

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

11/26 – Ezek 36-37, 1 Pet 3
11/27 – Ezek 38-39, 1 Pet 4
11/28 – Ezek 40, 1 Pet 5
11/29 – Ezek 41-42, 2 Pet 1

11/30 – Ezek 43-44, 2 Pet 2
12/1 – Ezek 45-46, 2 Pet 3
12/2 – Ezek 47-48, 1 John 1
12/3 – Dan 1-2, 1 John 2

** Summaries/outlines from The Holy Bible, Contemporary English Version, ©1995 by the American Bible Society.

EZEKIEL

OUTLINE

- I. Ezekiel Sees the Lord's Glory and is Chosen to be His Prophet (1:1-3:27)
- II. Ezekiel Acts Out the Coming Destruction of Judah and Jerusalem (4:1-5:17)
- III. Disaster is Near (6:1-7:27)
- IV. The Lord's Glory Leaves Sinful Jerusalem (8:1-11:25)
- V. Messages of Doom for Judah and Jerusalem (12:1-24:27)
- VI. Judgment on Foreign Nations (25:1-32:32)
- VII. Ezekiel Must Warn the People to Turn from Their Sinful Ways (33:1-20)
- VIII. The News of Jerusalem's Fall (33:21-22)
- IX. The Lord Promises to Bring the People Home and to Restore Judah (34:1-37:28)
- X. Gog Will be Defeated and Israel Will be Restored (38:1-39:29)
- XI. Ezekiel Sees the Future Temple in Jerusalem (40:1-46:24)
- XII. The Stream Flowing from the Temple (47:1-12)
- XIII. The Borders of the Restored Land and Its Division Among the Tribes (47:13-48:35)

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

Ezk36: "Prophecy to the mountains of Israel: I will make you inhabited again. I will vindicate my name. I will put my Spirit within you."

Ezk37: The LORD said: "Prophecy to the bones." The bones became an army. The LORD said: "Join two sticks. I will join Ephraim and Judah."

Ezk38: "Son of man, prophecy against Gog: You will come against my people. My jealousy will be roused. I will summon a sword against Gog."

Ezk39: "I am against you, O Gog. I will give you a burial place in Israel. Gather the birds for a feast. Now I will have mercy on Jacob."

Ezk40: In visions the LORD brought me to a temple. He brought me through the gates to the inner court. There were tables for the offerings.

Ezk41: He measured the nave and the inner room. The side chambers were in three storeys. In front of the Holy Place was an altar of wood.

Ezk42: He led me to the outer court. The north and south chambers are where the priests eat the offerings. He measured all the temple area.

Ezk43: The glory of the LORD filled the temple. He said: "Son of man, describe the temple to Israel. The priests shall cleanse the altar."

Ezk44: "No foreigner shall enter my sanctuary. The sons of Zadok shall minister to me. They shall distinguish between the holy and unholy."

Ezk45: "Set apart a holy district for the LORD. The prince shall have land on each side. You shall have honest scales. Celebrate Passover."

Ezk46: "The prince shall bring offerings on the Sabbaths and New Moons. You shall offer a lamb daily." In the four corners were kitchens.

Ezk47: Water was flowing from the temple. He led me in until it was too deep to cross. The LORD says: "Divide the land among the tribes."

Ezk48: "Set a portion for each tribe. Adjoining Judah shall be the portion for the LORD. The name of the city shall be, The LORD Is There."

DANIEL

As a young man, Daniel had been taken prisoner by the Babylonian army when Jerusalem was captured. The first half of this book tells how he and three of his friends from Judah became important officials in the government at Babylon. They remained

completely faithful to the Lord, even when it meant risking their lives. This half of the book concludes with Daniel serving in the government of the Medo-Persian empire after it had conquered Babylonia.

In the second half of the book Daniel reports several visions that he had and how the meanings of those visions were explained to him by angels.

This book shows that God is in control of human events. He guides empires into power, but later he lets them be conquered by other empires. God also cares for individuals who are faithful to him, and someday he will finally bring justice to the world and provide victory for his people.

OUTLINE

- I. Daniel and His Three Friends (1:1-21)
- II. King Nebuchadnezzar's Dream (2:1-49)
- III. God Rescues Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (3:1-30)
- IV. Nebuchadnezzar Loses His Kingdom for Seven Years (4:1-37)
- V. King Belshazzar and the Writing on the Wall (5:1-31)
- VI. God Rescues Daniel from the Pit of Lions (6:1-28)
- VII. Daniel's Vision of Four Beasts (7:1-28)
- VIII. Daniel's Vision of a Ram and a Goat (8:1-27)
- IX. Daniel Prays for His People (9:1-27)
- X. Daniel Has a Vision Beside the Tigris River (10:1-12:13)

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

Dan1: Nebuchadnezzar brought the young nobles to Shinar. Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the king's food. God gave him wisdom.

Dan2: Nebuchadnezzar had dreams. Daniel said, "God reveals mysteries. You saw a great statue broken by a stone. God will set up a kingdom."

1 PETER

In this letter Peter has much to say about suffering. He shows how it can be a way of serving the Lord, of sharing the faith, and of being tested. The letter was written to Christians scattered all over the norther part of Asia Minor. In this part of the Roman empire many Christians had already suffered unfair treatment from people who did not believe in Jesus. And they could expect to suffer even more.

Peter was quick to offer encouragement. His letter reminds the readers that some of the Lord's followers may have to go through times of hard testing. But this should make them glad, Peter declares, because it will strengthen their faith and bring them honor on the day when Jesus Christ returns.

Peter reminds them that Christ suffered here on earth, and when his followers suffer for doing right they are sharing his sufferings. In fact, Christians should expect to suffer for their faith.

But because of who God is and because of what God has done by raising Jesus Christ from death, Christians can have hope in the future. Just as Christ suffered before he received honor from God, so will Christians be tested by suffering before they receive honor when the Lord returns. Peter uses poetic language to remind his readers of what Christ has done.

OUTLINE

- I. Greetings and Prayer (1:1-2)
- II. A Real Reason for Hope (1:3-12)
- III. Living as God's Holy People (1:13-2:17)
- IV. The Example of Christ's Suffering (2:18-25)
- V. Being a Christian and Suffering (3:1-4:19)
- VI. Advice for Church Leaders (5:1-11)
- VII. Final Greetings (5:12-14)

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

1Pet3: Wives, submit to your husbands. Husbands, honour your wives. Repay evil with blessing. Christ suffered for sins to bring us to God.

1Pet4: Do not live for human desires but for the will of God. The end is near. Love each other deeply. Do not be surprised when trials come.

1Pet5: Elders should be examples to the flock. Clothe yourselves with humility. Resist the devil. God will strengthen you. Peace to you all.

2 PETER

The writer of this letter wants the readers to know that Christians must live in a way that pleases God and hold firmly to the truth they were given.

He warns them that false prophets and teachers had entered the Christian community and were trying to lead the Lord's followers away from the truth. But they will be punished for their evil deeds. When false teachers are at work, Christians must stick to their faith and be examples for others of right living. They must have understanding, self-control and patience, and they should show love for God and all people.

The readers must never forget that the Lord's return is certain, no matter what others may say.

OUTLINE

- I. Greetings and Prayer (1:1-2)
- II. How the Lord's Followers Should Live (1:3-15)
- III. The Glory of Christ (1:16-21)
- IV. False Prophets and Teachers (2:1-22)
- V. The Lord's Return is Certain (3:1-18)

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

2Pet1: Peter, to those of faith. God has given us great promises. So supplement faith with virtue and love. We were eyewitnesses of Christ.

2Pet2: False teachers will arise. If God did not spare angels then he knows how to punish the unrighteous. They are slaves of corruption.

2Pet3: Scoffers will say, "Where is his return?" The Lord is not slow, but patient. Untaught people twist the Scriptures. Grow in Christ.

1 JOHN

John wants Christian believers to know that when we tell God about our sins, God will forgive us and take them away.

The true test of faith is love for each other. Because God is love, his people must be like him. For a complete victory over sin, we must not only love others, but we must believe that Jesus, the Son of God, is truly Christ, and that his death for us was real.

OUTLINE

- I. The Word that Gives Life (1:1-4)
- II. God is Light and Christ is Our Example (1:5-2:6)
- III. The New Commandment (2:7-17)
- IV. The Enemies of Christ and God's Children (2:18-3:10)
- V. God's Love and Our Love (3:11-4:21)
- VI. Victory Over the World (5:1-21)

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

1Jn1: We have seen and proclaim to you the Word of life. God is light. If we walk in the light, the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

1Jn2: We know Christ if we keep his commands. Whoever loves his brother lives in the light. Do not love the world. Children, abide in him.

Getting to Know God Through His Book - 4 Questions - Ask...

Insight—what does the passage say? Paraphrase the main point(s) and the commands to follow, promises to claim, examples to follow (or avoid), etc.

Question—what don't I understand? Need to know more about? How does this passage make me feel?

Praise—what does this passage teach me about God? Turn what the passage says into praise for the Lord's goodness, power, holiness, wisdom, etc.

Apply—what is God saying to me from this passage? Confess how you have not followed it. Pray, asking God to help you obey. Get quiet and ask God to speak to you.

Journal—write out your prayers, thoughts, responses to God and His Word

HOW TO PRAY

Scripture is God speaking to us. Prayer is us speaking to and listening to God. Jesus gave us the model in the Lord's Prayer (Mt 6). Keep your relationship fresh with the Lord by both reading and praying - two way communication. Remember to look up like Jesus did when He prayed.

1. Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name – focus on God, adore, praise, thank Him – long to see His glory and honor.
2. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done – ask for what you know will please Him, pray back the Scripture – that is His will.
3. Give us this day our daily bread – ask for your needs and others to be met.
4. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us – ask for forgiveness, from God, and from others you may have hurt. Ask God to help you forgive and restore others too. Ask Him to get rid of bitterness and have love & compassion for those who have hurt you.
5. And lead us not into temptation – ask God to take over your day, protect you and others from evil.
6. For thine is the kingdom, power & glory – end by re-focusing on God, His kingdom, power, and glory!
7. Listen – ask God to speak to you by His Spirit – always test what you hear by His Word.
8. Pray the Blind Bartimaeus Prayer (Mark 10) – Tell God what you feel, what you want, and ask God what you should do to get what you want (if what you want is right).