

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

7/16 – Ps 19-21, Acts 19:21-41
7/17 – Ps 22-24, Acts 20:1-16
7/18 – Ps 25-27, Acts 20:17-38
7/19 – Ps 28-30, Acts 21:1-14

7/20 – Ps 31-33, Acts 21:15-40
7/21 – Ps 34-35, Acts 22
7/22 – Ps 36-37, Acts 23:1-11
7/23 – Ps 38-40, Acts 23:12-35

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

PSALMS

The book of Psalms is the longest book in the Bible. Psalms are poems that can either be sung as songs or spoken as prayers by individuals or groups. There are 150 psalms in this book, and many of them list King David as their author. They were collected over a long period of time and became a very important part of the worship of the people of Israel.

Some of the psalms tell the music leader what instruments should be used and what tunes should be followed.

Many of the Bible's main ideas are echoed in the psalms: praise, thankfulness, faith, hope, sorrow for sin, God's loyalty and help. And at the heart of all the psalms there is a deep trust in God. The writers of the psalms always express their true feelings, whether they are praising God for his blessings or complaining in times of trouble.

In ancient Israel the psalms were used in several different ways: (1) to praise God; (2) to express sorrow; (3) to teach; (4) to honor Israel's king and pray for fairness in his rule; (5) to tell of God's power over all creation; (6) to show love for Jerusalem; and (7) to celebrate festivals. Of course, many of the psalms could be used for more than one purpose.

Jesus used the psalms when he preached and taught, and they were often quoted by the writers of the New Testament. The earliest Christians also used the psalms in worship, teaching, and telling others the good news about what God has done through Jesus Christ.

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

Ps19: The heavens declare the glory of God. The law of the LORD is perfect, making wise the simple. May my words be pleasing to you, O LORD.

Ps20: May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble! May he remember your offerings. The LORD saves his anointed. We rise up and stand firm!

Ps21: O LORD, the king rejoices in your strength! You set a crown upon his head. You will destroy your enemies. We will praise your power!

Ps22: My God, why have you forsaken me? I am despised. They have pierced my hands. You have answered me! The nations will worship the LORD!

Ps23: The LORD is my shepherd. He leads me in paths of righteousness. I will fear no evil. I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Ps24: The earth is the LORD's! He who has a pure heart will receive blessing. Lift up your heads, O gates! The King of glory shall come in.

Ps25: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. Show me your ways, teach me your paths. Be gracious to me, forgive my sins. I take refuge in you.

Ps26: Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked with integrity. I do not sit with deceitful men. I love the place where your glory dwells.

Ps27: The LORD is my light and my salvation. My heart will not fear. I will seek your face, O LORD; do not forsake me! Wait for the LORD.

Ps28: To you I cry, O LORD my rock. Repay the wicked according to their works! The LORD is my shield. He is the strength of his people.

Ps29: Ascribe to the LORD glory! The voice of the LORD is over the waters. The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness. The LORD is king!

Ps30: I will exalt you, O LORD, for you spared me from going down to the pit. I cried to you for mercy. You turned my mourning into dancing.

Ps31: In you, O LORD, I seek refuge. Into your hand I commit my spirit. Deliver me from my enemies. Praise the LORD for his steadfast love!

Ps32: Blessed are those whose sins are forgiven. When I kept silent, my bones wasted away. You surround me with glad cries of deliverance!

Ps33: Rejoice in the LORD! Make melody, play skilfully. Let all the earth fear the LORD. His eye is on those who hope in his steadfast love.

Ps34: O magnify the LORD with me! I sought him and he answered. Taste and see that the LORD is good. He is close to the brokenhearted.

Ps35: O LORD, fight against those who fight against me! Then I will rejoice. They repay evil for good. Vindicate me in your righteousness!

Ps36: The wicked flatter themselves. Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens. In your light we see light. There the evildoers lie fallen.

Ps37: Do not be envious of evildoers, for they will fade like the grass. The righteous will inherit the earth. The LORD is their stronghold.

Ps38: O LORD, your arrows have pierced me! My guilt has overwhelmed me. My strength fails me. I confess my sin. Do not forsake me, my God!

Ps39: When I was silent, my anguish increased. O LORD, what is the measure of my days? My hope is in you. Deliver me from my transgressions.

Ps40: I waited patiently for the LORD. He drew me up from the pit. I delight to do your will, O God. My heart fails me, but you are my help.

ACTS

OUTLINE

- I. Telling the Good News in Jerusalem (1:1-8:3)
- II. The Good News in Judea and Samaria (8:4-12:25)
- III. Paul's First Journey to Tell the Good News (13:1-14:28)
- IV. An Important Decision in Jerusalem (15:1-35)
- V. Paul's Second Journey to Tell the Good News (15:36-18:22)
- VI. Paul's Third Journey to Tell the Good News (18:23-21:16)
- VII. Paul's Arrest in Jerusalem (21:17-23:22)
- VIII. Paul is Taken to Caesarea (23:23-26:23)
- IX. Paul is Taken to Rome (27:1-28:31)

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

Acts19: Paul laid his hands on the disciples at Ephesus to receive the Holy Spirit. Demetrius, a silversmith, started a riot in the city.

Acts20: We sailed to Troas. Paul raised Eutychus after he fell from the window. Paul encouraged the Ephesian elders to care for the flock.

Acts21: Paul was warned not to go to Jerusalem. He said, "I am ready to die." We went there and saw James. Paul was arrested in the temple.

Acts22: Paul said, "Jesus appeared to me and sent me to the Gentiles." The crowd threw dust. Paul told the tribune, "I am a Roman citizen."

Acts23: Paul caused a dissension between the Pharisees and Sadducees. The Jews plotted to kill him. The tribune sent him to governor Felix.

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).