

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

2/12 – Lev 14, Matt 26:55-75
2/13 – Lev 15-17, Matt 27:1-31
2/14 – Lev 18-19, Matt 27:32-66
2/15 – Lev 20-21, Matt 28:1-20

2/16 – Lev 22-23, Mark 1:1-22
2/17 – Lev 24-25, Mark 1:23-45
2/18 – Lev 26-27, Mark 2
2/19 – Num 1-2, Mark 3:1-21

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

LEVITICUS

Leviticus tells how the Lord continued to give laws and instructions to Moses. The book's name is related to the word "Levite," a term referring to a person who belonged to the tribe of Levi. Levites were to be special servants of the Lord at the sacred tent, and the priests came from one of the Levite families. Much of the book deals with the responsibilities of the priests and other Levites, for example, sacrifices, gifts to the Lord, and religious festivals. But this book also contains laws about what animals could be used for food, what materials could be used for clothing, and how to care for the poor.

Most of the book is made up of laws, but it has a few stories telling what happened when the people or priests obeyed or disobeyed God's instructions. God was quick to punish those who rebelled, but he also made a promise to those who would obey him.

OUTLINE

- I. Laws and Sacrifices (1:1-7:38)
- II. Ordaining the Priests (8:1-36)
- III. Aaron's First Sacrifices (9:1-24)
- IV. Two Priests are Killed (10:1-20)
- V. Laws About What is Clean and Unclean (11:1-15:33)
- VI. Laws About the Great Day of Forgiveness (16:1-34)
- VII. Laws on Various Subjects (17:1-20:27)
- VIII. Rules for Priests to Follow (21:1-22:33)
- IX. Instructions for Religious Festivals (23:1-25:55)
- X. Blessings and Punishments (26:1-46)
- XI. Laws About Promises and Offerings to the Lord (27:1-34)

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

Lev14: If anyone is healed of leprosy they shall shave their hair and bring offerings. If a house has mildew the priest shall inspect it.

Lev15: When a man has a discharge he is unclean. When he ejaculates he is unclean until evening. When a woman has her period she is unclean.

Lev16: Once a year Aaron shall make atonement for the people. He shall bring one goat as a sin offering and release another as a scapegoat.

Lev17: Anyone who kills an animal and does not bring an offering is guilty. The life is in the blood and I have given it to make atonement.

Lev18: Don't have sex with a relative, a woman on her period, your neighbour's wife, another man or an animal. These things defile the land.

Lev19: Be holy. Keep my Sabbaths. Don't turn to idols. Love your neighbour as yourself. Don't mix livestock. Do no injustice. I am the LORD.

Lev20: Anyone who worships Molech, curses their parents, commits adultery or has sex with a man shall be put to death. You shall be holy.

Lev21: A priest must not make himself unclean and must only marry a virgin. No descendant of Aaron with a defect may offer the offerings.

Lev22: A priest shall not eat the offerings if he is unclean. No outsider shall eat the offerings. Offerings must be animals without defect. Proclaim as feasts: Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits, Fifty Days Later, the Day of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement and Booths.

Lev24: Aaron is to tend the lamps and set out the bread before the LORD. An Israelite blasphemed so they took him outside and stoned him.

Lev25: Every seventh year the land shall rest. Every fiftieth year shall be a jubilee, when property shall be restored and slaves released.

Lev26: If you keep my laws I will give peace in the land and make you fruitful. If not I will scatter you, but I will not break my covenant.

Lev27: If anyone dedicates a person or land to the LORD you shall make a valuation. A tithe of everything from the land belongs to the LORD.

NUMBERS

The book of Numbers continues the history of the people of Israel after they escaped from Egypt, and it tells what happened during the forty years when the Israelites lived in the desert on their journey from Mount Sinai to Canaan. This book is named "Numbers" because it begins with Moses counting the Israelites to find out the number of people in each of Israel's twelve tribes.

Numbers can be divided into three parts. In the first part the Lord has Moses count the people, and then he gives Moses instructions for setting up Israel's camp and for assigning the Levites their duties. This part ends with everyone celebrating Passover and offering sacrifices to the Lord.

The second part includes events that happened while the Israelites were on their way to Moab, a nation living east of the Jordan River. This was a very difficult journey through the desert, and the people often complained and even rebelled against Moses and against God. The Israelites refused to enter Canaan after hearing about the nations that lived there, and so the Lord punished the Israelites by making them remain in the desert for forty years. This part of Numbers ends with the people camped in Moab near Mount Pisgah.

The third part of the book begins with the Israelites conquering the land just east of the Jordan River, from the border with Moab in the south to Lake Galilee in the north. Then the king of Moab hired the foreign prophet Balaam to curse the people of Israel. But the Lord told Balaam to bless the Israelites, and Balaam obeyed.

The Israelites prepared to cross the Jordan River and conquer the land of Canaan, although some of the people decided to settle east of the Jordan River. The Israelites were counted a second time, then the Lord appointed Joshua to be Israel's next leader and chose other leaders to help Joshua divide the land among the tribes. The book concludes with the Lord giving the Israelites more laws.

Numbers is about people who were rebellious and discouraged and who refused to believe that the Lord would take care of them. But the book also shows how the Lord protected them in war and gave them food and water in the barren desert. The Lord wanted the Israelites to realize that he did not want them to be destroyed; he wanted to bless them.

OUTLINE

- I. The People of Israel are Counted (1:1-4:49)
- II. Various Laws and the Dedication of the Levites (5:1-8:26)
- III. Passover is Celebrated and a Cloud Covers the Sacred Tent (9:1-23)
- IV. The People Begin Their Journey (10:1-36)
- V. The People Complain (11:1-35)
- VI. Miriam and Aaron are Jealous of Moses (12:1-16)
- VII. Twelve Men are Sent into Canaan (13:1-33)
- VIII. The People Rebel and are Punished (14:1-45)
- IX. Laws and Punishments (15:1-41)
- X. The People Rebel (16:1-17:13)
- XI. Priest and Levites (18:1-32)
- XII. Becoming Clean (19:1-22)
- XIII. On the Way to Moab (20:1-21:35)
- XIV. The Messages of Balaam (22:1-24:25)
- XV. The People are Unfaithful (25:1-18)
- XVI. The People of Israel are Counted a Second Time (26:1-65)
- XVII. The Daughters of Zelophehad are Given Land (27:1-11)
- XVIII. Joshua is Appointed Israel's Leader (27:12-23)
- XIX. Various Laws and Sacrifices for Israel's Festivals (28:1-30:16)
- XX. Israel Defeats Midian and Prepares to Cross the Jordan River (31:1-36:13)

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

Num1: The LORD told Moses to count the Israelite armies. The number of men over twenty years old was 603,550. The Levites were not counted.

Num2: The Israelites shall camp around the tabernacle: Judah to the east, Reuben to the south, Ephraim to the west and Dan to the north.

MATTHEW

OUTLINE

- I. The Ancestors and Birth of Jesus (1:1-2:23)
- II. The Message of John the Baptist (3:1-12)
- III. The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus (3:13-4:11)
- IV. Jesus in Galilee (4:12-18:35)

- V. Jesus Goes from Galilee to Jerusalem (19:1-20:34)
- VI. Jesus' Last Week: His Trial and Death (21:1-27:66)
- VII. Jesus is Alive (28:1-20)

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

Mt26: Jesus took Passover with his disciples. He prayed in agony in Gethsemane. Judas betrayed Jesus to the chief priests. Peter denied him.

Mt27: Jesus was handed over to Pilate. The crowd said, "Crucify him!" He was mocked and crucified. Darkness fell and he gave up his spirit.

Mt28: The women went to the tomb. An angel said, "He has risen!" Jesus met them. He came to the eleven and said, "Go and make disciples."

MARK

This is the shortest of the four New Testament books that tell about the life and teaching of Jesus, but it is also the most action-packed. From the very beginning of his ministry, Jesus worked mighty wonders. After choosing four followers, he immediately performed many miracles of healing. Among those healed were a man with an evil spirit in him, Simon's mother-in-law, crowds of sick people, and a man with leprosy. Over and over Mark tells how Jesus healed people, but always in such a way as to show that he did these miracles by the power of God.

The religious leaders refused to accept Jesus. This led to conflicts that finally made them start looking for a way to kill him. But the demons saw the power of Jesus, and they knew that he was the Son of God, although Jesus would not let them tell anyone.

This book is full of miracles that amazed the crowds and Jesus' followers. But, according to Mark, the most powerful miracle of Jesus is his suffering and death. The first person to understand this miracle was the Roman soldier who saw Jesus die on the cross and said, "This man really was the Son of God!"

This Gospel is widely thought to be the first one written. The many explanations of Aramaic words and Jewish customs in Mark suggest that Mark wrote to Gentile or non-Jewish Christians. He wants to tell about Jesus and to encourage readers to believe in the power of Jesus to rescue them from sickness, demons, and death. He also wants to remind them that the new life of faith is not an easy life, and that they must follow Jesus by serving others and being ready to suffer as he did.

The first followers of Jesus to discover the empty tomb were three women, and the angel told them: "Don't be alarmed! You are looking for Jesus from Nazareth, who was nailed to a cross. God has raised him to life, and he isn't here."

OUTLINE

- I. The Message of John the Baptist (1:1-8)
- II. The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus (1:9-13)
- III. Jesus in Galilee (1:14-9:50)
- IV. Jesus Goes from Galilee to Jerusalem (10:1-52)
- V. Jesus' Last Week: His Trial and Death (11:1-15:47)
- VI. Jesus is Alive (16:1-8)
- VII. Jesus Appears to His Followers (16:9-20)

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

Mk1: Jesus was baptised by John. He called Simon, Andrew, James and John to follow him. He preached and cast out demons. He healed a leper.

Mk2: Many gathered at the house. Jesus forgave a paralytic his sins and healed him. He was questioned about fasting and keeping the Sabbath.

Mk3: Jesus healed a man on the Sabbath. Great crowds followed him. He appointed twelve apostles. He said, "Whoever obeys God is my family."

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.

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).