settles in Bethel; Abram builds an altar and calls on the name of the LORD

12:9-20

Abram leaves Canaan for Egypt because of a severe famine, and ends up almost losing his wife Sarai to Pharaoh were it not for the LORD's intervention to protect Sarai

13:1-4

Abram returns back to Bethel in Canaan where he first built an altar to the LORD, and does so again, (see 12:8)

Matthew**5:1-12****Sermon on the Mount**

Jesus begins his sermon with nine pronounced blessings on the kind of person the Lord will allow to enter his kingdom

Note: The call to repent meant a change in mind, heart, and will to acknowledge one's own unworthiness to enter the kingdom unless saved by Jesus

Psalm 5:**THE LORD'S DEFENCE OF THE RIGHTEOUS****5:1-6**

David pleads for God to hear his prayer, knowing that the LORD hates iniquity and violence

5:7-10

David describes himself as being different in conduct from his enemies, and prays for the LORD to destroy them

5:11-12

David calls for those who are righteous to rejoice because the LORD defends them

Proverbs**Wisdom Personified, (continued)****1:24-29**

Wisdom warns that she will not hear the prayers of those in distress who did not previously heed her reproach

Note: There is a time when the LORD will not hear

January 6**Genesis****13:5-7**

Strife arises between Abram's herdmen and Lot's

13:8-13

Abram proposes a solution and Lot makes a choice to live in the plain of Sodom

13:14-18

The LORD promises again to give Abram the land on which he is standing, and to make Abram's offspring as numerous as the dust of the earth

Abram's Rescue of Lot**14:1-12**

Chedorlaomer of Elam invades the area of Sodom and Gomorrah with four other kings, carrying away the spoils and Lot

14:13-16

Abram takes 318 of his trained men with him to rescue Lot by night at Dan

14:17-24

Abram is met by Melchizedec, king of Salem, -priest of the Most High God who blesses Him- and Abram rejects the spoils offered to him by the king of Sodom

God's Unconditional Covenant with Abram**15:1-6**

The LORD assures Abram of His promise to provide for Abram (in light of his having refused the spoils of Sodom) and to protect Abram's (in light of possible retaliation by Chedorlaomer); Abram's faith is counted to him for righteousness

Note: Verse six is quoted by Paul to prove that justification is by faith alone, Romans 4:3**15:7-17**

The LORD illustrates the covenant He is making with Abram by causing a torch to pass through the pieces of the sacrifice Abram had laid side-by-side

15:18-21

The LORD gives the dimensions of the land He is promising to give to Abram's offspring

Matthew**Sermon on the Mount, (continued)****5:13-20**

Jesus reminds the multitude of God's purpose for Israel to be salt and light to the Gentiles, and warns them that if their righteousness does not exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, that they will not be permitted to enter in the coming kingdom of heaven

5:21-26

Jesus contrasts what the Pharisees say about not committing murder (the sixth command of God's Ten Commandments), and what he says

5:27-32

Jesus contrasts what the Pharisees say about not committing adultery (the seventh command of God's Ten Commandments), and what he says

5:33-37

Jesus contrasts what the Pharisees say about not bearing false witness (the ninth command of God's Ten Commandments), and what he says

5:38-42

Jesus contrasts what the Pharisees say about taking personal vengeance, and what he says

5:43-46

Jesus contrasts what the Pharisees say about loving one's neighbor and hating one's enemy, and what he says

Psalm 6:**DAVID'S PRAYER FOR AN END TO THE LORD'S CHASTISEMENT****6:1-7**

David describes his suffering from God's anger to be to the point that he might die if the LORD does not show mercy

6:8-10

David lets his enemies know that the LORD has heard his prayer and will cause them to be put to shame

Proverbs**Wisdom Personified, (continued)****1:30-33**

Wisdom contrasts what can be expected to be the outcome of those who despise her reproof, and the outcome of those who hearken

January 7**Genesis**

- 16:1-6** Sarah suggests that Hagar become pregnant by Abram, and afterwards demands that she be driven away because of Hagar's attitude towards Sarai
- 16:7-12** The angel of the LORD appears to Hagar by a well in the wilderness, telling her to return and obey Sarai, to name her son Ishmael, and foretells Ishmael's future
- 16:13-16** Hagar names the well in commemoration of her having seen the LORD, returns to Sarai, and gives birth to Ishmael when Abram was eighty-six years of age

The Abrahamic Covenant and CircumcisionOn God's Part

- 17:1-8** The LORD appears to Abram after thirteen years of silence, commanding him to fear Him and keep His commandments, promising to establish His covenant with him as an everlasting covenant, and changing Abram's name to Abraham

On Abraham's Part

- 17:9-14** God commands Abraham to circumcise every male in his house when he is eight days old , as a sign in their flesh of God's covenant with Abraham
- 17:15-22** God answers Abraham's request concerning Ishmael, but establishes His covenant with Sarai's son Isaac who is to be born a year from then, and changes her name to Sarah
- Note: Isaac means laughter, as a rebuke for Abraham's laughter of unbelief
- 17:23-27** Abraham, Ishmael, and all the men of his household are circumcised when he is ninety-nine years old

Sodom and Gomorrah

- 18:1-8** Three men appear to Abraham in the heat of the day, and he and Sarah feed them
- Note: Turns out to be a pre-incarnate appearance of the Lord Himself, and two angels, (See chapter nineteen). Note also that when angels appear, they look like men
- 18:9-15** Sarah denies having laughed when she hears the LORD say to Abraham that she will have a son at the appointed time
- 18:16-19** The LORD sends the two angels with him to Sodom, and tells them why He will stay behind to inform Abraham of what He is about to do to Sodom (where Lot is residing)

Matthew

- 6:1-4** The Lord contrasts the way the hypocrites give alms, with how he says they should be given
- 6:5-15** The Lord contrasts the way the hypocrites pray, with how he says they should pray
- 6:16-18** The Lord contrasts the way the hypocrites fast, with how he says they should fast
- 6:19-24** The Lord tells them where they should be laying up their treasures for the future

Psalm 7:

- 7:1-9** DAVID'S PRAYER REGARDING THE WORDS OF CUSH, THE BENJAMITE
- David appeals for deliverance from his enemies on the basis of his righteous conduct in contrast to their wickedness
- 7:10-17** David praises God who defends the righteous from the violence of the wicked

Proverbs

- 2:1-5** Solomon tells his son that if he seeks for wisdom as one seeks for silver, he will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God

January 8**Genesis****Sodom and Gomorrah, (continued)**

- 18:20-21** The LORD informs Abraham of His intent to destroy Sodom
- 18:22-33** Abraham succeeds in getting the LORD to spare Sodom if He finds ten righteous in the city, (thinking that Lot and his extended family would be safe)
- 19:1-9** The homosexual men of Sodom almost break down the door of Lot's home where the angels are spending the night, in order to have sexual relations with them
- 19:10-14** The angels warn Lot to get his sons and daughters to leave the city, but Lot's sons-in-law mock him
- 19:15-22** The angels forcibly take Lot, his wife, and his two unmarried daughters outside the city, and promise to spare a little city which was later named Zoar (meaning "little") because that is where Lot would flee
- 19:23-26** The LORD rains down fire and brimstone from heaven on Sodom and Gomorrha and all the cities of the plain after Lot is safe in Zoar, and turns Lot's wife into a pillar of salt for looking back
- 19:27-29** Abraham looked early that morning and saw the pillars of smoke coming from the area of Sodom, unaware that the LORD had remembered Abraham in sparing Lot
- 19:30-38** Lot's two daughters get their father drunk and become pregnant by him, from which come Israel's future enemies, the Moabites and the Ammonites

Matthew**Sermon on the Mount, (continued)**

- 6:25-34** Jesus tells the crowd to not worry about food or clothing, but to seek first the kingdom of God that he had come to give, and all those things would be added to them
- 7:1-12** Jesus gives further instructions regarding hypocritical judging of others, perseverance in praying, and the golden rule for treating others
- 7:13-14** Jesus warns about a broad gate most enter to their own destruction, and a narrow gate to life which few find

Psalm 8:**MAN'S FUTURE EXALTATION OVER THE ANGELS**

- 8:1-2** Which will occur when the LORD's name alone is praised in all the earth
- 8:3-5** Which will occur when man, who was created lower than the angels, is crowned with glory and honor above the angels
- 8:6-8** When man at that time will be given dominion over the work of God's fingers in the heavens, as well as restored to having dominion over the animals, birds, and fish of the sea

Note: The work of God's fingers over which man will one day have dominion is the moon and stars mentioned in verse three, where the Devil and his angels presently navigate. The fulfillment of this prophecy will take place during the Millennium, or the "world to come," (cf. Hebrews 2:5-8)

Proverbs

- 2:6-9**

The LORD gives wisdom to those who walk uprightly and preserves their way
When wisdom enters the heart of Solomon's son, it will deliver him from the way of those who do evil and who delight in wickedness

January 9**Genesis****20:1-2**

Abraham heads south to Gerar and again deceives King Abimelech regarding Sarah
Note: There is little doubt that Abraham is disappointed and angry at the LORD for destroying Sodom, being unaware that the LORD had spared Lot. So he heads south towards Egypt, as he had done before, but stops in Gerar because he had been driven out of Egypt for doing the same thing to Pharaoh of Egypt, (cf. Genesis 12)

20:3-7

The LORD warns Abimelech that he will die for taking Sarah, unless he returns her to Abraham and requests that Abraham pray for him

20:8-13

Abraham explains the reason he only told the king that Sarah was his sister

20:14-16

Abimelech returns Sarah to Abraham along with some generous gifts, and offers to let him remain in their land

20:17-18

The LORD heals Abimelech's household so that his wives and maid servants could have children

21:1-7

Isaac is born when Abraham is one hundred years old, and Sarah comments on the meaning of his name, which means laughter, (cf. Genesis 17)

21:8-13

God tells Abraham to let Hagar and Ishmael go because of Ishmael's attitude towards Isaac, but does promise to make a nation of Ishmael, (cf. Galatians 4:28-31)

21:14-19

God miraculously provides a fountain of water for Hagar and Ishmael to drink in the wilderness, and promises to make a great nation from Ishmael

21:20-21

Ishmael becomes an archer in the wilderness of Paran, and Hagar takes a wife for Ishmael from Egypt

21:22-32

Abraham makes peace treaty with King Abimelech and Phichol, chief captain of his army, at Beersheba where Abraham had dug a well

21:33-34

Abraham plants a grove in Beersheba, calls on the name of the LORD - the everlasting God, and sojourns in the land of the Philistines many days

22:1-8

Abraham obeys God's command to take Isaac with him in order to offer him to the LORD on one of the mountains the LORD will show him in the land of Moriah

22:9-13

The LORD calls from heaven to stop Abraham from killing his son with the sacrificial knife, and provides a ram to be offered instead

22:14-18

Abraham names the mountain on which this takes place as Jehovah-jireh, which means "Jehovah, it will be seen," and the LORD swears an oath in His own name to surely bless Abraham and his offspring, (cf. Hebrews 11:17-19 and Romans 8:32)

22:19-24

Abraham returns to Beersheba with Isaac, and hears that his brother Nahor has had children, two of whom were the father of Aram and Rebekah

Matthew**Sermon on the Mount, (continued)**

Jesus warns of false prophets and how to know them by their deeds

7:21-23

Jesus warns that many will perform miracles in his name in the latter days, but that he will not acknowledge them because they are workers of iniquity

7:24-27

Jesus likens the wise who heeds Christ's teachings and the foolish who do not, to the one who builds his house on a rock that will stand the test of a major storm, and the one whose house will fall because it was built upon the sand

Psalm 9:**DAVID PRAISES THE LORD FOR JUDGING HIS ENEMIES IN RIGHTEOUSNESS****9:1-5**

David praises the LORD for destroying his enemies

9:6-12

David declares that the LORD will judge the world in righteousness and be a refuge to those who put their trust in Him

Proverbs**2:16-22**

Wisdom will deliver Solomon's son from falling for the flattery of a promiscuous woman

January 10**Genesis****23:1-20**

Sarah dies in Hebron at 127 years of age, and Abraham purchases land owned by Ephron the Hittite in order to bury his wife in the cave of Machpelah

Abraham's Search for a Wife for Isaac**24:1-9**

Abraham sends his chief servant to the city of his brother Nahor in Mesopotamia, making him swear an oath to not take a wife for Isaac from the Canaanite women

24:10-14

Upon his arrival, Abraham's servant makes a request in prayer to the LORD whereby he can know which young lady has been appointed by the LORD for Isaac

Note: Good advice for dating or courting today

24:15-27

Before he is done speaking in prayer, Rebekah, the granddaughter of Nahor shows up at the well where he has brought his camels, and the servant perceives by what she says and does that she is God's answer to his prayer

Note: We should be on the alert for God's answer to our prayer

24:28-31

Rebekah's brother Laban invites the servant to his home when she tells of her encounter with him

24:32-48

Abraham's servant recounts for Laban how the LORD has led him to Rebekah as God's choice for Isaac

24:49-51

Laban - Rebekah's brother, and Bethuel - Rebekah's father, agree to not stand in the way of Rebekah's going with the servant back to Hebron to be Isaac's wife

Matthew**Jesus's Healing Ministry in Capernaum****8:1-4**

Jesus cleanses a leper of his leprosy while on his way to Capernaum from the mountain where he proclaimed his Sermon on the Mount

8:5-13

Jesus heals a Roman centurion's servant who is sick of the palsy in the very same hour that the Roman centurion made his request, praising his faith and rebuking Israel for their lack of faith

Note: The "kingdom of heaven" will begin under Christ on this earth in the land of Israel (v.11, "from the east and west") and the "outer darkness" is referring to denial of entrance into the land during Christ's reign

8:14-17

Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law of a fever at Peter's home, and when the evening approaches heals many possessed by demons and all who are sick, fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy, (cf. Isaiah 53:4)

Note: The word "devils" is the Greek word for "demons" who oppose God, as does the Devil

Psalm 9:**DAVID PRAISES THE LORD FOR JUDGING HIS CONSPIRATORS, (continued)****9:13-14**

David prays for the LORD's mercy and deliverance from those who would assassinate him, in order that he might then publicly praise the LORD in Zion or Jerusalem

9:15-20

David declares his confidence that the wicked will be ensnared by their own conspiracy, and that they will be brought down to the grave by the LORD who does not forget the needy

Proverbs**3:1-4**

Solomon tells his son how to have a long and peaceful life

3:5-6

Solomon tells him to trust in the LORD completely, and for His guidance in the decisions of life

January 11**Genesis****24:52-61****Abraham's Search for a Wife for Isaac, (continued)**

Rebekah returns with Abraham's servant the next day to become Isaac's wife

24:62-67

Rebekah becomes Isaac's wife and he is comforted after his mother's death

Keturah, Ishmael, Esau and Jacob**25:1-6**

Abraham has sons by Keturah, of whom is Midian and Dedan (future enemies of Israel)

25:7-10

Abraham dies of a good full age, 175 years, and is buried by Isaac and Ishmael in the cave where Sarah was buried

Note: The phrase "was gathered to his people" is a reference to the underworld, where believers were kept until Jesus came, (cf. Revelation 1:18)

25:11-18

While Ishmael is blessed by God with 12 sons as princes, it is Jacob who is the son of promise, (cf. Galatians 4:28-31)

25:19-26

Isaac has twin sons by Rebekah, Esau and Jacob

Note: Since both cannot be the son of promise, the LORD makes clear His choice of Jacob *before* they are born. The apostle Paul uses this to prove that God's election of Jacob was not on the basis of his being better than Esau, (cf. Romans 9:6-12)

25:27-34

Esau sells his birthright privileges as the firstborn to Jacob for some red looking stew, for which he is also called Edom, which means "red"

Note: The difference in Esau and Jacob's attitude towards God is the reason for what God said about the two after they had been born and lived their lives, (cf. Malachi 1:2-3 with Romans 9:13)

Isaac and Abimelech, King of the Philistines**26:1-6**

Isaac is warned by the LORD to not go down to Egypt during a severe famine, but to stay in Gerar and the LORD will perform His sworn oath to Abraham, (cf. Genesis 22:16-18)

26:7-11

Isaac is rebuked by Abimelech for saying Rebekah is his sister, and commands his men to not touch her or Isaac upon penalty of death

Note: The similarity of Isaac's conduct with that of his father, (cf. Genesis 12:9-20)

26:12-17

Abimelech requests that Isaac move from the region because God has blessed Isaac to be mightier than they

Jesus Crosses the Sea of Galilee**8:18-22**

When about to embark in a ship to cross the Sea of Galilee, Jesus responds to both a scribe and another of his disciples regarding the cost of following him

8:23-27

Jesus calms a tempest while crossing the Sea, causing his disciples to marvel

8:28-34

Jesus casts demons out of two men into a herd of swine, who then rush violently down the slope into the Sea, causing the whole city in the land of the Gergesenes to ask him to leave their region

Note: Because this was their means of financial support by bootlegging swine meat across the Sea of Galilee, and selling it to Jews who were forbidden to eat unclean meat

Psalm 10:**QUESTIONS TO THE LORD REGARDING THE WICKED****10:1-2**

A question is raised as to the reason the LORD does not intervene in the trouble caused by the actions of the wicked

10:3-11

A detailed description is given of the kind of contempt the wicked demonstrate towards the LORD by what they think, say, and do

10:12-15

Another question is raised as to the reason the LORD doesn't hold them accountable for their contempt of God in afflicting the poor and fatherless?

Proverbs**3:7-8**

Solomon tells his son the importance to his own personal health by fearing the LORD

January 12**Genesis****Isaac and Abimelech, King of the Philistines, (continued)**

- 26:17-22** Isaac seeks to end strife between his herdsmen and the herdsmen of Gerar by digging a new well they name as “Rehoboth,” (meaning “plenty of room”}
- 26:23-25** Isaac goes from there up to Beersheba, at which time the LORD appears to him that night telling him to not fear, and that God will bless him and multiply his offspring for the sake of His servant Abraham
- 26:26-33** Abimelech and Phichol make a covenant with Isaac like they had made before with Abraham (cf. 21:22-32), and Isaac’s servants dig a well which they call Shebah; hence the city is called Beersheba, (meaning “well of the oath,” cf. 21:31)}
- 26:34-35** Esau causes Isaac and Rebekah grief when, at the age of forty, he marries two Hittite women

Isaac Blesses Jacob

- 27:1-17** Rebekah disguises Jacob to look and smell like Esau when she hears Isaac’s intent to bless Esau
Note: She intended to help God keep His promise to her, (cf. Genesis 25:23)
- 27:18-29** Because Isaac is old and almost blind, he blesses Jacob – thinking him to be Esau
- 27:30-40** When Esau comes in afterwards to be blessed, Isaac tells Esau that he has already blessed Jacob and cannot retract it, (cf. Hebrews 12:16-17)
- 27:41-46** Rebekah learns of Esau’s plot to kill Jacob when Isaac dies, and gets Isaac to agree to let Jacob to go to her brother Laban to seek a wife, (rather than marry another Hittite woman as Esau has done)
Note: Again, Rebekah is trying to help God keep His promise to her regarding Jacob

Matthew**Jesus Returns to Capernaum**

- 9:1-8** Jesus crosses the Sea of Galilee to return to his own city, tells a man sick of the palsy that his sins are forgiven, and commands the man to take up his bed and walk as proof that he has the authority to forgive sins as the Son of Man, (cf. Daniel 7:13-14)
- 9:9-13** Jesus calls Matthew (a publican or Jewish tax collector for Rome) to follow him, eats at Matthew’s home with many publicans and sinners (or prostitutes), and responds to criticism for his doing so by the Pharisees, (cf. Hosea 6:6)
- 9:14-17** The disciples of John come to Jesus and ask him why his disciples do not fast as do they and the Pharisees, to which Jesus responds with three illustrations of what is not appropriate to do by way of comparison
Note: The Pharisees fasted twice a week, the evening of one day to the evening of the next, (cf. Luke 18:10-12)

Psalm 10:**QUESTIONS TO THE LORD REGARDING THE WICKED, (continued)**

- 10:16-18** David concludes with confidence that the LORD and King who rules forever and ever will indeed hear the desire of the humble and alleviate the suffering of the fatherless and the oppressed

Proverbs**3:9-10**

A promise to those who honor the LORD by giving the first fruits of all their increase

January 13**Genesis****28:1-5**

Isaac sends Jacob to Laban, Rebekah's brother, who lives in Haran, charging him to not take a wife for himself from the Canaanite women, (cf. Genesis 24:1-9)

28:6-9

When Esau sees that Isaac is not pleased with his marrying the women of Canaan, he takes another wife who is the daughter of Ishmael, (in order to "rub it in")

28:10-15

As Jacob journeys towards Haran from Beersheba, he dreams at night and sees the LORD at the top of a ladder that reaches into heaven; God promises to multiply his offspring as the dust of the earth, to bless all the families of the earth through him and his seed, and to be with him until he returns back to the land He promised to give Abraham

28:16-22

Jacob erects an altar with the stone he used for a pillow, pours oil on it, calls the name of the place Bethel (meaning "house of God"), and vows to give the LORD ten percent of all God has given him upon his return from Haran, (a voluntary tithe)

29:1-10

Jacob inquires about Laban upon his coming to a well in Haran, is told that Laban's daughter Rachel is coming to the well with Laban's sheep; he waters her sheep for her

29:11-20

Upon hearing about Jacob from Rachel, Laban invites Jacob to stay with them which he does for one month, after which Jacob agrees to stay and serve Laban for seven years in return for Rachel to be his wife

29:21-30

After seven years Laban justifies his deceiving Jacob into marrying Leah his older daughter, but offers to also give him Rachel after the wedding festivities for Leah in return for Jacob's agreement to serve him for another seven years

Note: "What goes around, comes around," (cf. Genesis 27)

29:31-35

The LORD opens the womb of Leah because Rachel is preferred by Jacob over Leah, and she bears four sons to Jacob while Rachel remains barren; Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah

Matthew**9:18-26**

Jesus heals a woman of a rare blood disease whose faith he commends for simply touching the hem of his garment, and also raises a ruler's daughter from the dead, causing his fame to spread throughout the land

9:27-31

Jesus heals two blind men who come to his house, after they express their faith in his ability to do so, and spread his fame even more - contrary to Jesus' instructions

9:32-34

Jesus heals a man who is unable to speak by casting out a demon, which causes the crowd to marvel, but the Pharisees assert that Jesus casts out demons by the prince of demons

Note: The Greek word translated as "devils" is "demons." There is a difference between the Devil, his angels, and the demon spirits who are used by the Devil

9:35-38

Jesus goes throughout Galilee proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom, healing all kinds of disease and sickness, and feeling compassion for the multitudes as being sheep without a shepherd

Psalm 11:**DAVID'S PRAYER FOR FIRE AND BRIMSTONE****11:1-3**

David expresses his trust in the LORD when the wicked seek to destroy the upright in heart, and the righteous can do nothing because the foundations for order in society have been destroyed

11:4-7

David prays for the LORD to see from heaven and rain down fire and brimstone

Proverbs**3:11-12**

The reason Solomon tells his son to not despise the LORD'S chastening, (cf. Hebrews 12:6)

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January 15**Genesis**

- 31:17-21** Jacob waits until Laban has gone to shear his sheep, to then flee with his wives and all of his herds across the river, heading towards Mt. Gilead
- 31:22-24** Laban pursues Jacob with his brethren when he hears what Jacob has done and catches up with Jacob ten days later at Mt. Gilead, but is warned by God in a dream to not speak good or bad to Jacob
- 31:25-29** Laban confronts Jacob over the way Jacob departed, but says he has been warned the night before by the God of his father to not say good or bad to him
- 31:30-32** When Laban asks Jacob why he stole the images of his gods from him, Jacob tells him to search his camp, and should he find them, whoever stole them would not be allowed to live – not knowing that it was Rachel who had stolen them
Note: Rachel later pays a heavy price for her keeping images of female goddesses, (cf. Genesis 35:16-20)
- 31:33-35** Rachel is able to prevent her father from discovering the images, because she hid them under her as she was sitting on top of her camel, and told him that she could not get off because it was that time of the month for her
- 31:36-42** Jacob angrily rebukes Laban who finds no idols, recounting how Laban has mistreated him for twenty years, and stating that if it were not for the God of Abraham and his father Isaac, Laban would have sent him away empty handed
- 31:43-55** Laban enters into a covenant of peace with Jacob at Mizpeh, both of whom promise to not cross from there in order to harm the other, after which Laban returns to his home
- 32:1-8** Jacob sends word to Esau in Edom that he is returning, and fears what Esau might do when he hears that Esau is coming to meet him with four hundred men
- 32:9-12** Jacob prays for protection, reminding the LORD of His promise to be with him

Jesus' Instructions to the Twelve, (continued)

- 10:26-31** To not fear proclaiming his message loudly; to fear God who has the power to destroy both soul and body in hell fire, more than fear man who can destroy the body only; and to be confident of His care for them as illustrated in His care for the sparrows
- 10:32-39** That they need to consider both the cost to them personally and the reward of confessing his name before men
- 10:40-42** That a reward that will be in store for those who welcome them and their message of the kingdom, because they come in his name

Jesus Responds to John the Baptist's Inquiry

- 11:1-3** After Jesus sends the Twelve on their mission, some disciples of John the Baptist are sent to ask whether he is the Christ, or should they look for another?
Note: This is probably due to Jesus' response to John's disciples who asked him why his disciples do not fast? (cf. Matthew 8:14-17)
- 11:4-6** Jesus tells John's disciples to return and report to John in prison of his healing ministry and the gospel of the kingdom he proclaims, and for John to not be offended for having proclaimed Jesus to be the Christ

PSALM 13: DAVID'S PLEA FOR THE LORD'S CHASTISEMENT TO END

- 13:1-2** David asks how long the LORD will forsake him? (cf. 2 Samuel 11)
- 13:3-4** David prays for the LORD to heal him before he dies and his enemies rejoice
- 13:5-6** David commits himself to trust in the LORD's mercy, and to praise him with song

Proverbs

- 3:16-18** More reasons are given why a man who finds wisdom finds happiness

January 16**Genesis****Jacob Encounters Esau**

- 32:13-20** Jacob sends his servants with gifts to Esau from his herd in droves, instructing them to inform Esau each time that the gifts are from him
- 32:21-26** Jacob then sends his two wives, his two maidservants, and his eleven sons across the Jabbok ford, while he remains alone at night and wrestles with an angel of the Lord until dawn, who cripples him in his thigh
- 32:27-29** The angel tells Jacob the reason his name is being changed to “Israel,” while at the same time does not reveal his name to Jacob
- 32:30-32** Jacob names the place “Peniel” after the angel departs, believing that he has seen the LORD face-to-face, and Jacob’s experience is remembered by Jews in the way they eat meat unto the time Moses wrote these words
- 33:1-11** Esau is impressed with the gifts given to him by Jacob, and reluctantly accepts them at the insistence of Jacob
- 33:12-15** Jacob requests that he and his company be allowed to go south without any need for escort and protection by Esau
- 33:16-20** Esau returns to the land of Seir while Jacob encamps near the city of Shechem in Canaan, where he purchases a parcel of land and builds an altar to the LORD

Avenging the Rape of Dinah, Jacob’s Daughter

- 34:1-2** Dinah, the daughter of Jacob by Leah, is raped by Shechem, son of Hamor who is a ruler in the region
- 34:3-12** Hamor offers to make a treaty with Jacob and requests that Jacob allow his son to marry Dinah
- 34:13-24** Dinah’s brothers plot their revenge by pretending to go along with the proposal, provided that all the men of Shechem first be circumcised
- 35:25-31** Simeon and Levi, two of Dinah’s brothers, invade the camp of Shechem, putting to death all of the men who are too sore on the third day to defend themselves, and justifying their actions to Jacob afterward

Matthew**Jesus and John the Baptist**

- 11:7-15** After Jesus defends his ministry as the promised Messiah to the disciples of John, Jesus commands the ministry of John the Baptist
- 11:16-19** Jesus rebukes the Jews for rejecting both John’s ministry and his
- 11:20-24** Jesus curses the cities of Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum for their unbelief, because they are more accountable for having witnessed more miracles
- 11:25-30** Jesus thanks the Father that no one will know the Son unless the Father allows it, and no one will know the Father unless the Son allows it
- Note: Repentance towards God the Father and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are both required, and in that order, Acts 20:21

Psalm 14:**DAVID’S PRAYER FOR ISRAEL’S FUTURE DELIVERANCE FROM CAPTIVITY**

- 14:1-3** David describes how the LORD regards man from heaven, (cf. Romans 3:12)
- 14:4-6** David marvels at the ignorance of those who would oppress God’s righteous people
- 14:7** David prays for the future deliverance of Israel from her oppressors

Proverbs

- 3:19-20** Evidence in creation of the LORD’s wisdom

January 17**Genesis****35:1-7**

God tells Jacob to journey to Bethel where He first appeared to Jacob while fleeing from Esau twenty years earlier, and Jacob demonstrates his intention to renew his commitment to God by having his wives bury their idols at Shechem, and by building an altar at Bethel

35:8-13

Upon arriving at Bethel, Rebekah's nurse Deborah dies; God appears to Jacob again, reaffirming the change of his name to Israel, and reaffirming to him His covenant promises He made with Abraham

35:14-15

Jacob pours out a drink offering on a pillar of stone and calls the name of the place again to be Bethel, (cf. Genesis 28:10-22)

35:16-20

As they journey south from Bethel, Rachel dies during hard labor and is buried, and Jacob changes the name she gave her son from "Ben-on-i" to "Benjamin"

Note: *Ben-on-i* means "son of my sorrow," while *Benjamin* means "son of the right hand," or the son Jacob will honor because of his love for Rachel

35:21-26

Reuben lays with Rachel's concubine, Bilhah, and Israel hears about it. Jacob's wives, concubines, and their twelve sons are listed by name

Note: Reuben's firstborn rights were later given to Joseph, (cf. Genesis 48:22, 49:4)

35:27-29

Isaac dies at one hundred and eighty years, and is buried by Esau and Jacob

Esau's Descendants**36:1-8**

Esau takes his wives, sons, daughters, and all of their possessions from the land of Canaan and settle at Mt. Seir in Edom, because the size of the herds of both Esau and Jacob are too large to accommodate both, (cf. Genesis 13:1-13)

36:9-14

Esau's wives, sons, and grandsons are listed by name

36:15-19

Esau's dukes or chiefs are listed by name

36:20-30

The sons and dukes of Seir the Horite are listed by name

Note: The descendants of Esau and of Seir, who lived in the land of Edom, intermarried

36:31-39

The kings who reigned in Edom prior to any king of Israel are listed by name

36:40-43

The dukes that descended from Esau are listed by name

Note: The Edomites became bitter enemies of Israel, (compare the book of Obadiah)

The Pharisees Oppose Jesus**Matthew****12:1-8**

Jesus responds to the criticism of the Pharisees regarding his disciples plucking ears of corn to eat on the Sabbath Day

12:9-13

Jesus responds to the criticism of the Pharisees regarding his healing of a man whose hand was withered on the Sabbath Day

12:14-16

Jesus withdraws from public ministry in the city, when he knows that the Pharisees have held a secret council as to how they might destroy him, and charges the multitudes who follow him and all whom he has healed to not broadcast his name

12:17-21

This fulfills what the prophet Isaiah had foretold about the Messiah or Christ over five hundred years earlier, (cf. Isaiah 42:1-4)

Psalm 15:**THE KIND OF PERSON ALLOWED TO STAND IN GOD'S PRESENCE****15:1**

David raises the question as to the kind of person God will allow to abide in His Tabernacle at Zion

15:2-5

David answers the question

Proverbs**3:21-26**

Solomon explains to his son the benefit it will be to his life to keep sound wisdom and discretion

January 18**Genesis****37:1-11**

Four reasons given for Joseph's brother's hating him

37:12-17

Jacob sends Joseph to learn how his brothers are doing in shepherding his flock

37:18-24

Joseph's brothers strip Joseph of his coat of many colors, intending to kill him, but due to Reuben's intervention decide to throw Joseph into an empty pit with no water

37:25-28

Judah convinces his brothers to sell Joseph, which they do when some Midianite merchants pass by on their way to Egypt

37:29-32

Reuben rents his clothes when finding Joseph is not in the pit; the others dip Joseph's coat in goat's blood for pretense to Jacob that they do not know what happened to him

Note: Jacob used goat's hair to deceive Isaac into blessing him, (Genesis 27:14-19); observe how often in the Bible a principle emerges, which is "What goes around, comes around")**37:33-36**

Jacob mourns many days for Joseph, refusing to be comforted by his sons and daughters, while Joseph upon his arrival in Egypt is sold to Potiphar, a captain of the guard for Pharaoh

Note: *Sheol* refers to the grave for the body and the underworld for the human spirit**Judah's son Pharez by Tamar****38:1-6**

Judah moves away, has three sons by a Canaanite woman, and takes a wife for Er – his firstborn – whose name is Tamar

38:7-11

After the LORD causes two of Judah's sons to die because of their wickedness, Judah promises to give his third son to Tamar once he gets older, in order to raise up an offspring for his son Er, (cf. Deuteronomy 25:5-10)

38:12-19

When Tamar later sees that Judah does not intend to fulfill his promise, she disguises herself as an idolatrous Temple prostitute in order to seduce Judah in return for a pledge

38:20-23

Judah sends one of his servants to give his pledge to Tamar in return for her giving back his pledge he left with her; gives up trying for fear of embarrassment

38:24-26

Judah backtracks on his hypocritical command that Tamar be burned to death for becoming pregnant, after she presents the evidence of his pledge he had given her

38:27-30

Tamar has two sons by Judah; Pharez and Zerah

Note: *Pharez* means "breach" or "forging through" to be the firstborn; is listed in the royal blood line of Jesus Christ, (cf. Matthew 1:3)**Matthew****12:22-37**

The multitudes are amazed when Jesus casts out demons and enables a blind and dumb man to both see and speak, and Jesus responds to the Pharisees who, because of jealousy, accuse him of healing by the power of Beelzebub

12:38-45

Jesus responds to certain of the scribes and Pharisees who demand that he give them a sign to prove his claim to be the Son of God

Note: "heart of the earth" refers to Sheol or the underworld, not to the grave**DAVID'S HOPE IN THE "HOLY ONE" WHOSE BODY GOD WILL NOT ALLOW TO CORRUPT****16:1-6**

David prays for the LORD to preserve him from death because he is not an idolater

16:7-11

But even should he die, David has hope beyond the grave because of the Holy One whom God will not allow to corrupt in the grave, nor his soul to be left in hell (or better translated as Hades or the underworld)

Note: Christ's resurrection the third day fulfills this prophecy, (Acts 2:31-32, 13:35-39)**Proverbs****3:27-30**

How one should not treat his neighbor who has done him no harm?

3:31-32

Reasons to not envy a man who is prone to violence

January 19**Genesis****39:1-6**

The LORD blesses Joseph and the house of Potiphar because of his promotion of Joseph

39:7-12

Joseph rejects being seduced by Potiphar's wife

39:13-20

Potiphar's wife frames Joseph, falsely accusing him of attempted rape, for which Potiphar has Joseph imprisoned, (cf. Psalm 105:17-18)

39:21-23

The LORD prospers Joseph in prison in the sense of his being trusted and put in charge of the other prisoners

Joseph Promoted by Pharaoh**40:1-19**

Joseph interprets the dream of Pharaoh's chief butler (or cup bearer) and chief baker

40:20-23

Joseph's interpretations are fulfilled

41:1-8

Two years later, Pharaoh has two dreams in the same night, about which he is unable to find any magicians in Egypt to interpret them

Note: These are not magicians in the sense of doing tricks that fool the eye. These are men involved in the occult associated with Egyptian pagan religion and false gods**41:9-16**

Pharaoh summons Joseph to interpret his dreams, when the chief butler remembers what Joseph did for him while he was in prison and reports the incident to Pharaoh

Note: Joseph shaved because the Egyptian men did not wear beards, (cf. 41:14)**Matthew****Jesus Begins to Teach in Parables****12:46-50**

Jesus does not interrupt his teaching to respond to the request of his mother and brothers to see him, saying that those who do the will of his Father are his mother and his brothers

13:1-9

Jesus begins to teach the multitude in parables, beginning with the Parable of the Sower and the Seed

13:10-17

Jesus explains to his disciples why he has begun to teach in parables

Note: The kingdom of God is offered to Israel by Christ (phase one, Matthew 4:19); Israel's apparent rejection of Christ's offer would cause the kingdom to enter into second phase, called a "mystery;" and will not be literally fulfilled until Christ returns, which is phase three, (Acts 1:6-7)**13:18-23**

Jesus interprets for his disciples the Parable of the Sower and the Seed

Psalm 17:**DAVID'S CONFIDENCE WHEN FACING DEATH****17:1-6**

David expresses confidence that the LORD will answer his prayer, because the LORD has searched his heart during the night and has found no guilt

17:7-12

David describes the wicked who are oppressing him, and asks the LORD to disappoint them

17:13-15

While those who oppress him have their hope in this life only, David expresses his anticipation that should he die, he will awake (in resurrection) to behold the face of the LORD in righteousness

Proverbs**3:33**

Whose house is cursed by the LORD, and whose house is blessed?

3:34

Whom the LORD scorns, and upon whom He gives grace?

3:35

Who will inherit glory, and who will inherit shame?

January 20**Genesis****Joseph Promoted by Pharaoh, (continued)**

- 41:17-32** Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dreams to mean seven years of plenty to be followed by seven years of famine
- 41:33-36** Joseph advises Pharaoh as to how to prepare for the coming famine
- 41:37-45** Joseph is made ruler over all of Egypt, second in command to only Pharaoh
- 41:46-49** The plan Joseph implemented during the years of plenty, by which to prepare Egypt for the coming famine
- 41:50-52** The reason Joseph named his two sons by the daughter Pharaoh gave to him for his wife, as Manasseh and Ephraim
Note: *Manasseh* means “one who causes to forget”; *Ephraim* means “fruitful”
- 41:53-57** The reason all countries came to Egypt, and to Joseph, during the seven years of famine

Joseph is re-united with Jacob and Joseph's Brothers

- 42:1-5** The reason Jacob sent his ten sons to Egypt, but kept Benjamin with him in Canaan
- 42:6-9** How Joseph responded, and what he remembered, when he saw and recognized his brothers kneeling before him
- 42:10-17** What Joseph demanded from his brothers in order to supposedly prove they were not spies from Canaan

Matthew**Jesus Begins to Teach in Parables, (continued)**

- 13:24-30** Jesus likens the mystery of the kingdom of heaven to the wheat and the tares
Note: The mystery of the kingdom Jesus reveals in these parables describe the condition of God's kingdom prior to Christ's return (phase two, 13:10-17)
- 13:31-32** Jesus likens the mystery of the kingdom of heaven to the mustard seed
- 13:33-35** Jesus likens the mystery of the kingdom of heaven to leaven, and his teaching in parables fulfills prophecy
- 13:36-43** Jesus explains to his disciples the meaning of the parable of the Sower and the Seed
- 13:44-46** Jesus likens the mystery of the kingdom of heaven to hidden treasure (v.44), and to what a merchant does when he finds a pearl worth lots of money

Psalm 18:**DAVID'S SONG OF VICTORY OVER ALL OF HIS ENEMIES**

- 18:1-6** David expresses his love to the LORD for delivering him in answer to David's desperate cry
- 18:7-15** David describes the LORD's deliverance in terms of a strong storm
Note: David is probably describing a literal storm which he uses to figuratively describe the LORD's rescue of David in battle

Proverbs

- 4:1-4** Solomon exhorts his sons to heed the same kind of instruction as he was taught by his father and mother
- 4:5-6** The benefit it will be to them in terms of gaining wisdom, and not forsaking it

January 21**Genesis****42:18-20**

Joseph is re-united with Jacob and Joseph's Brothers, (continued)
 Joseph demands that one of the brothers remain in prison as a guarantee that the other brothers will return to Egypt with Benjamin

Note: Joseph would have known that it was Simeon who, along with Levi, had massacred the men of Shechem, (cf. Genesis 34:25-31)

42:21-24

How Joseph responds when he hears his brothers – who think that he cannot understand them – express their belief that his harshness is God's retribution on them for what they had done earlier to Joseph, ("What goes around, comes around")

42:25-28

Joseph chooses Simeon to remain in prison and the other brothers discover that one of the sacks contains money they had paid for grain ("What goes around, comes around," cf. 37:29-32)

42:29-34

Joseph's brothers inform Jacob upon their return to Canaan of how the "Lord" of Egypt had treated them (still not knowing that he was Joseph)

42:35-38

The fear of them all is intensified when they open the other sacks and discover all of them have the money they had used to purchase food in Egypt; how Reuben responds

43:1-5

Joseph's brothers response to Jacob when he requests that they return to Egypt

43:6-10

Judah offers himself as security to Jacob if he does not return from Egypt with Benjamin, ("What goes around, comes around," cf. 37:23-28)

43:11-15

Jacob's allows Benjamin to return with the other brothers to Egypt, and sends gifts as well as the money found in their sacks (in order to gain Joseph's favor, (cf. 32:13-20)

43:16-25

How Joseph's brothers respond when they are invited to Joseph's house of dwelling

43:26-30

Joseph's response when he hears that his father is alive and well, and sees Benjamin

43:31-34

Why Joseph's brothers marvel when they see that they have been seated at Joseph's table in the exact order of their ages (A test to see if they resent Benjamin as they previously had resented Joseph)

Matthew**13:47-50**

Jesus likens the mystery of the kingdom of heaven to a fishing net, in which both good and bad fish are caught

13:51-52

Jesus likens every scribe who is instructed in the kingdom of heaven to a householder who brings out of his treasure, both that which is new and that which is old

Note: The Old Testament is filled with promises regarding the coming kingdom of God on earth (the old treasure), but the Parables reveal that God's kingdom will look to be somewhat different than what was foretold until Jesus comes again to this earth, (the new treasure)

13:53-58

The reason Jesus was unable to do many miracles in Nazareth upon his return there

14:1-12

Herod fears that Jesus is John the Baptist who has risen from the dead, after he had John beheaded in prison to please Herodias who resented John's proclaiming that Herod's marriage to her was unlawful

Psalm 18:

DAVID'S SONG OF VICTORY OVER ALL OF HIS ENEMIES, (continued)

18:16-19

David testifies to how the LORD rescued him in the midst of the storm

18:20-27

David testifies to his own righteousness as the reason the LORD has delivered him, because the LORD will respond in kind to what he sees in the attitude and conduct of man

18:28-36

David attributes his victory to God's enabling him supernaturally to prevail in battle

Proverbs**4:7-10**

Solomon tells his sons why their priority in life should be to obtain God's wisdom

January 22**Genesis****44:1-5**

Joseph instructs his servants to put money in every man's sack of food, and his silver cup in Benjamin's sack (in order to test their attitude towards Benjamin)

44:6-10

Joseph's brothers offer to become Joseph's slaves, and the one in whose sack the silver cup is found to be put to death, (not knowing that it was placed in the sack belonging to Benjamin)

44:11-34

The brothers have no defense before Joseph who accuses them, and Judah pleads that Joseph not keep Benjamin for the sake of their father, offering to be Joseph's slave in the place of Benjamin,

Note: Another example of "What goes around, comes around," (cf. 44:16 with 37:26-28)

45:1-8

Joseph tearfully reveals his identity to his brothers and explains God's purpose in allowing them to do what they did

Note: This demonstrates God's omniscient knowledge of man's evil deeds before he does them, and demonstrates His sovereign power to turn man's evil into good for those who love God, (cf. Romans 8:28)

45:9-24

Joseph tells his brothers to quickly return to Canaan and to bring Jacob and all his household to Egypt, with the blessing of Pharaoh

45:25-28

Jacob at first does not believe Joseph is alive, but becomes convinced that he is when he sees what Joseph has sent, and agrees to leave Canaan for Egypt in order to see his son before he dies

Matthew**Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand****14:13-14**

Upon hearing what Herod has done, Jesus departs by ship to a place in the desert, and is moved with compassion when he sees the great multitude who have followed him on foot in order to be healed

14:15-21

Jesus feeds the five thousand by multiplying five loaves of bread and two fish

Note: "evening" refers to mid-afternoon before the sun sets

Jesus Walks on Water**14:22-23**

Jesus sends his disciples away by ship to cross to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, while he sends the multitude away and goes up into a mountain alone to pray

14:24-25

Jesus comes to his disciples in the fourth watch of the night (3-6 a.m.) and walks on the water, the waves being high due to the wind

14:26-33

Peter attempts to walk on the water and Jesus calms the wind when he joins his disciples in the ship, causing them to say that he is indeed the Son of God, (cf. Psalm 107:29)

Jesus heals by the Touch of His Garment**14:34-36**

Upon their arrival in the land of Gennesaret, the multitude gather together all who are diseased, and bring them to be healed by the simple touch of his garment

Psalm 18:**DAVID'S SONG OF VICTORY OVER ALL OF HIS ENEMIES, (continued)****18:37-45**

David describes his crushing of his enemies with the LORD's help

18:46-50

David concludes the psalm with a commitment to praise the LORD publicly before the Gentiles

Proverbs**4:11-13**

Solomon urges his sons to follow his instructions in the way of wisdom, because their lives will depend on it

January 23**Genesis****Joseph is re-united with Jacob and Joseph's Brothers, (continued)**

- 46:1-4** The LORD appears to Jacob in a vision at Beersheba, assuring him that God will make of him a great nation in Egypt and that Joseph will be with him when he dies
- 46:5-7** Jacob takes all he has in the wagons Pharaoh gives to him, and goes to Egypt
- 46:8-27** Jacob's sons and grandsons are listed by name in the order of their birth, including Joseph, the total number being seventy who now live in Egypt
- 46:28-34** Jacob and Joseph have a tearful reunion in Goshen, and Joseph tells his father to tell Pharaoh that they are all farmers so that they will be granted permission to live in Goshen
- 47:1-10** Joseph introduces some of his brothers and his father Jacob to Pharaoh, who grants their request to live in the Goshen region of Egypt; Jacob is 130 years old

Joseph's Administration Policies During the Famine

- 47:11-14** Joseph sells food to the Egyptians and Canaanites until they run out of money, because of the great famine
- 47:15-17** When the people of Egypt have no more money to purchase food, Joseph accepts on behalf of Pharaoh their horses, their sheep, their cattle, and their donkeys for food
- 47:18-20** When the Egyptians had sold all they had for food, they sell their lands and themselves to Pharaoh, to farm the land that they sold
- 47:21-26** Joseph moves the people off of the lands now owned by Pharaoh to live in the cities, and requires that they give a fifth of their increase each year to Pharaoh
- 47:27-31** The Israelites prosper greatly during the next seventeen years while Jacob lives, who makes Joseph promise to bury him in Canaan where his parents are buried
- Note: “place your hand under my thigh” was a symbolic gesture before God of an irreversible vow

Matthew**Jesus Responds to Criticism by the Pharisees
regarding The Tradition of Washing one's Hands**

- 15:1-9** Jesus responds to the hypocrisy of the scribes and Pharisees from Jerusalem who criticize his disciples for not washing their hands before they eat
- Note: Only Levitical priests were required to be ceremonially clean before eating the holy offerings, (cf. Leviticus 22:1-16). Jesus counters by accusing them of their hypocrisy in vowing a gift to be given to the Temple with which they can then justify themselves for not supporting their parents in their old age
- 15:10-20** Jesus responds upon hearing that the Pharisees are offended, and further explains what he means by that which truly defiles a person
- 15:21-28** Jesus responds to the faith of a woman of Canaan whose daughter is tormented by a demon

Psalm 19:**HOW GOD HAS REVEALED HIMSELF TO MAN!**

- 19:1-6** In creation (called “general revelation” by theologians)
- 19:7-11** In His Law (called “special revelation” by theologians)
- 19:12-14** David responds to God’s revelation by asking God’s help to avoid deliberate sin

Proverbs**4:14-19**

Reasons to avoid entering the ways of the wicked and to follow the path of the just

January 24**Genesis**

- 48:1-7** Joseph is assured that his two sons and his descendants by them will be considered by Jacob to be his own sons, just as much as Reuben and Simeon
- 48:8-16** Jacob, now old and unable to see, kneels with Joseph's two sons to bless Joseph, placing his right hand on Ephraim's head rather than on Manasseh's, Joseph's firstborn
- 48:17-20** When Joseph thinks Jacob has made a mistake, Jacob informs him that while God will bless both of his sons, Ephraim will be greater than Manasseh
- 48:21-22** Jacob gives a double portion of his land in Canaan to Joseph
Note: The double portion usually went to the firstborn son, but Reuben forfeited his right because of his fornication with one of Jacob's wives, (cf. Genesis 35:22)
- 49:1-28** Jacob gathers his sons to him when nearing death, in order to pronounce God's blessing upon them
- 49:2-4** On Reuben
 - 49:5-7** On Simeon and Levi
 - 49:8-12** On Judah
Note: Jesus fulfills this prophecy, (cf. Matthew 21:4-5)
 - 49:13** On Zebulun
 - 49:14-15** On Issachar
 - 49:16-18** On Dan
 - 49:19** On Gad
 - 49:20** On Asher
 - 49:21** On Naphtalai
 - 49:22-26** On Joseph
 - 49:27** On Benjamin

Jacob's Death Wish regarding His Burial

- 49:29-32** Jacob charges them all that he is to be buried in the cave where Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, and Leah are buried
- 49:33** Jacob returns to his bed after blessing his sons, and dies

Matthew

- 15:29-31** Jesus departs from the region of Tyre and Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, goes up into a mountain, and heals many of the great multitudes who come to him
- 15:32-38** Jesus feeds them with seven loaves and seven small fish
- 15:39-16:4a** Jesus rebukes the Pharisees and Sadducees who ask him to show them a sign from heaven
- 16:4b-12** Jesus, in crossing the Sea of Galilee, warns his disciples about the Pharisees whom he calls "leaven"

Psalm 20:**ON WHOM KING DAVID RELIES IN BATTLE**

- 20:1-4** David asks the God of Jacob to hear his prayer for Israel in the time of trouble
- 20:5-9** David rejoices in the God of Jacob as his help, rather than trust in chariots and horses

Proverbs

- 4:20-22** Solomon appeals for his son to heed his instruction, because his health and life itself will depend on it
- 4:23-27** What this means is that his son needs to guard his heart, his lips, his eyes, and his feet in not turning to either the right or the left

January 25**Genesis****Jacob's Funeral and Burial**

- 50:1-6** Joseph commands his father's embalmment, Egypt mourns forty days, and Pharaoh grants permission for Joseph to bury Jacob in Canaan
- 50:7-13** A military escort given for Joseph and all of Jacob's family except for the little ones, and Jacob is buried in the cave Abraham purchased in Canaan after an additional seven days of mourning

Joseph's Remaining Years and Death

- 50:14-21** Upon their return to Egypt, Joseph responds to the fear of his brothers that he might retaliate against them now that Jacob is dead
- 50:22-26** Joseph lives to see his children and grandchildren by both Ephraim and Manasseh, makes his sons vow to carry his bones out of Egypt to be buried in Canaan, dies at the age of one hundred and ten, is embalmed, and is put in a coffin in Egypt

Exodus**Israel's Bondage in Egypt**

- 1:1-6** A list of Israel's sons by name is given and the total number that came with him from Canaan into Egypt, the passing of all of Joseph's generation, and the continuing prosperity and multiplication of the Jews in Egypt
- 1:7-14** A new king who did not know Joseph puts the Jews under forced hardship and labor, and they build for Pharaoh two treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses
- 1:15-22** Two of Pharaoh's midwives refuse to obey Pharaoh's command to kill all the new born Jewish sons, and are blessed by God for doing so
- Note: When a person deceives in order to prevent evil, Scripture does not condemn the act of deception, (cf. James 2:25)
- 2:1-10** The parents of Moses are able to initially keep him from being discovered and killed as a baby, and place him in a basket among the bulrushes on the Nile River, where Pharaoh's daughter discovers him and raises him as one of Pharaoh's household

Matthew**Jesus Reveals His Coming Death in Jerusalem**

- 16:13-20** Jesus blesses Peter's confession of faith upon coming into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, that he is the Christ, the Son of the living God
- 16:21-28** Jesus rebukes Peter who objects to his telling them that he must first die in Jerusalem, and challenges them to be willing to go to the cross with him

The Mount of Transfiguration

- 17:1-9** Jesus takes Peter, James, and John up into the mountain with him, where he is transfigured before them, and tells them on the way down to not talk with others about their experience, (cf. 16:28)

Psalm 21:**DAVID'S PRAISE FOR THE PROMISED MESSIAH OR CHRIST**

- 21:1-7** David foretells that the king will joy in the Lord who will deliver him and crown him to reign forever and ever
- 21:8-13** David praises the LORD for the day in which He will crush the king's enemies

Proverbs**5:1-6**

- Solomon warns his son to not be enticed by the seductive ways of a strange woman, whose ways will lead him to a premature death

January 26**Exodus****Israel's Bondage in Egypt, (continued)**

- 2:11-12** Moses is forty years old when he visits his Jewish brethren in Goshen, and kills an Egyptian whom he comes across beating one of them, (cf. Acts 7:23)
- 2:13-15** Moses flees to Midian for of Pharaoh's retaliation
- 2:16-22** Moses is invited by Reuel who is a priest of Midian to live with him; Moses marries his daughter Zipporah who bears him a son he names "Gershom"
Note: "Gershom" means "a stranger here." Reuel is also named Jethro, (3:1)
- 2:23-25** When the king of Egypt dies, God hears the cry of His people in bondage and remembers His covenant with Abraham over four hundred years earlier, (cf. Genesis 15)
- 3:1-6** Moses encounters the angel of the LORD who is also identified as being God, calling to him from the midst of a burning bush that does not consume, (Horeb being another name for Mount Sanai, cf. Deuteronomy 5:2)
- 3:7-10** The LORD tells Moses that He has both seen and heard the affliction of His people in Egypt, and will send Moses to Pharaoh to get him to set His people free
- 3:11-18** The LORD overrules Moses' excuses for not doing what God is commanding him to do
- 3:19-22** The LORD promises to smite Egypt with plagues by which Pharaoh will let His people go, and the Egyptians will allow the spoiling of their household goods in order to encourage them to go

Matthew**Jesus Continues to Instruct His Disciples**

- 17:10-13** Jesus informs his disciples again that he will die, even as John the Baptist died in seeking to prepare the nation for God's coming kingdom, which will be fulfilled by Elijah
- 17:14-21** Jesus explains the requirement for his disciples to be able to cast out a demon, such as the one Jesus cast out of a lunatic son
- 17:22-23** The disciples are very sorry when Jesus tells them again in Galilee that he will be betrayed and killed, but will be raised from the dead on the third day
- 17:24-27** Jesus enables Peter to find a coin in the mouth of a fish to pay a tax

Psalm 22:**THE CRUCIFIXION, RESURRECTION, AND FUTURE REIGN OF THE CHRIST OR MESSIAH**

- 22:1-10** His cry to God is foretold while he is being crucified
- 22:11-18** His crucifixion is described (and fulfilled in Christ's death, Matthew 27:26-50)

Proverbs

- 5:7-14** Solomon continues to warn his son of the consequences of being involved with a promiscuous woman

January 27**Exodus****4:1-9**

The LORD gives Moses three signs to convince the Israelites that the LORD GOD of their Fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob has sent them

4:10-17

The LORD designates Aaron, Moses' brother, to be the spokesman for Moses

4:18-23

The LORD tells Moses, as he prepares to go to Egypt with his wife and sons, that He will harden Pharaoh's heart. When he refuses to let God's people go in spite of the wonders performed by Moses, God will slay Pharaoh's firstborn son

4:24-26

Mose's wife, Zipporah, rebels against him for requiring that his son be circumcised to avoid being killed by the LORD

4:27-28

After Aaron and Moses are re-united at Mt. Sinai, Moses tells Aaron all that the LORD has told him

4:29-31

Moses and Aaron go to Egypt together, Aaron informs the Israelite elders of what the LORD has sent them to do; Moses performs the signs the LORD commanded him to do to give evidence, and the people believe them and bow their heads in worship because the LORD has answered their prayers

5:1-9

On the same day that Moses and Aaron go before Pharaoh to request that he permit the Israelites to take a three day journey in the wilderness to worship the LORD, Pharaoh increases the burden of the Israelite slaves by ordering that straw no longer be made available to them for building bricks, and that they will have to produce the same daily number of bricks as they did before when straw was provided

5:10-14

The Egyptian taskmasters carry out Pharaoh's orders, and beat the Israelites for not producing the same amount of bricks as before

5:15-19

When the officers of the Israelites complain to Pharaoh about the way they are now being treated, Pharaoh accuses them of being idle because of their request to go into the wilderness to worship the LORD

5:20-21

Upon their leaving Pharaoh, they meet Moses and Aaron and blame them for Pharaoh's change of attitude towards them

Matthew**Jesus Instructs His Disciples, (continued)****18:1-11**

Jesus uses a little child to illustrate to his disciples who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven, and warns against anyone causing them to reject him

18:12-14

Jesus uses the illustration of a shepherd seeking to find one sheep gone astray, to emphasize that it is not the will of the heavenly Father that one of the little ones perish

18:15-20

Jesus gives the procedure to be followed in the church when there is a dispute between two church members

Note: This has to do with hurt feelings over something that is done or said, but not in cases in which immorality is involved or a crime has been committed. Furthermore, the "two or three" mentioned is a reference to those giving testimony to the church, and is not the definition of what constitutes a church

18:21-22

Jesus answers Peter's question as to how many times they should forgive a brother who sins against them

Psalm 22:**THE CRUCIFIXION, RESURRECTION, AND FUTURE REIGN OF THE CHRIST, (continued)****22:19-25**

The Messiah who is crucified praises the LORD for delivering him from death, and giving him a congregation of brethren among which to praise the LORD, (cf. Hebrews 2:10-13)

22:26-31

All the peoples of the world will yet worship him, for the kingdom of God is his

Proverbs**5:15-21**

Solomon urges his son to be satisfied sexually with the wife of his youth

January 28**Exodus****5:22-23****6:1-9****6:10-13****6:14-27****6:28-30****7:1-5****7:6-13****7:14-24****Israel's Bondage in Egypt, (continued)**

- Moses asks the LORD why He has sent him, in light of Pharaoh's harshness
- The LORD commands Moses to assure the Israelites by His name, Jehovah, that He will fulfill His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and will deliver them from bondage, but they do not listen to Moses
- Moses asks the LORD how Pharaoh can be expected to listen to him, when the Israelites do not
- The heads of the families descended from Reuben, Simeon, and Levi – from which Moses and Aaron are descended, are listed by name
- Moses asks the LORD again how Pharaoh can be expected to listen to him, when the LORD commands him to return to Pharaoh with the same request
- The LORD reminds Moses that he will harden Pharaoh's heart, so that the wonders He does will set His people free and the Egyptians might come to know that He is Jehovah

Pharaoh's heart is Hardened

- Aaron casts his rod down before Pharaoh and it turns into a serpent, but Pharaoh's heart is hardened when his sorcerers do the same, even though Aaron's rod swallows the rods of the magicians
- The LORD smites the Nile River and all of the ponds and streams of Egypt when Moses uses the same rod that turned into a serpent, so that fish die and the river stinks, yet Pharaoh is hardened when his magicians repeat the same wonder

Matthew**18:23-35****19:1-2****19:3-9****19:10-12****Jesus Instructs His Disciples, (continued)**

- Jesus the matter of forgiveness in the coming kingdom of heaven to what happens to a servant who will not forgive a fellow servant for a minor debt, after he himself has been forgiven by the king of a major debt
- Jesus departs from Galilee and enters Judea on the other side of the Jordan River, where great multitudes follow him and he heals them there
- Jesus answers the Pharisees who seek to trap him in his response to their question regarding divorce, (cf. Deuteronomy 24:1-4)
- Jesus responds to the reaction of his disciples to his statement on divorce to give his approval to those who sacrifice marriage for the sake of the coming kingdom of heaven

Psalm 23:**THE LORD IS DAVID'S SHEPHERD****23:1-3****23:4****23:5****23:6**

His providential care for David in the daily cares of life

His providential care for David in facing the threat of death

His providential care for David in facing his enemies

His providential care for David in life after death

Proverbs**5:22-23**

What the wicked can expect to be the end result of their iniquities?

January 29**Exodus**

- 7:25-8:4** **Pharaoh's heart is Hardened, (continued)**
The LORD commands Moses to go to Pharaoh after seven days, and tell him that the LORD will plague Egypt with frogs if he does not let His people go
- 8:5-15** After Moses honors Pharaoh's request for Moses to pray and ask that the frogs die, he then refuses to keep his word to let the people go
- 8:16-19** When his magicians fail to duplicate Moses in turning dust into lice, saying that this wonder is the finger of God, Pharaoh still hardens his heart
- 8:20-24** The LORD tells Moses to warn Pharaoh that He will send swarms of flies to plague Egypt, but not Goshen where the Israelites dwell if he does not let His people go
- 8:25-32** Pharaoh hardens his heart and breaks his word again, after Moses prays and the LORD removes the plague of flies
- 9:1-7** The LORD then causes all of Egypt's cattle to die, but not one dies of the Israelites, and yet Pharaoh hardens his heart again
- 9:8-12** The LORD hardens Pharaoh's heart again so that he doesn't even listen when his own magicians cannot come and stand before him, due to severe boils that break out on the Egyptians
- 9:13-16** Moses informs Pharaoh that the LORD has raised him up for the purpose that His name might be declared throughout all the earth as a result of His plagues on Egypt
- 9:17-26** The LORD then causes the worst hail storm to destroy both animals, trees, and vegetation in Egypt
- 9:27-35** Pharaoh's heart and those of his servants is hardened after Moses again prays for the LORD to cause the storm to cease

Matthew

- 19:13-15** **Jesus Instructs His Disciples, (continued)**
Jesus tells his disciples to not forbid little children to come to him, for of such is the kingdom of heaven
Note: God does not condemn little children to the lake of fire who have not yet reached the age of accountability. For this reason, Jesus warns against anyone who would prevent any child from coming to him while their hearts are still tender
- 19:16-24** Jesus tells his disciples how hard it is for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven
Note: The illustration of a camel and the eye of the needle is a description of the difficulty a camel would have to go through a very small entranceway through the wall of a city at night, when the main gates are shut
- 19:25-30** Jesus promises his disciples great reward in the kingdom of heaven for following him

Psalm 24:

- 24:1-2** **QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR ACCESS TO THE KING OF GLORY**
The earth and all who dwell therein belong to the LORD
- 24:3-6** The kind of person one must be to be permitted access to God's presence on the hill of the LORD
- 24:7-10** Jerusalem is told to greet the King of Glory when He enters the gates of Jerusalem to reign forever

Proverbs

- 6:1-5** Solomon instructs his son how resolve a problem he has made for himself in becoming liable for the obligations of another

January 30**Exodus****10:1-6**

Pharaoh is warned by God that He will send a plague of locusts such as has never been seen, and tells Moses that He will harden Pharaoh's heart so that they might know He is LORD by the plagues that He sends

10:7-11

Pharaoh at first reconsiders when his own servants ask him how long he will allow Moses and Aaron to destroy Egypt, but changes his mind when Moses does not agree to his demand that he take only the men with him and leave the children behind

10:12-15

When Moses stretches his rod over the land of Egypt, the LORD sends such a great swarm of locusts in the wind from the east for a day and a night, that nothing green is left in Egypt by way of tree leaves and vegetation

10:16-20

The LORD drives the locusts into the Red Sea when Moses prays at the request again of Pharaoh, but hardens Pharaoh's heart yet more afterwards

Note: There comes a time when the opportunity for repentance is over, and the LORD decides to prepare a person as a vessel fitted for destruction, (Romans 9:21-23)

10:21-23

When Moses stretches forth his hand towards heaven, the LORD causes a thick darkness to settle over the land of Egypt for three days, so that no one can see except for the Israelites who have light in their dwellings

10:24-29

When Moses refuses Pharaoh's offer to let them go, provided they leave their flocks and herds behind, the LORD hardens Pharaoh's heart again, who then threatens to kill Moses

11:1-10

Moses leaves Pharaoh in anger after warning him of one more plague by which he, his servants, and all the Egyptians will drive the Israelites out of their land, and allow them to take spoil of their treasures for the journey, because at midnight all of the firstborn sons in the land of Egypt will die

The Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread**12:1-13**

The LORD tells Moses what the Israelites are to do to prepare for the LORD to pass over their households and not destroy their firstborn, and establishes that month to be the beginning of Israel's annual religious calendar

Matthew**20:1-16**

Jesus likens the kingdom of heaven to a householder who hires laborers and pays those who are hired later in the day the same as those who were hired earlier, in order to teach his disciples that he has the right to determine what reward each person will receive in his kingdom

20:17-19

As Jesus goes up to Jerusalem, he tells his disciples again that he will be betrayed, delivered by the chief priests to the Gentiles to be mocked, scourged, and crucified, but that he will rise again the third day

20:20-28

Jesus contrasts his coming to minister, though he be the Son of Man, with the manner in which Gentiles who have power rule. This is to rebuke his disciples for their anger at the mother of James and John, who requests that Jesus seat her two sons on their thrones in the kingdom, one on Jesus' left hand and the other on his right

Psalm 25:**ANOTHER PRAYER OF REPENTANCE BY KING DAVID****25:1-15**

David prays for the Lord to pardon his iniquity, to not remember the sins of his youth, and to not allow his enemies to triumph over him

Proverbs**6:6-11**

The sluggard is admonished to learn from the work ethic of an ant

January 31**Exodus****12:14-20**

The LORD gives Moses instructions regarding the Feast of Unleavened Bread for seven days during the observance of Passover

12:21-28

Moses instructs the elders regarding the killing of the Passover Lamb and applying the blood to the doors of their homes

12:29-36

A great cry is heard throughout the land of Egypt when all of the firstborn of Egypt die at midnight, causing Pharaoh to finally let God's people go and causing the Egyptians to open their homes for the Israelites to take whatever they need

12:37-39

About six hundred thousand men besides the children, and a mixed multitude journey from Rameses to Succoth, taking all of their flocks, herds, and cattle, along with the cakes of unleavened bread that they had prepared hastily for the Passover

12:40-42

The night of the Passover occurs after four hundred and thirty years of Israel's sojourn in Egypt, and is to be observed by all Israel throughout their generations as a memorial

12:43-51

The LORD requires that any strangers dwelling with them be circumcised prior to being allowed to eat the Passover, and requires that the flesh of the Passover Sacrifice be eaten completely within each household, without breaking a bone

13:1-16

The LORD requires that all of the firstborn of both animal and man be redeemed by a sacrifice, to commemorate their deliverance from death in the Passover, and that a memorial be worn on their hand and between their eyes as they continue to celebrate the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread every year during the month of Abib

Matthew**Christ's Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem****20:29-34**

As they depart from Jericho going towards Jerusalem, Jesus heals two blind men who cry out to him

21:1-5

Upon approaching the Mount of Olives, Jesus sends two disciples into the nearest village to find and bring an ass tied to a colt in fulfillment of prophecy, (cf. Genesis 49:10-11 and Zechariah 9:9)

21:6-9

A very great multitude spread garments and tree branches in the way before Jesus as he rides into the city of Jerusalem, crying out what David prophesied about the Christ, (Psalm 118:25)

21:10-16

Jesus cites a Psalm in response to the objections of the chief priests and scribes in the Temple, when they see the multitude, hear what they cry, and observe his casting out of the moneychangers in fulfillment of prophecy, (cf. Psalm 8:2 and Isaiah 56:7)

21:17-22

Jesus instructs his disciples about their need for praying in faith, and illustrating it by causing a fig tree that had no fruit to wilt away by the power of his word

Note: Christ's apostles will be able by faith to do the same as Jesus upon His return to establish the kingdom, but in the meantime even the apostle Paul says it is more important now to seek the gift of God's love than seek the power to remove mountains now

Psalm 25:**ANOTHER PRAYER OF REPENTANCE BY KING DAVID, (continued)****25:16-22**

David describes his personal suffering in asking the LORD to not let him be put to shame by his enemies

Proverbs**6:12**

The calamity that is in store for the kind of person who continually devises trouble and sows discord by false and perverse methods

February 1**Exodus****13:17-19**

The reason God leads the Israelites by the wilderness of the Red Sea, rather than through the land of the Philistines

13:20-22

The Lord leads the Israelites by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night

14:1-4

The LORD tells Moses to encamp by the Red Sea because when Pharaoh thinks that the Israelites will be trapped in the wilderness, the LORD will harden his heart to pursue them with all of his army and cavalry, so that the Egyptians might know that He is the LORD by what He will do to Pharaoh

14:5-9

When the heart of Pharaoh and his servants are hardened, and they question why they allowed the Israelites to leave, the LORD again hardens Pharaoh's heart to pursue the Israelites with his army, six hundred of his choice chariots and all of the remaining chariots, the horsemen and the infantry

14:10-14

How Moses responds to the Israelites when, upon seeing Pharaoh's army approaching, blame him for bringing them into the desert

14:15-18

The LORD tells Moses that He will divide the waters of the Red Sea, so that the Israelites can cross on dry ground and that He will bring honor to His name when He hardens the hearts of the Egyptians to follow them into the Sea

14:19-22

The means, by which the LORD protects the Israelites from the Egyptians as they cross the Red Sea, is described

Note: A study of other Scriptures will reveal that the "Angel of God" is the presence of the pre-incarnate Lord Jesus Christ

14:23-29

The means by which the LORD destroys Pharaoh's army in the Red Sea is described

14:30-31

How the Israelites respond when they see the bodies of the Egyptians the next morning

15:1-19

Moses leads the Israelites in a song of praise to the LORD

Matthew**Christ's Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem, (continued)****21:23-27**

When the chief priests, elders, and Pharisees refuse to answer his question as to whether John's baptism was of God or not, Jesus in turn refuses to answer their question as to the authority by which he drove out the money changers in the Temple

21:28-32

Jesus uses an illustration of two sons who are asked by their father to work in his vineyard, and applies it to the religious rulers saying that publicans and harlots will enter the kingdom of God before them

21:33-44

Jesus tells a parable of a householder and his vineyard to what God will do to these religious rulers for killing His Son

21:45-46

The reason the chief priests and Pharisees do not arrest Jesus publicly in the Temple

Psalm 26:**DAVID APPEALS TO GOD AS HIS JUDGE****26:1-11**

David appeals to the LORD for deliverance from his enemies on the basis that he does not join them in their wickedness and that he loves the house of the Lord

26:12

David promises to bless the LORD publicly for enabling him to stand and not fall

Proverbs**6:16-19**

Seven sins that the LORD hates

February 2**Exodus****15:20-21**

Miriam the prophetess, Aaron's sister, leads all the women to join in the singing
The Israelites murmur against Moses when, after three days journey of no water they

15:22-23

come upon the waters of Marah, but find that they cannot drink because they are bitter
The LORD heals the water as His first test of the Israelites after delivering them
from Pharaoh, promising to heal them of all the diseases He brought upon the
Egyptians if they will completely obey Him

15:27-16:3

After resuming their journey from Elim, where they had plenty of water and shade, the
Israelites murmur against Moses and Aaron when they come to the wilderness of Sin,
wishing that they had died by the hand of the LORD in Egypt rather than die by hunger
in the desert

16:4-26

The LORD provides them bread from heaven every morning and quail to eat every
evening, with instructions of how to gather in order to not have too much or lack

Note: The Israelites call the bread from heaven "Manna" which means, "What is it?
Jesus uses God's provision of Manna from heaven as an illustration of his coming from
heaven as the Bread of Life, (cf. John 6:30-63)

16:27-30

Some also disobey the LORD's command to gather a double portion on the sixth day, in
order that they might observe the seventh day as a day of rest

16:31-36

The Manna is described by appearance and taste, and Moses tells Aaron that the LORD
has commanded that an omer of it be kept as a testimony of His provision of food for
the nation for forty years

Note: An omer is a little over a bushel

17:1-7

The Israelites test the LORD's patience at Rephidim when they accuse Moses of bringing
them into the desert to die of thirst, yet the LORD causes water to come out of a rock
when Moses simply speaks to the rock; the name of the place being named Massah and
Meribah by the LORD

Note: It is Christ who caused the water to come out of the rock, (cf. 17:6 with
1 Corinthians 10:4). Believers today are warned to not provoke the Lord as they did at
Meribah, (Hebrews 3:8)

Matthew**22:1-14**

Jesus speaks yet another parable of a king who sends out invitations to a wedding feast
for his son, in order to warn them that God will cause his enemies to be killed and the
city of Jerusalem to be burned, after which others will be invited provided that they
are wearing their wedding garments which have been prepared for them

22:15-22

Jesus answers the Pharisees who try to trap him, by asking whether or not it is right to
pay tribute to Caesar

22:23-33

Jesus answers the Sadducees who try to trap Jesus in his answer as to whose wife a
woman will belong in the day of resurrection, after having been legally married to seven
men

Note: An extreme example of Deuteronomy 25:5 for the sake of argument

Psalm 27:**27:1-6**

David testifies to the LORD's past deliverance of him from his foes who are wicked,
expressing confidence that the LORD will do so for him in the future because of his love
for the house of the LORD

Proverbs**6:20-26**

Solomon warns his son to heed his warnings and those of his mother, regarding the
need for him to not be seduced by the beauty and flattery of a promiscuous woman

February 3**Exodus****17:8-16**

Aaron and Hur help to keep Moses's hand lifted towards heaven as Joshua defeats the Amalekites who have come to fight against the Israelites, for which the LORD promises to eliminate their remembrance from the earth

Note: Tradition says that Hur is the brother of Miriam, Moses' sister, and the Amalekites are the descendants of Esau, (Genesis 36:12)

18:1-12

Jethro, the father-in-law to Moses, comes to visit him in order to reunite Moses with his wife and two sons, and is converted to faith in the LORD when he hears how the LORD has delivered the Israelites from Pharaoh

18:13-26

Moses heeds the advice of Jethro regarding his need to appoint judges over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens, in order to assist him in resolving disputes

At Mount Sinai**19:1-6**

The Israelites arrive at Mount Sinai after three months, and the LORD calls Moses up into the mount, telling him to tell the people that if they will obey His voice and His commandments, He will make them His treasured people - a holy nation and a kingdom of priests

Note: This begins God's covenant with Israel. It is called the Mosaic Law because God spoke the terms through His servant Moses. Thus, Moses became the mediator of the Old Covenant and Jesus, the mediator of the New, (cf. Hebrews 8:6)

19:7-9

The elders and all the people agree to do all that the LORD has spoken, and Moses is told why God chooses to speak to him in a thick cloud

19:10-15

Moses is told to sanctify the people for two days by having them wash their clothes, abstain from sexual relations with their wives, and what to expect to happen on the third day

Matthew**22:34-40****Christ's Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem, (continued)**

When the Pharisees hear how Jesus has put the Sadducees to silence before the crowd gathered in the Temple, they assemble together and attempt to trap Jesus regarding the greatest commandment of the Mosaic Law

22:41-46

When Jesus in turn asks them a question regarding what David wrote in Psalm 110:1, they not only do not answer the question, but cease from that time forth to ask any more questions

23:1-12

Jesus warns the crowd assembled and his disciples to not be like the Pharisees, because they exalt themselves before men

Psalm 27:**27:7-12****27:13-14****WAIT ON THE LORD!**

David requests that the LORD not forsake him and not deliver him to his enemies

David tells himself to wait on the LORD and to be of good courage, believing that the LORD will strengthen him in his heart

Proverbs**6:27-35**

Solomon warns his son that if he is seduced by a married woman, her husband will in jealousy seek revenge and not be appeased

February 4**Exodus****19:16-25**

The LORD descends upon Mount Sinai in a thick cloud, with thunder and lightning, causing the top of the mountain to appear as smoke rising from the fire of a furnace, and telling Moses that only he and Aaron are permitted to come up to speak with Him
Note: The fear that this caused, even in the heart of Moses, is spoken of in the New Testament, (Hebrews 12:18-21)

The Ten Commandments**20:1-17**

The first four commands pertain to Israel's worship of God, and the last six pertain to their actions towards one another. All the remaining commandments can be traced to protecting the observance of one of these commands

Note: The Moral Law of God has been in effect from the time of Adam, though not written down, and will be used by God to judge all men for their sins, not just the Israelites, (cf. Romans 2:14-16 and 3:19-20)

20:18-21

The people request that God no longer speak directly to them, and Moses tells them the reason that the LORD spoke directly to them

Note: Moses from this time forth becomes the mediator between Israel and the LORD

20:22-26

Now that the Israelites have heard the voice of the LORD, they are commanded as to the type of altar they are to build in order to worship Him

Note: The Israelites were not to make their altars attractive with cut stones like those of the idolaters around them, nor were they to expose their nakedness as did the idolaters at their altars

More Judgments**21:1-11**

Regarding treatment of Hebrew slaves, whether male or female

21:12-21

Regarding murder, manslaughter, and responsibility for injury

Matthew**23:13-33**

Christ's Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem, (continued)

Jesus publicly pronounces a series of "woes" upon the Pharisees for their hypocrisy

Jesus warns that he will bring upon them the blood of all the righteous, from Abel to Zecharias or Zechariah, for what they have done to God's prophets

Note: This is another prophet than the one who wrote the book of Zechariah, and whose assassination is recorded in the last book of the Hebrew Old Testament, 2 Chronicles 24:21

23:37-39

Jesus prophesies the coming destruction of the city of Jerusalem for their killing of the prophets he sends, and promises that they will not see him again until they proclaim "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord," (Psalm 118:26)

Note: This Psalm is recited by Jews every year in the observance of Passover

Psalm 28:**TURN TO THE ROCK FOR DELIVERANCE!****28:1-5**

David cries to the LORD his Rock to judge those who speak peace with their mouths, but harbor violence in their hearts

28:6-7

David blesses the LORD for having heard his prayer, and is encouraged to render thanksgiving to God in song

28:8-9

David prays to the LORD to continue to deliver him as God's anointed king, and to bless His people forever

Proverbs**7:1-5**

Solomon urges his son to treasure his commandments in order to keep him from the promiscuous woman who flatters with her words

February 5**Exodus****More Judgments, (continued)**The law of restitution and/or retribution

- 21:22-25** Regarding one who causes a miscarriage in a fight
21:26-27 Regarding smiting one's slave, whether male or female
21:28-36 Regarding injury or death caused by one's ox
22:1-4 Regarding a thief
22:5-15 Regarding damage to the property of another, or the loss of one's possessions under the care of another
22:16-17 Regarding one's enticement of a man's un-betrothed daughter
22:18-20 Regarding the death penalty for witches, those who commit bestiality, and those who offer sacrifices to other gods
22:21-27 Regarding treatment of the foreigner, widow, fatherless, and poor
22:28-31 Regarding treatment of the ruler, and the LORD Himself in the quality of offerings they Give to the LORD
23:1-9 Regarding the miscarriage of justice in their treatment of the poor, their enemy, the needy, the innocent, and the foreigner
23:10-13 Regarding the Sabbatical Year and the Sabbath Day
Note: God promised to give them enough harvest in the sixth year to carry the nation through the seventh, (cf. Leviticus 25:20-33)

Matthew**Christ's Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem, (continued)**The Olivet Discourse

- 24:1-2** Jesus prophesies the coming destruction of the Temple upon his departure
24:3-14 Jesus foretells the beginning of the events of the Tribulation, up until the time of "the end," or the final seven years
Note: According to the prophet Daniel, Israel has one more period of seven years to suffer God's judgment for her past sins as a nation, which Daniel calls "the end," (cf. Daniel 9:24-27)
24:15-28 Jesus foretells what will happen by way of Israel's suffering, when the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel occurs in the middle of the seven years, (cf. Daniel 9:27 and 2 Thessalonians 2:4)

Psalm 29:**THE POWERFUL VOICE OF THE LORD**

- 29:1-2** David calls for the LORD to be worshipped
29:3-9 David describes the power of the LORD's voice
29:10-11 The LORD who sits on the flood is the King who sits in heaven forever and is the One who blesses His people
Note: The flood over which the LORD reigns is a reference to His promise to not bring the kind of flood again upon the world as He did in the days of Noah. The Hebrew word David uses for "flood" is only used elsewhere in Genesis 6-11

Proverbs**7:6-23**

- Solomon describes what happens to a young man, who – because of a lack of discernment - is enticed by a married woman while her husband is away

February 6**Exodus****23:14-19**

The best of the first fruits are to be brought as an offering to the LORD three times annually; the Feast of Unleavened Bread (at the time of Passover), the Harvest (at Pentecost), and the Feast of Ingathering (or Booths) in the fall

23:20-33

The LORD makes special promises to the Israelites if they obey His Angel in whom is His name and who has the authority to forgive sins, and if they make no covenant with the inhabitants of the land and their false gods

Note: The word “angel” simply means “messenger.” This messenger who has the authority from God to forgive sins is Lord Jesus Christ before he was born into the world as a man, (cf. Matthew 9:6)

The Initial Commandments of the Law are Ratified**24:1-8**

Moses ratifies the Covenant between the LORD and the Israelites with a blood sacrifice, and the people agree to do what the LORD says

24:9-11

Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and seventy of the elders go up into the mountain for a ratification dinner, and they see the feet of the God Himself

24:12-18

Moses is called up into the mount afterwards and stays forty days and forty nights, at which time the LORD gives him two tablets of stone with God’s commandments

Instructions for building the Tabernacle**25:1-9**

The LORD tells Moses to collect a freewill offering by which the Tabernacle and its furnishings can be built

Note: The ability for the Israelites to do so is due to their spoiling of the Egyptians on the night of Passover, (cf. Exodus 12:36)

25:10-22

The LORD’s instructions regarding the Ark

25:23-30

The LORD’s instructions regarding the Table of Shewbread

25:31-40

The LORD’s instructions regarding the Golden Lampstand

Matthew**Christ’s Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem, (continued)****The Olivet Discourse, (continued)****24:29-31**

Jesus gives the sign of His coming

Note: This is a reference to His Second Coming to earth to reign during the Millennium and not the Rapture of the Church, a mystery which had not yet been revealed, (1 Corinthians 15:51-52)

24:32-35

Jesus says the generation living when all these things begin can expect to still be living at the time of His return, without stating exactly how long

Note: A generation is a period of forty years, (cf. Hebrews 3:10). The final seven years spoken of by Daniel occurs at the end of the Tribulation which begins suddenly with the Rapture of the Church, (cf. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11). The signing of a covenant between Israel and the Antichrist begins the final seven years of the Tribulation

24:36-44

Jesus warns people to be not be caught by surprise at his coming, (those taken away are removed by Christ’s baptism of fire, Matthew 3:12)

24:45-51

Jesus warns what will happen to the Israelites at that time, those he finds to be faithful, and those he does not

Psalm 30:**DAVID’S SONG OF DEDICATION FOR HIS PALACE****30:1-7**

David praises the LORD for His deliverance and forgiveness

30:8-12

David promises to bless the LORD for continuing to deliver him

Proverbs**7:24-27**

Solomon’s sons are warned of a premature death for involvement with such women

February 7**Instructions for building the Tabernacle, (continued)****Exodus**

- 26:1-6** The LORD's instructions regarding ten curtains of fine twisted linen – blue, purple, and scarlet with cherubim embroidered on them
- 26:7-14** The LORD's instructions regarding eleven curtains of goat's hair for the covering
- 26:15-25** The LORD's instructions regarding boards of shittim wood and silver sockets for framing
- 26:26-30** The LORD's instructions regarding bars overlaid with gold for the shittim wood
- 26:31-33** The LORD's instructions regarding a veil of blue, purple, and scarlet –with cherubim embroidered, to separate the holy place from the most holy
- 26:34-35** The LORD's instructions regarding placement of the Mercy Seat, the Table of Showbread, and the Lampstand
- 26:36-37** The LORD's instructions regarding the hanging for the door of the tent –blue, purple, and scarlet
- 27:1-8** The LORD's instructions regarding the Altar of Burnt Offering; an altar of shittim wood overlaid with brass, with its utensils for cooking, removal of ashes and poles for carrying
- 27:9-15** The LORD's instructions regarding hangings of fine twisted linen for the courtyard and their pillars
- 27:16-17** The LORD's instructions regarding the hanging for the gate to the courtyard of fine twisted linen – blue, purple, and scarlet
- 27:18-21** The LORD's instructions regarding the dimensions of the Tabernacle, all the utensils to be of brass, pure olive oil for the Lampstand, and priestly ministry of Aaron and his sons within the Holy Place from evening to morning

Matthew**Christ's Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem, (continued)****The Olivet Discourse, (continued)**

- 25:1-13** Jesus likens the kingdom of heaven to ten virgins, five of whom are wise in their being ready for the bridegroom, and five of whom are foolish in being unprepared
Note: The virgins are Jews living at the time of Christ's return. Only those who believe will be prepared to celebrate the marriage of Christ to his bride (being the Church, which is a mystery not yet revealed)
- 25:14-30** Jesus likens the kingdom of heaven to a man traveling to a far country, and after a long time returning to ask for an accounting of how his servants used the talents he gave them, whether five, two, or one
Note: This pertains to reward for Israel, not the Church. A talent of silver would weigh from 50 to 80 pounds

Psalm 31:**DAVID'S ROCK AND FORTRESS**

- 31:1-5** David cries to the LORD as his Rock and Fortress for deliverance from the conspiracy of his enemies
- 31:6-8** David's appeal is in consideration of his attitude towards idolaters and towards the LORD

Proverbs**8:1-11**

Wisdom is personified as a woman crying at the gates of a city for men to listen to her words which are righteous and excellent, and better than silver, gold, or rubies

Note: What a contrast to the kind of woman being described in the previous chapters

February 8**Exodus****28:1-4**

The LORD gives instructions regarding garments for Aaron the High Priest and his sons as fellow priests

Instructions for the Priestly Garments**28:5-14**

For the ephod

Note: A beautiful, two-piece, sleeveless garment, held to the body by a *skillfully woven band* (v.8) and joined at the shoulders by straps. On the straps were placed *two onyx stones* (possibly emeralds) with the names of six tribes on each stone (Ryrie Study Bible)

28:15-21

For the breastplate

Note: A square piece of beautiful material, folded in half and open at the top like a pouch, and placed over the front of the ephod. It was adorned with twelve precious stones (in four rows), on which were engraved the names of the twelve tribes, (Ryrie Study Bible)

28:22-28

For the chains and the rings with which to bind the ephod to the breastplate

28:29-30

For the Urim and the Thummim

Note: Possibly two precious stones, which were put inside the pouch . They may have been used, like lots, to determine God's will, (Ryrie Study Bible)

28:31-35

For the robe of the ephod

Note: A violet-colored robe worn under the ephod. It reached a little below the knees and had bells on its hem. When the high priest made an offering in the Holy Place, where he was not visible to the people, the bells enabled them to know he was still alive, (Ryrie Study Bible)

28:36-39

For the turbin and wearing of the High Priest when he entered into the Holy of Holies

Note: On the *turbin* was a gold plate with *Holy to the Lord* engraved on it, (Ryrie Study Bible)

28:40-43

For the garments of Aaron's sons as fellow priests

Matthew**Christ's Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem, (continued)****The Olivet Discourse, (continued)****25:31-46**

Jesus describes his judgment of the nations as sheep or as goats when he returns to institute God's kingdom on this earth

Note: Jesus makes it clear that hell was not created for man, but for the Devil and his angels. If man is cast into the lake of fire, it is because he remains a child of the Devil, (John 8:44)

26:1-2

Jesus ceases to teach in the Temple two days before Passover and warns his disciples that he will afterwards be betrayed and crucified

26:3-5

The chief priest, scribes, and elders of Jerusalem meet with Caiaphas the High Priest, to plan how they might arrest and kill Jesus

26:6-13

Jesus commends a woman who pours precious ointment on his head as a memorial to his coming death

Psalm 31:**DAVID'S CALL FOR GOOD COURAGE, (continued)****31:9-13**

David describes to the LORD his great suffering

31:14-18

David prays for the LORD' judgment to fall upon his enemies

Proverbs**8:12-13**

What it means to fear the LORD?

February 9**Exodus****Installation of Aaron and his sons**

- 29:1-9** Instructions for putting on their priestly garments
- 29:10-14** Instructions for sacrificing a bull for a sin offering
- 29:15-18** Instructions for sacrificing a ram as a sweet savour offering
- 29:19-28** Instructions for sacrificing a second ram for a wave or heave offering
- 29:29-37** Instructions for a seven day consecration of priests to succeed Aaron and his sons
- 29:38-46** Instructions for offering a daily Burnt Offering in the morning and evening to sanctify the Tabernacle and the priests for daily ministry
- 30:1-10** Instructions for making the Altar of Incense upon which Aaron is to burn incense every morning and every evening when he lights the Golden Lampstand, and making atonement for the Altar once a year with the blood of a sin offering applied to the horns of the Altar

Matthew**Christ's Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem, (continued)****Jesus' Betrayal and Crucifixion**

- 26:14-16** Judas Iscariot goes to the chief priests inquiring as to what they will give him by way of compensation for betraying Jesus, (cf. Zechariah 11:12)
- 26:17-25** Jesus reveals to Judas while eating the Passover Meal that he knows what Judas has done, and is about to do
- 26:26-30** Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper, being distinct from the Passover Meal
- 26:31-35** Jesus warns Peter and his disciples that they will all deny him in fulfillment of prophecy, (cf. Zechariah 13:7)
- 26:36-46** Jesus departs with his disciples to Gethsemane, prays three times for the Father to not allow him to endure what is about to happen (yet submitting to the will of the Father), and twice warning his sleeping disciples to pray that they not enter into temptation
Note: The temptation being referred to by Jesus is their denying him in order to avoid going to the cross with him, which they had just previously asserted that they would not do

Psalm 31:**31:19-24****DAVID'S CALL FOR GOOD COURAGE, (continued)**

- David calls for the saints to be of good courage in light of the LORD's having heard the voice of his supplications when he cried unto Him

Proverbs**8:14-21**

- Solomon continues his personification of wisdom as a woman who promises durable riches and honor to those who seek her early

8:22-26

- Wisdom is said to have been by the LORD'S side from before the earth's creation

February 10**Other Instructions pertaining to the Tabernacle****Exodus**

- 30:11-16** Instructions for collecting at the time of a census one-half a shekel as a ransom payment for atonement of sin for every male twenty years of age and older, and given for the service and upkeep of the Tabernacle
- 30:17-21** Instructions for making the Laver, the placement of it within the courtyard of the Tabernacle, and its usage by Aaron and his sons prior to entering the Tabernacle for priestly ministry
- 30:22-33** Instructions for making the olive oil to be used exclusively for anointing the articles of furniture of the Tabernacle, as well as for anointing Aaron and his sons for priestly ministry
- 30:34-38** Instructions for making the incense to be used exclusively on the Altar of Incense in the Tabernacle
- 31:1-11** Instructions for whom the LORD has appointed and given the wisdom to oversee all of the assignments pertaining to the Tabernacle and priestly ministry
- 31:12-17** Instructions for observing the Sabbath every seventh day as a sign between God and Israel
Note: It is in the land God promised to give Abraham where the LORD will re-establish the kind of conditions when the LORD first commemorated as a Sabbath, (cf. Genesis 2:1-3). The fourth Command is the only one of the Ten Commandments that is not required for the Church to observe today, (cf. Exodus 20:1-17 with Colossians 2:16-17)
- 31:18** The LORD gives Moses the two stone tables of testimony, written with the finger of God, after completing His instructions during the forty days and nights on Mount Sinai

Matthew**Christ's Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem, (continued)****Jesus' Betrayal and Crucifixion, (continued)**

- 26:47-50** Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss before a great multitude of chief priest and elders who have come with swords and staves to arrest Jesus
- 26:51-56** Jesus tells Peter to put up his sword in order that Scripture might be fulfilled, rebukes the multitude for coming against him as though he were a thief, and is forsaken by all of his disciples
- 26:57-68** Jesus is taken to Caiaphas the High Priest, where - even though they cannot find two witnesses to agree in their testimony against him - he is condemned by the words of his own mouth in claiming to be the Son of Man, (cf. Daniel 7:13-14)

Psalm 32:**DAVID'S ADVICE REGARDING THE NEED TO CONFESS SIN**

- 32:1-5** David says from his own personal experience, that a person is blessed by God in being forgiven after he confesses his sin
- 32:6-7** Being forgiven places a person in a position to have his prayers for deliverance from trouble answered
- 32:8-11** David instruct others to not be stubborn like the horse or the mule that have no understanding, and avoid the many sorrows that come upon the wicked

Proverbs**8:27-31**

- Wisdom is said to be present when the LORD prepared the heavens, established the clouds above from the foundations of the deep below, and set the boundaries for the waters on earth

February 11**Exodus****32:1-6**

Aaron makes a Golden Calf to accommodate those using Moses' prolonged absence as an excuse to turn back to the gods they revered in Egypt, and proclaims a religious festival to combine the worship of the LORD with the idolatry of Egypt

32:7-14

Moses intercedes for the nation, causing the LORD to repent of His wrath whereby He said He would destroy them and make of Moses a great nation

32:15-24

On the way down the mountain, Joshua hears music that he thinks is the sound of war, and Moses knows that it is not the kind of music conducive to worship of the LORD. Moses breaks the two stone tablets which had the Ten Commandments engraved by the LORD's hand, and confronts Aaron with what he sees who excuses himself by blaming the people and not acknowledging that he fashioned the Golden Calf

Note: Moses broke the tablets because he saw Israel had broken their part of the agreement. Aaron was spared dying because of Moses' prayer, (Deuteronomy 9:20)

32:25-29

The men of the tribe of Levi kill three thousand in response to the challenge of Moses

Note: Is it not significant that the LORD later chose the tribe of Levi to be the priests for the rest of the nation? It is for the same reason the LORD much later chose Phinehas and his sons to be the high priests, (cf. Deuteronomy, (cf. Numbers 25:10-13))

32:30-35

When Moses offers his own life for the lives of the nation because of the LORD's anger, the LORD denies his request, promises to not destroy them complete but only send His angel to go before them, and plagues the rest of those who sinned in their naked idolatry and fornication

Note: The apostle Paul gives the number to be twenty thousand, three thousand killed by the Levites, (cf. 1 Corinthians 10:8)

33:1-6

The people are commanded to strip themselves of their ornaments while the LORD decides what to do with them

33:7-11

The LORD begins to descend in a cloudy pillar to speak with Moses as though face to face in his own tent, which Moses now calls the Tabernacle prior to the one which will be built, and pitches it far outside the camp of Israel to prevent His descending into the midst of Israel itself and immediately destroying it

33:12-23

Moses makes two requests of the LORD when he is told that he has found favor with God, one for the nation and one for himself, both of which the LORD grants

Note: Moses had already seen the feet of the LORD at the ratification dinner on the mountain. He now wants to see all of God's glory which the LORD says He will only permit Moses to see His backside, for no one can look at His face and live

Matthew**Christ's Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem, (continued)**Jesus' Betrayal and Crucifixion, (continued)**26:69-75**

Peter denies the Lord three times as the Lord said he would and weeps bitterly when he hears the rooster crow

27:1-10

The chief priests and elders deliver Jesus to Pontus Pilate to be put to death. They then take the betrayal money Judas Iscariot returned and purchase a field for his burial after he hung himself

27:11-14

Pilate marvels that Jesus does not defend himself against the many accusations his enemies are making, (a fulfillment of prophecy, cf. Isaiah 53:7)

Psalm 33:**REJOICE IN THE LORD****33:1-11**

For His righteous character, His power, and for His sovereign control

Proverbs**8:32-36**

To find wisdom is a matter of one's life or death

February 12**The Mosaic Covenant Renewed****Exodus****34:1-3**

Moses is told to come up the mountain again in order to receive two new tablets to replace the two he broke

Note: Two tablets were given as testimonies to an agreement between two parties. Israel failed to live up to their part of the agreement, and therefore the tablets were broken

34:4-7

The LORD fulfills Moses' earlier request in showing him his outward glory on the mount while at the same time declaring His qualities on the inside

34:8-17

The LORD promises to do a work in giving them the land of the Canaanites in such a way never before heard of, and warns them against worshipping their false gods or marrying their women who would influence them to worship their false gods

34:18-26

The LORD specifies commands regarding their worship of Him three times a year at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks or Harvest at Pentecost, and the Feast of Ingathering at the close of their religious calendar, (also known as the Feast of Booths or Tabernacles)

34:27-30

Moses comes back down the mountain after receiving the new tablets of stone, and is unaware that his face shines to the point where Aaron and all the people are afraid to come near to hear what he has to say

34:31-35

Moses places a veil over his face as he speaks to the people, telling them all that the LORD had told him, but takes it off when he reenters his tent to speak with the LORD

Note: Moses did not want the glory to fade so that the people might continue to fear the LORD, and so he took off his veil in order that the light might shine on his face again, (cf. 2 Corinthians 3:7-13)

35:1-3

Moses gives further instructions from the LORD regarding the seventh day as a Sabbath of Rest

35:4-9

Moses calls for the people to give an offering of gold, silver, and brass from a willing heart of their possessions for the linen, the shittim wood, the anointing oil, the sweet incense, and stones for the ephod and breastplate

Note: See comment on Exodus 25:1-9, February 6

Matthew**Christ's Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem, (continued)****Jesus' Betrayal and Crucifixion, (continued)****27:15-23**

The chief priests and elders persuade the people to demand that Pilate release Barabbas and crucify Jesus, contrary to the advice of his wife who had dreamed about Jesus the previous night

27:24-27

Pilate washes his hands before the multitude, claiming to be innocent of Christ's blood in yielding to their demands and delivering Jesus to be crucified after first publicly scourging him

27:28-31

The Roman soldiers strip Jesus of his raiment, dress him up as though he were a king with a crown of thorns, mock him, spit upon him, smite him, and then lead him away to be crucified

Psalm 32:**REJOICE IN THE LORD****33:12-17**

For His protection of Israel

33:18-22

For His mercy

Proverbs**9:1-6**

Wisdom is personified as having prepared a feast and sending her maidens to invite the simple to come, partake, forsake the foolish, and go in the way of understanding

February 13**The Mosaic Covenant Renewed, (continued)****Exodus**

- 35:10-19** Moses tells everyone who is skilled at making the various furnishings of the Tabernacle to volunteer his services
- 35:29-29** the materials need for making the furnishings and the labor needed is offered by the people whose hearts stirred them to give willingly, both men and women
- 35:30-35** Moses tells the congregation that the LORD has appointed Bezaleel to oversee the work with the assistance of Aholiab, and has filled them with wisdom in order to teach the volunteers how to do their work with excellence
- 36:1-7** Moses commands the people to stop giving when he is informed that the people have brought more than enough
- 36:8-38** A list is given of that which is made in accordance with what the LORD has commanded Moses, (cf. Exodus 25-26)

Matthew**Christ's Last Week of Ministry in Jerusalem, (continued)****Jesus' Betrayal and Crucifixion, (continued)**

- 27:32-38** Details are given of what the soldiers did when crucifying Jesus, including the casting of their lots for his garment which fulfilled a prophecy by David a thousand years earlier, (cf. Psalm 22:17-18)
- 27:39-43** Details are given of what those who mocked said as they passed by, including the thieves who were crucified with him, which also fulfilled what David had said, (cf. Psalm 22:7-8)
- 27:44-50** Darkness comes over the region from the sixth hour (or 12:00 noon) to the ninth hour (or 3:00 p.m.), at the end of which Jesus cries with a loud voice and dismisses his spirit from his body
Note: This was also foretold by David, and occurred because God is holy and God did not want those watching to see Christ's suffering as he was under God's judgment for the sins of the whole world, (cf. Psalm 22:1-3)

Psalm 34:**DAVID'S THANKSGIVING FOR HIS DELIVERANCE FROM ACHISH OR ABIMELECH)****The historical background for this Psalm is recorded in 1 Samuel 21:10-15**

- 34:1-3** David calls for the humble who hear what he has to say to bless the name of the LORD
- 34:4-6** David's testimony of his deliverance when he cried to the LORD for help
- 34:7-10** David testifies that the angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD and also provides for them

Proverbs**9:7-8**

The different response one can expect when reproving the wicked and the scorner, and reproving the wise

February 14**The Mosaic Covenant Renewed, (continued)**Tabernacle Furnishings Constructed**Exodus**

- 37:1-5** Bezaleel oversees the making of the furnishings as instructed, beginning with the Ark and poles for carrying
- 37:6-9** The Mercy Seat covering for the Ark and the cherubim overlooking the Mercy Seat
- 37:10-16** The Table of Showbread, poles, and utensils
- 37:17-24** The Golden Lampstand with lamps and bowls
- 37:25-28** The Golden Altar of Incense and poles
- 37:29** The Anointing Oil and pure incense of sweet spices
- 38:1-7** The Altar of Burnt Offering, poles, and utensils
- 38:8** The Laver with mirrors
- 38:9-20** The hangings for the courtyard, the pillars, the sockets, and the bands
- 38:21-31** The total amount of the offering given for the making of the Tabernacle in gold, silver and bronze

Note: Possibly \$53,200,000 of gold, \$1,795,200 of silver, and \$10,720 of bronze by today's standard in 2019; or a total of over fifty-five million dollars

Matthew

- 28:1-4** On Sunday morning towards dawn, a great earthquake occurs, an angel of the Lord descends to roll away the stone that had been sealed shut to the opening of Christ's tomb, and the Roman guards pass out
- 28:5-8** The angel invites Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to come in and see that the Lord has risen, and to tell the disciples to go to Galilee where they will see him
- Note: The "other Mary" is the mother of James, (cf. Mark 16:1)
- 28:9-10** As they go to tell the disciples, they encounter Jesus who meets them, they bow to the ground and hold his feet to worship him, and are told by the Lord to not fear going to the disciples to tell them what they have seen
- 28:11-15** The Roman guards accept a bribe from the elders who, upon hearing their report of what had occurred, asked them to say that the disciples had come by night and stolen the body of Jesus while they were sleeping, and assured them that they would protect them from being harmed by Pilate for sleeping while on guard
- 28:16-20** The eleven disciples worship Jesus when they see him on a mountain in Galilee, and he commands them to go and make disciples of all nations, promising that his presence will be with them as they go

Psalm 34:**DAVID'S THANKSGIVING FOR HIS DELIVERANCE FROM ACHISH OR ABIMELECH, (continued)**

- 34:11-13** David urges the children of Israel to fear the LORD and what to avoid in order to prolong their lives
- 34:15-22** David assures them, based upon the testimony of his own experience (as mentioned in the first portion of the Psalm), that the LORD hears and delivers the righteous when they cry, and that evil will come upon those who are wicked and hate the righteous

Proverbs

- 9:9** The positive effect that will take place when teaching a wise and a just person
- 9:10** The positive effect that will take place when one fears the LORD

February 15**The Mosaic Covenant Renewed, (continued)****Exodus****38:1-7**

The ephod with onyx stones for Aaron, the High Priest

38:8-21

The breastplate with stones, rings, and chains

38:22-26

The robe and hem with bells and pomegranates

38:27-29

The priestly garments for Aaron's sons

39:30-32

The crown of gold with the words "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" to finish the work

Erection of the Tabernacle by Moses**40:1-8**

The LORD instructs Moses regarding the placement of all the furnishings of the Tabernacle

40:9-16

The same regarding the anointing to sanctify the Tabernacle, Aaron, and his sons

40:17-19

The time when Moses erects the Tabernacle

40:20-21

The erection of the veil and the furnishings of the Most Holy Place

40:22-27

The erection of the Holy Place and its furnishings

40:28-33

The erection of the Courtyard and its furnishings to complete the work

Note: Only Moses could erect the Tabernacle as the Mediator of the Old Covenant, to portray symbolically Christ's erection of His Tabernacle in heaven as the Mediator of the New Covenant, (cf. Hebrews 1:3, 8:1-5 and 9:21-24)

The Lord's Approval**40:34-35**

A cloud covers the Tabernacle of the Congregation and the glory of the LORD fills the Tabernacle, so that Moses is unable to enter it, (cf. Revelation 15:8)

Mark**1:1-8**

John the Baptist's ministry is the beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, in fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy over five hundred years earlier, (cf. Isaiah 40:3)

1:9-11

Jesus comes from Nazareth of Galilee to John the Baptist and is baptized by John, at which time he sees the Spirit descending upon him like a dove as he comes up out of the water, and hears the voice of the Father expressing pleasure in him as His beloved Son

1:12-13

Jesus is immediately driven by the Spirit for forty days into the wilderness and among the wild animals, to be tempted by Satan, and is ministered to by angels

1:14-20

After John is imprisoned, Jesus comes into Galilee preaching the Gospel of the kingdom, and calls Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John, to leave their careers to fish for men rather than for fish

14:21-28

The fame of Jesus spreads throughout Galilee because of the authority by which he teaches in the synagogue at Capernaum, and because of seeing him cast the demon spirit out of a man who cries out against him as he is teaching

Psalm 35:**DAVID'S PRAYER FOR RETRIBUTION****35:1-10**

David petitions the LORD to bring down the conspiracy of his enemies to kill him upon their own heads, whereby he will rejoice in asking others "who is like the LORD?"

35:11-16

David contrasts the way in which he has treated his enemies when they were sick and needed help, in contrast to the way in which they are now treating him

Proverbs**9:11-2**

The personal benefit for those who find wisdom, or the opposite for those who scorn

February 16**Leviticus****The LORD'S instructions to Moses Regarding the Offerings**

- 1:1-9** Pertaining to the Burnt Offering of a Bullock (male calf)
- 1:10-13** Pertaining to the Burnt Offering of sheep or goats
- 1:14-17** Pertaining to the Burnt Offering of turtledoves or young pigeons
- 2:1-3** Pertaining to the Meal Offering of flour
- 2:4-11** Pertaining to the Meal Offering of flour, if baked; no leaven or honey in any offering
Note: Both ferment
- 2:12-16** Pertaining to the Offering of First fruits; with salt which was to accompany all offerings, (cf. Numbers 18:19)
- 3:1-5** Pertaining to the Peace Offering of a male or female cow
Note: The Peace Offering is the only offering of which the offeror was permitted to eat
- 3:6-11** Pertaining to the Peace Offering of a male or female lamb
- 3:12-17** Pertaining to the Peace Offering of a goat

Mark

- 1:29-31** Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law of a fever
- 1:32-34** Jesus heals many who gather at the door of Peter's home at even when the Sabbath was over, and casts out many demons, not permitting them to speak
- 1:35-39** Peter seeks for Jesus in the desert early the next morning, urging him to return to his home to heal the many who are gathering again, but Jesus tells him he will go on to preach the Gospel throughout Galilee because that is why he came
- 1:40-45** The popularity of Jesus increases to the point where he cannot enter a city openly, after he heals a leper who spreads the word contrary to Christ's instructions
- 2:1-5** After some days, the word spreads that Jesus is in a home in Capernaum; four men open the roof in order to let a man down who is sick of the palsy (or paralyzed), and Jesus declares his sins to be forgiven when he sees the faith of the men who brought him
- 2:6-12** Jesus commands the man to then take up his bed and walk as evidence before the scribes that he has the authority as the Son of Man to forgive sins, (cf. Daniel 7:13-14)

Psalm 35:**DAVID'S PRAYER FOR RETRIBUTION, (continued)**

- 35:17-21** David asks how long the LORD will look on what his enemies are doing and not rescue him, promising to praise Him in the great congregation when He does
- 35:22-26** David urges the LORD to take action against his enemies and cause them to be ashamed
- 35:27-28** David asks that the LORD deliver him so that others will be able to join him in magnifying the LORD

Proverbs**9:13-18**

- A man is said to be simple minded if he heeds the invitation of a foolish woman to enter her house to commit adultery, not knowing that her guests end up in hell (or Sheol, the

underworld)

February 17**Leviticus****The LORD'S instructions to Moses Regarding the Offerings, (continued)****4:1-12**

Pertaining to the Sin Offering of a young bullock for a priest who sins non-

Note: The Daily Sin Offerings of Leviticus 4-6 were for non-presumptuous sins, (cf. Leviticus 4:2 with Psalm 19:13)**4:13-21**

Pertaining to the Sin Offering of a young bullock for the whole congregation of Israel

4:22-26

Pertaining to the Sin Offering of a male kid of the goats for a ruler of the people

4:27-31

Pertaining to the Sin Offering of a female kid of the goats for the common people

4:32-35

Pertaining to the Sin Offering of a female lamb for the common people

5:1-6

Pertaining to the Trespass Offering of a female lamb or a kid of the goats

5:7-10

Pertaining to the Trespass Offering of two turtledoves or two young pigeons if one is unable to bring a lamb, (cf. Luke 2:24)

5:11-13

Pertaining to the Trespass Offering of flour if one is unable to bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons

Note: The only exception to the necessity for an animal's blood to be shed**5:14-19**

Pertaining to the Trespass Offering of a ram in addition to financial restitution, if one damages any items designated as holy for the service of the LORD

Mark**2:13-14**

Jesus calls for Levi or Matthew, the Tax Collector, to follow him

2:15-17

Jesus responds to the criticism of the scribes and Pharisees regarding his eating at Matthew's house with publicans and sinners

Note: The *publicans* are Tax Collectors like Matthew, who cheated in collecting for the Roman government, and the *sinners* are prostitutes, with whom the Pharisees did not associate**2:18-22**

Jesus responds to the criticism of the disciples of John because his disciples did not fast as they and the Pharisees did

2:23-28

Jesus responds to the criticism of the Pharisees regarding the plucking of ears of corn by his disciples as they go through a corn field on the Sabbath Day

3:1-6

The Pharisees and Herodians begin to conspire together as to how they might be able to kill Jesus, after he rebukes them for watching to see if he heals a man who comes to him in the synagogue with a withered hand on the Sabbath

Note: The Herodians were a Jewish sect who favored Herod and the need to appease the Roman government. Normally they and the Pharisees would not be working together**Psalm 36:****DAVID'S DESCRIPTION OF THE WICKED WHO ARE HIS ENEMIES****36:1-4**

He describes to the LORD the attitude, the words, and the deeds of the wicked

36:5-9

By way of contrast, David describes the mercy and righteousness of the LORD, causing men to trust in Him for their protection from the wicked

36:10-12

David prays that the LORD'S lovingkindness will continue to preserve the upright in heart from the intentions of the wicked

Proverbs**10:1**

Solomon begins his proverbs by noting the opposite effect a wise or a foolish son has upon his parents

10:2

A proverb summarizing the contrast in eventual outcome of ill-gotten wealth

February 18**Leviticus****6:1-7**

Pertaining to the kinds of sins for which restitution is required and an additional twenty percent

Additional Instructions Regarding the Offerings**6:8-13**

For Aaron and his sons regarding the Altar of Burnt Offering

6:14-18

For Aaron and his sons regarding the eating of the Meal Offering

6:19-23

For Aaron and his sons regarding the Meal Offering that was to accompany the Burnt Offering for the priests twice a day, and was not to be eaten

6:24-30

For Aaron and his sons regarding the eating of the Sin Offering except for the Sin Offering whose blood is brought into the Tabernacle

7:1-6

For Aaron and his sons regarding the eating of the Trespass Offering

7:7-10

For Aaron and his sons regarding the eating of the Sin Offering, the Trespass Offering, the Burnt Offering, and the Meal Offering by the priest who makes atonement before God with those offerings

7:11-21

For Aaron and his sons regarding the eating of the Peace Offering and the Thanksgiving Offering

Note: This is one of the examples of how the LORD saw to it that the priests were able to eat daily as they ministered before the LORD, (cf. 1 Corinthians 9:13-14)

7:22-27

The eating of the fat or the blood of any animal was prohibited for all

Note: The phrase “cut off” usually refers to one’s being put to death, either by man or by God

Mark**3:7-10**

Jesus withdraws to the Sea of Galilee, where he teaches a great multitude from a ship, and heals many seeking just to touch him

3:11-12

When those with unclean spirits see Jesus, they fall down and cry out that he is the Son of God, for which Jesus charges them to not do so, (cf. Acts 16:16-18)

3:13-19

The names of twelve men are given whom Jesus calls unto him into a mountain, including Judas Iscariot, and sends them forth to preach, to heal sicknesses, and to cast out demons

3:20-21

The brothers of Jesus and his mother come to take hold of him because the crowds gather at a house to the point where he and his disciples cannot eat, saying that he is “beside himself,” (cf. 3:31)

3:22-30

Jesus responds to the scribes who come down from Jerusalem, who say that he casts out demons by the power of Beelzebub, the prince of the demons

Psalm 37:**FRET NOT BECAUSE OF EVIL DOERS****37:1-2**

David gives a reason for not doing so

37:3-7

David gives reasons for waiting upon the LORD

37:8-11

David gives reasons for checking one’s anger and desire to retaliate

Proverbs**10:3**

What the LORD will not permit to happen to the righteous in relation to hunger, in contrast to what He will do to the wicked?

10:4 One's lack or abundance is dependent upon one's diligence in effort, or lack thereof
February 19

Leviticus**7:28-34**

The LORD'S instructions to Moses Regarding the Offerings, (continued)
For Aaron and his sons regarding the Wave and Heave Offerings from the sacrifice of the Peace Offerings

7:35-38

This concludes the LORD's instructions regarding the law of the Burnt Offering, the Meal Offering, the Sin Offering, the Trespass Offering, the Consecration, and the Peace Offering

Note: The Meal Offering can also be translated as the Grain Offering, the Trespass Offering as the Guilt Offering, and the Consecration as the Ordination of Aaron and his Sons

Consecration of Aaron and His Sons**8:1-5**

The LORD instructs Moses to assemble the congregation of Israel to the door of the Tabernacle, along with Aaron and his sons

Note: Moses follows the procedure given to him earlier for the consecration of Aaron and his sons, (cf. Exodus 28-29)

8:6-9

Moses washes Aaron and his sons with water, and puts the High Priestly garments on Aaron

8:10-12

Moses anoints all of the furnishings of the Tabernacle, both within and without, and pours the Anointing Oil on the head of Aaron, the High Priest, (cf. Psalm 133)

8:13-21

Moses puts the priestly garments on Aaron's sons and offers a bullock as a Sin Offering and a Ram for Aaron and his sons as a Burnt Offering

8:22-30

Moses offers a second Ram Offering for the Consecration of Aaron and his sons, and sprinkles them and the garments with the Oil of Anointing mingled with blood from the Altar of Burnt Offering

8:31-35

Moses instructs Aaron and his sons regarding their staying and eating inside the Tabernacle for a period of seven days and nights

Inauguration of Aaron and His Sons**9:1-6**

Moses calls for Aaron, his sons, and the elders to bring appropriate sacrifices on the part of both for their installation as priests

Mark**3:31-35**

Jesus does not respond to his mother and brothers who have come to interrupt him in his ministry, (cf. 3:20-21)

4:1-9

Jesus begins to teach again from a ship by the Sea of Galilee, this time in a Parable of the Sower and the Seed

4:10-20

Jesus explains to his disciples why he has begun teaching the multitude in parables, and then interprets for them the Parable of the Sower and the Seed

Psalm 37:**37:12-29****FRET NOT BECAUSE OF EVIL DOERS, (continued)**

David describes the attitude of the LORD towards the wicked and their future, in contrast to His care for the righteous

Proverbs

10:5 The difference between a wise son and one who causes shame during harvest time

February 20

Leviticus

Inauguration of Aaron and His Sons, (continued)

9:7-14 Aaron offers for himself and his sons a Sin Offering and a Burnt Offering

9:15-21 Aaron offers for the congregation of Israel a Sin Offering, a Burnt Offering, a Meal Offering, and a Peace Offering

9:22-24 Moses and Aaron bless the people, and fire from the LORD consumes the Burnt Offering and the fat upon the Altar, and the people shout as they see it and fall on their knees

Two of Aaron's Sons Die

10:1-3 Nadab and Abihu offer strange fire to the LORD in the Tabernacle and fire from the LORD consumes them because, as Moses tells Aaron, the LORD is to be sanctified before the people as they conduct their priestly ministry; Aaron does not respond

10:4-7 The bodies of Nadab and Abihu are taken outside the camp, and Aaron and his remaining two sons are warned to remain in the Tabernacle and not mourn, upon penalty of death

10:8-11 The LORD tells Moses to tell Aaron and his sons to not drink wine or strong drink when they enter the Tabernacle, so that they differentiate between the holy and unholy, the clean and the unclean, and so that they might teach the people the statutes written down by Moses

Note: Evidently Nadab and Abihu had been drinking when they offered strange fire to the LORD, which was fire of their own making rather than fire that had been ignited by God on the Altar of Burnt Offering

10:12-15 More instructions are given by the LORD to Aaron and his sons regarding their eating of the portion of the Meal Offerings and Peace Offerings

10:16-20 Aaron explains to Moses the reason he and his two remaining sons did not partake of the Sin Offering in the Tabernacle that day, nor did they bring the blood into the Holy Place as required by the LORD

Mark

4:26-29 Jesus likens the kingdom of God to a farmer who, although he cannot explain what makes the seed grow while he sleeps at night, yet he harvests the fruit right away

4:30-32 Jesus also likens the kingdom of God to a grain of mustard seed, that though it be less than all the seeds, grows to become greater than other vegetation, so that birds are able to lodge under the shadow of its branches

4:33-34 The LORD spoke many such parables to his disciples and interpreted their meaning

4:35-41 Jesus calms the winds of a great storm on the Sea of Galilee as they pass over in ship to the other side, causing his disciples to be in great awe

5:1-17 Jesus casts many demons out of a man in the country of the Gadarenes, and sends them into a herd of about two thousand swine who rush violently into the Sea, so that the people urge him to leave their country, (See "Note" on Matthew 8:28-34)

5:18-20 The man who was demon possessed spreads the fame of Jesus throughout the Decapolis, this time with Jesus' permission

Psalm 37: **FRET NOT BECAUSE OF EVIL DOERS, (continued)**

37:30-40 David urges the righteous to wait on the LORD who judges the wicked, a fact which he has witnessed personally

Proverbs

10:6-7 The just are blessed in contrast to that which is in store for the wicked
February 21

Leviticus**Clean and Unclean Animals**

Note: The following restrictions are no longer required for believers today, (cf. 1 Timothy 4:1-5)

- 11:1-8** Land animals which can be eaten and those which cannot
- 11:9-12** Fish which can be eaten and those which cannot
- 11:13-19** Fowl which can be eaten and those which cannot
- 11:20-23** Creeping things which can be eaten and those which cannot
- 11:24-28** Uncleanness until evening for touching that which is unclean
- 11:29-30** More unclean creeping things
- 11:31-42** Other ways of becoming unclean
- 11:43-47** Reasons for these strict dietary law

Uncleanness in Childbirth

- 12:1-5** Purification is required when giving birth
- 12:6-8** A Sin Offering and a Burnt Offering is required for atonement after a period of purification, (cf. Luke 2:22-24)

Mark

- 5:21-24** When Jesus passes over by ship to the other side, a ruler of the synagogue by the name of Jairus implores Jesus to lay hands on his daughter who is near death
- 5:25-34** On the way Jesus heals a woman who has had an issue of blood for twelve years, and Jesus commends her for her faith in simply touching the hem of his garment
- 5:35-40** Upon hearing that the daughter of Jairus has died, Jesus tells the father to not be afraid because she is only sleeping, for which the professional mourners openly scorn
- 5:40-43** Jesus only takes Peter, James, and John with him into the house of Jairus and, raises his daughter Tabitha from the dead

Psalm 38:**DAVID'S PLEA WHILE BEING CHASTIZED**

- 38:1-8** He describes his suffering because of the LORD's anger
Note: This is another psalm describing the LORD's chastisement for David's sin of adultery with Bathsheba, and the misery he endured while concealing his sin
- 38:9-12** He describes his isolation from his friends and loved ones, who keep their distance from him while he is under God's discipline, and the boldness of his enemies who perceive that the LORD has forsaken him
- 38:13-18** David expresses hope that the LORD will hear his prayer as he confesses his iniquity, and declares himself to be sorry for his sin
- 38:19-22** He concludes by appealing for the LORD to deliver him from his many enemies who have become emboldened in their opposition to David

Proverbs

- 10:8-9** Who will be sure footed in life, and who will fail?

February 22**Leviticus****Leprous Diseases**

Note: These are skin diseases brought upon Israel for her disobedience as a nation. A Sin offering was required when the leper was cured, (Leviticus 14)

- 13:1-8** Aaron and his sons are instructed by the LORD as to what to look for in determining when to pronounce a person to be unclean because of leprosy
- 13:9-17** Aaron and his sons are instructed by the LORD as to what to look for in determining when to pronounce someone clean and cured of his leprosy
- 13:18-23** Aaron and his sons are instructed by the LORD as to what to look for in determining uncleanness due to the appearance of a boil
- 13:24-28** Aaron and his sons are instructed by the LORD as to what to look for in determining uncleanness for inflammation of the skin
- 13:29-37** Aaron and his sons are instructed by the LORD as to what to look for in determining uncleanness for infections on the head or under the beard
- 13:38-44** Aaron and his sons are instructed by the LORD as to what to look for in determining one's baldness to be unclean
- 13:45-46** The required isolation of one pronounced to be unclean
- 13:47-59** What is to be done with any garments found to be unclean

Mark

- 6:1-5** When Jesus returns to his country of Nazareth, a reason is given for his performing few miracles there
- 6:6-11** Jesus calls the Twelve to him and sends them forth two-by-two to proclaim the Gospel of the Kingdom, giving them power over unclean spirits and promising that a greater judgment than that of Sodom and Gomorrah will come upon those who do not receive them or their message
- 6:12-13** The Twelve go forth, preaching the need for repentance, casting out of demons, and anointing with oil for healing those who are sick
- 6:14-16** Herod Antipas (the son of Herod the Great) believes that John the Baptist has risen from the dead when he hears reports of the ministry of Jesus
- 6:17-29** Mark explains why Herod Antipas fears the reports he hears

Psalm 39:**DAVID'S CRY OF REPENTANCE**

(See "Note" on Psalm 38)

- 39:1-6** David has nothing to say about the sins of others while he himself is under discipline
- 39:7-11** David asks the LORD to remove his hand of discipline
- 39:12-13** David cries out for the LORD to respond to his tears and prayers, lest he die

Proverbs

- 10:10** The sorrow that comes to a person who is led astray by the mannerisms and talk of a fool

February 23**Leviticus****Leprous Diseases, (continued)**

- 14:1-20** The process to be followed for the cleansing of a leper
- 14:1-8 The initial inspection by a priest and the offering outside the camp of two turtledoves; the leper is to bathe, wash his clothes in pure running water, shave, and is allowed in the camp of Israel but not the Tabernacle or Temple
- 14:9-11 An offering on the eighth day of two lambs and one ewe lamb without blemish before the LORD at the door of the Tabernacle
- 14:12-18 Application with anointing oil of the blood of one of the lambs for the Trespass Offering
- 14:19-20 The other two lambs are offered for the Sin Offering and Burnt Offering with a Meal Offering and the leper is pronounced clean by the priest
- 14:21-32**
- 14:21-22 If a person is too poor to provide all of this for his purification, he can offer one lamb and two turtledoves or two pigeons
- 14:23-29 Applying the blood of the lamb for the Trespass Offering
- 14:30-32 Offering of the turtledoves for a Sin Offering and Burnt Offering, with a Meal Offering
- 14:33-57**
- 14:33-42 The procedure to be followed should a house be suspected of having the plague
- 14:43-47 The destruction of the house should the plague return after the house is scraped
- 14:48-57 The procedure to be followed for a house be pronounced clean

Mark

- 6:30-32** Jesus departs with his disciples privately into the desert for a time of rest after his disciples return from their journey, because there are so many coming and going from where they are that they cannot take the time to eat
- 6:33-34** The crowds see them depart and outrun them; Jesus has compassion on them as sheep having no shepherd
- 6:35-44** Jesus feeds the multitude of five thousand with five loaves and two fish; twelve baskets are left over
- 6:45-52** Jesus sends his disciples by ship to the other side of the Sea of Galilee to go to Bethsaida, departs into a mountain to pray, walks on the water in the fourth watch of the night, and calms the stormy waves upon entering the ship; his disciples are amazed, (cf. Psalm 107:29)
- 6:53-56** When they land in the region of Gennasaret, people are carried on their beds to Jesus and seek to be healed by touching the hem of his garment

Psalm 40:**A HORRIBLE PIT**

- 40:1-3** David sings a new song of praise to the LORD for lifting him out of the pit
- 40:4-5** David would declare all the wonderful works of the LORD, but they are too many
- 40:6-10** What the LORD wants more than sacrifice is obedience, and for one to not withhold his lips from praising the LORD

Proverbs

- 10:11-12** A different outcome in heeding the words of a righteous person and a wicked man

February 24**Leviticus****Sexual Discharges**

- 15:1-12** The process to be followed for cleansing of male sexual discharges
- 15:13-15** A Sin Offering is required for atonement
- 15:16-18** The process to be followed for the seed of copulation for which no Sin Offering is required
- 15:19-24** The process to be followed for cleansing of a menstrual discharge for which no Sin Offering is required
- 15:25-27** The process to be followed for cleansing of a menstrual discharge for which a Sin Offering is required, (the time for one's period being extended beyond normal)
- 15:28-30** The Sin Offering which is required
- 15:31-33** The seriousness of following these requirements

The Annual Day of Atonement, (*Yom Kippur*)

Note: This is the most holy offering by animal sacrifice God required under the Mosaic Law which provided an annual forgiveness of sins, transgressions, and iniquities; it had to be renewed on the same day of each year because the blood of a bull or a goat was insufficient to provide continual relationship with God, (cf. Hebrews 10:1-4)

- 16:1-2** Aaron is warned, considering the death of his two sons, to not enter behind the veil of the Tabernacle except on the Day of Atonement, (Leviticus 16:29-34)
- 16:3-6** How Aaron is to prepare the offerings on behalf of the priests and the congregation
- 16:7-10** The choosing of which of the two goats is to be the sacrifice and which is to be the scapegoat
- 16:11-15** The procedure Aaron is to follow as the High Priest in presenting the offerings
- 16:16-19** The procedure Aaron is to follow to make atonement for the Tabernacle itself
- 16:20-22** The procedure to be followed regarding the scapegoat
- Note: Sins become transgression when one disobeys the Law, and certain transgressions also become iniquity or an abomination in the sight of the LORD. Deliberate transgressions and iniquities were not covered in the Daily Sin Offering, **16:21**
- Note: The scapegoat is rejected by God rather than the people, (cf. Isaiah 53:6 and John 1:29) **16:22**
- 16:23-28** Final instructions for completing the Day of Atonement

Mark

- 7:1-13** Jesus responds to the Pharisees and some of the scribes who come down from Jerusalem, who question why his disciples do not observe the tradition of the elders pertaining to the washing of hands
- 7:14-23** Jesus explains what truly defiles a person, and then interprets what he says to his disciples

Psalm 40:**A HORRIBLE PIT, (continued)**

- 40:11-17** David asks the LORD to make haste in helping him

Proverbs

- 10:13** To whom a person should give heed, and for whom one's back is reserved for a rod?

10:14 By whose mouth is knowledge gained, and who mouth leads to destruction?February 25**Leviticus****The Annual Day of Atonement, (continued)****16:29-31** The specific month and day atonement is to be made for all of the sins, transgressions, and iniquities of the nation by Aaron, and the LORD's requirement that the day also be observed as a Sabbath**16:32-34** The procedure for atonement that is to be observed by each successive High Priest once every year ("forever" means as long as the Law is in effect)**Laws regarding the Blood of the Sacrifice****17:1-9** To be presented to God at the Tabernacle so as to not be confused with pagan sacrifices**17:10-16** Two reasons the blood is not to be eaten**18:1-5** The significance of obeying God's commands in order to distinguish His people from the Egyptians and Canaanites**More Laws of Prohibition****18:6-19** Pertaining to the uncovering of one's nakedness for the purpose of unlawful sex**18:20-23** Other abominations; involving the wife of one's neighbor, child sacrifice to Molech, homosexuality and bestiality**18:24-28** The LORD's warning to Israel against practicing these iniquities and abominations, (see "Note" on Leviticus 16:21)**18:29-30** The guilty are required to be "cut off," (the death penalty)**Mark****7:24-30** Jesus departs to the borders of Tyre and Sidon where he casts a demon out of the daughter of a woman from that region**7:31-37** Jesus returns to the Sea of Galilee by way of the Decapolis, and heals a man who is both deaf and dumb, (unable to talk)**8:1-3** Jesus has compassion on the multitude he has been teaching for three days, knowing that they are too weak to find food**8:4-9** Jesus feeds about four thousand with seven loaves and a few small fish, satisfying their hunger and having seven baskets left over**8:10** Jesus enters a ship with his disciples and comes into the region of Dalmanutha

Note: A small town on the west side of Lake Gennesaret which Matthew calls "Magdala" (15:39), between Capernaum and Tiberias. It was the birthplace of Mary Magdalene (*Unger's Bible Dictionary*)

Psalm 41:**THE LORD'S COMPASSION ON THOSE WHO SHOW COMPASSION****41:1-3** David states the blessedness that comes upon a person who helps the poor when he himself is in trouble**41:4-9** David mentions this to the LORD, considering his present need for mercy, being sick from the LORD's chastisement and with no one to help him, (See "Note" on Psalm 38)**41:10-13** David prays for healing and restoration, and blesses the name of the LORD**Proverbs**

10:15-16 To what both the rich and the poor look for security in life, in contrast to the righteous?

February 26

Leviticus

More Laws of Prohibition, (continued)

19:1-37

- 19:1-4 Regarding the first five of the Ten Commandments, (Exodus 20:1-12)
- 19:5-8 Regarding the eating of the Peace Offerings, (Leviticus 7:11-21)
- 19:9-10 Regarding the gleaning of one's harvest, (Deuteronomy 24:19-22, Ruth 2:2)
- 19:11-13 Regarding the eighth and ninth of the Ten Commandments, (Exodus 20:15-16)
- 19:14-16 Regarding abuse and injustice
- 19:17-18 Regarding hate, (cf. Matthew 22:39)
- 19:19 Regarding breeding and planting
- 19:20-22 Regarding sexual intercourse with a female slave
- 19:23-31 Regarding the eating of fruit, blood, and idolatrous practices
- 19:32-34 Regarding treatment of the elderly and stranger (or alien)
- 19:35-37 Regarding unjust weights in business transactions

20:1-21 Serious Transgressions

- 20:1-10 Against the Ten Commandments for which the death penalty is required, (cf. Exodus 20)
- 20:11-19 Sexual abominations for which the death penalty is required, (cf. Leviticus 18)
- 20:20-21 Sexual transgressions for which childlessness is promised

Mark

- 8:11-12** Jesus responds to the Pharisees who ask him for a sign from heaven
- 8:13-21** When crossing the Sea, Jesus rebukes his disciples for misunderstanding his warning to them about the leaven of the Pharisees
- 8:22-26** Jesus heals a blind man upon coming into Bethsaida and commands him to not tell others
Note: This is because Jesus wants Israel to focus on his message, (cf. Mark 1:35-39)
- 8:27-33** When Jesus leaves Bethsaida and comes into the towns of Caesarea Philippi, he rebukes Peter for objecting to his telling them that he is going to Jerusalem to die
- 8:34-38** Jesus challenges his disciples and the people to deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow him, (to Jerusalem to be crucified with him)

Psalm 42:

A CURE FOR DESPONDENCY

- 42:1-5** The Psalmist cries out for God like a deer panting for the water brooks, when he remembers the former days of worship he enjoyed in the Tabernacle
- 42:6-11** The Psalmist determines to counter his feelings of despondency

Proverbs

- 10:17** What causes a person to stray from the path of life?

February 27**Leviticus****More Laws of Prohibition, (continued)**

- 20:22-23** The LORD warns Israel to obey all His commandments and statutes, lest He spue them out of the land He is giving them as He promises to do to the nations currently possessing the land
- 20:24-27** Israel is to differentiate between the clean and unclean animals when they inherit the land, be holy as He is holy, and put to death anyone involved in the occult or witchcraft
- 21:1-9** Aaron's sons are to avoid certain practices which would render them unclean for priestly ministry
- 21:10-15** The same is true for the High Priests descended from Aaron
- 21:16-24** No priests with physical blemishes are permitted to offer the Unleavened Bread on the Table of Shewbread to the LORD at the Altar of Incense, but they may eat the bread
- 22:1-6** Aaron and his sons may not partake of the holy things while they are unclean, upon penalty of death

Mark

- 9:1-8** Jesus takes Peter, James, and John with him six days later into a high mountain, where he is transfigured before them and they hear the Father's voice approving His beloved Son
- 9:9-10** On the way down the mountain, they question among themselves why Jesus tells them to not tell anyone of this experience until after he is risen from the dead
- 9:11-13** Jesus responds when his disciples mention that the scribes say that Elijah must first come
- Note: This was their way of trying to learn if the kingdom Jesus promised was about to occur, because they did not want to think of his words about dying
- 9:14-27** Jesus responds to his disciples when a father informs him of their inability to cast a demon out of his son
- 9:28-29** Jesus answers their question as to the reason they could not cast the demon out
- Note: They had been able to before, (cf. Mark 6:12-13)

Psalm 43:**COUNTERING DESPONDENCY**

- 43:1-3** The Psalmist pleads for deliverance from ungodly people, and requests the LORD's guidance in permitting him to return to the holy hill and the LORD's house or Tabernacle
- Note: This psalm and the previous one were probably written by David when he fled from Absalom and was in the region east of the Jordan River, (cf. 2 Samuel 15 and "Note" on Psalm 38)
- 43:4-5** The Psalmist counters his feelings of despondency by promising to go to the Altar of God upon his return to Jerusalem, and sing praises to the LORD with his harp

Proverbs**10:18**

What a person is called who tries to hide his hatred with lying lips and slander?

February 28**Leviticus****More Laws Regarding Offerings, Sabbaths, and Feasts****Offerings**

- 22:17-25** No one is to present an offering that is blemished or corrupted
22:26-33 Other requirements are given regarding animals which are to be offered, whereby the name of the LORD their God who brought them out of Egypt is hallowed and not profaned

Sabbaths and Feasts

- 23:1-3** Every seventh day
23:4-14 The 1st month of the religious year
23:15-22 The 2nd month of the religious year
23:23-44 The 7th month of the religious year
 23:23-25 The blowing of trumpets on the first day
 23:26-32 The Day of Atonement on the tenth day
 23:33-44 The Feast of Tabernacles on the fifteenth day

Mark

- 9:30-32** Jesus goes quietly through Galilee with his disciples, and tells them again that he is to be betrayed, killed, and raised the third day; they do not understand
9:33-37 Jesus responds to his disciples upon his hearing their arguing over who will be the greatest in the kingdom
9:38-50 Jesus warns his disciples against jealousy, against offending little children, and about their need to be at peace with one another
10:1-12 Jesus responds to the Pharisees in their attempt to trap him regarding God's Law concerning divorce

Psalm 44:**A CRY TO THE LORD FROM CAPTIVITY**

- 44:1-8** The sons of Korah promise to boast all the day for what they have heard the LORD do for the nation in times past, of how He enabled them to possess the land of Canaan by His power and not theirs

Proverbs

- 10:19** Why a person should refrain from talking too much?

March 1**Leviticus****More Laws, (Continued)**

- 24:1-4** Regarding the lighting of the Lampstand
- 24:5-9** Regarding the Table of Showbread
- Note:** Two-tenths of an ephah = about four quarts
- 24:10-16** Regarding blasphemy and the death penalty
- 24:17-22** Regarding public retribution or restitution
- Note:** Not to be applied for personal revenge
- 24:23** The man who blasphemed is stoned to death
- 25:1-7** Regarding the Sabbatical Year
- 25:8-17** Regarding the Year of Jubilee
- 25:18-22** Regarding the increase in the Sixth Year in preparation for the Sabbatical Year
- Note:** God promises to bless the land with crops to cover that year, the Sabbatical Year, and the Year of Jubilee to follow
- 25:23-34** Regarding redemption of one's land and houses, and return of property in the Year of Jubilee
- 25:35-38** Regarding loans without interest to the poor of their own countrymen
- 25:39-43** Regarding the treatment of a person of one's countrymen who sells himself due to indebtedness
- 25:44-46** Regarding the treatment of slaves who are acquired from other countries

Mark

- 10:13-16** How Jesus responds when he sees his disciples rebuke parents who bring their children to him in order that he might touch them
- 10:17-22** How Jesus responds to a rich man who wants to know what he must do to inherit eternal life
- 10:23-27** How Jesus responds to his disciples regarding the difficulty it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God
- 10:28-31** How Jesus responds to Peter's statement that they have left all to follow him

Psalm 44:**A CRY TO THE LORD FROM CAPTIVITY, (continued)**

- 44:9-14** Yet the LORD has rejected Jacob's offspring and delivered them into the hands of their enemies, scattered them among the nations, and made them to be reproached and scorned
- 44:15-21** In spite of this, the sons of Korah claim to not have forgotten the LORD or turned to some false god
- 44:22-26** An appeal is made to the LORD for deliverance because they have been counted as sheep for the slaughter, (cf. Romans 8:36)

Proverbs

- 10:20-21** The words of the righteous in contrast to the heart of the wicked

March 2**Leviticus****More Laws, (Continued)****25:47-55**

Regarding the treatment of Jews who sell themselves to be the slave of a sojourner in the land

GOD'S WARNING TO ISRAEL THROUGH FIVE CYCLES OF DISCIPLINE**26:1-13**

The LORD first promises to bless the nation for compliance with all His commands

26:14-17

The first cycle of discipline

26:18-20

A sevenfold intensification of the first cycle and the addition of a second

Note: This sevenfold intensification is the same principle being applied to Israel's discipline by the LORD, since Christ's crucifixion (See "Note" on Daniel 9:24)

26:21-22

A sevenfold intensification of the previous cycles and the addition of a third

26:23-26

A sevenfold intensification of the previous cycles and the addition of a fourth

26:27-33

A sevenfold intensification of the previous cycles and the addition of a fifth

26:34-39

The length of time God will cause the land to rest while they are in captivity

26:40-46

The LORD's requirement for Israel's restoration to the land from captivity

Mark**10:32-34**

Jesus reminds his disciples again as they are going up to Jerusalem of what will happen to him when they arrive. This is the third time, (cf. 8:31 and 9:31)

10:35-45

Jesus responds to the request of James and John in reference to the coming kingdom, for which the other ten become very angry with the two for their request

10:46-52

Jesus heals blind Bartimaeus as they leave Jericho going towards Jerusalem

Psalm 45:**GOD'S DIVINE KING WHO WILL REIGN FOREVER****45:1-5**

His future victory over all of his enemies is foretold

45:6-7

His righteousness for which he is given God's throne forever, (cf. Hebrews 1:8-9)

45:8-12

The glory and beauty of his queen

Note: This is a figurative portrayal of Christ's Bride, the Church, (cf. Hebrews 2:12, Ephesians 5:25-27, and Acts 20:28). The reason the Church is not mentioned is because it is a mystery that was not revealed until the time of the apostle Paul, (Ephesians 3:1-6)

45:13-17

This is a figurative portrayal of the individuals in the Church whom God will make princes or rulers in all the earth during His coming kingdom, (cf. Hebrews 2:10-13 and Revelation 1:5-6)

Proverbs**10:22**

The benefit to one's life when the LORD blesses

March 3**Leviticus****More Laws, (Continued)**

Pertaining to Vows and Redemption of Vows

27:1-4

Vows made for people, whether male or female, twenty years old and older

27:5-7

Vows made for people younger than twenty years of age, and older than sixty

27:8-13

The price to be estimated for redemption when the normal amount does not apply

27:14-25

Vows made for people's houses and property

27:26-34

Prohibitions regarding vows and redemption

Numbers**Taking a Census****1:1-3**

The LORD commands Moses to take a census of all the men twenty years old and older who are able to go to war, on the first day of the second month in the second year after their exodus from Egypt

1:4-16

The names of the heads of thousands are listed from all twelve tribes of Israel who will oversee the taking of the census

1:17-43

The census is carried out, (1:17-19)

The tribe of Reuben, (1:20-21)

The tribe of Simeon, (1:22-23)

The tribe of Gad, (1:24-25)

The tribe of Judah, (1:26-27)

The tribe of Issachar, (1:28-29)

The tribe of Zebulun, (1:30-31)

The tribe of Ephraim, (1:32-33)

The tribe of Manasseh, (1:34-35)

The tribe of Benjamin, (1:36-37)

The tribe of Dan, (1:38-39)

The tribe of Asher, (1:40-41)

The tribe of Naphtalai, (1:42-43)

1:44-46

The total number of the census taken

1:47-54

The reason the Levites are not counted in the census

Mark**11:1-6**

Upon their arrival near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sends two of his disciples into a village to find a colt upon which no man had sat

11:7-10

Jesus rides the colt into Jerusalem with the crowd hailing him as the one of whom David foretold, (cf. Psalm 118:26)

Note: Another example of the authority of Jesus over untamed animals**11:11-14**

Jesus enters the Temple, observes what is taking place, leaves for the night with his disciples to Bethany, and curses a fig tree the next morning on their way to the Temple

11:15-18

Jesus enters the Temple again and casts the money changers out, accusing them of making God's House a den of thieves, causing the scribes and Pharisees to seek a way to kill him

11:19-26

Jesus informs his disciples of the authority they could have when seeing the fig tree withered, (to be fulfilled when Christ returns, not now, cf. 1 Corinthians 13:2)

Psalm 46:**GOD, OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH****46:1-7**

A reason Israel is told to not fear when a worldwide earthquake occurs, (cf. Revelation 6:18-21, 16:17-21)

46:8-11

A reason instead for Israel to be still and know that the LORD is God

Proverbs**10:23**

The discernment of a wise person in avoiding mischief, in contrast to a fool

March 4**Numbers****2:1-31**

The twelve tribes are positioned away from the Tabernacle, yet on all four sides: the tribes of Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun on the east (2:1-9); the tribes of Reuben, Simeon, and Gad on the south (2:10-16); the tribes of Levi in the center around the Tabernacle (2:17); the tribe of Ephraim, Manasseh and Benjamin on the west (2:18-24); and the tribe of Dan, Asher, and Naphtali on the north (2:25-31)

2:32-34

A summary is given of the census of the twelve tribes (minus the Levites), and the positioning of the twelve tribes around the Tabernacle

3:1-4

The names of Aaron and his four sons are listed as priests, two of whom died without having any descendants

3:5-13

The LORD gives the tribe of Levi to Aaron and his sons for assistance, as a replacement for all of the firstborn males whom the LORD spared on the night of the Passover

3:14-16

Moses is commanded to number the Levites, every male from a month old and upward, who are descended from Levi –Gershon, Kohath, and Merari

3:17-20

The sons of Gershon, Kohath, and Merari are named

3:21-26

Those descended from Gershon are named, their positioning westward behind the Tabernacle in the midst of the camp, and their responsibilities pertaining to the hangings of the Tabernacle

3:27-32

Those descended from Kohath are named, their positioning southward in relation to the Tabernacle in the midst of the camp, and their responsibilities pertaining to the vessels of the Tabernacle, under the oversight of Eleazar, the son of Aaron

3:33-37

Those descended from Merari are named, their positioning northward in relation to the Tabernacle in the midst of the camp, and their responsibilities pertaining to the boards, bars, pillars and sockets

3:38-39

Moses, Aaron the High Priest, and his two sons who are priests, camp in front of the Tabernacle on the east side, overseeing the Levites and the ministry of the Tabernacle

3:40-45

The number of the firstborn males in Israel from one month old and upward are two hundred and seventy-three more than the number of the Levites

3:46-51

An offering of silver shekels is given as redemption money for the two hundred and seventy-three and given to Aaron and his sons for upkeep of the Tabernacle

Mark**11:27-33**

Jesus refuses to answer a question regarding his authority when he comes again to Jerusalem and enters the Temple, because they refuse to answer his question regarding John's authority to baptize

12:1-12

Jesus tells a parable regarding an owner of a vineyard who sends servants and finally his son to collect the fruit of his vineyard from the husbandmen he left in charge, but destroys them and gives his vineyard to others to keep because of their mistreatment of his servants and their killing of his son

Note: Jesus identifies himself to be the “stone” prophesied a thousand years earlier, (cf. Psalm 118:22)

12:13-17

Jesus responds to the Pharisees and the Herodians who try to trick him, by asking him whether it is lawful to pay tribute to Caesar

Psalm 47:**THE FUTURE VICTORIOUS ASCENSION OF GOD'S GREAT KING (The Messiah)****47:1-4**

His victory over his enemies and those of Israel is to be celebrated

47:5-9

His ascension to reign over the earth and protect Israel is to be celebrated

Proverbs**10:24-25**

What the wicked and the righteous can expect in the end

March 5**Numbers****Protecting the Tabernacle When Embarking**

- 4:1-20** The numbering and responsibilities of the sons of Kohath for the articles of furniture under the supervision of Eleazar the son of Aaron
- 4:21-28** The numbering and responsibilities of the sons of Gershom under the supervision of Ithamar the son of Aaron
- 4:29-33** The numbering and responsibilities of the sons of Merari also under the supervision of Ithamar the son of Aaron
- 4:34-37** Moses, Aaron, and the chief of the congregation number the sons of Kohath from thirty years of age to fifty
- 4:38-41** Moses, Aaron, and the chief of the congregation number the sons of Gershom from thirty years of age to fifty
- 4:42-45** Moses, Aaron, and the chief of the congregation number the sons of Merari from thirty years of age to fifty
- 4:46-49** The total number of the Levites
- Note: Only 8,580 of the 22,000 Levites are eligible for service within the Tabernacle

More Judgments

- 5:1-4** Regarding Israel's need to put out of their camp any lepers, any having an issue, and any who are defiled by the dead
- 5:5-10** Regarding required restitution for trespassing against holy things
- 5:11-31** Regarding the Law of Jealousy when a husband suspects unfaithfulness on the part of his wife
- Note: This law is to protect a wife from false accusations by a jealous husband

Mark

- 12:18-27** Jesus responds to the Sadducees who inquire as to whose wife a woman would be in the resurrection, who had been married to seven husbands
- Note: There are no female angels and therefore no baby angels. Angels are called "sons of God" because they are created directly by God. When angels do appear to humans, they appear as men, not women

- 12:28-34** Jesus responds to a scribe who inquires as to which is the most important command in the Law
- 12:35-37** While teaching in the Temple, Jesus asks the crowd why the scribes do not acknowledge Christ to be Lord, (cf. Psalm 110:1)

Psalm 48:**THE GREATNESS OF THE LORD ON MOUNT ZION TO BE PRAISED**

- 48:1-3** When Jerusalem and Mount Zion are made to be the joy of all the earth
- 48:4-8** When the kings of the earth witness the future greatness of Jerusalem
- 48:9-14** When God's righteous rule extends from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth

Proverbs

- 10:26** How a sluggard is regarded by others

March 6**Numbers****More Judgments, (continued)****6:1-21** The laws of the Nazarite Vow**6:22-27** The threefold priestly blessing to be pronounced upon the people**Offerings for the Dedication of the Tabernacle****7:1-9** By the princes for the sons of Gershom and the sons of Merari, but not for the sons of Kohath**7:10-89** By the prince of each tribe for the Golden Altar of Incense

7:10-17 By Nahshon of the Tribe of Judah on the first day

7:18-23 By Nethanel of the Tribe of Issachar on the second day

7:24-29 By Eliab of the Tribe of Zebulun on the third day

7:30-35 By Elizur of the Tribe of Reuben on the fourth day

7:36-41 By Shelumiel of the Tribe of Simeon on the fifth day

7:42-47 By Elisaph of the Tribe of Gad on the sixth day

7:48-53 By Elishama of the Tribe of Ephraim on the seventh day

7:54-59 By Gamaliel of the Tribe of Manasseh on the eighth day

7:60-65 By Abidan of the Tribe of Benjamin on the ninth day

7:66-71 By Ahiezer of the Tribe of Dan on the tenth day

7:72-77 By Pagiel of the Tribe of Asher on the eleventh day

7:78-83 By Ahira of the Tribe of Naphtali on the twelfth day

Mark**12:38-40** Jesus warns the people about the greater judgment awaiting the scribes**12:41-44** Jesus compares the offering given at the Temple by a poor widow with the large offerings given by the rich**13:1-2** Jesus prophesies the destruction of the Temple as he is leaving**13:3-13** Jesus informs his disciples what must take place during the coming Tribulation, before the abomination of desolation prophesied by the prophet Daniel occurs, (cf. 13:14)**Psalm 49:****REASONS TO NOT FEAR THE POWER OF THE WEALTHY****49:1-4** A call for all to hear the following parable to be sung with a harp**49:5-9** A question is raised as to the reason why one fears the wealthy when they do evil, considering that their money cannot save them from death, save them from corruption, and buy eternal life**49:10-12** More reasons are given to not fear the wealthy, considering that they will leave their wealth to others and will be forgotten like animals of the earth are forgotten**49:13-20** The most important reason to not fear the wealthy is because, while the upright have the assurance of redemption from death and acceptance in the presence of God, the rich will not take anything with them and their prestige in this life will perish**Proverbs****10:27**

How one's fear of the LORD affects one's longevity of life?

March 7**Numbers****Dedication of the Levites**

- 8:1-4** Aaron lights the Golden Lampstand
- 8:5-19** Moses is instructed in the procedure to be followed in the installment of the Levites for ministry
8:5-7 Their being sprinkled, shaved, and bathed
8:8-13 Their offerings
8:14-19 Their presentation to the LORD by Aaron in place of the rest of the Israelites as a wave offering
- 8:20-22** The LORD's instructions are carried out
- 8:23-26** The age required for Levitical service
- 9:1-5** Moses is told to observe the Passover as formerly instructed in the first month of the second year after the Exodus, on the fourteenth day
- 9:6-14** Moses is told to allow those who cannot participate, because of being ceremonially unclean or because they are too far away, to observe the Passover in the second month on the fourteenth day
- 9:15-23** How the Israelites will know when to move their camp, and when to remain where they are

Mark

- 13:14-23** How the Jews will know to flee Jerusalem to the mountains, and Christ's warning for them not to believe false Christs or false prophets who seek to lure them from where they are hiding
- 13:24-27** How those who flee will know when the Son of Man returns, and the means by which He will gather His elect of Israel from the uttermost part of the earth
- 13:28-31** How the Israelites will know when Christ's return is near, and the time period within which the Tribulation will occur
- Note: The generation living when the Tribulation begins can expect to be alive when Jesus returns. The Tribulation or "Day of the LORD" begins upon the world of nations with the Rapture of the Church, (cf. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11). This was a mystery revealed later to the apostle Paul. The final seven years of divine punishment upon Israel for her past sins, as prophesied by the prophet Daniel, begins with the signing of a covenant between Israel and the AntiChrist, (Daniel 9:27). Jesus says that the total time for the Tribulation lasts more than seven years, but no more than a generation, which is potentially up to 40 years, (cf. Hebrews 3:10).
- 13:32-37** Those living at the time are warned to be alert and faithful, because they do not know the day He will return

Psalm 50:**GOD'S JUDGMENT TO COME UPON THE ISRAELITES**

- 50:1-6** God will come to Zion to judge His people who have entered a covenant relationship with Him by sacrifice

50:7-15 Those at that time whom God will not reprove

50:16-21 Those at that time whom God will reprove

50:22-23 Both a warning and a promise

Proverbs

- 10:29-30** A sharp contrast in what the righteous who walk in the way of the LORD can expect, and the wicked who work iniquity

March 8**Numbers****Dedication of the Levites, (continued)****10:1-10**

The times when Aaron and his sons are to blow the silver trumpets

Leaving Mount Sinai**10:11-13**

When the cloud is taken up from the Tabernacle in the twentieth day of the second month of the second year

10:14-16

The princes of Judah, Issachar and Zebulun take the lead

10:17

Next, the son of Gershon and Merari, carrying the Tabernacle

10:18-20

The princes of Reuben, Simeon, and Gad follow

10:21

Next, the Kohathites responsible for carrying the holy vessels of the Tabernacle

10:22-24

The princes of Ephraim, Manasseh, and Benjamin make up the rear

10:29-32

Hobab or Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, agrees to continue on with Israel at Moses' request, due to his knowledge of the desert

10:33-36

What Moses says when the ark is moved, and what he says when the ark is rested

Murmuring for Meat**11:1-3**

The LORD causes His fire to burn at Taberah to consume the outer extremities of the camp

11:4-10

The LORD's anger was kindled greatly, and Moses is also very displeased

11:11-15

Moses' complaint that he bears the burden for Israel alone

11:16-20

How the LORD responds to Moses' request

11:21-23

The LORD rebukes Moses for doubting His ability to provide the meat the people demand

Mark**14:1-2**

Two days before the Passover, the chief priests and scribes conspire how they might be able to secretly arrest Jesus and deliver him to be killed

14:3-9

Jesus responds while eating in the home of Simon the leper at Bethany, when some become indignant because a woman pours expensive ointment on the head of Jesus

Note: Verses three through nine has been fulfilled in the Gospel of Mark**14:10-11**

Judas makes arrangement with the chief priests to betray Jesus

14:12-16

Jesus sends two of his disciples into Jerusalem to kill the Passover and prepare for their observance of the Passover Meal that night

14:17-21

Jesus reveals to his disciples as they are eating that he will be betrayed by one of them, and warns Judas Iscariot that it would be better for him that he were not born

Psalm 51:**DAVID'S CONFESSION OF HIS SIN INVOLVING BATHSHEBA****51:1-3**

He appeals for God's mercy, forgiveness, and cleansing

51:4-6

He acknowledges his lack of excuse, even though he was born a sinner

51:7-12

He makes an extended appeal for his full restoration

Note: David is appealing for sprinkling from the blood sacrifice yet to be shed, since the normal sin offering does not allow for deliberate sin, (cf. Leviticus 4:2)**51:13-17**

He promises to publicly praise God and teach transgressors the kind of sacrifice God will accept

51:18-19

He requests God's blessing on Jerusalem and His acceptance of their burnt offerings

Proverbs**10:31-32**

A contrast in the words of the righteous and those of the wicked

March 9**Numbers****11:24-25**

The LORD descends in a cloud, takes of the Spirit that was on Moses and gives it to the seventy elders who begin to prophesy

11:26-30

How Moses responds when Joshua reports that two of the seventy are also heard prophesying, who did not first come to meet with Moses and the others at the Tabernacle?

11:31-35

The LORD sends a great quantity of quail in the wind blowing from the Red Sea, and also sends a great plague upon those who lusted for meat as they ate

The LORD'S Anger Against Miriam and Aaron**12:1-9**

The LORD's anger is kindled against Miriam and Aaron for questioning the leadership of Moses, because of his marriage to an Ethiopian woman

12:10-16

The LORD heals Miriam of leprosy after Moses prays for her at Aaron's request

The Spying of the Land by Twelve Men**13:1-16**

The names of the men are listed who are sent from the twelve tribes to spy out the land of Canaan

13:17-20

Moses gives the spies instruction as to how and what they are to look for

13:21-25

The spies bring back a cluster of grapes upon their return from a brook near Hebron, which requires two men to carry it on a staff as well as pomegranates and figs, and give a report of their findings

13:26-33

Ten of the spies report that while the land is good, the giants make it impossible for them to possess it, while Caleb urges Israel to go in at once, (also Joshua, cf. 14:6)

Mark**14:22-26**

Jesus initiates the Lord's Supper at the Passover meal with His disciples

Note: Judas Iscariot is no longer with them, (John 13:21-30)

14:27-31

Jesus tells His disciples that they will all be offended and deny him; they all insist they will not, but Peter objects the most

14:32-42

Jesus prays three times for this hour to pass from him at the Garden of Gethsemane as his disciples sleep, in spite of his warning to them about their need to pray

14:43-45

Judas comes with a great multitude from the chief priests, scribes, and elders, and betrays Jesus with a kiss

14:46-49

Jesus commands one of his disciples to put down his sword with which he cut off the ear of the servant of the high priest, and tells the multitude that what they are doing is fulfilling prophecy, (Peter, John 18:10)

14:50-52

All of Jesus disciples forsake him as he had said, except for one young man who at first followed Jesus, but then fled naked to escape when young men grabbed hold of him

Note: It is commonly believed that John Mark is referring to himself

Psalm 52:**DAVID'S SONG REGARDING DOEG, THE EDOMITE (who reports on David to king Saul)****52:1-3**

David asks why Doeg uses his tongue deceitfully and like a sword

52:4-7

David prophesies that the LORD will destroy him for his wickedness

52:8-9

By way of contrast, David is confident that the LORD will sustain him, because he trusts in the LORD and His mercy

Proverbs**11:1**

The importance of not using false weights in conducting business

11:2

The importance of having an attitude of humility rather than pride

11:3

The importance of being honest rather than dishonest

March 10**Numbers****The Spying of the Land by Twelve Men, (continued)****14:1-5**

The reason Moses and Aaron fall on their faces before the assembly

14:6-10

The Israelites do not respond to the urging of Joshua and Caleb to trust in the LORD and to not fear the people of Canaan

14:11-19

Moses responds to the LORD's offer to make of Moses a greater and mightier nation

Note: This is the second time God offers to make of Moses a new nation to replace Israel, (cf. Exodus 32:10)**God Forbids Entrance into the Land of Canaan****14:20-25**

The LORD promises to not permit any of the Israelites, twenty years old and older, to enter the land, with the exception of Joshua and Caleb, (cf. 14:30)

14:26-35

The LORD promises that all who are twenty years old and older will die in the wilderness over a period of forty years, one year for each of the forty days they spied out the land

14:36-38

The ten spies who gave an evil report die by a plague from the LORD, but Joshua and Caleb are spared

14:39-45

The Israelites are defeated when they rise up to fight the Amalekites and Canaanites against the warning of Moses that the LORD is no longer with them

When They Do Enter the Land**15:1-16**

However, when Israel does enter the land after forty years in the desert, the LORD tells Moses how the people inhabiting the land are to present their burnt offerings, their sacrificial vows, and their free will offerings

Mark**14:53-54**

Where Jesus is taken for immediate trial and what Peter does after he forsakes the Lord

14:54-65

On what basis the high priest condemns Jesus for blasphemy, after they first tried unsuccessfully to get two to agree in their testimony against him

14:66-72

The reason for Peter's grief after hearing the cock crow and realizing that he has just denied the Lord

Psalm 53:**DAVID'S WARNING TO ISRAEL'S CAPTORS****53:1-3**

How God views mankind?

53:4-5

Why the wicked do not learn from those who have died in the past for not fearing the LORD and for persecuting His people?

53:6

David appeals for Israel's deliverance in the future from her captors

Proverbs**11:4**

The importance of being righteous over being rich

March 11**Numbers****15:17-21**

The first of their bread is to be offered to the LORD as a heave offering

15:22-26

A sin offering will be required for the congregation of Israel if they commit a sin through ignorance

15:27-29

A sin offering will be required for any sin of ignorance, whether he be a citizen of Israel or not

15:30-31

The death penalty will be required for those who sin presumptuously

15:32-36

A man is commanded to be put to death by stoning for violating the Sabbath on purpose

15:37-41

Tassels of blue ribbon are to be made on the borders of the garments worn by the Israelites, to remind them to do all the commands of the LORD and not follow the desires of their hearts and eyes

Korah's Rebellion**16:1-4**

Korah, a grandson of Kohath, with three others lead a delegation of two hundred and fifty princes of Israel against Moses and Aron as God's choice to lead Israel

16:5-7

Moses tells them to take censers ready to offer incense the next day, at which time the LORD will show whom He has chosen to come into His presence on behalf of Israel

16:8-11

Moses asks Korah why they are not content to be privileged by the LORD to serve the Tabernacle, without also coveting the role of Aaron and his sons as priests?

16:12-14

Dothan and Abiram, sons of Eliab (7:24), accuse Moses of usurping authority over them, and of his intent to kill them in the wilderness

16:15-19

An angry Moses calls for Korah and those with him to gather at the Tabernacle with their censers

16:20-27

The LORD commands all Israel to separate themselves from Korah, Dathan, and Abiram alive, along with their families and all they possess

16:28-30

Moses gives Israel a sign by which they will know if the LORD has chosen him

16:31-33

God fulfills the sign by opening the earth to swallow Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, along with their families and all they possess

16:34-35

All Israel flee from the scene to save themselves, while the fire from the LORD consumes all two hundred and fifty who joined Korah in his rebellion

16:36-48

The censers are gathered by commandment of the LORD, and made into plates to cover the Golden Altar of Incense, as a reminder to not offer incense on that Altar unless one is a priest descended from Aaron

Mark**15:1-5**

Jesus is taken to Pilate, who marvels that Jesus does not defend himself, (cf. Isaiah 53:7)

15:6-11

Pilate offers the choice to release either Barabbas or Jesus

15:12-15

Pilate has Jesus publicly scourged and then led away to be crucified to appease the Jews

15:16-36

Jesus is crucified

15:37-39

The Roman centurion in charge believes when he sees what happens when Jesus cries out with a loud voice and dies by dismissing his spirit from his body

15:40-47

Jesus' burial afterwards in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathaea, the rolling of the stone in front of the tomb, and the women who witness the events

Psalm 54:**DAVID'S PRAYER REGARDING THE ZIPHITES, (cf. 1 Samuel 23:19)****54:1-3**

He prays for deliverance

54:4-7

He promises to offer a sacrifice of praise when the LORD does deliver

Proverbs**11:5-6**

A different outcome in the way of the righteous and the way of the wicked

March 12**Numbers****16:41-50**

Fourteen thousand and seven hundred more die from a plague from the LORD the next day when the congregation again murmurs against Moses and Aaron, and more would have died had not Moses had Aaron make atonement for them

17:1-7

Moses takes a rod from each of the twelve tribes, with Aaron's name on the rod representing the tribe of Levi, and places it in the Tabernacle for the LORD to show which tribe is chosen by the LORD to minister to Him regarding the Tabernacle

17:8-9

Moses brings out the rods the next morning to show all Israel that Aaron's rod alone not only blossomed but yielded almonds

17:10-13

Aaron's rod is placed in the Ark as the LORD's witness against Israel

18:1-5

The LORD again reaffirms the priesthood of Aaron and his sons, placing upon them the responsibility for ministry at the Tabernacle

18:6-7

The assistance of the Levites is a gift to Aaron and his sons from the LORD, and the ministry of Aaron and his sons upon the Golden Altar of Incense and within the veil is also a gift from the LORD

18:8-19

All of the heave offerings and wave offerings of the children of Israel are given by the LORD to Aaron, his sons, and their families to eat

18:20-24

The LORD does not allow Aaron and his sons to own land because He is their inheritance, and for that reason He gives them a tithe of all that Israel possesses, as well as tithes from the heave offerings and wave offerings given by the children of Israel as they come to worship

18:25-32

Aaron and his sons are to tithe themselves from all of the tithes the LORD gives to them from the children of Israel

Mark**16:1-4**

Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome come very early in the morning to anoint the body of Jesus, wondering who will roll away the stone

16:5-8

Finding the stone rolled away, they enter to see a young man sitting in white raiment who tells them Jesus has risen and for them to tell the disciples to meet him in Galilee, after which they flee from the tomb in fear

16:9-11

The disciples do not believe Mary who testified that she saw the LORD a little later that morning

16:12-13

The disciples do not believe the testimony of two others who told them that they saw the LORD as they walked from Jerusalem into the country later that afternoon

16:14-18

Jesus rebukes his disciples when he appears to them that evening, commands them to preach the good news of his resurrection to every creature in all the world, and that he will bestow miracles through them to confirm what they say to those who believe and condemn those who do not, (these are apostolic sign gifts of the Spirit, Hebrews 2:3-4)

Psalm 55:**CAST THY BURDEN UPON THE LORD****55:1-8**

David describes his fears under the threat of death by his enemies

55:9-14

David describes the wickedness of those seeking to destroy him, including one of his close associates

55:15-21

David prays three times a day for the LORD's deliverance from the many who do not fear God and who have gathered against him

55:22-23

David exhorts the righteous to cast their burden upon the LORD, and expresses his confidence that the LORD will deliver him because of his trust in the LORD

Proverbs**11:7**

What happens to the hope of the wicked when they die?

March 13**Numbers****The Ashes of a Red Heifer for Outward Cleansing**

- 19:1-22** The procedure to be followed for Ceremonial cleansing, (cf. Hebrews 9:12-14)
- 19:1-10 Preparing the water of purification with the ashes of a red heifer
- 19:11-22 The importance of the unclean being sprinkled with the water of purification

The Waters of Meribah

- 20:1-6** Israel arrives at Kadesh in the desert of Zin, Miriam dies and is buried, and Israel murmurs again against Moses and Aaron because of thirst
- 20:7-11** God provides them water from the rock again, even though Moses lectures the people in his anger and strikes the rock twice in disobedience to the LORD's instructions
- 20:12-13** Moses and Aaron are told by the LORD that He will not allow them to enter the land because of their disobedience, and the waters from which the people drink are called the waters of Meribah, (cf. Hebrews 3:8)
- 20:14-21** The king of Edom refuses to allow Israel to pass through his land from Kadesh, and instead comes with a great army to oppose them if they try
- 20:22-29** Israel travels from Kadesh to Mount Hor where Aaron's priestly garments are placed upon his son Eleazar, Aaron dies on top of the mount, and Israel mourns for thirty days

Luke**The Birth of John the Baptizer**

Note: His name is not really John the Baptist, according to the Greek, but John, the One who Baptizes or John the Baptizer. John did not begin the Baptist church movement!

- 1:1-4** Luke writes this Gospel account and explains his reason for doing so to Theophilus (who is probably an official of Rome)
- 1:5-7** Zecharias and Elizabeth suffer stigma for not having children, because she is barren and he is a priest
- 1:8-17** Zecharias is chosen by lot to offer incense on the Golden Altar of Incense in the Temple, and is surprised by the sudden appearance to him of the angel Gabriel, informing him that God has heard his prayer and that he will have a son whom he is to name John
Note: "course of Abijah," (see 1 Chronicles 24:10)
- 1:18-22** Zacharias expresses doubt, for which he is told that he will not be able to speak until his son is born
Note: How to hurt a preacher!
- 1:23-25** Elizabeth conceives and hides herself from view for five months without telling anyone, for fear of people's scorn because of her age

Psalm 56:**DAVID, WHEN SEIZED BY THE PHILISTINES IN GATH, (cf. 1 Samuel 21:10-15)**

- 56:1-4** David chooses to not fear, though feeling greatly afraid
- 56:5-9** David speaks of his tears God has collected in a bottle for remembrance
- 45:10-13** David vows to praise the LORD when he is delivered

Proverbs

- 11:8** The wicked experience the trouble they had intended to come upon the righteous!

March 14**Numbers**

- 21:1-3** The LORD enables Israel to defeat the Canaanites at a place they name Hormah, in response to their promise to utterly destroy their cities
- 21:4-5** As they journey, having to go around Edom, the Israelites get discouraged and start murmuring again against God and Moses, complaining that they have no bread or water, and that they despise the manna
- 21:6-7** The LORD sends poisonous snakes among the people causing many to die, at which time the people confess to Moses their sin and beg him to pray for them
- 21:8-9** Moses makes a serpent of brass, puts it on a pole as the LORD commands, and those who look to the pole in faith are prevented from dying, (cf. John 3:14-15)
- 21:10-20** Israel pitches camp in ten locations as they journey south, from Oboth to the top of Mount Pisgah
- 21:21-26** Israel conquers the Amorites and Sihon the king of Heshbon, who not only refuse to allow the Israelites to pass through their land, but come to fight against them, (cf. Genesis 12:3)
- 21:27-32** The Israelites commemorated their conquering of the Amorites with a proverb, noting that the Amorites had previously conquered the Moabites
- 21:33-35** The LORD assures does the same to Og, king of Bashan, for the same reasons

Balak and the Prophet Balaam

- 22:1-8** Balak, king of Moab, sends messengers to Balaam in order to persuade him to curse the Israelites, because Balaam has a reputation for blessing and cursing
- 22:9-14** The LORD tells Balaam to not go to Balak nor curse Israel whom He has blessed
- 22:15-17** When Balaam refuses to return with Balak's men, Balak sends another delegation of even more important officials, promising to greatly honor him if Balaam grants his request
- 22:18-20** Balaam tells Balak's men to stay overnight so that he can receive another word from the LORD, at which time the LORD tells Balaam to go and to only speak what the LORD tells him

Luke

- 1:26-38** The angel Gabriel appears to the virgin Mary in the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, to tell her that she will be the mother of the Son of God by virgin birth, and her response is quite different from that of Zecharias
- 1:39-56** The word of Gabriel is confirmed to Mary upon her visit to Elizabeth, for which she sings a song of thanksgiving and praise

Psalm 57:**DAVID'S FLIGHT FROM SAUL WHILE IN A CAVE**

- 57:1-3** David cries out for God's deliverance from harm
- 57:4-6** David describes Saul and his army who is pursuing him
- 57:7-11** David determines to praise God with song among the nations for God's mercy in delivering him

Proverbs

- 11:9** Deliverance of the righteous from the motive and words of a slanderer
- 11:10-11** What causes a city to rejoice or to self-destruct?

March 15Numbers**Balak and the Prophet Balaam, (continued)**

- 22:21-26** When Balaam leaves the next day with Balak's men, the LORD becomes angry with Balaam and sends an angel with sword drawn to kill him, but the donkey sees the angel and turns aside three times, for which Balaam beats him – the third time with a stick
- 22:27-30** The LORD opens the mouth of the donkey to speak to Balaam (in Hebrew), asking him why Balaam was beating him, to which Balaam answers by saying that he wishes he had a sword so that he could kill him
- 22:31-35** When the LORD opens the eyes of Balaam to see the angel with sword in hand, he is ashamed, confesses his sin, and offers to turn around and go back
- 22:36-41** Balak meets Balaam in a city on the border of Moab, and takes Balaam the next morning into the high places where Baal is worshipped and from which Balaam can see the Israelites in the distance
- 23:1-12** Balaam has Balak offer a bullock and a ram on seven altars he builds to the LORD, and is caused by the LORD to open his mouth and bless Israel rather than curse them
- 23: 13-26** Balak takes Balaam from there to another high place at the top of Mount Pisgah, builds seven new altars, where Balaam blesses Israel a second time and curses her enemies
- 23:27-30** Balak does not give up and takes Balaam to the top of Peor, where he again offers a bullock and a ram on seven new altars

Luke

- 1:57-66** John the Baptizer is born, Zecharias obeys God's command to name him John, his tongue is loosed, and the word of John's birth spreads
- 1:67-79** Zecharias prophesies the role of John in relation to the coming of Christ
- 1:80** John grows up both physically and strong spiritually, after which he remains in the desert until the time for his ministry to begin

Psalm 58:**GOD'S REWARD FOR THE RIGHTEOUS**

- 58:1-5** David states that the wicked are no more capable of governing righteously than a snake that cannot be charmed
- 58:6-8** David illustrates how he prays for the LORD to crush the wicked
- 58:9-11** When the LORD judges the earth, the righteous will rejoice when they see what happens to the wicked

Proverbs

- 11:12-13** The kind of person who despises his neighbor and reveals secrets, and the kind of person who doesn't

March 16**Numbers****24:1-13**

Balaam pronounces God's blessing on Israel a third time by the Spirit of God, rather than by using pagan enchantments, making Balak very angry

24:14-20

Before Balaam goes home, this time he sees a vision in broad daylight of a time far into the future when the Christ or Messiah will rise like a star in Israel to totally crush Moab, Edom, and Amalek

24:21-25

Balaam also foretells the future destruction of the Kenites, their future captivity by the Assyrians (Asshur), and the future affliction of both Assyria and the Hebrews (Eber) by those from the Mediterranean (Kittim)

Idolatrous Fornication in Moab**Note:**

Evidently since Baalam did not succeed in bringing God's curse upon Israel, he suggested to Balak a sure way to see that happen, (cf. Numbers 31:16)

25:1-5

Moses orders the execution of every leader who permitted the people to commit idolatry and fornication with the women of Moab while they abode in Shittim

Note: Shittim is the last stop prior to crossing the Jordan River

25:6-9

Phinehaz, the son of Eleazar, kills a Jewish man and a Midianite woman while fornicating in a tent in broad daylight, and twenty-four thousand Israelites die as well by a plague from the LORD

25:10-13

The LORD makes a covenant with Phinehaz that the line of the High Priesthood would henceforth come from his descendants, because of his zeal for the LORD and holiness, (cf. John 2:13-17)

25:14-18

Moses is told to fight against the Midianites and kill them because of their evil influence

Luke**2:1-5**

Joseph goes up from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be taxed, due to a decree from Caesar Augustus, while Mary was very near delivery of the baby Jesus

2:6-7

Mary gives birth to Jesus in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn

2:8-14

An angel of the Lord appears to shepherds nearby who were watching their flock by night, telling them that the Savior – Christ, the Lord – has been born, and how they can find him

2:15-20

The shepherds leave with haste, find Jesus, broadcast the good news, and return to their flocks praising God

2:21-24

Jesus is circumcised the eighth day, and is taken by Joseph and Mary to Jerusalem after the days of purification to offer sacrifice according to the Law of Moses, (cf. Leviticus 12:1-6)

2:25-35

Simeon, who was looking for the Christ, comes to the Temple by the leading of the Holy Spirit, and blesses the baby Jesus, and warns Mary that she will experience sorrow as a result of his causing many to rise or fall in Israel

Psalm 59:**DAVID'S COMPARISON OF SAUL'S MEN TO A PACK OF WILD DOGS**

(Note the Inscription to this Psalm and cf. 1 Samuel 19:9-18)

59:1-5

David prays for deliverance from Saul's men who are keeping vigil over his house to kill him

59:6-7

When they cannot find him, David says they searched for him that evening like wild dogs

59:8-10

David expresses confidence in the LORD's protection

59:11-13

David prays for the visible destruction of his enemies

59:14-17

David sings praise, as he again compares his enemies to a pack of wild dogs

Proverbs**11:14**

A good reason for seeking advice

March 17**Numbers****26:1-4**

After the plague, the LORD commands Moses and Eleazar to take a census of the Israelites while they are in Moab, from those twenty years old and older who are able to go to war

26:5-7

The number counted of the tribe of Reuben

26:8-11

The sons of Dothan, Abiram, and Korah who did not die in Korah's rebellion

26:12-14

The number counted of the tribe of Simeon

26:15-18

The number counted of the tribe of Gad

26:19-22

The number counted of the tribe of Judah

26:23-25

The number counted of the tribe of Issachar

26:26-27

The number counted of the tribe of Zebulun

26:28-34

The number counted of the tribe of Manasseh

26:35-37

The number counted of the tribe of Ephraim

26:38-41

The number counted of the tribe of Benjamin

26:42-43

The number counted of the tribe of Dan

26:44-47

The number counted of the tribe of Asher

26:48-51

The number counted of the tribe of Naphtali

Note: Compare the numbers with the first census, (Numbers chapter one)

Luke**2:36-38**

Anna, a very old widow and prophetess, also gives thanks for the baby Jesus at the Temple and speaks about him to others who are looking for God's redemption in Jerusalem

2:39-40

Joseph and Mary return to Nazareth of Galilee, where Jesus grows both physically and in spirit with God's wisdom and favor upon him

2:41-43

Joseph and Mary take Jesus when he was twelve years of age to Jerusalem for the annual Passover, as was their custom, and leave without knowing that Jesus has remained behind

Note: Twelve years being the age when boys were expected to be able to answer questions regarding their heritage as Jews

2:44-47

Joseph and Mary return to Jerusalem when they discover Jesus is missing, and find him being examined by the scribes in the Temple who are astonished by his knowledge

2:48-50

Jesus informs them that the reason he did not return with them at first, is because it was now time for him to be fulfilling the purpose for which his heavenly Father sent him

2:51-52

Jesus then returns with Joseph and Mary, obeys them, and increases in wisdom and stature as well as in favor with both God and man

Psalm 60:**ISRAEL'S FUTURE DELIVERANCE FORETOLD**

Note the Inscription: While David is fighting in the north, Edom attacks from the south and Joab wins an important military victory over Edom in the Valley of Salt, (cf. 2 Samuel 8 and 1 Chronicles 18)

60:1-5

David's cry to God for His mercy, healing, and deliverance

60:6-12

God promises to deliver Israel and Judah from Moab, Edom, and Philistia

Proverbs**11:15**

A warning to not become surety for a stranger

March 18**Numbers****How the Land is to be Divided**

- 26:52-56** The LORD tells Moses that the land is to be divided by lot and by number of people in the census to occupy the lots
- 26:57-62** The number counted of the tribe of Levi
- 26:63-65** All of those numbered before die as the LORD said, except for Caleb and Joshua
- 27:1-5** The five daughters of Zelophehad inquire as to why they should not also be given an inheritance in the land, since their father who died had no sons
- 27:6-11** The LORD instructs Moses to give an inheritance to the daughters, and also tells him to do the same for any daughters whose father dies without a son, as well as for the man who dies without a son or a daughter
- 27:12-14** Moses is told to go to the top of Mount Abarim so that he can see the land God has given to Israel, but will not be permitted to enter because of what he did in striking the rock twice at the waters of Meribah
- 27:15-23** Joshua is publicly recognized as the man whom the LORD has chosen to replace Moses

The Required Annual Offerings

- 28:1-8** The daily sacrificial offerings
- 28:9-10** The weekly sacrificial offerings every Sabbath or seventh day
- 28:11-15** The monthly sacrificial offerings

Luke

- 3:1-6** The time period at which time God calls John from the desert to come to the Jordan River and preach the baptism of repentance for remission of sins, as foretold by the prophet Isaiah, (cf. Isaiah 40:3-5)
- 3:7-14** John tells different people groups who come to be baptized by him what they must do to prove their sincere repentance
- 3:15-17** John corrects any false impression people might have that he is the Christ by pointing out the difference between his baptism in water and Christ's two baptisms which are greater; those being of giving the Holy Spirit now in salvation, or of removing unbelievers from the earth in the wrath to come by fire
- 3:18-20** Herod the Tetrarch adds to all of the evils he has done by having John imprisoned for rebuking him concerning his adulterous relationship with Philip, his brother's wife
- 3:21-22** Jesus is also baptized, and while he is praying the Holy Spirit descends upon him in bodily shape like a dove, and a voice comes from heaven saying that He is well pleased with His beloved Son, (the voice being that of God the Father)

Psalm 61:**DAVID'S CRY TO GOD WHEN FEELING OVERWHELMED**

- 61:1-4** David cries to God as his rock, his shelter, and as his strong tower
- 61:5-8** David thanks God for having heard his vows in the past, and for His preserving his life to perform his vows in the future

Proverbs

- 11:16-17** The kind of person God treats with favor, and the kind of person who brings trouble upon himself

March 19Numbers**The Required Annual Offerings, (continued)**

- 28:16-25** The Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread
28:26-31 The Firstfruits of the Harvest at Pentecost
29:1-6 The Feast of Trumpets
29:7-11 The Day of Atonement
29:12-38 The Feast of Tabernacles
 29:12-16 The 1st day
 29:17-19 The 2nd day
 29:20-22 The 3rd day
 29:23-25 The 4th day
 29:26-28 The 5th day
 29:29-31 The 6th day
 29:32-34 The 7th day
 29:35-38 The 8th day

- 29:39-40** These are the required offerings at Israel's Religious Festivals each year

Luke

- 3:23-38** The genealogy of Jesus back to Adam
 3:23-31 From Jesus back to David's son Nathan and David
 3:31-38 From David back to Adam through Seth, not Cain
Note: Adam is called the "son of God" because he had no human father

Psalm 62:**DAVID WAITS ON THE LORD**

- 62:1-2** For him to not be removed from being king over Israel
62:3-4 For those conspiring to kill him to be killed
62:5-7 With hope in the LORD as his Rock of salvation
62:8-12 And trust in the LORD rather than man's riches or power

Proverbs

- 11:18-19** Different outcomes for those who sow righteousness and the wicked who sow deceit and evil

March 20**Numbers****The Keeping of Vows Made to the LORD**

- 30:1-12** The circumstances by which a daughter can be released from her vow, or a wife, widow, and divorced wife
- 30:13-16** The circumstances by which a husband would bear the guilt of his wife

War Against the Midianites

- 31:1-6** Moses sends twelve thousand men to battle the Midianites at the LORD's command, (cf. Numbers 25:16-18)
- 31:7-10** They kill the Midianite men, capture their wives and children, kill five of their kings, burn their cities and palaces, and confiscate their possessions
- 31:11-24** Moses and Eleazar the priest gives instructions upon their return to the camp of Israel
- 31:25-47** The LORD's instructions for how the spoil is to be divided
- 31:48-54** The total given to Moses and Aaron as a memorial before the LORD

Luke

- 4:1-13** Jesus is tempted of the Devil for forty days in the wilderness
- 4:1-2 Jesus is hungry after forty days and nights of fasting
- 4:3-4 The Devil's tempting Jesus regarding his hunger
- 4:5-8 The Devil's tempting Jesus regarding the kingdoms of this world
- 4:9-13 The Devil's tempting him regarding God's protection from injury or death
- 4:14-21** Jesus returns to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, visits the synagogue on the Sabbath, reads from the prophet Isaiah, and tells the congregation that he is the fulfillment of that prophecy, (cf. Isaiah 61:1-2)
- Note: Jesus does not read the last part of Isaiah 61:2, since the fulfillment of that awaits Christ's second coming
- 4:22-27** Jesus tells them that a prophet is without honor in his own country and gives them two illustrations from the time of Elijah and Elisha
- 4:28-30** The congregation thrusts Jesus out of the synagogue and try to cast him off a precipice on which the city of Nazareth is built, but Jesus passes through the midst of them

Psalm 63:**DAVID'S THIRST FOR GOD**

- 63:1-5** David thirsts for the LORD as a comparison to his physical thirst in a dry land where there is no water, longing to again be able to worship Him in the Tabernacle
- 63:6-11** When he remembers the LORD and meditates upon Him during the night on his bed, he rejoices in the LORD's protection and in the coming destruction of his enemies

Proverbs

- 11:20** The kind of people who are an abomination to the LORD and the kind in whom He delights
- 11:21** How seeking the help of others will not enable the wicked to escape punishment, whereas the posterity of the righteous will be delivered

March 21**Numbers****32:1-5**

The children of Reuben and Gad request that they be given the land of Gilead, the land which the LORD had purged of Israel's enemies, because they see that the land is good for their cattle

32:6-15

Moses rebukes them for discouraging the rest of the tribes of Israel, who will have to fight for their inheritance across the Jordan in the land of Canaan, just as their fathers had previously discouraged Israel from taking the land

32:16-19

The children of Reuben and Gad promise to only leave their families behind to dwell in fenced cities for their protection, but that they will cross over into Canaan to fight with the others until they all possess their inheritance

32:20-27

Moses responds by telling them that by doing what they say, they will be guiltless before the LORD, and that they will be given the land of Gilead for their possession

32:28-33

Moses informs Eleazar the priest, Joshua, and the chief fathers of the other tribes, that the children of Reuben, Gad, and half of the tribe of Manasseh will be given the former kingdom of king Sihon and of king Og, along with the surrounding land and cities

32:34-42

A listing of the fenced cities is given which they then build, along with the surrounding land and villages

A Listing of Encampments of Israel for Forty Years**33:1-15**

From Egypt to Sinai

33:16-36

From Sinai to Kadesh

33:37-39

From Kadesh to Mount Hor, where Aaron dies forty years after they departed from Egypt

Luke**4:31-37**

Jesus comes down to Capernaum, teaches with authority on the Sabbath days, and commands an unclean spirit to depart from a man whereby his fame spreads throughout the country

4:38-39

Jesus leaves the synagogue to enter Simon's house, where he rebukes a severe fever being suffered by Simon's mother-in-law

4:40-41

That evening, when the Sabbath was over, many bring their sick – all of whom Jesus not only heals, but also rebukes demons whom he casts out for crying out that he is the Son of God

4:42-44

Jesus does not stay the next day to heal others who seek him, saying that he must first go to the other cities to preach the kingdom of God because that is why he was sent

5:1-3

Jesus enters Simon's ship to teach a multitude pressing upon him

5:4-7

After teaching, Simon reluctantly launches his ship out into the deep upon Jesus' request, and when Jesus tells them to let down their nets, they catch a multitude of fish which causes two ships to almost sink

5:8-11

Peter, James, and John forsake their ships to follow Jesus when he tells them that from that time forth they will catch men

Psalm 64:**DAVID'S CRY REGARDING A CONSPIRACY****64:1-2**

David cries aloud for God to preserve his life from those who are secretly plotting insurrection against him

64:3-6

David describes their secrecy as they conspire against him

64:7-10

David describes the impact God's deliverance will have upon those who observe

Proverbs**11:22**

In what way a pretty woman becomes less attractive?

March 22**Numbers****33:40-49**

From Mount Hor to Abelshittim in the plains of Moab

33:50-54

The LORD warns the new generation of Israelites that when they cross the Jordan into Canaan, they are to drive out the inhabitants, destroy their idols and high places, and divide the land by lot for their inheritance

33:55-56

On the other hand, if they allow the inhabitants to stay, they will become like thorns to vex them, and the LORD will do to them as He had thought to do to the Canaanites.

Dividing the Inheritance**34:1-12**

The LORD establishes the borders of the land He is giving to the Israelites when they go in to take possession

34:13-15

Moses affirms that the land east of the Jordan is to be divided by lot for the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and one half of the tribe of Manasseh

34:16-29

The names of ten princes for the rest of the tribes are named to be responsible for dividing the inheritance west of the Jordan River

Cities of Refuge**35:1-8**

Forty-eight cities are to be given to the Levites with two thousand cubits of land on each side of the city, six of which are to be cities of refuge

35:9-15

The purpose for the six cities of refuge is explained, three on each side of the Jordan

Note: To provide escape from relatives seeking revenge**35:16-29**

The guidelines for relatives taking revenge for manslaughter is given, provided that the murderer is caught outside the cities of refuge

35:30-34

The death penalty however is mandated for any person guilty of premeditated murder

Luke**5:12-14**

Jesus heals a man full of leprosy when in a certain city, and charges him to not broadcast his healing to others, but to go the priest to be pronounced as being clean according to the Mosaic Law

5:15-16

However the news and fame of Jesus spreads to the point where Jesus withdraws from the multitude to the desert to pray

5:17-20

At a later time, Jesus tells a man who is paralyzed that his sins are forgiven, when he sees the faith of those who bring him and go to the trouble to let him down through the roof

5:21-26

Jesus demonstrates his power as the Son of Man to forgive sins before the scribes and Pharisees, by commanding the man to rise, take up his bed, and return to his house

5:27-28

After these things, Jesus sees a publican named Levi (or Matthew) collecting taxes for the Roman government, and commands him to follow him

Note: Publicans were despised by citizens of Israel because they, being Jews, became wealthy while collecting taxes from their fellow Jews for the Roman government**Psalm 65:****PRAISE AWAITS GOD IN ZION****65:1-4**

Praise will be given for God's forgiveness and regathering of Israel to worship in His Temple

65:5-8

Praise will be given for the manifestation of God's power to the ends of the earth

65:9-13

Praise will be given for His enrichment of the land and productivity

Proverbs**11:23**

A contrast is stated by way of the motives of the righteous and the wicked

March 23**Numbers****36:1-4**

The chief fathers of Ephraim and Manasseh present a problem concerning the potential loss of inheritance, should the daughters of Zelophehad marry outside of their tribe

36:5-9

Marriages of these daughters are restricted to their own tribe, so that the inheritance originally given does not move from one tribe to another

36:10-13

The daughters of Zelophehad do as the LORD commands

Deuteronomy

Note: The word “Deuter” means “second,” and the word “nomy” means “law.” These are the last words of Moses to the new generation about to cross the Jordan, and for that reason the events over the past forty years are repeated. Hence, a second time.

1:1-4

These are the final words of Moses after he had killed Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, king of Bashan (Num.21:21-35, Deut.2:24-3:17)

1:5-8

Moses recounts the instructions the LORD gave to him when they departed Sinai forty years earlier to go and possess the land God had promised to give them

1:9-18

He reminds them of how judges were appointed to help him govern the people

1:19-23

When they arrive at the land of Canaan, he reminds them of how he encouraged them to possess the land and sent twelve spies at their request to first survey the land

1:24-33

Moses recounts how he had urged their fathers to not listen to the spies who discouraged them, but trust in the LORD who had delivered them from Egypt and cared for their needs as they journeyed through the desert, yet they would not listen

1:34-40

It is for this reason that the LORD determined to not allow them to enter the land to possess it, including Moses, and their children under the age of twenty who had no knowledge of good and evil (see “Note”); Caleb and Joshua being the only exceptions

Note: The LORD did not hold those under the age of twenty accountable enough to die with their parents for unbelief

1:41-46

Moses recounts how they didn’t listen to him afterwards, when they felt sorry for their unbelief and went up to fight against the Amorites, but were defeated because the LORD was no longer with them

Luke**5:29-32**

Jesus responds to the inquiry of the scribes and Pharisees as to why he eats and drinks with publicans and sinners, such as at the great feast hosted by Levi in his house

5:33-36

Jesus responds to their criticism as to the reason his disciples feast rather than fast

6:1-5

Jesus also responds, on the second Sabbath after the first (cf. Luke 4:31-43), to the criticism of the Pharisees as to why he and his disciples supposedly work on the Sabbath by rubbing ears of corn with their hands for the purpose of eating

6:6-11

On another Sabbath Jesus responds to the Pharisees and scribes, who are watching to see if he heals a man in the synagogue who has a withered hand, and when he does begin to conspire how they might kill him

PSALM 66:**AN INVITATION FOR ALL TO COME AND SEE GOD’S ANSWER TO DAVID’S PRAYER****66:1-5**

All the earth is invited to come, see the works of God, and praise His name

66:6-12

For them to see how God has brought Israel through the Red Sea and preserved them through afflictions by fire and water

66:13-20

The Psalmist (probably David) says that he will go himself into the house of the LORD to praise Him for answering his own prayers

Proverbs**11:24-26**

The difference in outcome of those who give liberally to help others and those who do not

March 24**Deuteronomy****Recounting Israel's Journeys for Forty Years**

- 2:1-7** After the Israelites had compassed Mount Seir for many days, the LORD told Moses it would be safe for them to turn north and pass through the land of Esau, but for them to not fight with them because the LORD had given Mount Seir to Esau for his inheritance
- 2:8-9** As they then came to the land of Moab, the LORD also prohibited them from taking possession of their land, because the LORD had given it to the children of Lot for their possession
- 2:10-12** The LORD enabled them to conquer the Emims who were numerous and were giants like the Anakims (whom their fathers had feared), and the descendants of Esau conquered the Horims
- 2:13-15** Thirty eight years had passed from the time the Israelites were denied entrance into the land of Canaan, and all of the men of war died as the LORD had said they would
- 2:16-23** When the Israelites came to the land of the Ammonites, He also prohibited them from seeking to possess their land, which had been occupied by giants like the Anakims
Note: Moses is pointing out that their fathers had no excuse for fearing the Anakim and for not believing that the LORD would enable them to possess their land, because giants who occupied the land east of the Jordan had already been conquered with the LORD's help by the descendants of Lot and of Esau
- 2:24-37** However the LORD did allow them to defeat Sihon, king of Heshbon, and possess all of the land from the river of Arnon to Gilead
- 3:1-7** The LORD also delivered Og, king of Bashan, into the hands of the Israelites, along with sixty walled cities in the region of Argob
- 3:8-17** The Israelites at that time took all of the land east of Jordan occupied by king Sihon and King Og (whose bed was over thirteen feet long, being one of the giants), from the river Arnon in the south unto Mount Hermon in the north, which Moses divided to the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of the tribe of Manasseh
- 3:18-29** Moses then recounts how he encouraged those tribes to cross the Jordan to help the remaining tribes to take their inheritance, and how he encouraged Joshua to take possession of the land of Canaan in light of the fact that the LORD had denied his request to enter the land

Luke

- 6:12-16** After Jesus spends all night in prayer in the mountain, he selects twelve men to become his apostles, including Judas Iscariot who would betray the Lord
- 6:17-19** When Jesus comes down from the mountain, he heals a multitude who had come from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the sea coasts of Tyre and Sidon –even those who simply reach out to touch him
- 6:20-38** Jesus repeats a shorter version to his disciples of what he had formerly said in the Sermon on the Mount

Psalm 67:**VISIBLE SIGNS OF GOD'S BLESSING ON ISRAEL**

- 67:1-2** A prayer for God's mercy on Israel, so that God's way and saving health might be known among the Gentile nations
- 67:3-5** A call for the nations to praise God who governs the people righteously
- 67:6-7** For the nations to fear the God of Israel when they see the earth yield her increase as a visible sign of His blessing

Proverbs

- 11:27** What the person who seeks good and the one who seeks harm can expect

March 25**Deuteronomy****Moses Exhorts the New Generation**

- 4:1-2** He exhorts the new generation about to cross the Jordan to keep the statutes and the judgments that he has taught them, so that they may live and go in to possess the land the LORD GOD of their fathers has given to them, and not add to them or take away from them, (cf. Revelation 22:18-19)
- 4:3-4** He reminds them of what they saw happen to their own peers who worshipped Baal in contrast to those who did not, (cf. Numbers 25)
- 4:5-8** Moses tells them that if they keep God's Law when they go into the land to possess it, they will be known as a wise people, because no other nation has laws as righteous as they, and because no other nation hears from God as do they
- 4:9-10** They should therefore not forget what they have seen with their eyes, nor when they heard God's voice at Mount Sinai, (cf. Matthew 3:16-17)
- 4:11-20** The reason they heard His voice but did not see Him when He spoke to them from the midst of the fire, is so that they would not make an image of what they saw in the likeness of any creature, nor worship what they see in the heavens created by God
- 4:21-24** The fact that the LORD has denied his request to enter the land with them should be a warning to them that He is a jealous God and a consuming fire
- 4:25-31** For if they corrupt themselves in forsaking God, He will destroy them and scatter their children and grandchildren to serve the false gods of other nations
- 4:32-34** Moses challenges them to ask themselves if there has been any other people hear the voice of God, and if there has been any other people who have been delivered from another nation by great divine judgments
- 4:35-40** Moses tells them the LORD delivered them so that they might know that He is God, that there is none else, and so that they might obey His commandments

Moses' Final Actions Before His Death

- 4:41-43** Moses sets aside three cities east of Jordan to be cities of refuge; Bezer, Ramath, and Golan
- 4:44-49** These are the words Moses spoke after they had come out of Egypt, killed Sihon king of the Amorites, killed Og king of Bashan, and possessed all of their land east of the Jordan

Luke

- 6:39-49** The shortened version of the Sermon on the Mount is continued in these verses
- 7:1-10** Jesus enters Capernaum and heals by his spoken word the servant of a Roman centurion who is near death, because the centurion demonstrated the kind of faith Jesus had not seen in all of Israel

Psalm 68:**THE TRIUMPHANT ASCENSION OF CHRIST ON MOUNT ZION**

- 68:1-16** As God enabled Israel to possess the land of Canaan in the past when He delivered them from bondage to Egypt, the righteous will rejoice when He does so again, ascending to reign in the holy hill of Zion which will be made higher than the hill of Bashan
- 68:17-18** Twenty thousand chariots and thousands of angels will ascend with him, along with his captives and the spoils of victory to be given as gifts for the people, (cf. Ephesians 4:7-10)

Note: This prophecy will ultimately be fulfilled when Jesus ascends Mt. Zion to reign in Jerusalem over the nations of the world

Proverbs

- 11:28** The expectation of the righteous, in contrast to those who trust in their riches

March 26**Deuteronomy****God's Commandments, Statutes, and Judgments**

- 5:1-21** Moses repeats the Ten Commandments given to the Israelites before when the LORD established His covenant with them at Mount Horeb
- 5:22-33** Moses recounts how the Israelites requested that the LORD speak directly to Moses and not to them, out of fear for their lives
- 6:1-9** Moses warns them to love the LORD their God with all their heart, and to teach their children with visible signs whereby they are reminded to obey His commands
Note: The Israelites sought to comply the command of 6:8 by wearing phylacteries, and 6:9 by placing a small metal box on the doorposts and gates, called the "mezuzah"
- 6:10-13** He warns them to not forget the LORD when they go in to possess that which they did not build for themselves
- 6:14-15** Neither are they to go after other gods, lest they be destroyed by God who is a jealous God
- 6:16-17** Nor are they to test the LORD, as they did at Massah, (cf. Exodus 17:7)
- 6:18-25** They are rather to do that which is right and good in the sight of the LORD, and to tell their sons what the LORD has done for them when asked by them why they should keep God's Law

Luke

- 7:11-17** A rumor spreads that Jesus is a great prophet as a result of his raising a widow's son from the dead at the city of Nain
- 7:18-23** This causes John the Baptist to send two of his disciples to inquire as to whether he is the promised Christ, or just a great prophet
- 7:24-28** Jesus speaks to the crowd when the disciples of John leave, telling them that there has been no prophet greater than John, in that he is the one foretold to be the forerunner of Christ, (cf. Malachi 3:1)
- 7:29-35** Jesus rebukes the Pharisees and lawyers for their rejection of both John the Baptist and himself as the Son of Man, and uses an illustration of children in the market place to expose their unreasonableness

Psalm 68:**THE TRIUMPHANT ASCENSION OF CHRIST ON MOUNT ZION, (continued)**

- 68:19-23** God is to be praised for the salvation of His people Israel, in causing them to dip their feet in the blood of their enemies
- 68:24-31** Musicians will lead the congregation in blessing the name of the LORD for His deliverance of Israel, and for the bringing of gifts by kings to Jerusalem, including those of the princes of Egypt and of Ethiopia
- 68:32-35** The kingdoms of the earth are told to sing praise to the LORD who protects Israel from the heaven of heavens above

Proverbs

- 11:29-31** The future of the wicked is foretold in contrast to the righteous who seek to win souls over to their way of life

March 27**Deuteronomy****God's Commandments, Statutes, and Judgments, (continued)**

- 7:1-6** The reason the LORD commands them to totally destroy seven nations greater than they when they cross the Jordan, whom the LORD will deliver into their hand
- 7:7-11** The reason they should keep God's commandments, statutes, and judgments
- 7:12-15** The blessing of the LORD that awaits them if they keep God's commandments
- 7:16-19** What they are to remember if they fear going against these nations
- 7:20-26** How they will be able to take possession of all the land with the LORD's help, little by little
- 8:1-6** What they are to remember about the past forty years of their experience in the desert, and why
- 8:7-17** What they are to do and not do when God gives them the good land to enjoy
- 8:18-20** What will happen to them if they forsake the LORD their God

Luke

- 7:36-50** Jesus teaches a lesson on the degree of one's appreciation for God's forgiveness at the house of Simon a Pharisee, by using the tears of a sinful woman who comes to wash his feet and anoint his head as he reclines to eat
Note: A similar event occurred at Bethany of Judea with Mary during the last week of Jesus' life, (cf. John 12:1-8)
- 8:1-3** Afterwards Jesus goes with the Twelve throughout every city and village, preaching the good news of the kingdom of God, and is accompanied by certain women who contribute to their needs financially

Psalm 69:**CHRIST'S PRAYER WHILE DYING ON THE CROSS**

- 69:1-9** David describes his emotional distress because of his enemies
- 69:10-18** David appeals for God's personally
Note: This Psalm is quoted in the New Testament in reference to Christ:
 69:9 in John 2:17
 69:21 in Matthew 27:34
 69:22-23 in Romans 11:9-10

Proverbs

- 12:1** The kind of person who responds to correction, and the one who does not

March 28**Deuteronomy****God's Commandments, Statutes, and Judgments, (continued)**

- 9:1-6** When the LORD destroys the Anakim before them as they go in this day to possess the land, they are not to think that it is because of their righteousness, but rather because of the wickedness of the Canaanites
- 9:7-14** They are to remember how they have provoked the LORD their God, from the day they left Egypt to their rebellion at Mt. Horeb in making the golden calf, at which point the LORD was angry enough to destroy them and raise up a mightier nation through Moses
- 9:15-19** Moses recounts how he broke the two tablets of stone when he saw the golden calf, fell on his knees in prayer, and did not eat or drink for forty days and nights while he interceded for God to not destroy Israel
- 9:20-21** Moses also prayed for the LORD spare Aaron, took the calf they had made, burnt it, and cast its dust into the brook that came down from the mount
- 9:22-23** They also provoked the LORD at Taberah (Numbers 11:3), Massah (Exodus 17:7), at Kibroth-hattavah (Numbers 11:34), and at Kadesh-barnea when the LORD told them to go in and possess the land (Numbers 13-14)
- 9:24-29** It is because they have been rebellious since the day that Moses has known them, that he fell on his face for forty days and forty nights, pleading with God to not destroy them on the basis of His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and on the basis of what other nations would say about Israel's God if He destroyed them
- 10:1-5** The LORD had Moses make two more tablets of stone on which the LORD re-wrote the Ten Commandments, and Moses places them in the Ark of the Covenant
- 10:6-11** Moses is told to lead the Israelites to where they could cross the Jordan and enter the land in answer to the prayer of Moses. On the way Aaron dies, Eleazar replaces him as High Priest, and God separates the Levites to be the priestly tribe for the other tribes of Israel
- 10:12-22** Moses urges them in light of this to fear God, to love Him, to serve Him with all their heart and soul, to circumcise the foreskin of their hearts, and to no longer be stiff-necked

Luke

- 8:4-8** Jesus tells a parable of a "Sower and his Seed" to the crowd who comes to him out of every city
- 8:9-18** Jesus explains to his disciples why he now teaches in parables, and interprets the parable for them
- 8:19-21** Jesus does not interrupt his teaching to accommodate his mother and brothers who want to see him, saying instead that his mother and brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it

Psalm 69:

- 69:19-21** Christ speaks of His being forsaken and His reproach while being crucified, (cf. Matthew 26:56, 27:34 and John 19:28-29)
- 69:22-28** Christ prays that their table become a snare for those who have conspired against him, and that their name be blotted out of the book of the living, (cf. Romans 11:8-10)
- 69:29-36** He says he will praise God, which pleases God more than the sacrifice of an ox or bullock

Proverbs

- 12:2** How the LORD regards a good man and a man of wicked devices
- 12:3** The difference in outcome that can be expected for those who are wicked and for those who are righteous

March 29**Deuteronomy****God's Commandments, Statutes, and Judgments, (continued)**

- 11:1-7** The Israelites are therefore to love the LORD their God and keep His statutes, judgments, and commandments, for the sake of their children who have not seen with their eyes what their parents have
- 11:8-12** They are therefore to keep all of the commandments in order that they might possess the land and prolong their days in the land, a land which the LORD cares for and watches over continually throughout the year
Note: This is because it was the former Garden of Eden, (See note on Genesis 2:10-14)
- 11:13-17** Whether God blesses the land with rain and productivity, or not, will depend upon their loyal obedience or their lack of doing so in turning to other gods
- 11:18-21** Whether or not their days are multiplied in the land will depend upon their keeping His commands and using visible signs by which to teach their children, (See note on Deuteronomy 6:1-9)
- 11:22-25** If they diligently keep all of God's commands, they will possess all the land God has promised, from the wilderness in the south to Lebanon in the north, and from the river Euphrates in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west, (Gen.15:18-21)
- 11:26-32** They are to remind themselves of God's promise to bless or curse, by proclaiming when they cross into the land God's blessing from Mt. Gerizim and God's curse from Mt. Ebal

The Statutes and Judgments They are to Keep

- 12:1-3** To destroy all of the idols and the places where they are worshipped
- 12:4-14** To bring their offerings only to the place God chooses
- 12:15-28** What they may eat of meat, what they may not eat, and where
- 12:29-32** The abominations of the inhabitants they are to avoid, such as the sacrificing of their children to their false gods

Luke

- 8:22-25** Jesus calms the wind when it appears that the ship will sink as they cross to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, and rebukes his disciples for their lack of faith
- 8:26-33** Jesus casts out many demons possessing the body of a man dwelling naked among the tombs in the country of the Gadarenes, and sends them upon their request into a herd of swine who then rush violently to their deaths down a cliff into the Sea of Galilee
Note: The "deep" is literally the "abyss" in the Greek, and refers to the place where all demons will be sent by Christ just before the Millennium. Self-destructive behavior is a typical outcome of demon possession

Psalm 70:**AN APPEAL FROM DAVID FOR IMMEDIATE HELP**

- 70:1** David asks the LORD to quickly deliver him
- 70:2-3** He asks that those seeking to destroy him be ashamed and turn back
- 7:4** He prays that all those who seek God will be glad and praise God, because they love and magnify Him for His deliverance
- 7:5** David repeats that he needs help immediately

Proverbs

- 12:4** The positive and negative effect a wife can have upon her husband

March 30**Deuteronomy****God's Commandments, Statutes, and Judgments, (continued)**

- 13:1-5** The Israelites are to put to death any prophet or dreamer of dreams who seeks to entice them into worshipping other gods, even if they perform a miracle as a sign
Note: This warning is given by Moses in light of what happened because of Balaam, (cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:6-12, 2 Pet.2:15-16, Jude 11)
- 13:6-11** They are to do the same if one of their own relatives or friends seek to entice them into worshipping other gods
- 13:12-18** This includes destroying the inhabitants of any of their own cities who turn to other gods, totally burn their city and never rebuild it
- 14:1-21** It is because they are to be a holy and peculiar people unto the LORD, that they are to not cut themselves in ways that the pagans do for the dead, nor are they to eat unclean meat as do they
- 14:22-27** When they come to the place where God chooses to place His name, they are to bring the tithe of all their crops, herds, flocks, or they are to bring money with which to purchase what they need if the distance is too far for them; and they are to remember the Levites who come with them from their cities
- 14:28-29** At the end of every third year they are to bring the tithe of all their increase to the cities to be shared with the Levites, the immigrants among them, the fatherless, and the widows
- 15:1-6** They are to forgive any indebtedness of the poor at the end of every seven years, for which the LORD will bless the lender and not the borrower
- 15:7-11** They are to not harden their hearts when a poor Israelite asks for a loan because the seventh year is nigh, and the LORD will bless them, (cf. Matthew 26:11)
- 15:12-18** They are to set free after seven years any Hebrew man or woman who has sold themselves as slaves due to indebtedness, and bore a hole in their ear if they choose to remain after the seven years and not be set free
- 15:19-23** All of the firstborn of the flocks and herds are to be saved for sacrifice to the LORD in the place where He chooses, except for any with physical disabilities or blemishes

Luke

- 8:40-48** While on the way to the home of Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue, whose only daughter of about twelve years of age lay dying, Jesus stops to publicly question a woman who had an issue of blood for twelve years and was made whole when she simply touched his garment
- 8:49-56** When Jairus is told that it is too late for his daughter to be healed because she has died, Jesus takes Peter, James, and John with him into the home and restores her to life
- 9:1-6** Jesus then calls his twelve disciples, and after giving them power over all demons and to cure diseases, sends them away to preach the good news of the kingdom of God throughout the towns

Psalm 71:**FORSAKE ME NOT IN MY OLD AGE**

- 71:1-16** The Psalmist (no doubt king David) asks the LORD to not forsake him in his old age, but to deliver him from the hand of the wicked, because the LORD has been his hope from the days of his youth

- 71:17-24** The Psalmist promises to praise the LORD with his harp for answering his prayer

Proverbs

- 12:5** The reliability of advice from those who are righteous and those who are wicked

March 31**Deuteronomy****God's Commandments, Statutes, and Judgments, (continued)**

- 16:1-8** Commands are repeated for observing the Passover and Unleavened Bread
- 16:9-12** Commands are repeated for observing the Feast of Weeks (or Pentecost)
- 16:13-15** Commands are repeated for observing the Feast of Tabernacles (or Booths)
- 16:16-17** All the males are to appear before the LORD three times a year to freely give as God has prospered them (In addition to their first and second tithes)
- 16:18-19** They are to appoint judges and law officers in all of their towns and cities, and not distort justice in their court proceedings
- 16:20-22** They are to avoid planting any grove of trees close to the place where the LORD chooses for them to worship (to avoid the appearance of idolatry), nor are they to erect any idolatrous images
- 17:1** They are to not offer any animal to the LORD that is blemished or one they would reject
- 17:2-7** They are to put to death any man or woman, who -on the testimony of two or three witnesses - are found to be guilty of idolatry
- Note: In a stoning, the victim is stripped naked, hands are bound, paraded out of town, pushed off a nine-foot high scaffold by the first witness, a large stone dropped on his head or chest by the second witness, and then pelted with stones while he is dying by the bystanders, (Ryrie Study Bible Notes)
- 17:8-13** A case is to be brought to the place the LORD chooses, if the judgment seems too difficult for the local authorities to determine
- 17:14-20** If the time comes that they desire a king like the nations around them, instructions are given as to whom they can choose or not choose, and what the king is to do and not do

Luke

- 9:7-9** Herod the Tetrarch wants to meet Jesus, because he hears different rumors about Jesus and is confused as to he is, having beheaded John the Baptist
- 9:10-11** After the apostles return to give a report of all they had done, Jesus takes them for privacy to a place in the desert near Bethsaida, but the crowd follows them
- 9:12-17** Upon teaching them most of the day and healing the sick, Jesus feeds the crowd of five thousand with five loaves and two fishes
- 9:18-22** Later Jesus is alone praying, and requests that his disciples not advertise that he is the Christ, because it is necessary that he first suffer, die, and be raised the third day
- 9:23-27** Jesus challenges them to deny themselves, take up their cross and follow him; for if they are ashamed of him, he will be ashamed of them when he returns to establish God's kingdom – which he says that some standing there will see before they die

Psalm 72:**DAVID'S PRAYER FOR HIS SON SOLOMON**

- 72:1-5** He prays for God to give his son the ability to judge righteously, so that the poor and needy will not be oppressed and the people will fear God
- 72:6-11** That his reign will extend from sea to sea, that his enemies will be defeated, and that all kings and nations will serve him
- 72:12-17** That his name will be blessed forever because he defends the poor and the needy
- 72:18-20** David ends his prayers with praising God's name
- Note: This prayer will ultimately be fulfilled by Christ as David's son, (cf. 2 Samuel 7:16 with Luke 1:30-33)

Proverbs

- 12:8** Who will be praised by others and who will be despised?
- 12:9** A better way to be esteemed than through one's own mouth

April 1**Deuteronomy****God's Commandments, Statutes, and Judgments, (continued)**

- 18:1-5** Since the Levites have no inheritance in the land because they are the LORD's inheritance as His priests, the first fruits of flocks, herds, and crops are to be given to them in the offerings brought by the other tribes
- 18:6-8** When a Levite comes from their area to minister to the LORD in the place where He chooses (at Jerusalem), they are to provide for him to eat equally with the other priests
- 18:9-14** When they come into the land, the Israelites are not sacrifice their children by fire to false gods, nor are they to seek their fortunes by different occult like practices as do the nations around them
- 18:15-19** Moses tells them that the LORD will raise up a prophet like him to be a mediator between them and God, and whoever will not listen to him will be held accountable to God, (cf. Acts 3:22-23)
- 18:20-22** They are to put to death without any fear a person who utters a false prophecy in the name of the LORD, or in the name of other gods
- 19:1-13** Moses repeats the commands of the LORD regarding the Levitical cities of refuge
- 19:14** Removing a neighbor's landmark designating boundaries is prohibited
- 19:15-21** Any person found guilty of giving false testimony in court, is to receive the same punishment as would have occurred had the person he was accusing been guilty
- 20:1-4** The LORD's priest is to remind the Israelites to not fear when they go into battle against an enemy much stronger than they
- 20:5-9** Before they go to battle, they are to allow some for some personal reasons to be exempted from fighting
- 20:10-15** Instructions are given as to how they are to treat cities far away against whom they come, depending upon whether they want to make peace or fight
- 20:16-18** They are to totally destroy the towns and cities of the seven nations God is delivering over to them in the land, so that they are not enticed to worship other gods and copy their pagan practices
- 20:19-20** And when they besiege a city and wish to build a rampart to scale its walls, they are not to cut down any fruit bearing tree

Luke

- 9:28-31** Jesus is joined by Moses and Elijah on a mountain, where he is transfigured before Peter, James, and John
- 9:32-36** They hear the voice of the Father in heaven telling them to only listen to His Son, as a rebuke to Peter for his request to build a tabernacle for all three, Jesus Moses, and Elijah
- 9:37-42** After they come down from the mountain, Jesus rebukes his disciples for not being able to cast out a demon who is tormenting a man's son, and heals him
- 9:43-45** While all are marveling at his power, Jesus reminds his disciples that he must be delivered into the hand of men
- 9:46-48** Jesus uses a child to rebuke his disciples for arguing who will be the greatest
- 9:49-50** Jesus tells John to not forbid a man whom they found to be casting out demons in Jesus' name, because he who is not against them is for them

Psalm 73:**ASAPH REPENTS FOR ENVYING THE PROSPERITY OF THE WICKED**

- 73:1-14** He recounts how his heart was unclean upon seeing the wicked prosper
- 73:15-28** He repents when he ponders their end in the sanctuary of the LORD

Proverbs

- 12:10** A contrast is given the compassion of the righteous with the cruelty of the wicked

April 2**Deuteronomy****God's Commandments, Statutes, and Judgments, (continued)**

- 21:1-9** What the elders of a city nearest to a slain body in the field are to do, in order to not be held guilty in the eyes of the LORD of innocent blood
- 21:10-14** How an Israelite soldier is to treat a captured in war woman, whom he takes into his house
- 21:15-17** What a man who has two wives who bear him sons is not to do regarding giving of the rights of the firstborn to the son of the wife he loves, who is not the firstborn
- 21:18-21** What the parents are to do with a rebellious son, who does not respond to their chastisement, and is a glutton and a drunkard
- 21:22-23** What Israel is to do with the body of a person who has been executed for committing a sin worthy of death
- 22:1-12** What individuals in Israel are to do, and not do, regarding finding lost property, finding a birds nest, building a railing for their roof, sowing their vineyard, plowing their fields, and the wearing of garments
- 22:13-21** What Israel is to do if a man accuses his new wife of not being a virgin
- 22:22-30** What is to be done if a man has sexual relations with a married woman, or a damsel who is betrothed, or a virgin who is not betrothed, or his father's wife

Luke

- 9:51-56** How Jesus responds to James and John on his way to Jerusalem, when they ask Jesus to allow them to command fire to come down from heaven upon a village of the Samaritans
- 9:57-62** How Jesus responds to three more who ask to follow him
- 10:1-12** The instructions Jesus gives to seventy whom He sends two-by-two, to every place that he will come
- 10:1-4 How they are to go
- 10:5-9 How they are to respond if they are received favorably
- 10:10-12 How they are to respond if they are not

Psalm 74:**HOW LONG, O GOD?**

- 74:1-11** Asaph asks God if He has cast off His people forever, after the land has been taken and the Temple destroyed
- 74:12-17** Asaph reflects on what God has done by His power in the past for man's good
- 74:18-23** Asaph pleads with God to deliver them for the sake of His own name

Proverbs

- 12:11** Who will have plenty of bread to eat, and who will not

April 3**Deuteronomy****God's Commandments, Statutes, and Judgments, (continued)**

- 23:1-8** Those who are excluded from entering the congregation of the LORD
- 23:9-14** How a soldier can prevent defiling others when he relieves himself in the field, or accidentally comes in contact with that which is unclean during the night
- 23:15-18** How they are to treat a slave who escapes from his master, and for whom there can be no tolerance for sins which are an abomination before the LORD
- 23:19-23** Lending to a fellow Jew with interest is forbidden, as is failing to fulfill a vow
- 23:24-25** Under what restrictions may one eat of a neighbor's vineyard or corn field
- 24:1-4** Under what restrictions a man may divorce, and if he does, to never be permitted to marry her again
- 24:5-13** Further commands are given pertaining to a new bridegroom, taking pledges for loans, kidnapping, and leprosy
- 24:14-18** Commands are given pertaining to not paying hired servants, not putting children to death for the sins of the fathers (or vice versa, 24:16), and perverting justice for the immigrant, the orphan, and the widow, (24:17-18)
- 24:19-22** Commands regarding being considerate of the immigrant, the orphan, and the widow during harvest, (cf. Ruth 2:15-17)
- 25:1-3** The responsibility of judges to justify the righteous and condemn the wicked, and the extent to which they can lay stripes on the backs of the guilty, (cf. 2 Corinthians 11:24)
- 25:4** Mistreating an ox as he treads out the corn is forbidden, (cf. 1 Corinthians 9:9)
- 25:5-10** A man is to be publicly embarrassed if he refuses to raise up sons for a deceased brother who had no sons, (cf. Ruth 4:1-12)
- 25:11-12** Commands pertaining to limitations upon a wife who intervenes in a physical fight between her husband and another man
- 25:13-16** Commands about the use of unfair balances in business
- 25:17-19** The reason for which the LORD commands the destruction of the Amalekites

Luke

- 10:13-16** The instructions Jesus gives to seventy whom He sends two-by-two, to every place that he will come, (continued)
- 10:17-24** Jesus' responds to the seventy upon their return and enthusiastic report
- 19:25-28** Jesus' responds to a lawyer who tests him by asking what he must do to earn eternal life
- 19:29-37** Jesus illustrates to the lawyer what is meant by the word "neighbor" in the second greatest command of the Law

Psalm 75:**PROMOTION IS OF THE LORD**

- 75:1-3** Asaph gives thanks to the LORD for His coming righteous judgments upon all the earth
- 75:4-8** Asaph warns fools regarding God's judgment
- 75:9-10** Asaph promises to sing praises to the God of Jacob as long as he lives, because of His righteous judgments

Proverbs

- 12:12** The words and deeds of the wicked in contrast to the righteous
- 12:13** A contrast in the way the wicked and the righteous seek to prosper
- 12:14** A contrast in the words of the wicked and the just, and their outcome

April 4**Deuteronomy****God's Commandments, Statutes, and Judgments, (continued)**

- 26:1-11** When the Israelites take possession of their inheritance, what they are required to do regarding the first fruits of their land before they begin to first plant their own seed
- 26:12-15** At the end of every third year, what they are to say when they have given tithes of all their increase to the Levites, the foreigner, the fatherless, and the widows in the gates of their cities
- Note: Every third year a second tithe was kept at home, rather than brought to the sanctuary at Jerusalem

Moses Concludes the Commandments, Statutes, and Judgments

- 26:16-19** Moses concludes by saying they are to keep these statutes and commandments he has just proclaimed, in order that they might demonstrate that they are a peculiar people unto the LORD, and in order that He might promote them to be high above all nations
- Note: “peculiar people” (cf. 1 Peter 2:9)
- 27:1-10** Moses, along with the elders, commands the people to write what they have been given on plastered stones, place them as a witness on Mt. Ebal, and rejoice in the LORD with Burnt and Peace Offerings
- 27:11-13** On that day, six tribes are to proclaim God’s blessing from Mt. Gerizim, and six are to proclaim God’s cursing from Mt. Ebal
- 27:14-26** Twelve curses are given they are to proclaim, and the people are to say “Amen” at the proclamation of each one

Luke

- 10:38-42** When Jesus enters a village (being Bethany) and Martha receives him into her house, he responds to Martha’s request that he ask Mary to help her prepare the meal
- 11:1-13** Jesus repeats some principles to His disciples regarding prayer and God’s answer to prayer that he formerly taught in his Sermon on the Mount (cf. Matthew 6)
- 11:1-4 The Lord’s prayer, (cf. Matthew 6:9-13)
- 11:5-10 Persistence in prayer, (cf. Matthew 6:7-8)
- 11:11-13 God’s promise of the Holy Spirit in answer to prayer, (cf. Matthew 6:9-11)

Psalm 76:**PAY YOUR VOWS TO THE GOD OF JACOB IN JERUSALEM**

- 76:1-3** Because it is in Jerusalem where He dwells and is known for His power
- 76:4-7** Because it is He before whom none may stand when He is angry
- 76:8-10** Because it is He who will judge, save the meek, and make the wrath of man to praise Him
- 76:11-12** Because it is He to whom vows are to be made and fulfilled in the fear of God

Proverbs

- 12:15** A contrast is given between the fool and the wise in their seeking advice
- 12:16** A contrast is given between the fool and the prudent in the verbal expressions of wrath
- 12:17** A contrast is given between and true and false witness

April 5DeuteronomyBlessings and Cursings**28:1-14**Blessings

Moses proclaims the ways in which the LORD will favor them as a nation if they obey all of His commandments

- 28:1-2 By setting them high above all nations
- 28:3-6 By blessing them wherever they are and all that they do
- 28:7-10 By defeating their enemies to the point that all the earth will fear them
- 28:11-14 By multiplying their offspring, their animals, and their crops to where they will lend to many nations and not borrow, and be the head and not the tail; provided that they obey His commands and do not serve other gods

Cursings**28:15-20**

However, the LORD will curse them wherever they are and whatever they do, until they are destroyed, if they turn away from Him and His commandments

28:21-68

The curses are specified

- 28:21-22 With disease and sword
- 28:23-24 With draught
- 28:25-26 With defeat and dispersion to other nations
- 28:27-28 With the diseases of Egypt
- 28:29-34 With loss of all they have
- 28:35-37 With incurable boils and enslavement to other nations
- 28:38-42 With loss of enjoyment of what they do have
- 28:43-44 With having to borrow rather than lend, and be the tail rather than the head
- 28:45-47 All of these curses are a sign to warn of the consequence of turning from God
- 28:48-57 By bringing a nation from afar to besiege them, to the degree that they eat their children for survival
- 28:58-68 By causing them to be plagued with the diseases of Egypt, be reduced to few in number, be dispersed among the nations, and be sold for slaves to other nations from Egypt

Luke**11:14-26**

Jesus responds to those who say that he casts out demons by the power of Beelzebub, the chief of the demons

11:27-28

Jesus responds to a woman who loudly proclaims blessings upon his mother

11:29-32

Jesus gives the sign of Jonah the prophet and the Queen of the South, as a warning to those who refuse to believe unless they see more signs

11:33-36

Jesus warns them that light is not to be hid, but if the light of their eye is dark, then their whole body is full of darkness

Psalm 77:**Asaph's Change in His meditation to Counter Depression****77:1-10**

He recounts the depression he felt when he meditated on his bed at night and wondered if the LORD had cast him off forever

77:11-20

He recounts a decision he made to change what he thought about, in focusing upon the LORD rather than himself

Proverbs**12:18**

Two powerful ways in which the tongue can be used, either for harm or for good

April 6**Deuteronomy****God's Covenant Renewed**

- 29:1-9** Moses challenges all Israel to keep the words of the covenant to do them, in light of what they have seen God do for them since the time of their bondage in Egypt
- 29:10-21** This covenant is for them, their offspring, and their immigrants; but if there be any otherwise minded, the LORD will bring His curse upon them and their land
- 29:22-29** When their children and foreigners ask why God has done this to them, they will learn that it is because they turned away from the LORD and from His law which He revealed to them and not to other nations
- 30:1-5** When Israel turns back to the LORD with all of their heart and soul after they have been scattered throughout the nations, the LORD will regather them from the nations back to the land God promised to give to their fathers, and multiply their number even more
- 30:6-10** Once back in the land, the God will circumcise their hearts and those of their children to love the LORD and continue to live in the land, while punishing the enemies who persecuted them
- 30:11-14** What Moses is asking of them is not difficult, but as simple as confessing with their mouths their agreement to this covenant with God from their hearts, (cf. Romans 10:6-10)
- 30:15-20** Moses concludes by saying that the choice is theirs between good and evil, between life and death

Luke

- 11:37-44** When a Pharisee invites Jesus to eat with him and he marvels that Jesus did not first wash his hands, Jesus pronounces "woe" on the scribes and Pharisees for emphasizing cleanliness on the outward, while being unclean inwardly
- 11:45-52** Jesus also pronounces "woe" on the lawyers who make the lives of the people difficult by adding their own requirements to God's Law, and who are responsible for the blood of God's prophets
- Note: Abel's death is recorded in the first book of the *Hebrew Bible* (Genesis 4) and Zechariah's in the last book of the *Hebrew Bible* (2 Chronicles 24:21). Our English Bibles are arranged differently. Jesus is saying Israel will be held accountable for the murder of all God's prophets as recorded in the Old Testa,emt
- 11:53-54** The scribes and Pharisees continue to test Jesus with questions, hoping to find some way to accuse him by his answers
- 12:1-7** Jesus tells his disciples to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and for them to fear God rather than those who can only kill the body

Psalm 78:**ASAPH'S HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE LORD'S GOODNESS TO ISRAEL**

- 78:1-31** To remind them of God's goodness since the day He divided the Red Sea, and His severity in judging them for provoking Him by their rebellion
- 78:1-8 His call for them to tell their children God's wondrous works in the past
- 78:9-20 To recall Israel's murmuring about their thirst in the wilderness
- 78:21-31 To recall Israel's provoking God in their murmuring about the manna, and in their craving for meat to eat in the wilderness

Proverbs

- 12:19** The importance of speaking truth rather than lies
- 12:20** A contrast between the counsel of those who imagine evil and those who seek peace

April 7**Deuteronomy****The LORD tells Moses to write a Song**

- 31:1-6** Moses tells all Israel on his 120th birthday that he will not be allowed to cross the Jordan with them, but that Joshua will lead them and that they are to not fear to possess the land
- 31:7-8** Moses charges Joshua before the people to be strong and not fear
- 31:9-13** Moses gives a copy of this law to the Levites, and instructs them to read it every seven years to the people, in the years of release from indebtedness, and the Feast of Tabernacles
- 31:14-22** The LORD tells Moses to write a song of the LORD's testimony against Israel regarding their future rebellion after He enables them to possess the land
- 31:23-30** Upon commissioning Joshua to replace him as Israel's leader, he gives the book of the Law to the Levites to place in the Ark as God's witness against Israel

The Words of Moses' Song

- 32:1-6** The greatness of the LORD as Israel's Rock, in comparison to Israel as a perverse and crooked generation, (cf. Acts 2:40)
- 32:7-14** The LORD's bringing Israel into existence and preserving her in the wilderness as His inheritance
- 32:15-18** But Israel's disregarding their Rock after He enables them to prosper, and sacrificing to demons and other gods
- 32:19-27** Their provoking the LORD to where He would destroy them completely, were it not for His foreknowledge of how her enemies would take credit

Luke

- 12:8-10** Jesus tells his disciples that he will confess the names before God's angels in heaven of those who confess his name on earth, but deny those who deny Him and will not forgive those who blaspheme the Holy Spirit
- 12:11-12** The Holy Spirit will teach them what they are to say when they are brought before the Sanhedrin
- 12:13-21** Jesus warns against covetousness for possessions, telling a parable about a rich man who foolishly lays up treasures for this life, but is not rich towards God
- 12:22-31** Jesus instructs his disciples like he did in the Sermon on the Mount, to not worry about God's provision for them as they are seeking first the kingdom of God
- 12:32-34** He tells them to not fear selling what they have and giving alms to the poor, because the treasure God will give them cannot corrupt or be stolen from them, and because their heart will be where their treasure is

Psalm 78:**ASAPH'S HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE LORD'S GOODNESS TO ISRAEL**

- 78:32-39** To remember how the LORD continued to forgive them, even though their expressed repentance was not genuine or lasting
- 78:40-55** To remind them how their fathers would continue to provoke God after He forgave them, forgetting what he had done for them in delivering them from bondage to Egypt, and in forgetting how He enabled them to possess the land of promise

Proverbs

- 12:21** The kind of person whose life will not be filled with trouble, in contrast to the person whose life will be
- 12:22** How God regards the lips of one who lies in contrast to those who speak truth
- 12:23** The kind of person who conceals knowledge in contrast to the person who proclaims foolishness

April 8**Deuteronomy****Moses' Song (continued)**

- 32:28-33** The LORD will avenge the blood of His servants in judging His people for rejecting Him as their Rock, and for their conduct like that of Sodom and Gomorrah
- 32:34-43** Afterwards, the LORD will avenge Israel against the Gentiles who persecuted her

Note: In the Septuagint (the Greek translation by Jews of the Hebrew Old Testament), the beginning of verse 43 is quoted in latter part of Hebrews 1:6, although missing in our English Bibles. The angels of God are commanded to worship Christ who will be born into the world and will one day fulfill this prophecy (upon His victorious return to earth to establish His millennial kingdom), after which the Gentile nations are also commanded to rejoice in God's deliverance of Israel

- 32:44-47** Moses and Joshua rehearse the words of the song to all Israel, after which Moses warns them to heed all his words to them that day, because their lives will depend upon it when they cross the Jordan
- 32:48-52** The LORD tells Moses to go up into Mount Nebo to take one final look at the land Israel will possess, after which he will die like Aaron did on Mount Hor for not sanctifying the LORD before the nation at the waters of Meribah

Luke

- 12:35-40** Jesus uses the illustration of a master, who girds himself to serve at the table those of his servants whom he finds watching for him regardless of the hour in the night, as a warning for his disciples to be ready for his return at an hour they think not
- 12:41-48** Jesus tells Peter and his disciples that he will be like the master who makes his faithful servants ruler over all that he has, but will cut down those who –as unbelievers – think he will delay his coming, as well as beat the believing servants according to what they knew or did not know
- 12:49-53** Jesus tells them that he has come to baptize the earth with fire after he is first baptized with his own baptism, and in the meantime, he will be the cause of division within one's own household
- 12:54-59** Jesus rebukes the people for their observing the weather, yet failing to observe the times in which they live and for not making things right before it is too late

Psalm 78:**ASAPH'S HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE LORD'S GOODNESS TO ISRAEL, (continued)**

- 78:56-64** To remind them how they so provoked Him to jealousy by their idolatry that he abandoned His dwelling at Shiloh and delivered His people into captivity

Proverbs

- 12:24** The work habits by which the diligent rule, while the slothful pay tribute to rulers

April 9**Deuteronomy****Moses' Final Words of Blessing**

33:1-5 Moses blesses the LORD who has given Israel His fiery Law in leading them from Mt. Sinai to Mt. Paran

33:6-25 Moses blesses the tribes of Israel (except for the tribe of Simeon)

- 33:6 The tribe of Reuben
- 33:7 The tribe of Judah
- 33:8-11 The tribe of Levi
- 33:12 The tribe of Benjamin
- 33:13-17 The tribes of Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh) as the firstborn
- 33:18-19 The tribe of Zebulun and Issachar
- 33:20-21 The tribe of Gad
- 33:22 The tribe of Dan
- 33:23 The tribe of Naphtali
- 33:24-25 The tribe of Asher

33:26-29 At the end of his blessing, Moses pays tribute to the God of Jeshurun who will enable Israel to possess the land, ("Jeshurun" is a term of endearment, cf. Isaiah 44:2)

Luke

13:1-5 Jesus responds to those who think that the Galileans in the north who were killed by Pilate, and those on whom the tower of Siloam fell in the south, were worse sinners than they, and that they will escape God's coming judgment

13:6-9 Jesus tells a parable of a fig tree which will be cut down, if after three years it still does not bear fruit in the fourth year

13:10-16 Jesus rebukes a ruler of the synagogue who objects to his healing of a woman on the Sabbath who had been bowed over in her back by a demon for eighteen years

13:17-21 In response to the rejoicing of the people for his healing ministry, Jesus tells two parables of the kingdom of God, likening it to a grain of mustard seed and to leaven which a woman hid in over seven gallons of meal

Note: During the Church Age, the mystery of the kingdom is that Christianity will begin small and grow to fill the earth (like the mustard seed), but that sin will also fill the earth (like the leaven). Such will not be the case when Christ's kingdom is literally established upon the earth during the Millennium

Psalm 78:**78:65-72****ASAPH'S HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE LORD'S GOODNESS TO ISRAEL, (continued)**

However, the LORD awoke as one out of sleep to smite His enemies, build His temple, and choose His servant David to shepherd His people with integrity and skill

Proverbs**12:25**

How a good word affects a depressed heart

April 10**Moses Dies****Deuteronomy**

- 34:1-4** The LORD enables Moses to see all of the land Israel will possess from north to south, on both sides of the Jordan from the top of Mt. Pisgah, but is told that he will not be allowed to go with Israel to possess it
- 34:5-7** Moses dies there in the land of Moab, and the LORD buries him in that land in an unknown location, (cf. Jude 9)
- 34:8-12** Moses dies at the age of 120 years without showing the normal signs of being old, is mourned by Israel for thirty days, is replaced in leadership by Joshua, and is unlike any other prophet whom the LORD knew face-to-face

Joshua

- 1:1-9** The LORD tells Joshua after the death of Moses to go over the Jordan to possess the land, to be strong and courageous, to meditate on the Law of God day and night to obey it, and that He will be with him every step of the way
- 1:10-15** Joshua tells the people to prepare goods to take with them when they cross the Jordan within three days, and reminds the men of the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of the tribe of Manasseh of their responsibility to cross over with them
- 1:16-18** The people promise to hearken to Joshua as they did to Moses, and to execute any who rebel against him
- 2:1-7** Joshua sends two men to spy on Jericho, and when they come to the house of Rahab the harlot, she hides them on the roof of her house from the king of Jericho
- 2:8-13** Rahab tells the spies of her fear of the LORD upon hearing what He did for them at the Red Sea, and against King Sihon and King Og of the Amorites, and requests that they remember her and her household in mercy for the kindness that she has shown them
- 2:14-21** The two spies make an agreement with her and tell her to keep the scarlet colored rope in her window by which she will let them down the wall to escape from Jericho
- 2:22-24** The two spies remain hidden in the mountains for three days until the men of Jericho give up searching for them, after which the spies return and report to Joshua

Luke

- 13:22-30** Jesus responds to a question, asking if there be only a few who are saved, by saying that there will be great grief when the Israelites see many come from all directions to sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and all the prophets of God in the land during the coming kingdom of God, but they themselves will be cast out for not entering the strait gate when it was open to them

- 13:31-35** Jesus prophesies the coming destruction of Jerusalem when some Pharisees tell him to leave because Herod will kill him

- 14:1-6** Jesus heals a man suffering from dropsy on the Sabbath in the house of one of the chief Pharisees, and chides the Pharisees and lawyers for having more compassion for an ass or an ox than for a human being

Note: Dropsy is a swelling of the body due to retention of water

PSALM 79: ASAPH'S PLEA FOR RESTORATION OF JERUSALEM AND THE TEMPLE

- 79:1-4** He describes the future destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple
- 79:5-8** He asks the LORD how long will He be angry, and pleads for the LORD to not remember their former iniquities against them
- 79:9-13** He asks that God purge them of their sins for His name's sake, for their deliverance, and for His retribution upon their enemies around them

Proverbs

- 12:26** A contrast in the way one seeks to influence his neighbor

April 11**Joshua****3:1-6**

Joshua and the people move from Shittim to the Jordan, after three days tells them to distance themselves from the priests and the Levites carrying the ark, and to sanctify themselves because tomorrow the LORD will do wonders for them

3:7-13

The LORD tells Joshua that He will magnify him before Israel that day like He did Moses, after which Joshua tells the people that the LORD will cut off the waters of the Jordan so that they can pass over on dry land as soon as the feet of the priests touch the water

3:14-17

The LORD causes the waters which normally overflow during that time of the year to rise up into a heap, and the priests stand on dry ground until all Israel crosses over

4:1-9

Joshua commands twelve men, one from each tribe, to take a stone from where the priests stand in the Jordan, and also place twelve stones in the Jordan to be a memorial

4:10-13

The priests remain standing in the Jordan until all cross over, of which are 40,000 armed men prepared for war, including the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh

40:14-18

The LORD magnifies Joshua so that the people fear him as they had Moses, and when Joshua commands the priests who carry the ark to come up out of the water, the banks of the Jordan overflow as they had before

4:19-24

Joshua has the men pitch the twelve stones they carried out of the Jordan in Gilgal, and tells them to tell their children what the LORD did for them in the Jordan as He had at the Red Sea

Luke**14:7-11**

Jesus tells those invited to eat in the Pharisee's house a parable, that it is better to humble oneself in where he chooses to sit and be asked to move to a place of honor, than vice versa

14:12-14

Jesus also tells those eating with him to invite into their homes those who are unable to return the favor, and they will be rewarded in the resurrection of the righteous

14:15-24

When one of those sitting with Jesus at the meal comments on the blessing it will be to eat bread in the kingdom of God, Jesus responds with a parable of a king who determines not to allow those he first invited to partake of a great supper because of their excuses

14:25-27

Jesus warns the great multitude following him, that unless a person is willing to count the cost and to take up his cross to do so, he cannot be his disciple

14:28-33

Jesus illustrates the principle of first counting the cost

14:34-35

Jesus uses useless salt to prophesy the Lord's coming rejection of Israel

Psalm 80:**ASAPH'S PRAYER FOR ISRAEL'S RESTORATION****80:1-3**

He calls for the Shepherd of Israel to cause his fact to shine again on Israel and save them from their distress

80:4-7

He asks the LORD how long He will be angry with His people

80:8-13

He compares Israel to a vine God brought out of Egypt, that He has caused to be broken down and eaten by wild animals

80:14-19

He beseeches God to look down from heaven upon the destruction of Israel by fire, and to send the Son of Man at His right hand to save them so that they will not turn away from Him again

Proverbs**12:27**

Why a lazy person is not able to enjoy eating his own catch

12:28

How to prolong life and avoid a premature death

April 12**Joshua****Destruction of Jericho**

- 5:1** How the Amorites west of the Jordan and the Canaanites along the Mediterranean Sea feel when they hear how the Israelites had crossed the Jordan on dry land
- 5:2-9** The reason the LORD commanded Joshua to have all the males be circumcised at Gilgal
- 5:10-12** The Israelites observe their first Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread with the food of the land, after which the LORD ceases to give them manna
- 5:13-15** Joshua encounters the Captain of the Host of the LORD near Jericho and worships him, being told to take off his shoes because he is on holy ground
- 6:1-5** The LORD instructs Joshua on how the men of war will be able to enter the city, after marching around it for seven days
- 6:6-11** The Israelites march around the city on the first day as instructed
- 6:12-14** Their march around the city continues on the second through the sixth day
- 6:15-19** They march around Jericho seven times on the seventh day, and Joshua gives them instructions to spare Rahab and her household, and forbids the taking of spoils, (Leviticus 27:28-29)
- 6:20-25** The wall of Jericho falls when the people shout, all of the inhabitants of the city are destroyed (both human and animal), the city is burnt, Rahab and her household are spared, and the treasures are saved for the House of the LORD
- 6:26-27** Joshua pronounces a curse on anyone who rebuilds the city in the future, and his fame spreads throughout all of the country

The Sin of Achan

- 7:1-5** Thirty-six Israelite soldiers are killed by men from the city of Ai, because Achan took for himself treasures from Jericho which the LORD had forbidden and hid them in his tent
- 7:6-9** Joshua and the elders of Israel lament before the ark of the LORD until even, complaining to God for their defeat
- 7:10-15** The LORD informs Joshua as to the reason for their defeat, and what they must do to remove sin from the camp in order to proceed with possessing the land

Luke

- 15:1-7** When the Pharisees and scribes complain that Jesus receives sinners and eats with them, Jesus tells them a parable of a man who leaves ninety-nine sheep in the fold to find the one which is lost, and rejoices when he finds it
- 15:8-10** Jesus tells another parable of a woman who, having ten pieces of silver, lights a candle, sweeps the floor searching diligently, and rejoices when she finds it
- 15:11-32** Jesus also tells a third parable of a father who rejoices when the son who was a prodigal returns from a life of licentiousness. This is commonly called the parable of "The Prodigal Son"

Psalm 81:**THE LORD'S LAMENT OF WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN FOR ISRAEL**

- 81:1-7** Israel is called upon by the LORD to sing with musical instruments at the time of their Feast Days, about His deliverance of them from Egypt and of His giving them water at Meribah, (cf. Exodus 7:6-7 and Numbers 20:13)
- 81:8-11** The LORD admonishes Israel's refusal to heed His command to not turn to other gods
- 81:12-16** The LORD laments what could have been had Israel hearkened

Proverbs

- 13:1** The kind of son who responds to his father's instruction, and the kind of son who does not respond to rebuke

April 13**Joshua****7:16-26**

Achan, his family, and all that he has are destroyed by stoning and by burning in the valley of Achor (which means “trouble”)

Note: Achan’s family was apparently in on the conspiracy, (cf. Deuteronomy 24:16)

Destruction of Ai**8:1-2**

The LORD permits Joshua to go up against Ai, and now permits Israel to take the spoil
Note: If Achan had only waited

8:3-8

Joshua gives instructions from the LORD regarding the ambush they are to set and the burning of the city

8:9-13

Joshua rises early the next morning and sets the ambush that day into the night
8:14-29
 The ambush succeeds, all in Ai are killed, the city is burned, and the king hanged

Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim**8:30-31**

Joshua then builds an altar to the LORD on Mt. Ebal as instructed by Moses, (cf. Exodus 20:25 and Deuteronomy 27 & 28)

8:32-35

Joshua writes on stones a copy of the Law of Moses and reads all of it with the blessings and curses

Southern Campaign**9:1-2**

Six kings unite to fight against Israel when they hear what has happened to Ai

Luke**16:1-8**

Jesus tells of a steward who is commended for his wise handling of his master’s finances in regards to what people owe, after being at first reprimanded for mismanagement

16:9-13

Jesus warns that such commendation will not be given by God to those who are unjust in the least

16:14-18

The Pharisees who are covetous for money deride Jesus for saying this, to which Jesus responds by telling them that God will not justify them for any disobedience, including men to commit adultery by divorcing their wives for unjust reasons or by marrying women who have been divorced unjustly

Psalm 82:**A WARNING TO THE JUDGES OF THE EARTH****82:1-2**

Asaph asks those, who stand in the place of God to judge their fellow man, how long they will pervert justice

82:3-4

They are instructed how they should judge

82:5-8

They need to know that they will be held accountable for the authority God gives them to judge now, when they will die and stand before God

Proverbs**13:2-3**

The end result of the way in which a man uses his mouth and lips, for good or for bad

April 14**Joshua****Southern Campaign, (continued)**

- 9:3-15** Upon hearing about Jericho and Ai, the Gibeonites who dwell nearby disguise themselves to appear as having come from a great distance, seeking to make a peace treaty with Israel, to which Joshua agrees
- 9:16-21** Upon discovering that the Gibeonites have deceived them, and upon their arrival at their cities, the princes of Israel decide to not destroy them because of their sworn oath in making the treaty, but to allow all them to live in exchange for their being woodcutters and drawers of water
- 9:22-27** Joshua rebukes the Gibeonites for their deception, telling them that they will from that time forth be bondmen to cut wood and draw water for the House of the Lord
- 10:1-5** The king of Jerusalem upon hearing about Jericho, Ai, and the Gibeonites, calls for the kings of Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon to unite with him to war against Gibeon for making peace with Israel
- 10:6-9** The Gibeonites appeal to Joshua, who is assured by the LORD of His protection, and ascends all night to mount a surprise attack
- 10:10-11** The LORD fights for Israel with great hailstones, so that more die from the hail than from the sword
- 10:12-14** Joshua commands the sun and moon to stand still to give them extended daylight to pursue the enemy as far as Makkedah
- 10:15-27** The five kings are blocked into the cave where they fled, and are then executed by Joshua and their bodies hung until even
- 10:28-33** Joshua totally destroys Makkedah, Libnah, Lachish, and Horam – king of Gezer who comes to help Lachish
- 10:34-39** From there Joshua goes on to attack and completely destroy Eglon, Hebron, and Debir
- 10:40-43** Joshua totally destroys all and their kings from Kadesh-barnea unto Gaza, and all the country of Goshen to Gibeon, and returns to Gilgal

Luke

- 16:17-31** Jesus tells about a certain rich man who begs for Lazarus to touch his tongue with cool water, being tormented in the flames of Hades, as a warning to those who do not hearken to Moses and the prophets
- 17:1-4** Jesus warns his disciples against offending any of the little ones who come to him, and also to forgive seven times in a single day a person who repents and asks forgiveness
- 17:5-10** Jesus uses a grain of mustard seed to illustrate the kind of faith his disciples need, as well as their need to serve the LORD without expectation of anything other than it being their duty as unprofitable servants

Psalm 83:**A CONFEDERACY AGAINST ISRAEL**

- 83:1-8** Asaph prays for the LORD to take note of a confederacy of nations surrounding Israel with whom Assur (or Assyria) joins in seeking to annihilate Israel
- 83:9-18** Asaph prays for the LORD to do to them what He has done before to Israel's enemies, that they may know that the name of JEHOVAH is most high over all the earth

Proverbs

- 13:4** A contrast between the sluggard and the diligent in seeing their desires fulfilled

April 15**Joshua**

- 11:1-5** The king of Hazor enlists the support of kings from all directions with all of their armies, to fight against Israel at the waters of Meroni
- 11:6-9** The LORD assures Joshua to not be afraid, and the next day He enables Israel to destroy them all
- 11:10-14** Joshua executes the king of Hazor and the others who joined him, totally destroys and burns Hazor and the other cities of these kings, and only saves the spoil
- 11:15-16** Joshua takes all of the land from the south to the valley of Lebanon under Mt. Hermon in the north, capturing and executing all of their kings, and doing all that the LORD and Moses had commanded him
- 11:17-20** Joshua is at war for a long time because the LORD hardened hearts so that none of the cities sought to make peace, with the exception of the Gibeonites, so that He might destroy them completely
- 11:21-23** All of the Anakim are destroyed in all of the mountains and in all of their cities, except for Gaza, Gath, and Ashdod, so that the land rests from war and Joshua gives it to the Israelites to be divided among their tribes for their inheritance

The Names of the Kings of Canaan Defeated**East of the Jordan**

- 12:1-3** Sihon, king of Heshbon and the Amorites
- 12:4-6** Og, king of Bashan, who was of the remnant of the giants

West of the Jordan

- 12:7-24** Thirty-one kings are named whom Joshua executed and gave their lands to the Israelites for their inheritance

Luke

- 17:11-19** Jesus cleanses ten lepers, of whom only one – a Samaritan – returns to thank him
- 17:20-21** Jesus tells the Pharisees that the kingdom of God does not come through observation of external signs, but for them to look within
- 17:22-26** Jesus tells his disciples to not be deceived after he has suffered, by those who claim that the Son of Man has come, for they will see his coming as lightning shines from one end of heaven to the other
- 17:27-32** He also says that the coming of the Son of Man will be unexpected, as it was in the days of Noah, and as it was in the days of Lot and his wife when the LORD rained fire and brimstone down on Sodom
- 17:33-37** Jesus warns that he who seeks to save his life in that night will lose it, and he who seeks to lose his life will save it, for the Son of Man will leave one behind and take the other away

Psalm 84:**I'D RATHER BE A DOORKEEPER IN GOD'S HOUSE**

- 84:1-4** The Psalmist expresses his longing to be in God's House to praise Him
- 84:5-7** He blesses the man who passes through the valley of Baca to appear before the LORD in Zion
- 84:8-12** He asks the LORD GOD of Hosts to hear his prayer and see that he would rather have a door in His House than have a thousand of his own, and he would rather be a door keeper in God's House than to dwell in the tents of wickedness

Proverbs**13:5-6**

The difference in behavior and outcome of both the righteous and the wicked

April 16**Joshua****13:1-14**

Since Joshua is now old and there is still much land yet to be possessed, the LORD commands Joshua to go ahead and divide the land for an inheritance, with the exception of the tribes who were given an inheritance on the east side of Jordan, and with the exception of the Levites who have no inheritance

13:15-23

The inheritance given to Reuben east of the Jordan is specified

Note: The Israelites killed Balaam along with the Amorites, (cf. Numbers 31:8)

13:24-28

The inheritance given to Gad east of the Jordan is specified

13:29-31

The inheritance given to ½ tribe of Manasseh east of the Jordan is specified

13:32-33

A summary of all the land which was given in the plain of Moab

14:1-5

The land of Canaan west of the Jordan was given according to the casting of lots to the other tribes, with the exception of the Levites – a double portion being given to the sons of Joseph

14:6-15

Caleb requests, and receives permission, to take conquest of Hebron where the Anakim still reside, being as strong at the age of eighty-five as he was when he was forty, in accordance with what Moses had promised because Caleb had wholly followed the LORD

Luke**18:1-8**

Jesus tells a parable of an unjust judge who avenges a widow because of her persistence in coming to him, to point out how God will hear His elect who cry day and night and will send the Son of Man to avenge them speedily

18:9-14

Jesus tells a parable of the prayers of a Pharisee and a publican in the Temple, to warn those who think themselves to be righteous and despise others whom they think to not be righteous

Note: The word translated “merciful” is really the Greek word for propitiation or appeasement of God’s wrath through faith in the blood of the sacrifice, rather than boasting of one’s own works as did the Pharisee, (cf. Romans 3:26). These verses demonstrate why we are to call upon the Lord for salvation, because it requires humility to do so, (cf. Romans 10:9-10, 13)

18:15-17

Jesus tells his disciples to not forbid others who desire to bring their infants to be touched by him, and that whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall not enter it

Psalm 85:**A PRAYER FOR REVIVAL****85:1-7**

A prayer is made for the LORD to revive His people now that they have been forgiven and restored back to the land

85:8-13

Assurance is given that this prayer will be answered, provided that they do not turn again to folly

Note: Verses 8-13 point to the future Millennium

Proverbs**13:7**

One’s claim to be rich, or one’s claim to be poor, may be pretentious

13:8

While a rich man may have to pay a ransom to save his life, a poor man need not be concerned

April 17**Joshua****Joshua Divides the Inheritance, (continued)****The Tribe of Judah****15:1-12**

The borders of Judah are established by the casting of lots

15:13-19

Joshua gives Caleb his inheritance, and Caleb in turn gives his daughter to Othniel, his younger brother, for capturing Debir; and gives the upper and lower springs to her

15:20-32

Twenty-nine cities are listed with their villages in the extreme south towards Edom

Note: The south towards Edom (15:20-32), the foothills (15:33-47), the hill country (15:48-60), and the wilderness down to the Dead Sea (15:61-62)**15:33-47**

Cities are listed that are given to the tribe of Judah in the foothills of the Canaanite valley west of Jerusalem, towards the Mediterranean Sea

15:48-60

Cities in the mountainous region south and north of Jerusalem are also listed

15:61-62

Cities in the desert along the Dead Sea are listed

15:63

But Jerusalem is not given to Judah, because they are unable to drive the Jebusites out

Luke**18:18-27**

A certain very rich ruler walks away from Jesus sorrowfully. when he is told to sell all he has to give to the poor, to follow him, and he will have treasure in heaven

Note: The condition for entering the kingdom while Jesus was on the earth, was repentance for sins and giving one's all to follow Jesus in faith. No one measured up to the standard based upon their own works, so Jesus had to go to the cross to die in man's place to qualify for entrance by simple faith in Jesus alone**18:28-30**

Jesus tells his disciples of the reward in this life and the one to come for those who forsake all and follow him to inherit eternal life in the coming kingdom

18:31-34

Jesus tells his disciples that it is necessary for him to be killed in Jerusalem and rise again the third day (because no one will meet the conditions of 18:28-30)

18:35-43

Jesus heals a blind man near Jericho on his way to Jerusalem

Note: The Gospel of Mark and of Luke speak of only one blind man, his name being Bartimaeus, whereas Matthew speaks of two blind men. The difference in accounts is probably in timing of their healing, (cf. Mark 10:46-52 and Matthew 20:29-34)**Psalm 86:****NO ONE LIKE THE LORD!****86:1-10**

The reason David cries out to the LORD to preserve his life in the day of trouble, is because there is no one like the LORD

86:11-13

David asks the LORD to unite his heart to fear the God and walk in His ways, having delivered him from death in His mercy or lovingkindness

86:14-17

The proud and violent may seek his life, but David is confident that the LORD will deliver him, because He is a compassionate God

Proverbs**13:9**

The light of the righteous in contrast to the lamp of the wicked

13:10

How to avoid strife?

April 18**Joshua****Joshua Divides the Inheritance, (continued)****The Tribes of Joseph**

- 16:1-4** The inheritance of both the sons of Joseph is listed which fell by lot
- 16:5-10** The borders for the tribe of Ephraim are listed, as well as the Canaanites who were not driven out of the city of Gezer, but were made to pay tribute
- 17:1-6** The borders for the tribe of Manasseh are listed, including the daughters of Zelophehad who requested an inheritance as the LORD had commanded Moses, (cf. Numbers 27:1-11)
- 17:7-13** The borders of the tribe of Manasseh in the northern central part of Canaan which were adjacent to the tribe of Ephraim, and the cities they could not possess but required tribute
- 17:14-18** Joshua tells both tribes of Joseph who want more land than what was given them to clear the forest to get more land and to go against the Canaanites to dispossess them in spite of their having chariots of iron (or chariots with iron spikes in their wheels)

The Other Tribes

- 18:1-7** Upon settling down with the Tabernacle at Shiloh, Joshua sends three men from each of the seven tribes who had not yet received their inheritance, to spy out the land not yet possessed and divide it into seven portions for Joshua to give by lot
- 18:8-10** The men return with a book in which all of the cities were divided into seven portions, and Joshua casts lots for their inheritance
- 18:11-20** The borders for the tribe of Benjamin as specified
- 18:21-28** The cities given to the tribe of Benjamin as specified
Note: The LORD positioned the tribe of Benjamin between Judah and Ephraim for the protection of Jerusalem, (cf. Deuteronomy 33:12)

Luke

- 19:1-10** As Jesus passes through Jericho, he invites Zacchaeus to come down from a sycamore tree so that he can go with him to his house for the day
- 19:11-27** Since they think they are about to see the fulfillment of God's kingdom as they approach Jerusalem, Jesus tells a parable to the crowd following him of the future destruction of all who do not accept his rule over them

Psalm 87:**THE LORD'S LOVE FOR ZION**

- 87:1-3** The LORD loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob
- 87:4-6** Special recognition will be given by the LORD to those who are born in Zion
- 87:7** The singers and instrumentalists who lead in worship will be there, and joy in Zion

Proverbs

- 13:11** A promise for those who obtain ill-gotten wealth and for those who labor to get it

April 19**Joshua****Joshua Divides the Inheritance, (continued)**

- 19:1-9** The second lot falls to the tribe of Simeon; their borders, cities, and villages given to them from a portion of the inheritance given to Judah, (cf. Genesis 49:5)
- 19:10-16** The third lot falls to the tribe of Zebulun
- 19:17-23** The fourth lot falls to the tribe of Issachar
- 19:24-31** The fifth lot falls to the tribe of Asher
- 19:32-39** The sixth lot falls to the tribe of Naphtalai
- 19:40-48** The seventh lot falls to the tribe of Dan
- 19:49-51** Joshua is given by his request the city of Timnath-serah in Mount Ephraim, which he built and in which he lived
- 20:1-9** The LORD tells Joshua to designate cities of refuge as commanded by Moses, which are identified by name on both sides of the Jordan

Luke

- 19:28-34** When Jesus ascends up to Jerusalem and comes near Bethany at the Mount of Olives, he sends two of his disciples into a village to find and loose a colt on which no man had sat
- 19:35-38** They cast garments on the colt, Jesus sits thereon, and the crowd spreads their clothes in the way praising God and reciting Psalm 118:26 (A verse sung as pilgrims approached Jerusalem)
- 19:39-40** Jesus answers some of the Pharisees in the crowd who object to what the crowd is reciting
- 19:41-44** Jesus weeps as he beholds the city, prophesying its destruction because they did not recognize the opportunity God has given to them in the coming of Christ
- 19:45-48** When Jesus enters the Temple, he begins to cast the money changers out, causing the chief priests, scribes, and elders to search for a way to destroy him without the people knowing it

Psalm 88:**WILL THE DEAD PRAISE GOD PUBLICLY?**

- 88:1-9** The LORD is cried to, day and night, by one who is near death, because of the wrath of God

88:10-12

He asks how he will be able to publicly praise the LORD if he dies?

Note: These verses describe death for believers prior to Christ's death and resurrection: The human spirit leaves the body, the body corrupts in the grave, and the spirit descends into the heart of the earth. In the latter case today, the spirit departs to be with the Lord in heaven, (2 Corinthians 5:8)

88:13-18

He asks why he LORD has forsaken him?

Proverbs**13:12**

How one's emotions are affected for good, or for bad, when their hope is fulfilled, or delayed

13:13-14

The difference between life or death depends on one's attitude towards God's Law

April 20**Joshua****Joshua Divides the Inheritance, (continued)**

- 21:1-8** Eleazar the priest and Joshua give cities to the descendants of Levi – Kohath, Gershom, and Merari
- 21:9-26** The cities are listed which are given to the Kohathites, with their suburbs
- 21:27-33** The cities are listed which are given to the Gershonites, with their suburbs
- 21:34-42** The cities are listed which are given to the Merarites, with their suburbs
- 21:43-45** So the LORD gives all the land He had promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and gives them rest from all their enemies
- 22:1-9** Joshua bless the Reubenites, the Gadites, and ½ of the Tribe of Manasseh for their fighting as they promised so that the other tribes could obtain their inheritance, and sends them away with a reminder to keep God's Law and serve Him with all of their heart and soul
- 22:10-20** The tribes of Israel gather to fight against the three tribes, when they hear that they built a great altar by the Jordan before crossing it to return to their land

Luke

- 20:1-8** Jesus refuses to answer the chief priests, scribes, and elders of the Temple as to their question challenging his authority, because they refuse to answer his question to them regarding the authority of John to baptize
Note: If they answered "from heaven," they would be self-condemned for not believing John's testimony about Jesus. If they answered "from men," they would be condemned by the people who admired John as a prophet
- 20:9-18** Jesus tells a parable about the lord of a vineyard who destroyed the tenants he left to care for it because of their mistreatment of his servants and his heir, in order to warn them that the same will happen to them for rejecting him as the "Stone" on which the kingdom of God will be established, (cf. Psalm 118:22 in light of Luke 19:38 and Psalm 118:26)
- 20:19-20** The chief priests, scribes, and elders perceive that Jesus is speaking of them, and seek from that hour to destroy him at a time people would not be aware, and in the meantime they send spies to ask questions whereby they might accuse him before the Roman authorities
- 20:21-26** Jesus responds to their inquiry as to whether they should pay tribute to Caesar, or not, in such a way that they are not able to accuse him
Note: A "penny" was the Roman "denarius" coin, which was a silver coin bearing Caesar's image

Psalm 89:**PRAISE GOD FOR HIS ROYAL HOLY SON**

- 89:1-4** The mercy and faithfulness of the LORD is to be praised by song for the covenant He made with David, (cf. 2 Samuel 7)
- 89:5-13** The LORD GOD of Hosts is to be praised for His power as Creator which cannot be matched

Proverbs

- 13:15** Whose way in life obtains favor, and whose way is hard?
- 13:16** Who displays his folly?

April 21**Joshua****Joshua Divides the Inheritance, (continued)****22:21-29**

The children of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh answer that the great altar they built by the Jordan is not for sacrifice, but for a memorial to prevent their being denied entrance in the future to the land of Canaan by the other tribes to worship the LORD

22:30-34

Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, exonerates the three tribes from guilt, causing the other tribes to back off from their intent to attack

Joshua's Final Challenge**23:1-10**

Joshua reminds the leaders of Israel to remember how the LORD has driven their enemies out of the land, to continue to possess all the land, to refuse to recognize false gods, and to cleave to the LORD their God

23:11-16

Joahua warns them that day, the day in which he will die, that just as surely as the LORD has driven out their enemies, He will do the same to them if they intermarry with the Canaanites and follow their gods

Luke**20:27-38**

The Sadducees who do not believe in the resurrection of the dead, ask Jesus a trick question regarding whose wife a woman will be in the resurrection, if she had been married to seven husbands in this life because of their having died before she could give them sons

20:39-40

The scribes acknowledge the truth of Jesus' answer, and dare not ask him any more questions

20:41-44

Jesus in turn asks them a question as to how David could call his son "LORD," (CF. Psalm 110:1)

Note: Jesus was trying to point out to the Pharisees that David's son in the flesh was also David's Lord

20:45-47

Jesus tells his disciples in front of the crowd to beware of the hypocrisy of the scribes

Psalm 89:**PRAISE GOD FOR HIS ROYAL HOLY SON, (continued)****89:14-20**

The LORD is to be praised for anointing the Holy One of Israel, David's Son, as King

89:21-29

The LORD is to be praised for making His firstborn higher than the kings of the earth, and establishing His kingdom forever

89:30-37

While David's sons may transgress and the LORD chasten them for doing so, He will never take the kingdom away from David because of His covenant with him, (cf. 2 Samuel 7:12-16)

Proverbs**13:17**

The importance of sending the right messenger

13:18

The importance of accepting correction

13:19

The reason fools will not see their desires fulfilled

April 22**Joshua****Joshua's Final Challenge, (continued)**

- 24:1-13** Joshua gathers all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, reminding them of how the LORD had taken them from Terah, Abraham's father, who was an idolater, delivered them from bondage to Egypt, and enabled them to possess the land of Canaan on both sides of the Jordan River
- 24:14-25** Joshua makes a covenant with the Israelites to choose to serve the LORD their God, and to put away their idols
- 24:26-28** Joshua writes this covenant in the book of the Law, and erects a great stone by the Tabernacle to serve as a future witness
- 24:29-30** Joshua dies at the age of 110, and is buried at the border of his inheritance in Timnath-serah
- 24:31** Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, the bones of Joseph were buried in Shechem, and Eleazar the son of Aaron also died and was buried by his son Phinehas

Luke

- 21:1-4** Jesus commands the giving of a poor widow over that of rich men who are casting their gifts into the treasury of the Temple
- 21:5-28** Jesus prophesies the destruction of the Temple and Israel's captivity into all nations of the Gentiles, but also of His return in great glory as the Son of Man, (cf. Matthew 24:1-31)
- 21:5-7 Destruction of the Temple they have been admiring
 - 21:8-11 Signs in this world that Jesus is coming soon
 - 21:12-19 Before that, they will be betrayed by unbelieving Jews, stand trial, be imprisoned, and some put to death
 - 21:20-24 Jerusalem will then be destroyed and Jews will again be led into captivity to the Gentile Nations, (which was fulfilled in 70 A.D.)
 - 21:25-28 Further signs in the heavens that Jesus is coming soon

Psalm 89:**PRAISE GOD FOR HIS ROYAL HOLY SON, (Continued)**

- 89:38-45** Yet the LORD has nullified His covenant with David's sons, and has brought to an end their reign
- 89:46-52** The Psalmist asks the LORD how long this will be, appealing for Him to forgive and remember His covenant with David

Proverbs

- 13:20** The importance of one's choice of companions
- 13:21** Consequences of one's choice between doing that which is evil or good
- 13:22** The difference in what happens to the wealth of a good man, in contrast to a sinner

April 23**Judges****Successes and Failures in Conquest of Canaan**

- 1:21** Successes and failures of the tribes of Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin in driving out the inhabitants of the land given to them in the south
- 1:22-36** Successes and failures of the tribes of Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh), Zebulun, Asher, Naphtali and Dan in the north
- 2:1-5** The Angel of the LORD at Bochim tells them the reason they could not drive out all of the inhabitants of Canaan
- 2:6-10** But the Israelites did serve the Lord all the days of Joshua, who died and was buried at 110 years of age

Luke

- 21:29-33** Jesus uses a fig tree to tell his disciples how to know when the kingdom of God is at hand
- 21:34-36** Jesus warns them to avoid anything or anyone who would cause them to not watch for his coming
- 21:37-38** Jesus teaches during the day in the Temple, but stays in the Mount of Olives during the night, and the people gather early in the morning to hear him teach
- 22:1-6** Satan enters into Judas Iscariot who, for pay, reveals how he can betray Jesus without the knowledge of the multitude

Psalm 90:**THE PRAYER OF MOSES**

- 90:1-2** The LORD is God from everlasting to everlasting, before the mountains were brought forth and before the creation of the world
- 90:3-9** In contrast to the eternal existence of God, He causes man to return to the earth like grass because of man's secret sins
- 90:10-12** Because man's years are limited, he needs to number his days and to apply his heart to wisdom
- 90:13-17** So Moses asks the LORD for His mercy, whereby they can be glad for the years in which they have been afflicted, and enjoy the remaining days of their lives

Psalm 91:**GOD'S PROMISE TO PROTECT**

- 91:1-6** From death in battle or from disease, for the one who dwells in the secret place of the Almighty
- 91:7-12** From any harm or plague that might cause thousands of others around him to die, and with the help of God's angels
- 91:13-16** Of His victory and deliverance for those who set their love on Him

Proverbs

- 13:24** What being willing, or not willing, to chastise a son reveals about a father?
- 13:25** Who can enjoy his food, and who is never satisfied?

April 24**Judges****2:10-13****Successes and Failures in Conquest of Canaan, (continued)**

The generation following do not know the LORD or what He has done for them in the past, and they provoke God in forsaking the LORD GOD of their fathers and serving Baals and Ashtoroths, (the plural form in Hebrew for Asherah)

Note: Asherah is the Canaanite goddess equivalent to Ishtar, the queen goddess of the Babylonians. She represents a license to fornication at the idolatrous temples. The plural form indicates that many such idols were in the land

2:14-16

The LORD's anger would wax hot, and He would deliver them into the hands of their enemies, and then would raise up judges to deliver them when they cried out to Him

2:17-19

As soon as the judge died whom He sent to deliver them, they would return to their idolatrous and rebellious ways

2:20-23

It is for these reasons the LORD determined to not drive away all the Canaanites from the land, even during the days of Joshua, but leave some of them in the land to test Israel's commitment to follow the LORD

3:1-4

It would be that, as Israel continues to war in order to possess the land, their commitment to follow the LORD would be tested

3:5-7

The new generation of Israelites intermarried with the daughters of the Canaanites, forgot the LORD their God, and served the Baals and Ashtoroth in groves (or gardens)

Othniel, Ehud, and Shamgar as the LORD's Judge**3:8-11**

The LORD delivers the Israelites into the hands of the king of Mesopotamia for eight years, after which the LORD raises up Othniel – the younger brother of Caleb - to deliver them and they have rest for forty years until he dies (in northern Israel)

3:12-30

The LORD delivers the Israelites into the hands of the king of Moab for eighteen years, after which the LORD raises up Ehud to deliver them when they cried out to the LORD (in southern Israel), and the land had rest for eighty years

3:31

After Ehud dies is Shamgar, who slays 600 Philistines with an ox goad

Luke**22:14-18**

Jesus begins the Passover Supper with his twelve apostles, telling them that he would not eat the Supper again until the kingdom of God, nor would he again drink of the fruit of the vine

22:19-20

Jesus institutes what became known as the Lord's Supper; partaking of the unleavened bread to represent His body, and drinking of the cup of thanksgiving after the Supper to represent His shed blood by which our Lord purchased the New Covenant

22:21-23

Jesus reveals that the hand of the one who will betray him is at the table, and the disciples inquire among themselves as to whom he might be

22:24-30

Jesus takes the place of a servant in leading the Supper, as an illustration to his disciples of the servant attitude they need to have, if they desire to later reign with him

22:31-34

Jesus tells Peter that he prays for him, and that Peter will deny him three times

A SONG TO BE SUNG ON THE SABBATH**Psalm 92:**

To sing with instruments of music both morning and evening for the Lord's lovingkindness towards Israel in the house of the LORD, in contrast to His destruction of Israel's enemies

Psalm 93:**THE LORD REIGNS!****93:1-5**

His reign is everlasting, His might in unsurpassable, and His testimonies are sure

Proverbs**14:1**

A difference in the way a wise woman or a foolish woman manages her house

14:2

A difference in a man who fears the LORD, and the man who does not

April 25**Judges****4:1-2**

Because the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD when Ehud was dead, the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin, King of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor and whose military captain was Sisera, (in northern Israel)

4:3-5

The children of Israel cried to the LORD because Jabin had 900 chariots of iron and had oppressed them for twenty years, so He used Deborah – a prophetess – to judge Israel at that time

4:6-9

Deborah calls for Barak, telling him to take 10,000 men with him from the tribes of Naphtalai and Zebulun, with the assurance from the LORD that Jabin will be delivered into his hands and that Sisera will be killed by a woman

4:10-16

The LORD delivers the entire army of Jabin into the hands of Barak, with none of Jabin's army surviving

4:17-20

Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite – who had made peace with Jabin – invites Sisera into her tent for protection while he was fleeing for his life

4:21-24

Jael hammers a nail into Sisera' temple while he sleeps, shows Barak Sisera's body, and Jabin is subdued that day before the children of Israel

5:1-31

Deborah and Barak sing a song of praise to the LORD for His deliverance, and the land rests from war for forty years

Luke**22:35-38**

Jesus permits his disciples to take two swords with them, enough to give His accusers cause to arrest him as a law breaker, in fulfillment of prophecy, (cf. Isaiah 53:12)

22:39-44

Jesus tells his disciples to pray that they not enter into temptation, while he goes a little ways further and sweats great drops of blood in prayer, so that an angel appears to minister to him

22:45-48

Jesus urges his disciples again to pray when finding that they are sleeping, and as he speaks with them, a crowd comes with Judas to betray him with a kiss

22:49-51

The disciples ask for permission from Jesus to smite them with their swords, and Peter uses his sword to cut off the right ear of the servant of the High Priest, which Jesus replaces and heals

Note: Proving that Jesus was not a law breaker

22:52-53

Jesus asks the religious rulers why they have come against him with swords and clubs, when they saw him every day in the Temple and could have arrested him there

Psalm 94:**THE WICKED WHO THINK THEY ARE GETTING BY, BUT ARE NOT****94:1-7**

The LORD is asked to judge the wicked who think that the LORD doesn't see their cruelty to the helpless

94:8-11

Such fools are to know that the LORD does see and THAT He does punish

94:12-15

On the other hand, the LORD's chastisement is beneficial to those who learn from it

94:16-23

The Psalmist concludes that his survival from those seeking to kill him is because of the help of the LORD

Proverbs**14:3**

How those who are wise are preserved from the verbal abuse of fools?

14:4

Better to have oxen than a clean manger

April 26**Judges****6:1-6**

The LORD delivers the children of Israel into the hands of the Midianites for seven years, who oppress them so much at their times of harvest that they cry to the LORD (in northern Israel)

6:7-10

The LORD sends a prophet to rebuke them for not having driven the Amorites out as He had commanded them in the past

6:11-16

The Angel of the LORD appears to Gideon to tell him that he has been appointed to deliver Israel

6:17-21

The Angel of the LORD ignites the food Gideon brings with fire, as a sign to assure Gideon and departs from Gideon's sight

Note: Only God could ignite offerings to the LORD with fire by Law. Nathan and Abihu died for offering strange fire to the LORD. This is a pre-incarnate appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ

6:22-24

Gideon perceives that he has seen the face of God, is assured that he will not die as result, and builds an altar to commemorate the occasion, (cf. Genesis 32:24-30)

6:25-27

Gideon takes ten men and destroys his father's altar to Baal during the night

6:28-32

Gideon's father, Joash, stops the men of the city from their intent to kill Gideon, telling them to let Baal defend himself if he is a god

6:33-40

Gideon sends for help from the tribes of Manasseh, Asher, Zebulun, and Naphtali to fight the Midianites in the Valley of Jezreel, and asks for two more signs from the LORD involving a fleece he puts on the ground ("signs" are miracles to confirm the message)

Luke**22:54-62**

Peter weeps bitterly after having denied his knowing Jesus, when Jesus looks at him Jesus is abused physically and verbally by the Sanhedrin during the night, is convicted for his saying that he is the Son of God, and is taken away as soon as it is dawn

23:1-7

Pilate finds no fault with Jesus, and sends him to Herod when he learns that Jesus is from Galilee

23:8-12

When Jesus refuses to answer the many questions Herod asks, Herod has Jesus mocked as a king by his soldiers and sends him back to Pilate, who now becomes his friend

Psalm 95:**DON'T HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS AT THE MERIBAH****95:1-5**

The children of Israel, as the sheep of God's flock, are urged to sing praises to their God as the great God and King above all gods

95:6-11

They are warned to not harden their hearts as did the Exodus generation, for which God has promised that they will not enter the future rest He intends to give Israel in the land

Note: Though there is no inscription that says David wrote this psalm, we know that he did, (cf. Hebrews 4:7)

Psalm 96:**THE KING IS COMING!****96:1-13**

All the nations of the earth are told to sing praise to the LORD and to bring Him offerings at His Temple in Zion, (cf. 1 Chronicles 16:23-33)

Note: This is a Messianic Psalm to be fulfilled during the Millennial reign of Christ

Proverbs**14:5**

A faithful witness and a false witness are contrasted

14:6

Who finds it easy to obtain knowledge, and who doesn't?

April 27**Judges****7:1-8**

God has Gideon (also now named Jerubbaal which means “against Baal), reduce his army to 300 men, lest they say that it was by their strength they defeated the Midianites

7:9-15

Gideon that night spies on the camp of the Midianites, and overhears one of the soldiers telling another soldier of having had a dream the night before of their coming defeat, for which Gideon returns to his camp praising the LORD

7:16-23

God gives Gideon a great victory in the middle of the night, having divided his men into three companies surrounding the Midianites, each one blowing their trumpets and breaking the pitchers for their lamps, and then the LORD’s causing the Midianites to kill one another in their confusion

7:24-8:1-3

The men of Ephraim join Gideon in his request to finish their campaign, retake the Jordan River, and behead the two kings, Oreb and Zeeb, and are appeased by his answer as to the reason he did not request their help at the first

8:4-9

Gideon promises to retaliate against the men of Succoth and the men of Penuel for their unwillingness to give bread to his weary soldiers

8:10-12

Gideon destroys the remaining soldiers of the Midianites (15,000 men), having already slain 120,000, and captures Zebah and Zalmunna, kings of Midian

8:13-17

Gideon returns to Succoth, whipping the leaders with thorns and briars from the desert to teach them a lesson, beating down the Tower of Penuel, and killing the men of that city

Luke**23:13-25**

Pilate releases Barabbas instead of Jesus, to satisfy the crowd who shout for the crucifixion of Jesus, even though he tells them that he can find no fault in Jesus

23:26-31

Jesus is taken away to be crucified, with Simon of Cyrene carrying his cross for him, and women who follow and lament for him

23:32-38

Jesus is crucified between two criminals and mocked

23:39-43

Jesus promises the one criminal that he will be with him that day in paradise, because he requested Jesus to do so for him while the other mocked

Note: Paradise is referring to a garden in the underworld, also called Abraham’s Bosom, where the departed spirits of believers were reserved until Jesus came to bring them to the Father, (cf. John 14:6)

Psalm 97:**REJOICE! THE LORD REIGNS!****97:1-7**

The earth is told to rejoice when the LORD comes to judge in righteousness and confound those who worship false gods

97:8-12

Zion is also to rejoice for His being exalted far above all gods, and for His deliverance of those who love Him from the wicked

Proverbs**14:7**

When a person should leave the presence of a foolish man?

14:8

The discernment of the prudent, and the lack thereof of fools

April 28**Judges****Gideon as the LORD's Judge, (continued)**

- 8:18-21** Gideon slays the two Midianite kings, Zebah and Zalmunna, and takes the ornaments upon his camel's necks
- 8:22-23** Gideon declines the offer by the men of Israel to rule over them, saying that the LORD will rule over them
- 8:24-27** Gideon does request any earrings and raiment that the men took from the Midianites who as Ishmaelites were traveling merchants (Genesis 37:25-28), and makes an ephod which becomes a source of idolatry for the Israelites and a snare to the house of Gideon, (cf. Joshua 6:18)
- 8:28-32** Midian is subdued for forty years during the days of Gideon who dies as an old man, having seventy sons and one son of a concubine from Shechem named Abimelech
- 8:33-35** As soon as Gideon is dead, the children of Israel forsake the LORD, make Baal-berith their god, and do not show any kindness to the sons of Gideon
- 9:1-6** Abimelech goes to the brethren of his mother in Shechem, and persuades the men of Shechem to kill all of Gideon's sons and make him king, with only the youngest son Jotham escaping
- 9:7-21** Jotham proclaims a parable about trees to foretell the destruction of Abimelech, the men of Shechem, and the tower of Millo, and then runs away to Beer for fear of Abimelech

Luke

- 23:44-46** Jesus dismisses his spirit after the sun has been darkened for three hours, and the veil of the temple has been rent in the middle, ("sixth hour . . . unto the ninth" = 12:00-3:00 p.m.)
- 23:47-49** The Roman centurion in charge of the crucifixion declares that Jesus was surely a righteous man, as well as others who witnessed the crucifixion
- 23:50-54** Joseph of Arimathaea is given permission to take down the body of Jesus and bury it in a sepulchre of stone above ground before the Sabbath, Friday evening
- 23:55-56** The women of Galilee who witnessed the crucifixion see where the body of Jesus is taken, and leave to prepare spices and ointments for their return after the Sabbath
- 24:1-7** Very early Sunday morning the women find that the stone is rolled away, enter the tomb to see that Jesus is not there, and are told by two men who suddenly appear in shining raiment that Jesus has risen as he had told them back in Galilee
- 24:8-12** The women remember the words of Jesus, go to tell the eleven disciples and all of the rest with them, but are not believed. However Peter runs to the tomb to check out their story

Psalm 99:**CALL ON THE LORD'S NAME WHO REIGNS IN ZION!**

- 99:1-5** Because He is high, holy, and righteous in His judgments
- 99:6-9** Because He is the same who answered the prays of Moses, Aaron, and Samuel

Proverbs

- 14:9** Who experiences the favor of God, and who does not?
- 14:10** Who only knows how he feels down deep in his heart?

April 29**Judges****9:22-24**

After three years the LORD sends an evil spirit to stir up a controversy between Abimelech and the men of Shechem, in order that He might bring the blood of Gideon's sons down upon their heads

9:25-29

The men of Shechem conspire against the rule of Abimelech and the ruler he put in charge of their city named Zebul, (cf. Genesis 34:25-29)

9:30-41

Zebul alerts Abimelech as to the conspiracy, and the next day Abimelech comes upon the city with a surprise attack wounding many, and expelling the conspirators

9:42-49

Abimelech then destroys the city and burns the Tower where many have fled for refuge, killing about a thousand people

9:50-54

Abimelech also captures the city of Thebez and while besieging the tower in the midst of the city, is killed by his servant at his request for having been severely wounded by a millstone cast from the tower by a woman

9:56-57

Jotham's curse is fulfilled, (cf. Judges 9:7-21)

Tola and Jair as the Lord's Judges, (northern Israel)**10:1-2**

Tola judges Israel for twenty-three years, dies and is buried in Mount Ephraim

10:3-5

After Tola dies, Jair judges Israel for twenty two years, has thirty sons over thirty cities that are named after him in the land of Gilead, and they ride on thirty donkeys

10:6-9

The Israelites are delivered by the LORD into the hands of the Philistines and the Ammonites on both sides of the Jordan for eighteen years, because of their worship of false gods

10:10-14

The LORD reminds them that He delivered them in the past when they cried out to Him, but that He would not do so this time

10:15-18

However, when the Israelites acknowledge their sin and put away their gods to serve the LORD, the LORD has compassion on them as the Ammonites have assembled in Gilead to attack

Luke**24:13-32**

Jesus suddenly appears to two disciples on their way from Jerusalem to Emmaus, eats with them at their house, and when their eyes are opened to recognize him as he breaks the bread and blesses it, he vanishes from their sight

24:33-43

The two return to Jerusalem to testify as Peter has just done, that they have seen the Lord, and as they are speaking Jesus suddenly appears in their midst and convinces them that it is he as they watch him eat a piece of broiled fish and honeycomb

24:44-49

Jesus teaches the disciples from the three divisions of the Hebrew Old Testament Scriptures which foretold of his death and resurrection, and then commissions them to proclaim repentance and forgiveness of sins to all nations, and to be his witnesses of what they have seen and heard; but to stay in Jerusalem to receive the Holy Spirit

24:50-53

After taking them as far as Bethany, he blesses them and ascends into heaven, and they return to Jerusalem with great joy and rejoice continually in the Temple

Psalm 100:**100:1-3**

Rejoice with loud singing that Israel's LORD is the true God

100:4-5

Enter into the gates of His Temple with thanksgiving and praise for goodness, mercy, and truth

Proverbs**14:11**

Two promises, one for the house of the wicked, and one for the house of the upright

14:12

The end result of the person who decides to go in the way that he seems right

April 30**Judges****11:1-3**

Personal information is given about Jephthah, the Gileadite

11:4-10

The elders of Gilead promise to make Jephthah their head and captain, if he will join them in their fight against the Ammonites

11:11-13

Jephthah is made head and captain, and sends messengers to the king of Ammon to inquire as to the reason they have assembled to fight against the Israelites, to which the king accuses the Israelites of having taken the land from them

11:14-23

Jephthah reminds the king of how the king of Edom, the king of Moab, and Sihon king of the Amorites had treated Israel when they tried to pass peacefully through their land on their way to Canaan

11:24-28

Jephthah challenges the king of Ammon to consider why his god Chemosh could not defend their land against the God of Israel, to consider that for three hundred years the king of Moab has not fought against Israel for taking their land, and that the LORD will judge that day in the battle between the Israelites and Ammon

11:29-31

Jephthah makes a vow to sacrifice as a burnt offering whatever comes out of his house first to greet him upon his victorious return

11:32-33

Jephthah defeats the Ammonites with a great slaughter in twenty of their cities

11:34-35

Jephthah bewails the vow he made when it is his only daughter who first comes out of the house to celebrate his return

Note: *Ryrie Study Bible:* Could be translated “surely be the LORD’s {if a human}, or I will offer it up for a burnt offering (if an animal)

11:36-40

While Jephthah thought he would be sacrificing an animal to the LORD, he nevertheless must fulfill his vow to give his daughter over to the LORD for the rest of her life, and allows his daughter at her request to go away for two months to mourn the fact that she will remain a virgin

12:1-7

Jephthah is victorious against the men of Ephraim who are angry with Jephthah for not including them in his battle and great victory, and judges the Israelites for six years

Ibzan, Elon, and Abdon as the Lord’s Judges (east of Jordan)**12:8-10**

After Jephthah dies, Ibzan of Bethlehem judges Israel for seven years), has thirty sons, and arranges for their marriage to women from elsewhere who are not of Israel

12:11-12

After Ibzan dies, Elon the Zebulonite judges Israel for ten years

12:13-15

After Elon dies, Abdon judges Israel for eight years, having forty sons and thirty nephews who ride on seventy donkeys, (a sign of rank and influence, cf. 10:4)

Jesus is the Divine Son of God, (John 20:31)**John****1:1-5**

The Word whose life penetrated the darkness of man on earth, is the one who was in the beginning with God, was God, and created everything

1:6-18

The apostle John testifies of how he became convinced that Jesus Christ is indeed God in the flesh, (Note especially verses 15-18)

1:19-28

A written record John had of John the Baptist’s testimony to the Pharisees and Levites regarding his authority from God to baptize as a way to get Israel’s attention

Psalm 101:**DAVID’S VOW OF COMMITMENT AS KING****101:1-3**

To set no wicked thing before his eyes (evidently after his sin of adultery)

101:4-6

To only work with those who are not wicked

101:7-8

To reject any who are deceitful in his house and to expel the wicked from Jerusalem

Proverbs**14:13-14**

The negative consequences to the person who goes his own way, (cf. 14:12)

May 1**Judges****13:1**

The LORD delivers Israel into the hands of the Philistines for forty years

13:2-5

The angel of the LORD appears to the wife of Manoah, telling her that she who has been barren will have a son, and that he is to be treated as a Nazarite from the time of his conception and birth

13:6-14

Upon hearing from his wife of this event, Manoah prays that God will send the man of God back to them , which the LORD does

13:15-23

Both Manoah and his wife worship when they see him ignite the food they prepared to eat on a rock and ascend up to heaven in the flames, believing they have seen God, (cf. Genesis 32:30)

13:24-25

After Samson is born and grows into manhood, the Spirit of the LORD moves upon him at times (to give him unusual muscular strength)

14:1-4

Samson's parents object to his desire to marry a Philistine woman of Timnath, not realizing that this desire of his was from the LORD who would use Samson to punish the Philistines for their dominion over the Israelites

14:5-9

On a journey to see this woman, the Spirit of the LORD enables Samson to tear apart a young lion, and later eats honey out of the carcass

14:10-14

At the seven-day marriage feast. Samson challenges thirty men of the Philistines who have been invited to solve a riddle he made up about the lion and the honey within seven days, the reward being thirty sheets and thirty raiment for him or for them

14:15-17

The Philistines threaten Samson's new wife with burning her and her father's house, if she does not get him to tell them the answer to the riddle, which she does by weeping every day during the feast

14:18-20

Samson realizes what the Philistines have done to his wife when they solve the riddle on the seventh day, and in anger goes to the city of Ashkelon, kills thirty of the Philistine men of the city, gives their raiment to the men at the feast, returns to his home, and his wife is then given to his Philistine friend

John**1:29-34**

John the Baptist publicly proclaims Jesus to be the promised Lamb of God, and testifies how he too became convinced that Jesus was the divine Son of God

1:35-37

John the Baptist tells two of his disciples the next day to follow Jesus

Note: The apostle John chooses to not reveal his name (in humility, cf. John 20:4)**1:38-42**

Andrew introduces Jesus as the Christ to his brother Peter, whom Jesus renames as Cephas

1:43-44

Jesus calls for Philip to follow him back to Galilee, in that he is from Bethsaida – the city of Peter and Andrew

1:45-46

Philip challenges Nathanael to come and see for himself that Jesus is the Christ

1:47-51

Jesus convinces Nathanael that he is the Christ, the Son of God

Psalm 102:**A PRAYER OF THE AFFLICTED, WHEN OVERWHELMED****102:1-11**

The Psalmist describes his affliction

102:12-22

The Psalmist looks forward to the day when the LORD delivers Zion in His mercy on those who are afflicted, for which the kingdoms of the world will praise the LORD

102:23-28

The Psalmist prays for extension of his own life in light of the truth that the LORD endures forever

Proverbs**14:15-16**

The difference in discernment between the simple and the wise

May 2**Judges****Samson as the Lord's Judge (continued)**

- 15:1-2** Samson later discovers that his wife's father has given her to his Philistine friend, because he thought that Samson had left the festivities hating her
- 15:3-6** Samson takes revenge on the Philistines by burning their corn fields with 300 foxes, whose tails he set on fire; for which the Philistines blame the father of his wife for making Samson angry, burn him and Samson's wife to death
- 15:7-8** Samson again takes revenge on the Philistines, slaughtering many of them
- 15:9-13** When the Philistines come against Judah with three thousand seeking Samson, Samson allows the men of Judah to bind him and deliver him to the Philistines
- 15:14-17** The Spirit of the LORD comes mightily upon Samson to break the cords that bind him, and kills 1000 Philistines with the jawbone of a donkey
- 15:18-20** Samson becomes weak with thirst and cries to the LORD, and the LORD causes water to spring forth from the ground; Samson goes on to judge Israel for twenty years
- 16:1-3** When the Philistines hear that Samson has entered the house of a prostitute in Gaza, they intend to kill him in the morning, but he rises at midnight and carries the doors to the gates of the city with their two posts to the top of a hill before Hebron
- 16:4-5** The Philistines offer to make Delilah rich, a prostitute whom Samson has fallen in love With, if she succeeds in getting Samson to reveal the secret of his strength
- 16:6-14** Samson deceives Delilah three times into thinking that he has revealed his secret to her, and he escapes the trap that she sets for him with the Philistines
- 16:15-20** Samson finally reveals his secret to Delilah due to her nagging, after which she cuts his hair while he is resting his head on her lap; Samson loses his strength, not knowing that the LORD had departed from him
- 16:21-25** The Philistines capture Samson, put out his eyes, force him to grind meal in the prison, and assemble to praise their false god – not noticing that his hair had begun to grow again
- 16:26-31** Samson's final prayer for strength is answered by the LORD, and Samson pushes a pillar on each side of the idolatrous temple to bring down the roof and kill 3000 Philistines – more than the number he had killed prior to his capture

John**2:1-12**

Jesus begins his miracles in Cana of Galilee by turning water into wine at a marriage feast, after which he goes down to Capernaum for a few days with his mother, his brothers, and his disciples

Note: It is assumed that Joseph has died

2:13-17

Jesus goes up to Jerusalem with his disciples and drives out the money changers at the Temple, (cf. Psalm 69:9)

2:18-22

They also recall how Jesus had said that he would raise the temple after its destruction in three days, not knowing that he was referring to his body

2:23-25

Many at the Passover in Jerusalem believe in his name when they see the miracles that he does, but Jesus does not believe in them because he knows what is in their hearts

Psalm 103:**BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL!****103:1-5**

David tells himself to personally bless the LOR for all His benefits and forgiveness

103:6-17

David tells all who are oppressed to bless the LORD for His mercy

103:18-22

David tells the angels and all creation to bless the LORD

Proverbs**14:19**

The future demise of those who are quick tempered, simple minded, and wicked

May 3**Judges**

Note: *The rest of the book of Judges illustrates the extent of sinfulness of the Israelites when there is no king and everyone does that which is right in his own eyes*

Micah the Ephraimite

- 17:1-6** A man named Micah of Ephraim has a graven image and a molten image in his house, makes a priestly garment and installs one of his sons to be his household priest
- 17:7-13** Micah later invites a Levite traveling from Bethlehem to live with him and be the priest for his household, thinking that the LORD will bless him
- 18:1-6** Five men from the tribe of Dan go to spy out the land which they have not yet possessed, and receive the Levite's blessing when they come to Micah's house and tell him their intention
- 18:7-13** After spying out the land, the men return to their tribe, take 600 armed men from the tribe of Dan with them, and return to Micah's house
- 18:14-21** The men steal Micah's images and priestly garments, and persuade the Levite to join them and become their priest
- 18:22-26** Micah pursues them to retrieve all he has lost, but returns when he sees that those of the tribe of Dan are too strong for him
- 18:27-29** The Danites come to a quiet people at Laish, kill them all, burn the city, build a city they name after "Dan," the father of their tribe, and set up for themselves Micah's garden image all the time that the LORD's house was at Shiloh

John

- 3:1-8** Nicodemus, a Pharisee, comes to Jesus by night and is told by the Lord that he must be born again, which is a spiritual rather than a physical birth
- 3:9-16** Jesus uses the illustration of Moses lifting up the serpent in the wilderness, to illustrate that whoever believes in him will not perish, but have everlasting life
- 3:17-21** Jesus explains the reason men will be condemned, even though he came not to condemn; it is because men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil

Psalm 104: **BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL!**

- 104:1-3** For His glory in person
- 104:4-9** For His initial creation, (cf. Genesis 1:9-10)
- 104:10-23** For His watchful care over His creation

Proverbs

- 14:20-21** Blessed is the man who has mercy on the poor, because the poor do not have many friends

May 4**Judges****The Benjaminite War**

- 19:1-9** A Levite from Ephraim travels to Bethlehem to be restored to a concubine he married, who has been unfaithful to him and has left him to go to her father
- 19:10-21** Upon his returning with her, he stays overnight in Gibeah in the land of Benjamin, and is invited to stay in the house of an old man who notices them in the street with no place to stay
- 19:22-25** Some perverted men demand that the old man deliver the Levite to them so that they might know him (in a homosexual way); the Levite fears for his life and offers his concubine to them whom they sexually abuse all night until dawn
Note: The phrase “sons of Belial” means worthless or lawless men; in this case Idolatrous, homosexual men, (cf., Deuteronomy 13:13)
- 19:26-30** The Levite finds his concubine dead at the door of the house, takes her body with him to his home, cuts her body up into twelve portions, and sends them to all Israel with his message of what has happened
- 20:1-11** The leaders of the twelve tribes assemble at Mizpeh with 400,000 armed men, promising to not return to their tents or to their homes until they have destroyed the city of Gibeah
- 20:12-17** The tribe of Benjamin gather 26,000 men of valor, along with 700 left-handed sharp shooters with slings, to fight the rest of Israel rather than turn over the men who sexually abused the concubine; 26,000 against 400,000
- 20:18-25** The Israelites consult the LORD who tells them to fight the Benjamites with Judah in the forefront, but does not assure them of victory; the Israelites lose 22,000 men the first day and 18,000 the second
- 20:26-46** After they come to the Tabernacle to pray, fast, and offer sacrifice, the LORD enables them to kill 25,000 of the tribe of Benjamin
- 20:47-48** Four months later, 600 more Benjamites are killed at Rock Rimmon, their cities burned, and their animals destroyed

John

- 3:22-24** After these things, Jesus goes into Judea with his disciples and baptizes, as does John the Baptist farther north along the Jordan, there being much water there at that time
- 3:25-36** John the Baptist tells his disciples that the attention of Israel to his ministry needs to be decreased, while attention to the ministry of Jesus must be increased - the issue being everlasting life or God's condemnation at stake

Psalm 104: BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL, (continued)

- 104:24-30** For the dependence of His creatures upon him for daily food and life
- 104:31-35** The Psalmist promises to sing praise to the LORD as long as he lives, and prays that sinners will be removed from the earth

May 5**Judges****21:1-7**

The nation mourns the potential loss of the tribe of Benjamin, because most of their men have been killed and because they have vowed to not permit their daughters to marry any of the survivors

21:8-15

Twelve thousand Israelites massacred the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead on the other side of Jordan because they did not come to Mizpeh to help fight the tribe of Benjamin, yet spared 400 virgins to marry the Benjamites so the tribe would not be lost

21:16-25

The remaining unmarried Benjamites are told to capture daughters of Shiloh who come to take part in the religious festivities, so that in their not voluntarily giving their daughters in marriage they do not break their vow to the LORD. In those days everyone did what was right in his own eyes because there was no king

Note: The last verse of this chapter summarizes the content of this book

Ruth**Naomi's Ten Year Sojourn in Moab****1:1-5**

Nomi of Judah is married to Elimelech, who takes her and their two sons to Moab because of a famine. Naomi's husband dies and her two sons who marry women of Moab, also die; one of whom is Ruth

Naomi Returns to Judah**1:6-8**

Naomi decides to return to Judah, insisting that her two daughters-in-law remain in Moab and remarry

1:9-18

Orphah decides to stay behind in Mob, but Ruth insists on going with Naomi

1:19-22

When Naomi and Ruth return, Naomi wants to be called another name which expresses the bitterness of her life since leaving Judah to go to Moab

John**4:4-26**

Jesus encounters a woman from Samaria who had come to draw water at Jacob's well, and offers her living water if she would believe him to be the Messiah or Christ

4:27-38

When the woman returns to the city and his disciples return from getting food for lunch, Jesus teaches them that taking the time to win others to Christ is more important than eating

4:39-42

Many Samaritans come to hear Jesus after hearing the testimony of the Samaritan woman, and come to believe even more after hearing him

Psalm 105:**PRAISE THE LORD FOR REMEMBERING HIS COVENANT****105:1-7**

God's people are urged to publicly praise the God of Abraham and Jacob as their God

105:8-15

They are to give thanks for His protection to possess the land of Canaan when they were few in number

Proverbs**14:25**

The importance of being a true witness in court

May 6**Ruth****Ruth and Boaz**

- 2:1-3** Ruth gleans behind the reapers in the field of Boaz, who is related to Naomi by her marriage to Elimelech, (cf. Leviticus:19:9-10)
- 2:4-17** Boaz meets Ruth and shows favor to her because of what he hears about her
- 2:18-23** Naomi approves, realizing Boaz to be a near relative
Note: A close relative would be required to fulfill the requirements of Deuteronomy 25:5-10
- 3:1-9** Naomi advises Ruth on how to request that Boaz marry her
- 3:10-18** Boaz agrees to marry Ruth, but informs her that he will have to first inform a closer relative to Naomi than he, in order to work out with him a legal way to do so
- 4:1-12** The close relative gives up his right to marry Ruth before the city council, making it possible for Boaz to marry her
Note: The reason the nearest kinsman gave up his rights to Boaz is because he would have to purchase and maintain the property of Naomi's husband Elimelech, as well as his own, and also be responsible to marry Ruth and provide for her family
- 4:13-22** Boaz marries Ruth and has a son named Obed, who becomes king David's grandfather in the line of Christ, (cf. Matthew 1:5-6)

John

- 4:43-45** Jesus goes from Samaria to Galilee, receives no honor in his own country of Nazareth, but the Galileans do receive him
- 4:46-54** Jesus comes again to Cana of Galilee where he turns the water into wine, and performs a second miracle in healing a nobleman's son who was sick in the city of Capernaum
Note: This is new, fresh, non-fermented wine from grapes. The Law of God warned against drinking strong drink (Proverbs 20:1), and the Jews had rules for diluting stored wine to prevent drinking strong drink dilution to prevent drinking wine; three parts water to one part wine. One would have to drink a lot to get drunk, (Ephesians 5:18)

Psalm 105:**PRAISE THE LORD FOR REMEMBERING HIS COVENANT, (continued)**

- 105:16-24** They are to praise Him for preserving the nation from famine through Joseph in Egypt
- 105:25-36** They are to praise Him for sending plagues upon Egypt through Moses and Aaron

Proverbs**14:26**

How having a healthy fear of the LORD affects one's children

14:27

Having a healthy fear of the LORD, a matter of life and death

May 7**1 Samuel****Samuel's birth and dedication to the LORD**

- 1:1-5** Elkanah's favoritism for his wife Hannah over his other wife Peninnah, even though Penninnah had borne him sons and daughters and Hannah was barren
- 1:6-8** Hannah's grief year by year due to Peninnah's jealous rivalry
- 1:9-18** Hannah's vow to the LORD if He gave her a son
- 1:19-23** Hannah's giving birth to, naming of, and weaning of Samuel during his infancy
- 1:24-28** Hannah's fulfillment of her vow regarding Samuel
- 2:1-11** Hannah's prayer of praise upon fulfilling her vow
- 2:12-17** The abuse of the sacrificial offerings by Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas
- 2:18-21** God's blessing on Hannah for her dedication of Samuel to the LORD, in giving her three additional sons and two daughters

John

- 5:1-9** Jesus heals a man who had been crippled for thirty-eight years at the Pool of Bethesda during the Feast days at Jerusalem
- 5:10-18** The Jews react negatively to Jesus' healing on the Sabbath and for his claiming that God was his Father, making him equal with God
- 5:19-23** Jesus points out that his miracles are not only his Father's testimony that he is God's divine Son, but that he has been given the power of life and death by His Father in the final day of judgment

Psalm 105:**PRAISE THE LORD FOR REMEMBERING HIS COVENANT, (continued)**

- 105:37-45** They are to praise Him for providing for them, from the time they left Egypt to the time they possessed the land of Canaan, so that they might keep His commandments

Proverbs

- 14:28** The importance of the size of a nation to a king
- 14:29** A reason to avoid having a short temper

May 8**Samuel becomes God's priest****1 Samuel**

- 2:22-26** God's contempt, and that of the people, for the sons of Eli in contrast to favor towards Samuel
- 2:27-36** A man of God rebukes Eli and forecasts the LORD's judgment to come upon his two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, as well as the LORD's choice of a priest to replace Eli and his sons
- 3:1-9** The LORD calls for Samuel three times during the night and Samuel thinks it is the voice of Eli
- 3:10-14** The LORD reveals to Samuel His intent for Eli and his sons
- 3:15-18** At Eli's insistence the next morning, Samuel informs him of what the LORD told him – even though he didn't want to do so
- 3:19-21** The LORD from that time appears to Samuel at the tabernacle in Shiloh, and the people recognize Samuel to be God's prophet

The Downfall of Eli's House

- 4:1-4** The Israelites take the Ark and Eli's sons with them to battle the Philistines, because they have just lost 4,000 of their men in battle with the Philistines
- 4:5-11** When the Philistines see the Ark, they choose to fight to the death rather than become the slaves of the Israelites, and are victorious in killing 30,000 of the Israelite men and in capturing the Ark
- 4:12-18** Eli falls backwards from his chair at the age of 98, being very heavy, when he hears about the death of his sons, the defeat of Israel, and the capture of the Ark by the Philistines
- 4:19-22** The wife of Phinehas begins labor when she hears of the death of her husband and Eli her father-in-law, names her son "Ichabod," and dies in childbirth
Note: The name "Ichabod" means "the glory has departed"

John

- 5:24-27** Jesus says he will raise in the first resurrection those to whom he will give life because they heard and believed in him and his Father who sent him
Note: The 1st resurrection is unto life, and the second is unto condemnation, separated by a thousand years (cf. Revelation 20:1-7)
- 5:28-29** Jesus will then raise in a second resurrection those whom he will condemn for their own works, because they did not believe in him or the Father who sent him. Paul says the same, (cf. Romans 2:5-10)
- 5:30-47** Jesus accuses the Jews of not believing the testimony of John the Baptist (5:30-35), nor the evidence of his miracles (5:36), nor the testimony of the Old Testament Scriptures concerning him (5:37-41), because they do not love the Father who has sent him (5:42-47)

Psalm 106:

- 106:1-3** A call to give thanks to the LORD for His enduring mercy
- 106:4-5** A personal request for the LORD's favor
- 106:6-12** A recounting of the LORD's mercy in delivering Israel from bondage to the Egyptians and through the waters of the Red Sea, in spite of Israel's rebellion at the Red Sea

Proverbs

- 14:30** The importance of one's heart spiritually to one's physical health
- 14:31** The reflection of one's attitude towards his Maker in his treatment of the poor

May 9**Philistines Return the Ark they Captured**

- 1 Samuel**
- 5:1-5** The Philistine priests of the false god Dagon place the Ark next to the image in the temple of Dagon at Ashdod, and avoid the area where the image falls twice before the Ark
- 5:6-12** The Philistines decide to return the Ark to Israel after having been smitten by the LORD with emerods or tumors in the cities of Ashdod, Gath, and Ekron
- 6:1-9** In order to stay the plague after seven months, the priests and diviners suggest sending the Ark back on a new cart pulled by two untrained milk cows, and place on the cart a trespass offering of five golden tumors and five golden mice, whereby they will know by the direction the cows go whether the tumors are from the LORD
- 6:10-18** The cows go straight to the Levitical city of Beth-shemesh where the men of that city offer burnt offerings to the LORD of everything on the cart, and the large stone on which the Ark is placed becomes a memorial to the Israelites of this event
- 6:19-7:2** The men of Beth-shemesh send for the men of Kirjath-jearim to come and get the Ark where it remains for twenty years, after the LORD kills 50,170 men for looking in the Ark
- Revival in Israel**
- 7:3-4** Samuel tells the Israelites what they must do to be delivered by the LORD from the Philistines
- 7:5-11** After the Israelites comply, Samuel calls for them to gather at Mizpah for a day of fasting and prayer, and while Samuel offers a Burnt Offering and cries out to God, the LORD enables the Israelites to put to flight the Philistines
- 7:12-14** Samuel sets up a stone for a memorial, the cities which the Philistines had captured are restored to Israel, and there is peace all the days of Samuel

John

- 6:1-14** Jesus feeds over 5,000 on the other side of the Sea of Galilee or Tiberias, with five loaves and two fish, and with twelve baskets being left over
- 6:15-21** Jesus walks on the waters of the Sea of Galilee during that evening after a time alone with God for prayer, and rescues his disciples who are caught in the midst of a severe storm while on their way by boat to the city of Capernaum

Psalm 106:**A PLEA FOR ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE FROM CAPTIVITY, (continued)**

- 106:13-23** The Psalmist recounts Israel's rebellion in the wilderness while on their journey to the land of promise, and Moses' intercession to God on behalf of the nation (Exodus 32:11-14)
- 106:24-31** The Psalmist recounts Israel's continued rebellion after refusing to enter the land of promise, and the reason the LORD imputes righteousness to Phinehas (Numbers 25:7-8, for which the LORD later appoints him to be the blood line through whom the high priests will come)
- Note: The same zeal for the LORD's holiness is the reason the LORD appointed the tribe of Levi to be the priestly tribe for the nation of Israel (Exodus 32:25-29)

Proverbs

- 14:32** The difference between the wicked and the righteous in facing death
- 14:33** The difference between the wise and the fool in their eagerness to broadcast to others what they know

May 10**1 Samuel**

- 8:1-9** The reason Israel seeks for a king when Samuel is old, and the LORD's response
- 8:10-18** Samuel's warning to Israel of how a king will treat them
- 8:19-22** Israel's continued insistence for a king and the LORD's response
- 9:1-10** How Saul, a Benjamite, ends up in the area where Samuel resides while hunting his father's lost donkeys (in the providence of God)
- 9:11-14** How Saul and those with him locate where Samuel is (again, in the providence of God)
- 9:15-19** How Samuel knows that Saul is the LORD's choice for Israel's king
- 9:20-21** Why Saul questions how he could be the LORD's choice
- 9:22-27** After dining with Samuel and staying overnight in Samuel's home, Samuel requests that he speak alone with Saul as they are leaving town

John

- 6:22-29** The multitudes Jesus fed cross the Sea of Galilee to find Jesus at Capernaum, and upon questioning why Jesus left them, are rebuked for their seeking food that perishes rather than the bread he as the Son of Man can give them for eternal life
- 6:30-40** Jesus reveals to them that it is the Father, and not Moses, who gave them manna in the wilderness, and that the Father has sent him to be the Bread of Life to whoever believes in him
- 6:41-42** The Jews murmur among themselves, questioning how Jesus could be the Father's Bread from heaven, when they believe him to be Joseph's son

Psalm 106: **A PLEA FOR ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE FROM CAPTIVITY, (continued)**

- 106:32-33** The Psalmist recounts how Israel provoked the LORD at the waters of Meribah, causing Moses himself to be judged harshly by the LORD, (Numbers 20:2-13)
- 106:34-39** Furthermore, when God gave them the land, they did not destroy the pagan inhabitants as the LORD had commanded (Judges 1:21-36), but adopted their idolatrous practices – even to the extent of sacrificing their own children to demons, (2 Kings 17:17)
- 106:40-43** The Psalmist says these are the reasons the LORD delivered Israel into the hands of their enemies
- 106:44-46** Yet the Psalmist acknowledges how the LORD continued time and again to deliver Israel when they cried out unto Him
- 106:47-48** The Psalmist concludes with a plea for the LORD's future deliverance of Israel from captivity to the nations

Proverbs

- 14:34** What causes a nation to be exalted and what causes it to become a reproach?
- 14:35** How to attract a king's favor or his wrath?

May 11**1 Samuel****10:1-8**

Samuel anoints Saul and gives him four signs on his return to know the LORD is with Him
The signs Samuel prophesied come to pass, and a proverb is circulated about Saul being a prophet when the Spirit comes upon him and he prophesies

10:14-16

Upon his return, Saul reports how his father's donkeys were found, but does not mention his anointing by Samuel

10:17-22

Samuel gathers Israel to Mizpah to present Saul as the LORD's choice for king, but the LORD has to first tell Samuel where Saul is hiding

10:23-27

When Saul is brought to Samuel, he stands head and shoulder above all others, is presented to Israel as their king, and Saul does not speak against those who do not support him

11:1-11

The LORD enables Saul to crush the Ammonites who have besieged the city of Jabesh-Gilead

11:12-13

Saul refuses to allow those opposed to him to be executed, and credits the LORD for their deliverance

11:14-15

All of the people gather at Samuel's request to Gilgal, and Saul is proclaimed to be king of all Israel with great celebration and sacrifice to the LORD

Note: Note the contrast in Saul now, and what he becomes later

John**6:43-51**

Jesus informs the Jews that no one can come to him unless the Father draws them, and no one can see the Father apart from their faith in him as the Living Bread whom the Father has sent, and who will give his life to provide eternal life

Note: Only those who are willing to be taught of the Father will be drawn to Christ by the Father, (cf. 6:45 with 5:35-47 and Proverbs 1:7)

6:52-59

The Jews argue among themselves over statements by Jesus regarding the need to partake of his flesh and his blood to receive this life

6:60-65

Jesus explains that it is the Spirit who gives life, that the flesh profits nothing, and that the words he is speaking are spirit and life (in other words, he is referring to one's partaking of the spiritual life which will be provided by his body and his blood)

6:66-71

Many of the disciples cease following Jesus, but Peter in speaking for the Twelve say they will not leave Jesus because he has the words of eternal life; to which Jesus responds by saying that one of them is a devil (or adversary of Jesus, referring to Judas Iscariot)

Psalm 107:**THE LORD IS GOOD!****107:1-9**

When He regathers the dispersed of Israel from the east, west, north, and south to the land of promise

107:10-32

Enabling them through suffering and affliction, when they cry out to Him, to come from where they are among the nations to the land of promise

107:33-41

Demonstrating His power over nature to curse and to bless the land; to destroy the wicked, including princes, and deliver the needy of His people

107:42-43

The difference in response to the lovingkindness of the LORD when this prophecy is fulfilled, by those who are wise and those who are unrighteous

Proverbs**15:1**

The way to appease one's wrath, and the way to stir up more anger

15:2

The benefit of hearing the words of the wise, and the lack of benefit in listening to the words of fools

15:3

The "unseen eye" on what we do and say

May 12**1 Samuel****Samuel's Reminder to Israel**

- 12:1-15** To Israel of . . .
 12:1-5 His blameless service to them for the LORD from the time of his youth
 12:6-12 The LORD's deliverance of them since the days of Moses and Aaron when they cried out to the LORD
- 12:13-18** Samuel admonishes all of Israel and king Saul to obey the LORD and not rebel, and the LORD answers his prayer with thunder and rain to show Israel their wickedness in asking for a king
- 12:19-25** The people ask Samuel to pray for them that they die not, and Samuel responds by saying that he would be sinning against the LORD if he ceased praying for them
- The LORD's REJECTION OF SAUL**
- 13:1-5** The reason Saul summons all Israel to Gilgal
13:6-9 Saul takes it upon himself to offer a Burnt Offering to the LORD when Samuel does not appear at the appointed time
13:10-14 Samuel rebukes Saul when he arrives and informs Saul that instead of the LORD causing his kingdom to last, God will find Him a man after His own heart to rule over Israel
13:15-22 None of the Israelites had sword or spear except for Saul and Jonathan, and the reason why

John

- 7:1-14** Jesus stays in Galilee rather than go to Jerusalem for the beginning of the Feast of Tabernacles, in that there are those in Judea who wish to kill him, Jesus waits until after his sarcastic and unbelieving brothers depart, to go secretly and show up in the midst of the Feast at the Temple and begin teaching
Note: Jesus saying that his time has not yet come is a reference to his coming death
- 7:15-24** Jesus challenges those opposed to him for his healing on the Sabbath, by asking them why they are so angry when they circumcise on the Sabbath (Leviticus 12:3)
- 7:25-29** Jesus tells them the reason they do not know him is because they do not know the Father Who has sent him

Psalm 108:**DAVID'S PRAYER FOR EDOM'S DESTRUCTION**

- 108:1-6** David begins with a song of praise to the LORD for His past lovingkindness and deliverance
- 108:7-9** God has spoken of His determination to protect the Israelites against Moab and Edom to the east of Jordan, and Philistia on the west along the Mediterranean
- 108:10-13** David then prays for the LORD to go before him in his fight against Edom

Proverbs**15:4**

How the tongue can be like a tree of life or crush one's spirit?

May 13**1 Samuel****THE LORD'S REJECTION OF KING SAUL, (continued)**

- 13:23-14:15** The Philistines tremble with fear at Michmash when Jonathan and his armor bearer by faith cross over to their garrison unbeknown to Saul, and kill twenty of the Philistine soldiers
- 14:16-23** Upon seeing the commotion in the Philistine camp, Saul chooses to not wait to hear from the LORD, but comes to the battle with 600 men with him, and the LORD delivers Israel that day
- 14:24-30** Jonathan is strengthened for the battle after tasting honey, not knowing that Saul has vowed a curse upon any of his men who eat until he is avenged of his enemies; Jonathan tells his father that not allowing the men to eat when being weary and famished will cause their victory to not be as great
- 14:31-35** After killing the Philistines all the way from Michmash to Aijalon, and being famished to the point of eating animals they capture with the blood, Saul has them bring the oxen they capture to be slain on a large stone and partaken of without blood, after which he builds his first altar to the LORD
- 14:36-42** When the LORD does not respond to Saul's inquiry as to whether they should continue to pursue the Philistines by night until they are all killed, Saul discovers by the casting of lots that Jonathan has eaten in violation of his command
- 14:43-46** The people refuse to allow Saul to put his son Jonathan to death, crediting Jonathan with bringing about their great victory
- 14:47-48** Saul continues to prevail in battle against all of his enemies on every side of Israel
- 14:49-52** The names of Saul's family are listed, and since he was continually at war with the Philistines, he drafted any valiant men he saw into his army

John

- 7:30-36** Jesus tells those seeking to kill him that his hour has not yet come, and when it does and he goes to the Father Who sent him, they will seek him and will not find him because where he is they cannot come
- 7:37-39** On the last day of the Feast, Jesus offers the Spirit after he is glorified to give living water on the inside to anyone who thirsts and believes in him
- 7:40-44** The multitude hearing Jesus argue among themselves as to whether Jesus is the Prophet (cf. Deuteronomy 18:18-19) or the Christ
- 7:45-53** The chief priests and Pharisees challenge the Temple officers as to why they didn't try to seize Jesus, and accuse them and Nicodemus of having been led astray by his teaching

Psalm 109:**DAVID'S PRAYER REGARDING BETRAYERS**

- 109:1-5** David complains to the LORD about those who have betrayed him
- 109:6-20** David requests God's curse to come upon them, (cf. Acts 1:16 in reference to Judas)
- 109:21-31** David requests God's help personally, for which he will give thanks to the LORD

Proverbs

- 15:5** What kind of son despises his father's instruction?
- 15:6** To whom increased income will be a blessing or a curse?
- 15:7** Why the lips of the wise disperse knowledge, but not the lips of the foolish?

May 14**1 Samuel****THE LORD'S REJECTION OF KING SAUL, (continued)**

- 15:1-3** The LORD commands Saul to strike Amalek and destroy them all, including the animals, for the way in which they treated Israel on their way to the land of Promise from Egypt
- 15:4-9** Saul spares the Kenites because they had shown kindness to Israel, but destroys all of the Amalekites except for Agag the king, and except for the best of the animals
- 15:10-12** The LORD sends Samuel to inform Saul that He has repented making Saul king, which Samuel does reluctantly, and finds Saul at Gilgal after Saul had made a monument to himself at Carmel
- 15:13-23** Samuel rebukes Saul for rebellion against the LORD after Saul first pretends to have obeyed the LORD, and then blames the people for his disobedience
- 15:24-31** Saul pleads with Samuel to honor him before the people, even tearing Samuel's robe as Samuel turns away to go to his home
- 15:32-35** Samuel kills Agag with the sword, returns to his home, and does not see Saul again until the day of his death, although he continues to grieve over Saul
- 16:1-5** The LORD sends Samuel to Bethlehem to sacrifice to the LORD and to anoint one of the sons of Jesse to replace Saul
- 16:6-13** After the LORD rejects all of Jesse's other sons, David is called from tending the sheep, and Samuel obeys the LORD's command to anoint David
- 16:14-23** The Spirit of the LORD departs from Saul, and an evil spirit comes upon him to torment him continually, and when Saul requests a skilled musician play for him to ease his torment, David is selected and is allowed by Jesse to play any time Saul requests

John

- 8:1-11** Jesus forgives a woman caught in the act of adultery after her Pharisee accusers stop demanding that she be stoned, and leave silently one-by-one
Note: This is probably because Jesus stoops down to write their names in the sand, one-by-one, indicating he knew that they themselves were not without sin, and could expose them
- 8:12-20** Jesus claims that his testimony about himself, and that of his Father, are one and the same; and even though they tried to seize him in the Temple, they could not because his hour had not yet come

Psalm 110:**GOD'S HIGH PRIEST AFTER THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEC**

- 110:1-3** The LORD (Jehovah the Father) says to His Lord (Adonai, His Divine Son) seated at His right hand, to sit beside Him on his throne until it is time for God to make his enemies his footstool and rule from the land of Zion, (cf. Hebrews 1:13)
Note: David's Lord who is seated at the Jehovah's right hand is Jesus. The reason David does not call his name "Jesus" is because that name was not given to him until he was born
- 110:4** The LORD (Jehovah) has sworn a divine oath in His own name to make His Son a priest forever after the order of Melchizedec, (cf. Hebrews 5:6)
- 110:5-7** His Son will then come to earth, shatter kings, and rule among the nations

Proverbs

- 15:8** Whose sacrifice is an abomination to the LORD, and whose prayer is His delight?
- 15:9** Whose way is an abomination to the LORD and whose way does He love?
- 15:10** Who grieves at being corrected, and what will happen to the one who hates reproof?

May 15**1 Samuel****DAVID AND GOLIATH**

- 17:1-11** The Philistine giant Goliath, from the city of Gath, challenges Saul and his soldiers in the valley of Elah to a fight, to determine whether the Philistines will serve Israel or Israel serve the Philistines
- 17:12-25** David hears Goliath's challenge when he is sent by his father to give food to three older brothers who were in Saul's army
- 17:26-30** Eliab, David's oldest brother, rebukes David for inquiring as to who will take up the challenge to kill Goliath who dares to taunt the armies of the living God
- 17:31-38** When Saul hears about David's inquiry, he summons David who tells Saul how the LORD has delivered him while tending sheep from both a lion and a bear, and will deliver him from Goliath
- 17:39-40** David rejects using Saul's armor, choosing instead to take five smooth stones with him and a sling to meet Goliath
- 17:41-47** When Goliath mocks David and curses him by his gods, David proclaims that his God will deliver Goliath into his hands, that he will cut off Goliath's head, and that he will give the dead bodies of the Philistines afterwards to the fowl of the air and to the beasts of the field; in this all will know that the LORD does not deliver by sword or by spear
- 17:48-54** David kills Goliath with one stone from his sling, beheads Goliath, and the emboldened men of Israel then pursue and kill the Philistines all the way from Gath to Ekron
- 17:55-18:4** This time Saul requests Jesse's permission for David come live in his house

John

- 8:21-24** Jesus warns the Jews again that they will seek him after he goes away, and will not find him, but die in their sins unless they believe in him
- 8:25-30** Jesus says that when they lift up the Son of Man (to die on the cross) they will then know that it is he, and that what he has been telling them of the Father is true; many believe on him

Psalm 111: **THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM**

- 111:1-6** The Psalmist commits to publicly praise the LORD for His great works, His righteousness, His compassion, and His faithfulness to remember His covenant (to Abraham and David)
- 111:7-10** The Psalmist goes on to declare why the fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom

Proverbs**15:11**

Why one should not doubt that the LORD sees man's heart?

Note: The words for "hell" and "destruction" in the Hebrew text are "Sheol" (or "Hades" in the Greek) and "Abaddon," referring to the deceased in the underworld

May 16**SAUL'S JEALOUSY OF DAVID**

- 1 Samuel**
- 18:5-9** Saul's attitude towards David changes after he hears women coming out of the cities cheering David's conquests more than Saul's
- 18:10-16** Saul tries to kill David twice with a spear when an evil spirit from the LORD comes upon him, but then fears David when it becomes apparent to him and all the people that the LORD is with him
- 18:17-19** Saul gives his older daughter to another man whom he had formerly promised to give to David when he killed Goliath, when David declines to meet Saul's additional requirements hoping that David would be killed in battle by the Philistines
- 18:20-26** When Saul hears that his daughter Michal loves David, he offers David a second chance to become his son-in-law, provided that he brings 100 Philistine foreskins as a dowry, hoping that David will be killed in battle
- 18:27-30** David meets Saul's requirement and Saul gives Michal to David for his wife, after which Saul views David as his enemy
- 19:1-7** After Saul commands Jonathan and his servants to kill David, Jonathan reasons with Saul and persuades him to change his mind, so that David is allowed to be in Saul's presence
- 19:8-10** Saul tries to kill David again, when an evil spirit from the LORD comes upon him after David wins another great victory over the Philistines; David flees from Saul
- 19:11-17** Michal uses an idol to deceive Saul's servants into thinking that David is sleeping, after she first warns David that Saul is seeking to kill him in the morning and lets him down from a window to escape
- 19:18-24** When the Spirit of the LORD causes men he sends to kill David to prophesy instead, Saul himself goes and is also made to prophesy before Samuel naked all day, so that men ask if Saul is one of the prophets, (but this time sarcastically, cf. 1 Samuel 10:10)

John

- 8:31-32** Jesus tells those who are believing him that if they continue to believe his words, they will truly be his disciples, and that by knowing the truth, the truth will set them free
- 8:33-36** They respond by saying that as the offspring of Abraham they have never been the slaves of anyone, to which Jesus tells them that whoever commits sin is the slave of sin
- 8:37-47** Jesus tells those seeking to kill him that they are not truly Abraham's offspring, that God is not their Father, and that their father is the Devil who is both a liar and a murderer from the beginning
- Note: Their comment that they have not been born of fornication is their way of saying they do not believe Jesus was born of a virgin, v.41
- 8:48-59** The Jews accuse Jesus of having a demon when he claims that those who believe in him will never die, and they try to stone him when he says that he was before Abraham

PSALM 112:**THE IMPORTANCE OF FEARING THE LORD**

- 112:1-9** The Psalmist praises the LORD for the blessings that will come upon the person who fears the LORD and demonstrates it in his behavior
- 112:10** The Psalmist describes the vexation that will come to the wicked when they see it

Proverbs

- 15:12** The kind of person a scowler does not love, nor consult for advice
- 15:13** The effect of one's emotions, for good or for bad, upon a person's countenance
- 15:14** Whose heart seeks knowledge and whose mouth feeds on foolishness

May 17**1 Samuel**

- 20:1-17** David and Jonathan make a covenant of friendship because of their love for one another
- 20:18-23** Jonathan suggests a plan whereby David can know if it is safe for him to return to Saul's house
- 20:24-34** Jonathan becomes convinced that Saul intends to kill David after his father throws a spear at him while they are eating, accusing him of favoring David
- 20:35-42** Jonathan lets David know by shooting arrows beyond David that it is not safe for him to return to Saul's house: they part in tears and assure each other of their commitment to one another

DAVID'S FLIGHT FROM SAUL**To Abimelech**

- 21:1-9** Abimelech the priest give David the bread, that is normally only allowed for priests to Eat, and also gives him Goliath's sword for David's protection, an action which Doeg the Edomite sees who is Saul's chief shepherd, (cf. Psalm 52)

To Achish, King of Gath

- 21:10-15** David flees to Achish, thinking Saul would never seek for him there, but then pretends 'to be insane when he hears that the men of the city remind Achish of how David became popular in Israel, (evidently when they see Goliath's sword, cf. Psalm 34)

John

- 9:1-12** Jesus heals a man on the Sabbath who has been blind from his birth
- 9:13-17** The Pharisees inquire as to who healed him, saying he could not be of the LORD in that he healed on the Sabbath
- 9:18-23** They call for his parents to verify that the man is their son, but they refuse to say who healed him for fear they will be kicked out of the synagogue
- 9:24-34** The Pharisees call the man a second time, and when he testifies that the one who healed him must be of God, they remove him from the synagogue
- 9:35-38** Jesus finds the man afterwards, reveals that it is he who healed him, and the man believes that Jesus is the Son of Man and worships him
- 9:39-41** Jesus tells the Pharisees they remain in their sins, because they think they see when they are really blind

PSALM 113:**WHO IS LIKE UNTO THE LORD?**

- 113:1-4** The Psalmist exhorts the LORD's servants (the priests) to praise the name of the LORD all day, every day, because of His glory
- 113:5-9** The Psalmist goes on to describe why there is none like the LORD

PSALM 114:**LET NATURE TREMBLE BEFORE THE LORD!**

- 114:1-6** Because of what the LORD did to the Red Sea, the Jordan River, and to the hills and mountains of Judah and Israel in order to enable them to possess the land
- 114:7-8** The earth is called upon to tremble at the presence of the LORD, who also caused a pool of water to come out of a rock

Proverbs

- 15:15** How one's circumstances can affect one's attitude towards life?
- 15:16** What is better than wealth to those who fear the LORD?
- 15:17** When a plate of vegetables is better than a steak dinner?

May 18**DAVID'S FLIGHT FROM SAUL, (continued)****1 Samuel****To the forests of Hareth**

- 22:1-3** David goes from Gath to the cave of Adullam where all of his father's household come to stay with him and 400 Israelite men, (who are in distress and discontented, 1 Samuel 22 or 24)
- 22:4-5** David requests that the king of Moab allow his parents to stay with him , which the king does all the time that David is in the strongholds of the forest; then David returns to the land of Judah when told to do so by the prophet Gad
- 22:6-10** Doeg the Edomite reports to Saul what Abimelech did in helping David, (Psalm 52)
- 22:11-19** Doeg kills Abimelech and 85 of the priests at the command of Saul
- 22:20-23** Abiathar alone escapes and flees to David who promises him safety from Saul
- 23:1-5** After first consulting with the LORD, David goes to the city of Keilah to deliver them from the Philistines who are plundering them at the time of harvest
- 23:6-12** David is warned by the LORD that Saul will come with his men to the city, thinking that David will be trapped inside, and also warns David that the inhabitants of the city will betray him to save themselves
- 23:13-14** David and his men return to the forests of Hareth, in the region of Ziph, and though Saul seeks relentlessly to find him, the LORD continues to deliver David from his hands
- 23:15-18** Jonathan finds David, encourages him to not be afraid of Saul because the LORD is with him, and the two renew their covenant of friendship before the LORD
- 23:19-23** The Ziphites come to Saul and offer to help him find David
- 23:24-29** Saul has David surrounded at a mountain in Maon (which will later be named as the "Rock of Escape"), but when a messenger comes to inform him of an attack elsewhere by the Philistines, Saul departs with his men to fight them; David escapes to Engedi

John

- 10:1-10** Jesus warns the Jews against trying to enter the sheepfold by any other way than the door, and that he is the door
- 10:11-18** Jesus says also that he is the good shepherd who will lay down his life for the sheep in contrast to the hirelings, and that when he does, he will bring others into the fold who are not Jews, (a prophesy of the Church after Pentecost)
- 10:19-21** The Jews again divide between themselves over Jesus, many saying that he has a demon, and others saying that a demon could not open the eyes of the blind as has Jesus

PSALM 115: PRAISE YOUR CREATOR, NOT WORTHLESS IDOLS!

- 115:1-8** The Psalmist calls for giving glory to the name of the LORD for His mercy and truth, and contrasts Him with the worthless idols worshipped by man
- 115:9-15** The Psalmist calls on Israel, the priests of Aaron, and all who fear the LORD to trust in their Creator to bless them
- 115:16-18** The Psalmist calls for all still living to bless the LORD from that time forth and forever

PROVERBS

- 15:18** Who stirs up strife, and who appeases anger?
- 15:19** A reason to follow the way of the righteous rather than the way of the slothful?

May 19**DAVID'S FLIGHT FROM SAUL, (continued)****1 Samuel****24:1-8**

Saul and his men return to pursue David in the wilderness of Engedi, and David spares Saul's life in a cave but cuts off a piece of his robe

24:9-15

David uses the cut robe as evidence outside the cave to prove that those who have been telling Saul that David is trying to kill him, are lying

24:16-22

Saul acknowledges that David is right, that David will become king of Israel, and requests that David swear an oath to not destroy his household

The wilderness of Paran**25:1-8**

Samuel dies and is buried, after which David goes down to the wilderness of Paran, sends ten men to request some sheepskins from Nabal (a very rich man, and who is married to Abigail -a very beautiful woman and intelligent)

25:9-13

Nabal sarcastically sends David's men back empty handed, for which David arms his men to seek revenge

25:14-35

Abigail goes to David without the knowledge of her husband, to tell him of Nabal's foolishness, of her innocence and that of her household, and to urge him to not seek personal revenge which he will regret when the LORD avenges David of his enemies; for which David blesses her

25:36-38

Abigail informs Nabal the next morning after hosting a drinking festival during the night, and as she speaks he suffers a paralyzing stroke and dies by the hand of the LORD ten days later

25:39-44

David proposes to Abigail and she becomes David's wife as well as another woman of Jezreel, but loses Michal in marriage to another man because of Saul

John**10:22-30**

Soon following the Feast of Tabernacles, at the Feast of Dedication, Jesus tells the Jews that the reason they do not believe him is because they are not of his sheep who follow him, that he will give them eternal life and that no one will be able to snatch them from his or his Father's hands because they are one

10:31-39

The Jews try to stone him for making himself equal with God; Jesus tells them that if they won't believe him, to believe his works

10:42

Jesus departs Jerusalem for the other side of the Jordan River where John began baptizing, and many believe on him there

PSALM 116:**THE LORD IS TO BE LOVED****116:1-8**

The Psalmist loves the LORD for delivering him from death when he called upon Him

116:9-19

The Psalmist commits to worship the LORD publicly in Jerusalem and pay his vows

Proverbs**15:20**

What kind of son makes his father happy, and what kind despises his mother?

15:21

Who chooses a life of folly, and who chooses to walk uprightly?

May 20**DAVID'S FLIGHT FROM SAUL, (continued)****1 Samuel**

- 26:1-12** The Ziphites inform Saul as to David's location, and David spares Saul's life again as he and his men are sleeping in the hill of Hachilah
- 26:13-16** David uses Saul's spear and jug of water he confiscated while Saul was sleeping to rebuke Abner, his guard on duty for not protecting Saul, telling him he should be put to death
- 26:17-28** David rebukes Saul for pursuing him still, and Saul acknowledges his sin and promises to keep David safe if he will return to the house of Saul; David wisely declines
- Back in Gath**
- 27:1-7** David returns to Gath with his wives and men, and is given the city of Ziklag by King Achish where he lives for a year and four months
- 27:8-12** David raids tribes in northern Sinai, destroying them completely, and causing King Achish to trust David's loyalty
- 28:1-7a** The Philistines camp against Saul and his army, and because Samuel has died and Saul has removed mediums and spiritists from the land, he requests that his men locate a woman for him who has a medium
- 28:7b-11** When Saul is told of such a woman in Endor, he disguises himself, and upon visiting her requests that she bring up Samuel from below
- 28:12-19** Samuel comes up and rebukes Saul, telling him that the LORD will give his kingdom into the hands of David, and that Saul and his sons will die in battle the next day
- 28:20-25** The woman fixes a last meal for Saul and his men with him, because Saul falls to the floor in great fear, and because he has not eaten all day

John

- 11:1-6** Jesus, upon being informed that Lazarus has died, delays another two days before crossing the Jordan to go to the home of Lazarus in Bethany
- 11:7-16** Jesus causes his disciples to think that Lazarus is simply sleeping, but on the way tells them that Lazarus is dead and the reason he has delayed his return
- 11:17-27** Jesus comforts Martha upon his arrival in Bethany, who grieves that Jesus had not come sooner
- 11:28-37** Jesus then comforts Mary, and when he sees her weeping along with the others weeps also, (v.35 is the shortest verse in the Bible)
- 11:38-44** Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead on the fourth day of his decease
Note: God's promised curse on the body in death occurs on the fourth day. Jesus was raised from the dead on the third day before corruption could set in
- 11:45-53** The chief priests and Pharisees plot to kill Jesus for fear of what could happen to them if the Romans hear how the Jews are responding to Jesus, but Caiaphas the high priest tells them to let Jesus alone; for it would be better that one die at the hands of the Romans than for the whole nation to die

PSALM 117:**PRAISE THE LORD, ALL YE NATIONS!**

- 117:1-2** For His great merciful kindness and truth that endures forever

Note: This is the shortest chapter in the Bible

Proverbs

- 15:22** The wisdom in seeking a multitude of counsellors before making major plans

- 15:23** The wisdom in guarding what one says and when

May 21**Saul's Death****1 Samuel****29:1-11**

David and his men have left Ziklag to follow Achish to battle with the Philistines against Saul, but is spared from doing so because the Philistines demand that Achish ask David to return to Ziklag for fear that he will change sides and fight for Israel

30:1-10

David pursues the Amalekites who burned David's city while he was gone, and captured all the woman and children including David's wives; David seeks the LORD's help because there are those who are talking about stoning David for leaving Ziklag unprotected

30:11-15

David comes across an Egyptian who has been left behind by the Amalekites because he is unable to continue with them in their retreat, and after feeding him David promises to not kill him if he will lead them to the raiding party

30:16-20

David kills most of the Amalekites by a surprise attack as they are partying over the spoils of their raids, and recaptures all they had taken from Ziklag and from others

30:21-25

David sees to it on his return, that the men he left behind in Ziklag to guard what was left receive equal shares of the spoil with the men who went with him to fight; a principle of battle that became an ordinance for Israel when he later becomes king

30:26-31

David also shares the spoil with cities in southern Judah where David and his men had been hiding from Saul

31:1-6

The Israelites are defeated by the Philistines in the Valley of Jezreel as Samuel had foretold. Saul's sons are killed and all of his men, Saul falls on his own sword when wounded because he does not want the Philistines to kill him and make sport of him, and because his armor bearer refuses to kill Saul

31:7

The Israelites on the other side of the valley flee their cities, which the Philistines then recapture and live in

31:8-13

When the inhabitants of Jabesh-Gilead hear how the Philistines are making sport of Saul's body and the bodies of his sons, they walk all night to free the bodies and take them to Jabesh where their bodies are burned

John**11:34**

Jesus no longer walks openly among the Jews, but stays with his disciples near the wilderness in a city called Ephraim

11:55-57

When the Passover draws near and many come up to Jerusalem, the chief priest and Pharisees give orders to report if they know where Jesus, is so that they can seize him

12:1-8

Six days before the Sabbath Jesus goes to eat with Lazarus at his home, and Mary takes expensive perfume to anoint the feet of Jesus; Judas Iscariot objects, pretending to be concerned that the ointment could be sold to give to the poor

12:9-11

The chief priests plot to kill Lazarus when they see that many are visiting his home and becoming believers in Jesus

12:12-19

The Pharisees tell the chief priests that their plot will not succeed when they see the multitudes taking palm branches to spread in Christ's way as he approaches Jerusalem on a donkey, hailing him as the one whom the Psalmist said would come in the name of the Lord and become Israel's king

Psalm 118:

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR HE IS GOOD!

118:1-18

For delivering him from death when he called upon the LORD

Proverbs**15:24**

The way to avoid a premature death

15:25

How the LORD responds to the proud in contrast to the widow?

15:26

How the LORD regards the thought of the wicked in contrast to the words of the pure?

May 22**2 Samuel**

- 1:1-10** A man escapes from the battle and fabricates a story about killing Saul, thinking that this will give him favor with David
- 1:11-16** After mourning and fasting until evening for Saul, Jonathan, and the Israelite men who were killed, David has the man executed for saying he killed the LORD's anointed
- 1:17-27** David teaches a song to commemorate Saul and Jonathan, which is written in the book of Jashar, (cf. Joshua 10:13)
- 2:1-7** The LORD instructs David to move to Hebron where he is anointed king of Judah, and then invites the men of Jabesh-gilead of northern Israel to join him as the new king for burying the bodies of Saul and his sons
- 2:8-11** Abner, the commander of Saul's army, takes Saul's son Ish-bosheth to Mahanaim, where he is crowned king over northern Israel

John

- 12:20-26** When certain Greeks ask to see Jesus, Jesus responds by forecasting his coming death on the cross, and says that the way to gain life eternal and be honored by his Father is to be willing to lose his life now to follow Jesus
- Note: This is the condition for entering the kingdom under the Law while Jesus on the Earth. Since no one will meet the condition, Jesus will go to the cross to purchase eternal life on the basis of simple faith in him rather than upon the basis of one's faithfulness in this life, (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- 12:27-33** The multitudes hear the Father's voice from heaven, promising to glorify His Son
- 12:34-41** The multitude question Jesus what he means by his being "lifted up," for which Jesus departs from them, because they are like those about whom Isaiah prophesied would not believe no matter how many signs he has given him
- 12:42-43** Many rulers believe in Jesus, but do not openly say so because of fear they will be cast out of the synagogue by the Pharisees
- 12:44-50** Jesus proclaims that to believe him is to believe the Father who has sent him, and that those who do not believe will be judged for not believing the Father's word through him

Psalm 118:

- 118:19-29** **GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR HE IS GOOD! (continued)**
For the future opening of the gates of Jerusalem to worship the LORD in righteousness, due to the rejection of the Stone who then becomes the head of the corner, and who will return in the name of the LORD, (a reference to Jesus, 1 Peter 2:6)

Proverbs

- 15:27** The importance of not accepting bribes because of personal greed
- 15:28** A difference in the way the righteous and the wicked use their tongues

May 23**2 Samuel**

- 2:12-17** Abner and his men are defeated by the servants of David
- 2:18-28** Abner reluctantly kills Joab's brother Asahel when being pursued
- 2:29-32** The casualties are much greater for Abner than for the servants of David
- 3:1-5** David's house grows stronger while Saul's house grows weaker, there being six sons born to David while he is in Hebron
- 3:6-11** Abner turns against Ishbosheth when being wrongfully accused, and promises to make David king over northern Israel
- 3:12-19** Abner notifies David of his intent and David enters into a covenant of peace with Abner for all of Israel, provided that Ishbosheth returns his wife Michal to him, which Ishbosheth does - to the great grief of the man to whom he had been given by Saul
- 3:20-30** Joab kills for killing his brother Asahel and for entering into a covenant of peace with David
- 3:31-39** David publicly laments the death of Abner, which pleases Israel, and places Joab's future judgment into the hands of the LORD
- Note: Hebron is a city of refuge where Joab is not permitted by God's Law to take revenge for the death of his brother

John

- 13:1-11** Jesus, knowing that his hour has come, assumes the role of a servant at the Passover Meal by washing the feet of his disciples; telling Peter that he doesn't need a bath and telling them that one of them does (referring to Judas Iscariot)
- Note: Once a believer is cleansed fully for salvation, there is no need for a full cleansing again but only a partial cleansing for fellowship
- 13:12-20** Jesus explains that the reason for his washing the feet of his disciples is for them to learn from his example
- 13:21-30** Jesus indicates who will betray him, though the disciples do not think it to be Judas Iscariot
- Note: It was traditional at the Passover Meal to collect an offering for the poor which the disciples thought Judas was leaving for that purpose. Many churches today observe the same tradition when they observe the LORD's SUPPER

Psalm 119:**THE NEED TO LOVE GOD'S LAW**Note: This Psalm is divided according to the letters of the Hebrew alphabet

- 119:1-8** **1st letter:** How blessed are the ones who keep God's Law
- 119:9-16** **2nd letter:** The way a young man can keep God's Law

Proverbs

- 15:29** Whom the LORD hears and whom He does not
- 15:30** The impact good news has upon one's psychological and physical well being

May 24**2 Samuel****4:1-8**

Ishbosheth is assassinated by two of his commanders when they hear that Abner has been killed, and they bring his head to David (thinking this will bring them special favor)

4:9-12

David has them executed, their hands and feet cut off, their bodies hung for display, and the head of Ishbosheth buried in Hebron

5:1-5

David is anointed king over all of Israel when he is thirty years old, and reigns for forty years; seven and a half over Judah, and the rest over all of Israel

David Moves to Jerusalem**5:6-10**

David captures Jerusalem from the Jebusites, calling it the city of David, and becomes greater and greater because the LORD of Hosts is with him

5:11-16

Hiram, king of Tyre, builds a palace for David. David now realizes that the LORD has established his kingdom, takes more concubines and wives from Jerusalem, and has eleven more sons by them

5:17-21

David inquires of the LORD when the Philistines gather against him in the valley of Rephaim, goes against them and defeats them

5:22-25

David defeats the Philistines again in the valley of Rephaim, after first hearing the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees which indicated the presence of the LORD, striking them down from Geba as far as Gezer

6:1-11

David decides to bring the Ark to Jerusalem, but angrily leaves it in anger at the house of Obed-edom when the LORD strikes Uzzah dead for touching the Ark he thought might topple

6:12-19

When David hears how the house of Obed-edom has been blessed of the LORD for three months, David has the Ark removed and brought to Jerusalem. His wife, Michal, despises David for dancing and celebrating in a linen ephod rather than in kingly garments

6:20-23

Mical is made barren by the LORD for despising David

John**13:31-38**

Jesus tells Peter that he will deny him three times before the cock crows

14:1-3

Jesus tells his disciples to not be troubled when he leaves them to return to heaven, because he is preparing dwelling places for them and because he will come again to receive them unto himself

14:4-10

When asked by his disciples to show them the Father, Jesus reminds that they in seeing him have seen the Father, because he is in the Father and the Father in him

14:11-14

Jesus tells them to believe his works, because the Father will enable them to do even greater works after his departure when they ask the Father in his name

Psalm 119:**THE NEED TO LOVE GOD'S LAW, (continued)****119:17-24**

3rd letter: The Psalmist prays to understand God's Law in order to not be like the proud who are cursed

119:25-32

4th letter: The Psalmist prays for restoration in order to learn God's ways

Proverbs**15:31-32**

The importance of heeding reproof

May 25**2 Samuel****God's Covenant with David**

- 7:1-7** The LORD refuses to allow David to build a Temple for Him, and instead promises to allow one of David's sons to do so after David has died, and promises to establish David's royal house over Israel from that time forth
- 7:8-29** David responds with a prayer of praise to the LORD
- 8:1-12** David defeats Philistia, Moab, and Zobah
- 8:13-14** David defeats the Edomites, killing 18,000 of them in the Valley of Salt, and making them his servants
- 8:15-18** David's administrative cabinet

John

- 14:15-24** Jesus promises to give his disciples the Holy Spirit to indwell them, whereby he and the Father will be able to manifest themselves to them in a way the world cannot know
- 14:25-26** Jesus encourages them that the Holy Spirit will be their helper, teach them all things, and cause them to remember all that he has said to them
- 14:27-31** Jesus promises to leave his peace with them, and for them to not be troubled even though the ruler of this world is coming (Satan to seize Jesus); and to show them his love for the Father, Jesus tells them he must arise to do the Father's will

Psalm 119:**THE NEED TO LOVE GOD'S LAW, (continued)**

- 119:33-40** 5th letter: The Psalmist requests God's help in his efforts to keep God's Law
- 119:41-48** 6th letter: The Psalmist promises to testify before kings about the LORD's mercy and deliverance

Proverbs

- 15:33** The benefit of fearing the LORD and being humble

May 26**2 Samuel****9:1-8**

David brings Mephibosheth, a son of Jonathan who is crippled in both feet, from the home where he is staying to David's palace, in order to show him kindness for the sake of Jonathan (with whom David had made a covenant of friendship)

9:9-13

David gives all Saul left behind to Mephibosheth, and commands Saul's servant Ziba and his men to cultivate the land in order to provide daily food for Mephibosheth, whom David has eat at his table from that time forth

10:1-5

David sends some of his servants to console Hanun who has become king of the Ammonites upon his father's death, but his servants are accused of spying and sent away in a disgraceful manner

10:6-8

The Ammonites, in realizing that David has changed his attitude towards them because of their actions, hire a number of Syrians to help them fight Joab who has been sent by David to fight against them

10:9-12

Joab devises a plan for him to fight the Syrians towards the front, and his brother Abishai to fight the Ammonites who seek to ambush him towards the rear

10:13-14

When the Ammonites see the Syrians they hired flee from Joab, they in turn flee from Abishai to the city of Rabbah

10:15-19

The Syrians are greatly defeated a second time when Hadadezer comes against David with reinforcements, so that they make peace with David, become his servants, and are afraid from that time to help the Ammonites against David

David's Sin with Bathsheba**11:1-5**

While Joab and David's army go to fight the Ammonites in the spring and besiege the city of Rabbah, David stays behind in Jerusalem and commits adultery with Bathsheba (the wife of Uriah the Hittite) causing her to become pregnant

11:6-13

David recalls Uriah the Hittite to Jerusalem and sends him home to his wife. When Uriah refuses to go to his home and David is unsuccessful in the attempt to cover his sin, he causes Uriah to get drunk while eating at David's table

11:14-21

David sends Uriah back to the battlefield with a personal letter to Joab, commanding Joab to place Uriah in the front lines, making it more likely that he will be killed

11:22-27

When David hears from Joab that Uriah has been killed, hat David has done and his response to hearing of Uriah's death is evil in the sight of the LORD

John**15:1-8**

Jesus tells his disciples to abide in him so that they might bear much fruit, even as a branch cannot bear fruit unless it abides in the vine

15:9-17

Jesus also commands them to keep his commandments in order to abide in his love and His Father's, and for them to love one another

15:18-27

Jesus warns them that the world will hate them as they have him, but that the Holy Spirit will help them witness for him after he has departed

Psalm 119:**THE NEED TO LOVE GOD'S LAW, (continued)****119:49-56**

7th letter: The Psalmist requests that the Lord remember him for his respect for God's Law, as he is being afflicted by those who don't

119:57-64
who do

8th letter: The Psalmist promises to keep God's words and associate with those

Proverbs**16:1-3**

The way for one's heart, and the answer of one's tongue, to be of the LORD

May 27**2 Samuel****12:1-6**

David reacts angrily to a story told him by Nathan the prophet regarding a rich man who has many flocks and herds, yet takes a sole beloved ewe lamb of a poor man to feed himself and a traveler

Note: Approximately a year after the event of chapter eleven

12:7-12

Nathan charges David with being that rich man in the story, Bathsheba the ewe lamb, and Uriah the Hittite the poor man

12:13-14

When David confesses his sin, Nathan tells him that he will not die, but that the child will

12:15-17

When the boy becomes sick, David fasts for seven days beseeching the LORD to save him

12:18-23

When David is told that the boy has died, he confuses his servants with his response to the bad news

Note: Verse 23 is a good verse to prove that children who die, who have not reached the age of accountability for their own sin, go to be with the Lord

12:24-25

When David has another son by Bathsheba, David names him Solomon; the LORD loves him and gives him a different name to express His love

Note: Indicating that Solomon is to be God's choice to succeed David to the throne

12:26-31

David captures the city of Rabbah, takes the king's gold crown for himself (weighing about 75 pounds, and causes the Ammonite men to pass through bricks made with saws, sharp iron instruments, and sharp axes (causing injury)

John**16:1-6**

Jesus says he is telling his disciples these things now because he is going to his Father Jesus tells them why it is necessary for him to go to the Father

Note: Having been with Jesus for three years, they are no more like him and won't be until the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in them; only then will their lives cause others to become convicted of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment

16:16-22

The disciples are confused as to what Jesus means when he says they won't see him, and yet will see him

Note: The world will not see him, but Jesus and the Father will manifest themselves to them inwardly when the Holy Spirit comes to indwell them

16:23-28

Jesus tells them that they can ask the Father for anything in his name and that the Father will do it, because He loves them for believing and loving His Son

16:29-33

Jesus tells them that the hour is coming when they will all forsake him except for the Father, and concludes his discourse by telling them to have courage in that he has overcome the world

Psalm 119:**THE NEED TO LOVE GOD'S LAW, (continued)****119:65-72**

9th letter: The Psalmist declares that it is good for him to have been afflicted, in order that he might learn the LORD's statutes

119:73-80

10th letter: The Psalmist desires the LORD's comfort and mercy, that he may live and be supported by those who fear the LORD

Proverbs**16:4**

God has a purpose in making everything, even the wicked

Note: In using them to punish others, or by making them an example of His punishment

16:5

Who is an abomination to the LORD, and what can he expect?

May 28**2 Samuel****David's Son, Absalom**

- 13:1-7** Amnon, David's firstborn, is attracted to his half-sister Tamar (who is very beautiful), and gets advice from Jonadab, one of David's shrewd brothers, in how to seduce her
- 13:8-14** When Tamar resists his advances, Amnon rapes Tamar
Note: God's Law prohibited sexual intercourse between a man and his half-sister, (cf. 2 Samuel 3:2-3 with Leviticus 18:18:11)
- 13:15-17** Amnon hates Tamar afterwards more than he thought he loved her, putting her out of his house rather than marrying her after having violated her
- 13:18-22** When Absalom becomes aware of what has happened to his sister, he urges her to remain silent and come to live in his house (intending to get revenge later)
- 13:23-29** Two years later Absalom invites all of David's sons to come away to a sheep shearing party, and when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, has his servants kill Amnon
- 13:30-33** David is told that he has lost all of his sons, causing him to tear his clothes in grief and lie on the ground, but then is informed by Jonadab that it is only Amnon who has died, and that it is Absalom who has been planning his revenge since the day Tamar was raped
- 13:34-39** When David's sons return they weep with David, while Absalom flees to the king of Geshur for protection; after three years David begins to long for Absalom again

John

- 17:1-26** Jesus prays for his disciples . . .
 17:1-5 . . . that the Father restore to him his former glory
 17:6-12 . . . that the Father keep his disciples as he has kept them, only one who being lost that the Scripture might be fulfilled, (Judas Iscariot, cf. Proverbs 16:4)
 17:13-23 . . . , that the Father keep them from the evil one, and that they may be one with him and the Father so that their joy might be full, (cf. 1 John 1:1-4)
 17:24-26 . . . that they might one day be with him where he is, and that they may know the same love that he has known of the Father

Psalm 119: THE NEED TO LOVE GOD'S LAW, (continued)

- 119:81-88** **11th letter:** The Psalmist pleads for the LORD to deliver him from those seeking to destroy him, because he has not forgotten His statutes
- 119:89-96** **12th letter:** The Psalmist praises the LORD for the certainty of His word, acknowledging that he would have already perished in his affliction had it not been that he delighted in God's Law

Proverbs

- 16:6** The means by which a person can keep himself from committing iniquity and evil
16:7 For whom does the LORD make his enemies to be at peace with him?

May 29**2 Samuel****14:1-24**

Joab devises a plan to use a woman from Tekoa and a fictitious story to influence David into allowing him to go to Geshur and bring Absalom back to Jerusalem, but David does not allow Absalom to see his face

14:25-27

Absalom's situation while back in Jerusalem is described in terms of his handsome appearance above all others, his long hair which he does not cut but once a year, and in terms of his three sons born to him and a daughter he names Tamar

14:28-30

After two years Absalom sends for Joab twice, and when Joab does not respond Absalom has his servants burn Joab's field to get his attention

14:31-33

This time Joab responds and succeeds in reuniting David and Absalom

15:1-6

Absalom acquires a chariot with fifty men as runners before him, and cunningly succeeds in winning the hearts of those coming to Jerusalem from the other tribes

15:7-9

After four years, Absalom pretentiously requests David's permission for him to go to Hebron to worship the LORD

Note: The Septuagint (A Greek translation of the Hebrew by Jewish scribes) reads four years, not forty years

15:10-12

Absalom takes two hundred unsuspecting men with him, sends for Ahithophel David's chief counselor to join him, and sends spies throughout Israel to proclaim him as king in Hebron

Note: Ahithophel perhaps resents what David did in the matter of Bathsheba, his granddaughter, (cf. 2 Samuel 11:3 with 23:34)

15:13-18

David fears that Absalom will soon come to destroy him and the city, and has those faithful to him to leave the city except for ten concubines to take care of his palace; the Cherethites, the Pelethites, the Gittites, and the 600 men who came with him from Gath

15:19-22

David allows Ittai the Gittite and his family to leave with him, when Ittai vows his loyalty to David

John**18:1-11**

Jesus and his disciples go to the garden where Judas betrays him; Jesus requests that his disciples be allowed to go away free and tells Peter to put away his sword with which he cut off Malchus' ear

Note: This is proof Jesus is not leading an insurrection, as he would later be so accused

18:12-18

Jesus is arrested and led away to the house of Annas, the father-in-law to Caiaphas, where Peter denies the Lord for the first time

18:19-23

Jesus is struck by an officer of the court when he asks a question of Annas, in response to their questions

Note: Annas and Caiaphas work together

18:24

Annas sends Jesus bound to Caiaphas, (who is already biased against Jesus, cf. John 11:49-53)

Psalm 119:**THE NEED TO LOVE GOD'S LAW, (continued)****119:97-104**

13th letter: The Psalmist claims that because the LORD has taught him through His Law, he has better understanding than his instructors and the ancients

119:105-112

14th letter: The Psalmist places his life in the hands of the LORD from the wicked who have laid a trap for him, saying that he has not gone astray from the LORD's precepts

Proverbs**16:8**

When having little is better than having much?

16:9

Why the plans of man may not turn out?

May 30**2 Samuel****15:23-29**

David refuses to allow the priests Zodok and Abiathar and the Levites to come with him, but tells them to stay in Jerusalem with the Ark, leaving it to the LORD whether he will be allowed by God to come to the Tabernacle again

15:30-37

David asks the LORD to make the counsel of Ahithophel foolish to Absalom, and sends Hushai to counter Ahithophel's advice, and to become an informant for David through Zadok, Abiathar, and their two sons Jonathan and Ahimaaz

16:1-4

David gives all that belongs to Mephibosheth to his servant Ziba, when Ziba informs David that Mephibosheth has decided to remain in Jerusalem, thinking that Israel will restore the kingdom to him

16:5-8

David is cursed as he leaves Jerusalem by Shimei of the house of Saul, saying that the LORD has brought David's bloodshed on the house of Saul down upon his own head, and has given the kingdom to Absalom

16:9-14

Abishai wants to kill Shimei but David prevents him, hoping that the LORD will look on his affliction and return good to him instead of cursing

16:15-19

When Absalom enters Jerusalem, Hushai meets him and convinces him that he has switched allegiance

16:20-23

Ahitophel advises Absalom to go into David's concubines left behind in the sight of all, so that Absalom might be feared. Ahithophel's advice is regarded almost to be the word of the LORD by both David and Absalom

John**18:25-27**

Peter denies Christ two more times after which the cock crows immediately

18:28-32

Jesus is taken from Caiaphas to Pilate for him to put Jesus to death (because Rome did not permit the Jewish Sanhedrin to execute)

18:33-40

Pilate tells the Jews that he finds no fault in Jesus, and when offering a prisoner to be released at the Passover, the Jews tell Pilate to release Barabbas, not Jesus

19:1-8

Pilate has his soldiers scourge Jesus to appease the Jews, and be publicly humiliated in a purple robe with a crown of thorns, but when he tells them for the second time that he finds no fault in Jesus, they tell Pilate that Jesus must be put to death for blasphemy in claiming to be the Son of God

19:9-12

When Pilate interrogates Jesus again, he marvels that Jesus does not at first answer him, and Jesus then tells him that Pilate would have no power to crucify him were it not given to him from above. Pilate seeks for a way to release Jesus, but the Jews tell him that if he releases Jesus, who makes himself a king, he is no friend of Caesar

19:13-16

Pilate brings Jesus to the place of judgment about the sixth hour, and presents Jesus as their king, to which they respond that they have no king but Caesar; Pilate then sends Jesus away to be crucified

19:17-22

Jesus is taken to Golgotha where he is crucified, and Pilate refuses to change the inscription he has posted on his cross

Psalm 119:**THE NEED TO LOVE GOD'S LAW, (continued)****119:113-120** **15th letter:** The Psalmist declares his dependence upon the LORD for deliverance**119:121-128** **16th letter:** The Psalmist says that it is time for the LORD to deliver him, because he loves God's commandments**Proverbs****16:10**

Why a king must be careful to not transgress when passing judgment?

16:11

What the LORD cares for regarding weights and balances in business transactions?

May 31**2 Samuel****17:1-13**

Ahitophel further advises Absalom to pursue David immediately while he is weary, but Hushai advises instead that Absalom first gather all Israel and then lead them in a devastating attack on David

17:14-15

The LORD causes Absalom to favor Hushai's advice. Hushai then informs Zadok and Abiathar to have David immediately cross the Jordan into the desert

17:16-20

Jonathan and Ahimaaz are reported to Absalom by a lad, who sees them sending a maid servant to inform David. The men hide in a well and the woman who hides them sends the ones searching for them in a different direction, (cf. Rahab, Joshua 2:1-7)

17:21-23

Jonathan and Ahimaaz escape to tell David what Hushai has told them. David crosses the Jordan during the night before dawn. Ahithophel goes to his house when he sees that Absalom has not taken his advice, and commits suicide

17:24-26

David camps up north at Mahanaim and Absalom crosses the Jordan to camp in the land of Gilead. Absalom appoints Amasa to replace Joab as commander of Israel's army, who happens to be Joab's nephew

17:27-29

Those who provide food for David and his company at Mahanaim

John**19:23-27**

The Roman soldiers cast lots for Jesus' garment in fulfillment of prophecy (Psalm 22:18), and Jesus tells John to take care of his mother (John does not cite his name personally)

19:28-30

Jesus tastes vinegar given to him when he cries out for thirst (cf. Psalm 69:21), and upon proclaiming "It is finished," bows his head and gives up the ghost, (or voluntarily dismisses his spirit from his body)

Note: What was finished is explained by Paul in Philippians 2:8

19:31

The Jews ask Pilate to have the soldiers break their legs to hasten death, because the Sabbath which begins at sunset is a "high day"

Note: Breaking the legs makes it harder for the one being crucified to breathe

Note: Friday evening begins the first day of Passover, which is a Sabbath, and the next day being Saturday is also a Sabbath, making it a "high" holy day in that it is a double Sabbath

19:32-37

The bones of Jesus are not broken when the soldiers see that he is dead already, and blood and water come forth out of the Lord's body when a spear pierces his side, (fulfilling Exodus 12:46 and Zechariah 12:10)

19:38-42

Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus are given permission to take the body of Jesus from the cross, and they bury him in a new tomb in a nearby garden in which no one else has been buried

Psalm 119:**THE NEED TO LOVE GOD'S LAW, (continued)****119:129-136**

17th letter: The Psalmist describes his passion for God's Word

119:137-144

18th letter: The Psalmist declares the LORD to be righteous and His word pure

119:145-152

19th letter: The Psalmist cries to the LORD for deliverance with all his heart from before dawn

Proverbs**16:12**

What would be an abomination for a king?

16:13

Whose lips does a king love and delight in?

June 1**David's Son, Absalom (continued)****2 Samuel**

- 18:1-4** Why David's men would not let him fight with them?
- 18:5** David's command to Joab regarding his treatment of Absalom
- 18:6-8** Absalom's army defeated in the forest of Ephraim
- 18:9** Absalom's hair caught in tree while fleeing
- 18:10-13** Why David's soldiers did not kill Absalom?
- 18:14-15** Joab kills Absalom
- 18:16-17** Absalom's burial
- 18:18** Where Absalom had intended to be buried?
- 18:19-23** Joab sends a Cushite (African) to inform David but Ahimaaz the son of David outruns Him (probably thinking that David might respond to the news violently)
- 18:24-30** David's lament upon hearing of Absalom's death
- 19:1-8** Joab rebukes David for his mourning for Absalom
- 19:9-10** Israel's change of mind regarding having David as their king upon hearing of Absalom's death

John

- 20:1-2** Why Mary Magdalene runs to find Peter and John?
- 20:3-10** How John becomes convinced that Jesus has risen from the dead?
- 20:11-13** Why Mary Magdalene weeps at the tomb of Jesus?
- 20:14-15** Whom Mary Magdalene thinks Jesus to be when he speaks to her?
- 20:16-17** Why Jesus forbids Mary to touch him?
Note: Jesus was on His way to present His blood to the Father in heaven. By God's Law, had she touched Him as the sacrifice, while in the process of completing His 'presentation, she would have died immediately. Later in the afternoon, she did hold Him by the feet and worship Him, after He had gone to heaven and returned.
- 20:18-20** Jesus appears to his disciples
- 20:21-23** Jesus commissions them to become his apostles
Note: The Greek verb translated "so send I you" is the same word from which the noun "apostle" is derived
- 20:24-25** Thomas, who was not there, still doubts
Note: The name "Didymus" means "twin," and probably refers to Thomas being the twin brother of Matthew, (cf. Matthew 10:3, Mark 3:18 and Luke 6:15)
- 20:26-28** The reason Thomas no longer doubts that Jesus is his Lord and his God
- 20:29** Jesus pronounces blessing upon those who believe without seeing him, as has Thomas
- 20:30-31** The two-fold reason John writes this book

Psalm 119**(God's Law as given to Moses, continued)**

- 119:153-160** Save me from my foes who do not love God's Law
- 119:161-168** I praise you seven times a day for your Law
- 119:169-176** Save me, even though I have strayed

Proverbs

- 16:14** A reason to appease the wrath of a king
- 16:15** A reason to seek his approval

June 2**The Restoration of David as King****2 Samuel**

- 19:11-15** How David won over the hearts of the men of Judah?
- 19:16-18** David's escort back to Jerusalem
- 19:19-20** Shimei begs David for mercy
- 19:21-23** David rejects Abishai's advice to kill Shimei
- 19:24-30** David shows mercy again to Mephibosheth
- 19:31-38** David's promise for Barsillai's servant
- 19:39-40** Those who cross the Jordan with David
- 19:41-43** Harsh words between Israel and Judah upon David's return
- 20:1-2** Sheba leads a revolt by the northern tribes against David
- 20:3** David's concubines who were defiled by Absalom are made to live as widows
- 20:4-7** The reason David sends Abishai and Joab after Sheba, when Amasa does not return within three days from gathering men of Judah
- 20:8-13** When Amasa meets up with Abishai and Joab at Gibeon, Joab kills Amasa (so that he can regain his former command)

John**21:1-25**

- The third appearance of Jesus to his disciples
- 21:1-3 Jesus appears again to some of his disciples by the Sea of Tiberias
- 21:4-7 John recognizes that it is Jesus calling to them from the shore?
- 21:7-8 Peter swims to meet Jesus
- 21:9-14 Jesus feeds his disciples breakfast
- 21:15-17 Peter's grief the third time Jesus asks him the same question
Note: This is because Peter had previously denied Jesus three times
- 21:18-19 Jesus informs Peter of his future martyrdom
- 21:20-23 The reason it was rumored among Christ disciples that John would not die by martyrdom?
- 21:24-25 Why all that Jesus said and did in his three-year ministry was not written?

Psalm 120**THE DECEITFUL TONGUE**

Note: Psalm 120-134 was a hymn book of songs written by David to be used in going up to Jerusalem for the annual festivals, (i.e. The Song of Ascents)

120:1-2

Save me from deceitful tongues!

120:3-4

What the LORD will do to the deceitful tongue?

120:5-7

"Woe is me" for living with those of Meshech and Kedar

Note: Meshech is north of Israel in what today is modern Turkey, and Kedar is a tribe located in Arabia. Both peoples are antagonistic to Israel

Proverbs**16:16**

Obtaining wisdom is better than obtaining gold and silver

16:17

A reason to stay on the high road and shun evil

June 3**The Restoration of David as King, (continued)****2 Samuel**

- 20:14-19** A wise woman pleads with Joab to save the city of Abel
- 20:20-21** Joab demands that the city to hand Sheba over to him
- 20::22** The city throws Sheba's head over the wall to Joab who returns to Jerusalem
- 20:23-26** David's Cabinet
- 21:1** The reason the LORD causes a three-year famine
- 21:2-6** Seven of Saul's sons are hanged by David at the request of the Gibeonites because of Saul's former violation of Israel's treaty with them
- 21:7-9** The reason Mephibosheth is spared by David
- 21:10-14** The reason David re-buries the bones of Saul and Jonathan
- 21:15-22** David's men who kill Goliath's sons in more wars against the Philistines
- 21:15-17** Abishai kills Ishbi-benob who tries to kill David, after which David is prevented from engaging in battle
- 21:18** Sibbeccai kills Saph at Gob
- 21:19** Elhanan kills Goliath the Gittite in another battle at Gob, (another son of Goliath whom David killed as a young man)
- 21:20-22** Jonathan, the son of David's brother Shemei, kills the fourth son of Goliath who has six fingers for each hand and six toes for each foot)
- 22:1-20** David's song of triumph, (cf. Psalm 18)

Acts

- 1:1-3** The emphasis of Jesus' teaching to his disciples for forty days after his resurrection, (which is the gospel of the kingdom, which will begin with Christ's return)
- 1:4-5** The reason Jesus commanded his disciples to remain in Jerusalem
- 1:6-8** Christ's Great Commission for what they were to do, once the Holy Spirit came upon them
Note: The Greek word for "power" refers to sign miracles, (cf. Luke 4:14, 5:17, 9:1, and 24:49)
- 1:9-11** The reason they were told to not look for him again after he ascended, but to concentrate on obeying his Great Commission
- 1:12-14** Their unified prayer together in the Upper Room for ten days
- 1:15-20** The need to appoint a twelfth apostle to replace Judas Iscariot
- 1:21-23** The qualification for being one of the twelve and the two who qualified
Note: The qualification for being one of the original twelve is greater than that required of others, like the apostle Paul, (cf. 1 Corinthians 9:1 with 1 John 1:1-2)
- 1:24-26** The means by which Matthias was chosen over Barsabas?
Note: Since Jesus is in heaven, the apostles choose to seek his will through the casting of lots as was the case in Israel's past

Psalm 121

- I WILL LIFT UP MINE EYES (The Song of Ascents, continued)**
- 121:1-2** To whom to look
- 121:3-4** A promise that one's foot will not slip
- 121:5-6** A promise that the sun and moon will not harm
- 121:7-8** A promise that no harm will come from that time forth

Proverbs

- 16:18** A sure way to fail!

June 4**The Restoration of David as King, (continued)****2 Samuel**

- 22:21-51** David's song of triumph, (continued)
23:1-7 David's last words
23:8-23 David's mighty men
 23:8-12 Three mighty men
 23:13-17 Three other mighty men
 23:18-23 Other names considered among the thirty

Note: The active list remained at thirty, though the total was more than thirty

Acts

- 2:1-4** All one hundred and twenty disciples in the Upper Room are enabled by the Holy Spirit to speak in different languages
Note: The sound of rushing wind and the sight of tongues on fire was the Lord's way of letting the 120 know that they were being baptized with the Holy Spirit, as Jesus had promised, (cf. Acts 1:5 with Matthew 3:11-12). Christ's baptism with the Holy Spirit is not to be confused with the filling of the Holy Spirit.
- 2:5-12** The reason that Jews visiting Jerusalem for the Feast Days from other nations were amazed?
Note: The Galilean Jews spoke only Greek or Aramaic
- 2:13** The response of the Jews from Jerusalem
- 2:13-36** Peter's sermon
 2:14-15 His denial of their being drunk
 2:16-21 His declaration that the Joel's prophecy was being fulfilled
 2:22-28 His declaration that the death and resurrection of Jesus was a fulfillment of King David's prophecies
 2:23-31 His proof that David was not speaking of himself in what he said
 2:32-35 His declaration that the resurrection of Jesus which his disciples have witnessed is evidence that Jesus of Nazareth has ascended into heaven to be exalted at the right hand of God, as also prophesied by King David
 2:36 His conclusion by informing the Jews that Jesus, whom they have crucified, has been made both Lord and Christ
- 2:37-41** The response of three thousand Jews
Note: The three thousand had to first be publicly baptized in the name of Jesus in order to receive Christ's baptism from heaven with the Holy Spirit, because they had publicly rejected him in shouting for his being crucified
- 2:42-47** How the first church in Jerusalem grew?

Psalm 122: PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM, (Song of Ascents, continued)

- 122:1-5** Why rejoice in going to Jerusalem?
122:6-9 Why pray for the peace of Jerusalem?

Proverbs

- 16:19** What is better than sharing plunder with the proud?
16:20 A reason to heed instruction and trust in the LORD

June 5**The Restoration of David as King, (continued)****2 Samuel**

23:24-39 David's mighty men (continued)

David's Census

24:1-3 Because God is angry, He moves David to number Israel and Judah

Note: God's motive is to punish Israel and Judah. David's motive is personal pride, motivated by Satan, (cf. 1 Chronicles 21:1-4)

24:4-9 The time it took to do the census and the number of valiant soldiers counted

24:10 David's confession of sin in his reason for numbering

24:11-14 David is given a three-fold choice of punishment from the LORD, and the reason for his choice

24:15-16 The LORD commands His angel to spare the city of Jerusalem from the plague

24:17 David appeals for the LORD to cause the plague to cease after three days

24:18-24 The reason David personally purchases the threshing floor on which he offers sacrifice

24:25 The LORD accepts David's offerings on the altar he builds at that location, and causes the plague to cease

Acts

3:1-26 Peter heals a lame man at the Temple in Jerusalem

3:1-3 A man who has been lame from birth begs for money from Peter and John as they enter the Temple Gate "Beautiful;" it being three-o-clock and the hour of prayer

3:4-6 Peter tells the beggar that they do not have silver or gold to give him, but then commands him to rise and walk in the name of Jesus the Nazarene

3:7-8 They help him to his feet, and strength from the Lord comes into his legs and ankles, so that he enters the Temple with Peter and John -leaping and praising God

3:9-10 All the people see him and, knowing who he is, are filled with amazement and wonder

3:11-15 Peter gives credit to the name of Jesus, the Holy One and Prince of Life whom they crucified; but God raised him from the dead and has glorified him in this miracle

3:16-21 Peter tells them that they crucified Jesus out of ignorance, but if they repent and believe in Jesus, God will send him from heaven to establish His promised kingdom

3:22-26 On the other hand, if they do not repent, God will destroy them as foretold by Moses and all of God's prophets

Psalm 123**I WILL LIFT UP MINE EYES! (Song of Ascents, continued)**

123:1-2 The direction to which one looks for help as he ascends to Jerusalem?

123:3-4 The content of one's praise as he ascends to Jerusalem?

Proverbs

16:21 A reason to be wise in heart and speak with pleasant words

16:22 A reason to seek understanding, rather than folly

16:23 How wisdom in the heart guides us in what we say?

June 6
David's Final Days**1 Kings**

- 1:1-4** How David keeps warm in his old age?
- 1:5-6** Adonijah's conspiracy to become king, (cf. 2 Samuel 15:1)
Note: Adonijah is apparently David's oldest living son
- 1:7-8** Who refuses to join the conspiracy?
- 1:9-10** Who is invited, and who is not, to Adonijah's festivities?
- 1:11-14** Nathan tells Bathsheba to inform David, after which he will back her up
- 1:15-21** Bathsheba appeals to David on behalf of her and Solomon
- 1:22-27** Nathan confirms Bathsheba's words to David
- 1:28-37** David reaffirms his oath to make Solomon king
- 1:38-40** Solomon is anointed king at Gihon
- 1:41-48** How Adonijah and Joab hear the news?
- 1:49-53** The condition on which Solomon shows Adonijah mercy

Acts

- 4:1-4** Why the religious rulers in Jerusalem arrest Peter and John?
- 4:5-12** Peter's courageous words to the rulers of the Sanhedrin
 4:5-7 The Sanhedrin (composed of the religious and civil leaders of Israel) ask Peter and John by whose authority they have done this
- 4:8-10 Peter, being filled with the Holy Spirit, tells them that this has been done in the name of Jesus the Nazarene whom they crucified but God raised him from the dead
- 4:11-12 Peter tells them that Jesus is the "Stone" who was foretold by the prophets (Psalm 118:22), and that there is no other name under heaven by which one must be saved
- 4:13—17** The reasons the Sanhedrin decided to only threaten them
- 4:18-22** How Peter responded to their threats?
- 4:23-31** Peter and John inform the church, pray for boldness, and God causes the place is shaken
- 4:32-37** How all the needs of the Jewish converts from other nations were met?
Note: These converts had no employment or way to live in Jerusalem without assistance for a time. The effort to provide for their needs was voluntary. This is not an endorsement of government enforced socialism

Psalm 124**IF THE LORD HAD NOT BEEN ON OUR SIDE! (Song of Ascents, continued)**

- 124:1-5** We would have been destroyed
- 124:6-8** Praise the LORD, we escaped

Proverbs

- 16:24** The effect of pleasant words upon one's own body

June 7**Solomon's Reign Established****1 Kings**

- 2:1-9** David's final instructions to Solomon regarding Joab, Barzillai, and Shimei
- 2:1-4 To obey the LORD in order to be successful in his reign
- 2:5-6 To not let Joab die in peace and why
- 2:7 To show kindness to the sons of Barzillai and why
- 2:8-9 To put Shimei to death and why
- 2:10-12** David dies, Solomon succeeds
- 2:13-18** Adonijah's scheme
Note: Adonai uses Bathsheba (Solomon's mother) to request that Solomon allow him to marry Abishai (cf. 1 Kings 1:1-4) in the hope of being in a better position to claim rights to David's throne after David has died
- 2:19-25** The reason Solomon orders Adonijah to be executed
- 2:26-27** Abiathar's removal from the priesthood in fulfillment of prophecy regarding Eli and his offspring, (cf. 1 Samuel 2:29-36)
- 2:28-34** The reason Solomon orders the execution of Joab
- 2:35** The replacements for Joab and Abiathar
- 2:36-46** The reason Solomon orders the execution of Shimei
- 3:1-3** Solomon's political marriage to the daughter of Pharaoh and the beginning of compromise

Acts

- 5:1-6** The reason Ananias dies at the feet of Peter
- 5:7-11** The reason the same happens to his wife Sapphira
- 5:12-16** The effect upon the church and the city of Jerusalem
- 5:17** The apostles are arrested again
- 5:18-24** Their deliverance from prison the next morning by an angel of the Lord
- 5:25-32** Their appearance before the Sanhedrin and response to the charges against them
- 5:33-39** Gamaliel's advice to the Sanhedrin to let them go
- 5:40-42** The response of the apostles to the Lord upon their flogging by the Sanhedrin

Psalm 125**THE LORD SURROUNDS HIS PEOPLE! (Song of Ascents, continued)**

- 125:1-2** They cannot be shaken
- 125:3** Why a wicked ruler will be removed?
- 125:4-5** What the LORD will do to those who walk uprightly and those who do not?

Proverbs

- 16:25** A reason to not follow our own way (apart from the will of God)

June 8**Solomon's Reign Established, (continued)****1 Kings**

- 3:4-9** Solomon's dream and request to the LORD at Gibeon
3:10-15 God's response to Solomon's request and Solomon's worship afterwards
3:16-28 Solomon's wisdom in resolving a dispute between two prostitutes over a newborn son and Israel's response

- 3:16-22 The difficult judgment Solomon must make regarding an infant son, both being claimed by two women who are prostitutes
 3:23-26 The difficult decision Solomon makes by which the true mother is revealed
 3:27-28 The wisdom Solomon demonstrates and his fame

4:1-6 Solomon's chief officials or cabinet

4:7-19 The twelve officials who were assigned to bring taxes from their region, one for each month, to sustain king Solomon and his household

4:20-21 The extent of Solomon's kingdom**4:22-28** The prosperity of Solomon's kingdom**4:29-34** Other illustrations of Solomon's wisdom and fame**Acts**

- 6:1-4** The reason the apostles saw the need for seven deacons
6:5-7 The names of the first seven deacons and the positive effect on the church
6:8-10 The reason opposition rose up against Stephen (one of the deacons) in the synagogue
6:11-15 The false charges brought against him before the Sanhedrin

Psalm 126**ZION'S JOY UPON RETURN FROM CAPTIVITY, (Song of Ascents, continued)**

126:1-3 Their joy upon their return to the land of Israel from exile and captivity

126:4-6 Their joy in being able again to sow and reap in the land of Israel

Proverbs

16:26 When a man gets hungry, he works

16:27 The destructive harm caused by the tongue of an ungodly person

June 9**Solomon Builds the Temple****1 Kings**

- 5:1** The reason Hiram, the king of Tyre, assists Solomon in building the temple
5:2-9 Solomon's request and Hiram's response
5:10-12 Mutual exchange and peace treaty established between Solomon and Hiram
5:13-18 How Solomon organizes his work force to build the temple?
6:1-38 The completion Solomon's temple in Jerusalem

- 6:1 Solomon begins to build the Temple 480 years after Israel came out of Egypt
 6:2-10 A description of the building

Note: The dimensions are around 100 feet long, 30-35 feet wide, and 52 feet high, (Ryrie Study Bible). A triple decker of rooms buttress the walls with a winding stairway for access

- 6:11-13 The LORD promises Solomon that He will dwell in the Temple and not forsake Israel, provided that Solomon walk according to His divine Law

- 6:14-22 The wood and gold used to build the walls of the two sanctuaries
 6:23-28 Construction of two cherubim for the inner sanctuary or Holy of Holies
 6:29-36 The floor, carved decorations for the interior walls, and the doors for entrance
 6:37-38 The Temple is completed seven years later in the months October-November

Acts**Stephen's sermon before the Sanhedrin**

- 7:1-16** Stephen reviews God's providential care for Israel from the time of Abraham to the time of Jacob's burial

Note: Stephen begins by pointing out what the LORD commanded Abraham to do when he left Ur of Chaldees (Acts 7:1-4). A comparison, with what the LORD commanded and what Abram did, shows that he partially obeyed in leaving Ur, but not totally, (cf. Genesis 11:31-12:3). The Hebrew text should read "Now the LORD had said," (Genesis 12:1). Yet the LORD was faithful to providentially care for Abram, (compare Genesis 12 and 13). In the remaining verses of Stephen's sermon, he continues to emphasize the LORD's faithfulness in spite of Israel's disobedience.

- 7:17-30** Stephen reviews God's providential care for Israel from the time of Israel's bondage in Egypt to the time of God's appearance to Moses in the burning bush

Psalm 127**UNLESS THE LORD BUILDS THE HOUSE, (Song of Ascents, continued)**

- 127:1-2** Whose efforts are in vain apart from the LORD?
127:3-5 How should parents regard their children?

Proverbs

- 16:28** The kind of person who sows discord and separates close friends
16:29-30 The kind of person by whom to not be enticed, or to follow

June 10
Solomon Builds the Temple, (continued)**1 Kings****7:1-12** The building of Solomon's palace**7:13-51** The furnishings of Solomon's temple

7:13-22 The pillars for the porch

7:23-45 The Sea mounted on top of surrounding ten lavers

Note: The "Sea" refers to a gigantic laver above ten smaller lavers which could hold over 11,500 gallons of water. Compare the "Sea of Glass" in the heavenly sanctuary, (Revelation 4:6)

7:46-51 Solomon's dedication of all the furnishings of the Temple**Acts**Stephen's sermon before the Sanhedrin, (continued)

Stephen is proving God's faithfulness to Israel in spite of Israel's unfaithfulness to God

7:31-36 From the time of God's call for Moses to the time of God's deliverance of Israel from Egypt**7:37-44** From the time of Israel's rebellion in the Sinai desert to the time of Joshua**7:45-50** From the time of their possession of the land promised to Abraham, to the time of King Solomon and the building of the Temple in Jerusalem**Psalm 128:** **THE LORD'S PROMISE TO THOSE WHO FEAR THE LORD, (Song of Ascents, continued)****128:1-2** His needs will be met**128:3-4** His wife and children will be fruitful**128:5-6** He will live to see his children and his grandchildren and the peace of Jerusalem,**Proverbs****16:31** When gray hair is a crown of glory?**16:32** What being slow to anger proves about a person?**16:33** Who determines the outcome in the Israelite practice the casting lots?

June 11**Solomon Builds the Temple, (continued)****1 Kings**

- 8:1-9** The ark is brought up out of the city of David and placed within the most holy place of Solomon's Temple
- 8:10-11** The cloud of God's glory fills the Temple so that the priests cannot stand to minister
- 8:12-21** King Solomon praises the LORD God of Israel who has fulfilled His promise to David regarding David's desire to build a house for the Lord
- 8:22-53** Solomon's dedicatory prayer
- 8:22-24 His praise to God for fulfilling the promise He made to King David regarding the building of the Temple
 - 8:25-26 His request that God continue to fulfill His promise to continue David's dynasty provided that they walk in the ways of David
 - 8:27-30 That the LORD hear him when praying towards the Temple
 - 8:31-40 That the LORD hear the prayers of His people Israel from and towards the Temple
 - 8:41-43 That the LORD hear the prayers of the immigrants who visit the Temple from other lands
 - 8:44-45 That the LORD hear Israel's prayers when they turn towards the Temple during battle
 - 8:46-53 That the LORD hear when they pray towards the Temple from lands where they have been taken into captivity
- 8:54-61** Solomon rises to bless the people
- 8:62-66** A two week celebration

Acts

- 7:51-53** The concluding remarks of Stephen's sermon before the Sanhedrin
Note: Stephen accuses them of being rebellious like their forefathers, of murdering God's prophets, and of killing the "Just One" of whom the prophets foretold
- 7:54-60** Stephen's martyrdom by stoning

The Gospel spreads from the Jews to the Samaritans, (cf. Acts 1:8)**The Ministry of Philip**

- 8:1-3** Mourning for Stephen and persecution against the church led by Saul of Tarsus
- 8:4-8** Philip leaves Jerusalem due to the persecution and evangelizes the city of Samaria
- 8:9-13** Miracles in by Philip in the name of Jesus surpass those done by Simon the sorcerer, causing him to also be baptized with those who had previously followed him

Psalm 129: THOSE WHO HATE ZION, (Song of Ascents, continued)

- 129:1-3** The Psalmist acknowledges much suffering from persecution
- 129:4-8** The LORD is requested to judge all who hate Zion

Proverbs

- 17:1** What is better than living in a house full of strife, though it be filled with provisions?

June 12**1 Kings**

- 9:1-9** The LORD'S response to Solomon's prayer regarding the newly built Temple
- 9:10-14** King Hiram's displeasure with Solomon's gift of twenty cities in Galilee
- 9:15-21** Solomon's religious compromise, due to his marriage to Pharaoh's daughter, and his forced labor for his many building projects
- 9:22-23** Those Israelites who were not forced laborers, but did use them to oversee the work of his building projects
- 9:24-25** Pharaoh's daughter takes up residence in the palace he built for her, and Solomon offers sacrifices to the LORD as well as incense to her gods, in the Temple which he had dedicated to the LORD
- 9:26-28** King Hiram sends servants with Solomon's navy to get gold from Ophir
- 10:1-13** The Queen of Sheba's visit and her response to Solomon's wisdom and wealth
- 10:1-3 She comes to test Solomon's wisdom
 - 10:4-9 She is overwhelmed by what she hears and sees
 - 10:10-13 She and Solomon exchange gifts upon her departure
- 10:14-22** Solomon's accumulation of gold and wealth to exceed all the kings of the earth
- 10:23-25** Solomon's fame
- 10:26-29** Solomon's horses and chariots
- Note Even though Solomon has begun to compromise because of his marriage to Pharaoh's daughter, the LORD still blesses him because God is faithful

Acts**The Ministry of Philip (continued)**

- 8:14-17** The reason Philip sent for Peter and John to come down from Jerusalem to Samaria
- Note: Only the apostles could impart the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands. Since the Samaritans had been eyewitnesses of Jesus when he was on the earth, but for the most part had rejected him, they were not given the Holy Spirit until they are baptized and then receive the laying on of hands publicly. The same holds true for Jews through the book of Acts, (cf. Acts 19:1-7)
- 8:18-24** Simon the Sorcerer's request and Peter's rebuke
- Note: This is evidence that water baptism does not save. Faith alone in Christ saves (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:14-17)
- 8:25** Peter and John, upon returning to Jerusalem, continue to preach throughout Samaria
- 8:26** Philip is instructed by an angel of the Lord to leave Samaria for the desert road leading from Jerusalem to Gaza
- 8:27-40** Philip's encounter with the Ethiopian Eunuch in the desert
- 8:27-35 Philip finds a prominent eunuch from Ethiopia who is returning from worship in Jerusalem, and explains to him the meaning of Isaiah 53
 - 8:36-38 Philip baptizes the eunuch upon hearing his confession of faith in Jesus
 - 8:39-40 Philip is carried away by the Holy Spirit to minister along the Mediterranean coast, and the Ethiopian eunuch goes on his way rejoicing

Psalm 130:**IF THE LORD DID NOT FORGIVE INIQUITY, (Song of Ascents, continued)**

- 130:1-4** A plea for forgiveness of iniquity
- 130:5-6** A wait for God's answer
- 130:7-8** A reason to hope

Proverbs

- 17:2** Why it is better to be a wise servant than a son who causes shame
- 17:3** A comparison between the refining of silver and gold, and the refining of the LORD

June 13
Solomon's Demise

1 Kings

- 11:1-8** The reason Solomon turned to other gods
- 11:9-13** The reason the LORD promises to take away the kingdom from Solomon except for one tribe
- 11:14-22** The LORD raises up Hadad the Edomite to be an adversary of Solomon
- 11:23-25** The LORD also raises up Rezon of Syria to be an adversary of Solomon
- 11:26-40** The LORD'S promises to give the northern ten tribes to Jeroboam, but to save one tribe for Solomon's son -for the sake of David and His promise to David
Note: That one tribe being the tribe of Judah
- 11:41-43** Solomon's death and Rehoboam's succession

The Kingdom is Divided

- 12:1-15** A request by the northern ten tribes to Rehoboam, and his response
- 12:1-5 The ten northern tribes under the leadership of Jeroboam request that Rehoboam lighten the forced labor imposed upon them by Solomon
- 12:6-11 Rehoboam favors the advice of the younger men around him over the older men who served under Solomon
- 12:12-15 When the ten tribes return after three days to hear Rehoboam's decision, the Lord moves Rehoboam to deny their request, (cf. 1 Kings 11:9-12)
- 12:16-19** The consequential division between northern Israel and southern Judah

Acts**The Conversion of Saul of Tarsus**

- 9:1-9** Saul's encounter with the Lord on the road to Damascus
- 9:1-2 Saul obtains authorization to go to Damascus to arrest believers and return with them to Jerusalem for trial
- 9:3-7 The Lord reveals himself to Saul on the road to Damascus
- 9:8-9 Saul observes an extreme fast for three days and nights while in prayer
- 9:10-19** Saul's encounter with Ananias and subsequent baptism
- 9:10-16 The Lord sends Ananias to commission Saul to be His apostle to the Gentiles
- 9:17-19 Saul receives his sight after having hands laid on him, and goes to be baptized prior to receiving the Holy Spirit, (See note on Acts 8:14-17)
- 9:20-25** Saul's preaching of Christ in Damascus
- 9:20-22 The impact of Saul's preaching afterwards in Damascus and proving that Jesus was the Christ
- 9:23-25 The conspiracy by the Jews to kill Saul, and his escape by night over the walls of the city

Psalm 131: AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF HUMILITY, (Song of Ascents, continued)

- 131:1** In one's heart and eyes
- 131:2** In one's body language
- 131:3** In Israel's hope in the LORD

Proverbs

- 17:4** The kind of speech to which a wicked person and liar pays attention
- 17:5** A good reason to not make fun of the poor, nor to rejoice in another's calamity

June 14**The Beginning of the Northern Kingdom****The Reign of Jeroboam****1 Kings**

- 12:20** Jeroboam becomes king over all of northern Israel, with only one tribe left for Judah, the tribe of Benjamin
- 12:21-24** The reason a civil war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam is averted
- His Idolatrous Mandates to Prevent Israel's Return to Rehoboam
- 12:25-30** The reason Jeroboam erected two golden calves for worship of Baal in Bethel and Dan
- 12:31-33** Jeroboam's replacement of the Levitical priesthood and God's religious feasts
- A Man Sent From God
- 13:1-6** Jeroboam's anger at the man of God, his withered outstretched arm, and his healing when requesting that the man of God pray for him
Note: The man of God foretells what Josiah will do to the altar of Jeroboam three hundred years later, (2 Kings 23:15-20)
- 13:7-10** The reason the man of God from Judah refuses Jeroboam's offer to eat with him
- 13:11-22** The man of God's disobedience and death
- 13:11-13 An old prophet in Bethel learns about the encounter between the man of God and Jeroboam
- 13:14-19 The old prophet goes after the man of God and lies to get him to come back to Bethel
- 13:20-22 The word of the LORD comes upon the old prophet to foretell the death of the man of God for not obeying God's instruction
- 13:23-25** The man of God is killed by a lion upon his return to Judah
- 13:26-30** The old prophet retrieves the body of the man of God and mourns his death
- 13:31-32** The old prophet requests to be buried beside the man of God
- 13:33-34** The reason the house of Jeroboam is destroyed by the LORD

Acts**The Conversion of Saul of Tarsus, (continued)**

- 9:26-27** The reason Barnabas needs to introduce Saul to the apostles in Jerusalem
- 9:28-31** The reason the apostles send Saul away to Tarsus (where he grew up)
The Ministry of Peter
- 9:32-35** Peter heals a paralytic in Lydda, resulting in conversions at Lydda and Sharon
- 9:36-43** Peter raises Dorcas from the dead in Joppa near Lydda
- 9:36-38 Peter is urged to come to Joppa from Lydda, because a woman disciple named Tabitha or Dorcas has died
- 9:39-41 Upon seeing the impact Dorcas has had on the women there, Peter first kneels beside her and prays, and then commands her to rise
- 9:42-43 Many believe in Joppa and Peter stays there many days in the home of Simon the Tanner

Psalm 132: GOD'S COVENANT WITH KING DAVID, (Song of Ascents, continued)

- 132:1-9** David's vow to build a house for the LORD
- 132:10-18** The LORD'S covenant to build a house (or dynasty) for David

Proverbs

- 17:6** Grandchildren are the crown of old men, and fathers are the glory of their children

June 15**Northern Kingdom of Israel (continued)**

The Reign of Jeroboam and his son Nadab

1 Kings

- 14:1-4** Jeroboam sends his wife in disguise to the prophet Ahijah at Shiloh because of the illness of his son Abijah
- 14:5-16** Ahijah's prophecy against Jeroboam and northern Israel
- 14:5-6** The LORD informs Ahijah, who is old and almost blind, regarding the visit in pretense by the wife of Jeroboam and what he is to say to her
 - 14:7-11** God promises to destroy the house of Jeroboam because of his evil
 - 14:12-13** God promises that his son Abijah will die as soon as she returns, but that God will allow him to be buried because of some good in him
 - 14:14-16** God promises to give up on Israel because of Jeroboam and the nation's complicity in 'idolatry, and to deliver her into captivity beyond the Euphrates
- Note:** This is the first prophecy given of Israel's future Assyrian invasion and captivity
- 14:17-18** Jeroboam's son dies as soon as the feet Jeroboam's wife enters their house in Tirzah
- 14:19-20** Jeroboam is at war with Rehoboam all the days of his life, dies, and his son Nadab succeeds

Southern Kingdom of Judah

The Reigns of Rehoboam, Abijah, Asa, and Jehosaphat

- 14:21-24** Judah's evil and idolatry during the reign of Rehoboam, as well as their cultic practice of prostitution, both male and female (to include homosexuality)
- 14:25-28** Shishak, king of Egypt, attacks Jerusalem and takes treasures from the Temple and Solomon's gold shields
- 14:29-31** Rehoboam dies and his son Abijah succeeds
- 15:1-5** The reason the LORD permits Abijah to reign despite his disobedience
- 15:6-8** There is war with Jeroboam all of Abijah's reign; he dies, and his son Asa succeeds
- 15:9-15** Asa removes the homosexuals and idols, and the reason he deposes Maachah his Queen Mother
- 15:16-22** Asa enters an alliance with Ben-Hadad of Damascus against Baasha, king of Israel (who later succeeds king Nadab)
- 15:16-17** The reason Baasha fortifies the city of Ramah
 - 15:18-19** Asa sends the remaining gold and silver from the Temple and his palace to persuade the king of Damascus to break his treaty with Baasha
 - 15:20** Benhadad agrees, breaks his alliance with Baasha, and conquers several of the northern cities
 - 15:21-22** Baasha retreats from Ramah back to Tirzah
- 15:23-24** Asa dies and his son Jehosaphat succeeds

Acts**From the Jews and Samaritans to the Gentiles, (Acts 1:8)**

The reason God sends an angel to inform Cornelius about the apostle Peter

The means by which God prepares Peter to be willing to go to the house of Cornelius

Psalm 133:**UNITY OF THE BRETHREN, (Song of Ascents, continued)****133:1**

It is good and pleasant

133:2-3

A description of how good and pleasant it is

Proverbs**17:7**

The kind of talk that is inappropriate for both a fool and a prince

17:8

Why a bribe seems to be attractive? (cf. 17:23)

June 16**Northern Kingdom of Israel, (continued)**

The reigns of Baasha, Elah, Zimri, and Omri

1 Kings

- 15:25-28** Baasha assassinates Nadab and succeeds him as king
- 15:29-30** Prophecy fulfilled in the destruction of Jeroboam's household
- 15:31-34** Baasha's evil and war with king Asa of Judah
- 16:1-4** Jehu's prophecy against Baasha
- 16:5-7** Baasha dies at the hand of the LORD because of his following in the ways of Jeroboam; Elah succeeds
- 16:8-14** Elah is assassinated and Zimri succeeds
- 16:8-10 Elah follows in the steps of his father Baasha (16:18): is assassinated by Zimri (the commander of half the chariots) while Elah is drinking himself drunk
 - 16:11-14 Zimri destroys the house of Baasha in fulfillment of Jehu's prophecy
- 16:15-20** Zimri, who follows the ways of Jeroboam (16:19), only reigns for only seven days
- 16:15-16 The Israelites do not accept Zimri when they hear of Elah's assassination, and make Omri (commander of the army) king instead
 - 16:17-20 Omri besieges the city of Tirzah with his army, and when Zimri sees that the city is taken, causes himself to die by burning the palace and citadel in which he is hiding
- 16:21-22** Omri prevails over another rival to the throne to reign as king over Israel
- 16:23-24** Omri builds the city of Samaria which becomes the capitol of Northern Israel
- 16:25-26** Omri is more evil than all the kings before him
- The Reign of Ahab
- 16:27-28** Omri dies and Ahab succeeds
- 16:29-33** The reason Ahab is more evil than all the kings before him
- Note: The word "grove" refers to a shrine made for the worship of Asherah, a female goddess of fertility
- 16:34** The rebuilding of Jericho and Joshua's prophecy fulfilled
- 17:1-24** Elijah the Tishbite, his prophecy, and the LORD'S provision for him during the time of no rain
- 17:1-7 By the brook Cherith
 - 17:8-16 In a widow's home at Zarephath of Zidon
 - 17:17-24 Elijah's prayer and the restoration to life of the widow's son

Acts

- 10:23b-33** How God brings Peter and Cornelius together so Cornelius can hear the Gospel?
- 10:34-43** Peter's sermon to Cornelius and his household
- 10:44-48** The Holy Spirit falls upon Cornelius and his household, and are baptized afterwards

Psalm 134: A COMMAND FOR THE LORD'S PRIESTS, (Song of Ascents, continued)

- 134:1** To bless the LORD as they minister to the LORD during the night in the Temple
- 134:2** To lift up their hands as they bless the LORD
- 134:3** A prayer for the LORD'S blessing upon them in return

Proverbs

- 17:9** Why it is better to not spread the transgressions of a friend?
- 17:10** A contrast in the way a wise man and a fool responds to correction
- 17:11** A reason policemen are necessary

June 17**Northern Kingdom of Israel (continued)**

Ahab's Reign (continued)

- 1 Kings** Elijah at Mount Carmel
- 18:1-15** Obadiah's appeal to Elijah
 18:1-5 Obadiah, who fears God and has protected the LORD's prophets from Ahab, accompanies Ahab in the search for grass to feed Ahab's animals
 18:6-8 Elijah encounters Obadiah and tells him to inform Ahab where to find him
 18:9-15 Because Obadiah fears for his life, Elijah chooses to go to Ahab
- 18:16-19** Elijah tells Ahab to call for a summit of all Israel to Mt. Carmel, along with his 450 prophets of Baal and Jezebel's 400 prophets of the grove (See note on 16:29-33)
- 18:20-37** Showdown between Elijah and the prophets of Baal
 18:20-24 Elijah proposes a contest involving the calling on the name of Baal or God, for fire from heaven to consume wood on an altar
 18:25-29 The prophets of Baal are unsuccessful in getting Baal to send fire from heaven
 18:30-37 Elijah repairs the altar of the LORD that had been torn down, has a trench built around it, drenches the altar and the trench with water from the Mediterranean, and calls on the name of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
- 18:38-40** God answers with fire from heaven, the people acknowledge the LORD to be God, and the 450 prophets of Baal are taken to the brook Kidron and slain by Elijah
- 18:41-45** Elijah prays at the top of Mount Carmel and rain returns to the land of Israel
- Acts**
- 11:1-18** Peter defends baptizing Cornelius before the Jews from Jerusalem
 11:1-3 Peter is confronted by those who are circumcised when he comes up to Jerusalem, upon hearing that Peter has eaten with uncircumcised men
 11:4-17 Peter explains why he went to the house of Cornelius, and why he baptized him and his household
 11:18 The Jews quiet down, accept Peter's testimony, and praise God for granting salvation to Gentiles
- 11:19-21** The Gospel spreads to Gentiles in Antioch of Syria
- 11:22-24** The church at Jerusalem sends Barnabas to evaluate the genuineness of their conversion
- 11:25-26** Barnabas leaves for Tarsus to bring Saul back to Antioch to teach the Christian way of life
- 11:27-30** Agabus prophesies a famine which comes to pass during the reign of Claudius Caesar; an offering is sent by the hands of Barnabas and Saul to the church at Jerusalem from the church at Antioch as a gesture of goodwill
- Psalm 135:** **A COMMAND FOR THE LORD'S PRIESTS**
- 135:1-2** To lead the congregation of Israel in praise for the LORD as they minister in the Temple
- 135:3-18** Reasons to praise the LORD
 135:3-4 For choosing Israel
 135:5-7 For His power over nature
 135:8-12 For His deliverance of Israel from her enemies
 135:13-18 For His responsiveness to His people in contrast to idols
- 135:19-21** To lead the congregation of Israel in blessing the name of the LORD
- Proverbs**
- 17:12** What would be better than meeting a fool in his folly?
- 17:13** What will happen to the person who rewards evil for good?

June 18**Northern Kingdom of Israel (continued)**

Ahab's Reign (continued)

- 1 Kings** Elijah's Flight from Jezebel
19:1-2 Queen Jezebel's threat to kill Elijah
19:3-8 Elijah's flight for forty days and nights to Mt. Sinai, and the LORD'S provision for food
19:9-14 The LORD rebukes Elijah at Mt. Sinai
 19:9-10 The LORD's question the first time and Elijah's response
 19:11-12 The LORD's manifestation of His power to Elijah
 19:13-14 The LORD's same question the second time and Elijah's same response
19:15-17 The LORD commands Elijah to anoint Elisha to replace him, and Elisha forsakes all to follow Elijah
19:18 The LORD informs Elijah that He has reserved to Himself seven thousand in Israel who have not bowed the knee to Baal, (cf. Romans 11:1-5)
- Acts**
12:1-5 King Herod executes the apostle James (brother of John) and arrests Peter for the same purpose after Easter or Passover
12:6-11 The angel of the Lord rescues Peter from prison
12:12-17 Peter goes to the house of Mary, the mother of John Mark
 12:12-15 Those gathered behind closed doors in prayer for Peter do not believe at first that Peter is at the door
 12:16-17 Peter instructs those praying to inform James of his deliverance, so that he can spread the good news to the church gathered in homes elsewhere throughout Jerusalem
 Note: The church in Jerusalem is meeting secretly in homes because of persecution. James, the Lord's half-brother, is the pastor and it is he who knows where to contact the church members to give them this information
12:18-19 King Herod's wrath against the prison guards
12:20-23 Why the angel of the Lord smites king Herod at Caesarea with a fatal disease (of the Intestines)
 Note: Verse 20: These cities had to import grain, which was plentiful in the fields of Israel
- Psalm 136:** **THE LORD'S MERCY ENDURES FOREVER**
 Note: The Hebrew word for mercy is better rendered as the feeling of lovingkindness which motivates actions of mercy
- 136:1-3** A call to give thanks because He is good, the God of gods, and His mercy endures forever
136:4-9 For His mercy because of His wisdom in creation
136:10-15 For His mercy in delivering Israel from bondage to Egypt
136:16-22 For His mercy in His judgment upon Sihon, Og, and the kings of Canaan
136:23-25 For His mercy in delivering Israel from all their enemies and providing for their daily needs
136:26 A renewed call to give thanks to the God of heaven because His mercy endures forever
- Proverbs**
17:14 A reason to avoid unnecessary strife and quarrels
17:15 The kind of judge who is an abomination to the LORD

June 19**Northern Kingdom of Israel (continued)**

Ahab's Reign (continued)

- 1 Kings** Ahab's war with Syria
20:1-4 Ben-Hadad's siege of Samaria, his demand, and Ahab's initial response
20:5-12 Ben-Hadad's second demand and Ahab's response after seeking advice
20:13-14 A prophet informs Ahab of the LORD'S intent to deliver him from Ben-Hadad and his army, so that Ahab might know that He is the LORD
20:15-21 Ben-Hadad is defeated and flees with his army
20:22 A prophet warns Ahab to prepare for a second attack the next year
20:23-25 The reason Ben-Hadad's servants give him for their previous defeat, and their advice for him on how to attack again and win
20:26-28 Ben-Hadad prepares to attack, and a man of God informs Ahab of two reasons God will give Ahab victory
20:29-30 Ben-Hadad's overwhelming defeat and flight to Aphek
20:31-34 Ahab spares Ben-Hadad and forms an alliance with him
20:35-43 How a prophet of God is able to deceive Ahab into sentencing himself to death?
Naboth's vineyard
21:1-4 The reason Naboth refuses to sell his vineyard to Ahab, (cf. Leviticus 25:23)
21:5-16 Queen Jezebel plots Naboth's death to seize his vineyard
21:17-24 The LORD sends Elijah to curse both King Ahab and Queen Jezebel
21:25-26 There has been no one like Ahab who has sold himself to be wicked due to the enticement of his wife, Jezebel; equivalent to the abominations of the Amorites whom the LORD cast out of the land before the Israelites
21:27-29 Ahab's humility and the LORD'S response
Note: The LORD would do the same for his son if he humbled himself, (2 Kings 9:24-25)
- Acts**
12:24-25 King Herod's persecution does not stop the spread of the Gospel, and Barnabas and Saul return to Antioch from Jerusalem with John Mark after they complete their mission in Jerusalem
- Paul's First Missionary Journey Begins**
- 13:1-3** Barnabas and Saul are commissioned by the church at Antioch of Syria for their first missionary journey
13:4-12 Their ministry on the island of Cyprus, and Saul's pronouncement of God's judgment upon Elymas the sorcerer resulting in the conversion of the deputy (Saul of Tarsus is now called Paul)
13:13 The arrival of Paul and his company at Perga in Pamphylia, and John Mark's decision to return to Jerusalem
13:14-15 The arrival of Paul and Barnabas in Antioch of Pisidia, and their invitation to speak in the synagogue on the Sabbath
- Psalm 137:** **MOURNING BY THE RIVERS OF BABYLON**
137:1-3 The Babylonians sarcastically request that the Jews they captured sing a song of Zion
137:4-6 But how can they sing the LORD'S song in a strange land? How can they forget Jerusalem?
137:7-9 An appeal for the LORD to not forget what those of Edom and Babylon have done
- Proverbs**
17:16 For whom money cannot buy wisdom?

June 20**Northern Kingdom of Israel (continued)**

Ahab's Reign (continued)

- 1 Kings** **Ahab's death**
- 22:1-4** Ahab's campaign in alliance with Jehosaphat to recapture Ramoth of Gilead
- 22:5-8** Ahab's reaction regarding hearing the word of Micaiah the prophet
- 22:9-15** Micaiah's sarcasm in repeating the advice of Ahab's prophets
- 22:16-17** Micaiah's prophecy of Ahab's death, if he goes into battle
- 22:18-23** Micaiah warning for Ahab to not listen to the lying spirit in the mouths of Ahab's prophets
- 22:24-25** Micaiah's prophecy against Zedekiah, Ahab's prophet
- 22:26-28** Ahab orders the arrest of Micaiah
- 22:29-38** Ahab's death in battle in spite of his disguise, and the licking of his blood by dogs in fulfillment of Elijah's earlier prophecy, (1 Kings 21:19)
- 22:39-40** Ahab's son Ahaziah succeeds him to the throne of Israel
- Southern Kingdom of Judah**
- 22:41-49** Jehosaphat's rule is right in the sight of the LORD in removing homosexuals allowed to remain in the land by his father Asa; yet idolatry continues among the people. He also makes peace with Israel
- 22:50** Jehosaphat dies and his son Jehoram succeeds
- Northern Kingdom of Israel**
- 22:51-53** Ahaziah's reign is evil like that of his father Ahab, mother Jezebel, and Jeroboam

Acts**Paul's First Missionary Journey (continued)**

- 13:16-41** Paul's sermon at the synagogue in Antioch of Pisidia
- 13:16 Paul urges those attending who fear God , whether they be Jews or Gentiles, to listen to what he has to say
- 13:17-23 The God of Israel tolerated her disobedience, from the time of Egypt to the time of king David, through whom He promised to raise up for them a Savior, Jesus
- 13:24-26 From the time of John the Baptist, the message of salvation through Jesus has been given to those who first fear God
- 13:27-31 That the crucifixion of Jesus by the Jews who rejected him was due to ignorance, not realizing that they were fulfilling God's prophecy concerning him
- 13:32-39 That the resurrection of Jesus apart from corruption proves he is the divine Son of God of whom David prophesied, and that those who believe in his righteousness rather than their own will be justified from the condemnation of the Law
- 13:40-41 That those who despise the message of Jesus, should beware of Isaiah's warning that God cause them to go on in their unbelief to their own condemnation

Psalm 138:**KING DAVID'S COMMITMENT TO THE LORD**

- 138:1** To praise Him with his whole heart publicly before other so-called gods
- 138:2** To worship Him towards the holy temple and to praise His name
- 138:3** To cite his reason to praise and worship
- 138:4-6** What will cause all the kings of the earth to praise the LORD?
- 138:7-8** Why the LORD will preserve David from his enemies?

Proverbs

- 17:17** The difference between a friend and a brother
- 17:18** A man who is void of understanding

June 21**Northern Kingdom of Israel (continued)**

The Reign of Ahaziah, (continued)

<u>2 Kings</u>	<u>Ahaziah's death</u>
1:4	Why an angel of the LORD sends Elijah to foretell Ahaziah's death?
1:5-8	How Ahaziah knows that it is Elijah who spoke to his messengers?
1:9-10	Elijah calls down fire from heaven upon fifty soldiers sent against him by Ahaziah
1:11-12	The same occurs a second time
1:13-15	Why Elijah does not do so a third time?
1:16-18	Ahaziah dies, as Elijah said, and Jehoram succeeds, (also named Joram at times, in order to not be confused with Jehoram who succeeds Jehosaphat, (1 Kings 22:50)

Elisha Begins His Prophetic Ministry

2:1-6	Elisha refuses to let Elijah go without him to Bethel or to Jericho?
2:7-8	How they cross the Jordan River and those who watch?
2:9-10	How Elisha will know if his request for a double portion of Elijah's power from the LORD is granted?
2:11-12	What Elisha says when Elijah is taken up by chariot in a whirlwind?
2:13-15	How Elisha crosses back over the Jordan River, and the response of the other prophets who watch?
2:16-18	Their unsuccessful search for Elijah
2:19-22	Elisha purifies the poisonous water at Jericho
2:23-24	What happens to forty-two young men who mock Elisha as he goes to Bethel?
2:25	Elisha's journey north to Carmel, before returning to Samaria?

Note: Perhaps to reflect on the highlight of Elijah's ministry on that mountain

Acts**Paul's First Missionary Journey (continued)**

13:42-45	Paul and Barnabas return the next week to the same synagogue, and the reason the Jews become hostile to their ministry
13:46-48	The reason Paul and Barnabas say they will turn to the Gentiles
	<u>Note:</u> Those who are ordained to believe are those who first fear God, (cf. 13:26)
13:49-52	The reason they shake the dust off of their feet upon leaving to go to Iconium
14:1-7	The reason they leave Iconium and go on to Lycaonia, to Lystra, to Derbe, and the surrounding region

Psalm 139:**KING DAVID MARVELS AT THE LORD**

139:1-6	Because the LORD heaven knows what he does, thinks, and says on earth
139:7-12	Because David cannot hide from the LORD
139:13-16	Because the LORD formed him in his mother's womb
139:17-18	Because the LORD thinks about him all the time
139:19-22	David asks that the LORD kill his enemies who seek to kill him and hate the LORD
139:23-24	David asks that the LORD search his own heart and reveal any wickedness in him

Proverbs

17:19	The purpose of the one who loves strife and exalts his gate (or opens his mouth to cause strife)
17:20	The end result of the one who has a froward or stubborn heart and a perverse tongue
17:21	The response of a father who begets a fool

June 22**Northern Kingdom of Israel (continued)**

The Reign of Joram

2 Kings

- 3:1-3** Joram does evil in the sight of the LORD, but not to the degree of his father Ahab and his Mother Jezebel
- 3:4-9a** Joram requests that Jehosophat help him fight against Mesha, king of Moab, who has rebelled against paying tribute to Israel. They are joined by the king of Edom
- 3:9b-12** The three kings, at Jehosophat's request, consult with Elisha the prophet when they run out of water on their journey to battle
- 3:13-14** Elisha says that if it were not for Jehosophat, he would not speak to Joram
- 3:15-19** The hand of the LORD comes upon Elisha as a minstrel plays music, and tells them that the LORD will fill the valley with water without them hearing any wind, or seeing any rain; that the LORD will also give them victory over the Moabites
- 3:20-27** The LORD fulfills Elisha's prophecy in a miraculous way
Elisha's miraculous ministry
- 4:1-7** Elisha multiplies oil for a widow of one of the prophets under his charge so that she is able to pay her creditor, spare her two sons from bondage, and meet their daily needs
- 4:8-10** A Shunamite woman has her husband make a little chamber on the wall of their home to provide for Elisha as he passes by, because she perceives him to be an holy man of God
- 4:11-17** Elisha foretells that she will have a son within the same year, even though she has none and her husband is old; the prophecy is fulfilled

Acts**Paul's First Missionary Journey (continued)**

- 14:8-10** Paul commands a lame man from birth at Lystra to rise on his feet; he does, and walks
- 14:11-12** The crowd believes Paul and Barnabas to be gods in the form of men, having come from Jupiter (*the largest planet in our solar system and worshipped as the chief god*) and Mercury (*the smallest planet in our solar system and god of oratory*)
Note: This pagan idea originated with man's worship of the events described in Genesis six and Jude 5
- 14:13-18** Barnabas and Paul rebuke the people for their idolatry, and urge them to worship the true God and creator of all
- 14:19-20** Paul is later stoned and left for dead, restored, and leaves the next day with Barnabas for the city of Derbe
- 14:21-25** What Paul tells the new disciples to expect as they return through Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch of Pisidia to plant new local churches?
- 14:26-28** Their report to the church at Antioch of Syria upon completion of their journey, and long stay afterwards

Psalm 140:**KING DAVID'S PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM THE EVIL AND VIOLENT MAN**

- 140:1-5** Their conspiracy against him
- 140:6-8** A plea to not let them succeed
- 140:9-11** A plea for the LORD to let burning coals fall upon them, (cf. Romans 12:20)
- 140:12-13** David's confidence in the LORD's answer to his prayer

Proverbs**17:22**

A contrast between the physiological effect of a cheerful attitude and a broken spirit

June 23

<u>2 Kings</u>	Elisha's ministry, (continued)
4:18-21	The Shunamite woman's son dies
4:22-30	She goes to find Elisha at Mount Carmel
4:31-37	Elisha returns and raises her son from the dead, (cf. 1 Kings 17:17-24)
4:38-41	Elisha purifies poisoned stew at Gilgal, (cf. 2 Kings 2:19-22)
4:42-44	Elisha multiplies bread, (cf. 1 Kings 17:8-16 and Matthew 14:15-21)
5:1-9	The reason Naaman, captain of the host or army of the king of Syria, goes to Israel to find Elisha
5:10-14	How Naaman is cured of his leprosy?
5:15-19	The reason Naaman requests to take some dirt back to Syria
5:20-27	The reason Elisha's servant becomes leprous

Acts**Paul's First Missionary Journey (continued)**

15:1-4	The reason the church at Antioch of Syria sends Paul and Barnabas up to Jerusalem
	<u>Note:</u> Luke now begins to name Paul before Barnabas, (cf. Acts 14:14)
15:5-11	The evidence Peter gives in the conversion of Cornelius to prove that Gentiles are saved by faith in Christ apart from being circumcised
15:12	The evidence Barnabas and Paul give from their first missionary journey among Gentiles
15:13-21	What James (the half-brother of Jesus) proclaims to be his decision in the matter as leader of the church at Jerusalem?
	<u>Note:</u> See comment on Acts 12:12-17
15:22-29	Who is sent to return with Paul and Barnabas to the church at Antioch of Syria, and what the letter says that they deliver from the Jerusalem Council
15:30-35	How the church at Antioch of Syria responds to the letter?

Psalm 141:**KING DAVID'S PLEA REGARDING THE WICKED****141:1-4** His plea to the LORD for himself to not be like the wicked**141:5-10** His plea to the LORD against his enemies because they are wicked**Proverbs****17:23**

Money is used as a bribe by a wicked person to pervert justice?

June 24**Northern Kingdom of Israel (continued)**

Reign of Joram, (continued)

<u>2 Kings</u>	Elisha's ministry, (continued)
6:1-7	Elisha causes an expensive ax head which was borrowed to float on water
6:8-12	Elisha reveals to Joram every secret plan the king of Syria makes in warring against Israel
6:13-17	The LORD's angels, on horses of chariots and fire, protect Elisha in Dothan from the army of Syria
6:18-20	Elisha leads the army of Syria - who have been made blind by the LORD in answer to Elisha's prayer - to Joram in Samaria
6:21-23	Elisha refuses to allow Joram to kill them, and tells Joram instead to feed them. The soldiers of Syria cease to raid Israel due to the kindness shown to them
6:24-25	After this, Ben-hadad king of Syria besieges Samaria, causing a great shortage of food
6:26-31	When a mother appeals to him for help after having boiled and eaten her son, Joram blames Elisha and threatens to take his head
6:32-33	Elisha refuses to allow Joram's messenger in the house
7:1-2	Instead, Elisha prophesies Israel's deliverance the next day at that time from the Syrian army, as well as the death of Joram's military officer who ridiculed Elisha's prophecy
7:3-16	A surprising discovery by four lepers in the camp of Ben-hadad's army, and their report upon returning to Samaria; king Joram's response
7:17-20	Elisha's prophecy fulfilled regarding the availability of food the next day and the death of Joram's military officer,

Acts**Paul's Second Missionary Journey Begins**

15:36-41	Paul and Barnabas go their separate ways on a second missionary journey from Antioch of Syria due to a dispute over John Mark
16:1-3	Timothy joins Paul at Lystra whom Paul circumcises because the Jews know his father to be a Greek
16:4-5	Paul delivers the decrees of the Jerusalem Council to the cities of Galatia and the response of the churches
16:6-7	Paul journeys westward, but does not feel peace from the Holy Spirit to minister at that time either in Asia Minor or in Bithynia
16:8-12	Paul receives a vision at Troas to go to Macedonia and leaves for Philippi
16:13-15	The conversion of Lydia, a business woman, and her hospitality to Paul and his team <u>Note:</u> The Lord opens her heart to believe because she first fears God, (cf. 16:14 with the note on 13:46-48)

Psalm 142:**DAVID'S PRAYER WHILE IN A CAVE**

142:1-4	His desperate situation
142:5-7	His prayer for deliverance

Proverbs

17:24	The difference in focus of a person with understanding and a fool
17:25	The emotional effect of a foolish son upon a mom and a dad

June 25**2 Kings****8:1-2**

The Shunamite woman leaves to live in the land of the Philistines, because of Elisha's warning her of a seven year famine about to come upon Israel

8:3-6

Her land is restored back to her by the king of Israel upon her return with her son, whom Elisha raised from the dead

8:7-10

Ben-hadad, king of Syria, becomes sick and seeks a word from Elisha as to whether or not he will recover, at which time Elisha foretells his messenger, Hazael, that the king will recover only to die afterwards

8:11-13

The reason Elisha weeps when informing Hazael that he will become king of Syria is because he knows the violence he will do to Israel

8:14—15

Hazael lies to Ben-Hadad regarding the prophecy of Elisha, murders him, and then succeeds him

Southern Kingdom of Judah**8:16-19**

Jehoram does evil in the sight of the LORD and marries the daughter of Ahab, king of Israel; yet the reason the LORD does not destroy Judah

8:20-22

Edom and Libnah revolt against Judah

8:23-24

Jehoram dies and Ahaziah succeeds

8:25-27

Ahaziah does evil in the sight of the LORD, being the son-in-law to Omri of the house of Ahab

Northern Kingdom of Israel**8:28-29**

Ahaziah, king of Judah, forms an alliance with Joram, king of Israel, against Hazael of Syria; Joram is wounded and Ahaziah goes down to visit him in Jezreel

9:1-3

Elisha sends a young man of the prophets to anoint Jehu as king of Israel

9:4-10

Jehu's destruction of the house of Ahab is foretold upon his being anointed

9:11-13

Jehu is proclaimed king of Israel

Acts**Paul's Second Missionary Journey, (continued)**

Paul casts a spirit of divination out of a slave girl in Philippi

16:19-24

Paul and Silas are cast into prison for ruining the financial profit of those who are using her

16:25-34

An earthquake occurs at midnight while they sing praises to God, and the jailor and his household are saved when Paul assures him that none of the prisoners have escaped

16:35-38

The reason Paul demands that he be escorted by the city officials in a public manner

16:39-40

They leave Philippi at the request of the city officials

Psalm 143:**KING DAVID'S PLEA FOR THE LORD'S MERCY AND DELIVERANCE FROM HIS ENEMIES****143:1-2**

His appeal is based upon the LORD'S righteousness, not his

143:3-9

His desperate situation

143:10-12

His desire to be delivered on the basis of his desire to be taught God's ways of righteousness

Proverbs**17:26**

Two examples of punishment as an abuse of justice

June 26**2 Kings****Northern Kingdom of Israel (continued)**

- 9:1-26** Joram is assassinated by Jehu on Naboth's property
- 9:27-29** Ahaziah, king of Judah, is assassinated
- 9:30-37** Jezebel, Ahab's wife, is killed and the dogs eat her flesh as Elijah had prophesied, (1 Kings 21:23)
- 10:1-11** Ahab's seventy sons are assassinated as Elijah had prophesied, (1 Kings 21:19-29, 2 Kings 9:7-10)
- 10:12-14** Forty-two relatives of Ahaziah are executed by Jehu upon their visit to Samaria
- 10:15-17** All of Ahab's family are killed in fulfillment of Elijah's prophecy
- 10:18-28** The prophets of Baal are deceived and slaughtered in the Temple of Baal
- 10:29-31** Jehu does not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, even though the LORD promises that his sons will sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation

Acts**Paul's Second Missionary Journey, (continued)**

- 17:1-4** The response to Paul's preaching and his proving that Jesus is the Christ for three Sabbath days in the synagogue at Thessalonica
- 17:5-9** The reason unbelieving Jews start a riot and assault the house of Jason
- 17:10-12** Paul and Barnabas are sent to Berea, where the Jews were more noble than those of Thessalonica
- 17:13-15** Paul is sent to Athens, due to the disruption of the Jews at Berea from Thessalonica
- 17:16-18** Paul's witness in the marketplace against idolatry
- 17:19-31** Paul's sermon on Mars Hill
- 17:19-21 Paul is invited to speak to philosophers on Mars Hill
 - 17:22-23 He says he will explain to them who the "UNKNOWN GOD" they commemorate on one of their idolatrous altars
 - 17:24-29 The "UNKNOWN GOD" to them is the only true God who created all things, does not need a temple in which to dwell, and divided the world into separate nations in order that those who seek to know the true God will have the freedom to do so
 - 17:30-31 He no longer overlooks their idolatry, but commands all men everywhere to repent because He has raised up a man by whom He will judge the world
- Note: Many theologians and preachers today assert that the "non-elect" cannot repent. Yet Paul declares that God graciously leads man to where he can repent and holds him accountable if he doesn't, (cf. Romans 2:4-6 and Acts 17:30)
- 17:32-34** A three-fold response to Paul's message (The same holds true today)

Psalm 144:**HAPPY ARE THOSE WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD**

- 144:1-2** The LORD who gives him the victory in battle
- 144:3-8** The LORD against whom is no match
- 144:9-11** King David promises to sing a new song of victory unto the LORD
- 144:12-15** His motivation in praising God

Proverbs

- 17:27** Evidence in one's words and attitude of having knowledge and understanding
- 17:28** When even a fool is thought to be wise?

June 27**2 Kings****Northern Kingdom of Israel (continued)****10:32-33** The land of Gilead is taken by Hazael of Syria**10:34-36** Jehu dies and Jehoahaz succeeds**Southern Kingdom of Judah****11:1-4** The boy Joash is hidden in the Temple from Athaliah, Queen of Judah, for six years**11:5-12** Joash is crowned king and is protected from Athaliah by the priest Jehoiada**11:13-16** Athaliah is executed**11:17-18** Jehoiada makes a covenant between the people and the LORD, the temple of Baal is destroyed, and the priest of Baal is executed in front of the idolatrous altars in the Temple**11:19-21** Joash becomes king at the age of seven, is escorted to his throne, and Athaliah is killed**12:1-3** Joash does right in the sight of the LORD, but the people still practice idolatry**12:4-16** Joash demands that there be proper stewardship of the monies collected for repair of the LORD'S Temple

12:4-8 Joash inquires why the monies being collected for repairs to the Temple are not being used by the priests for that purpose

12:9-12 How the collections from that time on are monitored to see to it that the repairs are done

12:13-16 How the laborers are paid

12:17-18 The means by which Joash keeps Hazael from attacking Jerusalem**12:19-21** Joash is assassinated and Amaziah reigns in his stead**Acts****Paul's Second Missionary Journey, (continued)****18:1-3** Paul meets Aquila and Priscilla at Corinth and helps them in their tent-making business**18:4-6** The reason Paul turns from Jews at the synagogue to the Gentiles**18:7-8** Initial converts to faith in Christ**Note:** Paul later explains why he did not baptize most of them, (1 Corinthians 1:14-19)**18:9-11** The reason Paul stays in Corinth for a year and six months**18:12-17** Paul's treatment by Gallio before the Judgment Seat in Corinth**18:18-20** Paul sails for Ephesus with Priscilla and Aquila, and leaves them there**Note:** In order for them to get re-established whereby he can join them later after his trip to Jerusalem on his third missionary journey. From their example emerges the modern concept of missions called "tent making"**18:21-22** Paul sails for Jerusalem, after which he goes down to Antioch of Syria**Psalm 145:****DAVID PROMISES TO EXTOL THE LORD AS HIS GOD AND KING****145:1-3** Every day, forever and ever**145:4-7** From one generation to another**145:8-10** For His goodness**145:11-13** For His everlasting kingdom**145:14-16** For His faithfulness to those who are cast down or in need**145:17-20** For His righteousness in choosing whom He hears and observes**145:21** A call for all to make the same commitment to praise the LORD forever and ever**Proverbs****18:1**

The reason a man isolates himself from the wisdom of others

June 28**2 Kings****13:1-2**

Jehoahaz does evil in the sight of the LORD, following the sins of Jeroboam

13:3-5

Two reasons the LORD delivers Israel from the Syrian oppression

13:6

Yet the nation continues in the sins of Jeroboam

13:7

The reduction in size of Jehoahaz's cavalry and army due to their battles with Syria

13:8-9

Jehoahaz dies and Joash (or Jehoash) succeeds (same name as for the king of Judah, 13:10)

13:10-11

Jehoash does evil in the sight of the LORD, not departing from the sins of Jeroboam

13:12-13

Jehoash dies and Jeroboam (the second) succeeds

13:14-19

Elisha prophesies on his death bed of Jehoash's future victory in battle over Syria only three times

13:20-21

A dead man comes back to life when his body touches the bones of Elisha

13:22-23

The reason the LORD does not allow Israel to be totally destroyed or cast out of the land

13:24-25

Hazael of Syria dies, his son Ben-hadad succeeds, and Elisha's prophecy regarding Ben-hadad's defeat three times is fulfilled

Southern Kingdom of Judah**14:1-4**

Amaziah does right in the sight of the LORD, yet the people continue to sacrifice on the high places devoted to the worship of idols

14:5-6

The reason Amaziah does not kill the sons of those he executed for killing his father

14:7

His defeat of Edom in the Valley of Salt

14:8-10

Amaziah challenges Jehoash to a battle, upon which the king of Israel sends a parable to Amaziah warning him against pride after his victory over Edom

14:11-14

Jehoash attacks Jerusalem, defeats Amaziah , and takes hostages as well as treasures from the Temple and the king's palace

14:15-16

Jehoash dies and Jeroboam (the second) succeeds (repeat of 13:12-13)

14:17-22

Amaziah is assassinated and Azariah succeeds

Northern Kingdom of Israel**14:23-24**

Jeroboam II does evil in the sight of the LORD, not departing from the sins of Jeroboam I

14:25

Jeroboam II restores the boundaries of Israel in fulfillment of Jonah's prophecy

14:26-27

Why the LORD saves Israel from extinction during the reign of Jeroboam II?

14:28-29

Jeroboam II dies and Zechariah succeeds

Paul's Third Missionary Journey Begins**Acts****18:23**

After spending some time at the church in Antioch of Syria, Paul begins his third missionary journey by traveling throughout the regions of Galatia and Phrygia

18:24-26

Priscilla and Aquila explain the Christian way of life more completely to Apollos of Alexandria at Ephesus

18:27-28

Apollos goes to Achaia, proving from the Old Testament that Jesus is the Christ

19:1-7

Paul, in coming to Ephesus, baptizes twelve Jews in the name of Jesus who had not yet received the Holy Spirit, even though they had been baptized by John the Baptist, (see note on Acts 8:14-17)

19:8-11

The spread of the Gospel throughout all Asia after two years of ministry at Ephesus

Psalm 146:**REASONS TO TRUST IN THE LORD AND NOT IN MAN****Proverbs****18:2**

Why a fool has no delight in obtaining wisdom?

18:3

What one's wicked and shameful conduct attracts?

June 29**2 Kings****15:1-4**

Azariah (or Uzziah) does right in the sight of the LORD, yet the people still practice idolatrous sacrifices on the high places

15:5

The LORD smites Uzziah with leprosy so that he is quarantined in a separate house, and his son Jotham co-reigns

15:6-7

Uzziah dies and Jotham succeeds

Northern Kingdom of Israel**15:8-9**

Zechariah does evil in the sight of the LORD, departing not from the sins of Jeroboam I

15:10-12

Zechariah is assassinated by Shallum in fulfillment of Jehu's prophecy, and Shallum succeeds

15:13-15

Shallum is assassinated by Menahem who then succeeds

15:16-18

Menahem does evil in the sight of the LORD, departing not from the sins of Jeroboam I

15:19-20

Menahem pays tribute to Pul, king of Assyria in order to stop his invasion

15:21-22

Menahem dies and Pekahiah succeeds

15:23-24

Pekahiah does evil in the sight of the LORD, departing not from the sins of Jeroboam I

15:25-26

Pekahiah is assassinated by Pekah, who then succeeds

15:27-28

Pekah does evil in the sight of the LORD, departing not from the sins of Jeroboam I

15:29

1st deportation of Israelites to Assyria by Tiglathpileseser, king of Assyria

15:30-31

Pekah is assassinated by Hoshea, who then succeeds

Southern Kingdom of Judah**15:32-36**

Jotham does right in the sight of the LORD, yet the people still practice idolatrous sacrifices on the high places

15:37

The LORD begins to send Rezin, king of Syria, and Pekah, king of Israel, against Judah

15:38

Jotham dies and Ahaz succeeds

16:1-4

Ahaz does not do what is right in the sight of the LORD, walking in the ways of the kings of Israel, making his son pass through the fire, and performing idolatrous sacrifices on the high places

16:5-9

Ahaz seeks to appease Tiglathpileseser with silver and gold from the Temple and the king's palace; the king of Assyria captures the people of Damascus, deports them, and executes Rezin

16:10-16

Ahaz replaces the Altar of Burnt Offering with an idol he sees in Damascus

16:17-18

Ahaz makes other changes at the Temple to please the king of Assyria

16:19-20

Ahaz dies and his son Hezekiah succeeds

Acts**Paul's Third Missionary Journey, (continued)****19:13-16**

Seven sons of Sceva learn not to try and cast out demons in the name of Jesus and Paul

19:17-20

The burning of books on the occult by new converts in Ephesus

19:21-22

Paul sends Timothy and Erastus to Macedonia, with the intent of joining them later and then going on to Jerusalem and Rome

19:23-28

Demetrius stirs up fellow silversmiths and other businessmen against Paul

19:29-34

A mob is incited against Paul and his co-workers in an amphitheater in Ephesus

19:35-41

The town clerk convinces the mob to disperse

Psalm 147:**PRAISE THE LORD, O JERUSALEM****147:1-11**

Because Jerusalem will be restored

147:12-20

Because Jerusalem will be established

Proverbs**18:4**

The potential of words to soothe and refresh

18:5

When the court of justice becomes an injustice?

June 30**2 Kings****17:1-2**

Hoshea does evil in the sight of the LORD, but not to the degree of the kings before him

17:3-6

The siege of Samaria by the king of Assyria, and the second deportation to Assyria of all northern Israel

17:7-23

The reason the LORD delivers His own people into Assyrian captivity

17:7-12 Israel's idolatry

17:13-17 Israel's refusal to heed the LORD's continual warning

17:18-23 Israel's following the ways of Jeroboam 1

17:24-26

The reason the LORD sends lions among the Gentile idolaters who resettle in Israel

17:27-28

The king of Assyria sends a Jewish priest to teach the Gentiles God's Law

17:29

Yet the Gentiles continue their idolatry on the high places the Samaritans had made

17:30-41

They continue to this day to combine their worship of God with their idols

Southern Kingdom of Judah**18:1-3**

Hezekiah begins his reign and does that which is right in the sight of the LORD

18:4-6

He destroys the brazen serpent Moses made that is used as an idol, and there is no king like him in Judah, before or afterwards

18:7-12

King Shalmaneser, king of Assyria, besieges and captures Samaria after three years, and carries the northern ten tribes away into Assyria during the sixth year of the reign of Hezekiah

Acts**Paul's Third Missionary Journey, (continued)****20:1-3**

Paul journeys to Macedonia and then Greece for three months, after which he avoids a plot against him by re-routing through Macedonia

20:4-6

His trip back to Troas, along with seven of his co-workers

20:7-12

Paul's sermon at Troas on Sunday, the first day of the week, and his raising of Eutychus from the dead

20:13-38

Paul's final words to the elders of the church at Ephesus

20:13-17 The reason Paul sends for the elders of the church at Ephesus to come to him at Miletus

20:18-21 Paul reminds the elders of his faithfulness in message and conduct when planting the church while at Ephesus

20:22-24 Paul informs them that he is going to Jerusalem, knowing that imprisonment awaits him

20:24-31 Paul warns them to protect the church from false doctrine, even among themselves

20:32-35 Paul urges them to follow his example in not expecting to be paid for their service to the church as elders

Note: Paul does expect pastors to be paid, (cf. 1 Corinthians 9:3-14)

20:36-38 Paul's tearful departure after praying with the elders

Psalm 148:**PRAISE THE LORD, HEAVEN AND EARTH****148:1-6**

Reasons those in heaven should praise the LORD

148:7-14

Reasons those on earth should praise the LORD

Proverbs**18:6**

What a fool's lips invite?

18:7

Whose mouth causes his own destruction?

July 1**Northern Israel is in Assyrian Captivity
Southern Kingdom of Judah from Now On****2 Kings****18:13-16****The reign of Hezekiah**

Sennacherib, king of Assyria, invades in the fourteenth year of Hezekiah, and captures all the walled cities of Judah. Hezekiah pays a tribute of 300 talents of silver and 30 talents of gold, which he obtains from the treasures of the Temple and his palace, as well as gold from the doors and pillars of the Temple

18:17-25

Sennacherib sends his great army to Jerusalem. He also sends his commander to ridicule the inhabitants of Jerusalem if they seek help from the Pharaoh of Egypt, and to ridicule them if they seek the help of the LORD, claiming that it is the LORD who told him to go up against Jerusalem

18:26-35

Sennacherib offers the city their lives and deportation to a good land, provided that they do not listen to Hezekiah nor to their God

18:36-37

Three officials deliver with rent clothes what Sennacherib has said to king Hezekiah

19:1-4

Hezekiah girds himself with sackcloth and goes to the Temple; he sends the same three officials to the prophet Isaiah

19:5-7

Isaiah prophesies Sennacherib's return to Assyria and his assassination

19:8-13

Sennacherib sends a letter warning Hezekiah to not think that the LORD has delivered him, simply because he has been temporarily turned aside to defend against the king of Ethiopia

19:14-19

Hezekiah spreads the letter before the LORD at the Temple and prays

19:20-34

Isaiah prophesies of Jerusalem's deliverance, and gives a sign from the LORD

19:20-28 Isaiah tells Hezekiah that the LORD has heard his prayer, and that the LORD sees the arrogance of the king of Assyria

19:29-34 The LORD gives a sign to Hezekiah whereby he can be assured that the king of Assyria will not enter Jerusalem for the sake of David, His servant

19:35-37

Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled, 185,000 Syrian soldiers are killed by the angel of the LORD in one night, and Sennacherib is assassinated upon his return to Assyria

Note: Herodotus, an ancient historian at that time, says a plague of mice or rats caused the death

Acts**21:1-3**

Paul sails to Tyre of Syria

21:4-6

Stays a week among the disciples there, who warn him through the Spirit to not go to Jerusalem

21:7-9

Paul and his company stay with Philip the evangelist, who was one of the original seven deacons of the church at Jerusalem. Philip has four virgin daughters who prophesy

21:10-14

Paul rejects the urging of those with Philip and those of Paul's own traveling companions, to not go up to Jerusalem, when they hear the words of the prophet Agabus. But Paul tells them he is willing to die for the cause of Christ

21:15-16

Paul stays at the house of Mnason of Cyprus on his way to Jerusalem

Psalm 149:

Praise the LORD, O Zion

149:1-2

With a new song

149:3-4

With dance and timbrel and harp, (not dancing, cf. 2 Samuel 6:16)

149-5

With joyful singing aloud on their beds

145:6-9

For their vengeance upon God's enemies among the heathen (or Gentiles)

Proverbs**18:8**

The inward effect of listening to gossip

July 2**2 Kings****20:1-7****The reigns of Hezekiah (continued), Manasseh, Amon, and Josiah**

Hezekiah in those days becomes mortally ill; Hezekiah prays for his healing with weeping, and is promised fifteen more years and the LORD's continued protection of Jerusalem from the king of Assyria

20:8-11

Hezekiah asks the LORD for a sign of his healing and of Jerusalem's deliverance, to which the LORD causes the shadow to go back ten degrees on Ahaz's sun dial

Note: A westward facing flight of stairs in which the declining sun would normally cause the shadow to move upwards rather than backwards

20:12-19

Hezekiah returns the favor shown to him by the king of Babylon upon hearing of his illness, by showing his men all the treasures left in the Temple, his palace, and all of his kingdom; for which Isaiah prophesies the future deportation of all of Judah and his sons to Babylon during the days of Isaiah, (cf. Isaiah 1:2, 5:2,23)

20:20-21

Hezekiah's tunnel to bring water into the city of Jerusalem, his death, and Manasseh's reign in his stead, (an inscription at this tunnel was discovered in 1880)

21:1-6

The tremendous evil during the reign of king Manasseh for fifty-five years, provoking the LORD to anger

21:7-9

Manasseh seduces Judah to do more evil than the nations the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel possessed the land

21:10-15

The LORD warns through His servants the prophets of the harm He will bring upon Jerusalem and Judah

21:16-18

Manasseh's fills Jerusalem and Judah with the shedding of innocent blood, dies, and is succeeded by Amon (*note that it does not say that he went to his fathers*)

21:19-22

Amon does that which is evil in the sight of the LORD, as did his father Manasseh

21:23-26

Amon is assassinated and Josiah reigns in his stead

22:1-2

Josiah does that which is right in the sight of the LORD, as did king David

Acts**21:17-19**

Paul gives a report of his ministry among the Gentiles to James and all the elders of the church when he arrives at Jerusalem

21:20-25

Paul is exhorted to make an offering of purification from his Nazarite vow at the Temple, along with four other Jews, in order to prove that he does not teach Jews to forsake the Law of Moses after they believe in Christ

21:26

Paul complies with their request the next day

21:27-29

When the seven days for purification were almost ended, Jews from Ephesus recognize Paul at the Temple, lay hold on him, and stir up a mob against him

21:30-32

The chief captain hears of the tumult and spares Paul's life with his band of Roman soldiers

21:33-38

The chief captain has Paul bound with chains, takes him into the castle to give an explanation for the tumult, thinking him to be the Egyptian who had earlier led a rebellion of four thousand murderous men into the wilderness

Psalm 150:**PRAISE THE LORD, ALL WHO HAVE BREATH!**

The command to praise the LORD is given in each of the six verses! What a way to end the five hymnals of the book of Psalms, each ending with a Doxology of Praise.

Hymnal One: Psalm 1-41; Hymnal Two: Psalm 42-72; Hymnal Three: Psalm 73-89;
Hymnal Four: Psalm 90-106; and Hymnal Five: Psalm 107-150

Proverbs**18:9**

The similarity between a person who is lazy and one who is destructive

18:10

How the name of the LORD is like a strong tower?

July 3

<u>2 Kings</u>	The reign of Josiah, (continued)
22:3-7	Josiah orders that money be collected for repair of the Temple
22:8-10	A Book or the Law (or Torah, Genesis through Deuteronomy) is found in the Temple and read to King Josiah
22:11-13	Josiah orders an inquiry of the LORD because of what he hears read
22:14	Huldah, a prophetess, is consulted
22:15-20	Huldah reaffirms the LORD'S promise to destroy Jerusalem and Judah, but the LORD promises to not do so until Josiah dies
23:1-3	Josiah gathers all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem for the reading of the Law and for their renewal of their covenant to keep it
23:4-20	Josiah's greatest purge of idolatry ever, the destruction of the houses of the Sodomites (idolatrous homosexuals living next to the Temple), and the burning of the bones of the idolatrous priests on the altar at Bethel in fulfillment of the prophecy of the man of God during the days of king Jeroboam, (cf. 1 Kings 13:2)
23:21-23	Josiah commands the keeping of the greatest Passover ever in the eighteenth year of Josiah's reign
23:24-28	No king before or after like Josiah, yet the LORD did not turn away from His wrath against Judah for the evil done during the days of his father, Manasseh
23:29-30	Josiah is killed in battle against Pharaoh-necho, king of Egypt, at Megiddo, who had gone there to fight against the king of Assyria; is buried at Jerusalem, and Jehoahaz is anointed king in his place

Acts

21:39-40	The reason the chief captain allows Paul to speak to the mob on the stairs of the castle
22:1-16	Paul's defense before the mob
22:1-5	His past persecution of those who followed the "Way" of Jesus
22:6-10	His vision of Jesus while on his way to arrest believers in Damascus
22:11-16	His calling to be a witness for Jesus to both Jews and Gentiles

Psalms 1-41: THE FIRST HYMNAL OF CONGREGATIONAL SONGS FOR WORSHIP IN THE TEMPLE**Psalm 1: THE GODLY AND UNGODLY**

1:1-3	The promise of blessing on the godly
1:4-6	The promise of divine judgment on the ungodly

Proverbs

18:11	What the rich man depends upon for his security?
18:12	What precedes the destruction or the promotion of a man?

July 4**2 Kings****The reigns of Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, and Zedekiah**

- 23:31-32** Jehoahaz does evil in the sight of the LORD according to all that his fathers had done
- 23:33-34** Pharoah-nechoh deports Jehoahaz to Egypt where he dies, and appoints Jehoiakim – the son of Josiah-to reign in his place
- 23:35** Jehoiakim taxes in order to pay tribute to the Pharaoh of Egypt
- 23:36-37** Jehoiakim does evil in the sight of the LORD according to all that his fathers had done
- 24:1-4** The reason the LORD sends Nebuchadnezzar against Jerusalem and does not forgive
- 24:5-6** Jehoiakim dies and Jehoiachin succeeds
- 24:7** The reason the king of Egypt could not come to help against the king of Babylon
- 24:8-9** Jehoiachin does evil in the sight of the LORD according to all that his fathers had done
- 24:10-17** Nebuchadnezzar's first deportation of Jehoiachin and Jerusalem to Babylon, and his appointment of Zedekiah to reign in his stead
- 24:18-19** Zedekiah does evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done
- 24:20** Zedekiah rebels against the king of Babylon
- 25:1-3** Nebuchadnezzar's two year siege of Jerusalem
- 25:4-7** Zedekiah is captured in flight, his eyes put out, and deported to Babylon
- 25:8-12** Jerusalem is burned, and Nebuchadnezzar's second deportation takes place
- 25:13-17** The bronze, gold, and silver of the Temple is plundered
- 25:18-21** The remnant of Jewish leaders are deported and executed
- 25:22-24** Gedaliah is appointed to be governor of those left in Judah, who then urges the people to serve the king of Babylon
- 25:25-26** Gedaliah is assassinated at Mizpah, and all the people flee to Egypt in fear of the Babylonians
- 25:27-30** After thirty seven years of captivity, Evilmerodach, king of Babylon, frees Jehoiachin from prison, promotes him in Babylon, allows him to eat at his table, and gives him a daily allowance for the remainder of his days

Acts

- 22:17-21** Paul's defense before the mob (continued); Paul's having been warned by the Lord to leave Jerusalem and go to the Gentiles
- 22:22-24** The mob stops listening, demands that he die, and is taken into the prison barracks to be flogged
- 22:25-29** The reason Paul is not flogged as was intended, and his chains removed
- 22:30** The reason the chief captain calls for Paul to be brought before the Jewish Sanhedrin
- 23:1-9** The means by which Paul succeeds in getting the Pharisees to side with him against the Sadducees
- 23:10** The reason the chief captain sends soldiers to take Paul back to the castle

Psalm 2:**GOD'S BEGOTTEN SON ANOINTED KING OVER THE EARTH**

- 2:1-3** The rage against the LORD and His Son, and uniting to try to prevent His reign
Note: This will be fulfilled when Christ returns to conquer his enemies, (cf. Revelation 19:11-21)
- 2:4-6** The LORD's scorn at their attempt to prevent His begotten Son from being anointed king over the earth at Mount Zion
- 2:7-9** The Son's coming victorious crushing of all his enemies in coming to rule over this earth
- 2:10-12** Words of advice to kings and to judges in light of Christ's coming to reign

Proverbs**18:13**

The importance of hearing a matter before giving one's opinion

July 5**Historical Record of the Kings of Judah****1 Chronicles****Genealogical Record**

- 1:1-27** Family descendants, from Adam to Abraham through Seth, Noah, and Shem
- 1:28-33** Family descendants, of Ishmael
- 2:34-42** Family descendants of Esau
- 2:43-50** The kings descended from Esau
- 2:51-54** The chiefs descended from Edom
- 2:1-2** Family descendants of Jacob (or Israel)
- 2:3-17** Family record of Judah, Jacob's son (the kingly tribe of Israel) and his descendants
 - 2:3-4 Judah's five sons
 - 2:5-8 Descendants of Perez, Judah's firstborn son of Tamar
 - 2:9-17 Descendants of Hezron, son of Perez (to include Boaz, Jesse, and David through Hezron's son Ram)

Acts

- 23:11** The Lord comforts Paul the next night, telling him to be of good cheer because he will bear witness of the name of Jesus at Rome, as he has in Jerusalem
- 23:12-15** More than forty Jews vow not to break their fast until they kill Paul
- 23:16-22** How their plot is discovered?
- 23:23-24** The chief captain's plan to give a military escort of Paul to Caesarea
- 23:25-30** The chief captain's letter (Claudius Lysias) to Felix, the governor of Caesarea
- 23:31-35** Paul's confinement by Felix,= in Herod's judgment hall

Psalm 3:**DAVID'S PLEA WHEN FLEEING ABSALOM**

- 3:1-2** David acknowledges a time when he thought his situation of danger to be hopeless
- 3:3-5** David testifies to God's hearing and enabling him to sleep overnight in safety
- 3:6-8** David's responds to God's answer with a renewed determination to not fear, and prayer for deliverance from his enemies for victory over his enemies

Proverbs

- 18:14** The importance of one's attitude during times of physical sickness and disability
- 18:15** The means by which the wise seek knowledge

July 6**1 Chronicles** **Genealogical Record, (continued)**

- 2:18-55** Descendants of Hezron, (continued)
Note: Hezron's son, Caleb, is not to be confused with Caleb of Joshua's day, (cf. 4:15)
- 3:1-9** Descendants of king David, (who is in the blood line of Christ)
- 3:10-24** Descendants of king Solomon (who is in the blood line of Christ} to the Captivity

Genealogies of the Twelve Tribes and their Inheritance

- 4:1-4** Of the Tribe of Judah

Acts

- 24:1-21** Paul's defense before Felix at Caesarea
 24:1-9 Paul's accusers
 24:10-16 Paul's innocence
 24:17-21 Paul's unjust arrest
- 24:22-23** Felix's decision
24:24-27 Reasons for which Felix did not free Paul

Psalm 4: **DAVID'S CONFIDENCE IN THE LORD'S PROTECTION**

- 4:1-3** His call for God's mercy in protecting him because he is godly in his conduct
- 4:4-5** David gives advice as to how to deal with one's anger during the night, while lying on one's bed
Note: The apostle Paul quotes this verse in Ephesians 4:26 from the Septuagint Greek translation which reads to "be angry and sin not"
- 4:6-8** David expresses confidence in the LORD's protection, even though many are expressing their doubts

Proverbs

- 18:16** The positive effect of giving generous contributions (not as a bribe)
- 18:17** The benefit of getting a second opinion
- 18:18** The benefit of casting lots, (cf. Acts 1:26)

July 7**Genealogies of the Twelve Tribes and their Inheritance, (continued)****1 Chronicles**

- 4:5-23** Of the tribe of Judah, {continued, cf. 2:3-55)
4:24-43 Of the tribe of Simeon
5:1-10 Of the tribe of Reuben and the reason his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph
5:11-17 Of the tribe of Gad

Acts

- 25:1-5** Festus succeeds Felix, and refuses to go along with the Jews plot to bring Paul up to Jerusalem so that they can kill him
25:6-12 Paul appeals to Caesar, rather than accept the offer of Festus to try him in Caesarea
25:13-22 Festus explains the situation to King Agrippa, who decides to hear Paul himself the next day
25:23-27 Paul is brought before king Agrippa

Psalm 5:

- THE LORD'S DEFENCE OF THE RIGHTEOUS**
5:1-6 David pleads for God to hear his prayer, knowing that the LORD hates iniquity and violence
5:7-10 David describes himself as being different in conduct from his enemies, and prays for the LORD to destroy them
5:11-12 David calls for those who are righteous to rejoice because the LORD defends them

Proverbs

- 18:19** The difficulty in resolving a dispute with a brother who is offended

July 8**Family Record of the Tribes of the Sons of Jacob and their inheritance in the land, (continued)****1 Chronicles**

- 5:18-26** Family record of the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and ½ tribe of Manasseh making war with the Hagarites and taking possession of their land east of the Jordan until the captivity, and the reason the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul, king of Assyria, to conquer them and cause them to be carried away into captivity
- 6:1-30** Descendants of Levi
- 6:31-48** Levites who serve as Temple musicians
- 6:49-53** Aaron's sons who serve as priests in the Temple
- 6:54-65** Cities and lands for pasture given to the Levites
- 6:54-61 To the sons of Kohath
 - 6:62 To the sons of Gershom
 - 6:63 To the sons of Merari
 - 6:64-65 From the tribes of Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin
- 6:66-81** **Levitical Cities of Refuge**
- 6:66-70 To the sons of Kohath
 - 6:71-76 To the sons of Gershom
 - 6:77-81 To the sons of Merari

Acts

- 26:1-23** Paul's defense before king Agrippa
- 26:1-5 His expertise in knowing the Law, being a Pharisee
 - 26:6-11 His persecution of believers as a Pharisee
 - 26:12-18 His vision of Jesus on the road to Damascus, and his calling to witness to Gentiles
 - 26:19-23 His witness to both Jews and Gentiles
- 26:24-32** King Agrippa's response

Psalm 6: **David's Prayer for Mercy**

- 6:1-3** Because of the LORD'S chastisement
- 6:4-5** Because David cannot publicly praise the LORD from the grave
- 6:6-7** Because of David's enemies
- 6:8-10** David's declaration of faith that the LORD has heard his supplications and prayers

Proverbs

- 18:20** The positive effect of one's words upon his ability to be satisfied while eating his food
- 18:21** The importance of one's words as a matter of life or death

July 9**Family Record of the Tribes of the Sons of Jacob and their inheritance in the land, (continued)****1 Chronicles**

- 7:1-5** Family record of Issachar
7:6-12 Family record of Benjamin
7:13 Family record of Naphtalai
7:14-29 Family record of Joseph's sons; ½ of the tribe of Manasseh on the west side of the Jordan River) and the tribe of Ephraim
7:30-40 Family record of Asher
8:1-40 Additional family record of Benjamin (to include Saul and Jonathan)

Acts**Paul's Journey to Rome**

- 27:1-5** The first ship from Caesarea to Myra
27:6-8 The second ship of Alexandria at Myra, a city of Lycia, bound for Italy
27:9-12 Paul's warning at a stopover on the island of Crete disregarded by the Roman centurion
27:13-20 Despair on the ship when encountering a hurricane named Euroclydon

Psalm 7:**DAVID'S PSALM CONCERNING THE WORDS OF CUSH, THE BENJAMITE**

- 7:1-2** David appeals for God's deliverance from those trying to kill him
7:3-5 David prays for God's judgment upon him if he has been violent without just cause
7:6-9 David prays for God's retribution upon his enemies if he has not been guilty
7:10-17 David's declaration of God's righteousness in deciding whom to judge

Proverbs

- 18:22** Finding a wife as the LORD'S blessing upon a man

July 10**1 Chronicles****9:1-44 Jerusalem's inhabitants upon their return from Babylonian captivity**

- 9:1-6** Those from the tribe of Judah
9:7-9 Those from the tribe of Benjamin
9:10-13 Those of the Levitical priests
9:14-16 Those of the other Levites
9:17-27 The responsibilities of the gatekeepers of the Temple
9:28-34 The responsibilities of the other Levites at the Temple

The Chronological Record completed

- 9:35-44** The Family record of King Saul and his sons
10:1-6 The death of King Saul and his sons at the hands of the Philistines
10:7-12 The recovery of the bodies of King Saul and his sons from the Philistines
10:13-14 The reason Saul died and his kingdom was given to David

Acts**Paul's Journey to Rome (continued)**

- 27:21-26** The reason Paul assures them they will not die
27:27-32 The reason the only life boat was cut away from the ship
27:33-38 The reason they all ate in the midst of the storm
27:39-44 The shipwreck and reason all the prisoners were spared from being executed; the safe swim by all to the island of Melita

Psalm 8:**MAN'S FUTURE EXALTATION OVER THE ANGELS**

- 8:1-2** Which will occur when the LORD's name alone is praised in all the earth
8:3-5 Which will occur when man, who was created lower than the angels, is crowned with glory and honor above the angels
8:6-8 When man at that time will be given dominion over the work of God's fingers in the heavens, as well as restored to having dominion over the animals, birds, and fish of the sea

Note: The work of God's fingers over which man will one day have dominion is the moon and stars mentioned in verse three, where the Devil and his angels presently navigate. The fulfillment of this prophecy will take place during the Millennium, or the "world to come," (cf. Hebrews 2:5-8)

Proverbs

- 18:23** How the rich respond to the entreaties of the poor?
18:24 A way to win friends, and the importance of their friendship

July 11**The Reign of King David****1 Chronicles**

- 11:1-3** The reason all Israel gathered at Hebron to anoint David king in place of Saul
- 11:4-9** David captures the city of Jerusalem and lives in the castle on Mt. Zion. Joab is made his chief military man because he killed the Jebusites who lived there. From then on, it is known as the city of David
- David's Thirty Mighty Men**
- 11:10-19** The three mighty men who risked their lives to get David a drink
- Note: Cave of Adullam, (see 1 Samuel 22:1 and Psalm 57:1)
- 11:20-47** Other mighty men who were as famous, or more famous
- Note: V.23, the Egyptian was about 7 1/2 feet tall; his spear weighed about 17 lbs
- Note: V.41, Uriah the Hittite, (cf. 2 Samuel 11)
- David's Army**
- 12:1-7** Benjaminite soldiers who defected from Saul to join David
- 12:8-15** Gadites who also defected from Saul to David
- 12:16-18** The reason they defected

Acts**Paul's Journey to Rome (continued)**

- 28:1-6** The reason the natives of the island of Melita thought Paul to be a god, after being bitten by a venomous viper
- 28:7-10** Paul gains the favor of all on the island when he heals the sick, including the father of the chief
- 28:11-16** Three months later they sail in a ship from Alexandria and upon their arrival in Rome, Paul is allowed to dwell by himself with a Roman soldier as a guard
- 28:17-24** Paul's meets with the leaders of the Jews in Rome and testifies about Jesus and the ' coming kingdom of God
- 28:25-29** The reason Paul told them that he would turn to the Gentiles
- 28:30-31** Paul's proclamation of the coming kingdom of God for two years without opposition, while under house arrest awaiting trial before Caesar
- Note: During this time Paul wrote the epistles of Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon

Psalm 9:**THE LORD'S FUTURE JUDGMENT IN ZION OVER THE NATIONS**

- 9:1-5** David's declaration of praise past deliverance from his enemies
- 9:6-12** The LORD will judge the world in righteousness and deliver the oppressed

Proverbs

- 19:1** When it is better to be poor?
- 19:2** Also, when it is not good to be hasty?
- 19:3** The foolishness of a man whose heart frets against the LORD

July 12**The Reign of King David, (continued)****1 Chronicles,** **David's army, (continued)**

- 12:19-21** Those of the tribe of Manasseh who defected from Saul to David
- 12:22-37** The number of soldiers from the twelve tribes who turned the kingdom of Saul over to David
- 12:38-40** The unity of spirit and joy at the coronation of David to be king over all Israel
- David's attempt to move the ark to Jerusalem**
- 13:1-4** A unified decision to bring the ark to Jerusalem
- 13:5-10** Uzziah dies upon touching the ark
- 13:11-14** The reason the ark stays in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite for three months
- David's palace**
- 14:1-2** Hiram king of Tyre sends help to build and David's perception that the LORD as established his reign over all the nation of Israel
- David's family at Jerusalem**
- 14:3-7** David's wives and sons
- David's defeat of the Philistines**
- 14:8-9** The Philistines gather in the valley of Rephaim to fight against David, upon hearing that he had been anointed king
- 14:10-12** The LORD enables David to defeat the Philistines and burn their idols they left behind
- 14:13-17** The reason the Philistines fear David after being defeated by him a second time in the same valley

Romans

- 1:1-7** Paul's opening salutation
- 1:8-13** The reasons Paul has not yet visited Rome
- Note:** *4:11, "that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift"*
Apostles were given the power to impart spiritual gifts through the laying on of hands, (cf. Acts 8:17-19, 2 Corinthians 12:12, and Hebrews 2:4)
- 1:14-17** His purpose is to yet come, and the reasons he is not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ
- Note:** Salvation is the emphasis of the gospel of Christ in 1:16 and is explained in 1:18 – 5:9
Sanctification is the emphasis of the gospel of Christ in 1:17 and is explained in 5:10 - 8:39

Psalm 9:**THE LORD'S FUTURE JUDGMENT IN ZION OVER THE NATIONS, (continued)**

- 9:13-14** David's appeal for mercy in his present danger that he might praise the LORD
- 9:15-18** David's confidence in the LORD'S continued righteous judgment
- 9:19-20** David's closing appeal for the LORD'S deliverance from his enemies among the Gentile nations

Proverbs

- 19:4** How one's wealth affects friendship?
- 19:5** A promise of future judgment upon a false witness

July 13**The Reign of King David, (continued)****1 Chronicles****David brings the Ark of God to Jerusalem**

- 15:1-15** The reason David instructs that the Levites only carry the Ark, (cf. 13:10-11)
- 15:16-24** The Levitical musicians and gatekeepers to accompany the Ark
- 15:25-28** The procession with the Ark to Jerusalem
- 15:29** David's actions in celebration are despised by his wife, Michal
- 16:1-3** David's generosity with all of Israel upon the return of the Ark to Jerusalem
- 16:4-6** David's appointment of the Levites to minister continually with praise and music before the Ark of the Covenant of God
- 16:7-36** David's psalm of thanksgiving and the people's response
- 16:7-12 A call for praise and thanksgiving to the LORD for His marvelous deeds
 - 16:13-22 A call for Israel to remember the LORD's fulfillment of His covenant with Abraham
 - 16:23-30 A call for Israel to testify to the nations that the LORD alone is to be worshipped
 - 16:31-33 A call for the heavens and earth to rejoice that the LORD is coming to judge the earth
 - Note: A promise to be fulfilled during the Millennium
 - 16:34-36 A call to thank the LORD for His goodness to Israel forever, (cf. Psalm 105:1-15)

Romans**God's Wrath upon the sin of mankind has been revealed, and is yet to come**

- 1:18-32** **The reason God's judgment will come upon the Gentiles**
- For their idolatry, 1:18-23
 - For their homosexuality, 1:24-27
 - Note: Homosexuality is worship of the human body, 1:25
 - Women with women, 1:26; Men with men, 1:27 (said to be unnatural)
 - For their reprobate mind, 1:28-31
 - For their pleasure in getting others to participate with them, 1:32

Psalm 10:**QUESTIONS TO THE LORD REGARDING THE WICKED**

- 10:1-2** A question is raised as to the reason the LORD does not intervene in the trouble caused by the actions of the wicked
- 10:3-11** A detailed description is given of the kind of contempt the wicked demonstrate towards the LORD by what they think, say, and do
- 10:12-15** Another question is raised as to the reason the LORD doesn't hold them accountable for their contempt of God in afflicting the poor and fatherless?

Proverbs

- 19:6** Having a position of authority and possessing money attracts friends
- 19:7** The words of the poor in continually seeking help does not attract friends

July 14**The Reign of King David, (continued)****1 Chronicles****David brings the Ark of God to Jerusalem, (continued)**

16:37-43 The Levitical musicians David leaves to minister before the Ark every day, giving thanks to the LORD because his mercy endures forever

The Davidic Covenant

17:1-2 The reason David expresses his desire to Nathan the prophet, to build a house (a Temple) for the LORD

17:3-15 The LORD'S response . . .

That He has never made such a request, but has instead gone from tent to tent from the time that He brought up Israel out of Egypt, **17:3-6**
That He raised up David from the sheepfold to provide houses for Israel, **17:7-10**
That after David's death, one of David's sons will build a Temple for the LORD, and the LORD will establish David's house through that son to rule over Israel forever, **17:11-15**

17:16-27 David's response to the covenant the LORD has made with him

17:16-19 Who is he, that the LORD should so promise to him?

17:20-22 What one nation is like that of Israel whose God is the LORD?

17:23-27 May the LORD's covenant with David be established forever

David's military success

18:1 Over the Philistines

18:2 Over the Moabites

18:3-4 Over Hadadezer, king of Zobah

18:5-6 Over the Syrians who came to help Hadadezer

18:7-11 What David did with the spoils of victory?

18:12-13 Over the Edomites in the Valley of Salt, (cf. Psalm 60 and 1 Chronicles 19:11)

18:14-17 David's administrative cabinet

Romans**2:1-16** **The reason Gentile leaders will not escape that judgment**

Because they judge others, thinking they will get by with doing the same, **2:1-5**

Because God will not show favoritism towards them, **2:6-11**

Because they will be judged according to the same moral laws by which they judge others, **2:12-16**

2:17-24 **The reason Jews will not escape**

Because they think themselves to be better than Gentiles, having been given from God the Mosaic Law, **2:17-20**

Because they cause God's name to be blasphemed among the Gentiles through their disobedience to God's Law in the sight of Gentiles, **2:21-24**

Psalm 10: QUESTIONS TO THE LORD REGARDING THE WICKED, (continued)

10:16-18 The LORD will hear the prayer of those oppressed by the wicked

Proverbs

19:8 The benefit of getting wisdom

19:9 The harm that will come to those who give false witness or testimony, speaking lies

July 15**The Reign of King David, (continued)****1 Chronicles****19:1-5**

David defeats the Ammonites and the Syrians
 The reason Hanun, the king of Ammon, disgraces the soldiers who are sent by David to comfort him in the loss of his father Nahash, who had shown kindness to David

19:6-7

The Ammonites hire the Syrians to join them in battle against David

19:8

David sends Joab with his mighty men to battle

19:9-13

Joab's plan to defend against an ambush by the Ammonites and Syrians

19:14-19

Both the Ammonites and the Syrians flee, and the Syrians no longer help the Ammonites against David

20:1-3

Joab's slaughter and spoiling of the city of Rabbah and the Ammonites, while David tarries at Jerusalem, (cf. 2 Samuel 11)

The Philistine giants are killed in battle**20:4-8**

Two sons of Goliath and a brother are killed by David's mighty men

David's Census**21:1-2**

Satan motivates David to take a census from Beersheba to Dan

Note: The LORD intends to punish Israel in moving David to take the census. Satan's purpose is to see Israel destroyed by God for taking the census. Satan's scheme fails because God repents of the evil He had intended against Jerusalem. The sin of David was in using the census for personal pride, (cf. 2 Samuel 24:1 . . .)

21:3-6

The reason Joab did not count the Levites and Benjaminites

21:7-8

The LORD'S displeasure and David's confession

21:9-13

David's choice of punishment for taking the census

21:14-15

The reason the LORD stopped the plague on Jerusalem, after 70,000 men died

21:16-17

David's plea for Jerusalem, confessing his sin in taking the census

21:18-25

The reason David insists on paying the full price to purchase the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite

21:26-27

David builds an altar to the LORD and calls upon the LORD. The LORD kindles the wood with fire from heaven and commands his angel to put his sword back in its sheath

21:28-30

When David sees that the LORD answers his prayer with fire from heaven, he proceeds to offer his sacrifice there

Romans**2:25-29****The reason Jews will not escape (continued)**

Because physical circumcision without circumcision of heart does not make one a true Jew in the eyes of the Lord

3:1-8

Because even though they were given the oracles of God, and yet did not believe, their unrighteousness will not hinder the righteous judgment of God

Note: God is glorified when man's unrighteousness is compared to God's righteousness. But that is quite different than saying God actually uses unrighteousness to promote His glory. Paul says God's judgment awaits those who attack the character of God in making such claims

Psalm 11:**11:1-3****IF THE FOUNDATIONS BE DESTROYED, WHAT CAN THE RIGHTEOUS DO?**

They can trust in the LORD rather than flee like a bird

11:4-7

They can trust in the LORD'S discernment when He judges those, He considers to be wicked and those He considers to be righteous, (cf. Romans 12:19-20)

Proverbs**19:10**

What is not seemly or appropriate for a fool and a servant?

19:11

What does deferring one's anger or overlooking a transgression reveal?

19:12

The difference in how a person feels when facing the wrath of a king, or his favor

July 16**The Reign of King David, (continued)****1 Chronicles****David's preparation for the building of the LORD'S temple, prior to his death**

- 22:1-5** The gathering of workers and materials
22:6-16 David's instructions to his son, Solomon, for the building of the Temple
22:17-19 David's exhortation to his princes to assist Solomon in the building

David's assignment of Levites for Temple Ministry

- 23:1-6** His overall division of those thirty years and older as officials
23:7-11 His assignments for the Gershonites
23:12-20 His assignments for the Kohathites
23:21-23 His assignments for the Merarites
23:24-32 His assignments for helpers twenty years old and older

Romans**What Paul proves in terms of how one can be justified**

- 3:9-18** It is not by one's efforts to keep the Mosaic Law
Note: These verses are a direct quote of Psalm 14 from the Greek translation in the Septuagint even though verses 13-18 are omitted in our English translation of Psalm 14

- 3:9 All have been proven to be sinners, whether they be Jew or Gentile
 3:10-12 These are sins of omission or failure to do good, (cf. James 4:17)
 3:13-18 These are sins of commission or transgressions in doing wrong
 3:19-20 Paul's point in comparing what the LORD has already said about man
- 3:19-31** It is by faith alone in Jesus Christ apart from the deeds of the Mosaic Law
 3:22-23 Faith in Christ's righteousness rather than one's own
 3:24-26 Faith in Christ's blood to appease God's wrath rather than one's works
 3:27-31 It is only by faith in Christ alone whereby man's opportunity for boasting as to why God has saved him

Psalm 12:**THE LORD'S PRESERVATION OF THE GODLY FROM A WICKED GENERATION**

- 12:1-2** David cries for help when the godly decrease among men
12:3-5 David describes the pride of those who boast about their being no one to stop them
12:6-8 David expresses confidence in the words of the LORD, to preserve the godly when wickedness abounds and the vilest are exalted

Proverbs

- 19:13** The negative effect in the home of a foolish son and a contentious wife
19:14 From whom a man inherits houses and riches, and from whom a man receives a prudent Wife?

July 17**The Reign of King David, (continued)****1 Chronicles**

- David's assignment of Levites for Temple Ministry (continued)**
- 24:1-3** Those who assisted David in making the divisions of Aaronic priests for ministry
 - 24:4-6** The casting of lots to determine the order of the divisions for Temple ministry, (cf. Acts 1:26)
 - 24:7-19** The twenty-four orders or divisions of priestly Levites descended from Aaron, (cf. Luke 1:5)
 - 24:20-31** The casting of lots to determine the order of Temple ministry for other Levites not descended from the priestly line of Aaron
 - 25:1-8** The Levitical musicians and their musical instruments
 - 25:9-31** The casting of lots to determine the twenty-four orders of Temple ministry for the Levitical musicians
 - 26:1-12** The divisions of Levites assigned to be porters or gatekeepers of the Temple

Romans**What Paul proves in terms of how one can be justified (continued)**

- 4:1-8** Abraham was justified by faith in the blood sacrifice God would provide, just as king David testified in Psalm 32
 - Note:** The Hebrew word in Psalm 32 for “covered” is the word for blood atonement. David, like Abraham, believed God could justify the ungodly through a blood sacrifice yet to be presented to God by the Lord Jesus Christ
- 4:9-12** The reason God justified (Gen.15:6) Abraham prior to his being circumcised (Gen.17)
 - Note:** God justified Abraham by faith prior to his being circumcised, (Genesis 15). Abraham was circumcised several years later, (Genesis 17)

Psalm 13:**DAVID'S PLEA FOR THE LORD'S CHASTISEMENT TO END**

- 13:1-2** David asks how long the LORD will forsake him? (cf. 2 Samuel 11)
- 13:3-4** David prays for the LORD to heal him before he dies and his enemies rejoice
- 13:5-6** David commits himself to trust in the LORD's mercy, and to praise Him with song

Proverbs

- 19:15** The effect of laziness on one's sleep and idleness on one's hunger
- 19:16** The effect of one's attitude towards the LORD and His commandment upon his longevity of life

July 18**The Reign of King David, (continued)****1 Chronicles****David's assignment of Levites for Temple Ministry (continued)**

- 26:12-19** The casting of lots to determine which gates of the Temple were to be guarded by the Levitical gatekeepers
- 26:20-28** The Levites assigned to oversee the Temple treasury
- 26:29** Those Levites assigned to be officers and judges outside of the Temple
- 26:30-32** Those assigned to oversee matters pertaining to the LORD and the king west and east of the Jordan River
- David's assignment for Officials other than the Levites**
- 27:1-15** Twelve divisions of the military for monthly duties
- 27:16-22** Officers or princes over the twelve tribes of Israel
- 27:23-24** The reasons those twenty years old and younger were not counted
- 27:25-34** Other administrative appointments

Romans**What Paul proves in terms of how one can be justified (continued)**

- 4:13-17a** The reason promises were made by God to Abraham prior to the Mosaic Law
- 4:17b-22** The reason Abraham's faith was credited to him by God for righteousness
Note: Abraham believed that since God could raise the dead, He could certainly quicken his body to have a son. So Abraham's faith was in both a blood atonement whereby God could justify him, as well as his future resurrection by God. Abraham's example is used by the apostle Paul to verify his claim in 4:23-25
- 4:23-25** The reason God had His promise to Abraham written down
- 5:1-5** Paul's conclusion regarding the blessing of being justified by faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, (4:23-25)
Note: Compare Romans 10:9-10

Psalm 14:**GOD'S VIEW OF SINFUL MAN**

- 14:1-3** God's assessment of man's goodness, (See note on Romans 3:9-18)
- 14:4-6** The ignorance and sinfulness of Israel's captors
- 14:7** A prayer and promise of praise for Israel's future return to Zion from captivity

Proverbs

- 19:17** A promise from the LORD for those who have compassion on the poor

July 19**The Reign of King David, (continued)****1 Chronicles****David's final instructions to the nation Israel regarding the Temple**

- 28:1-7** His explanation as to the reason God would not allow him to build the Temple, but has chosen his son Solomon to do so
- 28:8-10** His charge to his officials and to Solomon to obey the commandments of the LORD, and for Solomon to build the Temple as the LORD has commanded
- 28:11-19** David gives to Solomon the pattern the Spirit of the LORD gave to him pertaining to the design of the Temple, its furniture and treasury, and the order of the Levites for ministry in the Temple
- 28:20-21** David charges Solomon to not be discouraged until the Temple is completed
- 29:1-5** David's call for following his example in giving to build the Temple
- 29:6-9** Response by the officials of Israel in following David's example
- 29:10-19** David's prayer and praise to the LORD for the opportunity to give
- 29:20-22a** Praise and celebration is given by all
- 29:22b-25** Solomon becomes the sole ruler of Israel
- 29:26-30** A closing summary of David's reign, death, and Solomon's succession to the throne

Romans**The Justified Believer's Sanctification**

- 5:6-11** Salvation is made even more sure by Christ's resurrection

Note: Christ's righteousness is imputed for salvation to those who believe in His goodness rather than theirs, and believe in His shed blood to deliver them from the penalty of their sins under the Mosaic Law. Christ's life and righteousness are also imparted for sanctification to the believer for his present deliverance from the power of sin. Paul has emphasized to this point the power of the gospel of Christ for salvation. He is now transitioning to the power of Christ's gospel for sanctification, (cf. Romans 1:16-17)

- 5:12-14** The problem of man's inherited Sin Nature through one man's disobedience, Adam
- 5:15-21** The problem is overcome by grace through the gift of one man's life and righteousness, Jesus Christ

Psalm 15:**THE KIND OF PERSON ALLOWED TO STAND IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

- 15:1** The question is asked
- 15:2-5** The answer is given

Proverbs

- 19:18** A reason to not spare chastening one's son because of his crying, (the LORD's view of spanking)
- 19:19** A reason to not deliver a man of great wrath from suffering punishment

July 20**The Reign of King Solomon, (continued)****2 Chronicles****Solomon's request for wisdom**

- 1:1-10** God's offer and Solomon's request
- 1:11-13** The reason the LORD granted Solomon beyond what he requested
- 1:14-17** Solomon's prosperity
- Solomon prepares to build the Temple**
- 2:1-2** His division of labor of those who were non-citizen residents of Israel, (cf. 1 Chronicles 22:2)
- 2:3-10** His letter to Huram, king of Tyre, requesting assistance. (cf. 2:5-6 with Acts 17:24)
- 2:11-16** Huram's letter to Solomon in response
- 2:17-18** Solomon's division of labor numbered among the immigrants according to king David's former census
- Solomon builds the Temple**
- 3:1-2** The location and time when Solomon began to build the Temple
- 3:3-9** The size of the Temple, and the gold used to overlay its construction
- 3:10-13** The size of the cherubim for the Most Holy Place, and their overlay of gold
- 3:14** A description of the veil
- 3:15-17** A description of two pillars, one on the right and the other on the left in front of the Temple

Romans**The Justified Believer's Sanctification, (continued)**

- 6:1-14** The believer's potential freedom through God's grace, from becoming addicted to sin through his spiritual baptism into Christ – his death, burial, and resurrection
- 6:15-23** A warning regarding the potential of a premature death for thinking that God's grace gives the believer a license to sin
- Note: Verse twenty-three is often used as part of the "Roman's Road" in witnessing to unbelievers. However, the immediate context shows that this is a warning to believers regarding physical death, not the second death, (cf. 6:16 and 8:13)

Psalm 16:**DAVID'S HOPE IN THE "HOLY ONE" WHOSE BODY GOD WILL NOT ALLOW TO CORRUPT**

- 16:1-6** His prayer for preservation by God because he has been faithful to serve God and God alone
- 16:7-11** His glad anticipation that God will not leave him in the underworld of Sheol because of the Holy One, whose body will not be allowed to corrupt in the grave, (cf. Acts 13:33-39)

Proverbs

- 19:20** A reason to listen to advice
- 19:21** The difference between the many plans of man and the counsel of the LORD

July 21**The Reign of King Solomon, (continued)****2 Chronicles****Solomon's furnishings for the Temple**

- 4:1-10** Those Solomon made
Note: The "Sea" is the largest laver on a stand surrounded by ten smaller lavers, (cf. Revelation 4:6)
- 4:11-17** Those Huram, king of Tyre, made
- 4:18-22** Those that were made of brass or bronze, and those that were made of gold
- 5:1** Storage in the Temple treasury
- Solomon brings the Ark to the Temple**
- 5:2** He calls for the assembly of Israel's leaders to bring the Ark from Zion, the city of David
- 5:3-10** The procession from Zion to place the Ark within the Holy Place of the Temple
- 5:11-13** A celebration led by the priests at the Temple for the LORD'S goodness and mercy
- 5:14** The glory of the LORD fills the Temple so that the priests could not stand to minister
- 6:1-11** Solomon publicly praises the LORD before the people for keeping His promise to David

Romans**The Justified Believer's Sanctification, (continued)**

- 7:1-13** Paul's warning to believing Jews against their returning to the Mosaic Law for living the Christian way of life, (a term theologians refer to as "legalism")
- 7:1-3** The only way under the Mosaic Law that a woman could be free from her husband
- 7:4-6** The reason the believer has been spiritually baptized into union with Christ in His death on the cross
- 7:7-11** Paul's discovery that going back to trying to keep the Mosaic Law as a believer today actually revives sin at work in his body, and causes him to die to the newness of life he felt when he was first saved
Note: A believer cannot lose his life in Christ into which he has been spiritually baptized, (Romans 6). But he can lose the sense of Christ living His life in him.
- 7:12-13** Going back to the Mosaic Law today actually exposes the exceeding sinfulness of the sin nature which the believer still has in his flesh

Psalm 17:**DAVID'S CONFIDENCE WHEN FACING DEATH**

- 17:1-6** David expresses confidence that the LORD will answer his prayer, because the LORD has searched his heart during the night and has found no guilt
- 17:7-12** David describes the wicked who are oppressing him, and asks the LORD to disappoint them
- 17:13-15** While those who oppress him have their hope in this life only, David expresses his anticipation that should he die, he will awake (in resurrection) to behold the face of the LORD in righteousness

Proverbs

- 19:22** Better to be kind and be poor, than to be a liar
- 19:23** The benefit of fearing the LORD

July 22**The Reign of King Solomon, (continued)****2 Chronicles****Solomon brings the Ark to the Temple, (continued)**

- 6:12-42** Solomon's dedicatory prayer
 6:12-17 Solomon asks the LORD to continue to keep His covenant with David
 6:18-42 Solomon asks the LORD to hear the prayers of His people that are directed towards the Temple: whether it be himself personally (18-21), a feud between neighbors (22-23); when because of their sin they are defeated (24-25) or there is no rain and famine (26-31); to hear the prayers of the foreigner (32-33), when they are at war (34-35), when they are in captivity (36-39), and for the LORD to remember His lovingkindness to His servant David (40-42)
- 7:1-3** Fire falls from heaven and God's glory fills the Temple
7:4-10 The people celebrate in praise and sacrifice for two weeks
7:11-22 The Lord's response to Solomon's prayer
 7:12-16 Pertaining to His answering the prayers of the people
 7:17-22 Pertaining to Solomon and the Temple he has built for the LORD

Solomon's other endeavors

- 8:1-6** Cities for storage and fenced or walled cities are built
8:7-10 Children left behind of the peoples driven out of the land by the Israelites are forced to pay tribute, and the children of Israel are drafted into the military

Romans**The Justified Believer's Sanctification, (continued)**

- 7:14-25** Paul's personal testimony of a law of sin and death he discovered at work in his body as a believer, when he went back to trying to live under the Mosaic Law

Note: This occurred in Paul's life when the Lord sent him into Arabia to learn a new way to live as a believer, (Galatians 1:15-18). Paul does not state the kind of sin to which he became addicted to because of the shame involved, (cf. Ephesians 5:11-12)

- 8:1-4** Freedom to live by the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, and not by the law of sin and death, is made possible by Christ's death in his crucified body

- 8:5-8** The difference between having a spiritual mind and a carnal mind as a believer

Note: A carnal mind is hostile to God's moral law and increases a believer's likeliness to commit sin. A mind controlled by the Spirit enjoys "life," which is the desire to live righteously, and "peace," which is an absence of a battle for control of the believer's mind, (cf. Galatians 5:16-18 and 1 Peter 2:11)

Psalm 18:**DAVID'S SONG OF VICTORY OVER ALL OF HIS ENEMIES**

- 18:1-6** David expresses his love to the LORD for delivering him in answer to David's desperate cry

- 18:7-15** David describes the LORD's deliverance in terms of a strong storm

Note: David is probably describing a literal storm which he uses to figuratively describe the LORD's rescue of David in battle

Proverbs

- 19:24** An illustration of how lazy a person can be

- 19:25** The need to strike a scorner, in contrast to correcting a person of understanding

July 23**2 Chronicles****The Reign of King Solomon, (continued)****8:11**

Solomon has his wife, the daughter of Pharaoh, live in a house he builds for her, because he considers David's house to be sacred in the city from where the Ark had come

8:12-15

Solomon sacrifices to the LORD at the Temple according to the Mosaic Law, and directs the priests and Levites to conduct their worship according to David's instructions

8:16

Solomon finishes the work of the Temple, from the laying of its foundation to its completion

8:17-18

Solomon obtains gold from Ophir with the help of his servants and shipmen of Huram, king of Tyre

Solomon and the Queen of Sheba**9:1-9**

The gifts given by the Queen of Sheba, and her response to what she sees when she visits Solomon

9:10-11

Additional gifts brought to Solomon from his servants and shipmen of Huram, in the form of precious wood and precious stones

9:12

Solomon's gifts to the Queen of Sheba upon her return to her own land

Solomon's wealth and fame**9:13-21**

What Solomon does with the gold?

9:22-24

All the kings of the earth seek to see Solomon hear his wisdom from God, and they bring expensive gifts year-by-year when they come

9:25-28

More evidence of his wealth, especially in his cavalry made up of horses, chariots, and horsemen, and the extent of his kingdom, (cf. Genesis 15:18)

9:29-31

Solomon dies after reigning forty years and Rehoboam reigns in his stead

Israel is Divided into the Northern and Southern Kingdoms**2 Chronicles****The Reign of Rehoboam****10:1-5**

Jeroboam's request of Rehoboam on behalf of the northern ten tribes

10:6-15

The advice given to Rehoboam and his response to the request

10:16-19

The kingdom divides into the northern ten tribes, and the southern two tribes as a result of Rehoboam's answer

Romans**The Justified Believer's Sanctification, (continued)**

The means by which to be delivered from a carnal mind as a believer, (cf. 8:26-27)

The requirement of suffering now in dealing with our flesh, for the sons of God to share as joint heirs with Christ when He returns to set up His kingdom on this earth

Note: The Millennium, or last dispensation on this earth before it is destroyed

(Matthew 4:17, 6:10, 8:10-12; Acts 1:6-8, 3:19-21; Eph.1:10-11; Heb.2:5; Rev.20:1-10).

This is the dispensation during which time believers will be rewarded for the way in which they live for the Lord now

8:18-21

Our suffering now in dealing with our sinful flesh is not worthy to be compared with the glory we will experience when Christ returns

Psalm 18:**DAVID'S SONG OF VICTORY OVER ALL OF HIS ENEMIES, (continued)****18:16-19**

David recalls the LORD'S past miraculous deliverance, (continued)

18:20-27

David recalls the reason the LORD delivered him

18:28-36

David's recalls the LORD'S enabling him to crush his enemies

Proverbs**19:26**

The kind of son that brings shame in the way he mistreats his (elderly) parents

July 24**The Southern Kingdom of Judah**

Note: While much of the history given in 2 Chronicles repeats what is recorded in the books of 1st and 2nd Kings, additional information is given with a focus on the kings of Judah.

The Reign of Rehoboam**2 Chronicles** **The Division between the North and the South becomes Permanent**

11:1-4 The reason Judah does not fight Northern Israel in order to reunify the nation, (cf. 1 Kings 11:9-13)

11:5-12 Rehoboam's fortified cities to protect the Southern Kingdom from the Northern

11:13-17 The reason the Levites side with Rehoboam rather than Jeroboam

11:18-21 Rehoboam's wives, (cf. Deuteronomy 17:17)

11:22-23 Rehoboam appoints his son Abijah to be his heir

Note: This was done by Rehoboam in an attempt to avoid any future civil war between his sons over the throne when he dies. This practice of co-regency was begun by king David, when he appointed Solomon to be his heir while still living, (cf. 1 Kings 1:32-35)

Judah becomes subject to Egypt

12:1-5 The reason for Shishak's attack against Jerusalem (king of Egypt, cf. 1 Kings 14:22-25)

12:6-8 The reason the LORD makes Judah subject to Shishak

12:9-11 The treasures Shishak takes from the treasury of the Temple

12:12-14 The reason the LORD allows Rehoboam to remain king of Judah; yet he still does not seek the LORD

12:15 There is war continually between Rehoboam and Jeroboam

12:16 Rehoboam dies, and Abijah becomes the sole king in his stead

The Reign of Abijah and War with Jeroboam, king of Northern Israel

13:1-3 Jeroboam's army is twice the size of Abijah's

13:4-12 Abijah's warning to Jeroboam and his army to not fight against him

13:13-18 The LORD delivers Abijah and Judah from Jeroboam's ambush

13:19-22 Jeroboam's power declines while Abijah's increases

Romans **The Justified Believer's Sanctification, (continued)**

8:22-25 The present suffering of the believer as he seeks to be spiritually minded

8:26-27 The Holy Spirit's intercession for us from within when we do not know how to pray regarding our weaknesses, (cf. 8:13)

8:28-30 The purpose of God for us in our present struggles against sin, which is to become Christ-like

8:31-34 The reason no one can condemn the justified believer when he fails in his struggle

8:35-39 The reason the believer need not fear God's rejection because of his present struggle

Psalm 18: **DAVID'S SONG OF VICTORY OVER ALL OF HIS ENEMIES, (continued)**

18:37-45 David describes his crushing of his enemies with the LORD's help

18:46-50 David concludes the psalm with a commitment to praise the LORD publicly before the Gentiles

Proverbs

19:27 A reason for a son to not listen to bad instruction

19:28 The effect of bearing false witness

19:29 The kind of person who deserves scourging, (stripes on the back)

July 25**The Southern Kingdom of Judah****The Reign of Asa****2 Chronicles**

- 14:1** Abijah dies, his son Asa succeeds, and the land has peace for ten years
- 14:2-5** Asa's reform
- 14:6-8** The effect of peace and prosperity in Southern Judah
- 14:9-15** Asa's victory over Zerah the Cushite
- 15:1-7** The prophet Azariah encourages Asa in his reform of the nation
Note: Verses three through six describe the time of the Judges
- 15:8** Asa's reform continues
- 15:9-15** Asa leads the nation in a renewal of their covenant with the LORD
- 15:16-19** Asa deposes his mother as Queen because of her making an image to the goddess Asherah (the Canaanite female goddess of fertility)
- 16:1-6** Asa enters an alliance with Ben-Hadad of Damascus to offset the threat of Baasha, king of Northern Israel
Note: *It will always prove to be a mistake God's people to forsake dependence upon the LORD'S protection with whom they have made a covenant, and to enter instead into alliances with those nations that do not fear the LORD*
- 16:7-10** Asa angrily imprisons Hanani the seer because Hanani rebuked Asa for his alliance with Ben-Hadad, and also begins to oppress the people some
- 16:11-12** Asa's foot disease in his thirty-ninth year, his search for medical help by physicians rather than seek the LORD for healing
- 16:13-14** Asa's death and burial
Note: The very great fire mentioned is a reference to the burning of spices, not to cremation of Asa's body

Romans

- 9:1-3** Paul's burden for Israel
Note: This refers to dying a premature death, if it will cause the Lord to extend mercy to unbelieving Jews. This does not refer to burning in the lake of fire, (cf. Romans 8:38-39)
- 9:4-8** Not all Israel is considered by God to be the children of promise, as illustrated in Isaac and Ishmael
- 9:9-13** Paul's evidence from Abraham and Isaac's sons that not all are children of promise, as illustrated in Jacob and Esau
Note: God's choice of Jacob over Esau was pronounced by the Lord before they were born, so that Jacob could not boast in having been chosen. And God's later statement of His attitude towards Esau was not mentioned until after he had died. Compare Genesis 25:33 with Malachi 1:21). God's choice had to do with the promised Abrahamic blessings, not to one's eternal salvation
- 9:14-21** Paul's evidence from Moses and Pharaoh that God has the right to choose those upon whom He will show mercy, and those He chooses to harden
- Psalm 19:**
19:1-6 In creation (called "general revelation" by theologians)
19:7-11 In His Law (called "special revelation" by theologians)
19:12-14 David responds to God's revelation by asking God's help to avoid deliberate sin
- Proverbs**
- 20:1** Why a person should avoid drinking strong drink?

July 26**The Southern Kingdom of Judah****The Reign of Jehosophat****2 Chronicles**

- 17:1-6** Jehosophat succeeds Asa as king, and the reason the LORD is with him
- 17:7-9** Jehosophat sends officials throughout the land to teach the people God's Law
- 17:10-11** The reason the surrounding nations did not war against Jehosophat
- 17:12-19** Jehosophat's army and fortified cities
- His alliance with Ahab**
- 18:1-3** Jehosophat seeks the help of king Ahab to recapture Ramoth of Gilead
- Note: Jehosaphat's son Jehoram marries Ahab's daughter whereby an unholy alliance is created
- 18:4-7** The reason Ahab does not want to seek the advice of the prophet Micaiah
- 18:8-11** Bad advice is given to Ahab and Jehosophat by the false prophet Zedekiah and four hundred other of Ahab's prophets
- 18:12-22** The warning given to Ahab by the LORD'S prophet Micaiah
- Note: When God's truth is rejected, God sometimes allows deception whereby the person rejecting truth is led to his own destruction, (cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12)
- 18:23-24** Micaiah's prophecy against the false prophet Zedekiah
- 18:25-27** Ahab orders Micaiah's arrest
- 18:28-34** Ahab's death in battle in spite of his disguise, and Jehosophat's deliverance when he cried out to the LORD

Romans

- 9:22-26** Paul declares that God's mercy upon the Gentiles was prophesied by the prophet Hosea
- 9:27-29** Paul declares that God's judgment upon Israel was prophesied by the prophet Isaiah
- 9:30-34** The reason that the Gentiles have attained to righteousness in the sight of God, and Israel has not
- 10:1-5** Paul's prayer for Israel therefore is that they might be saved
- 10:6-13** The way to be saved, whether Jew or Gentile
- 10:6-7 It is not by anything they are able to do
- 10:8-10 It is by one's heart-felt confession of faith in Christ
- 10:11-13 Paul gives evidence from the Old Testament that faith in the heart and confession by one's mouth of faith to the Lord in prayer are both required

Psalm 20:**DAVID'S PRAYER FOR HIMSELF AND ISRAEL IN THE DAY OF TROUBLE**

- 20:1-4** His opening prayer for the LORD to hear and send help from Zion (in heaven)
- 20:5-8** His assurance that the LORD will hear and answer from heaven
- 20:9** His closing prayer for the LORD to deliver him as the king of Israel

Proverbs

- 20:2** A reason to not provoke a king
- 20:3** The best way to deal with the strife of others

July 27**The Southern Kingdom of Judah****The Reign of Jehosophat****2 Chronicles**

- Jehosophat's alliance with Ahab, (continued)**
- 19:1-3** Jehosophat is rebuked by Jehu, son of Hanani, for entering into an alliance with Ahab
- 19:4-7** Jehosophat's appointment of judges throughout the fenced cities of Judah, and his exhortation for them to judge righteously in the fear of the LORD
- 19:8-11** Jehosophat's appointment of Levites, priests, and rulers to be judges in Jerusalem, and his exhortation for them to also judge in the fear of the LORD
- 20:1-4** A great army of Moabites, Ammonites, and others unite to fight against Jehosophat, who calls for all Judah to fast and seek the LORD'S deliverance
- 20:5-13** Jehosophat's prayer before his people of his total dependence upon the LORD
- 20:14-19** Jahaziel, a descendent of the Levites, prophesies of the LORD'S deliverance
- 20:20-21** Jehosophat exhorts the people to believe the LORD and His prophets, as they go forth to battle
- 20:22-23** The LORD causes the Moabites and Ammonites to turn against those of Edom, and they destroy one another
- 20:24-26** Jehosophat and his people praise the LORD and name the valley "Berachah" (which means "Blessing"), in which they took the spoil of the enemy for three days,
- 20:27-30** Judah celebrates their victory before the Lord, when Jehosophat and his army return to Jerusalem; fear of the LORD comes upon all the surrounding kingdoms who hear how Israel's God fights for them against their enemies, and the land enjoys peace
- 20:31-34** While Jehosophat's reign is right in the sight of the LORD, the people still do not remove their idolatrous high places
- 20:35-37** Jehosophat is rebuked by the prophet Eliezer for making an alliance with Ahaziah, king of Israel, for the purpose of making ships to sail to Tarshish; for which the LORD causes the ships to be broken and become non-seaworthy

Romans

- 10:14-17** Because Israel did not believe, they did not send preachers to proclaim the gospel of Christ to the Gentiles so that they might come to faith and be saved
- 10:18-21** So it was foretold by the prophets that God would provoke Israel to jealousy by turning to the Gentiles to proclaim Christ to the Jews
- 11:1-12** God's turning to the Gentiles does not mean that God is not finished with Israel

Psalm 21:

- GOD'S BLESSED MESSIAH**
- 21:1-7** The King's future joy because of God's blessing
- 21:8-12** The King's future destruction of his enemies
- 21:13** King David's vow to sin and praise the power of the LORD

Proverbs

- 20:4** The negative result in the time of harvest of a sluggard's refusal to plow in the winter because of the cold weather
- 20:5** The challenge it is to draw out of a person what he is thinking deep within his heart
- 20:6** The challenge it is to find a faithful man, when most proclaim their own goodness

July 28**The Southern Kingdom of Judah****The Reigns of Jehoram, Ahaziah, and Joash****2 Chronicles**

- 21:1-3** Jehosophat dies, and Jehoram reigns in his stead because he is the firstborn son
Jehoram's reign
- 21:4-7** The reason the LORD does not destroy the house of David, even though Jehoram does evil like that of the house of Ahab –being married to Ahab’s daughter
- 21:8-11** Both the Edomites and Libnah revolt against Judah because Jehoram forsook the God of his fathers
- 21:12-15** Elijah sends a letter to Jehoram informing him that the LORD will smite his people with a plague, and will also smite him with a terminal bowel disease, and the reasons why
- 21:16-19a** The LORD stirs up the spirit of the Philistines, and the Arabians who were near the Ethiopians, against Jehoram; they carry away his palace possessions, his wives, and all of his sons except for the youngest; and the LORD smites Jehoram with an incurable bowel disease for two years
- 21:19b-20** Judah’s response to Jehoram’s death
- 22:1** Ahaziah, the youngest son of Jehoram, reigns in his stead
Ahaziah's reign
- 22:2** Ahaziah reigns for only one year
- 22:3-4** Ahaziah does evil in the sight of the LORD, his mother being the daughter of Ahab
- 22:5-6** Ahaziah enters into an alliance with Jehoram, king of Israel, to fight the king of Syria; Jehoram is wounded and the LORD uses Jehoram’s mortal wounds to bring about Ahaziah’s coming death
- 22:7-9** Ahaziah is assassinated, as well as Jehoram, by Jehu
Joash's reign
- 22:10-12** Joash is hidden in the Temple for six years by Ahaziah’s sister from Athaliah, Ahab’s daughter and mother of Ahaziah
- 23:1-11** Joash is protected by the priest Jehoiada, along with the Levites and all Judah, as he is being crowned king of Judah
- 23:12-15** Athaliah is executed
- 23:16-19** Jehoiada leads Judah to renew their covenant to be the LORD’S people under Joash
- 23:20-21** Joash is placed on his throne in the king’s palace, and all the people of Judah rejoice

Romans

- 11:13-24** A warning to Gentile believers to not boast because God has cut off Israel from being His people here on earth because of their unbelief
- 11:25-27** God’s hardening of Israel in part is until the fulness of the Gentiles is complete, after which Christ will come and turn away ungodliness from Jacob
Note: This is God’s promise of the restoration of Israel upon Christ’s return to this earth and His reign on this earth during the Millennium

- 11:28-35** God’s present turning the Gentiles in mercy justifies His return in mercy to Israel, and magnifies His wisdom and knowledge

Psalm 22: **THE CRUCIFIXION, RESURRECTION, AND FUTURE REIGN OF THE CHRIST OR MESSIAH**

- 22:1-10** His cry to God is foretold while he is being crucified

- 22:11-18** His crucifixion is described (and fulfilled in Christ’s death, Matthew 27:26-50)

Proverbs

- 20:7** God’s promised blessing upon the children of a just man who walks in his integrity

July 29**The Southern Kingdom of Judah****The Reigns of Joash (continued) and Amaziah****2 Chronicles**

- 24:1-3** Joash does right in the sight of the LORD during the days of Jehoiada
- 24:4-14** Joash instructs Jehoiada to supervise the restoration of the Temple that had been defiled because of Athaliah, and for him to supervise the collection and disbursement of monies raised in Judah for that purpose
- 24:15-19** Joash listens to wrong advice after the death of Jehoiada and restores idolatry in Judah
- 24:20-22** Joash orders the execution of Zedekiah, son of Jehoiada, for rebuking him
- 24:23-24** The reason the Syrians invaded and destroyed all the princes of the people of Judah, and sent the spoil to Damascus, even though they were greatly outnumbered as an army
- 24:25-27** Joash is assassinated and Amaziah reigns in his stead
- The reign of Amaziah**
- 25:1-2** Amaziah does right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a perfect heart
- 25:3-4** The reason Amaziah did not execute the sons of those who murdered his father, Joash
- 25:5-10** The reason Amaziah changes his mind about asking for the assistance of soldiers from Israel, after being confronted by a man of God
- 25:11-12** Amaziah defeats Edom in the Valley of Salt
- 25:13-16** Amaziah returns with the idols of the Edomites and worships them, refuses to hearken to a prophet who foretells Amaziah's death for provoking the LORD
- Note: No doubt Amaziah was angry at the LORD, upon hearing that the Israelite soldiers he sent away went on a killing spree throughout Judah, killing 3000 and taking much spoil, 25:13*
- 25:17-19** Amaziah threatens the king of Israel, who in turns warns Amaziah of pride in a parable of the Thistle and Cedar of Lebanon
- 25:20-24** Amaziah and Judah is defeated by the king of Israel, who plunders the Temple and the king's palace at Jerusalem, and takes hostages
- 25:25-28** The reason Amaziah was assassinated several years later

Romans

- 12:1-2** The command for believers to dedicate their bodies and minds to serving the Lord
- Note:* This presentation to the Lord is the believer's daily priestly responsibility, replacing the Levitical daily burnt offerings, Exodus 29:38-42
- 12:3-8** The command to serve fellow believers in the area of their spiritual gifts
- 12:9-21** The command to serve the Lord with right attitudes

Psalm 22:

- CHRIST'S DEATH AND RESURRECTION (continued)**
- 22:19-22** Christ's resurrection and ascension into heaven foretold
- Note:* Compare verse twenty- two with Hebrews 2:11-12
- 22:23-31** Christ's return to reign on this earth is foretold

Proverbs

- 20:8** What the eyes of a king looks for when he sits in judgment?
- 20:9** Who can say he has cleansed himself from sin?
- 20:10** False weights and measurements are an abomination to the LORD

July 30**The Southern Kingdom of Judah****The Reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, and Ahaz****2 Chronicles** **The reign of Uzziah or Azariah**

- 26:1-5** Uzziah does that which is right in the sight of the LORD, seeks God by the prophet Zechariah, and as long as he seeks the LORD, God makes him to prosper
- 26:6-8** God helps Uzziah against his surrounding enemies
- 26:9-10** Uzziah builds towers in Jerusalem; also towers in the desert and wells for his increase in ranching and farming
- 26:11-15** Uzziah becomes strong in the size of his army and supplies for battle, including engines that could shoot arrows and great stones
- 26:16-18** When he became strong, Uzziah's heart was lifted up with pride, and dared to enter the Temple and burned incense on the Altar of Incense, for which he was rebuked by Azariah and eighty other Levitical priests
- 26:19-21** Uzziah is smitten by the LORD with leprosy during his rage against the priests, is cut off from the Temple and his palace until the day of his death, and Jotham co-reigns with him
- 26:22-23** Uzziah dies and Jotham reigns in his stead, (see Isaiah's vision, Isaiah 6)

The reign of Jotham

- 27:1-2** Jotham does right in the sight of the LORD, though he did not enter into the Temple and the people continued to sin greatly
- 27:3-4** He builds in Jerusalem, and builds cities, castles, and towers in the mountains and forests in Judah
- 27:5-6** The Ammonites pay him tribute, and the reason Jotham becomes mighty
- 27:7-9** Jotham dies and Ahaz reigns in his stead

The reign of Ahaz

- 28:1-4** Ahaz does not do right in the sight of the LORD, walks in the ways of the kings of Israel, and even burns his children in the fire as did the nations whom the LORD had cast out of the land before the Israelites possessed it
- 28:5-8** So the LORD his God delivered him into the hand of the king of Syria and the king of Israel, both of whom carry away many captives to Damascus and to Samaria
- 28:9-15** The reason those captured by the king of Israel are returned to Jericho
- 28:16-21** Ahaz's appeal to king Tiglath-Pilneser for help from Assyria backfires
- 28:22-23** The reason Ahaz turns to the gods of Damascus for help
- 28:24-25** Ahaz closes the Temple and sets up new altars and high places
- 28:26-27** Ahaz dies and Hezekiah reigns in his stead

Romans

- 13:1-5** God's purpose for human government
- 13:6-10** The believer's obligation to pay taxes and love his brother
- 13:11-14** The believer's reason for not doing that which others do under the cover of darkness

Psalm 23: **THE LORD IS DAVID'S SHEPHERD**

- 23:1-3** His providential care for David in the daily cares of life
- 23:4** His providential care for David in facing the threat of death
- 23:5** His providential care for David in facing his enemies
- 23:6** His providential care for David in life after death

Proverbs

- 20:11** What others observe about the behavior of a child?

July 31**The Southern Kingdom of Judah****The Reign of Hezekiah****2 Chronicles**

- 29:1-2** Hezekiah does that which is right in the eyes of the LORD
29:3-11 Hezekiah orders the Levites to reopen the Temple, repair it, and purify themselves
29:12-14 The Levites who are in charge of the purification of the Temple
29:15-19 The time period it takes to purify the Temple
29:20-36 The animal sacrifices are restored in a dedicatory service with great celebration
 29:20-24 Sin and Burnt Offerings are presented as atonement for all Israel
 29:25-28 The Levitical musicians play and sing during the ceremony
 29:29-33 The people bring Thanksgiving Offerings upon being consecrated
 29:34-36 Levites who are consecrated assist the priests, there being too few to handle the number of offerings, (due to the reign of Hezekiah's father, Ahaz)

Romans

- 14:1-22** Jewish believers and Gentile believers in the church at Rome are to not be judging each other over the Mosaic Law
 14:1-6 As to whether or not a believer is now free to eat meats formerly forbidden, and whether or not a believer chooses to personally observe a day as a sabbath
 14:7-12 Every believer will give an account of himself before the Lord in these matters
 14:13-18 The Jewish believers should not judge the Gentiles, and the Gentiles should not become a stumbling block before the Jews
 14:19-22 They should rather seek to be at peace with one another, and do all in good conscience and faith

Psalm 24: **QUALIFICATIONS FOR ACCESS TO THE KING OF GLORY**

- 24:1-2** The earth, and the world occupying it, belongs to the LORD
24:3-6 The kind of person who will be allowed to stand in His holy place
24:7-10 Open the gates of the city when the victorious King of glory enters Jerusalem
Note: This is a reference to Christ's return to set up His Millennial Kingdom

Proverbs

- 20:12** The LORD makes the hearing ear and the seeing eye

August 1**The Southern Kingdom of Judah****The Reign of Hezekiah****2 Chronicles**

- 30:1-5** Hezekiah makes a decision to observe the Passover during the second month, though the Law had required its' observance in the first month
- 30:6-12** Hezekiah's letter of appeal for all Judah and Israel to assemble at Jerusalem
- 30:13-17** The idolatrous altars are taken from Jerusalem and burned, and the Levites sanctify themselves and the people for the killing of the Passover
- 30:18-20** Hezekiah prays for the LORD to heal those who came from northern Israel, and became sick, because they ate without being sanctified beforehand according to the Law
- 30:21-24** The celebration of the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread is extended for another seven days, to celebrate their confession as a nation and restoration to worship the LORD
- 30:25-27** This was the greatest celebration of the Passover since the days of Solomon
- 31:1-21** **Restoration of the Levitical priests for ministry**
- 31:1 Removal of idols throughout Judah and northern Israel
 - 31:2-7 Hezekiah's appointment of the Levites for sacrifice at the Temple and orders for their daily provision in food
 - 31:8-21 Hezekiah's assignments for storage of food for the priests at the Temple

Romans

- 15:1-2** Gentile believers who are strong in the Christian faith should bear the infirmities of Jewish believers who are weak in the Faith (because of still living under the Law)
- 15:3-7** Jewish believers should follow the example of Christ in their acceptance of Gentile believers, in that Christ sought not to please himself, but bore in his body their reproaches in order that both Jews and Gentiles could glorify God in unity
- 15:8-12** The Old Testament Scriptures prophesied of the need for both Jews and Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy
- 15:13-16** The apostle Paul prays for their spiritual capacity to minister to one another, reminding them that it is for this reason that God appointed him to minister as a priest to the Gentiles
- Note:** In the nation of Israel only those of the tribe of Levi were priests. In Christ's church today, every believer is a priest regardless of nation, (cf. 1 Peter 2:9, Revelation 1:6, 5:9-10)

15:17-22 Paul comments on what the Lord has done through his ministry to the Gentiles, and the reason he has not yet come to Rome

Psalm 25: **KING DAVID'S PRAYER FOR DIVINE GUIDANCE, MERCY, AND DELIVERANCE**

- 25:1-5** His prayer for daily guidance
- 25:6-7** His prayer for God's remembrance of His mercy and His non-remembrance of his sins and transgressions
- 25:8-10** His belief in the LORD'S goodness to those who in meekness seek to learn and obey His commandments
- 25:11-15** His prayer for the LORD'S forgiveness of his iniquity which was great, and assurance of the LORD'S deliverance because his choice to fear the LORD

Proverbs

- 20:13** A reason to not stay in bed
- 20:14** A warning against deceptive business transactions
- 20:15** What is more precious to find than gold and a multitude of rubies

August 2**The Southern Kingdom of Judah**
The Reign of Hezekiah and Manasseh**2 Chronicles****The reign of Hezekiah (continued)**

- 32:1-5** Hezekiah makes defensive preparations in Jerusalem for a possible attack by Sennacherib of Assyria
- 32:6-19** Sennacherib demands surrender, insulting both God and Hezekiah
32:6-8 Hezekiah's words to encourage the people
32:9-19 Sennacherib's words to discourage the people
- 32:20-23** Hezekiah and the prophet Isaiah pray and God answers by sending an angel of death to destroy the Assyrian army; Sennacherib retreats back to his land where he is assassinated
- 32:24-31** Hezekiah's prosperity, pride, achievements, and God's test afterwards, (cf. 2 Kings 20:12-21)
32:24 The LORD gives a sign to Hezekiah and heals him of a terminal illness
32:25-26 Hezekiah's pride in showing off the treasures of the Temple and his palace before envoys sent from the king of Babylon
32:27-31 Hezekiah's prosperity, accomplishments, and God's testing of the heart of Hezekiah in the matter of the envoys from Babylon
- 32:32-33** Hezekiah dies and Manasseh reigns in his stead
- The reign of Manasseh**
- 33:1-6** Manasseh does evil in the sight of the LORD, like unto the abominations of the nations whom the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel
- 33:7-9** Judah becomes even more wicked than the nations the LORD had destroyed
- 33:10-13** The events that convinced Manasseh that the LORD was God after he had been captured and carried away into Babylon

Romans

- 15:23-29** Paul informs the believers at Rome that he will come to them on his way to Spain, after he first delivers the offerings he has been collecting to Jerusalem
Note: Paul uses the term "fruit" to describe the offering of the Gentiles because he regards their giving as a function of their priesthood, (see Note on 15:13-16)
- 15:30-33** Paul gives three prayer requests, two of which God does not answer, (cf. Acts 21:17-28:31)
- 16:1-2** Paul gives instructions regarding their treatment of Phoebe when she comes to Rome from Corinth on church business
- 16:3-7** Paul requests that they give special greetings to believers in Rome on his behalf
Note: Aquila and Priscilla have returned to Rome by permission of the Roman emperor and have already started a church in their home, anticipating Paul's coming to Rome

Psalm 25: KING DAVID'S PRAYER FOR DIVINE GUIDANCE, MERCY, AND DELIVERANCE (Continued)

- 25:16-21** His prayer for deliverance from his enemies
- 25:22** His prayer for Israel's deliverance from their enemies

Proverbs

- 20:16** From whom Jews are to require collateral when making a loan
- 20:17** The eventual dissatisfaction of eating bread purchased by fraudulent means
- 20:18** The need for proper planning and counsel when going to war

August 3

The Southern Kingdom of Judah
The Reign of Manasseh, Amon, and Josiah

2 Chronicles**The reign of Manasseh (continued)**

33:14-17 Manasseh's purge of idolatry in Judah after his restoration from captivity in Babylon

33:18-20 Manasseh dies and Amon succeeds

The reign of Amon

33:21-25 Amon reigns for only two years, does evil as did his father Manasseh, does not humble himself like his father, is assassinated, and Josiah succeeds

The reign of Josiah

34:1-7 Josiah does that which is right in the sight of the LORD, purging the land of Israel from their altars and idols, and burning the bones of the idolatrous priests upon the altars, (cf. 1 Kings 13:2)

34:8-11 Josiah orders money to be collected for repair of the Temple

34:12-13 The Levites who supervised the repair

34:14-18 The book of the Law is found in the Temple and read in the presence of Josiah

34:19-22 Josiah tears his clothes in response to what he hears and sends for a word from the prophetess Huldah regarding the nation's failure to obey God's Law

34:23-28 The LORD'S prophecy regarding the future of Judah in contrast to that of Josiah

34:29-32 Josiah calls for a convocation at Jerusalem and the Temple for the reading of the Law and renewal of the nation's covenant with the LORD

34:33 Josiah removes all the idolatry from the nation and makes them serve the LORD all the remaining five years of his reign, (cf. 2 Chronicles 34:1 and 34:8)

Romans

16:8-16 Paul sends special greetings to . . . (continued)

16:17-20 Paul warns against those who cause divisions through false teaching

Note: Verse twenty is evidence that Christ's church will be the ones to fulfill God's promise to Eve in Genesis 3:15

16:21-24 Paul conveys special greeting from his co-workers with him at Corinth

16:25-27 Paul concludes with a benediction of praise to God for the mystery of the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Psalm 26:**KING DAVID'S PRAYER FOR VINDICATION**

26:1-2 His plea for the LORD to examine his heart and emotions

26:3-5 His testimony of being faithful to the LORD and having separated from the congregation of evil doers

26:6-8 His promise to praise the LORD publicly before the LORD'S altar

26:8-12 His prayer for deliverance from those who seek to kill him, on the basis of his love for praising the LORD publicly at the Tabernacle before the congregation

Note: Verse eight refers to the Tabernacle, since the Temple had not yet been built

Proverbs

20:19 The need to avoid a person who uses flattery to attract a hearing of his gossip

August 4**The Southern Kingdom of Judah****The Reign of Josiah, Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, Zedekiah, and Babylonian Captivity****2 Chronicles****The reign of Josiah (continued)**

35:1-9 Josiah prepares for celebration of the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month

35:10-15 The priests and Levites do their part in preparing for the Passover

35:16-19 Josiah leads the nation in the greatest celebration of the Passover since the days of the prophet Samuel

35:20-25 Josiah is killed in battle when he disregards God's warning to not fight Neco, Pharaoh of Egypt, and is lamented by Jeremiah as well as male and female singers

35:26-36:1 Jehoahaz succeeds

The reign of Jehoahaz

36:2-4 Only reigns for three months when the king of Egypt deposes him and appoints his brother Jehoiakim to be king over Judah and Jerusalem; Jehoahaz is taken to Egypt

The reign of Jehoiakim

36:5-8 Jehoiakim reigns for eleven years, does evil in the sight of the LORD, and is deported to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar along with the vessels of the Temple, and Jehoiachin reigns in his stead

The reign of Jehoiachin

36:9-10 Jehoiachin only reigns for three months and ten days, does evil in the sight of the LORD, and is also deported to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar; his brother Zedekiah is appointed to replace him

The reign of Zedekiah

36:11-14 Zedekiah reigns for eleven years, does evil in the sight of the LORD, refuses to humble himself before the prophet Jeremiah, and rebels against Nebuchadnezzar; the people also committed the abominations of the heathen and pollutes the Temple of the LORD

Babylonian Captivity

36:15-21 The LORD delivers Judah into captivity to Babylon, and the reason why; Nebuchadnezzar takes all the vessels of the Temple, burns the Temple and the palace, and breaks down the wall of Jerusalem, and they remain in captivity until the seventy years prophesied by Jeremiah are fulfilled

36:22-23 The LORD stirs up the spirit of Cyrus, king of Persia, to allow the Jews to return to the land and rebuild the Temple after seventy years, thus fulfilling the prophecy of Jeremiah

Note: The post-exilic history continues with the book of Ezra

1 Corinthians

1:1-3 Paul's opening salutation

1:4-9 Paul's thanks to God for their having received spiritual gifts, confirming their salvation

1:10-17 Paul confronts the divisiveness he hears regarding who baptized them in water

Note: These verses prove that being baptized in water does not save

Psalm 27: **KING DAVID'S PRAISE AND PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM HIS ENEMIES**

27:1-6 His praise, (David's prayer begins with verse seven)

Proverbs

20:20 A premature death is foretold for the one who curses his father or his mother

20:21 The end result is foretold of an inheritance gained hastily

August 5**The Restoration of the Temple under the prophet Ezra****Ezra**

- 1:1-4** King Cyrus' proclamation permitting the return to the land of Israel and the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem, (cf. Jeremiah 25:12)
- 1:5-11** An inventory of the treasures of the Temple that had been carried away by Nebuchadnezzar into Babylon and are now being returned to the Temple to be rebuilt
- 2:1-58** A list of those returning who could prove themselves to be Jews by genealogy
- 2:1-20 Families
 - 2:21-35 Cities
 - 2:36-39 Priests
 - 2:40-42 Levites
 - 2:43-54 Temple servants of the Gibeonites, (cf. Joshua 9)
 - 2:55-58 Sons of Solomon as Temple servants
- 2:59-63** A list of those returning who were not permitted to function as priests because they could not prove their genealogy
Note: See Exodus 28:30 regarding the Urim and the Thummim
- 2:64-67** The total number of those returning
- 2:68-70** Freewill offerings for the rebuilding of the Temple given upon return to the land, and return to their cities

1 Corinthians

- 1:17-25** The reasons why Paul does not want them to be divided over who baptized them
Note: The power of the cross to which Paul is referring is a reference to Romans 6:6, by which the believer is able to avoid becoming addicted to sin through Christ's crucified body. This is the two-fold work of Christ on the cross by which His shed blood delivers the believer from the penalty of his sin, and the crucified body by which the believer is delivered from both the power of sin in his body now, and ultimately the very presence of sin in the day of resurrection
- 1:26-31** Paul reminds them that their calling in Christ is to boast in the Lord and not in man
- 2:1-5** Paul informs them that the reason he chose to avoid oratory when he first came to them, is so that they might boast in the power of the cross he demonstrated rather than in his skills as a communicator

- Psalm 27:** **KING DAVID'S PRAISE AND PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM HIS ENEMIES,**
(continued)
- 27:7-14** David's prayer (which follows his praise in vs. 1-6)

Proverbs

- 20:22** How not to respond when being wronged?
- 20:23** How the LORD regards the misuse of weights in financial transactions?

August 6**The Restoration of the Temple under the prophet Ezra, (continued)****Ezra**

- 3:1-6** The Altar of Burnt Offering is built before the Temple, and is used morning and evening from the first day of the seventh month
- 3:7-9** The rebuilding of the Temple is begun the second year, and the second month of their return from Babylon to the land of Israel
- 3:10-13** The contrast in emotions between the young and the old who had seen Solomon's Temple before it was destroyed
- 4:1-3** An offer, by the adversaries in the land to Join with Judah and Benjamin in rebuilding the Temple, is rejected
- 4:4-5** The adversaries in the land do all they can to hinder the progress of the rebuilding of the Temple, from the days of Cyrus to the days of Darius, kings of Persia
- 4:6-16** A letter is sent by the adversaries to Artaxerxes, king of Persia, requesting that the rebuilding be halted
- 4:6-10 Those signing on to the letter
- 4:11-16 The content of the letter
- 4:17-24** Artaxerxes halts the rebuilding until the second year of the reign of Darius

1 Corinthians

- 2:6-10** The wisdom that Paul proclaimed when he first came to Corinth was the hidden wisdom of God which had been revealed to him by the Spirit of God
- 2:11-13** This kind of wisdom cannot be learned but by the Holy Spirit
- Note: The wisdom being referred to is a believer's insight into Christ's will for him personally in the daily decisions of his life, which Paul calls having the "mind of Christ," (v.16). This kind of wisdom is not available to an unbeliever or the natural man
- 2:14-16** This is why the natural man or unbeliever thinks the Gospel Paul preaches of the cross is foolishness; only the believer has the capacity from the Holy Spirit to have a spiritual mind to understand the mind of Christ
- 3:1-4** Because the Corinthian believers are carnal, acting like unbelievers in their strife and division, Paul has to speak to them as being babes in Christ

Psalms 28: **KING DAVID'S PRAYER AND PRAISE REGARDING THE WICKED**

- 28:1-5** His prayer
- 28:6-9** His praise

Proverbs

- 20:24** The reason a man cannot fully understand the course his life takes
- 20:25** How that which is holy, or the making of a vow can become a snare?

August 7**The Restoration of the Temple under the prophet Ezra, (continued)****Ezra**

- 5:1-2** The rebuilding of the Temple is resumed in response to the urging of the prophets Haggai and Zechariah
- 5:3-17** A letter is sent by the adversaries in the land, challenging the legality of the renewed effort to rebuild
- 5:3-5** The governor of the province challenges the rebuilding, and the names of those involved are stated; but the work goes on until Darius replies to the letter being sent
- 5:6-17** Darius is requested to search for the decree that Cyrus had issued to allow the rebuilding of the Temple
- 6:1-12** King Darius issues a decree legitimizing the rebuilding, but requires the adversaries to pay the wages of those involved, as well as provide for the daily offerings on the Altar of Burnt Offering
- 6:13-15** The time when the rebuilding of the Temple is completed, (March 12, 515 B.C.)
- 6:16-22** The joyous celebration during the Dedication service, as well as the observance of the first Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread

1 Corinthians

- 3:5-9** Paul asserts that while he planted and Apollos watered, it is God who caused the church to grow in Corinth
- 3:10-15** Paul reminds the Corinthians that it will be the Lord who determines the quality of their labor, as well as that of the Corinthians
- 3:16-23** Paul warns anyone against defiling the church of God's people who are not His temple, being indwelt by the Holy Spirit
- Note: Spirit indwelt believers today are God's temple, and the local church of believers, (cf. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 and Ephesians 2:19-22)

Psalm 29:

- THE POWERFUL VOICE OF THE LORD**
- 29:1-2** A call to praise the LORD
- 29:3-9** A description of the power of the voice of the LORD
- 29:10-11** A renewed call to praise the LORD as Israel's King forever

Proverbs

- 20:26** How a wise king treats the wicked?
- 20:27** How the spirit of man is like a candle for the LORD?

August 8**Ezra's Return to the Land of Israel****Ezra**

- 7:1-10** Ezra returns to the land of Israel from Babylon during the seventh year of the reign of Artaxerxes, in order teach the Law of Moses, (fifty-eight years after the events of chapter six)
- 7:11-26** Ezra is given a copy of the decree of Artaxerxes authorizing his mission
- 7:12-13 Any of the people, the priests, and the Levites, who desire to return with Ezra to ' Jerusalem may do so
 - 7:14-18 Ezra will be allowed to take all of the gold and silver which has been freely given for their offerings at the Temple when they arrive
 - 7:19-20 This includes the utensils needed for ministry at the Temple
 - 7:21-26 Treasurers in all of the regions of Judah and the Temple at Jerusalem are instructed to assist Ezra in his effort
- 7:27-28** Ezra praises the LORD for putting this in Artaxerxes's heart
- 8:1-14** A list is given of the fathers whose sons returned with Ezra
- 8:15-20** Ezra recruits Levites to return with him

1 Corinthians

- 4:1-5** Paul says he does not depend upon their favorable evaluation of his past ministry, but upon the Lord's evaluation
- 4:6-7** In the same way, they should not be exalting themselves over one another
- 4:8-13** Paul compares the sufferings he and the apostles experienced in order to minister to them, as a contrast to the full and prosperous life of the Corinthians to whom they ministered
- 4:14-17** Paul says he is not trying to shame them, but to warn them through his sending of Timothy for them to follow in the ways of Christ that he taught them
- 4:18-21** Paul rebukes those who are puffed up against him about his delay in visiting them, saying that when he comes, he will come by the will of God either with a rod or by gentleness in love, depending upon their response to his letter

Psalm 30:**KING DAVID'S PRAISE AT THE DEDICATION OF HIS PALACE**

- 30:1-3** His personal praise for God's deliverance from death in answer to his prayer
- 30:4-5** His call for saints to sing praise for the temporary duration of His anger and the longevity of His favor
- 30:6-9** His recall of his cry to the LORD for deliverance from death
- 30:10-12** His commitment to sing praise and give thanks for the LORD'S favor in answering his prayer

Proverbs

- 20:28** The importance to a king for displaying mercy and truth
- 20:29** The glory of young men and the beauty of old men
- 20:30** The benefit of scourging when correcting evil behavior

August 9**Ezra's Return to the Land of Israel (continued)****Ezra**

- 8:21-23** Ezra calls for a fast and prayer for a safe journey
- 8:24-30** Ezra appoints priests to protect the offerings that were being collected for the Temple until they arrive at Jerusalem
- 8:31-34** The offerings are presented to the priests and the Levites on the fourth day of their arrival in Jerusalem
- 8:35-36** Sin and Burnt Offerings are sacrificed to the LORD for all Israel and the king's decree is given to the governors of the provinces

Interramriage with daughters of the idolaters in the land

- 9:1-2** Ezra is told of the intermarriage of the priests, Levites, princes, rulers, and the people with the daughters of the idolatrous inhabitants of the land
- 9:3-4** Ezra's outward display of shame and grief when hearing what those who came earlier to the land had done
- 9:5-15** Ezra's prayer of repentance on behalf of the remnant that had returned to the land
9:5-9 His embarrassment in light of God's having given them favor in the sight of the kings of Persia to return to the land of Israel
9:10-15 His confession of the sin of those who intermarried in violation of God's Law

1 Corinthians

- 5:1-5** Paul confronts the church regarding their lack of church discipline and their need to remove from membership a man who is committing fornication with his father's wife
Note: Even if the Lord permits a believer to suffer death at the hands of Satan, he still does not lose his eternal salvation, (v.5)
- 5:6-8** Paul commands them to do so in order to avoid the Lord's judgment upon them as a congregation, when they come together to partake of the Lord's Communion in an unworthy manner, (cf. 1 Corinthians 11:29)
- 5:9-13** Paul clarifies that his previous letter commanding that they do not eat with fornicators, was not intended for unbelievers but for believers
Note: The letter to which Paul refers is not included in our New Testament.

Psalm 31:**KING DAVID'S PRAYER AND PRAISE REGARDING A CONSPIRACY AGAINST HIM**

- 31:1-8** David prays for deliverance from his conspirators in light of his faithfulness to worship the LORD

Proverbs

- 21:1** An analogy of the LORD'S ability to influence the heart of the king
Note: God does not interfere with a man's will, but does influence the emotions which motivate one's decisions in his will
- 21:2** The difference between a man's perspective of his ways, and the LORD'S

August 10**Ezra's Return to the Land of Israel (continued)****Ezra**

- 10:1-4** A large assembly comes to Ezra while he is fasting, and propose that they agree to separate themselves from their foreign wives and children
- 10:5-6** Ezra makes the leading priests, the Levites, and all Israel vow to agree with this proposal, and continues to fast without food or water
- 10:7-8** Ezra issues a proclamation for all of Judah to re-assemble at Jerusalem within three days, or be excommunicated and lose all of their property
- 10:9-15** The people agree to separate from the idolatrous wives, but request that it not be done all at one time, due to the number of marriages to be annulled, and due to their having to stand for long hours in the heavy rain during the Spring rainy season
- 10:16-44** A list is given of the names of those who separated from their idolatrous wives
 10:16-17 It takes three months for them to investigate and clear the marriages
 10:18-44 The total number of families affected are 113, (17 priests, 10 Levites, and 86 others)

1 Corinthians

- 6:1-8** Paul rebukes the church members for not resolving disputes among themselves apart from the judicial courts
Note: This does not preclude a believer from seeking justice from a crime committed by a believer. God has ordained government for this purpose, not the church
- Note: Compare 6:3 with Hebrews 2:5-8 and Romans 16:20. Believers during the Church Age will not only be resurrected with immoral bodies, but will also be resurrected with glorified bodies like that of the Lord Jesus, whereby they will be able to defeat Satan's angels upon their return with Christ
- 6:9-11** Paul reminds them of the kind of people that will not inherit the kingdom of God, the kind of people they were before they were saved
Note: This verse distinguishes those who are not saved (vs. 9-10) from those who are (v.11), even though they may behave at times like those who are not. Paul's warning is this: If the Lord will not allow unbelievers who behave immorally to enter His kingdom, how can a believer expect to be rewarded for like conduct (cf. 1 Corinthians 3:14-15)
- 6:12-20** Paul warns them against committing fornication with their bodies which now belong to Christ

- Psalm 31:** **KING DAVID'S PRAYER AND PRAISE REGARDING A CONSPIRACY AGAINST HIM, (continued)**
- 31:9-13** David describes his present distress
- 31:14-18** David prays for God's judgment to be upon his conspirators, (cf. 2 Timothy 4:14)

Proverbs

- 21:3** What the LORD desires, more than animal sacrifices?

August 11**Nehemiah's Rebuilding of the Wall****Nehemiah****1:1-4**

Nehemiah fasts and prays for four months upon hearing a report that Jerusalem's walls are broken down, (cf. 2:1)

Note: Israel's calendar year

Nisan (or Abib)	=	March-April
Iyyar (or Ziv)	=	April-May
Sivan	=	May-June
Tammuz	=	June-July
Ab	=	July-August
Elul	=	August-September
Tishri (or Ethanim)	=	September-October
Marchesvan (or Bul)	=	October-November
Chislev	=	November-December
Tebeth	=	December-January

1:5-11**Nehemiah's prayer**

1:5 His address to the LORD GOD of heaven

1:6-7 His confession of Israel's past sins

1:8-10 His reminder to God of His promise to restore His people back to the land, (cf. Deuteronomy 30:1-5)

1:11 His request for the king's favor in his desire to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the wall

2:1-8

Nehemiah's request of Artaxerxes for permission to go to Jerusalem to rebuild the Wall is granted

Nehemiah's return**2:9-10**

The reaction of Sanballat and Tobiah to Artaxerxes's letter authorizing Nehemiah's mission

2:11-16

Nehemiah's three night private inspection of the Wall

2:17-18

Nehemiah's exhortation to the leaders of Jerusalem to join him in his mission

2:19-20

Nehemiah's response to the derision of Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem

3:1-2

Repair of the Sheep Gate and adjoining sections

3:3-5

Repair of the Fish Gate and adjoining sections

3:6-12

Repair of the Old Gate and adjoining sections

3:13

Repair of the Valley Gate

3:14

Repair of the Dung Gate

1 Corinthians**Paul Answers Questions****7:1-9**

About the need to avoid fornication

7:10-16

About divorce and remarriage

Note: Verse ten means that Paul is giving instructions for Christian marriage today that Jesus did not give when he was on the earth, Matthew 19:1-9

7:17-20

About circumcision

7:21-24

About being a slave

Psalms 31:**KING DAVID'S PRAYER AND PRAISE REGARDING CONSPIRACY, (continued)****31:19-24**

His praise for the LORD'S hearing and answering his prayer

Proverbs**21:4**

The sin of the wicked is in his eye, his heart, and his work

August 12**Nehemiah's Rebuilding of the Wall****Nehemiah**

- 3:15-27** Repair of the Fountain Gate and adjoining sections
3:28-32 Wall is completed from the Horse Gate to the Sheep Gate

Countering Opposition to the Rebuilding

- 4:1-6** Nehemiah's prayer to God in response to the ridicule by Sanballat and Tobiah
4:7-9 Nehemiah's two-fold response in learning of a conspiracy to attack Jerusalem and stop the rebuilding
4:10-23 Nehemiah's response to those of Judah who also sought to discourage upon completion of half the Wall
 4:10-14 Nehemiah's speech to encourage those who are discouraged
 4:15-20 Nehemiah's strategy to be on guard while continuing to rebuild the wall
 4:21-23 Nehemiah's strategy for keeping guard and continuing to rebuild while allowing sleep
5:1-5 Nehemiah hears that wealthy Jews were impoverishing their fellow Jews through taxation, and making slaves of those who could not afford to pay in order to get food
5:6-11 Nehemiah's rebuke
5:12-13 The people make a vow in response to Nehemiah's rebuke

1 Corinthians**Paul Answers Questions, (continued)**

- 7:25-35** About Paul's preference for those who are single regarding their getting married
7:36-38 About father's who give their daughters in marriage and those who do not
7:39-40 About Paul's advice to widows regarding remarriage

Psalm 32:**KING DAVID'S TESTIMONY OF BEING FORGIVEN**

- 32:1-2** The blessedness of being forgiven upon genuine repentance of sin
32:3-5 The reason David broke his silence to finally confess his iniquity
32:6-7 David's confidence in the LORD'S deliverance after having been forgiven
32:8-11 David's warning against the stubbornness of the wicked

Proverbs

- 21:5** The benefit of planning and not acting hastily
21:6 The danger of lying to get wealthy
21:7 The danger of robbery to get wealthy

August 13**Nehemiah's Rebuilding of the Wall****Nehemiah****Counteracting Opposition to the Rebuilding (continued)**

- 5:14-19** Nehemiah's request for the LORD'S favor, because of his personal sacrifice as governor for the good of the people, in contrast to those described in verses one through thirteen
- Efforts to discourage Nehemiah**
- 6:1-4** Through four plots to assassinate him
- 6:5-9** In Sanballat's false accusation against him
- 6:10-14** In the hiring of a prophetess and other prophets to entice him into entering the Temple for his protection, (only a priest could enter the Holy Place)
- 6:15-19** The Wall is completed in spite of Tobiah's efforts to discourage

After the Wall is built**A Numbering of the People**

- 7:1-3** Nehemiah gives instructions for continually guarding the gates of the rebuilt Wall
- 7:4-5** The LORD puts it into the heart of Nehemiah to number the people by genealogy
- 7:6-60** A registry, which was made in the first visit to Jerusalem by Zerubabel, was found and used for the numbering; a list is given of names and numbers

1 Corinthians**Paul Answers Questions, (continued)**

- 8:1-13** About eating meat offered to idols
- 8:1-6** What believers should know about eating meat that has been offered to idols
- 8:7-13** Reasons a believer, who knows there is nothing wrong with eating meat offered to idols, should not use his liberty in Christ to cause a new believer to stumble who has just been converted from idolatry

Psalms 33: REASONS FOR ISRAEL TO REJOICE IN THE LORD

- 33:1-3** A call to rejoice with song and musical instruments
- 33:4-5** For His person
- 33:6-9** For His power manifested in creation
- 33:10-11** For His sovereign control of the nations

Proverbs

- 21:8** The difference between the ways of the unruly and the work of those who are pure
- 21:9** The discomfort of living at home with a quarreling woman
- 21:10** A reason why one should not expect good from a wicked neighbor

August 14
After the Wall is built (continued)

Nehemiah**A Numbering of the People, (continued)**

- 7:61-65** A list of those put out of the priesthood because they could not prove their genealogy
7:66-69 The total number counted
7:70-73 Free will offerings given for the treasury of the Temple

A Renewal of the Covenant in the Seventh Month

- 8:1-12** Ezra reads the Mosaic Law on the first day while the people stand
8:13-15 The discovery in reading that the Feast of Tabernacles is to be observed at that time
8:16-18 A joyful observance of the Feast of Tabernacles from the sixteenth day to the twenty-second day, that had not been observed since the days of Joshua
9:1-3 The Mosaic Law is read again while the people stand for one-fourth of the day, and then bow to the ground in repentance and confession of sin for the following one-fourth of the day

Their Confession of Praise

- 9:4-6** For His creation
9:7-8 For His covenant with Abraham
9:9-12 For His deliverance from Bondage to Egypt and guiding Israel in the wilderness
9:13-14 For His Law at Mount Sinai
9:15-21 For His provision for them for forty years in spite of their arrogance and idolatry, because He is a God ready to pardon, gracious, merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness

1 Corinthians**Paul Answers Questions, (continued)**

- 9:1-18** About Paul's rights as an apostle
9:1-14 Paul defends his right as an apostle to have a wife (if he chose to marry), and to be financially supported in his ministry to the church
9:15-21 Reasons Paul did not exercise his right when he came to Corinth to start a church

Psalm 33:**REASONS FOR ISRAEL TO REJOICE IN THE LORD, continued**

- 33:12-19** For Israel's being blessed under God's protective care as His chosen people
33:20-22 An appeal for God's continued mercy

Proverbs

- 21:11** Learning wisdom when seeing the scorner punished by God
21:12 Learning wisdom when seeing the wicked punished by God

August 15**After the Wall is built (continued)****Nehemiah**

- 9:22-25** For enabling them to take possession of the land of the Canaanites
- 9:26-31** For bearing with their rebellion many times while in the land, and not annihilating them completely because He is a gracious and merciful God
- 9:32-35** For God to note all the hardships that they have suffered from the days of the kings of Assyria, and rightfully so
- 9:36-38** For Him to note that they are still slaves of these kings even though they are now back in their land, and that they are making a covenant because of their great distress

A list of names sealed on the Document

- 10:1-8** Nehemiah and the priests
- 10:9-13** The Levites
- 10:14-27** The chief men

The promise made by the people

- 10:28-31** To obey God's Law
- 10:32-39** To provide for the annual sacrifices at the Temple, for its upkeep, as well as the tithes for the priests and Levites

1 Corinthians

- 9:19-27** About the reason Paul ministered in the manner he did when he came to Corinth
- Note: 9:21: Though Paul did not observe the Mosaic Law when among Gentiles, this does not mean he could do anything he wanted. He was under the law of Christ which has replaced the law of Moses for believers today
- 9:27: Paul runs the race of life the Lord has set before him with the intent of winning rewards from Christ in the future. His reference to not becoming a "castaway" means the loss of all reward, though saved (cf. 1 Corinthians 3:15)

10:1-13

- About their need to learn from the Old Testament account of what happened to the Exodus Generation of Israelites, as a warning to avoid idolatry, murmuring, and fornication
- 10:1-4 All those who crossed the Red Sea with Moses in the cloud were identified with Christ, as evident in it being Christ who struck the Rock to bring forth water in the wilderness, (Exodus 17:6)

- 10:5-10 Yet because they displeased God on the way to the land of Promise, many of them died in the wilderness

10:7 Compare Exodus 32:4

10:8 Compare Exodus 32:28-35

Note: Three thousand were slain by the Levites (Exodus 32:28) and another twenty thousand by the LORD (Exodus 32:35), though the number is not given in the book of Exodus

10:9 Compare Numbers 21:5f

10:10 Compare with Numbers 16-17

Psalm 34:**KING DAVID'S PRAISE FOR THE LORD'S DELIVERANCE FROM ABIMELECH**

Note: The dynastic title for King Achish, 1 Samuel 21:10-15

34:1-6

David's call to join him in praise for his deliverance

34:7-10

David's testimony of deliverance for those who fear and trust the LORD

Proverbs**21:13**

A reason to not ignore the cry of the poor

August 16
After the Wall is built (continued)

Nehemiah**Repopulating the Cities**

11:1-3 The casting of lots to determine which people were to dwell in the city of Jerusalem

- **11:3-9** The people
- **11:10-14** The priests
- **11:15-18** The Levites
- **11:19-21** The Gatekeepers and Temple Servants
- **13:22-24** Others

11:25-36 The casting of lots to determine which people were to dwell in the cities of Judah and Benjamin

A List of the Key Priests and Levites

12:1-9 Those who returned initially with Zerubbabel and Joshua to Jerusalem, (cf. Ezra 2:2, 36-40)

12:10-26 Those who returned to Jerusalem from the time of Joiakim, son of Joshua, to Nehemiah

1 Corinthians**Paul Answers Questions, (continued)**

10:14-22 About their eating with unbelievers in their feasts at idolatrous temples at Corinth

Note: Doing so would cause unbelievers to think that their religious feasts are acceptable, rather than repugnant

10:23-33 About their eating meat with unbelievers obtained from the marketplace, that had been offered to idols

Note: To not make eating with unbelievers in this situation an issue, unless they raise it as an issue while partaking

11:1-2 About their need to follow Paul's example as he follows Christ, which they observed when he first came to Corinth

Psalm 34: KING DAVID'S PRAISE FOR THE LORD'S DELIVERANCE FROM ABIMELECH, (continued)

34:11-14 David's appeal for his children to fear the LORD

34:15-22 David's assurance for those to do

Proverbs

21:14 A way to appease one's wrath

21:15 Contrasting the result of those who live righteously and those to behave wickedly

21:16 The end result of those who depart from the way of understanding

August 17**After the Wall is built (continued)****Nehemiah****12:27-30****Rededicating the Wall**

The priests, Levites, singers and musicians from the Levites purify themselves for the dedicatory service

12:31-37

One choir proceeds with Ezra along the wall to the Water Gate on the east

12:38-39

The other choir with Nehemiah along the wall to the Prison Gate

12:40-42

Both choirs lead in the singing in the Temple

12:43-47

Great sacrifices and great rejoicing is heard from afar

Levitical priests are appointed to store the food brought to the Temple for the priests and the Levites

Reforms by Nehemiah**13:1-3**

In regard to the mixed multitude

13:4-9

In regard to the large room in the Temple that had been set aside for Tobiah's use

13:10-14

In regard to restoring the giving of tithes for the function of the Levitical priesthood

Note: 13:14 – God's reward or lack thereof will be determined when He returns to establish God's kingdom on this earth during the Millennium

13:15-22

In regard to observing the Sabbath

13:23-31

In regard to their marriages to foreign, pagan wives

Note: 13:25 – Pulling out of a person's hair was a sign of contempt, (cf. Isaiah 50:6)

1 Corinthians**11:3-10**

About whether or not a man and a woman should wear a head covering when praying or prophesying in the church service

Note:

11:3 Jesus Christ, though being equal with God the Father, nevertheless submits to the Father for the sake of orderliness within the Trinity. In the same way, though husband and wife are regarded by the Lord as being equal (Genesis 1:27), God has made man to be the head of the home for the sake of orderliness and accountability

11:4 For a man to wear a head covering to church like a woman, is a disgrace

11:5 For a woman to not wear a head covering to church would be a disgrace as well, and would be looked upon in public in the same way as women who shaved their hair (prostitutes)

11:10 God's angels learn the importance of orderliness when Christian women submit to their husbands in the home

11:11-16

About the need for men to be men, and women to be women, in the length of their hair

Note:

11:15 The Greek word translated as "covering" in this verse is different from the one mentioned in 11:5-6. The natural distinction between men and women in the length of their hair should also be apparent in women wearing a head covering when they come to church (a custom in those days)

Psalm 35:**KING DAVID'S PRAYER FOR RETRIBUTION**

His prayer that the angel of the LORD would persecute those who persecute him

35:11-16

His request is based upon the righteous manner in how he has treated them, in contrast to the way they are now mistreating him

Proverbs**21:17**

A sure way to remain poor

21:18

The wicked will be a ransom for the righteous, rather than the opposite

August 18**Israel's Deliverance From Haman's Plot****Esther****Queen Vashti Defies King Ahasuerus**

- 1:1-4** The king shows off his glory and honor in the third year of his reign, by giving a 180 day feast in his palace for all of his princes and servants
- 1:5-9** The king gives another seven day feast immediately afterwards in his palace garden, just for all those who live in Susa, the capital city
- 1:10-12** Queen Vashti refuses to obey the king's summons for her on the seventh and last day, in order to show off her beauty
- 1:13-22** The king is given advice as to what his response should be, in light of her public disobedience, and Vashti is deposed as queen

Esther Becomes the New Queen

- 2:1-4** The king is given advice later as how to select Vashti's replacement
- 2:5-7** The reason for Esther's being raised by her uncle, Mordecai
- 2:8-11** Esther is chosen to be one of the candidates for becoming the new queen, and does not reveal that she is a Jew in obedience to Mordecai's instructions
- 2:12-14** Esther goes through twelve months of being prepared to stand before the king
- 2:15-18** Esther is chosen to be the new queen in the seventh year of the king's reign
- 2:19-23** Mordecai reveals to Esther his discovery of a plot against the king which leads to the hanging of the two conspirators

Haman's Plot to Exterminate All Jews

- 3:1-6** Haman comes to hate all Jews because of Mordecai's refusal to bow before him as he passes by
Note: Apparently Mordecai refuses because Persian royalty were treated like they were divine, which would not be acceptable to Mordecai nor to his fellow Jews
- 3:7-11** Haman bribes the king in the first month of Nisan, to allow him to kill all Jews twelve months later in the month of Pur
Note: The Jew's deliverance from Haman's Plot is celebrated to this day by Jews in a feast they call *Purim*
- 3:12-15** Haman sends official letters throughout the provinces with the King's signet ring, informing them of his order for them to kill all Jews in the month of Pur

1 Corinthians**Paul Answers Questions, (continued)**

- 11:17-22** About the use of the Lord's House or the Local Church for observing the Lord's Supper
- 11:23-26** About the procedure and the purpose for observing Communion in the Local Church
- 11:27-34** About the negative consequences for observing the Lord's Supper in an unworthy manner

Psalm 35:**KING DAVID'S PRAYER FOR RETRIBUTION (continued)**

- 35:17-26** That the LORD judge between him and them
- 35:27-28** So that the LORD will be praised, both by those who side with David, and by himself, all day long

Proverbs

- 21:19** When it is better to dwell in the wilderness than at home?
- 21:20** A contrast between the wise and the foolish in their handling of money

August 19**Israel's Deliverance From Haman's Plot(continued)****Esther****Mordecai appeals to Queen Esther**

- 4:1-3** Mordecai's open grief with all Jews in every province
- 4:4-9** Mordecai's request of Esther
- 4:10-14** Mordecai's response to Esther's concern about her potential death if she fulfills Mordecal's request
- 4:15-17** Esther's request of Mordecai for all Jews, including herself, in the city of Susa to observe an extreme fast prior to her entering the king's court unannounced
- Esther's invitation to King Ahasuerus and Haman**
- 5:1-5** Esther enters the king's court, is welcomed, and invites the king and Haman to a private banquet
- 5:6-8** Esther invites the king and Haman to a second banquet the following night
Note: The reason Esther does not inform the king on the first night is unknown, but the events that occur the next day make it easier to prove Haman's conspiracy
- 5:9-15** Haman's boast to his family and friends, and his plan to build gallows for Mordecai
- 6:1-3** The king's restlessness during the night, recall of Mordecai's kindness, and inquiry as to what had been done to honor him
- 6:4-5** Haman's entrance into the court to obtain permission to hand Mordecai
- 6:6-9** Haman's response to the king's question as to how best to honor Mordecai, although Haman thinks that the king is thinking of him
- 6:10-11** The king commands Haman to carry out Haman's suggestion by leading a public parade in honor of Mordecai, not Haman
- 6:12-14** Haman's grief afterwards and the warning given to him by his family and friends
- Esther's appeal to King Ahasuerus regarding Haman**
- 7:1-6** Esther responds to the king's favor at the second banquet by revealing Haman's plot
- 7:7-10** The king orders Haman to be hanged on the gallows he had built for Mordecai

1 Corinthians**Paul Answers Questions, (continued)****About the Use of Spiritual Gifts in the Church, (chapters 12-14)**

- 12:1-6** The difference the Holy Spirit has made in their lives as Gentiles and the diversity of spiritual gifts they have been given
- 12:7-11** The purpose for the Holy Spirit's diversifying the spiritual gifts He has given to them
- 12:12-14** Their shared unity in Christ's body, as evidenced in their being indwelt by the Holy Spirit, and yet their differences in spiritual gifts as compared to the physical body being one, yet having many members.
- 12:15-26** The unreasonableness of thinking that church members can function without the contribution of other church members in their spiritual gifts

Psalm 36:**THE TRANSGRESSION OF THE WICKED**

- 36:1-4** His lack in a healthy fear of God and in abhorring evil
- 36:5-9** God's mercy in preserving the lives of those who trust in Him
- 36:10-12** A prayer therefore for God's protection from the wicked

Proverbs**21:21**

The positive results of following after righteousness and mercy

21:22

The ability of the wise to overcome great obstacles in capturing enemy cities

August 20**Israel's Deliverance From Haman's Plot(continued)****Esther****The Decree of King Ahasuerus to Undo Haman's Plot****8:1-2**

The king appoints Mordecai to oversee the house of Haman

8:3-6

Esther appeals for Ahasuerus to counter Haman's decree to kill all Jews

8:7-10

Mordecai is given permission to write another decree and seal it with the king's ring

8:11-15

The decree gives permission for the Jews to defend themselves on the day Haman's plot is to go into effect

8:16-19

The joy and festivities throughout the provinces by Jews upon hearing the decree

Note: "many . . . became Jews" means they embraced Judaism as proselytes**Jews Destroy their Enemies Who Attack Them****9:1-4**

Jews in every province assemble themselves on the thirteenth day of Adar, and are helped by the Gentiles who have come to fear Mordecai

9:5-9

A listing of the provinces where Jews slaughtered their enemies, including those residing in the king's palace

9:10-16

Esther's role in having the ten sons of Haman hanged, and the total slain on the fourteenth day of Adar

9:17-19

The difference in celebration throughout the province, between the fourteenth and the fifteenth day

The Observance of Purim**9:20-22**

Mordecai establishes both days for future commemoration by the Jews

9:23-28

The reason the Jews called the annual festivities by the name "Purim"

9:29-32

The annual festivities of Purim are made official by Mordecai and Queen Esther

10:1-3

The greatness of Mordecai is recorded in the records of Media and Persia

1 Corinthians**Paul Answers Questions, (continued)****About the Use of Spiritual Gifts in the Church, (chapters 12-14)****12:27-31**

While the Corinthians are told to seek the best spiritual gifts for the benefit of their church, Paul says there is even a better way

13:1-3

Paul testifies that if he were to seek even greater gifts than those he has been given, they would mean nothing without demonstrating God's love

13:4-7

Paul then gives the reason God's gift of love is the better way

13:8-13Paul informs them of three spiritual gifts the **church will need after God has taken away** the three gifts which only now give revelation in part to the CorinthiansNote: This is a reference to the time when complete revelation in the New Covenant or New Testament will be given in the next thirty to forty years**Psalm 37:****WHEN THE WICKED PROSPER****37:1-8**

Do not fret or be angry when observing their seemingly prosperous life

37:9-11

Reasons they should not fret nor be angry

Proverbs**21:23**

Why a person should guard what he says?

21:24

Names a person will be called who acts with pride and wrath?

August 21**The Trials and Suffering of Job****Job****1:1-5****1:6-8****1:9-12****The First Trial and Job's Sinlessness**

Job's uprightness, greatness, and devotion to God, (The land of Uz is SE of the Dead Sea)

The LORD'S commendation of Job in the presence of His angels and Satan in heaven

Satan's accusation to undermine the LORD'S commendation, and his request to remove all that Job has to prove his point

Note: Aren't we glad that God is sovereign over the Devil, in that He restricts how far Satan can go in harming Job?**1:13-19**

Satan demonstrates the cruelty of his nature in what he does to Job, in contrast to the goodness of God as recorded in the opening verses

1:20-22

Job's response in worship of God, even though he thinks that it was God who had done this to him

The Second Trial and Job's Sinlessness**2:1-3**

The LORD'S commendation again of Job before His angels, and his rebuke of Satan

2:4-6

Satan's challenge again to the LORD'S commendation, and his request to touch Job's body to prove his point

Note: Some say that the purpose of chapters one and two is to glorify God's sovereign power, which is true. But the main reason we glorify God's power is because of the way in which He uses His power, in sharp contrast to the Devil**2:7-8**

Satan's cruelty is again demonstrated in his smiting of Job's body from head to toe with severe boils

2:9-10

Job's response without sinning again, in spite of his wife's bitterness towards God and towards Job for his faith in God

The Third Trial and Job's Sin**2:11-13**

Job is visited by three friends who outwardly grieve for him, but inwardly judge him silently for seven days

Round One of Job's Dialogue with His Three Friends**Job breaks the Silence****3:1-10**

By cursing the day in which he was born

3:11-19

In questioning why he didn't die when he was born, so that he could rest with all others no matter who they are or what they have done

3:20-26

In questioning why God prolongs the lives of those who are miserable and long to die

1 Corinthians**Paul Answers Questions about the Use of Spiritual Gifts, (continued)****14:1-5**

Paul gives the reason that he prefers that new divine revelation be given in church services through the spiritual gift of prophecy, rather than the gift of tongues, unless the one speaking in tongues interpret

14:6-11

Paul illustrates how sounds by themselves have no benefit, if those hearing do not understand what the sounds mean

14:12-17

Paul uses his illustrations to command that tongues should not be spoken in church services, unless interpretation is given

Psalm 37:**WHEN THE WICKED PROSPER (continued)****37:12-15**

Assurance that the LORD both sees and responds to the plot of the wicked against the righteous

37:16-26

How it is better to be righteous than to be wicked?

37:27-29

A command therefore to obey the LORD, and the reasons why

Proverbs**21:25-26**

The self-destructive path of the slothful in contrast to the abundance of the righteous

August 22**The Trials and Suffering of Job**Round One of Job's Dialogue with His Three Friends, (continued)**Job****Eliphaz Speaks**

- 4:1-11** Eliphaz admonishes Job, who once comforted others in their suffering but is now suffering himself, that a person reaps from God what he sows
- 4:12-16** He advises Job to seek God who alone can help him
- 4:17-21** He tells of a vision he received in the night, that if God finds fault with his angels, how much more will He find fault with man
- 5:1-16** He needs to seek God to discover the reason for his suffering
- 5:17-27** He advises Job to not despise the LORD's chastisement, and the LORD will deliver him
Job's Response to Eliphaz
- 6:1-10** Job consoles himself in the fact that even though he wished he were dead, he has not denied God
- 6:11-30** He complains that the judgmental attitude of his friends is unfair and has not been helpful
- 7:1-10** He describes his suffering and believes he will die from it
- 7:11-21** He directs his complaint to God and asks, that if he has sinned, why doesn't God forgive Him while he is still alive

1 Corinthians **Paul Answers Questions about the Use of Spiritual Gifts, (continued)**

- 14:18-19** Paul explains why he would not speak with tongues during a church service, even though he speaks in tongues outside of the church more than any of them
Note: As an apostle, Paul exercised his gift in tongues to evangelize
- 14:20-22** Paul quotes the prophet Isaiah to prove that God intended the gift of tongues to be a sign for unbelievers, and the gift of prophecy for believers
- 14:23-25** Paul argues that should an unbeliever visit in a church service, he would more likely be saved as a result of hearing prophecy, rather than by hearing tongues
- 14:26-33** Paul gives strict commands as to the procedure to be followed by those speaking with tongues or prophecy
- 14:34-35** Paul also gives a better way for a woman to challenge a prophet who might be speaking error, than to do so publicly in the church service
Note: A woman can pray out loud in the church, but not challenge a man before the congregation (See chapter 11)
- 14:36-40** Paul concludes by rebuking any who would argue with him
Note: Paul does not forbid tongues in the church, though he would prefer the gift of prophecy, since tongues had not yet ceased (See chapter 13)

Psalm 37: **WHEN THE WICKED PROSPER (continued)**

- 37:30-33** A reason the LORD will protect the righteous from the wicked, and will not condemn him when he is judged
- 37:34-40** King David urges the righteous therefore to wait on the LORD for His deliverance, rather than fret when he sees the wicked prosper

Proverbs

- 21:27** How God views the sacrificial offerings of the wicked?

August 23**The Trials and Suffering of Job**Round One of Job's Dialogue with His Three Friends, (continued)**Job****Bildad Speaks**

- 8:1-7** Bildad tells Job that his suffering and the death of his sons is because of sin, that God would restore him when he seeks God if he were pure
- 8:8-19** He challenges Job to learn from others older than he, regarding the end of those who forget God
- 8:20-22** He states that the opposite results happen to the one who is not guilty of great sin

Job's Response to Bildad

- 9:1-24** Job wonders what he could say to God in his defense, in that he is without guilt
Note: Rahab (9:13) is a mythological monster subdued by Marduk used by Job to illustrate God's power over false gods worshipped by man
- 9:25-35** Job says what he needs is a mediator to speak for him before God
- 10:1-7** So Job challenges God to show him his sin
- 10:8-17** Job is confused as to why God has treated him so, being His creation from birth
- 10:18-22** He wishes that he had died when he was born; that God would let him alone to have some cheer since a man's days are few

Zophar Speaks

- 11:1-12** Zophar rebukes Job for justifying himself, that God has given to him less than he Deserves, and that God sees far more than a man
- 11:13-20** He urges Job to repent of his attitude towards God in order to have his fortune restored

1 Corinthians**Paul Answers Questions About The Resurrection**

- 15:1-11** The resurrection of Christ is the message of the Gospel that he and the other apostles have proclaimed
- 15:12-19** Their preaching has been in vain, and the faith of those who have believed their preaching, if Christ did not rise from the dead
- 15:20-28** The order of Christ's resurrection unto life
Note: First, Christ; second, those who belong to Christ at his coming (in the Rapture, cf. 15:51-52); and third, the Old Testament saints upon Christ's return to reign during "the end" or final dispensation on this earth

Psalm 38:**KING DAVID'S PRAYER OF REPENTANCE**

- 38:1-8** His physical suffering under the LORD'S chastening
- 38:9-12** His emotional suffering
- 38:13-18** His readiness to repent
- 38:19-22** His appeal to be delivered from his enemies

Proverbs

- 21:28** A contrast in the outcome of he who bears false witness, and he who hears (the truth)
- 21:29** A contrast in how the wicked and the upright make decisions

August 24**The Trials and Suffering of Job****Job**

Job's Response to Zophar

- 12:1-10** Job claims to know as much as his friends about God's power and control over creation
- 2:11-25** The truly wise are those who acknowledge that God brings man's wisdom to nothing
- 13:1-12** Job would rather reason with the Almighty about his case, than listen to their lies in thinking that they are speaking for God to him
- 13:13-19** Job tell his friends to be quiet as he risks himself to present his case to God
- 13:20-28** Job asks only two things: For God to not remove His hand from him and for God to reveal to him his iniquities
- 14:1-7** Since man cannot make himself clean in the eyes of God, and since his days are numbered, why doesn't God leave man alone?
- 14:8-12** There is more hope for a tree than for man, since the tree that has been cut down springs forth again
- 14:13-17** Job longs to die and remain in Sheol until God's wrath towards him is appeased
- 13:18-22** Job sees death as his only way out of the present suffering he is experiencing

Round Two of Job's Dialogue with His Three Friends

Eliphaz Speaks a Second Time

- 15:1-6** Eliphaz accuses Job of condemning himself by the words of his own tongue
- 15:7-16** Does Job think he is the only one who is wise, to harden himself against God and their gentle words to console him?
- 15:17-35** Eliphaz expands on his first speech (4:1-11) to further describe the misery that awaits the wicked (implying that Job is not innocent)

1 Corinthians**Paul Answers Questions About The Resurrection**

- 15:29-34** Paul points to the traditions of idolaters who baptize for the dead, as well as his own willingness to risk death for the cause of the Gospel, as evidence of the resurrection
- 15:35-50** Paul answers questions regarding the kind of body in which believers will be raised
Note: Since there is a difference between the kind of body designed to live on earth, and the kind of body designed for heaven, the resurrected body of believers in Christ will be made heavenly, not earthly
- 15:51-54** Paul reveals a mystery that not all will die, but that some will be instantly changed in their bodies without dying
Note: This is a reference to the Rapture of the Church (See 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)
- 15:55-58** Paul thanks God for the believer's ultimate victory over death through Christ, and urges them to remain steadfast in their work for the Lord.

Psalm 39:**DAVID'S REFUSAL TO KEEP SILENT ABOUT HIS SIN**

- 39:1-2** He does keep silence before his enemies who would gloat against him
- 39:3-11** But he determines to not keep silence before God in his confession of sin
- 39:12-13** David cries out to God with tears of repentance for deliverance

Proverbs

- 21:30** No one can outsmart the LORD!

- 21:31** To whom should man look for preservation of his life in battle?

August 25**The Trials and Suffering of Job****Round Two of Job's Dialogue with His Three Friends, (continued)****Job****Job's Response to Eliphaz**

- 16:1-5** Job calls his friends miserable comforters
- 16:6-17** Job blames God for delivering him to the ungodly even though he is innocent
- 16:18-22** Job cries for a man to plead his case with God (that is, for a mediator between him and God)
- 17:1-16** Job has lost hope and longs for death and the grave because of his suffering
Bildad Speaks a Second Time
- 18:1-21** Bildad describes the fate of the wicked, insinuating that such is the case with Job
Job's Response to Bildad
- 19:1-5** Job asks how long will they continue to reproach him
- 19:6-20** He wants them to know that it is God who has done all this to him, so that even those closest to him want to avoid him
- 19:21-29** Job expresses his belief that in the future he will be vindicated by his Redeemer In the latter day upon the earth, and warns his friends that God will judge them for their false witness
Note: The day of vindication Job is speaking of will be when Christ returns to this earth to establish his first 1000 years of reign before it is destroyed (the Millennium)

1 Corinthians**Paul answers Questions (continued)****About a Collection for the Poor Saints in Jerusalem**

- 16:1-4** That they follow the example of the churches of Galatia, in storing an offering every week on Sunday before he comes
- 16:5-9** About his plans to come visit them
- 16:10-12** About their treatment of Timothy he is sending to them, and of the intent of Apollos to come later
- 16:13-18** About their treatment of church leaders who have proven themselves in ministry
- 16:19-20** About an exchange of greetings
- 16:21-24** About his own signature in concluding the epistle

Psalm 40:**A NEW SONG IN DAVID'S MOUTH**

- 40:1-3** About the LORD'S answering his cry to deliver him out of an horrible pit
- 40:4-5** About the LORD'S wonderful works, too numerous to count
- 40:6-10** About David's commitment to serve the LORD and to continually praise Him publicly
Note: These verses also reflected the willingness of Jesus to become God's sacrifice for sin (See Hebrews 10:5-7)

Proverbs

- 22:1** What is to be desired more than wealth?

August 26**The Trials and Suffering of Job****Round Two of Job's Dialogue with His Three Friends, (continued)****Job****Zophar Speaks a Second Time**

- 20:1-11** Zophar angrily responds to Job's warning by telling him that the triumphing of the wicked is short
- 20:12-19** He goes on to say that the wicked will not be able to stomach their ill-gotten wealth
- 20:20-29** God will rain judgment upon the wicked, and will expose his iniquity by causing him to lose everything (as has Job)
- Job's Response to Zophar**
- 21:1-4** Job demands that they listen and be quiet, because his complaint is not to man, (but to God)
- 21:5-16** Job wonders, in contrast to their viewpoint, why the wicked prosper so that they see no need for the Almighty
- 21:17-21** Job wonders why the wicked would care if God permitted them to see God's wrath come upon their sons
- 21:22-26** Job asks who can instruct God as to whom He causes to prosper, and whom He doesn't
- 21:27-34** Job reasons that they are wrong in the way they are treating him, because the wicked are not confronted as they are doing to him

Round Three of Job's Dialogue with His Three Friends**Eliphaz speaks a Third Time**

- 22:1-11** Eliphaz falsely accuses Job of suffering because of his iniquities, and gives some of what he thinks to be examples
- 22:12-14** In light of Job's sudden calamity, Eliphaz questions how Job cannot understand that God's judgment has come upon him
- 22:15-20** He asks Job to consider God's judgment in the past on the wicked
- 22:21-30** He appeals for Job to repent and turn back to the Almighty, for God will then restore him and his wealth

Paul Defends His Ministry**2 Corinthians**

- 1:1-2** Paul gives his opening greeting
- 1:3-11** Paul thanks God for comforting him during the persecutions he and his co-workers experienced in Asia, because the Corinthians can be assured that God will comfort them as well

Psalm 40: A NEW SONG IN DAVID'S MOUTH, (continued)

- 40:11-12** About his need for God's mercy in regards to his sin
- 40:13-17** About his need for the LORD to deliver him from those who seek to destroy him because of his sin

Proverbs

- 22:2** What the rich and the poor have in common?
- 22:3** The difference between the prudent and the simple in discerning potential evil
- 22:4** The means to riches, honor, and life

August 27**The Trials and Suffering of Job****Round Three of Job's Dialogue with His Three Friends****Job****23:1-7**

Job is confident the LORD would vindicate him, were he allowed to defend himself before God

23:8-9

The trouble is, he cannot find God to argue his case before Him

23:10-12

Job is sure that God knows his innocence

23:13-17

So Job is troubled as to the reason the Almighty has troubled him

24:1-11

Job questions why the Almighty, who knows all things, allows the wicked to do their evil

24:12-17

Job wonders why God does not hear the groaning of their victims

24:18-25

And who, in hearing his arguments, can discount what he has been saying

Bildad Speaks a Third Time**25:1-6**

Bildad asks Job how a man who is born of a woman can be justified before God, indicating that Job is wrong for doing so

Note: The speeches of Job's friends get shorter, as Job's gets longer

Job's Response to Bildad**26:1-14**

Job asks how they can help him, in light of the power of God to do what He wills

Note: Zophar doesn't bother to speak a third time, because Job has just basically repeated what he had said to Job before, (chapter twenty)

Job's Final Response to All Three**27:1-6**

Job declares that even though God has not yet vindicated him, he will continue to justify himself and not them in their accusations against him

27:7-23

Job desires God's judgment to fall upon his enemies, in the same way it falls upon the wicked

2 Corinthians**About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)****1:12-16**

Paul explains his concern for not finding Titus while still at Troas, so that even though a door of opportunity was opened to him by the Lord, he left Troas for Macedonia

Note: Paul is beginning a personal defense of his ministry and the reason he did not come to Corinth as he had initially planned. His concern was due to the fact that he had been waiting to hear from Titus how the Corinthian church had responded to the letter he sent to them by the hands of Titus

1:17-24

Paul's delay in coming to them was not due to poor planning on his part, but was to spare them from his causing them sorrow for some things that needed to be corrected

KING DAVID'S PRAYER FOR HEALING AND RESTORATION**41:1-4**

His request is for forgiveness of his sin and healing in light of his past kindness to the poor in their times of trouble

41:5-9

His request is also in light of the unmerciful attitude towards him in his trouble by his enemies, and even a former close friend

Note: Perhaps David is referring to those who sided with Absalom in his revolt against David, and the betrayal of Ahithophel, (see 2 Samuel 17)

41:10-13

His concluding petition and praise to God for His mercy and answer to prayer

Proverbs**22:5**

What a person can expect in life who does not guard his way (in keeping God's commandments)?

22:6

What a parent can expect who begins training his child from the time of his infancy, in what is right and what is wrong? (The Hebrew word for "train up" is the word used elsewhere in the Old Testament for dedicating that which is brand new to the LORD)

August 28**The Trials and Suffering of Job****Round Three of Job's Dialogue with His Three Friends, (continued)****Job****Job's Final Response to All Three, (continued)**

- 28:1-11** God has allowed man to discover unseen precious stones in the earth
- 28:12-22** But where can a man find wisdom? He cannot purchase it with precious stones
- 28:23-28** In order for a man to find wisdom, he must demonstrate a fear of the LORD by departing from evil
- 29:1-6** Job longs for the times in his past when the Almighty favored him
- 29:7-11** Job longs for the times in his past when people respected him
- 29:12-20** Job longs for the times in his past when he was respected for his righteous reputation and kindness to the poor
- 29:21-25** Job longs for the times in his past when people listened to what he had to say
- 30:1-15** Job complains that the Almighty has now permitted him to be scorned and abhorred by those whose lifestyle has been abhorrent to him
- 30:16-31** Job complains that the Almighty has been cruel, unfair, and non-responsive to him in his cry for relief from his suffering

2 Corinthians**About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)**

- 2:1-11** The reason for Paul's previous letter for which he delayed his coming
- 2:12-17** Paul thanks God for effectiveness in preaching, regardless of where they happen to be, because they do not corrupt the Gospel of Christ

Note: The “savor of life” is a reference to the sweet savor offerings presented to God by the Levitical priests of the Old Testament, and the “savor of death” is the aroma of perfume which was spread as the victorious Roman army returned with their prisoners of war

Psalm 42:**KING DAVID'S THIRST FOR GOD LIKE THAT OF A HART OR DEER**

- 42:1-4** David thirsts for God like a deer pants for the water brooks, as he remembers what it was like as he went with the multitude to worship in Jerusalem during the religious feast days
- 42:5-6** David asks himself why is he cast down (or depressed) in the land of Jordan
Note: David is fleeing for his life from Absalom, after his sin of adultery with Bathsheba
- 42:7-10** Though David feels overwhelmed by his circumstances, he believes that the LORD will hear his prayers regarding his enemies who daily reproach him (See 2 Samuel 17:22)
- 42:11** David concludes the Psalm by rebuking himself for being depressed, in light of his hope in God

Proverbs**22:7**

The disadvantage the poor have when borrowing from those who are rich

August 29**The Trials and Suffering of Job****Round Three of Job's Dialogue with His Three Friends, (continued)****Job**

- 31:1-12** Job defends himself as being righteous in the sense of not having committed adultery
- 31:13-23** Job defends himself as being righteous in the sense of not having mistreated those considered to be disadvantaged
- 31:24-25** Job defends himself as being righteous in the sense of not having trusted in his wealth
- 31:26-28** Job defends himself as being righteous in the sense of not having been enticed to the worship of the sun and moon
- 31:29-34** Job defends himself as being righteous in the sense of not having been guilty of committing sin in other ways
- 31:35-40** Job ends by pleading for the Almighty to vindicate him

Elihu now Speaks

- 32:1** The reason the dialogue of the three friends with Job comes to an end
- 32:2-3** The reasons Elihu was very angry with both Job and his three friends
- 32:4-14** Elihu explains why he has remained silent during Job's dialogue with his friends
- 32:15-22** Elihu states that it is now his turn to speak
- Elihu speaks against Job**
- 33:1-7** Elihu states that he is speaking on behalf of the Almighty, and challenges Job to give an answer to what he is about to say
- 33:8-12** Elihu accuses Job of not being just in his saying that God has been unfair to him
- 33:13-23** Elihu answers that God communicates with man indirectly in other ways; through dreams or visions, through chastisement in sickness, or even through an angel if necessary (the word "angel" is the same as that translated "messenger")
- 33:24-30** Elihu points out that God will deliver if a person responds appropriately
- 33:31-33** Elihu again challenges Job to speak up, or otherwise continue to listen

2 Corinthians

- 3:1-3** Paul sarcastically asks if he will need letters of recommendation when he comes to visit them, since they themselves are evidence of the Spirit's work through their ministry
- 3:4-6** Paul credits the effectiveness of his previous ministry to them to his having ministered to them by the Holy Spirit and the New Covenant, rather than by the Old (Mosaic Law)
- 3:7-11** Paul says the glory of Christ exceeds that of Moses under the Law (in that Christ's glory is reflected inwardly in the life of the believer today)
- 4:12-18** Paul declares that the glory of Christ is hidden from Jews, as they read the Old Testament, until they turn to the Lord in faith

Psalm 43:

- KING DAVID PRAYS TO RETURN TO JERUSALEM AND GOD'S TABERNACLE**
- 43:1-2** He prays for God's deliverance from an ungodly nation
- 43:3-4** He prays to be able to worship God as before at the tabernacle
- 43:5** He counters his feelings of depression with an attitude of hope in God

Proverbs

- 22:8** The angry sowing of iniquity and its reaping
- 22:9** A reason to look for opportunities to give to the poor

August 30**The Trials and Suffering of Job****Elihu now Speaks, (continued)****Job**

- 34:1-9** Elihu begins by summarizing Job's charge against God, that it is useless to be innocent and live accordingly because of being pleased with God
- 34:10-11** He asserts that the Almighty cannot pervert justice
- 34:13-20** He points out the fact that God could make all mankind die suddenly, without respect of persons
- 34:21-30** Elihu argues that God does not need to investigate before rendering a judgment
- 34:31-37** Therefore Job should be asking for God to teach him rather than be arguing with God
- 35:1-8** The fact that Job states that there is no advantage to him for having sought to live rightly, is actually a way of saying that he is more righteous than God
- 35:9-16** God does not listen to the kind of demands that Job is making
- 36:1-4** Elihu asks to be allowed to say more on behalf of God, as one whose words can be trusted
- 36:5-10** God is mighty and pays attention both to the affliction of the righteous, and to kings who become proud and need to be afflicted
- 36:11-12** If the kings God disciplines learn from His instruction and serve Him, He will cause them to end their days well; but if they do not, He will cause them to die by the sword
- 36:13-21** Elihu warns Job to be teachable and not live in anger and resentment towards God
- 36:22-33** He rebukes Job for trying to instruct God, rather than exalting God whose ways are past finding out

2 Corinthians**About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)**

- 4:1-2** Paul contends that his ministry in both preaching and practice is without gimmicks such as those who peddle goods
- 4:3-4** The unbeliever has been blinded by Satan so that he cannot be enlightened as to the 'glory of Christ on his own
- 4:5-7** But God, who commanded the light to penetrate the darkness in creation, causes the light of Christ's glory to shine in their hearts, whereby unbelievers can be enlightened as they preach Christ
- 4:8-12** Paul explains how Christ's glory can shine through him, even though he faces continual persecution and the threat of death
Note: Paul summarizes in one verse the Christian way of life by which Christ's righteousness can be manifested, (cf. 4:10 with Romans 6:1-14)

Psalm 44:**A CRY TO GOD FOR ISRAEL'S RESTORATION FROM CAPTIVITY**

- 44:1-3** The sons of Korah recall what they heard from their forefathers regarding God's enabling Israel in the past to take possession of the land of promise
- 44:4-8** The sons of Korah appeal for God to do the same again

Proverbs

- 22:10** The positive effect of removing a scoffer
- 22:11** The kind of person a king befriends
- 22:12** How the LORD preserves truth?

August 31**The Trials and Suffering of Job****Elihu now Speaks, (continued)****Job**

- 37:1-5** Elihu challenges Job to listen to God's voice in the thunder
- 37:6-13** He asks Job to consider God's wondrous control over nature, either for correction or for mercy
- 37:14-24** He again rebukes Job for trying to teach the Almighty
- The LORD now Speaks**
- 38:1** The LORD now answers Job out of a whirlwind
- Note: What a contrast to Satan's use of great wind, when permitted by God, (Compare Job 1:18-19)
- 38:2-3** The LORD demands that Job answer the questions He is about to ask, one mystery right after another . . .
- 38:4-15** About God's seven day creation (Compare Genesis chapter one)
- 38:16-18** About the depths of the ocean, the gates of the earth beneath, or the breadth of the earth, (a reference to the underworld of the departed spirits of the dead)
- 38:19-21** About light, darkness, his own birth, and length of life
- 38:22-30** About nature
- 38:31-33** About the heavenly constellations
- 38:34-38** About man's inability to control nature
- 38:39-41** About lions and ravens
- 39:1-4** About the giving of birth to wild goats and deer
- 39:5-8** About the wild donkey
- 39:9-12** About the unicorn or wild ox
- 39:13-18** About the ostrich
- 39:19-25** About the horse in battle
- 39:26-30** About the hawk and the eagle
- Note: There are many things about nature that man cannot explain. In the same way, God is using these questions to rebuke job for his previous demands for answers from God

2 Corinthians**About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)**

- 4:13-18** Paul gives the reasons he can continue to minister in the face of suffering and ' persecution
- 5:1-8** What Paul knows would happen to him were the Lord to allow him to die for the sake of the gospel; in which case he would rather die to be with the Lord
- Note: Paul can say this because of an earlier experience, (cf. 2 Corinthians 12:1-7)
- 5:9-10** Paul also ministers with the understanding of his own accountability to Christ at the Bema Seat, (a different judgment than the Judgment of unbelievers)
- Psalm 44:** **A CRY TO GOD FOR ISRAEL'S RESTORATION FROM CAPTIVITY (continued)**
- 44:9-16** The sons of Korah describe Israel's current suffering in captivity
- 44:17-21** Their appeal to God on the basis that they have not turned from God
- 44:22-26** A closing appeal is made for God's people, in that they are being slaughtered like sheep by their captors, (cf. Romans 8:36-39)

Proverbs

- 22:13** The kind of ridiculous excuse a lazy person will make to keep from going outside to work

September 1
The Trials and Suffering of Job

The LORD now Speaks, (continued)

Job

- 40:1-2** The LORD again challenges Job for trying to instruct Him as the Almighty
- 40:3-5** Job acknowledges that he has no right to do so
- 40:6-7** The LORD again demands that Job answer the questions He is about to ask, one right after another . . .
- 40:8-14** About God's power to judge, in comparison to Job
- 40:15-24** About Job's limitation in strength, compared to the Behemoth which God created
Note: Mostly thought to be the hippopotamus, though it might be the dinosaur in the early years after Noah's Flood. Job is thought to have lived during the time of Abraham
- 41:1-9** About Job's limitation to conquer the Leviathan
Note: Mostly thought to be the crocodile
- 41:10-34** If man is unable to defeat the Leviathan, who then is able to stand up against God?
Job's Confession and the LORD'S Vindication of Job
- 42:1-6** Job repents in dust and ashes
Note: Job's spirit is now where his body has been (Compare Job 2:8)
- 42:7-10** The LORD vindicates Job before his three friends, and restores to Job twice what he had before
Note: Elihu is not reproved by the LORD, in that he spoke on behalf of the LORD
- 42:11** The LORD also vindicates Job before his relatives and acquaintances
- 42:12-17** The LORD blesses Job more at the end than at the beginning
Note: Compare James 5:11

2 Corinthians

About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)

- 5:11-12** Paul reminds the Corinthians that he ministered among them with accountability to Christ at the Judgment Seat in mind
- 5:13-15** Paul says that if he seemed to be driven at times, it is due to his love for Christ who died for all that all might live, not just him
- 5:16-17** He relates the basis upon which he witnesses to everyone, regardless of how they appear in the flesh (whether male or female, Gentile or Jew, rich or poor, bond or free)
Note: Paul looks instead at what the people he is witnessing to will become if they respond to his message. He is referring to their position in Christ
- 5:18-21** Paul considers himself to be an ambassador for Christ as he ministers here on earth
Note: Even though Christ died for all, sinners must believe to receive Christ's righteousness

Psalm 45:

A CORONATION SONG FOR ISRAEL'S KING

- 45:1-5** His future victory over his enemies
- 45:6-7** His ascension to sit on the throne
Note: These verses are ascribed also to Jesus as the Messiah or Christ, Hebrews 1:8-9. Theologians call this a "dual fulfillment," (cf. Psalm 68:17-18)
- 45:8-15** The glorious procession of his bride accompanying him
- 45:16-17** A celebration of the princes who will come forth from him, to make his name to be remembered forever

Proverbs

- 22:14** The pitfall of being intimate with a strange woman

September 2**Solomon's Vanity of Vanities****Ecclesiastes****Solomon's Search for Wisdom Apart from God****His Search for Meaning**

- 1:1-3** King Solomon asks what profit does a man have of all his labor?
Note: Compare 1 Kings 3:3-14 with 10:1-9 and 11:1-3. These verses give the reason that Solomon lost his wisdom given to him by the LORD, and his subsequent reliance upon man's wisdom
- 1:4-11** The reason for his opening question is because things appear to him to remain the same in the earth with the passing of each generation
- 1:12-18** So the search for further wisdom on his own only resulted in more grief for him
- 2:1-11** Furthermore, all of his great wealth he had accumulated led him to the same conclusion, that all is vanity
- 2:12-16** As far as he is concerned, it doesn't matter whether one be wise or a fool, since they both die alike
- 2:17-23** In the end, he reasons, all a man has worked for will be left to another who did not labor to get it; so that is vanity
- 2:24-26** Solomon suggests that a man enjoys what God gives him; otherwise, what a sinner strives to gain on his own is vanity
- 3:1-8** The seasons of a man's life are not controlled by man
- 3:9-15** Nothing a man does can change what God has predetermined to happen
- 3:16-20** It does not matter whether man or animal, they both return to the ground from which they were made
- 3:21-22** And what happens to man and animal after they die is not under his control either

2 Corinthians**About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)**

- 6:1-2** Paul considers himself to be a co-worker with God as he appeals to others on behalf of God and Christ
- 6:3-10** Paul strives in his ministry, regardless of the circumstances, to not bring reproach to the ministry God has given him
- 6:11-13** Paul claims to still be greatly affectionate towards the Corinthians, and asks for them to be the same way for him

Psalm 46:**GOD WILL PREVAIL AGAINST ISRAEL'S ENEMIES**

- 46:1-3** A reason to not fear when the mountains shake and are carried away into the oceans
- 46:4-6** The city of God will not be moved by the voice of God as will the kingdoms of the Gentiles
- 46:7-9** Because the LORD OF HOSTS is on Jacob's side, in causing wars to cease in the earth
- 46:10-11** So Israel can be still and know that the God of Jacob will prevail

Proverbs

- 22:15** A reason to discipline a child while young with a paddle

September 3
Solomon's Vanity of Vanities

Ecclesiastes**His Observations about Life as a Result of His Search**

- 4:1-3** It is better to not be born
- 4:4-6** It is better to not be a workaholic, or a fool who doesn't work
- 4:7-8** It is vanity to store riches if one has no heirs
- 4:9-12** Two are better than one, and three is even better
- 4:13-16** It is better to be a wise child, than an old and foolish king
- 5:1-7** It is vanity to vow and not pay
- 5:8** Do not be shocked by corruption in government
- 5:9-17** It is vanity to pursue wealth, (cf. 5:15 with 1 Timothy 6:7)
- 5:18-20** It is good to enjoy what God gives, (cf. 2:24-26)
- 6:1-2** It is vanity for God to give an abundance of food, and yet a foreigner eats it
- 6:3-8** What good is it to have many children, a long life and wisdom, if one is unable to enjoy it?
- 6:9-12** It is better to enjoy what you can see, than desire that over which you have no control

2 Corinthians**About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)**

- 6:14-18** Paul commands that they do not participate with unbelievers in their religious rituals at the idolatrous temples in Corinth
- 7:1-2** He commands that they rid themselves of any defilement of the flesh and spirit, urges them to favorably receive him and his co-workers because they have wronged no one
- 7:3-7** He states that he is greatly encouraged towards them, after having received a favorable report from Titus

Psalm 47:**PRAISE FOR CHRIST'S CORONATION**

- 47:1** A call to praise by the sons of Korah
- 47:2-4** Regarding his future triumph over the enemies of Israel
- 47:5-6** Regarding his future coronation as God's King
- 47:7-8** Regarding his future reign over all the earth
- 47:9** Regarding his preservation of Israel as the God of Abraham

Proverbs

- 22:16** Two ways to come to poverty?

September 4
Solomon's Vanity of Vanities

Ecclesiastes**His Counsel about Life as a Result of His Search**

- 7:1** What is better than one's birth or expensive perfume?
- 7:2-6** Why it is better to go to a house mourning (due to a tragedy) than to a place of boisterous festivity?
- 7:7-9** The end of a matter is better than the beginning, and patience than pride or a quick temper
- 7:10-14** It is wise to consider God's providential control over the circumstances of life
- 7:15-18** To not be excessively righteous or wicked
- 7:19-22** To not be offended by personal criticism, (cf. 7:20 with Romans 3:12)
- 7:23-25** Do not try to understand man's wickedness and folly
- 7:26** Do not be ensnared by a seductive woman
- 7:27-29** It is rare to find a wise man or a wise woman
- 8:1-5** It is wise to obey a king's commands
- 8:6-8** Man has no power over his life or the time of his death
- 8:9-13** It will be well with those who fear God, but not with the wicked who do not
- 8:14-17** One might as well give himself to mirth rather than lose sleep, in trying to understand when harm comes to the righteous but not to the wicked
- 9:1-3** Since all die, it does not matter whether one is righteous and wise; they both die
- 9:4-6** And once death occurs, there is nothing left to achieve
- 9:7-10** So live life to the fullest while you can, because there is no activity in Sheol
- 9:11-12** Life is a matter of chance
- 9:13-15** Solomon witnessed a poor man's wisdom by which a besieged city was delivered from a powerful king and army, yet he was not remembered for it
- 9:16** So Solomon said that even though wisdom is greater than strength, a man's wisdom is not heeded if he is poor
- 9:17** What is better than the shouting of a ruler among fools?
- 9:18** Wisdom is better than weapons of war, and who destroys much good?

2 Corinthians**About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)**

- 7:8-13a** Paul states the reason he initially sent them his previous letter, and does not regret it because of their response
- 7:13b-16** Paul also rejoices in the report Titus gave him of the way they were treated in delivering Paul's letter to the Corinthians

Psalm 48:**PRAISE FOR THE CITY OF GOD ON MOUNT ZION**

- Note:** This Psalm will be fulfilled during the Millennial reign of Christ
- 48:1-2** Opening words of praise for the city of the great King
- 48:3-10** Reasons for praise because of the triumph of the city of the great King
- 48:11-14** Exhortations for Judah to give praise forever for God's preservation of the city on Mount Zion

Proverbs**22:17-19**

Reasons to pay attention to the words of wisdom from King Solomon

Note: These words of wisdom are said to his son prior to Solomon's disillusionment about life in his later years, as expressed in the book of Ecclesiastes

September 5**Solomon's Vanity of Vanities****Ecclesiastes****His Observations about Fools and Folly**

- 10:1** Folly and wisdom do not belong together, even as dead flies in perfume
- 10:2** The direction of a fool's heart being the opposite of the wise in heart
- 10:3** A fool broadcasts his folly by the words of his own mouth
- 10:4-7** The potential harm that can come to a person as a result of a ruler's folly
- 10:8-15** Personal harm that comes due to foolish actions and words
- 10:16-20** National harm that comes to a land ruled by folly

Final Words of Exhortation

- 11:1-6** To be industrious while one can and make wise investments, because of the uncertainties of life
- 11:7-8** To rejoice while one can, because many dark days will yet come
- 11:9-10** To remove from one's actions while still young, that which will cause sorrow of heart later
- 12:1-7** To remember one's Creator while young before the evil days come, or the days of future regret
- 12:8-12** To learn from his example that the search for wisdom apart from God is vanity
- 12:13-14** To learn instead what is the whole matter of life

2 Corinthians**About Their Offering for the Poor Saints at Jerusalem**

- 8:1-5** Paul informs them of the sacrificial giving by the believers of Macedonia towards the offering Paul is collecting for the poor believers in Jerusalem
- 8:6-11** He urged Titus to see to it that the Corinthian believers complete their offering they had begun the previous year, as proof of the sincerity of their love in following the example of the Lord Jesus
- 8:12-15** He urges them to give willingly, not for the purpose of easing the burden of others at their own expense, but for the purpose of equality; realizing that the day might come when they would have need that the Jews in Jerusalem assist them

Psalm 49:**THE FUTILITY OF TRUSTING IN ONE'S WEALTH, RATHER THAN IN GOD**

- 49:1-4** A call by the sons of Korah for all to hear
- 49:5-10** One's wealth cannot purchase redemption from death and corruption
- 49:11-14** One's wealth cannot preserve what one has accumulated beyond the grave
- 49:15-20** So do not fear when another is made rich, because God will redeem those who trust in Him from the grave, while others will carry nothing with them

Proverbs**22:20-21**

The reason Solomon has written these proverbs

September 6
Solomon Learns True Love

Introduction:

The Song of Solomon is written like an opera, featuring four acts recounting the efforts of Solomon to use his power and prestige as king to woo the affections of the Shulamite woman, whom he took to join his harem of young maidens. The purpose is to show the true nature of love in contrast to Solomon and his many wives and concubines.

Song of Solomon**Act One: Solomon's Attempt to Woo the Shulamite Woman at His Palace**

- 1:1** The opera begins with an introduction about whom this opera is written, and describes an actual occurrence in the life and reign of King Solomon
- 1:2-7** The Shulamite woman expresses to the daughters of Jerusalem the true love of her life before king Solomon brought her into his harem at his palace. She desires that he come to rescue her
- 1:9-14** Solomon seeks to win her affection by complimenting her appearance at his dining table, having expensive ornaments made to go around her neck, and is attracted to the perfume she wears for the shepherd she loves
- 1:15-2:6** Solomon compliments the Shulamite woman while she is thinking of her true love
- 2:7-13** The Shulamite woman instructs the daughters of Jerusalem in Solomon's harem to wait for true love, as she anticipates her shepherd lover coming to rescue her
- 2:14-3:4** Solomon tries unsuccessfully to win her love
- 3:5** The Shulamite woman instructs the daughters of Jerusalem again to wait for true love

Act Two:**Solomon's Forced Marriage and Honeymoon**

- 3:6-11** Solomon comes with a military procession to get the Shulamite woman and take her to his pre-arranged wedding
- 4:1-4:15** Solomon seeks to win her affection on their honeymoon, but finds her unwilling to consummate their marriage (v.12)
- 4:16** The Shulamite woman saves herself for her shepherd lover

2 Corinthians**About Their Offering for the Poor Saints at Jerusalem**

- 8:16-24** He instructs them to receive Titus and another brother, who have accepted the task of supervising the collection of their offerings so that they remain above reproach in the collection and distribution

Psalm 50:**GOD'S FUTURE JUDGMENT**

- 50:1-15** Of His people, not about the animals they offer, but their lack of thanksgiving
- 50:16-23** Of the wicked because of their pretense regarding God's Law

Proverbs

- 22:22-23** A good reason to not rob from the poor, or oppress the afflicted

September 7**Song of Solomon****Solomon's Forced Marriage and Honeymoon, (continued)**

5:1-7 She imagines celebrating her marriage to her shepherd lover instead of Solomon, and dreams in her sleep of him coming in to her, yet rising to search for him when he is not there

Act Three:**After the Honeymoon, back at the Palace**

5:8 She wants the daughters of Jerusalem to help her find her love and tell him that she is love sick without him.

5:9 The daughters of Jerusalem want her to describe the kind of person this shepherd to be, in light of her preference of him over king Solomon

5:10-16 The Shulamite woman describes her shepherd lover

6:1 The daughters of Jerusalem respond by desiring to seek him with her

6:2-3 She informs them that he is with the flock he shepherds, and that they are committed to each other in love

6:4-9 Solomon reminds her that he has treated her in a special way, considering that he has sixty queens, eighty concubines, and an innumerable number of virgins in his harem

6:10-12 She ventures out of the palace into one of Solomon's gardens, but suddenly leaves to join the shepherd she loves

6:13 Solomon inquires as to why the daughters of Jerusalem want her to come back

Act Four:**The Return of the Shulamite Woman to her home and Shepherd**

7:1-9 The Shepherd she loves speaks of his desire to be intimate with her

7:10-8:3 She shares his desire, and wants to be intimate with him at her mother's home where she was born.

8:4 She charges the young daughters of Jerusalem again to wait for true love, (8:4)

8:5-9 Her homefolk and brothers praise her upon her return with her shepherd lover, for the strong love by which she was able to resist the jealous advances of Solomon

8:10-14 The opera concludes with her decision to be content with her own vineyard and the love of her shepherd, rather than enjoy the vineyards of Solomon and submit to his sexual advances.

2 Corinthians**About Their Offering for the Poor Saints at Jerusalem, continued**

9:1-5 Paul states his reason for sending Titus to them in advance of his own coming

9:6-9 He quotes from the Old Testament and encourages them to give liberally out of a cheerful heart, (Deuteronomy 15:9-10)

9:10-15 Paul gives reasons for his confidence that God will bless them for giving

Psalm 51:**DAVIDS' CONFESSION OF HIS SIN WITH BATHSHEBA**

51:1-2 David pleads for God's forgiveness and cleansing

51:3-6 He acknowledges that he knew better, and that his being born a sinner is no excuse

51:7-12 He appeals for full restoration of the joy of his salvation

51:13-19 He promises to teach transgressors the ways of God, and how they too can be restored

Proverbs

22:24-25 A reason to not be friends with an angry person

September 8**Isaiah****Israel's coming Judgment**

- 1:1** Isaiah's vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem, or the Southern Kingdom, during the reigns of Uzziah (or Azariah), Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah
(cf. 2 Kings 15-20 and 2 Chronicles 26-32)
- 1:2-4** The LORD reveals His anger because Israel has forsaken the Holy One of Israel
- 1:5-9** Israel's suffering because of the LORD'S anger both physically and economically
Note: Syria, Edom, Philistia, and Assyria attacked Israel during the time of Isaiah
- 1:10-15** The LORD'S rejection of their offerings and religious feasts because of their iniquity
- 1:16-18** The LORD'S call for national repentance
- 1:19-20** The LORD'S promise, depending upon their response
- 1:21-23** The corruption of the capital city, Jerusalem
- 1:24-27** The LORD'S promise to restore Zion to righteousness through righteous judges in the future
- 1:28-31** Those who make idols and those who worship them will both perish together

The LORD'S future reign over all the Earth

- 2:1-4** The LORD'S Temple from which He reigns will be exalted over all the earth, and there will be no more need for weapons of war
- 2:5-9** The LORD'S comparison of Israel at that time to the Philistines
- 2:10-18** When the day of the LORD comes, the LORD OF HOSTS will alone be exalted in that day and all idols of the earth will be destroyed

2 Corinthians**About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)**

- 10:1-6** Paul warns those who think he is weak, because he demonstrates the gentleness of Christ when he is with them in person
- 10:7-11** Paul warns those who say that his letters are powerful, but his presence and speech is the opposite
- 10:12-18** Paul warns those who think that he is like others who boast in themselves, rather than boast in the Lord

Psalm 52:**KING DAVID'S PROPHECY FOR MEN LIKE DOEG THE EDOMITE (cf. 1 Samuel 21-22)**

- 52:1-4** David asks why a mighty man would boast in the deceitful use of his tongue to bring death to others, when God has continually been good to him
- 52:5** David prophesies that the Lord will destroy him and bring his life to an end
- 52:6-7** David prophesies that the righteous will be glad when they see his destruction, because he did not make the Lord his trust
- 52:8-9** David instead prophesies that he will yet praise God in the Lord's House (or Tabernacle), because he does trust in the Lord and in His mercy

Proverbs

- 22:26-27** A reason a man who has no money should not borrow that which allows his bed to be taken away from him

September 9**Isaiah****3:1-9**

The coming ruin of Jerusalem and fall of Judah

Note: The words “mere lads” refers to evil kings like Manasseh who later came to power at the age of twelve**3:10-12**

A promise for the righteous in light of the coming judgment

Note: When God brings judgment upon a nation, He promises to deliver those who are living righteously, (cf. Habakkuk 2:2-4 with Hebrews 10:39)**3:13-15**

The LORD’S case against the rulers and their abuse of power

3:16-4:1

The LORD’S case against the daughters of Jerusalem

4:2-6

The LORD’S promise to purge and restore Zion after the coming judgment

5:1-7

The LORD’S song of lament concerning His coming judgment upon Jerusalem and Judah, which He calls His Vineyard

5:8-10

The LORD’S judgment because of their greed and abuse of power over the poor

5:11-12

The LORD’S Judgment because of their festivities in disregard for His warnings

5:13-17

The LORD’S promised day of judgment when He will be exalted in His holiness

5:18-23

The LORD’S warning to those who do not believe His warnings and twist what is good and evil in their words and deeds

5:24-30

The LORD’S promise to raise up invaders from other nations to defeat and carry them away into captivity

Note: Turns out to be Assyria and Babylon**2 Corinthians****About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)****11:1-4**

Paul fears they are being deceived by those spreading a different gospel and a different Jesus

11:7-9

That they are looking down on him because he did not initially come to them with a price

11:10-12

Paul vows to boast throughout all Achaia that others from Macedonia gave him money - he Corinthians should have given; not to belittle them -because he loves them, but to defend himself against the lies these false apostles are spreading about him

11:13-15

That they should not be surprised by the deceitfulness of these false apostles, in light of Satan’s method of deception

Psalm 53:**THE FOOLISHNESS OF THOSE WHO OPPRESS ISRAEL****53:1-4**

They are fools who think that there is no God who sees their iniquity and oppression of His people

53:5

They will be made to fear when the LORD’S judgment comes upon them

53:6

David pleads for God to restore Israel from their captivity (yet to come)

Proverbs**22:28**

A command to not remove ancient landmarks

22:29

What a person can know by observing a person who is diligent and skilled in his business

September 10**Isaiah****6:4**

His vision when Uzziah the king died, of the LORD sitting on His throne in the heavenly Temple (cf. 2 Kings 15:1-7)

6:5

Isaiah's response to what he saw

6:6-8

Isaiah's vision of his being purged of his sin, and his response to the LORD'S call

6:9-10

The LORD'S instructions for Isaiah regarding the nation's response to his preaching

6:11-13

Isaiah's question and the LORD'S answer

Note: A tenth of the nation will return to the land after their captivity

Isaiah's Call**Isaiah's Message to Ahaz, king of Judah**

Note: There is a period of time between the call of Isaiah as recorded in chapter six, and the reign of Ahaz in chapter seven. Jothan, the son of Uzziah and father of Ahaz ruled prior to the events of chapter seven

7:1-2

The fear of Ahaz and Jerusalem upon the siege of Jerusalem by Rezin, king of Syria, and Pekah, king of Israel (cf. 2 Kings 15:37-16:20)

7:3-9

The LORD informs king Ahaz that Pekah and Rezin will not succeed in their conspiracy to depose him and replace him with a puppet king who will help them fight Assyria

7:10-25

The LORD'S sign to Ahaz, given through the mouth of Isaiah, to encourage him to not fear

Note: This is a double fulfillment involving a virgin whom Isaiah is told to marry, and whose son does not live to be a teenager before both the king of Israel and of Syria are defeated by the king of Assyria; as well as a sign of a future conception of Immanuel by the Virgin Mary, Matthew 1:23. An event being used by God in the Old Testament to foretell an even greater event in the future is not uncommon, (cf. Hebrews 11:17-19 with Genesis 22:11-14)

2 Corinthians**About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)****11:16-21**

Paul decides on his own and not the Lord to boast in himself, since that is what the false prophets do who are influencing the Corinthians against the ministry of Paul

11:22-29

Paul compares his ministry to theirs in terms of his suffering on behalf of Christ to plant the church at Corinth

11:30-33

Yet in spite of the perils he faced, the Lord had always been with him from the beginning of his ministry in Damascus, when he was let down through a window in the wall to escape a trap that had been set for him

Psalm 54:**DAVID'S PRAYER REGARDING THE BETRAYAL OF THE ZIPHIMS****54:1-3**

David's prayer for deliverance

54:4-5

David's confidence in his deliverance

54:6-7

David's vow to offer a sacrifice of praise for God's deliverance

Note: Which David did later in writing this song to be sung in the Temple

Proverbs:**23:1-3**

Things to consider when eating with a ruler

September 11**Isaiah****8:1-4**

The LORD instructs Isaiah to name his son by a prophetess he marries symbolizing the soon invasion of Assyria

8:5-10

Isaiah warns against Judah seeking a confederacy with the king of Assyria, (cf. 2 Kings 16:1-18)

8:13-15

Isaiah is told to not fear a conspiracy against him, but to fear the LORD who will be for both houses of Israel either a sanctuary or a crushing stone, (cf. 1 Peter 2:6-8)

8:16-18

Isaiah says that he will wait for the day when the LORD will no longer hide His face from Israel, and that the children God gives to him will be for signs that God will keep His Promise.

Note: God will also give children to Jesus through His death on the cross by whom He will restore dominion of the earth back to man,
(cf. Hebrews 2:5-13 with Psalm 8)

8:19-22

Isaiah prophesies trouble and darkness to those who seek to know their future from demonic spirits, rather than seek and trust in the LORD

Israel's Future Hope for Deliverance**9:1-7**

The people of the region of Galilee will see a great light in the midst of their darkness, because a divine Son will be born who will crush Israel's enemies, restore Israel's greatness, and govern the world in righteousness from the throne of David, (cf. Matthew 4:12-17)

9:8-12

But for the present, Isaiah prophesies that the LORD will cause the Syrians and the Philistines to crush Northern Israel, because of their arrogance towards the LORD who chastises them

9:13-21

The LORD will cut them down in a single day because they turn their back to Him, listen to leaders and false prophets who lead them astray, and continue to do evil

2 Corinthians**About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)****12:1-5**

Paul states that he could boast of having been caught up into the paradise in the third heaven, and of having heard things he is not permitted to repeat, but will instead boast in his infirmities

12:6-10

It was for the purpose that he boast in the Lord, and not in himself, that the LORD sent a messenger of Satan to punch him, giving him a wound that was for him a "thorn in the flesh, (cf. Galatians 4:15)

Psalm 55:**DAVID'S PRAYER REGARDING A HURTFUL BETRAYAL****55:1-7**

David describes his emotional trauma

55:8-14

David laments those whose tongues stir up violence against him, including that of a acquaintance whom he considered to be a close friend, (cf. 2 Samuel 15:31)

55:15-21

David expresses confidence that the LORD will answer his prayer for deliverance

55:22-23

David exhorts the people to cast their burdens upon the LORD in such circumstances

Proverbs**23:4-5**

A reason to not labor for the purpose of becoming rich

September 12**Isaiah****The LORD'S Judgment Against Assyria Foretold**

- 10:1-4** The reason the LORD will use the king of Assyria to punish Judah (or southern Israel, not just northern Israel)
- 10:5-14** The LORD will then judge Assyria for taking credit for being used of the LORD to punish Israel
- 10:15-19** The LORD will use His Holy One to destroy Assyria in a day for their arrogance
- 10:20-23** The LORD promises that a remnant will return to the land after the invasion of Assyria, (which was fulfilled during the reign of Cyrus, king of Persia, Ezra 1:1-4)
- 10:24-27** So Israel need not fear the Assyrians, because the LORD will ultimately deliver them like he did before when He delivered them from the Midianites and the Egyptians (cf. Judges 7:16-25 and Exodus 14:26-27)
- 10:28-34** When the king of Assyria comes close to Jerusalem, the LORD will cut him down like felling the trees of Lebanon, (cf. 2 Kings 19:32-37)
Note: These cities describe the Assyrian invasion in their advance on Jerusalem

The Ultimate Deliverance of Israel and Judah by God's Messiah

- 11:1** As a descendant of Jesse
Note: This will fulfill God's covenant with king David, (2 Samuel 7:16)
- 11:2-5** A description of His future righteous reign
- 11:6-10** A description of Mount Zion where He reigns
Note: This is the time of God's rest He has promised ultimately to give Israel (cf. Psalm 95:11, Hebrews 3:11, 4:1-10)
- 11:11-16** A description of the ways in which He will make a way out of the nations for Israel to return to the land, like He did before when He led them out of Egypt

2 Corinthians**About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)**

- 12:11-12** Paul feels compelled to boast that he is not behind the most prominent of the apostles, though he feels himself to be nothing, and explains the reason he did not mention his need for financial support when planting their church
- 12:13-18** Neither Paul, nor the men he has sent to them, sought to make financial gain from them
- 12:19-21** Paul explains the reason for his delay in coming to them

Psalm 56:**DAVID'S DANGER IN GATH**Note: (cf. 1 Samuel 21:10-15)

- 56:1-6** His prayer and trust in God's mercy for deliverance from his many enemies
- 56:7-13** The fulfillment of his vow to praise God in the writing of this Psalm

Proverbs**23:6-8**

Why a person should not eat the food a person offers him who has an ulterior motive, no matter how delicious looking?

September 13**Isaiah****Israel's Song of Thanksgiving****12:1-6**

For the LORD'S deliverance of them as a nation

Note: This will yet be fulfilled during the Millennial Age (cf. Revelation 20:1-10)**The LORD'S Judgment Against Babylon Foretold****13:1-5**

A vision Isaiah saw regarding Babylon's fall from invaders the LORD sends against them

13:6-12

The terrible day of the LORD'S judgment to come upon the whole world

Note: God's coming judgment upon Babylon by the Medes is God's testimony of His coming judgment upon Babylon the Great during the Tribulation, (cf. 13:6ff with Revelation 16-18)**13:13-18**

The LORD'S stirring up the Medes to defeat Babylon (cf. Daniel 5:24-31)

13:19-22

Total destruction like Sodom and Gomorrah

14:1-2

Israel's future return to settle the land and conquest of her enemies

The LORD'S taunt Against the King of Babylon and Lucifer**14:4-11**

The king of Babylon's demise

14:12-14

The fall of Lucifer from heaven

Note: The Devil's future demise who inspires Babylon (cf. Luke 10:18 and Revelation 12:7-9)**14:15-21**

The king of Babylon's demise continued, and the response of the nations to his fall

14:22-27

The LORD's intent to destroy Babylon, Assyria, and the whole earth for enslaving Israel

The LORD'S Judgment Against Israel's Surrounding EnemiesNote: These are nations who oppressed Israel and Judah during the days of Isaiah**Isaiah's Prophecy Against Philistia****14:28**This burden regarding Philistia was given to Isaiah when king Ahaz died
(cf. 2 Chronicles 28:18-27)**14:29-30**

The LORD'S warning for Philistia to not rejoice when He judges Israel and Judah

14:31-32

The LORD'S call for Philistia to howl for the destruction that will yet come upon her

2 Corinthians**About Their Attitude Towards Paul (continued)****13:1-4**

Paul will indeed judge those who have not repented of their sinful behavior when he comes

13:5-10

His hope is that they will judge themselves before he comes

13:11-14

Paul's closing words

Psalm 57:**DAVID'S DANGER FROM SAUL IN A CAVE**Note: (cf. 1 Samuel 24)**57:1-6**

David's trust in God's mercy

57:7-11

His cry and vow to sing and praise God for His mercy and truth

Proverbs**23:9**

A reason to not attempt convincing a fool by one's words

23:10-11

Why one should not remove old landmarks or enter the fields of the fatherless (in order to steal crops)?

September 14**The LORD'S Judgment Against Israel's Surrounding Enemies, (continued)****Isaiah****Isaiah's Prophecy Against Moab**

- 15:1-9** Her swift destruction by the Assyrians
16:1-12 Her devastation
 16:1-5 Her request to Jerusalem for permission to resettle there in fleeing the Assyrians
 16:6-12 Her request will be denied because of her arrogance and past oppression of Israel
16:13-14 Her demise within three years

Isaiah's Prophecy Against Syria

- 17:1-3** The coming ruin of Damascus, (cf. 7:1-9)
Note: This prophecy was fulfilled when Assyria invaded northern Israel,
 (cf. 2 Kings 16:7-9)
17:4-11 God's judgment on Israel for turning to Syria for help against the Assyrians
17:12-14 Their flight from invasion

Isaiah's Prophecy Against Ethiopia

- 18:1-2** Their reputation for oppression
18:3-6 The coming divine judgment upon their land, (cf. 20:1-6)
18:7 Their future homage to the LORD of hosts at Mount Zion
Note To be fulfilled during the Millennium

Galatians**About Living the Christian Life through the Power of the Cross**

- 1:1-5** Paul's opening salutation to the churches of Galatia, thanking God for our deliverance as believers from this present world through the power of Christ's death on the cross
Note: Verses three and four are the theme of the epistle or book of Galatians
1:6-10 Paul's anathema upon anyone preaching a different gospel than that which he preached when he first came to Galatia on his first missionary journey, (cf. Acts 13:14-14:28)
1:11-24 Paul's proof that the gospel he preached was given to him directly by Christ, (cf. 2 Corinthians 12:1-10, Galatians 4:15)
Note: The gospel message the Lord revealed directly to Paul is the mystery of the role of the cross and Christ's crucified body in the believer's sanctification, (cf. 1:15-17 with 2 Corinthians 12:1-10)

Psalm 58:**DAVID'S IMPRECATORY PRAYER REGARDING THE WICKED**

- 58:1-5** His description of their wickedness
58:6-8 Descriptive ways to judge them
58:9-11 David's purpose in praying this kind of prayer

Proverbs

- 23:12** How one should respond to words of wisdom and knowledge?

September 15**The LORD'S Judgment Against Israel's Surrounding Enemies (continued)****Isaiah****Against Egypt**

Note: Because of Judah's tendency to rely on the help of Egypt against Assyria during the reign of Hezekiah, (cf. 2 Kings 18:19-21)

19:1-4

The LORD'S deliverance of them into the hands of the king of Assyria

19:5-10

The LORD'S judgment upon their land and economy

19:11-15

The LORD'S judgment upon their rulers

19:16-25

The future conversion of Egypt, Assyria, and Israel (during the Millennium)

20:1-6

Isaiah goes barefoot for three years to symbolize the future captivity of both Egypt and Ethiopia to the Assyrians

About the Fall of Babylon**21:1-10**

Isaiah's vision of Babylon's fall to the Medes and Persians, (cf. 13:13-18)

Against Edom and Arabia**21:11-12**

A warning to those hiding in Seir, (the capital city of Edom)

21:13-17

A warning of the fall of Kedar within a year, (a strong tribe of Arabia)

Galatians**About Living the Christian Life through the Power of the Cross****2:1-10**

The Jerusalem Council, (cf. Acts 15)

2:1-5 Paul's public defense at the Council of Gentile believers not needing to be circumcised

2:6-10 Paul's private meeting with Peter, James (the Lord's half-brother) and John at which time he teaches them what the Lord taught him when he was in Arabia (chapter one)

2:11-13

Peter's hypocrisy at a fellowship dinner with Gentile believers at the church in Antioch of Syria

2:14-16

Paul's public rebuke of Peter for his change in behavior when James and brethren come down from Jerusalem to the fellowship dinner

Psalm 59:**DAVID'S DANGER FROM SAUL'S MEN AT HIS HOME**

Note: (cf. 1 Samuel 19:10-12)

59:1-5

David's prayer for deliverance

59:6-10

David's wait for God's deliverance

59:11-15

David's descriptive ways for God to judge them

59:16-17

David's vow to sing aloud God's praise in the morning

Proverbs**23:13-14**

Why use a rod to correct a child's misconduct?

Note: The Hebrew word translated as "hell" is literally "Sheol," and refers to physical death

September 16**The LORD'S Judgment Against Israel's Surrounding Enemies (continued)****Isaiah****About Jerusalem**

Note: Isaiah interrupts his prophecy of judgment upon Judah's enemies to reveal another vision about God's judgment upon the city of Jerusalem

- 22:1-14** The fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonians
- 22:15-19** The demise of Shebna, a scribe who opposed Isaiah before Hezekiah
- 22:20-25** The LORD'S replacement of Shebna with Eliakim, (cf. 2 Kings 18:18, Isaiah 36:3, 37:2)

Against Tyre

- 23:1-7** Her destruction and loss of shipping and trade
 - 23:8-12** The LORD'S purpose in her destruction
 - 23:13-14** The LORD will use the Babylonians to punish Tyre
 - 23:15-18** Her restoration after seventy years
- Note: Tyre remained weak until the fall of Babylon

The LORD'S Judgment Upon All Nations

- Note: This judgment will take place during the Tribulation period prior to Christ's return
 - 24:1-6** The LORD'S devastation of the whole earth
 - 24:7-16** Gaiety is replaced by mourning
 - 24:17-20** The worst earthquake ever, (cf. Revelation 16:18-20)
 - 24:21-23** The imprisonment of Satan's angels and the kings of the earth for many days while the LORD reigns, after which they will be punished
- Note: This is a reference to Christ's millennial reign on earth, at which time the Devil is imprisoned along with all of his angels until they are cast into the lake of fire, (cf. Revelation 20:1-10)

Galatians**About Living the Christian Life through the Power of the Cross**

- 2:17-21** Paul rebukes Peter for not living the Christian life by faith in the power of the cross, in the same way that they first believed in Christ for their justification
- 3:1-5** Paul asks the Galatian believers five questions, to point out that they began their Christian lives by faith rather than by keeping the Mosaic Law
- 3:6-9** Paul uses the Old Testament Scripture to prove that God justifies Gentiles on the same basis of faith that He justified Abraham

Psalm 60:**KING DAVID'S PRAYER REGARDING EDOM**

- 60:1-5** His prayer for deliverance
- 60:6-8** God's answer, (2 Samuel 8:13-14)
- 60:9-12** David's response in expressing their hesitancy to fight, unless God helps

Proverbs

- 23:15-16** What Solomon says will cause him to rejoice in his son?

September 17**Isaiah****Praise for the LORD'S Ultimate Triumph During the Millennium**

- 25:1-5** For His destruction of the strong city in control of the nations at that time, (cf. Revelation 18)
- 25:6-8** For His defeat of death (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:54-57), His removal of sorrow and tears (cf. Revelation 21:4), and His removal of the reproach of Israel
- 25:9-12** For His deliverance of Israel from Moab
- 26:1-2** For His salvation of the city of Jerusalem
- 26:3-11** For His salvation of the righteous who trust in Him and make His way straight, (cf. 26:7 with 40:3 and Matthew 3:1-3)
- 26:12-18** For His salvation of Israel from the dominion of other nations
- 26:19-21** A call to temporarily hide until the resurrection of the dead and the LORD'S removal of the wicked
- 27:1** For His punishing Leviathan, the piercing serpent
Note: Figurative of the Devil, (cf. Revelation 20:1-2)
- 27:2-8** For His causing Israel to fill the earth with her fruit for the nations to partake
- 27:7-11** For His forgiveness of Israel's idolatry after having punished them, and His regathering them from Assyria and Egypt to worship Him in Jerusalem

The LORD'S Judgment on Israel and Judah

- 28:1-4** The LORD's coming judgment on the northern ten tribes of Israel for her pride and drunkenness
- 28:5-8** The coming Messiah who will reign with justice in contrast to the drunken priests and Prophets
- 28:9-11** The LORD's warning through the gift of tongues for Israel to not reject their Messiah and His offer of rest to the nation
Note: The word "tongues" refers to intelligent speech by which communication is understood. The fact that the gift of tongues refers to one's ability to speak fluently in a language of that day he was not raised in or taught to speak, is apparent from the countries mentioned in chapter two of Acts from which Jews came to Jerusalem for the Feast Days of Passover and Pentecost
- 28:12-13** Instead of getting the "rest" He promised, if they refuse to heed the warning, they will be defeated, captured, and carried away from Jerusalem into captivity
Note: This prophecy was fulfilled in 70 A.D., after the gift of tongues was first poured out on the Day of Pentecost, Acts 2)

Galatians**About Living the Christian Life through the Power of the Cross**

- 3:10-12** Evidence from the Old Testament that the Mosaic Law brings cursing, not blessing
- 3:13-14** The reason Christ died by hanging on a cross, (cf. Deuteronomy 21:22-23)
- 3:15-18** The significance of the fact that God's covenant with Abraham preceded the Mosaic Law by four hundred and thirty years
- 3:19-22** A civil and religious purpose for the Mosaic Law being added until Christ came

Psalm 61:**KING DAVID'S CRY TO THE LORD WHEN FEELING OVERWHELMED**

- 61:1-4** His cry
- 61:5-8** His vows

Proverbs

- 23:17-18** A reason to not envy sinners, but to fear the LORD

September 18**Isaiah****The LORD'S Judgment on Israel and Judah, (continued)****28:14-17**

The LORD GOD will replace the scoffers in Jerusalem who rule over God's people with a tested stone and a cornerstone who will establish righteousness and justice, (cf. Psalm 118:22, Romans 9:33, 10:11; and 1 Peter 2:6)

28:18-22

The scoffers will not be able to escape the coming destruction by the LORD

28:23-29

The LORD will choose how and when He will chastise Israel, even as a farmer chooses how and when to plow his field

29:1-4

Ariel on Mount Zion (v.8) will be besieged, (cf. 36:1)

29:5-8

But then the LORD will come swiftly against Assyria, as well as all nations who war against the city where king David lived, (cf. 37:33-38)

29:9-14

The LORD will cause Israel to not comprehend the vision He gives to Isaiah, to their own destruction

29:15-16

They think that the LORD does not know their secret plans to avoid destruction, (cf. 30:1-2)

The LORD'S Promise to Ultimately Deliver Israel and Judah**29:19-21**

The day will come when God will remove Israel's blindness and deafness, and deliver them from such scoffers in Jerusalem by His Holy One, (cf. Acts 3:13-15)

29:22-24

At that time Israel will listen to the Holy One rather than those who cause them to err from the truth

The LORD'S Judgment for Reliance upon Egypt**30:1-5**

For planning to seek the help of Pharaoh without seeking the LORD

30:6-11

For fleeing to Egypt in rejection of the LORD'S prophets who have foretold of judgment

Note: See Job 9:13 and the comment about "Rahab"

Galatians**About Living the Christian Life through the Power of the Cross**

A spiritual purpose for the Mosaic Law being added: to lead them to faith in Christ

3:25-29

Their emancipation to a new way of living through their spiritual baptism into Christ

4:1-6

Their adoption in Christ as adult sons, the Holy Spirit having been given unto them

4:7-8

Their previous bondage as Gentiles to idolatry and their occultic rites and rituals

4:9-11

Paul questions why they would want to go back into bondage again by seeking to live as a Jew under the Mosaic Law

4:12-18

Paul questions their change in attitude towards him

4:19-20

Paul expresses his recent doubt about them

4:21-31

Paul uses Isaac's being separated from Ishmael as an allegory to separate from those of Jerusalem who insist that they live under the Mosaic Law

Psalm 62:**KING DAVID'S ROCK AND SALVATION****62:1-7**

His soul waits on God because He only is his Rock and Salvation

62:8-12

David urges the people to trust in God at all times, rather than devise other ways to solve their problems

Proverbs**23:19-21**

A reason to not be like those who like to be heavy drinkers of wine and gorge themselves on food

Note: Jews were not permitted to drink strong drink, but even when diluted with water, they could still get drunk by overindulging, (cf. Ephesians 5:18)

September 19**Isaiah****30:12-17**

For despising the LORD'S call for them to return from Egypt and trust in the LORD

The LORD'S Promise of Jerusalem's Ultimate Deliverance**30:18-22**

His promise to hear when they cry out to Him in genuine repentance and abhor their idols

30:23-26

His promise to bless and heal the land in that day (a reference to the Millennium)

The LORD'S Judgment for Reliance upon Egypt, (continued)**30:27-33**

His promise to judge the Assyrians

31:1-9

His promised woe upon those who trust in the Egyptians rather than the LORD who will fight to defend Jerusalem

The LORD'S Promise of Jerusalem's Ultimate DeliveranceNote: To be fulfilled during the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ**32:1-8**

His promise to restore righteousness and justice in judgment through the reign of a coming king and his princes

The LORD'S Judgment for Reliance upon Egypt, (continued)**32:9-20**

His call for the women of Israel and Judah to lament the destruction of their land until He causes His Spirit to be poured out upon them from above, and righteousness and peace is restored

33:1

His promise that Assyria will be destroyed for dealing treacherously, (cf. 2 Kings 18)

33:2-12

Isaiah prays for the LORD to destroy Assyria for what they have done to Israel

33:13-16

Those who will be destroyed and those who will not

The LORD'S Promise of Jerusalem's Ultimate Deliverance**33:17-24**

The king through whom the LORD will deliver Jerusalem

Note: The “stammering tongue” refers to the languages of Gentiles in contrast to the musical language of Hebrew, (cf. 33:19 with 28:11)**The LORD'S Judgment upon All Nations****34:1-4**

His wrath on earth and in heaven

34:5-7

His bloody sword in Edom

34:8-15

Edom's total destruction and desolation

34:16-17

His regathering of Israel

About Living the Christian Life through the Power of the Cross**Galatians****5:1-6**

Paul commands them to stand fast in their liberty in Christ, and to not be entangled again by being circumcised and keeping the Mosaic Law

Note: The phrase “fallen from grace” refers to the gospel of God’s grace for the believer to be rescued from the evil of this present world through the power of the cross as it relates to sanctification, not salvation, (cf. 1:3-4)**5:7-12**

Paul desires that they exercise church discipline in removing any from their membership who teach them to do so, and that those Jews advocating that Gentile believers be circumcised use the knife instead to harm themselves

Psalm 63:**63:1-2**

He determines to seek Him early, because he thirsts to see God’s power and glory as he did before in the Tabernacle

63:3-7

He will bless the LORD with uplifted hands on his bed in the night watches

63:8-11

His soul seeks hard after God to deliver him from those who seek to end his life

Proverbs**23:22**

A caution to hearken to one’s father and to not despise one’s mother when she gets old

September 20**The LORD'S Promise of Jerusalem's Ultimate Deliverance****Isaiah**

- 35:1-10** A description of Israel's healing and restoration (during the Millennium)
- 35:1-2 Her deserts
 - 35:3-6a Her emotional and physical healing
 - 35:6b-7 Her scorched and dry land
 - 35:8 Her Highway of Holiness
 - 35:9 Her dangerous animals
 - 35:10 Her joy and rejoicing

The LORD'S Judgment Against Assyria

- 36:1** The king of Assyria captures all of the fortified cities of Judah in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah, (cf. Isaiah 35-38 with 2 Kings 18-20 and 2 Chronicles 32)
- 36:2-10** Rabshakeh's message to King Hezekiah from the king of Assyria, mocking them for seeking help from Pharaoh and Egypt
- 36:2-3 Spoken to three of Hezekiah's officials
 - 36:4-6 Rebuking Hezekiah for rebelling against Assyria and seeking the help of the Egyptians
 - 36:7-10 Refuting Hezekiah's thought that the LORD will save him from Sennacherib
- 36:11-20** Rabshakeh's mocking those who listen to Hezekiah and trust in Hezekiah's God
- 36:11-12 He refuses to speak in Aramaic at the request of Hezekiah's officials so that the Israelites listening on the wall of Jerusalem do not understand what is being said
 - 36:13-17 He rather speaks even louder in Hebrew, challenging the Israelites to accept Sennacherib's offer for them to surrender peaceably
 - 36:18-20 He challenging the Israelites to not believe Hezekiah's statements that the LORD will save them from the hand of Sennacherib
- 36:21-22** Hezekiah's officials do not respond, but deliver the message to Hezekiah

Galatians**About Living the Christian Life through the Power of the Cross**

- 5:13-15** Paul reminds them the purpose for which believers in the church have been set free from living under the Mosaic Law
- 5:16-18** Paul exhorts them to walk in the Spirit rather than in the flesh
- 5:19-21** Paul warns them that a misuse of this freedom to live after the flesh will cost them reward in the kingdom of God, (a reference to the Millennial kingdom)
- 5:22-26** Paul exhorts them to manifest the fruit of the Spirit through the same power of the cross by which they were first saved and received the Holy Spirit

Psalm 64:**KING DAVID'S PRAYER REGARDING A CONSPIRACY AGAINST HIM**

- 64:1-6** David prays describing the conspiracy and use of the tongue against him
- 64:7-10** David is confident that God will make their tongue to fall upon themselves

Proverbs

- 23:23** Qualities in life to buy and not sell

September 21**Isaiah****The LORD'S Judgment Against Assyria, (continued)****37:1-5**

Hezekiah's response to the king of Assyria's threat

37:6-7

The LORD'S promise to Hezekiah through His prophet Isaiah

37:8-13

Rabshakeh's renewed threat in light of hearing that the king of Cush has come to fight against the Assyrians, forcing a temporary withdrawal from Jerusalem

Note: The cities mentioned in v.12 were in Mesopotamia, and those mentioned in v.13 were in Syria

37:14-20

Hezekiah's prayer in the Temple regarding the letter from the king of Assyria

37:21-29

The LORD'S promise again through Isaiah regarding His coming judgment on Sennacherib for his pride and arrogance

37:30-35

The LORD'S sign of His promise to save Jerusalem and Judah and preserve a remnant

37:36-38

The LORD'S promise regarding the Assyrian king and his army fulfilled in one night, (cf. 37:7)

Hezekiah's Illness**38:1-5**

Hezekiah's plea and the LORD'S promise to extend his life another fifteen years

38:6-8

The LORD'S sign to Hezekiah of His promise to defend Jerusalem from the king of Assyria

Note: The shadow will move in the opposite direction as normally expected

38:9-22

Hezekiah's healing and response

38:9-14 Hezekiah's grief upon being told he is about to die

38:15-20 His vow to praise the LORD for his healing

38:21-22 His use of figs on his boil at the suggestion of Isaiah

Galatians**About Living the Christian Life through the Power of the Cross****6:1-6**

Paul exhorts them regarding their treatment of one another

Note: The word "burdens" in v.2 refers to excess burdens, and the word "load" in v.5 refers to a normal burden each must carry for himself

6:7-10

Paul exhorts them in regard to their sowing and reaping, (cf. 6:8 with Romans 8:2,13)

6:11-13

Paul exhorts in light of those seeking to compel them to be circumcised in order to boast in their flesh

6:14-16

In contrast, Paul is determined to not boast in anything other than the cross, by which the world is crucified to him, and he to the world, (cf. 1:2-3)

6:17

The evidence in his body of that determination, (i.e. The stripes from scourging)

6:18

Paul closes with a benedictory prayer for God's living grace to be with them

Psalm 65:**WHEN ALL THE EARTH COMES TO WORSHIP THE LORD AT THE TEMPLE****65:1-2**

A prophecy that the day will come

65:3-4

The person is blessed whose iniquity is purged and he is allowed to come worship

65:5-8

The reason that Gentiles will come, is when they observe His power at work in regathering His people from their lands

65:9-13

They will worship the LORD for His watering of the earth and His replenishing its produce

Proverbs**23:24**

The kind of son who causes his father to rejoice

September 22**Isaiah****Hezekiah's Pride and the LORD'S Judgment**

- 39:1-2** His showing all of his treasures in response to a congratulatory visit by the king of Babylon's son
- 39:3-4** His confrontation by the prophet Isaiah
- 39:5-7** The LORD'S promise through his prophet Isaiah to carry away Hezekiah's treasures and some of his sons into Babylonian captivity, (cf. Daniel 1:2)
- 39:8** Hezekiah's response to Isaiah

The LORD'S Promise of Jerusalem's Ultimate Deliverance

Note: To be fulfilled during the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ

- 40:1-2** His call to comfort because of His promise to restore Jerusalem from captivity
- 40:3-5** His call to make a highway for their God, (cf. Matthew 3:3)
- 40:6-8** His call to believe that His word stands forever
- 40:9-11** His call for Jerusalem to shout the good news that the LORD is coming to shepherd His people
- 40:12-20** His greatness in comparison to the idols Israel has worshipped
- 40:21-26** His question as to Judah's knowledge of His greatness?
- 40:27-31** His question as their having heard in the past of His greatness, and faith in His continuing power to renew the strength of those who wait upon Him?
- 41:1-4** His call for a king from the east to subdue kings and nations
- 41:5-9** His promise that while the islands may fear and falsely hope in the gods they have made with their own hands, the God of Abraham will regather His chosen people to serve Him
- 41:10-16** His counsel for His people to not fear, because their Redeemer – the Holy One of Israel – will help them defeat their enemies

Ephesians**Christ's New Family in Heaven and Earth, the Church**

- 1:1-2** Paul's opening salutation
- 1:3-14** Paul's doxology of praise for God's predestined plan to provide a new family in heaven and in earth for His beloved Son
- 1:15-23** Paul's prayer for God to reveal His specific calling for every believer in Ephesus, in order that they might also understand the power available to them to fulfill Christ's will for them on earth as Head of this new family on earth, the Church

Psalm 66:**DAVID'S REMEMBRANCE OF HIS FORMER VOWS**

- 66:1-4** His call for all the lands to make a joyful noise to the LORD in praise and in song
- 66:5-7** His call for them to remember His deliverance of Israel through the Red Sea
- 66:8-12** His call for them to praise the LORD for His deliverance of Israel, after first allowing them to suffer affliction in order to purge them as a nation
- 66:13-15** David remembers the vows he made to the LORD when he was in trouble
- 66:16-20** David testifies what he will say when he fulfills those vows

Proverbs**23:25**

The kind of son who causes both his father and mother to rejoice, (cf. 23:24)

23:26-28

The kind of woman about whom a father should warn his son

September 23**Isaiah****The LORD'S Promise to Deliver Judah from Babylon by King Cyrus of Persia****41:17-20**

The LORD promises to renovate and water the land of Israel

41:21-29

He challenges the false gods Judah has worshipped to foretell what will happen in the future and then make it happen ; like His promise to bring one from the east to attack from the north

Note: This is a prophecy regarding the coming of king Cyrus of Persia 150 years later, who will allow Jews to return to their land**42:1-4**

His description of how His chosen Servant in whom He delights will ultimately bring justice to the nations

Note: This is a reference to the coming of Jesus Christ, (cf. Matthew 3:17, 12:18-21)**42:5-9**

The LORD promises that His chosen Servant will be a light to the Gentiles, will open the eyes of the blind, and will free prisoners, (cf. Isaiah 61:1, Luke 4:17-19)

42:10-13

The LORD'S promise for all the world to sing a new song, celebrating the victory of His Servant over his enemies

42:14-17

The LORD after a long time will indeed make a way for Israel to return

42:18-22

Israel is told to being deaf and blind like their idols

42:23-25

His charge against Jacob is that it was Israel's failure to obey His Law that caused Him to deliver them over to their enemies

43:1-7

He promises to redeem them from captivity, to regather them to the land of promise regardless of the obstacles in their way, and to give Egypt, Ethiopia and Seba for a ransom in their place

43:8-13

The LORD calls for those who, like the idols they worship have eyes but cannot see, and have ears but cannot hear, to come to acknowledge that it is the LORD who is God, and that there is no other

Ephesians**Christ's New Family in Heaven and Earth, the Church****2:1-3**

Paul states their sinful condition prior to faith in Christ

2:4-7

Paul states their new position in Christ by God's mercy since they believed

2:8-10

Paul states God's purpose for saving them by grace through faith in Christ

2:1-13

Paul reminds the Gentile believers of their former separation from Jews in the Temple at Jerusalem, and of the former derogatory term the Jews used against them

2:14-22

Paul declares that both are now one in Christ, and that they -being indwelt by the Holy Spirit-are now His new temple on earth

Psalm 67:**A PRAYER FOR GOD'S MERCY ON ISRAEL****67:1-2**

An opening petition for God's favor, in order that all nations might learn of His saving health

67:3-4

A call for Gentile nations to rejoice when God governs and judges the people in righteousness

67:5-7

A call for all peoples to praise God, when the earth will yield her increase and all the ends of the earth will fear Him

Proverbs**23:29-35**

Reasons a son should avoid even looking at intoxicating wine

September 24**Isaiah****43:14-17****The LORD'S Promise to Deliver Judah from Babylon by King Cyrus of Persia**

The LORD, the Holy One of Israel promises to destroy Babylon's navy, army, and cavalry

43:18-20

The LORD asks His people to remember the former things, and to behold a new thing He will do in making a way for them to return to the land from captivity

43:21-24

The LORD declares that He formed them as His people for Himself, in order to declare His praise to the nations, but that they have not honored Him

43:25-28

The LORD promises to blot out their sins and transgressions for His own sake, and to not remember them again, because they have sinned since they came forth from Jacob

44:1-5

The LORD, who formed Jacob (or the nation) from the womb, promises to restore and multiply her offspring again

44:6-8

The LORD, the King and Redeemer of Israel, is God alone, and who can declare otherwise?

44:9-20

The LORD exposes the foolishness of those who make graven images with their own hands, and then worship them as their gods

44:21-28

The LORD calls for Israel to remember His promise to raise up Cyrus to allow Jerusalem and the Temple to be rebuilt

45:1-4

The Lord wants Cyrus to know that it is the God of Israel who has called him by name beforehand, so that he will know that it is He who will enable him to subdue nations for the sake of His people Israel

45:5-10

The LORD will thereby make known to all, that it is He who is God and none other, and pronounces His woe upon any who dare to oppose Him

Ephesians**3:1-6****Christ's New Family in Heaven and Earth, the Church (continued)**

Paul states that Christ made known to him the mystery of the Church, which was not previously revealed to the apostles and prophets

3:7-11

Paul acknowledges that he is less than the least of the saints in being allowed in God's grace to receive this revelation

3:12-19

Paul prays for the believers in the church at Ephesus to know the experience of Christ dwelling in their hearts by faith, so that they can know His love that surpasses human knowledge and be filled with all the fullness of God to fulfill His purpose for them in their lives

3:20-21

Paul concludes his prayer by praising God for the Church

Psalm:**THE VICTORIOUS ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN AND CORONATION OF CHRIST**

Note: This is a prophecy about Christ's exaltation, (cf. Ephesians 4:8-9)

68:1-4

David calls for God's enemies to be destroyed, which would cause the righteous to rejoice and sing praise

68:5-12

David praises God for His previous deliverance of Israel from bondage to Egypt, and enabling them to possess the land of Israel

68:13-18

David prophesies of Christ's ascension to reign as God's King on the hill of God, being accompanied by 20,000 chariots, thousands of angels, and leading His captives with Him

Note: The "hill of God" is probably a reference to the heavenly Mount Zion (cf. Hebrews 12:22 and Ephesians 4:7-8))

Proverbs**24:1-2**

A reason to not be envious against evil men

September 25**Isaiah****The LORD'S Promise to Deliver Judah from Babylon by King Cyrus, (continued)**

- 45:11-14** The Holy One of Israel will send Cyrus to free Israel from exile and cause the Egyptians and Africans to be conquered by him
- 45:15-19** The idolaters will be put to shame, and the LORD who created the heavens and the earth will save Israel with an everlasting salvation
- 45:20-25** The idolatrous nations are urged to turn to the LORD for salvation, at whose feet every knee will bow and every tongue will swear allegiance, (cf. Philippians 2:10)
- 46:1-7** In contrast to the gods of the Babylonians who cannot save themselves, the LORD – who gave birth to Israel and to whom no one can be compared - will deliver them
- 46:8-13** Israel is told to remember God's deliverance in the past, and be assured of the same when a bird of prey comes from the east (a reference to Cyrus before he is born)
- 47:1-5** Babylon (called the Chaldeans) will be brought to shame by the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel
Note: This was fulfilled historically in anticipation of an even greater fulfillment during the Tribulation, (Revelation 18:1, 10). This is called a "double fulfillment"
- 47:6-10** The LORD gives reasons He will cause calamity to come upon Babylon in one day
- 47:11-15** The enchantments, sorceries, astrologers, star gazers, and monthly prognosticators of Babylon will not be able to save them
- 48:1-11** The LORD informs Israel as to the reasons He is telling them these things in advance

Ephesians**Practical Exhortations for the Church by way of Christian Conduct**

- 4:1-6** Paul urges the believers to manifest their oneness in Christ as they seek to fulfill God's calling for them
- 4:7-16** He exhorts them to grow up together in Christ under the leadership of Christ's apostles, prophets, evangelists, and pastor-teachers, so that they can minister for Christ as a church body in unity

Psalm 68:**THE VICTORIOUS ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN AND CORONATION OF CHRIST (continued)****Note:** This is a prophecy about Christ's exaltation, (cf. Ephesians 4:8-9)

- 68:19-23** Christ's future deliverance of Israel from her enemies
- 68:24-31** The homage that will be paid to Christ at the Temple in Jerusalem by kings, including Egypt and Ethiopia
- 68:32-35** Davids call for the kingdoms of the earth to sing praises to the God of heaven who will deliver Israel

Proverbs**24:3-4**

A necessary attribute by which a house is established and the chambers filled with riches

September 26**Isaiah****The LORD'S Promise to Deliver Judah from Babylon by King Cyrus, (continued)****48:12-16**

The LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel, the One who created the heavens and the earth, and the One who will deliver them from Babylon, is the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel who will be sent by the LORD GOD and His Spirit

Note: This is a clear reference to Christ as being the Redeemer and as one with the Father and the Holy Spirit (i.e., the Trinity). Cf. Isaiah 41:14, 43:14, 29:7 and 49:26

48:13-19

The LORD, the Redeemer, and the Holy one of Israel laments what could have been, had Israel paid attention to His commandments and obeyed them

48:20-22

Israel is told to flee Babylon with joy, when they are allowed to return to the land of Israel.

Note: It is Christ who caused water to come out of the rock, (cf. Exodus 17:5-7 with 1 Corinthians 10:4)

**The LORD'S Promise to Ultimately Deliver Judah
through His Special Servant, the Messiah**

49:1-7

He will be born a Jew and of a virgin, will deliver Israel, will be a light of salvation to the Gentiles, and will reign over the earth, (cf. Luke 2:32)

49:8-13

The LORD will save Israel through Him and bring them from afar to comfort His people

49:14-21

There will be those of Zion who will say that the LORD has forsaken and forgotten them, but He will restore their land and multiply their children in the land

49:22-23

The kings of the Gentile nations will bring Israel's sons and daughters back to the land from captivity, and pay homage to them, whereby Israel will then know that the LORD, He is God

49:24-26

All mankind will know that the LORD is Israel's Savior, Redeemer, and the Mighty One of Jacob, when He delivers them from captivity and causes their oppressors to self-destruct

50:1-3

The LORD blames Israel for His divorce from Israel

50:4-11

But the LORD will deliver Him from humiliation, because of His obedience to God's will in sending Him, (cf. Matthew 26:67, 27:30; Mark 14:65, 15:19; Luke 22:63)

Note: "the LORD has opened my ear" refers to becoming God's slave voluntarily, (cf. Exodus 21:6)

Ephesians**Practical Exhortations for the Church by way of Christian Conduct**

Paul urges the Gentile believers in the church to not live like they formerly did

He lists specific areas of conduct in which they are to demonstrate Christianity

Psalm 69:**A PRAYER OF THE SUFFERING MESSIAH OR CHRIST**

Note: This chapter is quoted often in the New Testament account of Jesus Christ

69:1-3

His cry to God for His deliverance, (cf. Luke 22:42-44)

69:4-12

His appeal to God who would know if He had sinned, declaring that His suffering is for God and for His House (or the Temple)

Note: (cf. 26:9 with John 2:17 and Romans 15:3)

64:13-18

His prayer is for God's mercy and for His prayer to be heard speedily

Proverbs**24:5-6**

What should be considered before entering into a war?

September 27**Isaiah****The LORD'S Promise to Ultimately Deliver Judah through His Special Servant, the Messiah, (continued)**

- 51:1-3** The LORD promises to make the land of Zion like the former garden of Eden
- 51:4-8** While the earth, the sky, and its inhabitants will vanish, those who look for Him to bring righteousness and salvation will be to all generations
- 51:9-11** The LORD promises to cause His ransomed people to return with everlasting joy in delivering them like He did formerly at the Red Sea
- 51:12-13** The LORD rebukes His people for their fearing man who dies, and for not remembering Him
- 51:14-23** The LORD promises to set His people in exile free, after He first allows Jerusalem to drink the cup of His anger
- 52:1-6** The LORD promises that Jerusalem will be restored from captivity, and that He will punish the Egyptians and the Assyrians for oppressing them
- 52:7-10** The day will come when Zion's watchmen will shout the good news when they see with their own eyes the LORD restore Zion and redeem Jerusalem in the sight of all nations
- 52:11-12** The Israelites are exhorted to leave Babylon , to touch not the unclean thing, and for their priests to purify themselves when they are allowed to leave, (cf. 2 Corinthians 6:17)
- 52:13-15** Gentiles and kings will believe in Him and be cleansed from their sin, when they hear of His suffering and subsequent exaltation
- 53:1-4** But in Israel who will believe what Isaiah foretells? Instead they will despise Him and think of Him as having been smitten by God
- 53:5-9** But He will be pierced for their transgressions, and not for His own
- 53:10-12** It will please the LORD to bruise Him, because of the outcome of His death
- Note:** Christ died for all (53:6) but only many will be justified, because He will only "bear" the sins before God of those who believe Him. It is Jesus as our High Priest who completes atonement before God with His blood, (Leviticus:4:20)

Ephesians**Practical Exhortations for the Church by way of Christian Conduct**

- 5:1-7** Paul warns the believers to be Christ-like in their conduct, to love for one another, and to not conduct themselves like the children of disobedience upon whom the wrath of God is yet to come
- 5:8-16** Paul urges them to walk as children of light in Christ, by manifesting the fruit of the Spirit, and by not participating in those things which are shameful and done in secret
- 5:17-21** Paul commands that they be filled with the Spirit rather than intoxicating drink, and that they worship together in song and thanksgiving to God in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ
- 5:22-23** He also commands them to reflect the mystery of Christ and His Church in their roles as husband and wife

Psalm 69:**A PRAYER OF THE SUFFERING MESSIAH OR CHRIST (continued)**

Note: This chapter is quoted often in the New Testament account of Jesus Christ

- 69:19-21** A description of the shameful way in which He is treated
- Note:** While dying on the cross, (cf. 69:21 with Matthew 27:34)
- 69:22-28** His request that God blot out of the book of life those who reject Him
(cf. 69:22 with Romans 15:9-10 and 69:28 with Revelation 3:5)
- 69:29-36** His praise to God for setting Him on high and His saving of Zion (cf. Acts 2:33-36)

Proverbs

- 24:7** What is too high for a fool?

September 28**Isaiah****The LORD'S Promise of Millennial Blessings**

- 54:1-3** The LORD calls for Israel to shout with joy because the number of descendants will be enlarged, and the desolate cities will be resettled
- 54:4-8** Israel is told to not fear, because her Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, will take her back to himself as his wife
- 54:9-10** He will take her back under the terms of an unconditional covenant of peace, like He made with Noah after the worldwide flood, (cf. Genesis 9:8-17)
Note: This is a reference to the New Covenant
- 54:11-17** The LORD promises to rebuild the land with precious stones, and remove any fear of affliction from her enemies
- 55:1-5** The LORD invites everyone who is thirsty to come to the land in that day, to drink without cost, and He will make an everlasting covenant with them if they listen to Him
Note: The New Covenant is called an everlasting covenant because it will never need to be replaced by God as was the Old Covenant, (cf. Hebrews 8:6-13 and 13:20)
- 55:6-9** The LORD calls for men to seek Him while He may be found, and to call upon Him while He is near; He will abundantly pardon because His thoughts and ways are higher than man's
- 55:10-13** The LORD'S spoken word will not return to Him void, even as falling rain and snow do not return to the sky but water the earth and cause vegetation to grow
- 56:1-8** The LORD promises to bless all who come to the land in that day to worship and serve Him, promising to make His House (or Temple) a House of Prayer for all, (cf. Matthew 21:13)
- 56:9-57:2** The LORD rebukes the watchmen of Israel for their drunkenness and failure to observe that the righteous are dying, in order that they might not see the evil to come
- 57:3-13** The LORD graphically describes Israel's rebellion and idolatry as the conduct of an adulterous woman

Ephesians**Practical Exhortations for the Church by way of Christian Conduct**

- 6:1-4** Paul gives commands pertaining to the family relationship between children and parents
- 6:5-9** Paul gives commands pertaining to the relationship between slaves and their masters
- 6:10-17** Paul illustrates their battle as Christians with the devil and his angels, in comparing their spiritual armor to that of a Roman soldier
- 6:18-20** Paul urges them to pray for him while he is in prison, in order that he might have boldness in witnessing for Christ, (cf. Acts 28:30-31)
- 6:21-24** Paul informs them as to the reason he is sending Tychicus to them with his epistle, and ends his epistle with a closing benediction

Psalm 70**DAVID'S PRAYER FOR A SPEEDY DELIVERANCE**

- 70:1-3** His request for himself
- 70:4** His request for those who seek the LORD and love His salvation
- 70:5** His renewed request for himself

Proverbs

- 24:8** What will a person be called who devises evil?
- 24:9** How is the thought of foolishness and the scorner regarded by God?

September 29**Isaiah****The LORD'S Call for Israel's National Repentance**

- 58:1** The LORD commands Isaiah to loudly proclaim the sins of Jacob or Israel
- 58:2-12** The kind of fasts to which the LORD will respond
- 58:13-14** The kind of Sabbath observance to which the LORD will respond
- 59:1-8** The LORD specifies the kind of sinful conduct that has caused Him to be separated from Israel
- 59:9-15** Israel is told to acknowledge that the reason for her suffering is because the LORD has seen that there is no justice in the land
- 59:16-18** Since the LORD saw that there was no man to intervene for Israel, He will arm Himself with righteousness and salvation to avenge Israel of her enemies
- 59:19-21** As a result, the LORD promises that the nations will come to fear the LORD, that a Redeemer will come to Zion, and that the LORD and His Spirit will cause Israel to obey His commands forever
- Note:** These verses refer to the Trinity: the Father (v.19), the Son as Redeemer (v.20), and the Holy Spirit (v.21). The name "Jesus" was not given until He was born

Philippians**The Rejoicing Christian in the Midst of Persecution**

- 1:1-7** Paul greets the believers in the church at Philippi, and thanks God in remembering how they have continued to support him in his ministry for Christ (v.5) even though he is in prison
- 1:8-11** Paul states his longing to see them and his prayer for their growth in understanding of how to live the Christian life until the day of Christ
- 1:12-18** Paul wants them to know that he rejoices Christ is preached by others while he is in prison, although some preach out of contention against him rather than love
- 1:19-26** Paul believes that the Lord will deliver him out of prison, and that God will allow him to see them again; yet, whether by life or by death, he desires that Christ be magnified in his body

Psalm 71:**KING DAVID'S PRAYER IN HIS OLD AGE**

- 71:1-4** For deliverance from his enemies
- 71:5-8** His trust in God from his birth
- 71:9-14** His prayer to not be forsaken in his old age
- 71:15-24** His promise to continue to praise God publicly while he is old

Proverbs**24:10**

What is revealed about a person if he faints in the day of adversity?

September 30**Isaiah****The Glory of Israel in the Millennial Kingdom****60:1-3**

Israel's darkness will become light

60:4-9

The nations will bring her sons and daughters to the land, the wealth of the nations, and they will come to glorify the Holy One of Israel at His glorious House (or Temple)

60:10-14

Gentiles will rebuild their land, will bring their wealth, and those who afflicted them will bow before them and call Zion the city of the LORD, the Holy One of Israel

60:15-16

When Israel as a nation is made an everlasting pride and joy from generation to generation, they will know that the LORD is their Savior, their Redeemer, and the Mighty One of Jacob

60:17-22

The wonderful changes that Israel will experience in that day

The Promise of Israel's Appointed Messiah**61:1-3**

The Spirit of the Lord God will be upon Him as the Anointed One (or the Messiah), in order to proclaim His having been sent from God to deliver Israel

Note: Verse one is a reference to the Trinity**61:4-7**

A description is given of what it will be like for Israel during His reign

61:8-11

The everlasting covenant He will make with them (i.e. the New Covenant)

62:1-5

Israel will be joined to the LORD in marriage, and her name will be changed from "Desolate" to "Beulah"

Philippians**The Rejoicing Christian in the Midst of Persecution****1:27-30**

In the meantime, whether Paul be present or absent from them, his desire is that they stand together for the faith of the gospel in the face of persecution and suffering for Christ

2:1-4

Paul urges them to avoid attitudes which would negatively affect their unity in love for one another

2:5-8

He urges them to demonstrate the humility Christ manifested, when He became a man In order to die on the cross

2:9-18

Even as God has highly exalted Christ for His obedience, in the same way Paul urges them to work out their own salvation by their own obedience, making his personal sacrifice in ministering to them a cause for rejoicing

Note: The "salvation" mentioned by Paul in 2:12 is a reference to the believer's reward in the "Day of Christ" (2:16). Paul is using Christ's example of reward in 2:9-11 to make this comparison.**Psalm 72:****DAVID'S PRAYER FOR SOLOMON**Note: Through whom the Messiah or Christ will come, (cf. 2 Samuel 7:12-16)**72:1-2**

For God to give his son the ability to govern righteously

72:3-7

For the peace and prosperity of the nation

72:8-20

For his coming dominion over all the earth

Proverbs**24:11-12**

A question for one to ask himself, if he had the power to deliver those who were about to be slain with the sword, and afterwards claimed he didn't know anything about it?

October 1**Isaiah****62:6-12**

Watchmen are appointed to call for Israel to clear the way for the coming of their Savior, (cf. Mark 1:1-3)

63:1-6

The LORD Himself will come from Edom with His garments red with the blood of His enemies, because He saw that there was none other to help

Isaiah's Confession of Israel's Sin**63:7-14**

Jeremiah confesses Israel's failure to show gratitude for God's having delivered them through the Red Sea, (cf. Exodus 14)

63:15-19

He questions why the LORD, the Father of their nation and their Redeemer, has hardened their hearts in their rebellion and caused them to become like the nations who are not called by His name

64:1-4

He appeals for the LORD to show again, to those who have not heard nor seen, how He delivers those who wait for Him

64:5-7

The LORD meets the one who rejoices in doing that which is righteous, but no longer accepts their deeds of righteousness because of their iniquities, (cf. 64:6 with 66:3)

64:8-12

The LORD, being the potter and Israel the clay, is asked how long He will remember Israel's iniquities, and how long He will allow Zion and Jerusalem to lie desolate

65:1-7

The LORD responds by stating that He will reach out to the Gentiles and repay Israel for her continued idolatry

65:8-16

Whereas the LORD promises to not destroy them all, but spare their offspring to again joyfully serve Him in the land, He will cause those who have forsaken Him to fall by the sword and cause them to wail with a broken heart

Note: The latter part of v.11 is referring to those who seek to know their fortune or destiny by "Gad" the god of luck, and "Meni" the god of destiny (Ryrie Study Bible)

65:17

The LORD promises to create New Heavens and a New Earth in which the former things will no longer be remembered

65:18-25

He also promises to restore Jerusalem – prolonging their lives to old age, allowing them to rebuild the land, and causing their animals to not harm in all His holy mountain

Note: This will occur during the Millennium prior to the New Heavens and New Earth

Philippians**2:19-30**

Paul hopes in the Lord's will to send Timothy to them shortly so that he might hear how they are doing, as well as send Epaphroditus whom they heard had almost died, but God had mercy on Paul in healing him

3:1-4

Paul warns them to beware of the dogs who are not regarded to be the true circumcision by God, and to put no confidence in the flesh as do they

Note: Paul is referring to the Judaizers who have never accepted Jesus as the Christ, and that the true circumcision today are those who have been cut off from sin in their bodies by being spiritually baptized into Christ, (cf. Colossians 2:11-12)

Psalm 73:**73:1-14**

Asaph acknowledges how he came close to slipping from being pure in heart, when he became envious of the prosperity and ease of the wicked

73:15-24

He changed his mind while in God's sanctuary (the Temple), in that God enabled him to perceive their true disastrous end

73:25-28

He determines to make God his refuge and to testify to the goodness of God, (cf. 7:1)

Proverbs**24:13-14**

How eating honey is likened to finding the knowledge of wisdom

October 2**Isaiah****66:1-6**

The LORD promises to look to him who is poor and contrite in spirit and who trembles at His word, but will destroy those who hypocritically offer sacrifices while at the same time refuse to listen, (cf. 66:3 with 64:6)

66:7-13

The LORD promises to again give birth to Israel and to bring comfort to Jerusalem

66:14-17

But while the LORD'S servants in that day will rejoice, those who participate in idolatrous sacrifices and the eating of swine's flesh will come to their end – some by fire and some by sword, as a result of the LORD'S wrath

66:18-20

The time will come when the LORD will gather those who survive to see His glory, and will bring Israel's sons and daughters from afar to offer grain offerings in a clean vessel at the House of the LORD (or the Temple)

66:21-24

The LORD will take some of them for priests and for Levites, will cause their offspring to endure as the new heavens and new earth, will cause all to bow in worship before Him, and will cause them to look with horror upon the burning corpses of those who have transgressed against Him

Philippians**3:4-6**

Paul explains why he would have more reason to trust in the flesh than these Judaizers, having been born of the tribe of Benjamin, circumcised the eighth day, a Pharisee, and blameless in his outward moral conduct

3:7-10

But Paul counts his former life as a Pharisee to be dung, and seeks instead to continue to realize in his daily experience the righteousness of the risen Christ, by first being made conformable to His death

Note: Paul is not referring to his being willing to die for Christ, but to his being conformed to what Christ did for him in His crucified body regarding his old sin nature, (cf. Romans 6:6)

3:11-14

Paul does not want them to think that he has attained to the perfection he will experience when he is resurrected, but that he presses for the goal of getting as close as he can to becoming perfect, and of being rewarded by Christ for this high calling in Christ Jesus

3:15-19

Paul urges them to have the same goal as he, to associate with others who share that goal, and to avoid those who oppose his teaching of Christ and the cross

3:20-21

Paul reminds them to not think on things of this earth, as do the Judaizers, but to look for their Savior's return from heaven who will at that time change their vile bodies to be made like unto His glorious body

Psalm 74:**ASAPH'S QUESTION TO GOD REGARDING HIS ANGER AGAINST ISRAEL****74:1**

He asks God how long His anger will smolder against the sheep of His pasture?

74:2-8

He describes the coming destruction of the Temple

Note: This is prophesied over four hundred years in advance

74:9-10

Asaph complains that they cannot find a prophet who can tell them the answer to his question

74:11-17

He asks why God, with all His power as creator of heaven and earth, has withdrawn His hand from helping those whom He formerly delivered from Egypt and through the waters of the Red Sea

74:18-23

Asaph asks the LORD to remember the enemies of God, who will use Israel's demise to blaspheme God's name

Proverbs**24:15-16**

Reasons a wicked man should not spoil the home of a righteous person

October 3**Jeremiah****His Call from God**

- 1:3** Jeremiah prophesies from the thirteenth year of Josiah to the fifth month of Zedekiah and Judah's exile into Babylonian captivity, (cf. 2 Kings 22-25 and 2 Chronicles 34-36)
- 1:4-10** The LORD commissions Jeremiah to speak for Him without fear, telling him that this was God's plan for him prior to forming him in his mother's womb, (cf. Galatians 1:15)
- 1:11-19** The LORD promises to protect Jeremiah from those who will seek to harm him
- His Command to Prophesy Against Jerusalem and Judah**
- 2:1-8** The LORD questions Judah and all Israel as to they have forsaken Him to worship Baal?
- 2:9-13** He accuses them of two evils; the first of having forsaken Him, and the second of having turned to false gods who cannot help them
- 2:14-19** He accuses them of turning to both Egypt and Assyria for help from Babylon, and says that He will judge them for not depending upon Him
- 2:20-25** The LORD points to the abundance of idols they have in the land, and to their behaving in their lust like wild animals in heat
- Note: One of the attractions of idolatrous worship was the sexual lasciviousness associated with it
- 2:26-30** Their kings, princes, priests, and prophets are guilty, and when they cry out for deliverance the LORD tells them to turn to their numerous false gods for help

Philippians

- 4:1-5** Paul urges them to stand fast in the Lord, and along with other exhortations emphasizes their need to rejoice in the Lord
- 4:6-9** Paul advises them on how to handle stress by prayer with thanksgiving, and by proper focus in their thought process
- 4:10** He thanks them for the generous gift they sent, even as they had done before when he left Macedonia (and started the church at Corinth, cf. 2 Corinthians 10:8)
- 4:11-16** Not that Paul was desperate financially, for he had learned to be content with what the Lord gave him
- 4:17-19** But Paul is thankful that their gift will be an offering acceptable to God as a function of their priesthood
- 4:20-21** Paul gives his customary benediction and exchange of personal greetings

Psalm 75:**PROMOTION IS OF THE LORD**

- 75:1-3** God will judge rightly
- 75:4-7** Asaph warns the wicked to not be arrogant, because God is the judge who puts one down and exalts another
- 75:8** In the hands of the LORD is a cup of undiluted wine in His wrath, which He will make the wicked to drink
- 75:9-10** Asaph promises to sing praise to the God of Jacob, in light of His power to cut off the wicked and to exalt the righteous

Proverbs

- 24:17-18** A reason to not rejoice when one's enemies fall
- 24:19** Two attitudes to avoid when it comes to thinking of the wicked

October 4**Jeremiah****2:31-37**

The LORD promises that Judah will be put to shame by Egypt, as Israel has been put to shame by Assyria

3:1-5

The LORD asks how He could take Judah back, in light of His Law regarding divorce and remarriage, (cf. Deuteronomy 24:1-4)

The LORD'S remarks about Judah during the Reign of King Josiah**3:6-11**

The LORD accuses Judah of being worse than Israel, whom He had previously divorced and sent away into captivity to Assyria

3:12-14

He commands Jeremiah to go and proclaim to the north His call for them to acknowledge their unfaithfulness to Him, and promises that He will bring a remnant back to Zion if they do

3:15-20

The LORD describes how it will be when Judah and Israel are reunited under His rule from the throne of the LORD in Jerusalem

3:21-25

Jeremiah hears a voice from the heights weeping and confessing Judah's unfaithfulness to the LORD since the time of her youth as a nation

4:1-9

The LORD foretells the destruction of Judah by Babylon because of Judah's refusal to repent of their idolatry

4:10-18

Jeremiah cries out to the LORD upon hearing of this force the LORD will raise up against Judah and calls for Jerusalem to repent

Colossians**1:1-2**

Paul greets the church at Colosse

1:3-5

He thanks God for the hope that is reserved in heaven for them, having heard of their continued faith in Christ Jesus and of their love for all the saints

1:6-8

This hope is for all saints in the world, not just those in Colosse, from the day they first heard the Gospel from Epaphras, Paul's co-laborer. and gave evidence of their faith

1:9-11

Paul wants them to know that he has not ceased to pray for them that they might be filled with the knowledge of God's will for them, walk worthy of the Lord, and be strengthened inwardly to persevere in their faith with joy

1:12-14

Paul gives thanks to the Father for delivering them from the power of darkness, and for translating them into the kingdom of His dear Son in whom they have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins

1:15-17

Paul declares the glory of the risen Christ, His being equal to God, His having created all things, and His continuing to control all things, (cf. Hebrews 1:1-3)

1:18-20

Paul also declares Jesus to be the rightful Head of the Church as God's firstborn from the dead, and filled with all the fullness of God now that He has made peace for them through the blood of the cross

Psalm 76:**THE GREATNESS OF CHRIST'S FUTURE REIGN IN JERUSALEM****76:1-3**

His name will be great when He comes to reign in Jerusalem, having destroyed the weapons of His enemies

76:4-9

His future victory over His enemies is described, when He comes to deliver all the meek the earth

76:10-12

Asaph calls for all to bring gifts and to pay their vows to the LORD, because He will make the wrath of man to praise Him

Proverbs**24:21-22**

A reason to both fear the LORD and not be conspirators against the king

October 5**Jeremiah****His Command to Prophesy Against Jerusalem and Judah, (continued)**

- 4:19-22** Jeremiah laments the destruction the LORD will bring upon the whole land because of their evil
- 4:23-26** Jeremiah envisions the day will come when the whole earth will become uninhabitable
- 4:27** While the land of Israel will become desolate, the LORD will not completely destroy it
- 4:28-31** However the earth will mourn the destruction God has determined to come upon Zion
- 5:1-6** Jeremiah is told to look for any who seek truth and justice in Jerusalem, and because they cannot be found, harmful beasts will seek to kill them
- 5:7-13** The LORD asks why He should forgive their lustful pursuit of false gods, and tells them to not listen to the prophets who are telling the people that He will not judge them
- 5:14-17** The LORD promises to turn their words against them, by bringing an ancient nation from afar whose language they do not know, to devastate them
- 5:18-31** The LORD again promises to not completely destroy them, but tells Jeremiah to specify the sins for which He is punishing them
- 6:1-8** Those of Benjamin are warned to flee Jerusalem, because an army is coming from the north to lay siege and destroy
- 6:9-14** Judah will be gleaned, because the LORD is weary in holding back His wrath upon those who will not listen, and upon those whose priests and prophets falsely proclaim peace

Colossians**The Sufficiency of Christ**

- 1:21-23** The Father's purpose for those who were previously alienated from Him, is for Christ to be able to present them as being holy and without blame through His death on the cross, provided that they continue in the faith of the gospel
Note: Paul is not speaking of their salvation from the penalty of sin through Christ's shed blood (cf. 1:13-14), but of their being delivered from the power of sinning, (cf. Romans 6:6). He is not speaking of their being without sin as a believers, but of their being delivered from allowing sin to "reign" over them, (cf. Romans 6:11-14)
- 1:24-29** Paul rejoices in his sufferings for the sake of the gospel, a mystery which was not revealed in times past, that Christ now indwells them in order to live His life through them by faith
- 2:1-3** He wants the Colossians to know his burden for them and those of Laodicea, that they might be united in love and experience the mystery of wisdom that is hidden in Christ
- 2:4-8** That no one misleads them through enticing words, that they remain rooted and steadfast in their faith, and that they are not influenced by those advocating human philosophy apart from Christ

Psalm 77:**ASAPH'S SONG OF REMEMBRANCE**

- 77:1-4** He cries aloud to God in the day of his trouble, and refuses to be comforted when he remembers God
- 77:5-10** He cannot sleep at night, and sings a song of remembrance in reflecting as to whether or not the LORD will keep his anger against them forever
- 77:11-20** He recounts in his song the past deliverance of God in the Red Sea, meditating on His deeds of holiness and greatness

Proverbs**24:23-25**

Reasons to be wise and to not show respect of persons in rendering judgment

October 6**Jeremiah****6:15-21**

The LORD says He will punish Judah because they are not ashamed of their abominations, because they refuse to listen to the warnings of the watchmen He sends , and because they reject His Law

6:22-26

He announces that a great and cruel nation will be coming from the north against them, and describes the terror and anguish they will cause

6:27-30

The LORD informs Jeremiah that God will use him to test Judah, like an assayer tests metal, and that they will not pass the test

A Pronouncement from the LORD against the Temple**7:1-2**

Jeremiah is told to stand in the gate of the Temple to proclaim the LORD'S message to those who come to worship

7:3-7

The LORD Of Hosts, the God of Israel, calls for them to change their ways from practicing injustice and idolatry, and He will allow them to live in the land He gave to their fathers forever

7:8-20

He challenges them to look at what He has done to Shiloh where He first dwelt among them, and to not be deceived into thinking that He will not do the same to them and His Temple, no matter who prays for them

7:21-34

He describes the total devastation He will bring upon them for their continued disobedience from the time they departed from Egypt, and for their refusal to listen to the warnings of His servants

8:1-3

The bones of the kings, princes, priests, prophets, and inhabitants of Jerusalem will be dug up and left as dung

Note: A common practice to insult the conquered

8:4-7

The LORD tells Jeremiah to ask the people of Jerusalem why they refuse to repent?

Colossians**The Sufficiency of Christ****2:8-10**

Paul warns them to beware of those who would deceive them into following them, their rules and traditions, rather than depend upon Christ alone in whom is all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, and in whom they are now complete over all principality and power

2:11-15

The reason they are complete in Christ is because they have been circumcised from their sinful flesh through their spiritual baptism into Christ, his death, burial, resurrection, and victorious ascension over principalities and powers

2:16-23

They are therefore not to allow anyone to judge them in regards to observing the Mosaic Law, anyone to beguile them into worshipping angels, or anyone who tries to persuade them to follow their self-made rules for trying to control the sinful desires of their flesh

Psalm 78:**THE NEED FOR ISRAEL'S CHILDREN TO LEARN FROM THEIR HISTORY****78:1-8**

The LORD'S command that they teach their children to not be like their forefathers

78:9-31

Asaph recounts Israel's unfaithfulness to God from the time of their deliverance out of Egypt, and their wanderings in the wilderness of Sinai

Proverbs**24:26**

Reasons to be wise and to not show respect of persons in rendering judgment,
(continued)

October 7**Jeremiah****8:8-12**

A Pronouncement from the LORD against the Temple, (continued)
The LORD promises to punish the scribes and prophets for rejecting His word and promoting peace, when there is no peace

8:13-17

The LORD promises to turn their land and serpents against them, as well as a cavalry of snorting horses invading from the north to devour the land

8:18-22

Jeremiah expresses his grief and dismay at what he is told by the LORD to say
Jeremiah desires to leave his people because of their sinful ways, and laments what the LORD says is going to happen to them

9:1-11**9:12-16**

The LORD tells the wise to understand the reason He will cause the land to be ruined and the people dispersed among the nations

9:17-22

He calls for the mourning women to come and mourn the death of their children and young men

9:23-26

The LORD tells the wise to boast in Him, rather than in one's own wisdom, might, and riches

Colossians**The Sufficiency of Christ****3:1-4**

Since they have been raised up with Christ, Paul exhorts them to seek those things which are above in heaven, where their Christian life has been hidden with Christ in God

Note: Believers are baptized spiritually into Christ who is now ascended into heaven (2:11-13). In this way of thinking, Paul says they are risen with Christ, v.1

Note: Some believers are accused of being so heavenly minded they are of no earthly good. Paul would say the opposite. If you are not heavenly minded as a believer, you truly are of no earthly good, v.2

3:5-11

He exhorts them to put off the Old Man and the immoral way of life they formerly lived, and to instead put on the New Man which is renewed in their knowledge of Christ

Note: The ability to "put off" (v.8) and "put on" (v.10) is experienced by faith in having been baptized spiritually into union with Christ; His death, burial, and resurrection (2:11-13)

3:12-17

Paul describes the kind of Christ-like behavior they are to exemplify

Psalm 78:**THE NEED FOR ISRAEL'S CHILDREN TO LEARN FROM THEIR HISTORY, (continued)****78:32-39**

They didn't remain faithful even after the LORD caused them to die in the wilderness, and yet He was compassionate in not totally annihilating them

78:40-53

They rebelled against the LORD often in the wilderness, not remembering with appreciation the plagues by which He delivered them from their oppressors in Egypt

78:54-55

Nor did they remember how He drove out the nations before them, in order that they might dwell in His holy land

Proverbs**24:27**

What a person should do to the surrounding field, before he builds his house?

October 8**Jeremiah****10:1-10**

A Pronouncement from the LORD against the Temple, (continued)
 The LORD exhorts Israel to not be like the other nations in foolishly turning to their idols made with human hands, rather than turning to Him, the true God and King of all nations

10:11-16

Jeremiah is told to proclaim that their false gods, who did not make heaven and earth, will perish with them under the wrath of the LORD of Hosts, the maker of all

10:17-25

Jeremiah again laments the future destruction of Judah, and prays that the LORD will correct, but not totally destroy Judah; in contrast he prays for God's wrath to come upon the nations who do not know God and who devour Jacob (cf. Psalm 79:6-7)

11:1-8

The LORD tells Jeremiah to command Judah to obey the Covenant He made with them initially at Mt. Sinai, which their forefathers did not obey in spite of His many warnings

Note: The people had recommitted themselves to obey God's Covenant under the reign of Josiah, but were again turning back to their idolatrous ways, (cf. 2 Kings 22-23)

A Warning to Jeremiah Regarding A Plot to Kill Him**11:9**

The LORD warns Jeremiah of a conspiracy against him, (cf. 11:18-20)

11:10-13

The LORD informs Jeremiah that He will not hear their cries for deliverance from the disaster to come, because of the multiplication of their graven images in the land

11:14-17

Jeremiah is commanded therefore to not pray for the nation, because the LORD will not hear

11:18-20

Jeremiah responds by saying to the LORD that he did not know of this conspiracy to kill him, and prays that the LORD will judge them

11:21-23

The LORD pronounces judgment to come upon the priests of Anathoth who are conspiring to kill Jeremiah, (cf. 1:1)

Colossians**The Sufficiency of Christ****3:18-21**

Commands for Christians regarding their home life

3:22-4:1

Commands for Christians regarding Christian slaves and their Christian masters

4:2-4

Commands for Christians regarding their daily prayer life

4:5-6

Commands for Christians regarding their personal testimony and witness

4:7-9

Paul's purpose in sending Tychicus and Onesimus to them at Colosse

4:10-14

Paul sends greetings on behalf of co-workers who are still with him in Rome

4:15-17

Paul gives instructions regarding those of Laodicea

4:18

Paul's closing benediction

Psalm 78:**THE NEED FOR ISRAEL'S CHILDREN TO LEARN FROM THEIR HISTORY, (continued)****78:56-58**

They instead rebelled against the Most High God by not keeping His commandments, and by turning to their graven images

78:59-64

The LORD therefore allowed His Ark at Shiloh to be captured by the Philistines, and His people killed, (cf. 1 Samuel 4:1-7:1)

78:65-72

The LORD awoke as though from sleep to drive back their enemies, chose Mt. Zion for His dwelling place, and chose His servant David to lead them, (rather than Ephraim or the ten northern tribes who were loyal to king Saul)

Proverbs**24:28-29**

How not to treat your neighbor?

October 9**Jeremiah****A Warning to Jeremiah Regarding A Plot to Kill Him, (continued)****12:1-6**

Jeremiah asks why his conspirators seem to prosper, while he in turn is treated treacherously by them

A Pronouncement from the LORD against Jerusalem and Judah, (continued)**12:7-13**

the LORD describes the coming destruction of Judah because of her rebellion against Him, and because of their many rulers who have led the people to their destruction

12:14-17

The LORD promises to rebuild His people in the land after He has first uproots them, promises to also build up the nations that swear allegiance to His name, but will uproot the nations who do not listen

13:1-5

Jeremiah is told to purchase a linen girdle (or waistband), to put it on without getting it wet, and to hide it under a rock at the Euphrates River

13:6-7

After many days Jeremiah is told to return to the place where he hid the linen girdle, which Jeremiah did, and found it to be ruined and useless

13:8-14

Jeremiah is told that the Lord will cause the ruin of Jerusalem and Judah because of their pride and rebellion in going after other gods, rather than clinging to Him like the linen girdle

13:15-19

Jeremiah pleads for the people to listen and to not be haughty because the LORD has spoken, and says he will weep with many tears when he sees them carried away into captivity, (King Jehoiachin's mother is the Queen Mother, (2 Kings 24:8)

13:20-27

Jeremiah rebukes Judah, describing the reasons the LORD will deliver them into the hands of the Babylonians

14:1-6

The LORD causes a drought to come upon the land of Judah as a warning

14:7-10

Jeremiah again intercedes on behalf of Judah, which the LORD rejects

1 Thessalonians**WORK OF FAITH, LABOR OF LOVE, AND PATIENCE OF HOPE****1:1**

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy greet the church at Thessalonica

1:2-3

He gives thanks to God for their work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope

1:4-8

He is confident of their salvation because of their response to the Gospel he preached , and because of the testimony of their saving faith throughout all Macedonia and Achaia

1:9-10

Paul also knows this to be true because of the reports he has heard from others of their having turned from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son – the Lord Jesus – to come from heaven and deliver them from the wrath to come (upon this earth)

Note: This is a reference to the Rapture immediately preceding the prophesied "Day of the Lord" or Tribulation yet to come, (cf. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11)

2:1-10

Paul reminds them of the true motivation he had when they first came to their area from Philippi, and the blameless conduct they had as ministers of the Gospel

Psalm 79:**A PLEA FOR JERUSALEM'S DELIVERANCE FROM CAPTIVITY****79:1-5**

Asaph foretells the Babylonian invasion

79:6-7

He pleads for God's wrath to come upon the nations who do not know God, and who devour Jacob, (cf. Jeremiah 10:25)

79:8-10

He requests God's mercy for the sake of God's name and honor

79:11-13

He pleads in order than the sheep of His pasture might praise Him forever

Proverbs**24:30-34**

What Solomon learned from observing the field of the sluggard?

October 10

<u>Jeremiah</u>	A Pronouncement from the LORD against Jerusalem and Judah, (continued)
14:11-12	The LORD tells Jeremiah to not pray for the people, because He will cause them to perish by sword, famine, and pestilence – no matter how they may cry, fast, and offer Burnt and Grain Offerings
14:13-22	The LORD tells Jeremiah that the prophets who prophesy peace are not speaking for Him, and describes the devastation that will prove them wrong
15:1-4	The LORD says that even if Moses and Samuel were to pray for them, that He would not hear; but instead will appoint four kinds of disaster to come upon them because of what king Manasseh did during his reign in Jerusalem, (cf. 2 Kings 21:1-18)
15:5-9	The LORD asks who will mourn for Jerusalem in that day, when He causes mothers to be bereaved of their sons, and widows of their husbands
15:10-18	Jeremiah complains of the resistance he has faced as the LORD'S spokesman, and the seeming lack of help from the LORD
15:19-21	The LORD assures Jeremiah that He will deliver him from violence, as long as he does not turn from Him to join the people in their rebellion
16:1-9	Jeremiah is commanded to not marry nor have children, to not mourn, nor feast with the people, because of the death and destruction that will come
16:10-15	Jeremiah is told how to respond when the people ask him what they have done to cause the LORD'S promised rejection of them

<u>1 Thessalonians</u>	WORK OF FAITH, LABOR OF LOVE, AND PATIENCE OF HOPE
2:10-12	Paul states the reason why he was so careful in his conduct to be blameless before them
2:13-16	Paul wants them to know that he constantly thanks God for their receptivity to their message as being from God and not man, and for their enduring the same kind of persecution as was being suffered in Judea for the sake of Christ
2:17-20	He also wants them to know that his being hindered in returning to see them was of Satan, (This could be a reference to Acts 17:9-10)
3:1-8	Paul expresses the comfort he felt when he received Timothy's report of their standing firm in the faith, and of their continuing positive attitude towards him, (cf. 3:1-2 with Acts 17:14-15)
3:9-13	Paul prays night and day that he might be able to see them again, and prays that the Lord will increase their love for one another and for all, that they might be found to be blameless upon Christ's return with all His saints

<u>Psalm 80:</u>	A PRAYER FOR ISRAEL'S RESTORATION
80:1-3	Asaph prays for the Shepherd of Israel to look on them with favor and restore them
80:4-7	Asaph asks how long the LORD will be angry with the prayer of His people
80:8-13	He asks why the LORD has destroyed the vine from Egypt that he planted and prospered in the land – from the Mediterranean Sea to the Euphrates River
80:14-19	He concludes with his prayer again for Israel's restoration <u>Note:</u> The reference to Jesus as the Son of Man who will restore Israel (Daniel 7:13-14)
<u>Proverbs</u>	
25:1-5	Other sayings by Solomon were transcribed into the book of Proverbs by king Hezekiah, beginning with the way in which to bring glory and honor to a king

October 11**Jeremiah****16:16-21****A Pronouncement from the LORD against Jerusalem and Judah, (continued)**

The LORD promises to send many on two different occasions to hunt down everyone who has polluted His land with their idols and abominations, so that they might know His might and His name

Note: King Nebuchadnezzar first captured Jerusalem in 597 B.C. (cf. 2 Kings 24:17), and then destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple in 586 B.C. (cf. 2 Kings 25:1-11)

17:1-8

Those who are cursed for their idolatry will be made to serve their enemies in exile with no one able to help them, while those who trust in the LORD will be like a tree planted by the water and yielding fruit in the year of drought, (cf. Psalm 1)

17:9-18

In light of the fact that the LORD knows each heart, Jeremiah prays for the LORD to spare him, and prays for the two-fold destruction of those who persecute him, (cf. 16:8)

17:19-27

The kings of Judah and Jerusalem, as well as all the inhabitants, are promised either cursing or blessing, depending upon their observance of the LORD'S Sabbath

18:1-10

Jeremiah is told that the LORD has power, like the potter over the clay, to save or destroy Israel, depending upon her willingness to listen and repent

18:11-17

Jeremiah is told to warn the people that the LORD is preparing calamity, but that He will change His plan if they repent; on the other hand, He will turn His back on those who have forsaken Him

18:18-23

Jeremiah prays for the LORD to destroy those who reject his message and have dug a pit for him, (cf. Psalm 35:7 and 40:2)

1 Thessalonians**WORK OF FAITH, LABOR OF LOVE, AND PATIENCE OF HOPE****4:1-8**

Paul urges them to not yield to their lustful passions and defraud their Christian brothers, as do the Gentile who do not know God by sexually violating their wives

4:9-12

He exhorts them to maintain a good testimony in their love for one another and in their conduct before others

4:13-18

He also exhorts them to not sorrow in the loss of their loved ones as others who have no hope, but to be comforted in knowing that they could see them at any time because of the Rapture

Note: The word “Rapture” is derived from the Latin translation of the words “caught up,” in 4:17

5:1-3

Paul reminds them of his previous teaching that the Day of the Lord will be sudden and unexpected

Note: The reason the Rapture of the Church is sudden is because the beginning of the Tribulation is sudden, (cf. 4:17 with 5:2-3)

Psalm 81:**THE LORD'S APPEAL FOR ISRAEL TO REPENT OF HER IDOLATRY****81:1-7**

For them to celebrate His deliverance of them from Egypt and at Meribah, (cf. Exodus 17:1-7)

81:8-10

For them to not worship any foreign god

81:11-16

He will turn His hand against their enemies, if they will listen and heed His commands

Proverbs**25:6-7**

A reason to not be self-promoting in the presence of a king

October 12**Jeremiah****A Pronouncement from the LORD against Jerusalem and Judah, (continued)****19:1-9**

The LORD promises to make the valley where Judah burned their sons in fire as burnt offerings to Baal, a place of slaughter, and Jerusalem a place where they will eat the flesh of their sons, their daughters, and of one another in the coming siege against Jerusalem

18:10-15

Jeremiah shatters an earthenware jar he purchased from a potter in the presence of some of the elders and senior priests, and declares that the same will happen to Jerusalem

Jeremiah is Persecuted**20:1-2**

Pashhur, the chief officer of the Temple, has Jeremiah beaten and placed in stocks when he hears Jeremiah prophesy in the Temple against Jerusalem

20:3-6

The LORD promises to judge Pashhur for his false prophesies and for his persecution of Jeremiah, informing him that he will be carried into exile with his family into Babylon where he will die, and that all the treasures of the Temple over which he has charge will be carried away as well

20:7-18

Jeremiah cries out to the LORD because of his suffering, and prays for the LORD'S judgment to fall upon his persecutors

Note: Verse seventeen proves that abortion is murder

Jeremiah's Prophesies against the Kings of Judah**King Zedekiah****21:1-7**

When Zedekiah sends Pashhur to Jeremiah to ask the LORD for His deliverance of the siege of Jerusalem, Jeremiah tells Pashhur to return and report that the LORD will instead deliver him into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar who will show him no mercy

21:8-14

The LORD gives those in Jerusalem two choices: to stay in the city and die, or to leave the city and live, yet fall into the hands of the Babylonians

1 Thessalonians**WORK OF FAITH, LABOR OF LOVE, AND PATIENCE OF HOPE****5:4-11**

Paul reminds them of the reason the Lord will save them suddenly in the Rapture from the Day of the Lord's prophesied wrath to come upon the world in the Tribulation

Note: God created the darkness or night to be followed by the light of daytime. In the same way, the "Day of the Lord" begins with the darkness and gloom of divine judgment, and if followed by a time of salvation and sunlight. Believers are suddenly removed from the earth when the Day of the Lord begins, because they are sons of the daytime, not sons of the darkness and nighttime

5:12-28

Paul final instructions and benediction

Psalm 82:**GOD'S WARNING TO ALL RULERS****82:1-4**

For them to not judge unjustly

82:5-8

For them to know He will not show respect of persons when He judges them

Proverbs**25:8-10**

How not to argue your case (in court)

October 13**Jeremiah****Jeremiah's Prophecies against the Kings of Judah and False Prophets****King Zedekiah, (continued)****22:1-9**

Jeremiah is told to go down to the king's palace and tell him that if they obey His command to do justice and righteousness, kings will continue to sit on David's throne; but if not, they and the palace will be destroyed, and the many nations passing by will be told the reason for their destruction

King Jehoahaz (or Shallum - 1 Chronicles 3:15)**22:10-12**

Jeremiah is told to not weep for Jehoahaz, the son of Josiah, because he will be taken into captivity and never return to see the land again,

King Jehoakim (cf. 2 Kings 23:25-24:6)**22:13-19**

Because he built elaborate royal buildings with forced labor and shed innocent blood, the LORD says that he will not be buried, but his corpse will be treated like a donkey

King Jehoiachin (or Coniah, or Jeconiah – 2 Kings 24:8-15)**22:20-30**

Because he determined to not listen to the LORD, he and his mother will not only die in captivity, but the LORD will not permit any of his sons to sit on the throne of David again

All of These Wicked Kings**23:1-8**

The LORD promises woe on them for destroying the sheep of His pasture, and promises to bring His people back to the land to be ruled over by His shepherds, and save Israel by His righteous Branch as a descendant of king David, (or the coming Messiah)

The False Prophets**23:9-15**

Jeremiah's heart is broken because of the LORD'S promised judgment, and describes the wickedness of the prophets of both Judah and northern Israel, to include their being like Sodom and Gomorrah

23:16-20

The LORD of Hosts warns the people to not listen to these prophets who falsely promise peace, rather than the judgment He is promising will come through the lips of Jeremiah

2 Thessalonians**CHRIST'S TWO COMINGS****His Coming to This Earth to Reign****1:1-2**

Paul greets the church, along with Silas and Timothy

1:3-4

Paul states on what basis they are able to boast in the churches of God of their perseverance and faith in the midst of persecution and affliction

1:5-10

God will use their affliction to justify His coming retribution of eternal destruction on those who obey not the Gospel, when the Lord Jesus comes from heaven to earth with His mighty angels in flaming fire

1:11-12

Paul prays that God will count them worthy of their calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His purpose for them, so that they might bring glory to the name of Jesus

Psalm 83:**A PRAYER FOR DIVINE RETIBUTION UPON ISRAEL'S ENEMIES****83:1-8**

Asaph cries to God to take action against the surrounding enemies of Israel, who – with the help of Assyria, plot to annihilate Israel and Judah

Note: A prophecy to be fulfilled over four hundred years later

83:9-12

He pleads for the LORD to deal with them as He has in the past; with Midian (cf. Judges 7), with Sisera and Jabin (cf. Judges 4:7), with Oreb and Zeeb (cf. Judges 7:25), and all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna (cf. Judges 8:21)

Proverbs**25:11-14**

Comparisons in how the words of different persons are received

October 14**Jeremiah****23:21-32**

The LORD, who fills heaven and earth, hears what the prophets are saying falsely in His name, and is against those who speak dreams – not from Him, but of their own deceptive hearts

23:33-40

He promises to cast them away from His presence, along with the city of Jerusalem, for falsely claiming to have a word from God

24:1-3

The LORD shows Jeremiah, after the deportation of Jeconiah, two baskets of figs in front of the Temple, one with very good figs, and the other with very bad figs

24:4-7

He compares those who are deported to Babylon as good figs, promising to revisit them with favor and allow them to return to the land

24:8-10

On the other hand, the LORD compares those - who remain in Jerusalem and who flee to Egypt - to bad figs, which He will pursue with sword, famine, and pestilence until they are scattered among the nations

25:1-7

Jeremiah accuses Judah and Jerusalem for not listening to him for twenty-three years, from the thirteenth year of king Josiah to the fourth year of Jehoiakim; and for not listening to the many prophets the LORD has sent to call them to repentance

25:8-14

The LORD promises they will serve the king of Babylon for seventy years, after which He will punish Babylon

25:15-29

Jeremiah is told that the cup of the LORD'S wrath will be poured out on all the kings and kingdoms of the earth, for why would the LORD judge the city which is called by His name, and yet let them get by?

25:30-38

The LORD Himself will enter into judgment upon all mankind, and the slain of the LORD will be from one end of the earth to another, (cf. Revelation 19:11-21)

2 Thessalonians**Christ's Coming in the Air to Rapture the Church****2:1-2**

Paul appeals for the believers to not be deceived by anyone telling them that the Day of the Lord's wrath had already begun, and that they were left behind rather than gathered up by the Lord in His coming in the air, (cf. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11)

2:3-5

He reminds them that the worldwide apostacy Jesus prophesied would first have to occur, to prepare the world for the "Man of Sin" or the AntiChrist, (cf. Matthew 24:1-14)

2:6-12

Those who will be left behind when the Rapture occurs, and who will deliberately rejected the Gospel because of their love of sin, will be given over by God to be deceived by the Satanic miracles of the AntiChrist to their own condemnation

2:13-14

But the fact that they have been given the Holy Spirit to indwell them, is God's promise that He has chosen them to be saved from the wrath to come because they believed the truth of the Gospel

2:15-17

Paul therefore urges them to hold on to the truth he had previously taught them regarding the Rapture of the Church, and to comfort one another rather than be disturbed, (cf. 2:1-2)

Psalm 84:**A PRAYER FOR THOSE MAKING THE PILGRIMAGE TO WORSHIP GOD IN THE TEMPLE****84:1-4**

The sons of Korah describe the blessing it is to dwell in God's Temple to praise Him

Note: The descendants of Korah were singers in the Temple, (cf. Numbers 16:1-3 and 2 Chronicles 20:19)

84:5-7

Those making the pilgrimage to worship the LORD in the Temple at Jerusalem are encouraged to overcome any obstacles they encounter in the journey

Prayer is made for the LORD'S protection for those who walk uprightly and trust in Him

Proverbs

25:15 How to persuade a ruler

October 15**Jeremiah****Historical Account of Reaction to Jeremiah**

- 26:1-6** Jeremiah prophesies in the Temple during the beginning of King Jehoiakim's reign, that the LORD offers to repent of His intended calamity against Judah if the people repent, but otherwise will make Jerusalem like Shiloh and a curse if they do not
- 26:7-9** The priest, prophets, and all the people hearing Jeremiah's words seize him, demanding that he must die
- 26:10-15** Jeremiah warns that innocent blood will come upon themselves and Jerusalem if they kill him, because he is speaking the word of the LORD
- 26:16-19** The officials and all the people side with Jeremiah against the priests and prophets, as well as the elders who are reminded of what happened earlier during the reign of Hezekiah when they did not harm Micah, (cf. Micah 1:1)
- 26:20-24** Uriah, another prophet who prophesied the same message as Jeremiah, is captured and killed by king Jeconiah, whereas Jeremiah is spared because of Ahikam, (cf. 2 Kings 22:12 and 25:22)
- 27:1-8** Jeremiah is told to place a yoke around his neck to illustrate the captivity of Israel and surrounding nations to Nebuchadnezzar, with the LORD'S promise to destroy those to do not surrender by sword, famine, or pestilence
- 27:9-15** Jeremiah warns these nations and king Zedekiah to not listen to their false prophets who say that they will not be made to serve Babylon
- 27:16-22** Neither are the priests and the people of Jerusalem to listen to the false prophets who promise that the vessels of the Temple that were carried away by Nebuchadnezzar earlier will be returned; rather, the vessels that remain will also be carried away

2 Thessalonians**Concluding Instructions**

- 3:1-5** Paul requests that they pray for him and his co-workers, expressing confidence in their continued obedience, and also prays that the Lord will direct their hearts into the love of God and patience of Jesus
- 3:6-15** Paul gives instructions regarding the need for church discipline upon those members he hears do not work, but rather spend their time as busybodies
- 3:16-18** Paul gives his closing benediction

Psalm 85:**A PRAYER FOR ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE FROM CAPTIVITY**

- 85:1-3** Opening praise to the LORD for His anticipated delivery of Israel from captivity
- 85:4-7** A petition for the LORD to restore them as a nation
- 85:8-13** A description of what it will be like when Israel is restored
- Note: This will be fulfilled in the Millennium

Proverbs

- 25:6** A caution when eating honey

October 16**Jeremiah****28:1-4**

Hananiah speaks to Jeremiah in the presence of the priests and all at the Temple, prophesying that within two years all of the vessels of the LORD'S house will be returned, and Jeconiah and all those exiled to Babylon with him will return

28:5-11

Jeremiah replies that Hananiah's words contradict those of the prophets before them, and leaves the Temple when Hananiah removes the yoke from Jeremiah's neck and breaks it

28:12-17

The LORD tells Jeremiah to go to Hananiah and tell him that he will bring to pass the words of Jeremiah, and that Hananiah will die for his false prophecy. Hananiah the prophet dies two months later, (cf. 28:1)

Jeremiah's Letter to the Exiles in Babylon**29:1-9**

Jeremiah sends a letter to those exiled in Babylon, telling them to settle down and pray for the land in which they now dwell, and telling them to not listen to the false prophets who prophesy of their return to Jerusalem within two years, (cf. 28:1-4)

29:10-14

He also informs them that the LORD plans to visit them again with favor after seventy years, provided that they repent and seek Him with all of their heart

29:15-20

The LORD also will prove the false prophets to be wrong by destroying Jerusalem and scattering those who remain there as a curse among the nations

The LORD'S Curse Upon Ahab and Zedekiah, Two False Prophets**29:21-23**

Jeremiah tells in advance of the LORD'S judgment to come upon Ahab, the son of Kolaiah, and Zedekiah the son of Maaselah, because of their prophesying lies in the name of the LORD, and because of their committing adultery with their neighbor's wives

Shemaiah's Letter to Zephaniah, the Priest**29:24-29**

Shemaiah sends a letter in the name of the LORD to all in Jerusalem and to Zephaniah the priest; telling him that the LORD has made him priest to replace Jehoiada, telling him that he should arrest any (like Jeremiah) who is crazy and makes himself to be a prophet, and asking him why he hasn't reproved Jeremiah for the letter he sent to the exiles in Babylon

Jeremiah's Second Letter to the Exiles in Babylon**29:30-32**

Jeremiah is told by the LORD to send this letter to prophesy in advance that Shemariah, nor any of his household, will be allowed to see the good that the LORD will yet bestow

1 Timothy**1:1-2**

Paul's opening salutation

1:3-7

He reminds Timothy of the reason he left him behind to pastor the church at Ephesus

1:8-11

He reminds Timothy for whom the moral commands of the Mosaic Law still apply

1:12-17

And he reminds Timothy of God's entrusting him with new Gospel revelation to Paul as to living the Christian way of life by grace after salvation, and appointing him to be a model for all believers to follow

1:18-20

Paul warns Timothy to not make shipwreck of his faith like Hymenaeus and Alexander

Psalm 86:**DAVID'S PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE IN TIMES OF TROUBLE****86:1-10**

He prays for this, because there is no one like the LORD among the so-called gods

86:11-13

He requests that the LORD teach him in the way of truth, and commits himself to thank and praise God forever

86:14-17

He asks the LORD to put those to shame who hate him and seek to end his life

Proverbs**25:17**

A reason to know when to leave your neighbor's house

October 17**Jeremiah****Judah's Promised Restoration After the Tribulation**

- 30:1-7** The LORD promises to restore Israel and Judah after they first go through a great time of distress
- 30:8-11** The LORD promises to break their bondage to the nations to which they have been scattered and will destroy those nations; and that He will not completely destroy Israel even though He will punish them
- 30:12-17** Israel's wounds are said by the LORD to be incurable due to her great iniquity, but that He will devour those who devour Israel and heal Israel from her wounds
- 30:18-24** The LORD promises to restore Israel in the latter days, punish her oppressors, appoint a leader to approach Him for her, and acknowledge them again to be His people
- 31:1-9** The LORD calls for Israel to celebrate His regathering of them from the north and from the coastlands, because of His everlasting love for them as the Father of their nation
- 31:10-14** The LORD calls for the nations to proclaim that He kept His promise to restore Israel to the land, and for them to celebrate her redemption from bondage
- 31:15-20** When Rachel is heard weeping over the loss of her children, the LORD promises them hope for their restoration to the land after He has first punished them and they have acknowledged their rebellion, (cf. Matthew 3:17-18)
Note: Rachel was the mother of both Joseph (from whom northern Israel was descended), and Benjamin (from whom southern Israel was descended)
- 31:21-22** The virgins of Israel are told to return to the land at the time of God's restoration, where they will be able to find husbands to marry and have children
- 31:23-26** Jeremiah awakens from this dream from the LORD in his sleep, and is able to go back to sleep with a pleasant feeling

1 Timothy**Commands for Pastoral Leadership**

- 2:1-8** Paul instructs Timothy regarding the opening prayers of church services by men in the church
Note: Paul's exhortation to Timothy in verses 1-6 regarding God's desire for all men to be saved, and Jesus' death for all men so that they can be saved, is the gospel Paul was appointed to preach according to verse seven
Note: The lifting up of holy hands was the manner in which men opened services in the synagogue. This is not a prohibition of other kinds of prayer in the church by women, (cf. 1 Corinthians 11:5)
- 2:9-11** Paul instructs Timothy as to the proper appearance and conduct of women in the church services
- 2:12-15** Paul explains that the way for Christian women to have godly influence over men, in contrast to Eve's wrongful influence over Adam in the Garden, is to be godly mothers

Psalm 87:**ZION, THE CITY THE LORD LOVES**

- 87:1-3** The LORD loves the gates of the city of Zion (Jerusalem) more than the other dwelling places of Israel
- 87:4-6** When the LORD registers the inhabitants of the land during their restoration, particular attention will be given to those who were born in Zion
- 87:7** The singers and instrumentalists will attribute their joy to Zion at that time

Proverbs

- 25:18** How a man who bears false witness against his neighbor is compared to weaponry?
25:19 The reason confidence should not be placed in a non-dependable person during times of trouble

October 18**Jeremiah****Jeremiah's Purchase of Land as God's Promise of Future Restoration****31:27-34**

The LORD promises to rebuild Israel and Judah in the land and make a new covenant with them as His people. (cf. Hebrews 8:8-12)

31:35-40

He makes specific promises whereby Israel can know that the LORD will not reject their offspring forever

32:1-5

Jeremiah is imprisoned by king Zedekiah in the tenth year of his reign, while the city is under siege by the army of Nebuchadnezzar, because Jeremiah prophesies that Zedekiah will be defeated and carried away into captivity

32:6-15

Jeremiah is told by the LORD to exercise his right of redemption to purchase a field at Anathoth, and publicly proclaim at that time his trust in the LORD'S promise that his descendants will return to the land

Note: By this time, Anathoth was in the hands of the Babylonian army, (32:25, 43)

32:16-25

Jeremiah prays, describing the plight of Jerusalem at the time of his purchase

32:26-35

The LORD responds by repeating the reasons for which He is causing the city to be destroyed

32:36-44

The LORD promises that just as He is giving up the city to be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, even so He will yet regather the people back to the land who have been dispersed, make a new everlasting covenant with them and enable them to again sign deeds of purchase (as Jeremiah has just done)

1 Timothy**Commands for Pastoral Leadership****3:1-7**

Paul lists for Timothy the qualifications for church bishops or elders, (cf. Titus 1:5-9)

3:8-15

Paul lists for Timothy the qualifications for church deacons

Note: The “women” being spoken of in verse eleven could be referring to women deacons, which was a custom in the first centuries of the church, (cf. Romans 16:1-2, “servant” being the word for deacon). This would not contradict Paul’s command that women not usurp the authority of men in the church, because deacons at that time were simply “servants” and elders or bishops

3:14-16

Paul writes the reason for his epistle; that being for Timothy to know how to conduct himself as pastor of the church at Ephesus, which is the church of the living God –who became manifest in the flesh

Note: Verse sixteen sounds like an early church creed describing the Lord Jesus

Psalm 88:**A CRY FOR DELIVERANCE WHEN UNDER DIVINE DISCIPLINE****88:1-9**

A cry is made to God day and night for deliverance from being near death’s door

88:10-18

The LORD is questioned as to why his prayer is not being heard

Proverbs**25:20**

How a troubled heart responds to those seeking to cheer him with happy songs?

25:21-22

A reason to help one’s enemy when he is hungry and thirsty, (cf. Romans 12:19-21)

Note: The words “burning coals on his head” refers to turning judgment over to God, or to the power of government ordained by God, (Romans 12:17-13:4). Seeking personal revenge is forbidden for the church age believer under the Law of Christ

October 19**Jeremiah****Jeremiah's Message to King Zedekiah During Confinement****33:1-9**

Jeremiah is told by the LORD that even though the Babylonian army has broken through Jerusalem's defenses and will fill the city with the corpses of those who have provoked Him to wrath, He will yet answer Jeremiah's prayer for Israel's future restoration

33:10-18

The LORD promises to bring celebration to Israel when He restores her to the land, fulfills His covenant with David to save them by a righteous Branch of David, and renews the function of the Levitical Priesthood

33:19-26

The LORD promises that nothing will prevent His future restoration of both Israel and Judah, even though their enemies will have thought that He has rejected them as a nation

34:1-7

The LORD tells Jeremiah to inform King Zedekiah that he will not escape being captured, that Jerusalem will be burned, and that he will be taken into captivity

Judah's Breaking of the Law Regarding Hebrew Slaves**34:8-16**

They initially released their slaves in a covenant with God they made under the reign of King Zedekiah, but later reneged on their promise

34:17-22

The LORD therefore promises to release them and the leaders at Jerusalem to the sword, pestilence, and famine, and give them into the hands of their enemies

1 Timothy**Commands for Pastoral Leadership****4:1-6**

Timothy is told to warn the congregation against being deceived by those who teach doctrines of demons; such as forbidding marriage and forbidding the eating of certain meats

4:7-11

He is also told to not pay attention to old wives' fables, but to discipline himself in the pursuit of godliness and the salvation of the lost

Note: Christ died for the sins of all, but only those who believe are saved (v.10)

4:12-16

Paul gives further details regarding Timothy's need to pursue godliness in his life, by which he will gain respect as pastor even though he is younger than many, as well as his need to work hard in preparation for his sermons by which his messages will both deliver him and his congregation from false teaching, (cf. 4:1-6)

Psalm 89:**LAMENTING ISRAEL'S CAPTIVITY IN LIGHT OF THE DAVIDIC COVENANT****89:1-4**

Praise is given to the LORD for the Davidic Covenant, (cf. 2 Samuel 7:12-16)

89:5-10

Praise is given to the LORD because there is no one in heaven or in earth who can compare with Him

89:11-13

Praise is given to the LORD as creator of the heavens and earth

Proverbs**25:23-24**

Reasons why it is better to live in the corner of the rooftop, than downstairs with a complaining and contentious woman

October 20**Jeremiah****35:1-5**

Jeremiah is told during the days of King Jehoiakim to go to the house of the Rechabites, bring them into one of the chambers of the Temple, and give them wine to drink

Note: The Rechabites were a sect of priests descended from Jonadab who sought to obey God's Law to the letter, (2 Kings 10:15-23).

35:6-11

The Rechabites however refuse to drink in obedience to the command of their father, Jonadab, nor have they purchased houses or property for the same reason

35:12-16

The LORD uses their obedience to their father as an example by way of contrast to Israel's refusal to listen to Him or to the prophets He has sent to them time and time again

35:17-19

The LORD therefore promises to bring upon Judah and Jerusalem all the disaster He has been declaring, and promises to preserve the Rechabites

The Burning of Jeremiah's Scroll**36:1-3**

Jeremiah is told to write on a scroll all that the LORD has told him from the days of Josiah to the present, it being the fourth year of king Jehoiakim, expressing the LORD'S desire that the house of Judah hear it read and repent so that He can then forgive

36:4-10

Baruch the scribe writes what Jeremiah dictates to him, and reads it publicly in the Temple at the direction of Jeremiah

36:11-14

Michaiah hears and reports to the officials at the king's palace, and is then sent back to recruit Baruch

36:15-19

When the officials hear the scroll read, they greatly fear, decide to inform the king and his cabinet, and warn Baruch to hide with Jeremiah

36:20-26

King Jehoiakim burns the scroll in his fireplace after having read just a small portion, and orders the arrest of Baruch and Jeremiah

36:27-32

Jeremiah is told to have Baruch write another scroll with all the words of the first, and the LORD declares that Jehoiakim will have no descendants to sit on the throne after him (beginning with Coniah, 37:0)

1 Timothy**Commands for Pastoral Leadership****5:1-2**

Timothy is told how to relate to men and women who are both older and younger than he

5:3-16

Paul also gives commands regarding the treatment of widows in the church

5:17-25

Instructions are given concerning his treatment of church elders

LAMENTING ISRAEL'S CAPTIVITY IN LIGHT OF THE DAVIDIC COVENANT**89:14-18**

The LORD is praised for the joy He brings to His people by His righteousness, justice, mercy and truth; also, His protection of Israel

89:19-29

Praise is given for His promise to raise up a son of David to rule forever over all the kings of the earth

Note: 89:27-29 remain yet to be fulfilled in Jesus Christ

89:30-37

God is praised for promising to not change His covenant, even when sons of David disregard His Law

Proverbs**25:25**

How hearing good news from a far country to a weary soul, compares to the quenching of one's thirst when drinking cold water?

25:26

How the downfall of a righteous man upon whom others depend is compared to coming across undrinkable water?

25:27

How the search for one's own glory can be compared to eating honey?

October 21**Jeremiah****Jeremiah's Imprisonment**

- 37:1-3** King Zedekiah sends his servants or cabinet members to ask Jeremiah to pray for him
- 37:4-10** Jeremiah informs Zedekiah to not rely upon the help of Egypt, nor upon the departure of the king of Babylon to fight the Egyptians, because the Egyptians will be defeated and the army of the king of Babylon will return to burn the city of Jerusalem
- 37:11-16** Jeremiah is arrested under false charges and remains imprisoned for many days
- 37:17-21** Jeremiah is secretly summoned by Zedekiah to give him a word from the LORD, at which time Jeremiah reaffirms that Zedekiah will be captured by the king of Babylon, challenges Zedekiah for not listening to him, and appeals for Zedekiah to not send him back to his prison cell, lest he die; a request Zedekiah grants
- 38:1-6** Jeremiah is later placed in a dungeon after it is reported that Jeremiah is discouraging the men of war from defending the city
- 38:7-13** Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, a eunuch, appeals for the life of Jeremiah to Zedekiah, who authorizes Ebed to take thirty men and lift Jeremiah up out of the dungeon
- 38:14-16** King Zedekiah summons Jeremiah secretly again for another word from the LORD, and promises to protect him from those seeking to kill him
- 38:17-23** Jeremiah pleads with Zedekiah to surrender to the king of Babylon in order to not die, and in order for the city to not be burned
- 38:24-28** Zedekiah warns Jeremiah to not reveal the real reason for his summoning Jeremiah, and allows him to remain in the guardhouse until the day Jerusalem is captured

1 Timothy**Commands for Pastoral Leadership**

- 6:1-2** Timothy is told to command the Christian slaves to treat their Christian masters with honor, and to not despise their masters if they are unbelievers
- 6:3-5** He is told to separate from those who would teach otherwise, who falsely say that financial prosperity is proof of one's godliness
- 6:6-12** Timothy is commanded to pursue godliness with contentment, and to pursue the qualities of godliness by faith rather than pursue wealth because of the love of money
- 6:13-16** Paul charges Timothy with the commands he gives in light of the Lord's appearing
- 6:17-19** He also informs Timothy what to say to wealthy believers in light of future reward at Christ's coming
- 6:20-21** Paul concludes his epistle by warning Timothy to not get involved with those who contradict what he has entrusted to Timothy

Psalm 89:**LAMENTING ISRAEL'S CAPTIVITY IN LIGHT OF THE DAVIDIC COVENANT**

- 89:38-45** However, the Psalmist says, it seems as though the LORD has indeed forsaken His covenant with David in light of the destruction of Jerusalem
- 89:46-52** The LORD is asked how long this will continue, and for Him to remember His covenant with David

Proverbs**25:28**

To what a man is compared who has no control over his emotions?

October 22**Jeremiah****39:1-3**

The city wall is breached by the Babylonian army after a year-and-a-half of siege

39:4-5

King Zedekiah flees by night with his soldiers, but is captured and brought to Nebuchadnezzar for sentencing

39:6-7

Zedekiah's sons are slain before his eyes, all of the nobles slain, and Zedekiah is blinded and carried away into Babylon

39:8-9

The king's palace is burned, all the houses in the city burned, the walls broken down, and the people carried away into Babylonian exile except for some of the poorest

39:11-14

Jeremiah is protected by king Nebuchadnezzar, and ordered to be entrusted to the care of his appointed governor of Judah, Gedaliah

39:15-18

The LORD reveals to Jeremiah prior to his release from imprisonment, that Ebed-melech the Ethiopian will also be spared because of his faith in God and effort to spare Jeremiah,(cf. 38:7-9)

After the Fall of Jerusalem**40:1-6**

Jeremiah is given the choice to go to Babylon with the exiles, or to remain with Gedaliah in Judah

40:7-12

The remnant of Judah who were not taken into captivity are offered protection by Gedaliah

40:13-16

Gedaliah is warned by Johanan about a plot against his life by Ishmael, one of the royal family who was living in Ammon

41:1-3

Gedaliah is assassinated by Ishmael at Mizpah

41:4-15

Ishmael's atrocities the day after, and Johanan's defeat of Ishmael

41:16-18

Johanan recovers all those captured by Ishmael and takes them to reside near Bethlehem, in case they need to make flight into Egypt for fear of the Chaldeans, (in retaliation for the assassination of Gedaliah)

2 Timothy**Being a Good Soldier for Jesus Christ****1:1-2**

Paul opens with his customary greeting to Timothy, calling him his "beloved son in Christ," (a term for spiritual fatherhood)

1:3-5

Paul gives thanks to God for Timothy's godly upbringing and for Timothy's emotional expression of love upon their last parting

1:6-8

Paul charges Timothy to not be ashamed to preach the Gospel because of Paul's recent imprisonment in Rome

1:9-12

Paul states the reasons he is not ashamed of his calling to preach the Gospel, though he is imprisoned

1:13-18

Paul urges Timothy to not be like those in Asia who are ashamed of him, but to be like Onesiphorus who has demonstrated that he is not ashamed of Paul

Psalm 90:**A PRAYER BY MOSES TO BE REMEMBERED IN SONG****90:1-6**

The eternal God and Creator of heaven and earth, in comparison to the frailty of man

90:7-12

The need for man to learn from the LORD'S chastisement

90:13-17

Moses' prayer for Israel's restoration to the LORD'S favor and joy after being chastised

Psalm 91:**A PROMISE FOR THOSE IN BATTLE****91:1-10**

To protect from harm those who trust in the LORD and make Him their refuge

91:11-16

To protect from harm those who love the LORD and call upon His name for help

Proverbs**26:1**

To what is giving honor to a fool compared?

26:2

To what is an unjustified curse compared?

October 23**Jeremiah****42:1-6**

Johanin and all those with him request Jeremiah to pray to the LORD as to what they should do, and vow to listen regardless of whether the word is good or evil (in the sense of harm)

42:7-18

The LORD responds to Jeremiah after ten days to not fear the king of Babylon and remain in the land, and the LORD will grant them favor in the king's eyes; but if they refuse to listen and flee to Egypt, they will all die in Egypt by the sword, by famine, or by pestilence

42:19-22

Jeremiah is a witness against the people for their refusal to listen as they had promised they would

43:1-7

Johanan and all the people refuse to listen, accuse Jeremiah of lying, and flee to Egypt – taking Jeremiah with them

43:8-13

The LORD promises to establish the throne of Nebuchadnezzar over the entrance to Pharoah's palace in Tahpanhes where the remnant of Judah have fled, to burn the temples of the false gods of Egypt, and to cause them to die or be taken into captivity

44:1-14

The LORD asks them why they would return to the gods of Egypt, in light of the reason He has punished them in the past, recently punished Jerusalem, and promises to do the same to the remnant of Judah in Egypt

44:15-23

Johanan and the remnant determine to continue to offer sacrifices to the Queen of Heaven in Egypt, blaming their punishment for their ceasing to worship her in the past, whereas Jeremiah tells them that their sacrifices to false gods is the reason the LORD has punished Jerusalem and Judah

2 Timothy**Being a Good Soldier for Jesus Christ****2:1-2**

Paul commands Timothy to be strong in the Lord and to mentor other faithful men who will be able to teach others also

2:3-7

Paul tells Timothy to learn what makes a soldier, an athlete, and a farmer successful, and apply those principles to his own life as a minister of the Gospel

2:8-13

Timothy is told to reflect upon the reasons Paul endures suffering for the sake of proclaiming the gospel of Christ (*Note: Even the elect must hear the Gospel and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ; that's why they were chosen in Christ, Eph.1:4-14. Until they believe, they are under the wrath and condemnation of God, (Jhn 3:17, 36)*)

2:14-19

Timothy is also told to avoid worthless arguments with those teaching false doctrine, such as that the resurrection of the dead has already taken place, and to instead study to show himself approved by God in his proper interpretation of Scripture

2:20-21

Paul uses the illustration of different kinds of household furnishings, to emphasize the need for Timothy to be the best example he can be for the Lord in his ministry

Psalm 92:**A SONG FOR THE SABBATH DAY****92:1-4**

It is good to give thanks to the LORD and to praise His name with instrumental accompaniment, both in the morning and in the evening

92:5-9

Only a foolish man does not understand the works of the LORD, that the wicked are allowed to prosper temporarily only to be destroyed later forever

92:10-15

By way of contrast, the LORD will cause the righteous to prosper even in old age

Psalm 93**THE LORD'S MAJESTIC REIGN FROM EVERLASTING****93:1-2**

His reign is from old, from everlasting

93:3-5

The pounding of the ocean waves give witness to His majesty

Proverbs**26:5-7**

How to respond to a fool?

October 24**Jeremiah****The LORD'S Warning Regarding Egypt, (continued)****44:24-30**

The LORD promises to cause all the men of Judah who are in the land of Egypt to perish by the sword and by famine, and promises to give Pharaoh Hophra, king of Egypt, into the hand of his enemies as a sign of His intention

45:1-5

The LORD has a word through Jeremiah for Baruch the scribe in the fourth year of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, (cf.36:1-32)

Prophecy Against Egypt**46:1-12**

The LORD reveals to Jeremiah in the fourth year of king Jehoiakim of Judah, that Pharaoh Neco of Egypt will be defeated at the Euphrates by king Nebuchadnezzar

Note: This prophecy was fulfilled at the battle of Carchemish in 605 B.C.

46:13-26

Egypt will be invaded by Nebuchadnezzar

Note: Migdol, Tahpanhes, and Memphis are located in southern Egypt, and Pathros in upper Egypt. Amon of Thebes is the chief God of upper Egypt

46:27-28

The LORD promises to not annihilate Israel completely, but will regather them after He has first corrected them through chastisement

Prophecy Against the Philistines**47:1**

This prophecy was given to Jeremiah before Pharaoh conquered Gaza

47:2-4

All of the Philistines will be put to death by those invading from the north

Note: Caphtor, or the island of Crete, was the original home of the Philistines, (Amos 9:7)

47:5-7

The major cities of Gaza and Ashkelon will come to an end

2 Timothy**Being a Good Soldier for Jesus Christ****2:22-26**

Timothy is commanded how to conduct himself with fellow believers, and how to reason with unbelievers in the effort to help them escape the Devil's hold on them in how they think

3:1-9

Paul warns Timothy about the difficulties he will face from society, and from men like those who opposed Moses

Note: Jannes and Jambres were Egyptian magicians who opposed Moses, (Exodus 7:11, 22)

3:10-17

Timothy is to follow the godly example of Paul in facing persecution, and to stay true to the Scriptures which will teach him right from wrong in his ministry for Christ

Psalm 94:**A PLEA TO THE GOD OF RETRIBUTION****94:1-7**

Prayer is made to the God of vengeance, that He judge the wicked who crush the LORD'S people and think that the God of Israel does not see what they do

94:8-11

The wicked are rebuked as being fools to think that God – who planted the ear and designed the eye – does not hear and see

94:12-16

The person is blessed who is chastised by the LORD, yet is given relief, because the LORD will not abandon His people

94:17-23

A statement of faith that the LORD will be his refuge, and will bring down the wickedness of those who conspire to take his life upon their own heads

Proverbs**26:6-8**

Reasons to not depend upon a fool, nor give him honor

October 25**Jeremiah****48:1-10**

Moab will be destroyed and carried into captivity because of trust in her wealth, and because of her idolatry, (Chemosh is the chief god of the Moabites, 48:7)

48:11-20

The supreme King, the LORD of Hosts, will send destruction her way

48:21-44

The complete destruction of all her cities will be due to her mocking of Israel's destruction of Israel by the Babylonians, as well as her pride and arrogance against the God of Israel, (cf. 2 Kings 24:2)

48:45-47

The land will be scorched by fire and their sons and daughters carried away, yet the LORD promises to restore her in the latter days, (a reference to the coming of Christ)

Prophecies Against Ammon**49:1-6**

Ammon will be caused to wail because of her destruction by the LORD, due to her invasion of Israel (cf. 2 Kings 24:2), her idolatry, and her self-reliance because of her wealth; yet the LORD promises to restore her afterwards

Prophecies Against Edom**49:7-13**

The descendants of Esau will not be able to hide from the disaster the LORD will bring upon them

49:14-22

The LORD will bring them down and make them to be like Sodom and Gomorrah, even though they think they are invincible because of their dwelling in the clefts of the rocks

2 Timothy**4:1-5**

Timothy is challenged to fulfill his ministry in light of the Lord's coming and future judgment, knowing that the time will come when people will not respond to sound doctrine

4:6-8

Paul gives this challenge to Timothy in the recognition that he will soon be executed for the sake of Christ and the Gospel, but awaits his future reward for finishing well in his ministry

4:9-13

Paul updates Timothy on the whereabouts of some of Paul's co-workers, and urges him to come see him soon in Rome

4:14-15

Paul warns Timothy about Alexander the Coppersmith

4:16-18

Paul explains why the Lord enabled him to escape execution in his first defense before Caesar, and is confident that even though that will not be the case this time, the Lord will preserve him to His heavenly kingdom

4:19-22

Paul closes the epistle with final instructions and benediction

Psalm 95:**A WARNING FOR ISRAEL REGARDING MERIBAH****95:1-5**

Israel is called upon to come together with singing and shouts of joy because of the greatness of the LORD their God

95:6-7

A second call is given for Israel to come and kneel before God in worship, acknowledging that they are the sheep of His pasture (the land of Israel)

95:8-11

A warning is given for them to not harden their hearts like the Exodus generation did at Meribah, (cf. Hebrews 3:7-11)

Psalm 96:**ALL ARE COMMANDED TO WORSHIP THE LORD****96:1-5**

A call for all the earth to sing praise to the LORD

96:6-10

A call for all the families of the earth to come worship the LORD at His sanctuary

96:11-13

A call for all creation in heaven and earth to rejoice for the day when the LORD comes to earth to judge righteously

Proverbs**26:9-12**

More warnings about fools

October 26**Jeremiah****49:23-27**

The LORD promises to cause the inhabitants of Damascus to flee in despair when all of her soldiers will be killed in battle, and her walls and fortified towers burned

Prophecies Against Arabia**49:28-33**

The LORD tells Jeremiah that He will use king Nebuchadnezzar to spoil the men of the east, taking away their tents, their flocks, and their camels; and that they will be scattered to never occupy their land again

Prophecies Against Elam**49:34-39**

The word of the LORD comes to Jeremiah at the beginning of the reign of King Zedekiah, prophesying the defeat of the Elamites and their dispersion to the four winds of the earth, but also promising to restore them to the land in the latter days

Note: Verse 39 is a reference to the Messianic kingdom during the last dispensation on this present earth, which lasts a thousand years or a Millennium, (cf. Revelation 20:1-7)

Prophecies Against Babylon**50:1-10**

The nations of the earth are told to proclaim Babylon's destruction by nations that will come against her from the north, and that the lost sheep of Judah will then be allowed to return to the LORD and the land of Israel under an everlasting covenant, (i.e. the New Covenant)

50:11-20

This will happen because the LORD will avenge Babylon for what they did to His people and land, just as He had done to the Assyrians

50:21-40

Babylon's destruction will be like that of Sodom and Gomorrah, because she became arrogant against the Holy One of Israel and refused to let His people return to their land

50:41-46

The LORD asks who will be able to thwart His plans to use kings from the north to seize and destroy Babylon, (The Persians captured the city in 539 B.C., Daniel 5:30-31)

Titus**Healthy Doctrine, Healthy Behavior****1:1-4**

Paul gives an opening salutation to Titus, his adopted son in the faith

1:5-9

Paul reminds Titus of the reason he left him in Crete, for him to organize the believers throughout the island into local churches led by qualified elders

Note: The word for "sound doctrine" in the Greek literally means "healthy doctrine"

1:10-16

The reason Paul sees this as an urgent need is because false teachers, especially unbelieving Judaizers, are turning whole families from their Christian faith and pure behavior, (Note: Unhealthy doctrine results in impure or unhealthy conduct)

Psalm 97:**YOU WHO LOVE THE LORD, HATE EVIL!****97:1-6**

The earth is commanded to rejoice when the LORD appears in power and might to remove His enemies by fire, and to govern the world in righteousness, (cf. Matthew 3:11-12)

97:7-9

The idolaters of the world are told to be ashamed of their idols, and to instead worship the Most High God at Zion

97:10-12

Those who love the LORD are told to hate evil, to give thanks for His deliverance of the righteous, and to give thanks His holiness

Psalm 98:**SING UNTO THE LORD A NEW SONG!****98:1-3**

Israel is to sing a new song of praise when the LORD delivers Israel

98:4-6

All the earth are told to sing and shout joyfully to the LORD with instrumental music

98:7-9

All creation are to celebrate the coming of the LORD to judge the world in righteousness

Proverbs**26:13-16**

Characteristics of a sluggard or slothful person

October 27**Jeremiah****Prophecies Against Babylon, (continued)**

- 51:1-6** While the LORD is going to cause her army to be slain in the streets, He will save His people and allow them to flee because the Holy One of Israel has not forsaken her
- 51:7-10** Babylon will not be healed by the nations who wail over her destruction
Note: The sudden destruction of ancient Babylon becomes a preview of God's future judgment upon Great City Babylon during the Tribulation, (Revelation 18). This prophecy involves a double fulfillment
- 51:11-14** The LORD will use the Medes to ambush and destroy Babylon, for their having destroyed His Temple
- 51:15-19** It is the LORD who made the earth and heaven, and the idols of brutish or stupid men will not be able to save them from perishing
- 51:20-24** The LORD announces that He intends to use weapons of war to destroy and scatter the Babylonians
- 51:25-32** Kingdoms north of Babylon are summoned by the LORD to join the Medes in making Babylon desolate without inhabitants
- 51:33-35** The inhabitants of Zion and Jerusalem will attribute Babylon's destruction to what Nebuchadnezzar and the Chaldeans did to them when they were carried into captivity
- 51:36-40** The LORD therefore promises a coming day of vengeance on Babylon, to make her a place not fit for humans to live
- 51:41-44** The total destruction of Babylon is described
Note: The "sea" spoken of in 51:42 is a figure of speech to describe the invading Persian army
- 51:45-48** The LORD calls for His people to leave the city of Babylon in order to save themselves, and that heaven and earth will rejoice when she is destroyed by invaders from the north
- 51:49-53** The LORD promises to bring invaders from the north for what the Babylonians did to Judah and the Temple in Jerusalem

Titus**Healthy Doctrine, Healthy Behavior**

- 2:1-10** Titus is told to emphasize sound or healthy doctrine in his preaching, to exhort believers to sound or healthy conduct, and to be a good example himself
- 2:11-15** Paul's command is in light of the blessed hope and glorious appearing of Jesus Christ in the Rapture, and in light of the purpose for His death on the cross - to purify a people zealous for good works

Psalm 99:**THE LORD REIGNS! LET THE PEOPLE TREMBLE!**

- 99:1-4** The LORD who reigns in Zion is to be worshipped and praised
- 99:5-7** The LORD is to be exalted for His having communicated with His people Israel through His servants Moses and Aaron, through Samuel and the prophets, and through the revelation of His LAW at Mount Sinai
- 99:8-9** The LORD is also to be exalted and worshipped at His holy hill in Zion for His forgiveness, although He judged His people when they did evil

Proverbs**26:17**

To what a person is compared who, in passing by, meddles in other people's strife

October 28**Jeremiah****51:54-58**

The outcry of the Babylonians will be heard when the destroyer has come from the LORD of Hosts, because her mighty men will be captured, her rulers put to death, and her wall and high gates burned

51:59-64

Baruch's brother (cf. 32:12) is told to take a scroll with him when the Jews are carried away into captivity, on which Jeremiah has written the LORD'S prophecy of the destruction of Babylon, and to cause it to sink in the Euphrates River to symbolize Babylon's demise as an empire

Nebuchadnezzar's Destruction of Jerusalem

(Note: The following is almost identical to what is recorded in 2 Kings 24:18-25:30)

52:1-5

King Zedekiah rebels against the king of Babylon, causing Nebuchadnezzar to lay siege on the city of Jerusalem for two years (from January 587 to July 586 B.C.)

52:6-8

There is no food in the city to eat, the city is broken into, the men of war flee by night with Zedekiah, but he is captured and taken to the king of Babylon

52:9-11

Nebuchadnezzar sentences Zedekiah, slaughters his sons and princes of Judah before his eyes, blinds him and carries him to Babylon where he dies in prison

52:12-16

On the next day, the Temple is burned along with the king's palace and all the houses of Jerusalem, the walls of the city broken, and the remaining inhabitants carried into exile except for a few left behind to farm the land

52:17-23

The pillars and vessels of the Temple are taken to Babylon

52:24-27

Some important religious and political rulers loyal to Zedekiah and still remaining are taken to Nebuchadnezzar and executed

52:28-30

The number of those carried into exile in the second and third deportation to Babylon is given

52:31-34

King Nebuchadnezzar's son shows mercy to Jehoiachin in the first year of his reign

Note: Because Jehoiachin surrendered to the king of Babylon as Jeremiah had told them that they must, and did not rebel as did Zedekiah afterwards who was executed, (cf. 2 Kings 24:12 and Jeremiah 52:3). Tablets recovered from the former Ishtar Gate of Babylon confirm this act of kindness, (Ryrie Study Bible)

Titus**Healthy Doctrine, Healthy Behavior****3:1-7**

Titus is told to tell the believers in Crete to obey their civil governmental leaders and to treat the unbelieving citizens with the remembrance of how they once lived before they were regenerated by the Holy Spirit through faith in Christ

3:8-11

Titus is also told to remind the believers in Crete of the importance of their being a good example, and for him to cease arguing with false teachers regarding the Mosaic Law after he warns them twice

3:12-13

Paul gives final instructions regarding replacements for Titus when he rejoins Paul at Nicopolis for the winter, and closes this epistle with his customary greetings and benediction

Psalm 100:**THE MANNER IN WHICH TO ENTER THE TEMPLE FOR WORSHIP****100:1-3**

The earth is told to come before the LORD with gladness and joyful singing, because Israel's God is their God as well

100:4-5

They are told to enter the Temple with thanksgiving and praise for the LORD'S goodness, mercy and truth

Proverbs**26:18-19**

To what a person is compared who deceives his neighbor and later says he was kidding?

October 29**Lamentations****Jeremiah Weeps over the Destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple****Note:** This book is written as five poems**1st Poem: The Desolation of Jerusalem**

- 1:1-6** Jeremiah personifies the city of Jerusalem as the unfaithful wife of the LORD, who – because of her great sin - causes her to become desolate, with none of her nations to whom she looked for help to provide comfort
- 1:7-11** The inhabitants of Jerusalem who are now in captivity reflect upon her wealth in the past, yet the city is now avoided as though being unclean, and the Temple ransacked of her treasures
- 1:12-17** Jerusalem cries out for help but receives none, because the LORD has given her into the hands of her enemies
- 1:18-22** Jeremiah acknowledges that the LORD is righteous in His judgment, yet prays that the LORD will see the gloating of the Babylonians and punish her for her transgressions
- 2nd Poem: The Devastation of Jerusalem**
- 2:1-4** Jeremiah describes the LORD'S severe anger and Jerusalem's defeat at the hands of the enemy
- 2:5-7** The devastation of the city and the Temple is described
- 2:8-10** The walls are breached, the king and princes are taken from the city, and the remaining inhabitants sit on the ground weeping
- 2:11-16** Jeremiah mourns for the death of the children, for the lies of the false prophets, and for the mocking of Jerusalem's enemies
- 2:17-19** Jeremiah calls for those remaining to cry out by day and by night in tears of repentance, for the sake of their little ones

Philemon**About Onesimus**

Note: Onesimus is a slave who stole from Philemon and ran away. The apostle Paul led him to faith in Christ, after which Paul felt Onesimus should return to Philemon to make things right. Because the penalty for what Onesimus did could be death, Paul urges Philemon to forgive and to treat Onesimus as a brother in the Lord, perhaps allowing him to return to minister to Paul while he is in prison

- 1:1-3** Paul greets Philemon and the church that is meeting in his home
- 1:4-7** Paul thanks God for the testimony of Philemon, hearing of his faith and love for all believers
- 1:8-17** Paul informs Philemon as to the reason he is sending Onesimus, and urges him to receive him as a brother in Christ
- 1:18-21** Paul offers to repay Philemon whatever Onesimus stole from him
- 1:22-25** Paul tells Philemon to expect him to come as soon as he is released from prison, and closes with his customary greetings and benediction

Psalm 101: **DAVID'S VOW TO THE LORD AS KING****101:1** To sing praise to the LORD**101:2-3** To guard his eyes and conduct, and not be like those who are evil**101:4-8** To only choose the kind of administrators who will walk wisely and assist him as he seeks to remove the wicked from the land of Israel and from the city of Jerusalem**Proverbs****26:20** How the lack of wood for maintaining a fire is compared to there being no “whisperer?”

October 30**Lamentations****Jeremiah Weeps over the Destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple, (continued)****2nd Poem, (continued)**

2:20-22 Jeremiah questions the LORD in regards to the siege of Jerusalem whereby mothers eat their own children, the priest and prophet are slain in the Temple, and the bodies of the old and young lie in the streets

3rd Poem: Jeremiah's Grief

3:1-18 Jeremiah describes the personal suffering of the person who is under the rod of God's wrath

3:19-23 One's hope in the midst of the suffering is that the LORD'S compassions never fail, they are new every morning, and great is His faithfulness

3:24-38 So Jeremiah observes that it is good for the young men to bear the yoke of captivity, so that they might learn to wait upon the LORD for His salvation

3:39-42 Jeremiah asks how Jerusalem can complain, when it is her sin that has caused this suffering

3:43-51 Jeremiah describes his sorrow for Jerusalem and Judah as he weeps before the LORD, but his prayer is unanswered

3:52-66 He recounts how the LORD did hear him when he called on His name from the lowest pit into which his enemies had put him (cf. 38:6), and prays for the LORD'S judgment to fall upon them

Hebrews**Jesus, Our Great High Priest!**

1:1-4 God the Father has exalted His divine Son in heaven at His own right hand above all of His angels, now that His blood has been presented in heaven for the purging of sin

1:5-13 Seven different Old Testament quotations are given to substantiate God's plan for His divine Son to establish God's throne and kingdom on this earth before it is destroyed

1:14 God's divine Son is presently in heaven as our High Priest, and the angels of God who now serve Him are sent forth to be guardian angels for those shall be heirs of salvation, (cf. Hebrews 1:13 with Psalm 110:1 and Psalm 110:4)

Psalm 102:**A PRAYER OF THE AFFLICTED**

102:1-7 A cry is made to the LORD for help in a time of great distress

102:8-11 The distress is caused because of the LORD'S indignation and wrath

102:12-17 But at the appointed time, the LORD will bring glory to Himself when He appears to restore Zion

102:18-22 This promise is written for a generation yet to come, when the LORD will be praised in Jerusalem for His deliverance

102:23-28 While the Psalmist realizes he won't live to see it, he prays that the LORD – whose years will not end – will yet establish a future generation in the land of Israel

Proverbs**26:21-22**

To what the words of a whisperer are compared?

October 31**Lamentations Jeremiah Weeps over the Destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple, (continued)****4th Poem: Jerusalem's Defeat**

- 4:1-10** Jeremiah details the devastation and starvation of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, comparing her punishment from the LORD to be worse than what happened to Sodom
- 4:11-13** The LORD'S fury is poured out upon Zion because of the shedding of blood of the innocent by the prophets and priests of Jerusalem
- 4:14-20** No one reached out to help save Zion from her persecutors
- 4:21-22** Edom will be punished for her rejoicing over the devastation of Jerusalem

5th Poem: Jeremiah's Confession and Petition

- 5:1-18** Jeremiah describes the continued suffering of the inhabitants of Jerusalem and acknowledges that it is because of her sin
- 5:19-22** Jeremiah prays for the LORD to turn back to Israel in favor and renew them as in days of old

Hebrews**Jesus, Our Great High Priest!**

- 2:1-4** A warning is given to pay even closer attention to what Jesus has to say through His apostles to the heirs of His great salvation, now that He speaks for the Father from heaven
- 2:5-8a** The great salvation of which he speaks is the fulfillment of Psalm eight, in which God promises to deliver Adam's Race from the evil influence of the Devil and his angels in the "world to come"
Note: The "world to come" or the Millennial reign of Christ on this earth is the topic of the book of Hebrews, and not one's eternal state in the New Heavens and New Earth. Failure to understand this has caused believers to disagree over how to interpret the warnings of the book of Hebrews, especially Hebrew 6:4-6
- 2:8b-13** While the promise of Psalm eight has not yet been fulfilled, those being sanctified to God as His sons through the perfection, death, and now exaltation of Jesus, can look to Him as the captain of their salvation
- 2:14-18** The reason Jesus was made a little lower than the angels in becoming a man, was so that He could deliver man from the fear of death and receive help from Him as their High Priest when tempted

Psalm 103:**BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL!**

- 103:1-5** King David says that the LORD is to be blessed by those, like him, who have benefited from His forgiveness, healing, and renewal
- 103:6-14** The LORD'S mercy and compassion has been proven since the days of Moses for Israel, in that He has not punished His people in accordance with what they have deserved, but has proven Himself to be merciful to those who fear Him
- 103:15-18** While man's days on earth pass like the grass and flower of the field, yet the LORD'S mercy is everlasting to those who fear Him and keep His commandments
- 103:19-22** The angels in heaven who obey God's commands are also told to bless the LORD

Proverbs**26:23**

To what a person with a wicked heart is compared, who is eager to spread burning words with his tongue?

November 1**Ezekiel****God's Watchman to the Jewish Exiles in Babylon****Ezekiel's Call from God**

- 1:1-14** His vision of four living creatures, (or cherubim, cf. 10:15, 20)
 1:1-3 The circumstances of Ezekiel's vision
 1:4-14 A description of the four living creatures, (cf. Revelation 4:6-9)
- 1:15-21** His vision of four chariot wheels accompanying them
- 1:22-28** His vision of God on His throne above the cherubim
- 2:1-2** His vision of renewed strength to stand
- 2:3-3:3** The LORD's command for Ezekiel to eat a scroll with the LORD's words written on it (cf. Revelation 10:8-11)
- 3:4-11** The LORD commands Ezekiel to speak God's words to the Jewish captives in Babylon without fear, regardless of how hard of heart they are and how threatening
- 3:12-15** Ezekiel's initial response to the vision by the River Chebar in Babylon, upon his seeing his being lifted up and carried away by the cherubim and their chariot

Hebrews**Jesus, Our Great High Priest!**

- 3:1-6** The need for those who have confessed their faith in Christ to consider their heavenly calling in Jesus, who – as the Christ and divine Son of God – is superior to Moses
- 3:7-11** The need for them to not treat Christ as the Exodus Generation did Moses, about whom God has made an irrevocable oath to not allow them to enter into the promised land again
Note: This is a reference to God's promised rest which will yet come to the land of Israel under the future reign of Christ during the Millennium, (cf. Isaiah 11:1-10). This generation of Jews is saved, as evidenced later in the book of Hebrews (cf. Hebrews 11:29), and will be on the earth during the Millennium, but will not be permitted in the land of Israel for a second time

- 3:12-19** The need to exhort one another daily, lest they be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin to the point of departing from their confession of faith in Christ. Some say a true believer cannot deny his original confession of faith in Christ, but the writer of Hebrews says he can, (the "brethren" referring to the "holy brethren" of 3:1)

Note: The Greek word for "departing from" in 3:12 is a reference to a believer's apostacy or denial of one's original profession of faith in Christ, 3:1

Psalm 104:**BLESS THE LORD, THE CREATOR AND SUSTAINER OF LIFE**

- 104:1-4** For His creation (as described in Genesis 1)
- 104:5-9** For His causing the earth to rise above the waters and setting boundaries for the water
- 104:10-13** For His causing springs to refresh the animals on earth
- 104:14-17** For His causing vegetation and trees to grow, whereby man and beast can eat
- 104:18-23** For His separation of night from day whereby both man and beast can feed without interfering with one another

Proverbs

- 26:24** How a person tries to disguise his hate?
- 26:25** A reason to not believe him when he speaks with gracious words
- 26:26** How his effort to disguise his hatred will be uncovered?

November 2**Ezekiel****1:1-14**

Ezekiel is told by the LORD that he has been appointed to be God's watchman to the house of Israel, and that his own life depends upon his faithfully proclaiming the LORD'S warning to both the wicked and the righteous

3:22-27

Ezekiel is told to go to his home and that the LORD will make him unable to speak because of the rebellion of the Israelites, but when his mouth is opened to speak he is to say "He who hears, let him hear; and he who refuses to hear, let him refuse" (cf. Revelation 2:7,22,17,29,3:6,13,22)

Ezekiel's Dramatization of Jerusalem's siege and Captivity**4:1-8**

Ezekiel is told to use a model of Jerusalem to illustrate the coming siege by the Babylonians, after which he is to alternate in lying down on his left side and then on his right to illustrate them time of Israel and Judah's captivity

4:9-17

Ezekiel is restricted in what he can eat and drink during that time, and is told to eat the food which has been cooked with human excrement, to illustrate the horror and suffering of the coming siege

5:1-17

Ezekiel is also told to shave the hair off his head and beard with a sharp sword, and divide the hair into three portions; by which to illustrate three different ways in which they will be judged for being more wicked than the nations around them, and for defiling the Temple with their idols

Ezekiel's Prophecy Against Jerusalem and Palestine**6:1-7**

Israel will know that it is the LORD who has brought total destruction to the land, her idolatrous altars, her high places, all of her homes and cities, and the bodies of her sons which will be slain and lie unburied in front of her idols

6:8-14

However the LORD will spare a remnant to be taken into captivity, who will afterwards reflect upon the reason for the severity of the LORD'S judgment and know that He is the LORD

Hebrews**4:1-9**

The "rest" which they should fear not entering is not the Sabbath Day rest God established when He finished creation (Genesis 2:1-2), nor has that rest been fulfilled during the days of king David and Joshua before him. It remains yet to be fulfilled

Note: The King James translated Joshua's name as Jesus, which is the Greek word for Joshua

4:9-13

They are exhorted to labor now in order to enter that prolonged time of Sabbath Rest to come, lest what happened to the Exodus Generation also happen to them

Note: The spoken word of the Lord has the power to sever the soul and spirit, causing the joints and marrow to fall to the ground in immediate death, (cf. Hebrews 2:2)

4:14-16

It is important for them to know that they now have a great High Priest who has ascended into heaven, who is not only sympathetic with them regarding their weaknesses in being tempted, but is able to help them find grace and mercy in their time of need, (cf. 1 John 1:7-2:2)

Psalm 104:**104:24-30****BLESS THE LORD, THE CREATOR AND SUSTAINER OF LIFE**

For His sustaining the lives of multitudes of man and animal on land and in sea

104:31-35

The Psalmist vows to sing praise to God as long as he lives, and concludes by praying for the removal of the wicked from the earth

Proverbs**26:27**

A foretelling of the outcome of the one who digs a pit for others, or rolls a stone to harm others

November 3**Ezekiel****7:1-13**

Ezekiel's Prophecy Against Jerusalem and Palestine, (continued)
 Ezekiel is told to proclaim to the land of Israel that the time of their end has come, in which the LORD'S eye will show no mercy and His anger will bring all of their abominations down upon them in judgment

7:14-22

Jerusalem and the land of Israel will not be able to escape their doom either by sword, by plague, or by famine, and their treasures with which they made their idols and defiled the Temple will be given into the hands of their invaders

7:23-27

When their homes are possessed by the invaders, they will know that it is the LORD whose word is being fulfilled, and that when they seek a word from the LORD at the time of judgment, He will not hear

Ezekiel's Vision of Idolatry in Jerusalem**8:1-4**

Over a year later Ezekiel is divinely transported in a vision to the North Gate of the Temple in Jerusalem, where the LORD shows him the idol designed to provoke Him to jealousy

Note: This is a statue of the goddess Ashera that was erected in the Temple by Manasseh, later destroyed by Josiah, and evidently rebuilt, (cf. 2 Kings 21:7 and 23:6)

8:5-18

Ezekiel is given a tour of the Temple from the outer courtyard to the inner sanctuary, in which priests are seen worshipping in secret their false gods represented by various animals, their women crying for Tammuz, and their men worshipping towards the east and the rising of the sun, for which the LORD will not spare in the day of judgment soon to come

Note: Tammus is a false god who was slain in Babylonian mythology

Ezekiel's Vision of the LORD'S Wrath upon Jerusalem**9:1-7**

Ezekiel is shown six angels appearing as men who are called forth by the LORD with weapons in hand, and are told to kill every person in Jerusalem and those in the Temple, with the exception of those on whose forehead was placed a mark because they groaned in sorrow at the sight of the idolatry around them

9:8-11

Ezekiel cries out as he witnesses the slaughter of those who blame their turning to other gods because they think that the LORD has forsaken them, and because they think that the LORD does not see their iniquity, bloodshed, and open perversion

Hebrews**5:1-3**

The High Priests who descended from Aaron all were sinners, for which they had to offer a sacrifice to God for themselves before they represented the people

5:4-10

Jesus was called by God to replace them forever after the order of Melchisedec, because he – in contrast to them - did not sin when he was on the earth

5:11-14

The author pauses to rebuke them for their lack of spiritual maturity and discernment

Psalm 105:**GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR NOT FORGETTING HIS COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM****105:1-10**

Give thanks for His remembrance of the covenant He made with Abraham

105:11-15

And for His enabling people to possess the land He promised to Abraham

Proverbs**26:28**

Reasons to beware a lying tongue and a flattering mouth

November 4**Ezekiel****10:1-7**

Ezekiel's Vision of the LORD'S Wrath upon Jerusalem (continued)
 Ezekiel sees the LORD'S throne in the firmament above the cherubim, and the LORD'S command for the man clothed in linen to fill his hands with coals of fire from between the cherubim and scatter them over the city

10:8-22

Ezekiel sees the cherubim and the chariot move to carry out the command, the same cherubim and chariot he saw before by the river Chebar, (chapter one)

Ezekiel's Vision of the LORD'S New Covenant**11:1-13**

Pelatiah dies while Ezekiel is prophesying to the twenty-five leaders of Jerusalem led by Jahzaniah and Pelatiah, of the LORD's coming judgment upon the Temple and Jerusalem

11:14-21

The LORD promises to regather the captive remnant back to the land of Israel, at which time they will remove all the idols from the land and serve the LORD as His people

Note: A reference to the New Covenant, (cf. Jeremiah 31-34)

11:22-25

The glory of the LORD departs from the east side of the city of Jerusalem, and the Spirit transports Ezekiel back to Chaldea where he tells the exiles there of what the LORD has shown him

Hebrews**Jesus, Our Great High Priest!****6:1-3**

The Jewish believers are urged to review the basic doctrines they were once taught at the first, and to then go on to maturity in their faith, if the Lord permits

6:4-6

There are some the Lord will not permit to repent, because they have gone too far in their backslidden state, denying their faith before Christ's enemies in Jerusalem who had Jesus crucified, and in a sense have "crucified him afresh and put him to open shame"

6:7-8

As a result, they will lose all reward in the "world to come," even as a farmer reaps no future benefit when he does not remove the weeds which choke out the fruit

(Note: The thorns and thistles are burned, not the farmer, and refers to loss of all future reward, cf. 1 Corinthians 3:15)

6:9-15

On the other hand the author is confident that those to whom he is writing will be rewarded, provided that they persevere in their faith even as did Abraham when he offered up Isaac, (cf. Genesis 22:16-18)

6:16-20

The reason the LORD pronounced an oath in His name to bless Abraham, was to assure those who follow his example of faith that they too will be rewarded by Christ who has gone into heaven as their Forerunner and High Priest after the order of Melchisedec

Npte: The promised blessings given to Abraham will be fulfilled in the Millennium

Psalm 105:**GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR NOT FORGETTING HIS COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM (continued)****105:16-24**

For His deliverance through Joseph of His people from famine

105:25-36

For His deliverance of Israel from bondage to Egypt by Moses, Aaron, and the ten plagues

Proverbs**27:1**

A reason one should not boast about tomorrow, (cf. James 4:13-15)

27:2

A warning to let other people praise you and not you yourself

November 5**Ezekiel****12:1-7**

Ezekiel moves his belongings from his home in the daytime, and digs a hole in the wall of his home by night, to illustrate the coming capture, blindness, and captivity of king Zedekiah, as well as the coming destruction that will come to Jerusalem and all the land of Israel

12:8-16

Ezekiel is told to interpret for those in exile who watch him and inquire as to what he is doing

12:17-28

Ezekiel is also told to tremble as they watch him eat bread and drink water, so as to illustrate the fear and horror that will take place soon, in spite of their thinking that judgment will be delayed

The LORD'S Message to False Prophets and Prophetesses**13:1-16**

Woe is pronounced against false prophets who say there will be peace when there is no peace, and who whitewash walls on which the LORD'S coming judgment is written (by those who believe what God has said)

13:17-23

Woe is pronounced against women who prophesy falsely and send others to hunt down and kill the righteous

Note: Women practicing sorcery to put curses on the innocent

The LORD'S Message to Inquiring Elders**14:1-5**

The LORD alerts Ezekiel that some elders in exile who have approached him for a word of the LORD regarding the future of Jerusalem and Israel, that they are actually idolaters

14:6-11

The LORD then speaks to the elders calling for all Israel to repent and turn from their idols, or He will set His face against both the idolaters and any prophets to whom they turn who will deceive them

Hebrews**7:1-10**

Melchisedec, who blessed Abraham and to whom Abraham paid tithes, is a priest who is like the Son of God in that his priesthood has never ended, and whose priesthood is superior to that of the Levites who descended from Abraham

7:11-14

Both the priesthood and the Mosaic Law had to be changed because of the imperfection of the Levites, and because Jesus was born in the tribe of Judah rather than the tribe of Levi

7:15-17

The reason the priesthood had to be changed is because the priesthood of Jesus is forever after the order of Melchisedec, whereas the Levitical priestly ministry ended in this life with death

Psalm 105:

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR NOT FORGETTING HIS COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM

(continued)

105:37-41

For making His people rich when leaving Egypt, and because He sustained them in the Sinai wilderness

105:42-45

For bringing them into the land of Promise that they might obey Him

Proverbs**27:3**

Bearing a stone or wet sand in comparison to bearing with a fool's wrath

November 6**Ezekiel****14:12-20**

When the LORD stretches out His hand to judge a nation by famine, by wild beasts, by sword, or by plague, even if Noah, Job, or Daniel were to pray, they would be delivered because of their righteousness, but not the nation for whom they pray

14:21-23

The same will be true even more for Jerusalem, yet Ezekiel will find comfort in seeing some survive

The LORD'S Message to Inquiring Elders, (continued)**15:1-8**

Just as the wood of the vine is only used for burning, in the same way the LORD will treat Jerusalem like a vine to be consumed by fire for her trespass

Parable of the Adulterous Woman**16:1-14**

The LORD describes His loving treatment of Israel from the time of her birth in the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites, to the time of her prosperity and beauty as His bride

16:15-22

The LORD describes her unfaithfulness to Him like a prostitute who not only departs from Him, but sacrifices her sons and daughters to false gods

16:23-29

The LORD accuses her of playing the harlot, by turning to Egypt, to the Philistines, and to the Chaldeans for help, rather than the LORD

16:30-34

Her unfaithfulness is described as being worse than that of a prostitute, in that she pays money rather than receives money

16:35-42

The LORD will cause her “lovers” among the nations to turn against her, to judge her like an adulterous woman, to burn her homes, and to thereby stop her from playing the harlot

Hebrews**Jesus, Our Great High Priest!****7:18-22**

The reason the Mosaic Law had to be changed is so that Jesus could be our High Priest under the terms of a better covenant, since the Mosaic Law could not make sinners perfect in the sight of God

7:23-28

The reason Jesus is able to completely save those who come unto God by Him, is because He ever lives to make intercession for them and because He will never be disqualified by sin and removed as our High Priest in heaven

Psalm 106:**PRAISE THE LORD FOR HIS ENDURING MERCY****106:1-3**

A call to praise the LORD because His mercy endures forever

106:4-6

A prayer for His continued mercy in light of their iniquity

106:7-12

For His mercy like He showed in the past to Israel at the Red Sea

Proverbs**27:4**

A description of the anger caused by jealousy

27:5

To what is open rebuke compared as being better?

27:6

A contrast in the reliability of the wounds of a friend, and the kisses of an enemy

November 7**Ezekiel****Parable of the Adulterous Woman, (continued)**

16:43 The LORD God promises to bring down Israel's conduct on their own head because they have not remembered the days of their youth as a nation

16:44-52 They have actually made Samaria and Sodom look good

16:53-63 The LORD promises to restore Judah's captivity along with restoring Sodom and Samaria under the terms of an everlasting covenant

Note: This is a reference to the New Covenant, (cf. Hebrews 8:6-12 with 13:20)

Parable of Two Eagles

17:1-10 The parable described

17:11-24 The parable explained

17:11-12 The king of Babylon took Jehoiachin from Judah to Babylon
(See 17:3-4, 2 Kings 24:8-16, and 25:27-30)

17:13-14 Nebuchadnezzar made Zedekiah a puppet king in Judah
(See 17:5-6, and 2 Kings 24:17)

17:15-19 Zedekiah broke his treaty with Nebuchadnezzar against the will of God,
(2 Kings 24:20)

17:20-21 Zedekiah will die in Babylon and his troops will be defeated,
(2 Kings 25:1-7)

17:22-24 God promises a coming Messiah to deliver Israel

Note: See Romans 11:26-27

Hebrews**Our Better Priestly Ministry under Christ
and a Better Covenant**

8:1-5 With a great high priest, Jesus, who ministers for us in the heavenly sanctuary

Note: This heavenly sanctuary is described by the apostle John in Revelation 1:12-16, 4:1-11, 8:1-4 and 11:15-19). Moses was shown a vision of it whereby he was to make a replica on earth in the tabernacle. (i.e. The Golden Lampstands, the Sea of Glass, and the Ark of the Covenant)

8:6-13 Reasons why the second or New Covenant is better than the first or Old Covenant

Psalm 116:**PRAISE THE LORD FOR HIS ENDURING MERCY, (continued)**

106:13-15 When they coveted meat in the desert, (cf. Numbers 11)

106:16-18 When they rebelled against Moses and Aaron, (cf. Numbers 16)

106:19-23 When they made a golden calf, (cf. Exodus 32)

106:24-27 When they refused to cross the Jordan and enter Canaan, (cf. Numbers 14)

106:28-31 When they worshipped Baal of Peor, (cf. Numbers 25)

Proverbs

27:7 How being full or hungry affects one's taste and appetite?

27:8 To what a man is likened who leaves his house and home?

27:9 To what the advice or counsel of a friend is likened?

November 8**Ezekiel****Israel's Proverb of Sour Grapes**

- 18:1-3** The LORD tells Israel they will no longer be able to use a proverb saying that the children suffer for the sins of their fathers
- 18:4-9** The LORD states that the soul that sins will die, while the one who does that which is righteous will live
- 18:10-13** Yet even though the father may be righteous, his son will die if he is wicked
- 18:14-18** On the other hand, if the son does not behave as his father who sins but does that which is righteous, he will live
- 18:19-20** The son will not bear the punishment for his father's iniquity, nor will the father bear the punishment for his son
- 18:21-23** The wicked will not die if he repents and turns from his sin to practice righteousness, because the LORD takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked
- 18:24-29** The LORD charges Israel for being wrong to criticize His causing the wicked to live if he repents, while causing the righteous to die if they turn to wickedness
- 18:30-32** The LORD calls for Israel to repent and live, because He takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked

Lamentation for the Princes of Israel

- 19:1-2** For Judah, who is portrayed as a lioness (or mother of kings)
- 19:3-4** For Jehoahaz, who is one of her kings, and was taken to Egypt by Pharaoh Neco in 609 BC, (cf. 2 Kings 23:33-34)
- 19:5-9** For Jehoiachin, a second king who was taken to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar in 597 BC, (cf. 2 Kings 24:15)
- 19:10-14** For Judah, the lioness and mother of these two kings, who now have been taken into captivity by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 BC, (cf. 2 Kings 24:17-25:12)

Hebrews**Our Better Priestly Ministry under Christ
and a Better Blood Sacrifice**

- 9:1-10** The blood sacrifices offered to God by the Levitical priests in the earthly Tabernacle could not make them perfect, and were therefore not permitted direct access to God by the veil that separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies

Note: This was the Holy Spirit's way of showing the Israelites that a better blood sacrifice would have to be presented to God by which they could have direct access into His presence

Psalm 106:**PRAISE THE LORD FOR HIS ENDURING MERCY, (continued)**

- 106:32-33** When provoking Him at the waters of Meribah, (cf. Numbers 20:1-10)
- 106:34-38** When sacrificing their own children to the idolatrous gods of Canaan, (cf. 2 Kings 16:3, Ezekiel 16:20-21)

Proverbs**27:10**

How one should treat a friend or neighbor who is near, rather than depend on a brother who lives far away?

November 9**Ezekiel****Israel's Rebellious History**

- 20:1-4** The LORD refuses to respond to the elders who come to Ezekiel in order to hear what he has to say about the future of Jerusalem and the land of Israel
- 20:5-32** The LORD tells Ezekiel to rehearse the history of Israel's unfaithfulness, and yet His mercy for the sake of His own reputation among the nations
- 20:5-9 When in Egypt
 - 20:10-17 When on their journey to Kadesh-Barnea
 - 20:18-26 When in the wilderness for forty years
 - 20:27-29 When in Canaan
 - 20:30-32 During the time of Ezekiel and these elders

Forecasts of Coming Judgments

- 20:33-44** After the LORD has judged them for their rebellion, He will purge out the rebels among them, restore them in the land, accept again their offerings, and cause them to loathe their past history of rebellion
- 20:45-49** Of fire to destroy the forests in the Negev or region of southern Judah

Hebrews**Our Better Priestly Ministry under Christ
and a Better Blood Sacrifice. (continued)**

- 9:11-14** Christ's presentation of his blood only once (in contrast to once each year, v.7), by which God's priests today are redeemed forever from the curse of God's Law, and can serve the Lord with a cleansed conscience (in contrast to v.9)
Note: Christ's one blood offering replaces three Old Testament Sin Offerings: the blood of bulls and goats offered annually for renewal of God's covenant with Israel (Leviticus 16), those offered in the Daily Sin Offerings for fellowship with God in the Temple (Leviticus 4-6), and also the ashes of a red heifer which was offered for ceremonial cleansing (Numbers 19) so that one could enter the Temple area for worship or priestly ministry
- 9:15-17** The same blood of Christ authorizes a New Covenant with Jesus as the Mediator, whereby the believer can look forward to an eternal inheritance rather than eternal cursing
Note: A Testament is a certain kind of covenant which does not go into effect until the one who makes the covenant first dies, (i.e. Last Will and Testament)
- 9:18-24** The presentation of Christ's blood in heaven was shown to be necessary in the process by which Moses, the Mediator, cleansed the Tabernacle and inaugurated the Old Covenant
- 9:25-28** The benefit received by Christ's blood which was only shed once, in comparison to the blood of bulls and of goats which had to be offered once each year

Psalm 107:**GOD'S ENDURING MERCY ON ISRAEL**

- 107:1-3** A call to give thanks for His mercy in regathering Israel from captivity
- 107:4-32** For those who find it difficult to come to the land of Israel at that time
- 107:33-43** His power at that time to judge and to bless

Proverbs**27:11**

How a son should respond to the instructions being given to him

November 10**Ezekiel****Forecasts of Coming Judgments, (continued)**

21:1-7 The LORD's sword is drawn against the wicked of Jerusalem and all Israel, for which Ezekiel is to groan in sorrow

21:8-17 An ode or poem

21:8-11 Written to be sung to a sharp sword

21:12-13 The LORD's rod becomes a sword

21:14-17 Ezekiel is told to imitate the LORD's slashing sword

21:18-31 Ezekiel's portrayal of the invasion of king Nebuchadnezzar

21:18-20 Ezekiel is to draw two roads: one leading to Rabbah and the other to Jerusalem

21:21-22 Nebuchadnezzar will use divination to choose the road to Jerusalem

21:23-27 Jerusalem will be sieged, Zedekiah captured and taken to Babylon, and Israel will have no more king until Messiah comes, (cf. Jeremiah 52)

21:28-32 A sword will also then come against Ammon for joining with Babylon against Israel

22:1-12 A listing of Israel's sins of abomination for which the LORD delivers them into the hands of the Babylonians

22:13-16 The LORD will remove Israel's uncleanness from the land by causing them to be scattered among the nations

22:17-22 The LORD will cause those in Jerusalem to be melted away as silver is melted in a furnace

22:23-31 The corruption of Israel's prophets, priests, princes, and all the people for which there is no man to stay the hand of the LORD's wrath

Hebrews**A Better Blood Sacrifice. (continued)**

10:1-4 The insufficiency of the animal blood offerings given annually on the Day of Atonement to permanently remove sin, (cf. Leviticus 16)

10:5-9 Christ's willingness to become a man and provide that needed sacrifice by which God would remove the first covenant (or the old) and replace it with the second (or the new)

10:10-14 The all sufficiency of the blood of Jesus to permanently remove sin

10:15-18 The removal of a need for an annual Day of Atonement under the terms of the New Covenant

Psalm 108: **DAVID'S VICTORY OVER HIS ENEMIES**

108:1-6 His vow to praise God

108:7-9 The LORD's promise of victory

108:10-13 The LORD's help needed to achieve victory

Proverbs

27:12 A contrast in one's response to potential evil between the prudent and the simple

November 11**Ezekiel****23:1-4**

The LORD calls Samaria *Oholah* (capital of northern Israel), and Jerusalem *Oholibah* (capital of Southern Israel)

23:5-10

The LORD describes the unfaithfulness of Samaria for which He delivered them into the hands of the Assyrians

23:11-21

The LORD describes the unfaithfulness of Jerusalem and Judah which is even worse than that of Samaria and northern Israel

23:22-35

The LORD foretells Judah's coming destruction for walking in the ways of Samaria and northern Israel

23:36-45

The LORD will judge Jerusalem and Judah for her idolatry as a righteous man would judge a woman caught in the act of adultery, and as a woman with blood on her hands being symbolic of their sacrificing their own children to false gods

23:46-49

When the LORD brings invaders against them, they will know that He is God and will learn to not commit those same sins

Hebrews**10:19-22**

The blood of Jesus has provided a new access to God in the heavenly sanctuary, whereby God's new household of priests under Jesus as their High Priest can approach God in prayer with their hearts sprinkled clean from a conscience which bothers them, and their bodies washed with pure water

Note: Replacing the ceremonial cleansing by which Levitical priests approached God, (cf. 9:13-14)

10:23-25

There is therefore a need for these priests to hold on to their confession of faith in Jesus and to not forsake the assembling of themselves together as some had

Note: The reference to some who have already done so is to those mentioned in 6:4-6. Also the warning given regarding the "day approaching" is a reference to the coming judgment of fire on the city of Jerusalem, which was prophesied by Daniel (9:26) and Jesus (Matthew 22:1-7)

10:26-31

An even worse death awaits those who deny Christ by whose blood they have been sanctified and set apart unto God, than those who were stoned to death for their rejection of Moses

Note: These people are saved according to verse fourteen, but in their denial of Christ before His enemies who delivered him to be crucified, they are the same people described earlier in chapter six, and will die a horrible death when Jerusalem is destroyed in 70 A.D.

10:32-39

The author exhorts them to return to be the way they used to, in identifying with those who were being persecuted for their faith. They are promised reward when Christ returns and promised they will not die in the coming destruction of Jerusalem

Note: These verses are another support for Paul being the author because those in Jerusalem to whom this book is written would have been able to be of comfort to Paul when he was imprisoned and sent to Caesarea. The last verse is an analogy to those of the Exodus Generation who turned back and consequently died in the wilderness

Psalm 109:**DAVID'S PLEA AGAINST HIS ENEMIES****109:1-5**

For their unfair hatred of him

109:6-20

For God's retribution on them

109:21-31

For God's deliverance of him, for which David vows to praise God

Proverbs**27:13**

Requiring collateral for a loan

November 12**Ezekiel****A Parable of The Boiling Pot**

- 24:1-5** Ezekiel is told by the LORD to boil bones from the choicest of the flock on the very day Nebuchadnezzar lays siege to Jerusalem
Note: The siege began in January, 588 B.C. See 2 Kings 25:1
- 24:6-14** This will portray the LORD's wrath upon Jerusalem for her violence, from which He will not relent or feel sorry
- 24:15-17** Ezekiel is told his wife will die, but to not mourn for her
- 24:18-24** Ezekiel's wife dies that night as a sign of what is about to happen to Jerusalem and to the Temple, for which they are to not mourn
- 24:25-27** Ezekiel's mouth will be opened on the day that he hears of Jerusalem's destruction from refugees who have fled to Babylon

**The LORD's Coming Judgment on Surrounding Nations
By the Hand of Nebuchadnezzar**

- 25:1-7** On Ammon, for rejoicing in what happens to Jerusalem and Israel
- 25:8-11** On Moab, for the same reason
- 25:12-14** On Edom, for their violence and vengeance on Judah, (cf. Obadiah 11-14)
- 25:15-17** On Philistia, for the same reason as Edom
- 26:1-21** On Tyre
 26:1-6 For seizing the wealth of Jerusalem after its destruction
 26:7-12 Her siege by Nebuchadnezzar and capture
 26:13-21 Those who will lament her destruction

Hebrews**Looking Back to Heroes of Faith**

- 11:1-7** From the time of Abel to the time of Abraham, (cf. Genesis 4:1-5, 5:24, 6:8-9)
Note: Verse six emphasizes the need for persevering faith, which is the emphasis of the book of Hebrews, (cf. 2:5)
- 11:8-16** From the time of Abraham and Sarah, (cf. Genesis 12-17)

Psalm 110:**GOD'S PRIEST FOREVER**

- 110:1-3** God's determination to make the enemies of the Lord, who is seated at His right hand, to be his footstool
Note: A reference to Jesus Christ, (cf. Hebrews 1:13)
- 110:4-7** God's sworn oath to also make the Lord to be His priest forever after the order of Melchisedec
Note: Verse four is another reference to Jesus, (cf. Hebrews 5:6,10)

Proverbs**27:14**

A normal reaction to the loud greeting of a friend early in the morning

November 13**The LORD's Coming Judgment on Surrounding Nations
By the Hand of Nebuchadnezzar, (continued)****Ezekiel****27:1-28:19** On Tyre, (continued as a lamentation)

27:1-9 Her wealth as a result of commerce with the nations

27:10-25 Her traders and customers in commerce

27:26-36 Her destruction

28:1-10 Her prince and his pride

28:11-15 Her king as God's former anointed cherub and his pride

Note: This is a reference to God's highest angel who became Satan, or the Devil. Before his rebellion he was in Eden, the garden of God in the third heaven, (cf. 2 Corinthians 12:1-4). Being the "anointed cherub." He had a special role above the other angels and was righteous in the sight of God. The Hebrew name "Satan" and the Greek name for "Devil" depicts what he became as the enemy of God

28:16-19 This anointed cherub will be cast out of the mountain of God in the third heaven because of his pride, like the prince of Tyre, will be cast down to earth for his pride, (Revelation 12:7-12)

28:20-26 On Sidon**Hebrews****Looking Back to Heroes of Faith, (continued)****11:17-22** From the time of Abraham offered up Isaac to Moses, (cf. Genesis 22)**11:23-29** From Moses to the time of Joshua, (cf. Exodus 3-14)**11:30-31** From Joshua to Rahab, (cf. Joshua 6)**Psalm 111:****THE NEED TO BOTH PRAISE AND FEAR THE LORD****111:1-6** For His fulfilling His covenant He made with Israel in giving them the inheritance of the nations

Note: This promise will be fulfilled by Christ during the coming Millennium

111:7-10 For His truth and uprightness in redeeming Israel**Proverbs****27:15** To what a contentious woman is likened?**27:16** To what a man's attempt to hide or constrain a contentious woman is likened?

November 14

**The LORD's Coming Judgment on Surrounding Nations
By the Hand of Nebuchadnezzar, (continued)**

Ezekiel**29:1-30:26** On Egypt

- 29:1-7 Ezekiel is told seven months prior to the fall of Jerusalem to prophesy God's coming judgment upon Egypt
- 29:8-12 God will make their land a devastation and will scatter them from the land for forty years
- 29:13-16 After forty years God will regather them back to their land, but they will not be the power that Israel had relied upon in the past
- 29:17-21 Seventeen years later the LORD has Ezekiel prophesy Nebuchadnezzar's invasion in order to obtain wages for his soldiers
- 30:1-9 Those from Africa who come to defend and support Egypt will be defeated and destroyed
- 30:10-19 The LORD's wrath on Egypt by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar is due to her idolatry
- 30:20-26 Three months before the fall of Jerusalem the LORD tells Ezekiel that He will use the Nebuchadnezzar to crush the might of Pharaoh, and in His scattering of the Egyptians from the land cause them to know that He is the LORD

Hebrews**Looking Back to Heroes of Faith, (continued)**

- 11:32-38** Of others who by faith conquered kingdoms and were victorious, while others suffered – of whom the world was not worthy
- 11:39-40** Even though God approved of their persevering faith, they did not receive the promise of God's coming kingdom because it would be through Christ's Church of "sons brought into glory" that God's earthly kingdom in the "world to come" would be fulfilled, (cf. 2:5-13)

**Looking Up to Jesus as the Prime Example
of Persevering Faith**

- 12:1-2** The believers to whom the book of Hebrews is written are told to run the race set before them by faith, looking unto Jesus as the author and finisher of their faith
- 12:3-4** They can look to Jesus for victory over temptation because He suffered far more in his death on the cross to provide for that victory
- 12:5-8** They are therefore to not despise any suffering they experience as a result of the Lord's chastisement, because he is dealing with them as with sons
- 12:9-11** Whereas earthly parents can make mistakes when they chastise their children, the Lord makes no mistakes
- 12:12-13** So when they are spanked by the Lord, they are told to lift up their hands, stand up, and make straight paths for their feet in the race set before them

Psalms 112:**THE MAN WHO FEARS THE LORD IS BLESSED**

- 112:1-6** He will be blessed in his offspring, his wealth, and well being because of his upright life style
- 112:7-11** He will be blessed in being protected from the wicked who will perish

Proverbs

- 27:17** How can personal relationships be beneficial?

November 15

**The LORD's Coming Judgment on Surrounding Nations
By the Hand of Nebuchadnezzar, (continued)**

Ezekiel

- 31:1-18** On Egypt, (continued)
- 31:1-9 Ezekiel is told to inform Pharaoh that God once made Assyria a powerful nation, for which Israel was no match
 - 31:10-14 Pharaoh is told that the LORD will cause Assyria to fall at the hands of king Nebuchadnezzar because of her pride
 - 31:15-18 All of the nations who were aligned with Assyria will also fall, including the land of Israel
- 32:1-32** Lamentation over Egypt and other nations
- 32:1-10 Ezekiel is told to take up a lamentation over Pharaoh, prophesying Egypt's destruction and comparing her to a sea monster in the eyes of God
 - 32:11-16 God will use the sword of Nebuchadnezzar to bring about Egypt's destruction
 - 32:17-21 Two weeks later, Ezekiel is told to lament for Egypt and her allies
 - 32:22-32 The other nations who will fall as well will be Assyria (22-23), Elam (24-25), Meshech and Tubal (26-28), Edom (29), Sidon and the princes to the north of Israel (30-32)

Hebrews**Our Better Heavenly Jerusalem**

- 12:14-17** A warning is given to not become bitter against God, as did Esau who forfeited his Inheritance, (the "repentance" Esau sought was Isaac's who gave the blessing to Jacob, (Genesis 27:38)
- 12:18-24** Believers are told that they are accountable to the heavenly Mount Zion and city where Jesus is, than the earthly Mount Sinai (where the Old Covenant was given to Moses)
- 12:25-29** Believers are again warned to not turn from their faith in Jesus, whose voice will then shake the heavens and earth when establishing His promised everlasting kingdom

Psalm 113:**WHO IS LIKE THE LORD?**

- 113:1-4** A call for the LORD's servants to praise the LORD
- 113:5-9** A description of His deeds for which He is to be praised

Psalm 114:**A REASON TO TREMBLE**

- 114:1-3** As evidenced when the LORD delivered them from Egypt, the Red Sea, and brought them into the land of Canaan
- 114:4-6** Who caused the Red Sea, the Jordan River and the mountains of Canaan to tremble before Him and the children of Israel
- 114:7-8** A call for the earth to tremble at the presence of the God of Jacob, who caused water to come out of a rock for His people Israel

Proverbs

- 27:18** Who partakes of the fruit of the fig tree, and who is honored by his master?
- 27:19** How the heart reveals the true person within, even as water reflects the person without?
- 27:20** How the eyes of a man are like hell (a reference to Sheol in the underworld)?

November 16**Ezekiel****Ezekiel's Appointment to Be a Watchman**

- 33:1-9** His grave responsibility
- 33:10-20** God's warning to the righteous who turn from their righteousness and His hope for the wicked to repent of their wickedness
- 33:21-22** Ezekiel's mouth is opened to speak when he hears of the fall of Jerusalem
- 33:23-29** The LORD promises to make the whole land of Israel desolate as a warning for those in the rural less populated areas who think they will escape the LORD's judgment
- 33:30-33** The same will happen to Ezekiel's fellow citizens in Babylon, who come to hear what God's prophet has to say, but do not do what he says

Israel's Shepherds

- 34:1-6** Ezekiel rebukes the Levitical priests who fed and clothed themselves from the offerings, but did not care for the people to rescue them from their sinful ways
- 34:7-10** The LORD will see to it that they can no longer be His shepherds for Israel
- 34:11-15** The LORD promises to be Israel's true shepherd who cares for the people and will bring them back from their captivity
- 34:16-24** When He does so, He will judge between the fat and the lean sheep, between the rams and the male goats, and will set His servant David to rule over them
- 34:25-31** The LORD also promises to make a covenant of peace with Israel, and restore blessing to the land whereby Israel will no longer suffer at the hands of others, because they are His sheep and He is their God

Hebrews**Concluding Instructions**

- 13:1-6** Pertaining to their personal conduct and relationships
- 13:7-10** Pertaining to following the example of their church leaders rather than the Levitical priests still functioning in the Temple at Jerusalem
- 13:11-14** Pertaining to their need to leave Jerusalem bearing Christ's reproach who died outside the walls of the city, knowing that they have a better city, (Hebrews 12:22-23)
- 13:15-17** Pertaining to their offering sacrifices of Thanksgiving to God on the basis of Christ's shed blood, and to obey their church leaders when they seek to correct them in their Christian conduct
Note: These sacrifices would be spiritual rather than animal, and they would be offering them as God's newly appointed priests to replace the Levitical priests previously mentioned in 13:7-10. The apostle Peter wrote the same, (cf. 1 Peter 2:5 and 2:9)
- 13:18-21** Pertaining to their overall conduct under the terms of the new, everlasting covenant
Note: This is a reference to the New Covenant (chapter eight) which was prophesied to be "everlasting", (cf. Ezekiel 16:60 and 37:26)
- 13:22-25** Pertaining to the author's intent to come to Jerusalem with Timothy who has been released from prison and will soon be reunited with him in Italy
Note: This is another evidence that the apostle Paul is the author of this epistle

Psalm 115:**THE LORD OF ISRAEL IS NOT AN IDOL**

- 115:1-8** Israel's God is contrasted with the idols of the Gentile nations
- 115:9-15** Israel and the priests are told to trust in the LORD for His blessing

Proverbs

- 27:21** How a person should respond to praise?

- 27:22** To what is one's attempt to correct a fool likened?

November 17**Ezekiel****35:1-9**

The LORD will make Mt. Seir an everlasting destruction because of her hatred of Israel, and for her helping to deliver them over to the sword (of Nebuchadnezzar)

35:10-15

The LORD has heard their intent to possess the two lands of Israel, and for that reason they will come to know that He is Israel's God when they are judged

God's New Covenant with Israel**36:1-7**

The LORD will judge Edom and the surrounding nations in jealousy for His own name, who have rejoiced in Israel's destruction and have possessed their land

36:8-15

The LORD promises to restore Israel better than she was before her captivity, and will not allow her to be reproached by the nations anymore

36:16-21

It was because of Israel's defilement of the land that the LORD allowed His name to be profaned in delivering them into the hands of the Gentiles

36:22-28

It is for the sake of His holy name that the LORD will restore Israel to the land, cleanse her of her filthiness and idolatry, and give her a new heart to walk in His ordinances

36:29-32

Israel will come to loathe themselves for their past idolatry when the LORD restores them and makes them fruitful in the land

39:33-38

The nations as well as Israel will know that the LORD He is God, when they see the land of Israel become like the former Garden of Eden

James**The Way to Handle the Trials of Life****1:1-4**

With joy in considering God's purpose for allowing them

1:5-8

With prayer for wisdom from God in facing them

1:9-12

With anticipation of God's reward for enduring them with persevering faith

Note: This will occur during Christ's earthly millennial kingdom

1:13-18

With understanding the difference between sinful desires that come from our own lusts, and righteous desires that come from God

Psalm 116:**THE SORROW OF DEATH****116:1-6**

God preserved David from the sorrow of death when he called upon His name

116:7-11

David can now relax since God has delivered him from the sorrow of death

116:12-19

David vows to publicly praise God for his deliverance, and at the same time declare that the death of God's people is precious in His sight

Proverbs**27:23-27**

Why a person needs to be diligent to care for his possessions?

November 18**Ezekiel****37:1-6**

The LORD shows Ezekiel a vision of a valley full of dead bones, and tells him that He will cause the dry bones to come to life

37:7-10

The LORD tells Ezekiel to call for breath to come into the dry bones along with flesh and skin

37:11-14

Ezekiel is told that these bones represent the future resurrection and restoration of Israel to the land of promise

37:15-23

Ezekiel is told by the LORD to carry two sticks united, to illustrate the reunification of northern and southern Israel in Christ's coming kingdom

Note: The "last days" (v.16) are a reference to the Tribulation

37:24-28

Ezekiel is to foretell God's causing David to rule over Israel again forever, make an everlasting covenant with them, and dwell among them as His people

The Invasion of Israel by Gog and Magog**38:1-6**

Ezekiel is told to prophesy against Gog of the land of Magog, and the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, as well as their cohorts – being Persia, Ethiopia, Put, Gomer, and Beth-togarmah

38:7-9

God will summon them to invade the land of Israel after they have been gathered from captivity and restored as a nation

Note: This is a prophecy of the regathering of Israel during the Tribulation, not Christ's regathering of the nation upon His return

38:10-13

The intent of their invasion will be to plunder the land against the verbal objection of Sheba, Dedan and the descendants of Tarshish

38:14-16

God will summon them in order to show them that He is Israel's God

38:17-23

A description is given of how the LORD will defend Israel from the invasion

The Way to Handle the Trials of Life, (continued)**1:19-25**

By being doers of the Word, and not hearers only

1:26-27

The test of pure religion in the sight of God

The Importance of Showing Mercy**2:1-17**

A believer who does not show mercy, will not be given mercy when he is judged by Christ's Law, because faith by itself without works will not be rewarded

2:1-11 James accuses these Jewish believers of showing respect for wealthy visitors to their synagogues over those who appear to be poor

Note: The word for "assembly" is the word for Jewish synagogues. These are believing Jews who have been scattered from Israel for their Christian faith, and are fearful of Gentile visitors. The usage of the word "synagogue" rather than "church" has caused some to believe that the book of James was written early rather than later in the first century

2:12-13 The "law of liberty" is a reference to the believer's judgment for his works under the terms of the New Covenant. Additional mercy will be granted for those believers who showed mercy to others after they became believers

2:14-17 God will reward believers who demonstrate their faith in deeds of mercy. This is what Jesus referred to in the Sermon on the Mount, (cf. Matthew 6:14-15)

Psalm 117:**PRAISE THE LORD!****117:1**

All ye people

117:2

Reasons for doing so

Proverbs**28:1**

A contrast in how the wicked and the righteous face danger

November 19**Ezekiel****The Invasion of Israel by Gog and Magog, (continued)****39:1-8**

The LORD foretells His destruction of these nations invading Israel so that His holy name will be profaned no more

39:9-16

It will take Israel seven months to bury the dead in the valley of Hamon-Gog, and use their weapons for firewood

39:17-20

Ezekiel is told to call for every kind of beast and bird to feed upon the bodies and the blood of the slain

39:21-24

The nations will at that time know that the LORD delivered Israel into their hands because of her iniquity

39:25-29

At that time Israel will forget her captivity when the LORD in jealousy for His name regathers and restores Israel, to never again reject those on whom He will pour out His Spirit

The New Millennial Temple**40:1-4**

Ezekiel sees a man with bronze appearance in a vision overlooking a city from a high mountain in the land of Israel, with instruments for measuring in his hand

40:5-16

The wall of the outer court of the Temple is described and measured from the eastern gate, along with three guard rooms

40:17-19

The outer court is measured with thirty chambers

40:20-27

The gateways on the north and the south with guard rooms are like the one on the east

James**A Believer's Second Justification, (continued)****2:18-26**

Justification for Millennial reward requires faith to be manifested in one's works, as exemplified in the life of Abraham and Rahab, (see note on 2:1-17)

Note: Abraham was justified by God twice. The first time was for salvation, (cf. Romans 4), and the second time for future blessings yet to be experienced in Christ's coming kingdom. The first justification is by faith alone, but second is by faith which is manifested in one's works. The apostle Paul and James are speaking of two different justifications in the life of Abraham

Psalm 118:**GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD****118:1-4**

Because His mercy endures forever

118:5-9

Because He answers the Psalmist's prayer of distress

118:10-14

Because He delivered him from the violent intent of the surrounding nations

118:15-18

Because He disciplined him, but did not deliver him over unto death

Proverbs**28:2**

The kind of ruler a nation needs to calm upheaval in leadership due to transgression?

November 20**Ezekiel****The New Millennial Temple, (continued)**
It's Inner Courts and their Gates**40:28-47 A description and measurements of . . .**

- 40:28-31 The Inner Court by the south gate and guard rooms
- 40:32-34 The Inner Court toward the east and guard rooms
- 40:35-37 The Inner Court toward the north and guard rooms
- 40:38-43 The area where the animal sacrifices are prepared
- 40:44-47 Rooms set aside for the priests

The Temple Itself**40:48-41:26 A description and measurements of . . .**

- 40:48—49 The porch
- 41:1-2 The Holy Place
- 41:3-4 The Most Holy Place
- 41:5-11 The side chambers for storage
- 41:12 A large building behind the Temple
- 41:13-17 The total dimensions
- 41:18-26 A description of the interior

James**Personal Relationships****4:1-2 Conflicts with one another****4:3-17 Conflicts with God**

- 4:3-10 In unanswered prayer because of worldly lusts
- 4:11-12 In using their synagogues for unauthorized judging under Christ's Law
Note: The kind of judging here refers to Jewish synagogues in lands where they were scattered due to persecution in Israel, and were acting as though they were the government rather than Christ's church
- 4:13-17 In not seeking to know the will of God in matters of personal decisions
Note: Verse seventeen describes what theologians call sins of omission

Psalm 118: GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, (continued)

118:19-21 For the LORD's gate to the Temple in which the righteous are allowed to enter

118:22-29 For the stone which the builders rejected who has become the chief corner stone, and will come in the name of the LORD to bring salvation, (cf. 1 Peter 2:4, a reference to Jesus Christ)

Proverbs

28:3 To what is the poor oppressing the poor likened?

28:4 How one's attitude towards God's Law affects attitude towards the wicked?

28:5 What kind of men do not understand justice, and what kind do?

November 21**Ezekiel****The New Millennial Temple, (continued)****It's Chambers in the Inner Courts, (con't)****42:1-20 A description and measurements of . . .**

- 42:1-12 The chambers of the Inner Court towards the North and the South
- 42:13-14 The purpose for these chambers
- 42:15-20 Overall measurements on each side of the Temple

43:1-12 The return of the LORD's glory

- 43:1-5 His return by the East Gate
- Note:** Compare this vision with the LORD's departure from the East Gate, 1:4-28)
- 43:6-9 The Temple is not to be defiled again
- 43:10-12 The measurements to be recorded as God's Law for the building of the Millennial Temple

43:13-27 The Altar of Burnt Offering

- 43:13-17 It's description
- 43:18-27 Instructions for it's cleansing

James**Other Practical Instructions**

- 5:1-8 Pertaining to their being defrauded of their wages
- 5:9-12 Pertaining to unfair treatment and civil courts
- 5:13-18 Pertaining to serious illness
- 5:19-20 Pertaining to restoration of a backslidden believer, (cf. 1:13-16)

Psalm 119:**THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S LAW**

- 119:1-8 Under the letter *Aleph* of the Hebrew alphabet
- 119:9-16 Under the letter *Beth* of the Hebrew alphabet

Proverbs

- 28:6 When it is better to be poor than rich?
- 28:7 The difference between a son who is wise, and one who causes his father shame

November 22**Ezekiel****The New Millennial Temple, (continued)
Temple Ministry**

- 44:1-3** The gate of the sanctuary towards the east is to be kept shut, because that is the gate the LORD God used to enter the Temple, and the prince is to use the porch for entrance and exit when entering to eat bread
- 44:4-14** The **role of the Levitical priests** in ministry who went astray
Note: They will be resurrected to serve the way God intended them to
- 44:4-5 Ezekiel is brought by way of the north gate to the front of the Temple, and the glory of the LORD fills the Temple; Ezekiel is told to pay attention to the LORD's instructions for ministry in the Temple, and to mark the entrance and all the exits
- 44:6-8 Ezekiel is told to rebuke the Israelites for their having defiled the Temple by turning control over to the idolatrous foreigners
- 44:9-14 No foreigner is to enter the new Temple; only the Levitical priests: however, because they went astray in their idolatry, they will not be allowed to minister with the holy vessels inside, but will instead be required to sacrifice the offerings outside
- 44:15-27** The **role of the sons of Zadok** who did not go astray
 44:15-16 The sons of Zadok will be allowed to enter the Temple and minister before God because they did not go astray as did the rest of the nation
 44:17-20 Their priestly garments and appearance upon entering the Temple for ministry
 44:21-22 Their drinking wine and marriages
 44:23-24 Their teaching, judging, and keeping all of the Festivals and Sabbaths
 44:25-27 Their ceremonial cleansing
- 44:28-45:14** The provisions for the priests and the princes
 44:28-31 In offerings, first fruits, and forbidden foods
 45:1-6 In property for the Temple and the city
 45:7-8 In property for the princes
 45:9-12 In fair taxes for Temple functions

1 Peter**Enduring Persecution**

- 1:1-2** Opening Salutation
Note: To Jews who have fled to modern day Turkey from Israel due to persecution for their faith in the Lord Jesus
- 1:3-5** Their future inheritance that man cannot take away
- 1:6-9** Their future reward by Christ for their persevering faith while being persecuted
- 1:10-12** Their glory foretold by Old Testament prophets, which they understood to not be for themselves but for future believers

Psalm 119:**THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S LAW**

- 119:17-24 Under the letter *Gimel* of the Hebrew alphabet
 119:25-32 Under the letter *Daleth* of the Hebrew alphabet

Proverbs

- 28:8 A promise for those who become wealthy at the expense of the poor
 28:9 Those whose prayers will not be heard
 28:10 A promise for those who cause the righteous to go astray

November 23**Ezekiel****The New Millennial Temple, (continued)
Temple Ministry, (continued)**

- 45:13-17** In dues to the princes to provide for the required offerings
- 45:18-20** Annual offering for cleansing of the sanctuary to be presented by the priest
- 45:21-25** Annual offerings for Passover, the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and the Feast of Tabernacles to be presented by the prince
- 46:1-12** Procedures for presenting offerings by the priests and the prince
- 46:13-15** Presentation of the Daily Burnt Offering
- 46:16-18** Restrictions for how the prince is to share his inheritance
- 46:19-24** Holy chambers for the priests to boil the animal sacrifices

1 Peter**Enduring Persecution**

- 1:13-16** A call to be holy
Note: In verse thirteen, the phrase “at the revelation of Jesus Christ” is referring to his return to this earth in the Second Coming to establish God’s kingdom and reward the faithful. In light of that truth, the believer is to guard his present conduct
- 1:17-21** A call to fear God
Note: Verse twenty proves that God foreknew man’s sinfulness and planned for Jesus to die for the sins of all mankind prior to His creating man. What a loving God!
- 1:22-25** A call to love the brethren
Note: Regeneration did not occur until Christ died, rose again, and ascended into heaven, and gives believers today the capacity to love one another with a pure heart fervently. Old Testament believers were justified, but not regenerated with Christ’s new life when they lived as we are today by the Holy Spirit, (cf. John 7:37-39 and Titus 3:1-6)
- 2:1-3** A call to hunger for God’s Word and to grow spiritually as a newborn craves for a mother’s milk
- 2:4-5** A call to offer spiritual sacrifices instead of animals as God’s newly appointed priests
Note: Peter is proclaiming a new priesthood and new sacrifices to be offered by God’s priests today while the Temple still stands and the Levitical priests still functioning. This would be considered heresy by the Judaizers of that day
- 2:6-8** The reason the animal sacrifices being offered in the Temple are no longer accepted
Note: God’s judgment on Israel for rejecting Christ was appointed beforehand, as quoted by Peter from the Old Testament
- 2:9-10** The purpose for which God has chosen them to be His royal priests, replacing the Levitical priests
Note: Their royal priesthood is patterned after Christ’s, who is appointed by God to be our High Priest forever after the “order of Melchisedec,” (see Hebrews 7)

Psalm 119:**THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD’S LAW**

- 119:33-40** Under the letter *He* of the Hebrew alphabet
- 119:41-48** Under the letter *Vav* of the Hebrew alphabet

Proverbs

- 28:11** The response of the poor to the rich who is wise in his own eyes

November 24**Ezekiel****The New Millennial Temple, (continued)
A New Holy Land**

- 47:1-12** A new river towards the Dead Sea with trees on both sides, good for food and healing
- 47:13-23** Boundaries of the land for the twelve tribes (to include non-citizens living among them)
- 48:1-7** Seven tribes to be given land north of the Temple, (Dan, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Ephraim, Reuben, and Judah)
- 48:8-22** Sacred land for the area of the Temple
- 48:8-9 The Temple
 - 48:10-12 The priests
 - 48:13-14 The Levites
 - 48:15-20 The city
 - 48:21-22 The prince
- 48:23-29** Five tribes to be given land south of the Temple, (Benjamin, Simeon, Issachar, Zebulun and Gad)
- Note: The allotment of land is different than before, (cf. Joshua 13-17)
- 48:30-35** There will be three gates on each side of the city, each named for a tribe, and a new name for the city

1 Peter**Enduring Persecution**

- 2:11-12** A call for good conduct before the Gentiles in whose lands they are living
- Note: The “day of visitation” refers to the day when they, as Gentiles, are saved, (cf. Acts 15:14-18)
- 2:13-17** A call to submit to government officials
- 2:18-20** A call for slaves to submit to their masters
- 2:21-25** A call to follow Christ’s example
- Note: Christ not only died on the cross to provide salvation from the penalty of our sins through his shed blood (1:18-19), but to also provide salvation from the power sin has over us in our mortal bodies through his crucified body (2:24-25). This is a two-fold salvation Christians celebrate in partaking of the bread and cup in Communion
- 3:1-7** A call for wives to submit to their husbands and a warning to husbands
- Note: These verses apply to Christian marriages, as evidenced in verse seven

Psalm 119:**THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD’S LAW, (continued)**

- 119:49-56** Under the letter *Zayin* of the Hebrew alphabet
- 119:57-64** Under the letter *Heth* of the Hebrew alphabet

Proverbs

- 28:12** A contrast in reaction when the righteous triumph and the wicked rise to power
- 28:13** Who will prosper and find mercy and who will not?

November 25**Prophecies regarding the Future of Israel****Daniel****1:1-7**

Daniel is relocated from Israel to Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar in the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim, King of Israel. His deportation along with other choice men of Israel is for the purpose of training them to serve in Nebuchadnezzar's court

Note: The names of Daniel and his three friends which include the name of God are changed to include the names of Babylonian gods

1:8-16

Daniel requests a diet of vegetables and water rather than be defiled with the king's meat and wine

1:17-21

Daniel and his three friends are selected by King Nebuchadnezzar after three years of training. Daniel serves until the first year of Cyrus, King of Persia

Note: God enables them to be ten times more intelligent than the king's wise men

King Nebuchadnezzar's Dream**2:1-6**

The king demands that his wise men recall the dream he had during the night, and give its interpretation, threatening execution for failure to do so

2:7-13

The king orders their execution for failure to comply with his demand, to include Daniel and his three friends

2:14-18

Daniel requests time for him to interpret the dream; he and his friends pray

2:19-23

Daniel praises God for revealing the king's dream and its interpretation to him in a dream

1 Peter**3:8-12**

A call for them to not personally retaliate, but take it to the Lord in prayer

3:13-16

A call for them to not fear those who persecute them, but to seek the Lord's help when defending their Christian faith

3:17-22

The exaltation of Jesus Christ by God the Father, is proof that it is better to suffer for doing good in the will of God, than to suffer for doing evil

3:17-18 Jesus only died once because his body was changed in resurrection from flesh to spirit. The word "Spirit" is not capitalized in the Greek and refers to a spiritual body, (cf. 1 Cor.15:44-47). A more accurate translation would be "in which," not "by which." The identical wording is used in the next chapter to refer to the resurrection body, (4:6)

3:19-20 In his resurrection body, Jesus descended into Hades to preach to the imprisoned spirits of Satan that their plan to destroy Adam's Race and alienate them from God has not succeeded. The imprisoned spirits are the fallen angels of whom Peter speaks in his second epistle, (2 Peter 2:4-5)

3:21-22 Peter writes that water baptism symbolizes Noah's Flood as a warning to those who do not accept Christ as the one being baptized. Christ's exaltation over all of the angels proves the validity of Peter's assertion in 1:17

4:1-6

A call to follow Christ's example in suffering persecution because they choose to not participate in the sensual conduct of the Gentile unbelievers

Psalm 119:**THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S LAW, (continued)****119:65-72**

Under the letter *Teth* of the Hebrew alphabet

119:73-80

Under the letter *Yodh* of the Hebrew alphabet

Proverbs**28:14**

A contrast in outcome for those who avoid sin in the fear of God and those who harden their hearts

November 26**Prophecies regarding the Future of Israel****Daniel****2:24-30**

Daniel gives credit to God before King Nebuchadnezzar for revealing to him the king's dream and its interpretation

2:31-35

Daniel describes the dream to Nebuchadnezzar of a great image representing the king

2:36-45

Daniel interprets the meaning of the dream to forecast the gradual deterioration and destruction of King Nebuchadnezzar's world empire, to be replaced by God's everlasting kingdom

2:46-49

Nebuchadnezzar acknowledges the God of Daniel and promotes Daniel to be next to him in power

Nebuchadnezzar's Making of an Image and the Fiery Furnace**3:1-7**

King Nebuchadnezzar has an image of gold made to honor him, and summons all the leaders of his empire to assemble in Babylon for the purpose of worshipping his image, and threatens their being cast into a fiery furnace if they do not

3:8-12

The refusal of Daniel's three friends to bow and worship the image is reported to the king by certain of the Chaldeans (who are obviously envious of their high position)

3:13-18

The three friends, upon being given another opportunity by the king to comply with his demand, refuse to bow down even if God chooses to not deliver them from being cast into the furnace

3:19-23

The three men are bound in their clothes and cast into the furnace, and the men who cast them into the furnace die by the heat which has been intensified seven times by the king's request

3:24-25

King Nebuchadnezzar is astounded to see the three walking around in the furnace, no longer bound, and a fourth person with them

Note: Could be a pre-incarnate appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ

3:26-27

The king calls for the three men to be brought out of the furnace, who upon being released do not show any signs of having been in a fire

3:28-30

Nebuchadnezzar again praises the God of heaven and decrees that anyone be put to death who says anything against God who can do this for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

1 Peter**Enduring Persecution****4:7-11**

A call to glorify God through Jesus Christ, in their personal relationships to one another

4:12-14

A call to rejoice in their suffering persecution

4:15-16

A call to be willing to suffer as a Christian

4:17-19

A call to expect God's judgment to begin with His people, after which He will judge the unbelievers

5:1-4

A call for church elders to oversee the congregation willingly without "lording it" over the people they serve

5:5-11

A call for being humble towards one another in the church, and for being alert against depression due to stress, (Note Satan's desire for believers suffering from depression)

5:12-14

Final words of greeting and well wishes

Psalm 119:**THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S LAW, (continued)****119:81-88**

Under the letter *Kaph* of the Hebrew alphabet

119:89-96

Under the letter *Lamedh* of the Hebrew alphabet

Proverbs**28:15-16**

A warning regarding wicked rulers in the treatment of the poor

November 27**Prophecies regarding the Future of Israel****Daniel****King Nebuchadnezzar's Vision of a High Tree****4:1-3**

The king praises the Most High God and declares that His kingdom is everlasting

4:4-9

He writes how he had a vision on his bed which alarmed him, and that he called for Daniel to interpret it for him, since his "wise men" could not

4:10-17

He describes his vision of himself as a high tree that was beautiful and good for food to all the earth, but that it was cut down and his mind was changed to live like an animal for seven years, so that all might know that the Most High God is ruler over all mankind

4:18-27

Daniel reluctantly forecasts God's judgment to come upon Nebuchadnezzar for his pride, urges him to repent of his sins and show mercy to the poor

4:28-33

When the king began to exalt himself by his words twelve months later, the vision was fulfilled

4:34-37

When his sanity returned and Nebuchadnezzar blesses the Most High God, he is restored to the throne of Babylon

2 Peter**Holy Living is Important to the Christian****1:1-7**

Christians have partaken of Christ's divine nature, and have thereby been given everything they need to live holy lives as they claim God's precious promises by faith

1:8-11

Should a believer fail to add these godly qualities to his life, and return to living the way he did prior to becoming a Christian, it will affect the manner in which he enters Christ's coming kingdom

Note: The election Peter refers to in verse ten is not one's election in Christ to salvation (Ephesians 1:4), but to one's election to future reward with Christ in his coming kingdom, (cf. Ephesians 1:11). This promised inheritance can be forfeited by way of future reward with Christ

1:12-18

Peter assures believers of the certainty of Christ's coming kingdom, considering his own experience with Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration, (cf. Matthew 17:1-2)

1:19-21

Seeing the glory of Christ with his own eyes on the Mount should cause Christians to be even more confident in the prophecies of holy men through whom the Holy Spirit spoke in times past regarding God's coming earthly kingdom

Psalm 119:**THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S LAW, (continued)****119:97-104**Under the letter *Mem* of the Hebrew alphabet**119:105-112**Under the letter *Nun* of the Hebrew alphabet**Proverbs****28:17**

A person who is guilty of unlawfully shedding the blood of another, will be a fugitive for the rest of his life

28:18

A different outcome in life can be expected for the one who walks blamelessly, or the one who is crooked

November 28**Prophecies regarding the Future of Israel****Daniel****5:1-4**

Belshazzar's Feast and God's Handwriting on the Wall
 Belshazzar holds a great feast for a thousand of his nobles, at which time they drink wine from the gold and silver vessels that Nebuchadnezzar had brought to Babylon from the Temple in Jerusalem, and give praise to the gods of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone

5:5-6

Belshazzar is terrified when he sees the fingers of a man's hand writing on the wall

5:7-9

He summons all the "wise men" to read the inscription and interpret it, offering to promote to be the third in the kingdom any who did; but they were unable to interpret it

Note: Nabonidus, the last king of Babylon, entrusted rulership to his son Belshazzar while he retired to Arabia. Thus the one whom Belshazzar promotes would be third in the kingdom

5:10-12

The queen tells Belshazzar to summon Daniel, since Nebuchadnezzar had considered the spirit of the holy gods to be in him

5:13-16

Belshazzar offers Daniel to become third in the kingdom, if he interprets the writing

5:17-23

Daniel refuses the offer, reminds Belshazzar of how God had humbled Nebuchadnezzar, and rebukes him for exalting himself against God by the feast he is hosting

5:24-28

Daniel proceeds to interpret the writing on the wall, and prophesies that Belshazzar's kingdom will be given to the Medes and Persians

5:29-31

Belshazzar promotes Daniel as he promised, and Belshazzar is killed that same night and the kingdom given to Darius the Mede

Note: The army of Darius diverted the Euphrates River and entered the city to find the people in a drunken festival

2 Peter**2:1-2****Unholy False Prophets**

They exist as they have in the past

Note: Even though Jesus died on the cross in order that they might be saved, His blood was not applied to their account due to their unbelief. While the blood of the sacrifice is the payment for sin, it takes a priest appointed by God to present it on behalf of the sinner in order for atonement to be complete, (Leviticus 4:16-20)

2:3-9

Their sure judgment . . .

2:4-5 As in the days of Noah

2:6-8 As in the days of Lot

2:9 As evidence of both God's judgment on the ungodly, while at the same time delivering the godly

2:10-19

A description of their unholy lifestyle

2:20-22

Their accountability to suffer an even worse judgment since they had heard the truth of the gospel and rejected it

Psalm 119:**THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S LAW, (continued)****119:113-120**

Under the letter *Samekh* of the Hebrew alphabet

119:121-128

Under the letter *Ayin* of the Hebrew alphabet

Proverbs**28:19**

Who will have plenty of food to eat, and who will not?

28:20

A warning is given to those who seek to get rich quick by other means than those who are blessed by God

November 29**Prophecies regarding the Future of Israel****Daniel****Daniel and the Lion's Den**

- 6:1-3** Darius plans to promote Daniel oversee the whole kingdom
- 6:4-9** The presidents and princes conspire against Daniel by having Darius sign a decree outlawing any prayer to other than himself, upon penalty of being cast into the den of lions
- 6:10-13** When the conspirators observe Daniel's continued habit of praying to God three times a day, without trying to hide his practice, they report Daniel's actions to Darius
- 6:14-17** Darius is forced against his will to have Daniel cast into the den of lions, because the law of the Medes and Persians did not allow the king to change any decree he made; yet he hoped that Daniel's God would deliver him
- 6:18-22** After not being able to sleep that night, Darius goes to the lion's den the next morning to see if perhaps Daniel has been delivered by God, and hears Daniel tell him that God had sent an angel to shut the mouths of the lions
- 6:23-24** When Daniel is taken from the den with no signs of physical injury, Darius orders the conspirators to be cast into the den to be devoured by the lions
- 6:25-28** Darius issues another decree ordering that all in his kingdom fear and tremble before the God of Daniel who can deliver in this miraculous way, and whose kingdom cannot be destroyed

2 Peter**The Coming Day of God's Judgment on Sin**

- 3:1-4** Holy prophets of old and the Lord's apostles foretold that in the last days there would be those who would mock the warning of God's coming world-wide judgment upon sin
- 3:5-7** Yet they ignore the fact that God had already judged the world by water in the past, and promises to do so again to the heavens and earth -this time by fire
- 3:8-10** The delay in fulfillment of God's promise is due to His not being willing that any perish, but that all come to repentance, and because none will be able to escape the final Day of the Lord's wrath
- 3:11-13** Believers should live godly lives as a testimony of their anticipating the day when righteousness will prevail in the new heavens and earth to follow
- 3:14-18** Peter recommends that believers read the epistles of Paul in order to grow in grace and in the knowledge of how to live the Christian way of life

Psalm 119:**THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S LAW, (continued)**

- 119:129-136** Under the letter *Pe* of the Hebrew alphabet
- 119:137-144** Under the letter *Tsadhe* of the Hebrew alphabet
- 119:145-152** Under the letter *Qoph* of the Hebrew alphabet

Proverbs**28:21**

A reason to not show partiality

28:22

What a person does not consider when he looks for sinful ways in which to get rich fast

November 30**Prophecies regarding the Future of Israel****Daniel****7:1-3**

Daniel has a vision of four great beasts coming up from the great sea (probably the Mediterranean Sea) in the first year of Belshazzar's reign

7:4-8

The first beast is like a lion, the second like a bear, the third like a leopard, and the fourth a ten-horned beast with another little eleventh horn that is different, in that it has eyes like a man and boasts great things

Note: As it turns out in history, these four beasts are four great Gentile world powers; the lion representing Babylon, the bear representing the Medes and Persians, the leopard representing Greece, and the fourth representing the Roman empire

7:9-12

Daniel sees a heavenly court scene in which the Ancient of Days (God the Father) brings judgment against the four beasts

7:13-14

The Son of Man (Jesus Christ) is given a kingdom afterwards by the Ancient of Days which cannot be destroyed

7:15-16

Daniel asks for those standing by him in the vision for interpretation of the vision

7:17-18

Daniel is told that the four beasts represent four great kings, but that it will be the saints of the Highest (that being Israel) who will inherit the kingdom forever

7:19-22

Daniel requests more information about the fourth beast who wages war against the saints

7:23-28

Daniel is told of the future destruction of the fourth beast, who will war against God's people in Israel for three-and-a-half years

Note: This is the Antichrist, (cf. Revelation 13:1-10)

1 John**1:1-4****Reasons for Confidence or Lack of Confidence as Believers**

The purpose for John's writing

Note: The purpose for John's epistle is to build confidence in the life of a believer. That can be accomplished if they listen to Christ's apostles who know how to fellowship with God the Father and Jesus Christ who is now in heaven, resulting in their joy being full

1:5-7

Which believers maintain fellowship with God, and which do not?

Note: Believers who have been cleansed by Christ's blood on the day of salvation, still need cleansing afterwards of sin. The issue is fellowship, not relationship.

1:8-10

Which believers are forgiven and cleansed, and which are not?

Note: Fellowship with God is maintained by simple confession when the believer becomes aware of sin. It is only broken when the believer's denial and non-confession is in a sense calling God a liar who revealed the sin needing to be confessed

Psalm 119:**THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S LAW, (continued)****119:153-160**

Under the letter *Resh* of the Hebrew alphabet

119:161-168

Under the letter *Shin* of the Hebrew alphabet

119:169-176

Under the letter *Tav* of the Hebrew alphabet

Proverbs**28:23**

Who will find more favor later? The one who rebukes or the one who flatters?

28:24

To what is a son likened who steals from his parents and thinks nothing of it?

December 1**Prophecies regarding the Future of Israel****Daniel****8:1-4**

Daniel sees a ram with two horns, one longer for butting than the other, who does as he pleases and with no one to rescue those he attacks

Note: This turns out to be the Medo-Persian empire, the latter being the stronger

8:5-8

A male goat is then seen coming rapidly against the ram, who shatters his horns and tramples him, after which the large horn of the goat is broken off and replaced by four horns turned towards the four winds of heaven

Note: This turns out to be the Grecian empire under Alexander the Great, which was divided after his death between four kings

8:9-14

From one of the four horns a small horn emerges, which extends towards the south, the east, and the land of Israel; this horn also extends towards the host of heaven, causing some of the stars to fall to the earth, and magnifies himself against the Commander of the host and the Temple for a period of 2300 days

Note: The “little horn” comes out of the third world empire previously revealed to Daniel; that world empire turned out to be Greece under Alexander the Great, from which emerged a king named Antiochus Epiphanes in 175 B.C. Antiochus plundered the Temple in Jerusalem and offered a pig as a sacrifice on the Altar

8:15-25

The angel Gabriel consents to give Daniel the interpretation of the vision, with emphasis upon explaining the role of the little horn during the latter days of the Grecian empire prior to the emergence of Rome

8:26-27

Daniel tells of the effect this vision had on him physically

1 John**Reasons for Confidence or Lack of Confidence as Believers****2:1-2**

A reason for confidence when a believer confesses, even when the sin is deliberate

2:3-11

The best way to build confidence as a believer, or to “know that you know,” is to keep God’s commandments

2:12-17

The apostle John is writing this epistle is to warn believers to not love the world if they want to maintain fellowship with the Father in heaven. He is not writing to unbelievers

2:12 He writes to little children who are believers

2:13a He writes to fathers who are believers, and who saw the Lord when he was on the earth

2:13b He writes to young men who are also believers

Psalm 120:**A “SONG OF DEGREES” or “SONG OF ASCENTS” (concerning David’s enemies who do not want peace, but war)**

Note: This is a small hymn book of songs compiled by king David and used by the Jews to sing as they ascend to Jerusalem to observe the Holy Days

120:1-2

A cry for help

120:3-4

A cry for God’s retribution

120:5-7

A cry for peace

Proverbs**28:25**

Whom the LORD will cause to prosper, in contrast to the one who stirs up conflict?

28:26

A difference in outcome for the person who trusts in himself and the person who walks wisely

December 2**Prophecies regarding the Future of Israel****Daniel****9:1-2**

Daniel sees another vision when he re-read Jeremiah's prophecy regarding Israel's seventy years of captivity, and became concerned that Israel had not yet repented

9:3-19

Daniel's fasting and prayer

9:3-10 He confesses Israel's past rebellion for which they have been dispersed as a nation
9:11-14 He acknowledges the LORD's punishment on the nation to be deserved

9:15-19 He requests God's compassion to again be upon Israel, not because of anything Israel has done to deserve that, but for the sake of God's name not being slandered

9:20-23

The angel Gabriel appears to Daniel in order to give God's answer to Daniel's prayer

9:24-27

What Daniel is to know about the future of Israel

9:24 Israel's suffering for seventy years will be intensified seven times more, making it a total of 490 years, after which she will enter the promised kingdom and everlasting righteousness

9:25-26a However, after 483 years the kingdom will be postponed because Israel's Messiah will be "cut off," and for that reason Jerusalem and the Temple will be destroyed by the people of the Prince that shall yet come

Note: This is a reference to the Romans, out of whose empire the Antichrist will come, (cf. Daniel 7:23-25). This prophecy was fulfilled after Jesus was crucified in 70 A.D.

9:26-27b The final seven years Israel has yet to pay for her past transgressions will begin when she enters a covenant of peace with the Prince that shall yet come, who will break it in the middle and cause the sacrifices to cease in the Temple for the last 3½ years, (cf. Matthew 24:14-21)

Daniel's Vision in the Third Year of Cyrus**10:1-9**

After mourning and fasting for three weeks, Daniel sees a man whose appearance and voice causes Daniel to fall to the ground in a deep sleep

Note: It is interesting that Daniel describes the appearance of God's angels as that of being men. There are no female angels. The same holds true for the New Testament, (cf. Daniel 9:21 with Luke 24:4)

10:10-17

The man explains his delay in coming to answer Daniel's prayer, due to a conflict between the prince of Persia and the prince of Greece who will follow

Note: This is a key passage of Scripture to alert us to the conflict between the Devil and his angels with God's angel's for control of the minds of world leaders, until Jesus comes

10:18-11:1

The man informs Daniel that he will be returning to the conflict with the help of Daniel's prince, Michael, but will first inform him of what will happen to the nation in the latter days, (Michael the archangel is assigned to defend Israel, Daniel 12:1)

1 John**2:18-27**

A warning against false teachers regarding Christ in their local churches

2:28-3:6

The key to showing that one is a Christian and not being ashamed should Jesus come, is by abiding in Christ

Note: Christ's imparted new life and nature produces righteousness, not sin (3:6)

Psalm 121:**A SONG OF ASCENTS (a prayer for divine protection for Israel)****121:1-2**

A personal lifting up of one's eyes to the hills for protection from harm

121:3-8

A promise of God's protection and preservation of Israel

Proverbs**28:27**

A promise for those who give to the poor, and a promise for those who do not

28:28

The effect on society when the wicked rise or when they perish

December 3**Prophecies regarding the Future of Israel**

Daniel's Vision in the Third Year of Cyrus, (continued)

Daniel**11:2-4**

After three more kings of Persia, a fourth will arise who will be conquered by a mighty king of Greece, whose empire will then be divided in four directions

Note: This mighty king turned out to be Alexander the Great

11:5-20

There will follow a continuous struggle between king of the north and the king of the south for control of the "Beautiful Land" or Israel

Note: This prophecy was fulfilled in the historical battles that took place after the death of Alexander the Great between the Ptolemies of Egypt and the Seleucids of Syria

The Reign of Antiochus Epiphanes**11:21-28**

Antiochus IV, a vile king, will rise to power in the north (or Syria), and will war successfully against the king of the south (or Egypt)

11:29-35

When he comes against the king of the south again and does not succeed, will return to the land of Israel in a rage, break his covenant of peace with Israel, desecrate the Temple in Jerusalem, end their animal sacrifices, and place an abomination of desolation there (which was fulfilled when he erected an idol to Zeus)

1 John**3:7-10****Reasons for Confidence or Lack of Confidence as Believers**

When a believer does not abide in Christ and demonstrate Christ's life and righteousness in his daily conduct, he fails to manifest to the world that he is a child of God rather than a child of the Devil

Note: Christ's seed of new life remains in the believer, but it does not grow to the point of outward manifestation due to not abiding in Christ

3:11-18

The same is true when a believer hates his Christian brother, and even murders him as Cain did to Abel, rather than laying down his life for him as Christ did for us

Note: Some say that a true believer cannot murder. But Paul says he can (Galatians 5:21) and Peter says he can (1 Peter 4:15)

3:19-24

When a believer feels conviction in his heart by the Holy Spirit and cannot pray with confidence, it is because he does not abide in Christ and keep God's commandments

PSALM 122:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (thanksgiving to God)****122:1-5**

For Jerusalem, the Temple, and for the throne of David

122:6-9

Prayer for the peace of Jerusalem and for the prosperity of those who love her

Proverbs**29:1**

A promise of sudden destruction to the one who hardens his neck after being often reproved

December 4**Prophecies regarding the Future of Israel**

Daniel's Vision in the Third Year of Cyrus, (continued)

Daniel**11:36-39**

A king will magnify himself above all gods, will pay tribute to the god of power or military might, and will give land to those who magnify him

Note: This is most likely a reference to the coming AntiChrist

11:40-43

The kings of the north and of the south will come against him, at which time he will enter the land of Israel and go on to conquer Egypt, Libya, and Ethiopia

Note: The “time of the end” is a reference to the last seven years Israel has yet to fulfill prior to the return of Christ, when Israel makes a covenant with the AntiChrist, (cf. Daniel 9:26-27)

11:44-45

Upon hearing evil tidings, he will return to the land of Israel and pitch his army in between the Dead Sea and the Mediterranean, that being Mount Zion and the Temple during the Tribulation, where he will come to his end

12:1-2

At that time Michael, the great prince, will stand up for Israel, because she will go through a time of distress such as never before; those who names are written in the book will be delivered, and many will rise from the dead - some to everlasting life and some to everlasting shame and contempt

12:3

Those who are wise will shine as the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever

12:4

Daniel is told to seal the words of this book until the time of the end, when there is increased travel and knowledge

12:5-7

Daniel is told by two men dressed in linen that this time of distress will last for three-and-a-half years, (see Matthew 24:21)

12:8-13

Daniel is told how long it will be in terms of days from the time the AntiChrist causes the sacrifices to cease in the Temple to the beginning of Christ’s Millennial kingdom, and is told that he will rise from the dead at that time to receive his inheritance

1 John**4:1-6**

Confidence because they are indwelt by the Holy Spirit as a result of believing Christ’s apostles rather than he many false prophets

4:7-11

Confidence because they love one another who have been born again, as they should since God first loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins

4:12-21

Confidence in having love for one another by which fear is cast out when anticipating the future judgment of God

PSALM 123:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (a prayer for mercy)****122:1-2**

A personal commitment to lift one’s eyes to the heavens for the LORD’s mercy, as a servant looks to the hand of his master or a maid to the hand of her mistress

122:3-4

A plea for mercy considering the proud who scorn them

Proverbs**29:2**

How people respond when the righteous are in authority, in contrast to when the wicked rule?

29:3

A son who loves wisdom causes his father to rejoice, in contrast to the son who spends his money on prostitutes

29:4

A just king causes stability to a land, in contrast to the king who accepts bribes

December 5**Hosea****1:1**

The kings which reigned over Judah and Israel during the days of Hosea

1:2

The LORD tells Hosea to marry Gomer whose past life as a prostitute would illustrate Israel's unfaithfulness to the LORD

1:3-5Hosea has a son whom the LORD names *Jezreel* to foretell His avenging the blood of Jezreel upon the house of Jehu and the kingdom of northern Israel in the Valley of Jezreel, (cf. 2 Kings 8-10)**1:6-7**Hosea also has a daughter by Gomer whom the LORD names *Loruhamah* which means "No Mercy," to foretell His having no mercy on the house of Israel in allowing them to be carried away into captivity, but will have mercy on Judah and save them without having to fight for their freedom, (cf. 2 Kings 19:29-35)**1:8-2:1**Hosea has a second son whom the LORD names *Loammi* which mean "Not My People" to foretell His rejection of Israel; yet promises the day will come when they will again be called His people and sons of the living God, and both northern and southern Israel will be united under one ruler in the day of Jezreel, (cf. Isaiah 11:11-13)**2:2-5**

The LORD pleads with Israel to forsake her idolatry considering His coming divorce of her as His people and judgment upon her children

2:6-13

The lovers or idolatrous nations, from whom she sought help in the day of the LORD's judgment for worshipping Baal, will not be able to save her

2:14-23

The LORD promises to betroth Israel to Himself again as His people, and she will this time be faithful to Him as her Husband

3:1-3

Hosea is told to yet love a woman, who had left him for another lover and had committed adultery, as a portrayal of God's abiding love for unfaithful Israel

Note: Evidently Hosea had divorced Gomer for being unfaithful to him (See Deuteronomy 24:1-2), and for whom Hosea had to pay a price to get her back from the lover she had turned to, even as the LORD would have to pay a price to take Israel back to Himself as His people

3:4-5

Hosea prophesies that for many days Israel will be without a king until they return to the LORD in the latter days

Note: This will be fulfilled when Jesus reigns over Israel during the Millennium on the throne of David in fulfillment of God's covenant with David

1 John**Reasons for Confidence or Lack of Confidence as Believers****5:1-5**

The one who believes in Jesus has overcome the condemnation that is yet to come upon this world, (cf. 2:15-17)

5:6-9

The proof that Jesus is the Son of God is the water and blood that came from his body on the tree by the Holy Spirit after Jesus had died, (cf. John 19:34-35 and 20:31)

5:10-13

What the person who believes in Jesus as the Son of God can know for sure

5:14-15

Of what the believer can be confident when he prays

5:16-21

Of what the believer can be confident who keeps himself from sin and idolatry

PSALM 124:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (of thanks for God's protection)****124:1-5**What would have happened had not God helped us against those who were against us
Blessed be the LORD who has helped us**Proverbs****29:5**

Why be on guard when a man flatters his neighbors

29:6

Why the righteous can sing and rejoice in contrast to an evil man in his transgression

29:7

The difference in the way the righteous and the wicked consider the plight of the poor

29:8

The difference in handling wrath between the scornful and the wise

December 6**Hosea****God's Indictment Against Israel and Impending Judgment****4:1-3**

The LORD's case against Israel and impending judgment

4:4-6

Israel will fall along with the priest and the prophet, because they are destroyed for lack of knowledge

4:7-11

God's judgment will come upon the people, priest, and prophet alike

4:12-19

Judah is warned to not join Ephraim in his idolatry and fornication

5:1-7

Both Israel and Judah will seek the LORD for help, but He will not respond because of their pride and idolatry

5:8-15

Neither Judah nor Ephraim will be able to escape the coming judgment of the LORD, and Ephraim will not be helped when turning to the king of Assyria

Note: This is probably Tiglath-pilezer, III (Ryrie Study Bible)**2 John****A Warning to Not Assist False Teachers****1:1-3**

Opening salutation to a believer chosen woman and her children

1:4-6

John expresses gratitude for the way in which she is raising her children in the truth, exhorting them to love one another, and to obey Christ's commands

1:7-11

John warns her to not allow deceivers to use her home for teaching false doctrine regarding Jesus, nor to assist them on their journey to teach others

Note: The teaching that Jesus did not really come in the flesh became known as Gnosticism, which taught that the body and matter is evil. Verse eight is a warning of a potential loss of reward for believers**1:12-13**

John expresses his intent to see her soon and gives a closing greeting

PSALM 125:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (future deliverance for those who trust in the LORD)****125:1-3**

Those who trust in the LORD will be secure from the rule of the wicked to prevent them from putting forth their hands to do iniquity, even as Jerusalem sits secure on Mount Zion surrounded by mountains

125:4-5

A prayer is given for the LORD to do good for those who are upright in heart, and are promised that the LORD will remove from the land those who would do iniquity

Proverbs**29:9**

How a fool reacts when confronted by a wise man

29:10

The kind of people who seek to kill the upright, and the kind who seek to save them

29:11

The difference between the fool and the wise in when and how they speak, and how

December 7**Hosea****6:1-3**

Israel's plea to the LORD for restoration after judgment

Note: Today, tomorrow, and the third day mean a short period of time, (cf. Luke 13:32-33)**6:4-11**

The LORD's response to Ephraim and Judah in consideration of their iniquity

Note: Compare 6:6 with Matthew 9:13**7:1-7**

Israel thinks that God will not remember the wickedness of Samaria and her kings

7:8-16

The sure destruction of Ephraim because of their refusal to repent, although they seek help from Egypt and Assyria

8:1-7

Judgment is coming against the Temple in the southern kingdom because of transgression, and is coming against the calf which Samaria placed in northern Israel

8:8-14

Their appeal for help from Assyria will not prevent both northern and southern Israel to be swallowed up among the nations and returned to captivity that they once suffered in Egypt, because Israel has forgotten God who created them as a nation

9:1-6

They will no longer be able to offer sacrifice to God because they will die in Egypt and eat unclean food in Assyria

9:7-9

Judgment is coming upon Ephraim because they have rejected the warnings of God's prophets and have become depraved like those in the days of Gibeah, (cf. Judges 19-21)

9:10-17

God will cause Ephraim to be bereaved of her children because of their wickedness

3 John**1:1**

Opening Salutation of the apostle John to Gaius

1:2-8

Commendation of Gaius for helping the missionaries John sent

Note: Not all can go forth, but all can support. They thereby become "fellow helpers" to the cause of the Gospel**1:9-12**

Condemnation of Diotrephes who did not treat them well and recommendation of Demetrius

Note: Diotrephes was probably the pastor of the local church of which Gaius was a member, and John is apparently recommending his replacement with Demetrius**1:13-14**

John's intent to visit them soon and closing greetings

PSALM 126:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (future restoration)****126:1-3**

Their joy as a nation when the LORD restores Israel to Zion from captivity

126:4-6

Tears will be turned to joy when they are able once again to reap a harvest in the land

Proverbs**29:12**

The kind of ruler who causes his servants to become wicked

29:13

What the poor and the oppressor of the poor have in common?

29:14

How a king can secure his reign?

December 8**Hosea****God's Indictment Against Israel and Impending Judgment, (continued)****10:1-2**

The more prosperous Israel became, the more idolatrous altars and images they made
10:3-8 The calf Israel erected at Bethel will be given to the king of Assyria as a present, the king of Samaria will be cut off, the high places for idolatrous worship at Bethel will be destroyed, and the nation will cry for the mountains to hide them from the Assyrians, (cf. Revelation 6:15-16)

10:9-15

Judah is urged to sow righteousness, considering what is about to happen to Ephraim
11:1-7 The LORD who loved Israel as a son and delivered them from Egypt, will give them over to Assyria because of their refusal to return unto Him

11:8-12

The LORD however will not give up on Ephraim and destroy them like He did the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, but will regather them from the west, from Egypt, and from Assyria

12:1-6

The LORD has a controversy with Ephraim (for seeking assistance from Assyria and from Egypt) and with Judah, urging them to depend upon the LORD as did Jacob when he wrestled with the Angel of the LORD

12:7-11

Although Ephraim has become rich, God will cause them to live in tents because of their Idolatry and rejection of His prophets

12:12-14

Even though God sustained Jacob when he fled to Aram and worked for a wife, and even though God used Moses to bring Israel out of bondage to Egypt, God will not deliver the nation now because of blood guiltiness

13:1-3

Ephraim will die like they did before when they worshipped Baal

13:4-8

The LORD who saved them from bondage to Egypt will now turn against them like a lion and devour them like a leopard or as a bear, because they have forgotten the LORD who alone is their Savior

13:9-11

The LORD alone is their King who can help them

13:12-16

The LORD promises to redeem them from the grave which He will cause to come upon them and Samaria for their wickedness, (cf. 13:14 with 1 Corinthians 15:55-56)

14:1-9

The LORD urges Israel to return to Him and to not depend upon Assyria or their idols for help, and His anger will turn away from them and He will cause them to again prosper

REGARDING THEIR LOVE FEASTS**Jude****1:1-7**

Jude writes a quick letter to exhort the believers to contend for the Christian Faith against those who would distort the doctrine of grace to justify immorality

NOTE: The phrase “*were before of old ordained* to this condemnation” is literally the Greek word meaning “written beforehand,” and is a reference to three examples in the Old Testament he will point to in verses five through seven to prove his warning that God has judged immorality no matter who they were in history

1:8-23

In the same way Jude warns that God will also judge those who use the Love Feasts in the church to practice their immorality, and describes the kind of people they are

Note: The “feasts of charity” or love feasts were occasions when in observing a church dinner as was practiced in the Upper Room when the Lord first instituted the Lord’s Supper, those participating reclined on the floor to eat and this practice became a temptation for immoral conduct

PSALM 127:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (“Unless the LORD had . . .)****127:1-5**

It is the LORD who builds a house, protects a city, and blesses a man with children

Proverbs**29:15-17**

What will happen to a child who is not disciplined (v.15), when the wicked are multiplied (v.16), and when a child is disciplined, (v.17)

December 9**Joel**

- 1:1-3** The word of the LORD through Joel for the elders of Judah to hear
- 1:4-7** The land has been devastated by an army of locusts because of Judah's drunkenness
- 1:8-12** The people and priests are told to wail like a virgin for the loss of her bridegroom, because of the devastating effect upon the land
- 1:13-14** The priests are told to call for a national fast with mourning because of a lack of provision for the meal and the drink offerings
- 1:15-20** The day of the LORD's judgment has come by fire and by famine, whereby the animals cannot find pasture or water to drink
- 2:1-11** This is an invincible army (could foretell the Babylonian invasion as well as the invasion from the north during the Tribulation, 2:10-11)
- 2:12-17** The LORD calls for the people and priests to return to the LORD with all their heart, with weeping and fasting, and perhaps He will relent because He is a compassionate God

Israel's Future Deliverance

- 2:18-20** The LORD promises to be jealous for Israel, to prosper them as a nation, to drive the northern army away, and to not make Israel a reproach among the Gentiles anymore
Note: This seems to be another army in the during the Tribulation, many years after the invasion of the Babylonians, (cf. 2:2 with Daniel 11:40-45)
- 2:21-27** The people, animals, and land are told to rejoice for the day when God's people will never be put to shame again
- 2:28-32** Prior to this day, the LORD will alert the nation by pouring out His Spirit upon the people so that they will prophesy, and by also showing wonders and signs in the heavens above, so that those who call upon the name of the LORD will be saved, (cf. Acts 2:16-21)
- 3:1-15** In those days when the LORD regathers Israel to the land from their captors, He will gather the nations and fight against them in the Valley of Jehoshaphat
- 3:16-21** In that day when the LORD reigns in Jerusalem, the land of Judah will prosper while Egypt and Edom will become a wasteland because of their violence

Revelation

- 1:1-3** John writes from whom came this revelation for him to write
- 1:4-8** John gives tribute to the Father and to Jesus Christ, who has made us to be kings and priests with Him when He returns to this earth
- 1:9-11** John writes the occasion when he received this revelation
- 1:12-16** He describes having a vision of the Lord Jesus dressed in His priestly garments, and ministering among seven golden lampstands in the Heavenly Sanctuary (of which the one Moses erected was only a type, Hebrews 8:1-5)
- 1:17-20** John describes his response upon seeing Jesus in a vision, and the Lord's instructions for him to write what he has seen (ch.1), what he is about to see (ch.2-3, the seven churches which is Christ's message to all local churches), and what he will see regarding the future after the church is taken into heaven (ch.4:1 and following)

PSALM 127:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (Blessing on Those who Fear the LORD)**

- 128:1-4** On his home and family
- 128:5-6** On Zion and Jerusalem

Proverbs

- 29:18** What happens when the LORD stops giving visions?

December 10**Amos****Prophesies of Judgment****1:1-2**

The opening words of Amos in the days of Uzziah of Judah and Jeroboam of Israel two years before the earthquake, regarding the coming judgment of the LORD, comparing it to the roar of a lion

1:3-5

Judgment to come upon Damascus, (cf. 2 Kings 16:8)

1:6-8

" " " Philistia

1:9-10

" " " Tyre

1:11-12

" " " Edom

1:13-15

" " " Ammon, (cf. 2 Kings 8:12)

2:1-3

" " " Moab

2:4-5

" " " Judah

2:6-16

" " " Israel

2:6-8 Their transgressions

2:9-12 Their lack of appreciation for what the LORD has done for them in possessing the land

2:13-16 Their coming judgment

Sermons Against Israel

God's Indictment

3:1-8

The entire nations should heed the LORD's warning as the roar of a lion

3:9-15

The rulers of Ashdod and Egypt are told to come and witness the destruction of northern Israel, for their violence and robbery, and for their idolatrous altars at Bethel

Revelation**Seven Churches of Asia Minor****2:1-7**

Christ's message to the church at Ephesus as His message to all local churches

2:1-3 His commendation

2:4-6 His criticism and warning

2:7 His promise to all churches

2:8-11

Christ's message to the church at Smyrna as His message to all local churches

2:8-9 His commendation

2:10-11 His promise to all churches

2:12-17

Christ's message to the church at Pergamos as His message to all local churches

2:12-13 His commendation

2:14-16 His criticism and warning

2:17 His promise to all churches

PSALM 129:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (About Those Who Persecute Zion)****129:1-4**

Their persecution on many occasions, yet have not prevailed

129:5-8

A prayer against all who hate Zion

Proverbs**29:19**

What a slave will not heed when needing to be corrected?

29:20

For whom is there more hope than for a fool?

December 11**Amos****4:1-3**

The women of Samaria who prosper at the expense of the poor will be captured and drug through the breaches in the walls of the city

4:4-5

Their coming to Bethel and Gilgal to offer sacrifices and tithes, while committing multiple transgressions, will not save them

4:6-11

The nation has not returned to the LORD despite all He has done by way of judgments on their land and on their people as He did to Egypt, and Sodom and Gomorrah

4:12-13

So because of their non-repentance, Israel needs to prepare to meet their God who has all knowledge and power over creation

God's Lamentation for Israel**5:1-3**

Ninety percent of Israel will be taken away into captivity

5:4-7

Israel is urged to seek the LORD and live, rather than go to Bethel or Gilgal, whose inhabitants will be carried away, nor cross over to Beersheba in Judea thinking they will escape

5:8-13

They should seek the LORD whose power is without limit, who judges those who abhor the upright and who prosper by abusing the poor

5:14-15

The LORD appeals for Samaria to seek the good, hate evil, and rule justly, and perhaps the LORD will allow them to live

5:16-17

There will be wailing everywhere when the LORD passes through the land

5:18-22

The coming day of the LORD will not be light but darkness, and their offerings and worship will no longer be accepted

5:23-24

Nor will their worship with singing and playing of musical instruments be accepted, but rather their justice and righteousness

5:25-27

While they did not continually give offerings to the LORD for forty years, they did make make and worship the false gods of the lands through which they passed (cf. Acts 7:43), and for which God will cause them to be taken into captivity beyond Damascus, (cf. 2 Kings 17:6)

6:1-7

The LORD rebukes the leaders of Zion and Samaria for celebrating as if God's judgment is not coming

6:8-11

The LORD's promise of impending judgment is His sworn irrevocable oath

6:12-14

The extent of the LORD's coming judgment

Note: Hamath is a city on the northern border and the brook of Arabah on the southern

Revelation**Seven Churches of Asia Minor, (continued)****2:18-29**

Christ's message to the church at Thyatira as His message to all local churches

2:18-19 His commendation

2:20-25 His criticism and warning

2:26-29 His promise to all churches

3:1-6

Christ's message to the church at Sardis as His message to all local churches

3:1-4 His criticism and warning

3:5-6 His promise to all churches

PSALM 130:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (about Iniquities)****130:1-4**

A cry for forgiveness

130:5-8

Waiting upon the LORD for His forgiveness

Proverbs**29:21**

How a slave becomes like a son?

29:22

A warning against uncontrolled temper

December 12**Amos**

- 7:1-3** A vision of locusts
- 7:4-6** A vision of fire
- 7:7-9** A vision of a plumb line
- 7:10-17** An interruption of visions to prophesy against Amaziah, the priest of Bethel
- 8:1-14** A vision of summer fruit
- 8:1-3 The LORD shows Amos a basket of summer fruit
 - 8:4-10 The LORD promises to judge those who take advantage of the poor and needy
 - 8:11-14 Israel will seek a word from the LORD and not find it, and will find that their false Gods at Dan and at Beersheba will not be able to help
- 9:1-10** A vision of the smitten lintels of the doors
- 9:1-4 No one will be able to hide from the LORD's coming judgment
 - 9:5-6 The LORD will cause the land to rise and fall like the Nile River (an earthquake)
 - 9:7-10 The LORD will judge all the sinful nations as He has Ethiopia, Egypt, the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Syrians from Kir, but will not completely annihilate all of Israel

9:11-15**Five Promises**

- 9:11 To rebuild the tabernacle of David (city of Jerusalem)
- 9:12 To possess the land of Edom and all the Gentile nations called by His name
- 9:13 To cause the land to become plentiful in harvest
- 9:14 To regather those in captivity and establish them in the land
- 9:15 To be pulled away from their land no more

Revelation**Seven Churches of Asia Minor, (continued)**

- 3:7-13** Christ's message to the church at Philadelphia as His message to all local churches
- 3:7-8 His commendation
 - 3:9-10 His promise to the church at Philadelphia
 - 3:11 His command with warning
 - 3:12-13 His promise to all churches
- 3:14-22** Christ's message to the church at Laodicea as His message to all local churches
- 3:14-19 His criticism and warning
 - 3:20-22 His promise to all churches

PSALM 131:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (About Pride)**

- 131:1** What he will not do
- 131:2** What he will do
- 131:3** What Israel should do forever

Proverbs

- 29:23** The importance of not being proud, but humble

December 13**Obadiah****1:4**

Because he thinks that no one can harm him, as he dwells on high in the cliffs like an eagle

1:5-9

The land of Edom will be totally destroyed

Note: The Edomites are descendants of Esau, the twin brother of Jacob. They have opposed Israel on every occasion, beginning with Israel's sojourn from Sinai to Canaan, (cf. Numbers 20:14-20, 1 Samuel 14:47, 1 Kings 11:14-17, 18-25; 2 Chronicles 20:22, and 21:8)

Reasons for their Coming Doom**1:10-14**

Because they did violence against Jacob, his brother, even though the LORD had warned them to not do so

Note: They took advantage of the invasion by Nebuchadnezzar to plunder Israel

1:15-16

They, and all the nations who have plundered the land of Israel, will face God's judgment in the future Day of the LORD

1:17-18

Israel will possess her land again, while Edom will be reduced to nothing

1:19-21

In that day Israel will also possess the land of Edom

Revelation**4:1**

John hears the Lord calling him into heaven in his vision

Note: This is because the Lord does not want John to think of himself as being on earth and going through the Tribulation, because John is an apostle of Christ to the Church which will be called into heaven before the Tribulation begins. This is called the Pre-Tribulation Rapture of the Church by theologians, (cf. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11)

4:2-8

John describes what he sees in the Heavenly Sanctuary where Jesus ministers as our Great High Priest (cf. Revelation 1:12-16), and the throne of God the Father where He sits at the Father's right hand, (cf. Hebrews 8:1)

4:9-11

Twenty-four elders in white robes and crowns on their heads, are seen by John to be worshipping God the Father as our Creator, along with four living creatures

Note: These elders are both priests and kings of the glorified church which has been taken into heaven prior to the Tribulation. King David appointed twenty-four priests of the tribe of Levi to minister to God at a time in the Temple, The time of their service was determined by the casting of lots, (cf. 1 Chronicles 24 with Luke 1:5-9)

PSALM 132:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (About the Davidic Covenant)****132:1-5**

The promise God gave to David in response to David's request to build a Temple, (2 Samuel 7)

132:6-9

Jerusalem and Mount Zion, the place where the LORD chose to be worshipped

132:10-12

A prayer for the LORD to not forsake His promise to David

132:13-18

The LORD's assurance that He will indeed fulfill His promise to David through a coming King, (which is a reference to Jesus as the Christ)

Proverbs**29:24**

The potential danger of covering for a thief (in sworn testimony)

29:25

A reason to trust in the LORD rather than fear man

December 14**Jonah****1:1-3**

Jonah boards a ship going west to Tarshish, which is the opposite direction to Nineveh, the city where the LORD had commanded him to go and preach

1:4-8

When a life-threatening storm occurs, the men on the ship cast lots to determine whose god has been offended

1:9-12

Jonah acknowledges that he has been disobedient to God, and suggests that they throw him overboard in order to calm the storm and save their lives

1:13-16

The men reluctantly do so after trying unsuccessfully to reach shore, and offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the LORD when He calms the storm

His Prayer**1:17-2:9**

Jonah gives thanks to the LORD for answering his prayer and saving him while in the belly of a great fish for three days and three nights, (cf. Matthew 12:39-40)

2:10

The LORD commands the fish to vomit Jonah out on dry land

His Proclamation**3:1-2**

The LORD commands Jonah a second time to go to Nineveh

3:3-4

Jonah obeys and takes a full day to walk through the city, proclaiming God's judgment to come in forty days

3:5-10

The LORD relents when He sees the city repent with sackcloth and extreme fasting under the leadership of the king

God's Compassion**4:1-4**

Jonah prays to die, being extremely angry, and reminds the LORD that it was Jonah's knowledge of the LORD's compassion that caused him to flee to Tarshish to begin with. Jonah leaves the city to sit on a hill and watch to see if the LORD will destroy the city in forty days. The LORD causes a plant to grow in one day to give shade, and a worm to destroy it the next day. Jonah suffers under the heat of the sun and from the scorching wind from the east

4:9-11

The LORD questions Jonah's compassion for the plant in contrast to the LORD's compassion on 120,000 youth who have not yet become accountable enough for their sins to die a premature death

Note: Israelites under the age of twenty were spared from dying in the wilderness for the same reason, (cf. Numbers 14:29 with Deuteronomy 1:39)

Revelation**Worshipping God's Lamb in Heaven****5:1-7**

Jesus, God's Lamb, is found worthy by God the Father to take a seven sealed scroll and carry out the judgments to follow as written with the finger of God the Father

5:8-14

The elders and glorified Church, along with God's angels and creatures are seen by John to be worshipping Jesus in heaven as God's Lamb, who has not only redeemed them by His blood, but has made them to be kings and priests who will reign upon the earth

PSALM 133:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (About the blessedness of Unity)****133:1**

It is good and pleasant

133:2-3

Two illustrations by which to compare it as being good and pleasant

Proverbs**29:26**

From whom to seek justice?

29:27

To whom the unjust are an abomination, and to whom the upright are an abomination

December 15**Micah****1:1-7**

The LORD calls for all the nations to hear what the LORD will do in divine judgment upon Jerusalem and Samaria for their idolatry

1:8-16

Micah proclaims the coming invasion of northern Israel and the siege of Jerusalem

Note: Samaria is captured in 722 B.C. by the Assyrians, and the city of Jerusalem is besieged in 701 B.C., (2 Kings 18:13-16)

2:1-11

Reasons for God's judgment

2:12-13

A promise of future restoration (to be fulfilled by Christ during the Millennium)

Message of Divine Judgment**3:1-4**

On the princes or rulers

3:5-8

On the false prophets, in contrast to Micah

3:9-12

On Mount Zion and Jerusalem

Promise of the Coming Kingdom**4:1-8**

The future glory of the Temple and the LORD's reign over the earth from Mt. Zion

4:9-13

After their Babylonian captivity, the LORD will enable Israel to pulverize her enemies

Note: To be fulfilled when Christ returns to establish God's kingdom (the Millennium)

Revelation**The Seal Judgments Opened****6:1-8**

The first four seals involving horses and horsemen

6:1-2 The 1st Seal and a white horse, (worldwide unrest)

6:3-4 The 2nd Seal and a red horse, (worldwide conflict)

6:5-6 The 3rd Seal and a black horse, (worldwide famine)

6:7-8 The 4th Seal and a pale horse, (worldwide plague)

Note: ¼ of the world's population die as a result of these first four Seal Judgments

6:9-17

The fifth and sixth seals regarding martyrdom

6:9-11 The prayer of those who are martyred for their faith in Christ

Note: Since the Church is now in heaven (chapters four and five) and the Jewish evangelists have not yet been sealed, it stands to reason that those who have accepted Christ and been martyred are those who came to saving faith as a result of the Rapture. The only exception would be those Paul describes in 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12).

6:12-17 The first great worldwide earthquake, as God's way of showing the world His displeasure for the martyrdom of those who believe in Christ after the Rapture

PSALM 134:**A SONG OF DEGREES OR ASCENTS (About the Levitical Priests)****134:1**

A call for His servants to bless the LORD in the Temple during the night

134:2

A call for them to raise their hands as they do so

134:3

A prayer for God's blessing as they do so

Proverbs**30:1-4**

Agur, the son of Jakeh, inquires of the prophets Ithiel and Ucal as to the name of the One who inhabits heaven and earth, controls nature and the ends of the earth, and the name of His Son, (A reference to Jesus Christ)

December 16**Micah****5:1-3**

God will give up on Israel until a ruler will be born in Bethlehem whose existence has been from eternity, (cf. Matthew 2:5-6)

Note: Verse one is referring to King Zedekiah, (cf. 2 Kings 24:17-25:9)

5:4-6

It will be this ruler who will be Israel's peace and will enable them to conquer Assyria

Note: This has yet to be fulfilled when Christ returns

5:7-9

The remnant of Jacob will be able to destroy all of their enemies in that day

5:10-15

And in that day the nations will be purified from idolatry

God's Controversy with Israel**6:1-5**

The LORD inquires as to why they have forsaken Him, in light of what He has done for them

6:6-8

Israel is told to not think that offering sacrifices to the LORD will appease Him, but to do what He has already commanded them, (cf. 6:8 with Deuteronomy 10:12 and 30:15-16)

6:9-16

God will bring judgment upon them for following the ways of Omri and Ahab, (cf. 1 Kings 16-23)

Micah's Response**7:1-6**

Micah bemoans the evil of Israel

7:7-20

Micah will wait expectantly for God to deliver Israel in fulfillment of His covenant with Abraham

7:7-10 After first suffering the LORD's indignation, Israel will put her enemies to shame

7:11-13 it will be a day when Israel's boundaries will be extended, while the population of the enemies of Israel will be diminished

7:14-20 Micah looks forward to the day when Israel's Shepherd restores the nation as in the days of old, and causes the nations to tremble before Him as He fulfills His covenant with Abraham (upon Christ's return to establish God's millennial kingdom)

Revelation**7:1-8**

144,000 Jewish single men are sealed to protect them from harm, before four angels release great winds from the four corners of the earth to destroy trees and vegetation as God's punishment for putting to death those who believe in Christ after the Rapture

Note: These Jewish men will spread the Gospel of the Kingdom throughout the world since the Church has already been taken from the earth into heaven (cf. Revelation 4:1 with 14:1-5)

7:9-17

A great multitude will be martyred for believing in Jesus after the Rapture of the Church, and will be comforted in heaven by Christ

Note: This multitude is not to be confused with the glorified Church John saw previously in heaven due to the Rapture, (cf. Revelation 5:9-10)

PSALM 135:**135:1-4**

The priests who serve the LORD in the Temple are commanded to praise the LORD because He is great and has chosen Israel

135:5-12

The LORD is to be praised for His deliverance of Israel from Egypt, Sihon king of the Amorites, Og king of Bashan, and enabling them to conquer the kingdoms of Canaan and possess their land

135:13-18

The LORD's name is to be remembered through all generations, rather than the idols of other nations

135:19-21

Israel, the priests, and the Levites are all to bless the LORD who dwells in Zion

Proverbs**30:5-6**

God's word is to be trusted and not added to, because every word is pure

December 17**Nahum****Against Nineveh****1:1**

An oracle of God against the city of Nineveh as seen by Nahum in a vision

Note: Nineveh, after having repented earlier under the preaching of Jonah, later returned to her previous wicked conduct and had destroyed Samaria in 722 BC and besieged Jerusalem in 701 BC**1:2-8**

God has power to judge with fierce anger, and yet in His goodness be a stronghold in the day of trouble to those who know and trust Him

1:9-14

Nineveh's evil king will be cut off

Note: Sennacherib, king of Assyria, is being referred to in v.11 and 14, (cf. 2 Kings 19:37)**1:15**

What is bad news for Nineveh regarding her future, is good news for Israel who has suffered under the yoke of Assyria

Note: Nineveh was sacked by the Babylonians and Medes in 612 BCNote: Compare v.15 with Isaiah 52:7 and Romans 10:15**2:1-10**

Nineveh who became rich by plundering other nations will herself be plundered

Note: The shields of the Medes and Persians were colored red and their chariots had scythes attached to the axles. (v.3)Note: When the river gates were breached, the Temple of Ishtar was flooded, v.6**2:11-13**

The city which became known for her lions will be destroyed

Note: Lions are pictured on Assyrian sculptures**3:1-7**

No one will grieve for Nineveh when destroyed by the Medes and Persians because of her violence, and her involvement with the occult and sorcery

3:8-11

Nineveh is no better than the city of No, more popularly known as the city of Thebes and the capital of upper Egypt, and is located on the River Nile as was Nineveh on the river Tigris

Note: Nineveh was sacked by the Assyrians in 663 BC**3:12-19**

All who hear of Nineveh's destruction will rejoice because of her wickedness

Revelation**Trumpet Judgments****8:1-6**

The seventh sealed scroll is opened by the Lord, at which time seven angels are seen, each with a trumpet

Note: The first four trumpet judgments each affect one-third of the earth's environment**8:7**The 1st Trumpet judgment is sounded, (1/3 of the trees and grass)**8:8-9**

The 2nd Trumpet judgment is sounded, (1/3 of the seas become blood)

8:10-11

The 3rd Trumpet judgment is sounded, (1/3 of the springs and rivers poisoned)

8:12-13

The 4th Trumpet judgment is sounded, (1/3 of the light of day and night darkened)

PSALM 136:**GOD'S MERCY ENDURES FOREVER****136:1-9**

As seen in God's creation

136:10-15

As seen in God's deliverance of Israel from Egypt

136:16-22

As seen in God's leading them to possess the land of Canaan

136:23-26

As seen in God's protection and provision

Proverbs**30:7-9**

Two requests of the LORD that Agur makes before he dies

December 18**Habakkuk****1:1-4**

His concern as to why the LORD allows wickedness to continue in Judah?

1:5-11

The LORD's answer regarding His raising up the Babylonians to judge Judah

His Second Concern Answered**1:12-17**

His concern as to why the LORD will use a nation worse than Judah to judge His people?

2:1

Habakkuk tells the LORD that he will wait to hear His answer and His being reproved reproof for challenging God's answer

2:2-20**The LORD'S Answer**

2:2-3 Habakkuk is told to write the LORD's answer on tablets for all to see, so that he who reads it will know when to flee the judgment that is coming

2:4-5 While God will yet judge the proud and drunken Chaldeans, those who are living righteously in Judah will live by their faith

Note: The same is true for believers today, (cf. Romans 1:17 with 8:13)

2:6-8 The Chaldeans will become plunder for the nations they plundered

2:9-11 Reasons for God's first pronouncement of woe on Babylon

2:12-14 Reasons for God's second pronouncement of woe on Babylon

Note: Verse fourteen will be fulfilled in the Millennial kingdom, (cf. Numbers 14:21, Psalm 72:19, Isaiah 6:3, and Isaiah 11:9)

2:15-17 Reasons for God's third pronouncement of woe on Babylon

2:18-20 Reasons for God's fourth pronouncement of woe on Babylon

Note: The words "his holy temple" is a reference to heaven, (cf. Psalm 11:4)

Habakkuk's Praise in Response**3:1-7**

For the LORD's return to judge the world, beginning with the land of Edom

3:8-15

For the devastation the LORD will bring to the nations as He comes to deliver His people

Habakkuk's Expectancy**3:16-19**

His determination to wait for the day of distress to come upon Judah, even though it causes him to fear, because of his hope in the God of his salvation

Revelation**The Fifth and Sixth Trumpet Judgments****9:1-12**The sounding of the 5th Trumpet as the 1st Woe, (cf. 8:13)

9:1-2 The opening of the abyss below by the fifth angel

9:3-10 The appearance of scorpion like locusts to torment mankind for five months so that they wish they could die, but can't

9:11-12 The Satanic angel of the Abyss who commands them

9:13-21The sounding of the 6th Trumpet as the 2nd Woe

9:13-16 The appearance of 2,000,000 horses and horsemen for a year, a month, a day, and an hour

9:17-19 Their description as snake like horses and fiery lion like heads, by which one-third of the remnant of mankind is killed

Note: Since one-fourth have already been killed (Revelation 6:8), the population of the world will have been reduced by one-half as a result of the sixth Trumpet judgment

9:20-21 A description of the world-wide sinful conduct and refusal to repent for which the Lord is judging the nations

PSALM 137:**LAMENT BY THE RIVERS OF BABYLON****137:1-6**

Reason for the lament

137:7-9

A prayer for the LORD's revenge on Edom and Babylon

Proverbs**30:10**

A reason to not slander a slave to his master

December 19**Zephaniah****1:1-3**

The word of the LORD that came to Zephaniah in the days of King Josiah, pronouncing judgment to come upon the whole earth because of man's wickedness and idolatry

God's Judgment Upon the Whole Earth**1:4-6**

The LORD will also judge Judah to remove worship of Baal, Malcam, and the stars of heaven

Note: Malcam or Melech is an Ammonite god who was worshipped with human sacrifice, (cf. Jeremiah 32:33). The worship of the stars of heaven originated with the worship of the angels who came down from heaven, (cf. Genesis 6, "sons of God" with Acts 14:11)

1:7-13

The day of the LORD's judgment will soon come when Judah will wail because of her wealth being plundered and because of her not being able to live in their homes

Note: The Fish Gate is an entrance to the city of Jerusalem; the "second" is a suburb in the new or lower city (2 Kings 22:14), and the inhabitants of Makkesh or Mortar is a market district of Jerusalem

God's Judgment Upon the Whole Earth Repeated**1:14-18**

The great day of the LORD's wrath is coming on the whole earth for its sin, and no amount of wealth will be able to save its inhabitants

2:1-3

A call for humility and repentance to perhaps be spared in the coming judgment

2:4-7

The cities of Philistia to the west will not be spared

2:8-11

The cities of Moab and Ammon to the east will not be spared

2:12

The cities of Ethiopia to the south will not be spared

2:13-15

The cities of Nineveh and Assyria to the north will not be spared

3:1-7

Nor will the rebellious and defiled city of Jerusalem be spared

God's Righteousness will Prevail**3:8-9**

The day will come when the LORD will gather the nations to pour out His wrath upon them, after which people can call upon the name of the LORD in purity

3:10-13

Worshippers will come with offerings from beyond the rivers of Ethiopia, and the LORD will remove the proud from the land of Judah, leaving only a remnant who do not transgress and do iniquity

3:14-20

Jerusalem and Judah are told to rejoice because the LORD will reign in their midst as their king, will never have to fear their enemies again, and will restore their praise among all the peoples of the earth

The Little Scroll**Revelation****10:1-7**

John sees another mighty angel with a little scroll accompanied by seven thunders, which are not yet to be fulfilled until the angel with the seventh trumpet sounds

Note: John is told that the seventh trumpet judgment will include seven more judgments mentioned in the little scroll (which turn out to be the seven Bowl Judgments, Revelation 16), after which the time of judgment will come to an end

10:8-10

John is told to eat the scroll in the vision, which is both sweet and sour because it signifies both good news (judgment will come to an end) and bad news (but it is not over yet)

10:11

John is told to prophesy again, because even though judgment will end, they are still in the midst of the sixth trumpet judgment

PSALM 138:

DAVID'S THANKS FOR ANSWERED PRAYER (See June 20, p.171)

PROVERBS**30:11-14**

Four kinds of evil people

December 20**Haggai****1:1**

The word of the LORD by the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel (governor of Judah), and to Joshua the High Priest, in the second year of Darius

Note: Darius became king of Persia in 522 BC; he appointed Zerubbabel governor of Judah, who was the grandson of Jehoiachin, King of Judah; and Joshua was the son of Jehozadak who was High Priest at the time of the Babylonian invasion, (1 Chronicles 6:15)

1:2-11

The LORD rebukes the remnant in Jerusalem for building their own houses while neglecting to finish the rebuilding of the Temple, for which He has caused them to not be able to get ahead agriculturally or financially

1:12-15

Zerubbabel, Joshua, and the people respond by resuming their rebuilding of the Temple

The Future Glory of the Temple**2:1-3**

Some mourn because the Temple is not as glorious as the first one built by king Solomon But the people are encouraged by the LORD's promise to make His Temple greater than that built by Solomon; this will occur in the day when He shakes the heavens and the earth and causes the nations to bring their wealth to Jerusalem for the purpose of worshipping the LORD

2:10-19

Because the LORD who had regarded their offerings as being unclean, but will now bless them for resuming their rebuilding of the Temple

2:20-23

The LORD promises again to shake the heavens, the earth, and the kingdoms of the world, as well as honor Zerubbabel in that day

Revelation**First 3 ½ Years of Daniel's Prophecy****11:1-2**

Animal sacrifices will be permitted during the first 3 ½ years prophesied by the prophet Daniel in the inner court of the Tribulation Temple, but the outer court and the city of Jerusalem will be under the rule of the Gentiles (because of Israel's covenant with the Anti-Christ, (cf. Daniel 9:27)

11:3-6

God expresses His disapproval of this covenant through two witnesses whom He protects as they plague the nations by their word for the first 3 ½ years

11:7-10

The Anti-Christ (or Beast of Daniel 7) kills the two witnesses, for which the world celebrates for 3 ½ days

Note: The apostle John seems to identify the "Beast" or Anti-Christ with the "angel of the Abyss," (cf. 9:11). The city of Jerusalem is called "Sodom" and "Egypt" to express God's displeasure in the covenant Jerusalem has made with the Anti-Christ

11:11-14

The world-wide celebration ends when they see the bodies of two witnesses lying in the streets of Jerusalem into heaven, and the great earthquake in Jerusalem afterwards which kills 7000 men. This ends the Sixth Trumpet Judgment and the second "Woe" judgment

11:15-19

The Seventh Trumpet is sounded, and the third and final "Woe" judgment begins

PSALM 139:**GOD'S OMNIPRESENCE AND OMNISCIENCE****139:1-13**

Too high for king David to comprehend

139:14-18

A reason for king David to praise

139:19-24

A reason for king David to keep from the wicked and wicked thoughts

Proverbs**30:15-16**

Three of four things that will never be satisfied

December 21**Zechariah****1:1-6**

The word of the LORD by the prophet Zephaniah a short time after His word to Haggai, warning the people to repent and not rebel as did their forefathers

Note: The people repented after Zechariah's appeal and Haggai's a month later, (cf. Zechariah 1:1 with Haggai 2:10-19)

The Visions of Zephaniah**1:7-17****Horses among myrtle trees**

The LORD is angry with the nations He has used to discipline Judah, who have gone too far in their abuse of the land of Israel (v. 15), and promises to restore Jerusalem and the Temple

1:18-21**Four horns and four craftsmen**

The LORD will raise up others to judge the four nations who went too far, (referring to Assyria, Egypt, Babylon, and Medo-Persia)

Revelation**12:1-6****The Last 3 ½ Years of Daniel's Prophecy**

John sees a woman who flees for protection into the wilderness from a great red dragon, because she gave birth to a man child who was to rule the nations and who had ascended into heaven

Note: The woman described is Israel, as seen symbolically in the dream of Joseph, (cf. Genesis 37:9)

12:7-13a

The vision is interpreted to refer to the nation Israel being protected by God in the wilderness for the last 3 ½ years before Christ's return, because the Devil seeks to destroy her

PSALM 140:**DAVID'S PRAYER FOR PROTECTION AND GOD'S VENGEANCE****140:1-8**

For the LORD's protection from the trap of evil and violent men

140:9-13

For the LORD's vengeance upon David's enemies

Note: Compare verse ten with Proverbs 25:21-22 and Romans 12:20

PROVERBS**30:15-16**

The fourth thing that will never be satisfied (the other three previously mentioned)

December 22**Zechariah****2:1-13****The Visions of Zephaniah, (continued)****A man with a measuring line**

Who is told that he need not measure since there will be no need for walls in Jerusalem; for the LORD will judge the nations who plundered Israel and afterwards many people will worship the LORD in Jerusalem, (to be fulfilled during the Millennium)

3:1-10**The Cleansing of Joshua, the High Priest**

3:1-5 Zechariah sees the LORD calling for a change of priestly garments for Joshua

3:6-10 This vision is symbolic of a future cleansing of Israel's priests under the reign of God's Servant, His Branch and His Stone, (to be fulfilled during the Millennium)

Note: Other passages referring to the Christ as a Branch; (Isaiah 4:2; Jeremiah 23:5)

Other passages referring to the Christ as a Stone; (Psalm 118:22; Matthew 21:42; 1 Peter 2:6)

Revelation**The Unholy Trinity****13:1b-10****The Devil and the Anti-Christ**

13:1-2a Comes up from the abyss from beneath the Mediterranean Sea (cf. 11:7) and rises to power in the revised Roman Empire (the ten horned beast of Daniel 7)

13:2b The dragon (or he Devil, chapter twelve) who has now been cast to the earth from heaven shares his throne, power, and authority with the Anti-Christ. This is another indication that the Anti-Christ, though called the "Man of Sin" by the apostle Paul, is not a human man, and also explains why Paul says it will take the Lord Himself to destroy him with the "brightness of his coming"

13:3-4 Fools the world into worshipping him, in that they thought they had assassinated him, but he reappears from what would normally be considered a deadly wound, (cf. Revelation 17:8-11)

13:5-10 Seeks to kill all believers during the last 3½ years

13:11-18**The False Prophet**

13:11-12 Another Beast who comes up from the earth and has the same power as the Devil and the Anti-Christ, who forces the world to worship the image of Beast from the sea and receive his mark

Note: Though he is not identified here, he is called the False Prophet in chapter nineteen. The Devil, the Anti-Christ or the Beast from the sea, and the False Prophet or the Beast from the earth share equal power as the unholy trinity during the last phases of the Tribulation. The Anti-Christ and the False Prophet are angels like the Devil, who appear to be men, but are not human men

13:13-15 The great Satanic miracles by which he deceives the world into worshipping the Beast

13:16-17 His forcing of the world to receive a visible mark on their right hand or on their forehead, indicating their worship of the Anti-Christ and without which a person cannot buy or sell

13:18 The number six is symbolic of man in that man was created on the sixth day. The number six repeated three times indicate again the unholy trinity. The reason the number of the Anti-Christ is given, but not his name, is because his name has already been given, (cf. 9:11)

PSALM 141:**DAVID'S PRAYER FOR PERSONAL PURITY AND PROTECTION****141:1-5**

David prays for the LORD to help him guard his mouth and conduct

141:6-10

David prays for deliverance from the snares of the wicked

Proverbs**30:18-20**

Four examples of ways difficult to explain

December 23**Zechariah****The Visions of Zechariah, (continued)****4:1-14 The Golden Candlestick (or Lampstand) and Two Olive Trees**

- 4:1-3 Zechariah is awakened in his vision to see a candlestick like that made for the Tabernacle and two olive trees, one standing to the left and the other to the right
- 4:4-10 The angel interprets the vision to say that the Temple will be completed by Zerubbabel with the Spirit's enabling
- 4:11-14 The two olive trees and branches are said to represent two anointed ones God has chosen to complete the Temple (being Zerubbabel and Joshua)
- Note: Just as these two are anointed by God to oversee the rebuilding of the Temple, so two witnesses will be anointed to pronounce God's judgments during the Tribulation, (cf. Revelation 11:1-11)

5:1-4 The Flying Roll (or Scroll)

- 5:1-2 The vision described
- 5:3-4 The vision is interpreted by the angel to say that it represents God's curse going throughout the earth to cut off every one who steals or bears false witness (to confiscate property)

5:5-11 The Woman in the Ephah (or sitting in a basket larger than a bushel)

- 5:5-7 The vision described
- 5:8-11 The vision is interpreted to state that the woman represents wickedness, and is carried to the land of Shinar where a temple will be built for her
- Note: The land of Shinar is the land of Babylon where idolatry began, and the woman is probably symbolic of the city in which idolatry will be prominent in the last days, (cf. Revelation 18)

Revelation**God's Warning Against the Mark of the Beast**

- 14:1-5 Through the mouths of the 144.000 Jewish evangelists, (cf. 7:1-8)
- 14:6-13 By three angels sent throughout the earth, one after the other, warning against the city of Babylon and against receiving the mark of the Beast or Anti-Christ
- Note: Verses ten and eleven shows that one's burning in the lake of fire involves conscious suffering forever
- 14:14-20 Christ's judgment on the city of Babylon (where the image of the Beast or Anti-Christ has been erected, like the image of Nebuchadnezzar in the days of the prophet Daniel)

PSALM 142: DAVID'S PRAYER TO GOD WHILE FLEEING SAUL IN A CAVE

- 142:1-4 Because of feeling trapped
- 142:5-6 Because of feeling that no one cares

Proverbs

- 30:21-23 Four things that are unbearable

December 24**Zechariah****The Visions of Zephaniah, (continued)****6:1-8****The Four Chariots**

6:1-3 The vision described of four chariots and horse of four different colors, (cf. Revelation 6:1-6)

6:4-8 The vision interpreted to foretell of God's wrath being poured out by the black and white horses in the north

Note: Babylon was devastated by the Persians, (cf. 2:6-7)

6:9-15**The Crowning of Joshua (the High Priest)**

6:9-11 A vision of his crowning with gold and silver intended to help finish the Temple

6:12-15 This is a symbolic foreshadowing of the crowning of God's Messiah or Christ as both King and High Priest, and who will build the Millennial Temple, (cf. Ezekiel 40-48 and Haggai 2:7)

7:1-14**Questions regarding the Observance of Fasts**

7:1-3 Should the people continue to weep and fast as they had for seventy years since the destruction of Solomon's Temple by the Babylonians, now that the new Temple is being built?

7:4-7 The LORD responds by accusing them for not fasting in true repentance, and that had they listened to the warnings of His prophets, there would have been no need for such fasts

7:8-14 It is due to their hardness of hearts that God delivered them into captivity

Revelation**The Bowl Judgments****15:1-2**

John sees seven angels appear with seven vials or bowls of seven last plagues, (cf. Revelation 10:1-7)

15:3-4

They sing the song of Moses and of the Lamb

Note: The Lamb is the Rock, (cf. Deuteronomy 32:3-4)

15:5-8

The seven angels emerge from the Temple in heaven and are given the last seven plagues

PSALM 143:**DAVID'S PRAYER FOR DIVINE GUIDANCE****143:1-6**

His plea when feeling overwhelmed

143:7-12

His prayer for God's deliverance from death, God's guidance, and God's destruction of his enemies

Proverbs**30:24**

Four small creatures from which to learn wisdom

Note: Ants – work ethics; comies or badgers – making one's shelter; locusts – orderliness; and spiders – boldness

December 25**Zechariah****8:1-3**

The LORD will return and dwell in the midst of Jerusalem

8:4-8

Life will return to normal in the land, people will live long lives, and the LORD will be their God, and they His people

8:9-13

Israel will become a blessing to the nations rather than a curse

8:14-17

Israel is told what they are to do and not to do, in light of God's promises to restore the nation

8:18-23

The LORD will turn the fasts of the fourth, the fifth, the seventh, and the tenth months of each year into causes for feasting, and Gentiles will seek Jews to take them to Jerusalem

Note: These months of fasting mourned the siege and destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians, and the celebration will be fulfilled in the Millennium when Christ returns to fulfill the promises of 8:1-15

Revelation**The Bowl Judgments, (continued)****16:1-2**The 1st Bowl Judgment – grievous sores on those receiving the mark of the Beast**16:3**

The 2nd Bowl Judgment – oceans become as the blood of a dead person

16:4-7

The 3rd Bowl Judgment – rivers, ponds, and lakes become blood

16:8-9

The 4th Bowl Judgment – sun scorches people

16:10-11

The 5th Bowl Judgment – kingdom of the Anti-Christ becomes dark during the day

16:12-16The 6th Bowl Judgment – kings of the east gathered by the unholy Trinity to Armageddon**16:17-21**

The 7th Bowl Judgment – worst worldwide earthquake ever, hail weighting 100 pounds, and the city of Babylon divided into three sections

PSALM 144:**DAVID'S PROMISE TO SING A NEW SONG****144:1-4**

His praise to the LORD for past victories

144:5-8

His petition for present deliverance

144:9-11

His vow to sing a new song of praise when delivered

144:12-15

His prayer for God's blessing on the people

Proverbs**30:29-31**

A similarity between the stately march of three creatures and a king with his army

December 26**Christ, the Good Shepherd****Zechariah****9:1-8**

The nations surrounding Jerusalem will be judged by the LORD, but Jerusalem and the Temple will be protected, (to be fulfilled upon Christ's return)

9:9

Israel is told to rejoice because of the appearance of her King who comes to Jerusalem in a humble way, in sharp contrast to those mentioned in 9:1-8

Note: This prophecy was fulfilled in Christ's first coming, (cf. Matthew 21:4-5)

9:10-17

Israel is told to also rejoice in her conquering King, who will judge the land of Greece when He comes to deliver Israel for the way in which she treated God's people in Israel

Note: This prophecy will be fulfilled in Christ's second coming, for God remembers

Revelation**Mystery City Babylon****17:1-6**

Her description symbolically

Note: This city is so named because it is not really the city of Babylon, but perpetuated idolatry which began in the land of Shinar or Babylon as the "mother of harlots and abominations of the earth," (Genesis 11:1-10)

17:7-18

The interpretation of the vision

17:7 Of the Beast who comes up from the abyss, (cf. Revelation 11:7 and 9:11)

17:8 Of the seven heads

Note: There is only one city in John's day that sat on seven hills and ruled over the earth; that being the city of Rome

17:9-11

Of the seven heads with crowns on their heads, (cf. 12:3)

Note: The seventh, who was yet to come at the time John wrote this book, would be the only one to die violently, and yet came back to replace himself as the eighth king of Rome. This is because his apparent assassination fools the world into worshipping him, (cf. 13:3-4). This is more proof that the Anti-Christ is not a human man, but a Satanic angel who appears as a man

17:12-14

Of the ten horns of the revived Roman Empire, (cf. 12:3 with Daniel 7:24)

17:15-18

Of the destruction of this city by the Anti-Christ and the ten kings, and the reason why

Note: Do not confuse the mystery city of Babylon in chapter seventeen with the great city of Babylon of chapter eighteen. The mystery city or Rome is destroyed by the Anti-Christ and the ten kings of the revived Roman Empire, while the great city of Babylon is destroyed by Christ with fire from heaven in one day

PSALM 145:**DAVID'S VOW TO PRAISE GOD****145:1-7**

As His King and God

145:8-13

For His compassion and glory of His everlasting kingdom

145:14-16

For His providential care and provision

145:17-21

For His righteous response to the call of all who fear and love Him, and also His judgment upon the wicked

Proverbs**30:32**

The one who should put his hand upon his mouth

December 27**Zechariah****Christ, the Good Shepherd, (continued)****10:1-2**

The LORD denounces the false shepherds (or rulers) who gave false comfort

Note: Compare verse two with Matthew 9:36**10:3-7**

The LORD will judge in anger these false shepherds, as well as the goats or foreigners who take advantage of the Israelites while they are under God's judgment, and enable all Israel to crush her enemies and restore them as a nation in the land

Note: This will be fulfilled in a transition time between the battle of Armageddon and the beginning of Christ's millennial reign**10:8-12**

The LORD will whistle for Jews to come from afar, from Egypt to the south, and from Assyria to the north, redeeming the nation from her enemies like He did formerly to Egypt, and will miraculously remove any barriers in her way

Note: This will be fulfilled in a transition time between the battle of Armageddon and the beginning of Christ's millennial reign**11:1-17**

The reason God will yet punish Israel is because when Christ first comes, as the Good Shepherd, the false shepherds will influence the nation into selling Him for thirty pieces of silver, (cf. Matthew 27:3-10)

Revelation**Great City Babylon****18:1-8**

This city will be destroyed by God with fire from heaven in one day because of immoral influence upon the world, and ill-gotten wealth

Note: This is not the city mentioned in chapter seventeen for the following reasons: first, the city of chapter seventeen is burned by the Anti-Christ whereas this city is burned by God with fire from heaven; second, this city is the one mentioned previously by John in Revelation 14:8 and in 16:19**18:9-19**

A description of the world's grief when this city is destroyed

18:9-10 The kings of the earth

18:11-17a The merchants of the earth

18:17b-19 The merchants by sea

18:20-24

The apostles, prophets, and believers in heaven are told to rejoice when this occurs

PSALM 146:**PRAISE THE GOD OF JACOB****146:1-6**

Who made heaven and earth, rather than putting one's trust in man

146:7-10

For the way in which He uses His great power

Proverbs**30:33**

Reasons, like the churning of milk or the pressing of one's nose to the point of bleeding, to not stir up anger

December 28**Zechariah****Christ, the Good Shepherd, (continued)****12:1-9**

The LORD will enable the inhabitants of Jerusalem to crush the nations gathered against her and Judah

12:10-14

In that day the Spirit of grace and supplications will be poured out, by which all the inhabitants of Jerusalem will recognize Christ as the one whom they delivered to be crucified, and will mourn in repentance

Note: These verse will be fulfilled in a transition time between the battle of Armageddon and the beginning of Christ's millennial reign

13:1-6

In that day the LORD will root out all idolatry and false prophets

13:7-9

Also, the LORD will cut off two-thirds of Israel and only identify with a remnant of one-third

Note: Verse seven prophesies the dispersion of Israel, which occurred in 70 A.D., for their having struck the Good Shepherd, after which upon His return He will remove any unbelieving Jew, (cf. Isaiah 59:20 and Romans 11:26). The remnant who are saved are those to whom the apostle Paul referred, (cf. Romans 11:26)

Revelation**Christ's Victorious Return to Earth****19:1-10**

From heaven with His glorified Bride, the Church, (cf. Ephesians 5:25-27)

19:11-16

From heaven on a white horse with His Bride to fight His enemies in the battle of Armageddon, (cf. Revelation 16:12-16 and Joel 3:1-2)

Note: The revelation of the new name God has bestowed upon Jesus awaits His second coming, (cf. Philippians 2:9-11)

19:17-18

The bodies of those slain are devoured by the birds at Christ's command

19:19-21

But not the Beast or Anti-Christ (Revelation 13:1-4, nor the False Prophet (Revelation 13:11-14), because they are not human and cannot be killed. However they will be cast alive into the lake of fire.

Note: The Devil, who is an angel like the Beast and False Prophet, will be cast into hell later to join them, (Revelation 20:9-10). The Devil and his angels will all be cast into hell before any humans, (Matthew 25:41)

PSALM 147:**REASONS TO PRAISE THE LORD****147:1-6**

For His regathering and rebuilding of Jerusalem

147:7-11

To sing praises with stringed instruments for His merciful provision for sustaining life

147:12-14

For His power to bless and make peace for Jerusalem

147:15-18

For His power over nature

147:19-20

For His statutes and judgments which He gave to Israel only

Proverbs**31:1-5**

What king Lemuel was told by his mother to not do as a ruler

31:6-7

What he was told to do

Note: Medical use of alcohol in contrast to intoxication, (31:4-5)

December 29**Zechariah****Christ, the Good Shepherd, (continued)**

- 14:1-2** The LORD will gather the nations to capture Jerusalem and half of the city will be taken into captivity
Note: This will take place during the sixth Bowl Judgment just prior to the battle of Armageddon, (cf. Revelation 16:12-16)
- 14:3-5** At that time the LORD will stand on the Mount of Olives, (cf. Acts 1:9-11) with His saints to fight the nations. The Mount of Olives will be split by an earthquake to make a valley for the remnant to flee like they did in the days of Uzziah the king, (cf. Amos 1:1)
- 14:6-7** The LORD will alter the light during the day and the night during the battle, (cf. Joshua 10:12-14)
- 14:8-11** There will be a change in the terrain when the LORD reigns as king over all the earth
- 14:12-15** The nations who attack Jerusalem will be destroyed by plague and by confusion whereby they will turn against each other
- 14:16-21** What will happen to any who do not come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles in that day?

Revelation**The Millennium**

- 20:1-3** The Devil is bound in the abyss for 1000 years
- 20:4-6** Those, who were beheaded during the Tribulation for their faith in Christ, will be raised from the dead to be priests and kings, and will reign with Christ for 1000 years
- 20:7-10** The Devil will be released from the abyss after the 1000 years, will deceive the nations again to rebel against the rule of Christ in Jerusalem, for which the fire of God will fall from heaven to consume them, and the Devil will then be cast into the lake of fire
- 20:11-15** Those humans who were not raised in the first resurrection, will be raised in the second to be judged for their works, and will be cast into the lake of fire for having rejected Christ
Note: Their names were originally included in the Lamb's Book of Life, but were blotted out, (cf. Revelation 3:5)

PSALM 148:**REASONS TO PRAISE THE LORD IN HEAVEN AND EARTH**

- 148:1-6** All creatures from the heavens
- 148:7-12** All creatures from the earth below
- 148:13-14** All creatures for His "horn" for Israel
Note: A reference to God's coming King to save the nation, (i.e., the Christ)

Proverbs**31:8-9**

What king Lemuel was told by his mother to do, (a continuation of 31:6-7)

December 30**Malachi****1:1-5****The LORD'S COMPLAINT AGAINST THE REMNANT OF MALACHI'S DAY**

The LORD complains that Israel should know of His love for Jacob and His descendants, and of His hatred of Esau and his descendants, because of God's having destroyed Edom and Esau's descendants

Note: The LORD chose Jacob to be the heir of His covenant promises to Abraham before he and Esau were born, from whose blood line God would provide a Savior for both. He told his mother Rebecca which of the twin sons would be the heir before they were born, so that Jacob could not boast that it was because of his goodness, (cf. Genesis 25:23 and Romans 9:7-12).

God certainly did not hate Esau before they were born, for it was God who caused Esau be born first with firstborn rights, which he later sold to Jacob for a bowl of soup. It was only after Jacob and Esau had lived their lives, and the attitude they manifested towards God after they were born, that God now expresses His love for Jacob and His hatred of Esau

- 1:6-14** The LORD accuses the priests of Malachi's day
 - 1:6-11 For showing disrespect in the offerings they present to Him
 - 1:12-14 The showing disrespect in the way in which they conduct their priestly ministry
- 2:1-9** The LORD pronounces a curse on the priests
 - 2:1-3 If they do not listen and honor His name
 - 2:4-7 If they do not follow the example of Levi, from whose lineage the priesthood came
 - 2:8-9 For causing many to stumble because of their words and example
- 2:10-17** The LORD cites examples of their causing the people to stumble
 - 2:10-12 In their marrying daughters of idolatrous foreigners, (cf. Exodus 34:14-16 and Deuteronomy 7:3)
 - 2:13-16 In their unlawful divorces, (the only exception being Deuteronomy 24:1-4)
 - 2:17 In their accusations of injustice by God

Revelation**The New Heavens and New Earth**

- 21:1-8** The descent of the New Jerusalem to the new earth
 - 21:1-4 When the first earth is passed away
 - 21:5-8 Those who will inherit and those who will not
- 21:9-27** The description of the New Jerusalem
 - 21:9-11 Her brilliance and glory
 - 21:12-21 Her gates, walls, and size
 - 21:22-27 Her light and non-defilement

PSALM 149: **PRAISE FOR ISRAEL'S FINAL TRIUMPH**

- 149:1-5** With a new song, dance, and musical instruments
- 149:6-9** For the LORD's enabling them to prevail over the nations

Proverbs

- 31:10-24** The virtuous woman
 - 31:10-12 Her value to her husband
 - 31:13-20 Her hard work to provide food for her family, as well as for the poor and needy
 - 31:21-24 Her hard work to provide adequate and attractive clothing

December 31**Malachi****The LORD'S COMING TO BRING CHANGE TO ISRAEL****3:1**

The LORD promises to send a messenger before Him, to prepare the people for His coming, (cf. Mark 1:2)

3:2-5

The LORD will purify the priests and the people when He comes, so that their offerings will again be pleasing

3:6-15

The LORD calls for them to return to Him and not rob God in their tithes and offerings

Note: A tithe was ten percent of their annual income, of which they were required by Law to pay three. There were also required offerings. Freewill offerings were given in addition to that which was required

3:16-18

The LORD will remember those who feared the LORD and served Him, and those who did not

4:1-3

Those who will be allowed to enter His kingdom when He comes, and those who will not, (cf. Matthew 3:1-12)

4:4-6

The LORD promises to send Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD, to turn the hearts of the fathers and the children to the LORD

Note: This will occur just prior to Christ's return in order to prepare Israel for the LORD's coming reign on earth. Had Israel listened to John the Baptist when Jesus first came, there would have been no need for Elijah, (cf. Matthew 11:14)

Revelation**The New Heavens and New Earth, (continued)****22:1-2**

The water of life and the tree of life

22:3-5

The servants before the throne of God the Father and Jesus the Lamb, will not need the light of the sun or moon as they reign and serve Him forever and ever, (cf. Revelation 1:5-6 and 5:9-10)

22:6-9

The apostle John is rebuked for falling to worship the angel, due to his excitement over what he has just seen

22:10-17

The invitation of Christ, the Holy Spirit, and His Bride, the Church

22:18-19

The condemnation of any who do not accept the invitation, and try to change what John has written because they do not like the prophecies given

22:20-21

John's response to Christ's promise to come quickly, and his prayer for all until He comes

PSALM 150:**PRAISE THE LORD!****150:1-2**

Reasons to praise

150:3-6

Expressions of praise

Proverbs**31:25-31**

The virtuous woman, (continued)

31:25-27 Her appearance, speech, and sense of responsibility

31:28-31 Her praise by others