

# Calvary



## New Testament Reading Plan

### BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLES

1. The Bible is divinely inspired and humanly written. God used imperfect people to reveal and record His perfect Word and Will.
2. The Bible was not written to us but it was written for us. Always stay true to the original context. Remember: Context, Context, Context!
3. Be conscious of...
  - Historical Details
  - Grammatical Relationships
  - Literary Genres and Devices
4. Don't confuse Observation, Interpretation and Application.
  - O: What does it say? Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?
  - I: What does it mean? What do I learn about God, life and people?
  - A: How do I apply this? Thankful for? Warned by? Guided by?
5. Biblical Revelation is progressive and cumulative.
  - The New Testament completes the Old Testament (doesn't replace).
  - The New Testament best interprets the Old Testament.
6. The Analogy of Faith: The Bible is its own best interpreter. Clear passages should guide the interpretation of obscure ones.
7. Gospel-Centered Interpretation: Jesus is the center of the Bible and true hero of history. Every story finds its ultimate meaning in his story!
8. The Story of Life: We are involved in the greatest story ever told: God is overcoming the forces of evil to restore His rule and blessings over His people and His creation.
9. Biblical Passages work on 3 Levels:
  - Bottom: Individual lives and events that intersect with God's Work.
  - Middle: God's work on and through His covenant people.
  - Top: God's work to defeat His enemies and restore His creation.

### AN APPROXIMATE TIME-LINE OF OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY

4004 B.C. +	Creation of Adam and Eve
2500 B.C. +	Noah's Flood
2091 B.C.	Abraham's journey to Canaan
1900 B.C.	Joseph sold into slavery
1446 B.C.	Exodus from Egypt
1406 B.C.	War to Conquer Promised Land
1375 B.C.	Judges begin to Deliver & Rule
1050 B.C.	King Saul Begins his Reign
1010 B.C.	King David Begins his Reign
958 B.C.	Temple Dedicated by Solomon
931 B.C.	Division into Israel and Judah
722 B.C.	Israel destroyed by Assyria
586 B.C.	Judah crushed by Babylon
538 B.C.	Return to Israel begins under Zerubbabel
478 B.C.	Esther becomes Queen in Persia
458 B.C.	Second wave of return under Ezra
444 B.C.	Nehemiah rebuilds Jerusalem's Wall

The Bible was not given to increase our knowledge but to change our lives.  
- Dwight L. Moody

We go from Malachi to Matthew in one page of our Scriptures, but that one piece of paper that separates the Old Testament from the New Testament represents 400 years of history - 400 years where there wasn't a prophet, 400 years where God's voice wasn't heard. And that silence was broken with the cry of a baby on Christmas night."

- Louie Giglio

### AN APPROXIMATE TIME-LINE OF NEW TESTAMENT HISTORY

6-4 B.C.	Birth of Jesus
28-29 A.D.	John the Baptist begins his ministry
29-30 A.D.	Jesus' Baptism under John
33 A.D.	Jesus' Death and Resurrection
33 A.D.	Holy Spirit falls upon the Church
34-35 A.D.	Paul's Conversion to Christ
46-48 A.D.	Paul's 1st Missionary Trip
49 A.D.	The Jerusalem Council
49 A.D.	Claudius expels Jews from Rome
50-52 A.D.	Paul's 2nd Missionary Trip
53-57 A.D.	Paul's 3rd Missionary Trip
57 A.D.	Paul arrested in the Jerusalem Temple
60-62 A.D.	Paul imprisoned in Rome
62 A.D.	James, brother of Jesus, executed
64 A.D.	Rome Burned
67-68 A.D.	Peter and Paul martyred
68 A.D.	Qumran destroyed by the Roman Army
68 A.D.	Nero Murdered
70 A.D.	Jerusalem Destroyed by Rome

To accept Christ is to know the meaning of the words  
"as he is, so are we in this world."

We accept his friends as our friends, his enemies as our enemies,  
his ways as our ways, his rejection as our rejection,  
his cross as our cross, his life as our life and  
his future as our future.

If this is what we mean when  
we advise the seeker to accept Christ,  
we had better explain it to him.

He may get into deep spiritual trouble unless we do.

- A. W. Tozer

# THE CALVARY NEW TESTAMENT READING PLAN

## LUKE: The Arrival of the Son of God

- The Birth of John the Baptist - 1
- The Birth and Boyhood of Jesus - 2
- The Ministry of John the Baptist - 3
- The Temptation and Rejection of Jesus - 4:1-30
- The Authority and Mission of Jesus - 4:31-44

## LUKE: The Invasion of the Son

- Changed Lives - 5:1-6:16
- Visionary Faith - 6:17-7:50
- Kingdom Come - 8:1-9:62
- Spiritual Warfare - 10:1-11:54
- Lifelong Endurance - 12:1-13:35

## LUKE: The Way of the Son

- Counting the Cost - 14
- Loving the Lost - 15
- Becoming Truly Wise - 16
- Growing Stronger in Faith - 17:1-18:8
- Becoming Like Children - 18:8-30

## LUKE: The Son's Road Through Calvary

- Seeing through the Obstacles- 18:31-19:27
- Celebrating through the Tears - 19:28-48
- Listening through to the End - 20-21
- Praying through the Betrayals - 22-23
- Hoping through the Hopelessness - 24

The Bible is God telling His own story.  
It is a presentation of God's attributes in action.  
- John Walton

## ACTS: The Second Missionary Trip of Paul

- The First Christian Council in Jerusalem - 15
- Paul's First Entrance into Europe - 16
- Paul's First Encounter with Athens - 17
- Paul's First Extended Ministry in Corinth - 18:1-17
- Paul's First Ministry Companions - 18:18-22

## 2 THESSALONIANS: Strengthening Faith at the Frontline

- Some Praise for Past Growth - 1
- Some Correction for Present Error - 2
- Some Rebuke for Future Growth - 3

## 1 THESSALONIANS Inspiring Others in the Gospel Movement

- Paul's Praise for Their Impact - 1
- Paul's Reminders of His Way - 2
- Paul's Joy from Timothy's Report - 3
- Paul's Guidelines for a Holy Life - 4
- Paul's Help in the Spiritual War - 5

## ACTS: The Third Missionary Trip of Paul

- Review: Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Trip - 13-14  
Paul writes his letter to the Galatians
- Review: Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary Trip - 15-18:22  
Paul writes his letters to the Thessalonians
- Paul's Long Ministry in Ephesus - 18:23-19:41
- Paul's Last Message to the Ephesian Elders - 20

## 1<sup>st</sup> CORINTHIANS: Blessed with Big Problems

- Spiritually Gifted but Theologically Ignorant - 1
- Spiritually Informed but Earthly Minded - 2-3
- Spiritually Rebuked but Childishly Resistant - 4
- Spiritually Free but Sinfully Foolish - 5
- Spiritually Authorized but Selfishly Fractured- 6

## ACTS: The Continued Ministry of the Son

- Through the Gift of the Spirit - 1-2
- Through the Ministry of the Apostles - 3-4
- Through the Hostility of the World - 5-6
- Through the Rejection of Israel - 7
- Through the Barriers of Culture - 8

## JAMES: True Faith Works

- Be Patient in Testing - 1
- Be Proactive in the Truth - 2
- Be Positive with your Tongue - 3
- Be Peace-making not Trouble-making - 4
- Be Prayerful in your Troubles - 5

## ACTS: The Ministries of Peter and Paul

- Saul's Conversion - 9
- Peter's Dream - 10
- Peter's Leadership - 11
- Peter's Escape - 12
- Paul's First Missionary Trip - 13-14

## 1<sup>st</sup> PETER: Growing in Christ's New Way of Life

- A New Birth into a Living Hope - 1
- A New Life as God's Chosen People - 2
- A New Respect for Authorities - 3
- A New Perspective on Hardships - 4
- A New Humility in Relationships - 5

## GALATIANS: Advancing The True Gospel of God

- The Divine Origin of the Gospel - 1
- The Personal Courage of Paul - 2
- The Witness of the Law of Moses - 3
- The Identity of the Children of God - 4
- The Freedom of the Sons of God - 5-6

## 1<sup>st</sup> CORINTHIANS: Turning Problems into Opportunities

- Problems that help clarify Christian Marriage - 7
- Problems that help clarify Christian Freedom - 8
- Problems that help clarify Mature Leadership - 9
- Problems that help clarify Christian Morality - 10
- Problems that help clarify Worship Services - 11

## 1<sup>st</sup> CORINTHIANS: Moving Toward Spiritual Maturity

- Problems that help clarify Spiritual Gifts - 12
- Problems that help clarify Christian Love - 13
- Problems that help clarify Spiritual Priorities- 14
- Problems that help clarify Resurrection Realities -15
- Pursuits that help clarify Mature Planning - 16

## 2<sup>nd</sup> CORINTHIANS: The New Covenant Way

- Understanding Paul in His Decisions - 1:1-2:4
- Finding New Covenant Joy - 2:5-3:18
- Embracing Strength through Weakness - 4
- Becoming Ministers for Reconciliation - 5:1-6:2
- Living as Servants of Christ - 6:3-7:1

## 2<sup>nd</sup> CORINTHIANS: Protecting The Church's Mission

- Paul sums up his Ministry Intentions - 7:2-16
- Paul challenges them to be Generous - 8-9
- Paul defends his Apostolic Ministry - 10-11
- Paul describes his Heavenly Vision - 12
- Paul shows his Resolve to do Right - 13

Everyone lives by faith:  
It is only a matter of what the object of their faith is.

#### ROMANS: The Universal Need for God's Righteousness

- The Gospel of Christ, the Son of God - 1:1-17
- The Wrath of God toward the Nations - 1:18-32
- The Judgment of God on the Jewish People - 2
- The Righteousness of God in Law and Christ- 3
- The Past Justification of God's People by Faith - 4

#### ROMANS: The Victorious Rule of God's Righteousness

- The Present Justification of God's People in Christ - 5
- The Present Sanctification of God's People by Faith 6
- The Present Liberation of God's People from Law - 7
- The Present Glorification of God's People by the Spirit- 8
- The Present Rejection of the Jewish People -9-10
- The Future Restoration of All of Israel - 11

#### ROMANS: The Personal Application of God's Righteousness

- Live as Sacrifices, Love as Family - 12
- Honor Authorities, Fulfill the Law of Love - 13
- Respect the Weak, Strengthen the Peace -14
- Act Maturely, Be Active in Ministry - 15
- Unite Supporters, Avoid the Divisive - 16

#### ACTS: Paul's Road to Imprisonment in Jerusalem

- Review: His Pharisaic Zealotry - 7:51-8:1
- Review: His Miraculous Conversion - 8
- Review: His "Greater than Law" Gospel - 13:32-52
- His Fateful Journey to Jerusalem - 21
- His Faithful Testimony to the Jewish Crowd - 22
- His Fight against Jewish Hostility - 23:1-22

Being part of an agenda beyond ourselves liberates us to complement each other rather than compete with each other.

- Joseph Stowell

#### ACTS: Paul's Road to Imprisonment in Rome

- His Transfer to Caesarea to meet Felix - 23:23-24:27
- His Trials Before Festus and King Agrippa - 25
- His Testimony Before King Agrippa - 26
- His 4<sup>th</sup> "Missionary" Trip to Rome - 27
- His Arrival and Ministry at Rome - 28

#### Paul writes Four Letters from Prison...

##### EPHESIANS: Living In Our New Identity in Christ

- Give God Praise and Prayer for His Victory in Christ- 1
- His Grace Saves us, His Spirit Unites us in Christ - 2
- His Gospel Makes Us Equal and Responsible - 3
- His Goal is that we live in His Life, Love and Light - 4
- His Goal is that we live as Saints and Servants - 5
- His Goal is that we live as Supporters and Soldiers - 6

##### COLOSSIANS: Living in the Sonship of Christ

- Living in the Supremacy of Christ - 1
- Living in the Sufficiency of Christ - 2
- Living in the Sovereignty of Christ - 3:1-17
- Living in the Service of Christ - 3:18-4:18

##### PHILEMON: Living in the Sonship of Christ

- Living as Set-Free Slaves of Christ - 1

##### PHILIPPIANS: Living as Friends and Family in Christ

- A Shared Salvation in Christ - 1:1-20
- A Shared Mind-Set in Hardship - 1:21-2:18
- A Shared Sacrifice in Ministry - 2:19-30
- A Shared Summit in Christ - 3
- A Shared Supply in God - 4

#### Mark writes His Gospel from Peter's Perspective

##### MARK: Confirming the Identity of Jesus

- The Fulfilment of Israel's Hopes - 1:1-28
- The Healer of Israel's People - 1:29-2:22
- The Lord over Israel's Life and Law - 2:23-3:35
- The Teacher of God's Kingdom - 4:1-34
- The Authority over World's Forces - 4:35-5:20

##### MARK: Answering Questions about Jesus

- What was Jesus' ministry about? - 5:21-43
- What hostilities did Jesus' followers face? - 6:1-32
- How did Jesus convince his followers? - 6:33-56
- Who is out and who is in with God? - 7
- Who did people say that Jesus was? - 8

##### MARK: Preparing for Future Challenges

- The Revelation of Jesus' Glory - 9
- The Clarification of Jesus' Way - 10
- The Opposition to Jesus' Coming - 11
- The Demonstration of Jesus' Mastery - 12
- The Persecution of Jesus' Movement - 13

##### MARK: Moving from Old to New Covenant

- Preparation: The Last Supper - 14:1-31
- Betrayal: The Last Night - 14:32-72
- Crucifixion: The Last Sacrifice - 15
- Resurrection: The Last Hope of Mankind - 16

#### Paul writes 3 Letters After His First Imprisonment

##### 1 TIMOTHY: Re-Building A Gospel-Centered Church

- Righting Their Message and Their Members - 1-2
- Preparing and Acting as Qualified Leaders - 3-4
- Countering Culture with Godly, Mature Wisdom - 5-6

##### TITUS: Becoming A People of Good Works

- Appoint the Leaders who love the Good - 1
- Teach the Applications of the Good - 2
- Address the Issues that Threaten the Good - 3

##### 2 TIMOTHY: Standing Strong in the Darkest Hour

- Stay Engaged in Your Ministry - 1
- Stay True to Jesus Christ's Gospel - 2:1-13
- Stay Vigilant to the Threats - 2:14-3:9
- Stay Rooted in Scripture - 3:10-4:5
- Set Your Hope in Heaven - 4:6-22

#### Matthew presents Jesus as the Fulfillment of Israel

##### MATTHEW: The Preparation of the King

- His Birth, Gifts and Divine Protection - 1-2
- His Forerunner, John the Baptist - 3
- His Ultimate Foe and Ministry Focus - 4
- His Path to Mature Love - 5
- His Path to True Wisdom - 6-7

##### MATTHEW : The Sovereignty of the King

- Over the Natural and the Supernatural - 8
- Over the Sinful and the Sick - 9
- Over the Leaders and Tribes of Israel - 10
- Over the Powerful and Unrepentant - 11
- Over the Religiously Hostile - 12

##### MATTHEW: The Superior Way of the King

- His Subversive Kingdom - 13
- His Servant Witnesses - 14
- His Compassion for Outsiders - 15
- His Perceptive Knowledge - 16
- His Glorious Identity and Authority - 17

### MATTHEW: The Higher Life of the King

- ❑ Seeking Greatness in His Kingdom - 18
- ❑ Avoiding the Pitfalls in Falling Short - 19
- ❑ Gaining His Perspective - 20
- ❑ Accepting His Judgment - 21
- ❑ Rendering Him His Due - 22-23

### MATTHEW: The Passion of the King

- ❑ The King Prepares His Disciples for the Worst- 24
- ❑ The King Prepares His Disciples for the Best - 25
- ❑ The King is Consumed and Betrayed - 26
- ❑ The King is Condemned and Crucified - 27
- ❑ The King is Risen and His Kingdom Restored - 28

## 3 General Apostolic Letters

### HEBREWS: The Superiority of the Son

- ❑ Jesus is Superior to the Angels - 1-2
- ❑ Jesus is Superior to Moses and Joshua - 3-4
- ❑ Jesus is Superior to the Levitical Priesthood - 5-7
- ❑ Jesus is Superior to the Jerusalem Temple - 8-10
- ❑ Jesus is Superior to the O.T. Faithful - 11-12
- ❑ Jesus is Superior in Every Circumstance - 13

### 2<sup>nd</sup> PETER: Staying True Through Suffering

- ❑ The Calling of True Christians - 1
- ❑ The Characteristics of False Teachers - 2
- ❑ The Course through the Last Days - 3

### JUDE: Contending for the Faith

- ❑ Seeing the Threats, Abiding in the Faith

### JOHN: Jesus is the Perfect Son of God

- ❑ Secure enough to Serve His Followers - 13
- ❑ Caring enough to Provide His Assurances - 14
- ❑ Calm enough to Clarify Their Duties - 15:1-25
- ❑ Far-Sighted enough to Prophecy Future- 15:26-16:33
- ❑ Holy enough to Intercede to the Father - 17

### JOHN: Jesus is the Perfect Lamb of God

- ❑ Bound and Abandoned In His Innocence - 18
- ❑ Submitted and Serene in His Preparation - 19:1-27
- ❑ Witnessed and Prepared in His Death - 19:28-42
- ❑ Glorious and Gracious in His Resurrection - 20
- ❑ Providing and Restoring in His Re-Commissioning - 21

### 1 JOHN: Living in the fullness of God

- ❑ The Signs of True Fellowship (1-2)
- ❑ The Results of New Birth (3:1-4:6)
- ❑ The Power of God's Love (4:7-5:21)

### 2-3 JOHN: Walking in God's Truth and Love

- ❑ Rejoicing as We Walk in the Truth - 2:1
- ❑ Supporting Those Walking in the Truth -3:1

### THE REVELATION: Christ's Victorious War against His Foes

- ❑ The Revelation of Jesus Christ (1)
- ❑ The Seven Letters to the Churches (2-3)
- ❑ The Seven Seals of Scroll (4-8)
- ❑ The Seven Trumpets of Angels (9-11)
- ❑ The Seven Heavenly Personages (12-15)
- ❑ The Seven Bowls of Wrath (16-19)
- ❑ The Seven-Fold Triumph of Christ (20-22)

All other freedoms, once won, soon turn into a new servitude.  
Christ is the only liberator whose liberation lasts forever.  
- Malcolm Muggeridge

## The Writings of John the Apostle

### JOHN: Jesus is the Divine Word become Man

- ❑ Jesus is the Pre-Existent Word of God - 1
- ❑ 1<sup>st</sup> Sign: The Bridegroom of Israel - 2
- ❑ The Supremacy of His New Birth and Identity - 3
- ❑ He is the Source of Eternal Life - 4:1-26

### JOHN: Jesus is the Savior of the World

- ❑ Jesus is the Savior of the Lowest - 4:27-42
- ❑ 2<sup>nd</sup> Sign: The Healer of the Sick - 4:43-54
- ❑ The Supremacy of His Power and Submission- 5:1-23
- ❑ He is the Source of Life and Justice - 5:24-30

### JOHN: Jesus is the Ultimate Moses

- ❑ Jesus is the Life-Giver and Law-Enforcer - 5:31-47
- ❑ 3<sup>rd</sup> Sign: The Feeding of the 5000 - 6:1-15
- ❑ The Supremacy of His Power and Provision - 6:16-24
- ❑ He is the Source of the Bread Of Life - 6:25-59

### JOHN: Jesus is the Light of the World

- ❑ Jesus is the Great Divider - 6:60-7:13
- ❑ His Proclamation Divides People and Leaders - 7:14-52
- ❑ His Love Divides a Woman and Her Adultery 7:53-8:11
- ❑ The Supremacy of His Light and Life - 8:12-59
- ❑ He is the Source of True Sight and Salvation - 9

### JOHN: Jesus is the Great "I Am," Yahweh in Action

- ❑ Jesus is the Great Shepherd - 10
- ❑ 4<sup>th</sup> Sign: The Resurrection of Lazarus - 11:1-44
- ❑ Supremacy over the Hostile and Humble - 11:45-12:11
- ❑ He's Source of Israel's Hope and Judgment - 12:12-36
- ❑ He's the Object of Faith in the Father - 12:37-50

## AN OVERVIEW OF THE CALVARY NT READING PLAN

- ❑ Luke
- ❑ Acts 1-8
- ❑ James
- ❑ Acts 9-14
- ❑ 1 Peter
- ❑ Galatians
- ❑ Acts 15-18:22
- ❑ 2 Thessalonians
- ❑ 1 Thessalonians
- ❑ Acts 18:23-20
- ❑ 1 Corinthians
- ❑ 2 Corinthians
- ❑ Romans
- ❑ Acts 21-28
- ❑ Ephesians
- ❑ Colossians
- ❑ Philemon
- ❑ Philippians
- ❑ Mark
- ❑ 1 Timothy
- ❑ Titus
- ❑ 2 Timothy
- ❑ Matthew
- ❑ Hebrews
- ❑ 2 Peter
- ❑ Jude
- ❑ John
- ❑ 1,2 and 3 John
- ❑ Revelation

Worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open up the heart to the love of God, to devote the will to the purpose of God.

- William Temple

The true follower of Christ will not ask, "If I embrace this truth, what will it cost me?" Rather he will say, "This is truth. God help me to walk in it, let come what may!"

- A.W. Tozer

Grant me, O Lord my God, a mind to know you, a heart to seek you, wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, faithful perseverance in waiting for you, and a hope of finally embracing you. Amen.

- Thomas Aquinas