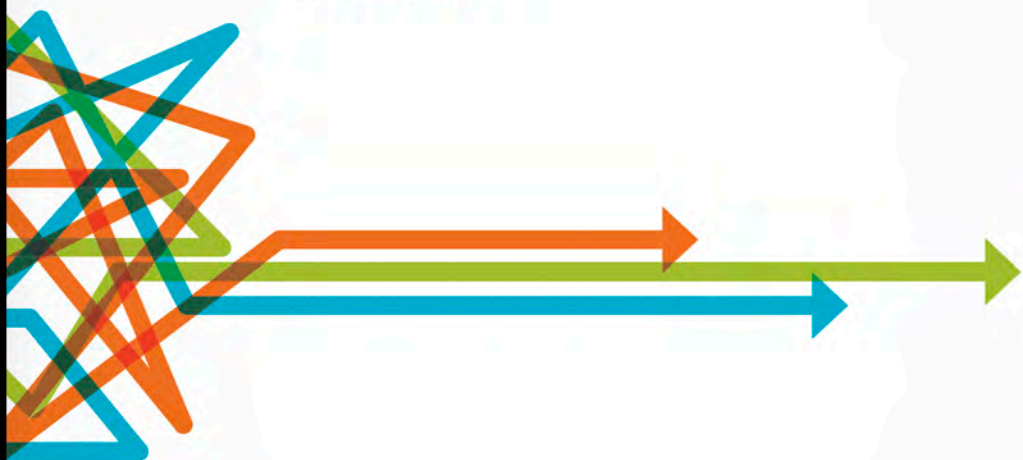


The Wayfinding[™] Bible



Helping you
navigate
God's Word.



The **Wayfinding**TM **Bible**



New Living
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Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.
Carol Stream, Illinois

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CONTENTS

Alphabetical Listing of Bible Books . . .	A7	A Note to Readers	A14
<i>The Wayfinding Bible</i> User's Guide . . .	A8	Introduction to the NLT	A15
Contributors.	A12	NLT Bible Translation Team.	A21
About <i>The Wayfinding Bible</i>	A13		

The Old Testament

Genesis	5	2 Chronicles	493	Daniel	939
Exodus	79	Ezra	539	Hosea	959
Leviticus	133	Nehemiah	553	Joel	971
Numbers	165	Esther	571	Amos	977
Deuteronomy	215	Job	583	Obadiah	987
Joshua	253	Psalms	615	Jonah	991
Judges	285	Proverbs	701	Micah	997
Ruth	313	Ecclesiastes	731	Nahum	1005
1 Samuel	319	Song of Songs	741	Habakkuk	1009
2 Samuel	357	Isaiah	749	Zephaniah	1015
1 Kings	391	Jeremiah	815	Haggai	1021
2 Kings	429	Lamentations	881	Zechariah	1025
1 Chronicles	463	Ezekiel	891	Malachi	1037

The New Testament

Matthew	1047	Ephesians	1299	Hebrews	1351
Mark	1089	Philippians	1307	James	1367
Luke	1117	Colossians	1313	1 Peter	1373
John	1163	1 Thessalonians	1319	2 Peter	1381
Acts	1197	2 Thessalonians	1325	1 John	1385
Romans	1245	1 Timothy	1329	2 John	1391
1 Corinthians	1263	2 Timothy	1337	3 John	1391
2 Corinthians	1279	Titus	1343	Jude	1395
Galatians	1291	Philemon	1347	Revelation	1399

Wayfinding Itinerary	1423	Features Index	1455
Side Trips	1435	Image Credits	1463
Thru-Hike Reading Plan	1451	Points of Interest Index	1465

ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF BIBLE BOOKS

Acts.....	1197	James	1367	Nehemiah.....	553
Amos.....	977	Jeremiah.....	815	Numbers.....	165
1 Chronicles	463	Job.....	583	Obadiah	987
2 Chronicles	493	Joel	971	1 Peter.....	1373
Colossians	1313	John	1163	2 Peter.....	1381
1 Corinthians	1263	1 John	1385	Philemon	1347
2 Corinthians	1279	2 John	1391	Philippians.....	1307
Daniel.....	939	3 John	1393	Proverbs.....	701
Deuteronomy.....	215	Jonah	991	Psalms	615
Ecclesiastes	731	Joshua.....	253	Revelation	1399
Ephesians.....	1299	Jude.....	1395	Romans	1245
Esther	571	Judges.....	285	Ruth	313
Exodus	79	1 Kings	391	1 Samuel.....	319
Ezekiel	891	2 Kings	429	2 Samuel.....	357
Ezra.....	539	Lamentations.....	881	Song of Songs	741
Galatians	1291	Leviticus.....	133	1 Thessalonians..	1319
Genesis.....	5	Luke	1117	2 Thessalonians..	1325
Habakkuk.....	1009	Malachi.....	1037	1 Timothy	1329
Haggai	1021	Mark	1089	2 Timothy	1337
Hebrews	1351	Matthew	1047	Titus	1343
Hosea	959	Micah	997	Zechariah.....	1025
Isaiah	749	Nahum	1005	Zephaniah	1015

THE WAYFINDING BIBLE USER'S GUIDE

1 CHOOSE YOUR ROUTE

The Wayfinding Bible offers three routes through the Bible using the innovative Bible Mapping System. Each route will take you through a series of chronological readings that capture the main storyline in God's Word. Select which route is right for you. These icons mark the beginning of each reading.



THE FLYOVER ROUTE—In 54 readings you'll gain a chronological overview of the events of the Bible.



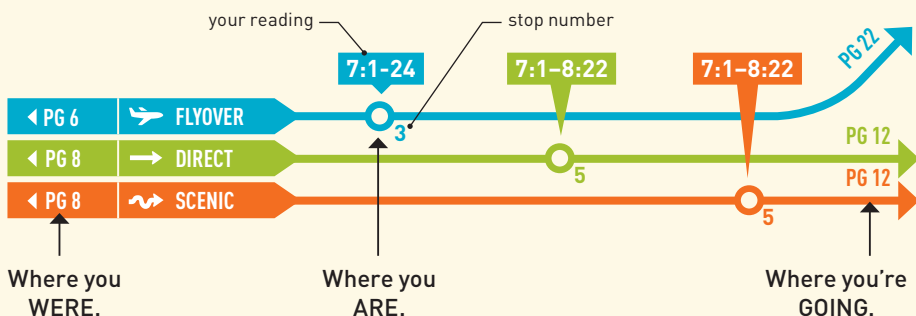
THE DIRECT ROUTE—In 215 readings you gain a full perspective of the entire Bible and how it fits together, all in less than a year.



THE SCENIC ROUTE—In 386 readings you'll discover the depth and richness of God's Word as you wind your way through well-known and not-so-well-known passages alike.

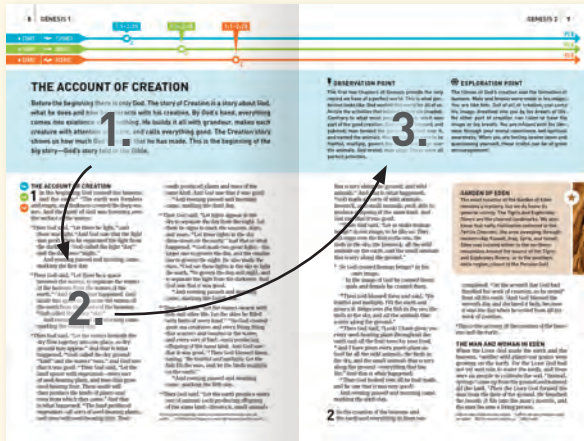
2 FOLLOW THE STOPS


On your route, each stop is clearly marked so you will always know where you are on your journey.




3 READ THE PASSAGE

When you get to your stop, read the introduction first. Then read the Bible passage. Finish with the Observation Point and the Exploration Point.



The end of each reading is clearly marked with icons like this:   


Don't forget to watch the arrows at the top of the page. Each will tell you where to find your next reading.

 PG 22


STRAIGHT ARROW
Your next reading is on the next page.

 PG 22

SKIP ARROW
Skip pages to get to your next stop.

 PG 22

JUMP ARROW
You're jumping out of your current book.

 PG 22

BACK ARROW
Sometimes you have to go back to go forward.

4 DISCOVER THESE FEATURES

Along the way, you'll discover lots of extra features to help you better understand God's Word.



BOOK INTRODUCTIONS

Book Introductions will help you understand why each book was written, what the book is about, and what events were happening around the same time. You'll also see ways that each book points you toward Jesus.



GETTING YOUR BEARINGS

At eight critical points along the way, you'll pause, step back, and review your journey so far. Then you'll look at where you're going next. You'll also have a chance to see where Jesus, either directly or indirectly, has been involved in the story. A timeline and world map give you a sense of when and where all this is happening and show world history events for added context.



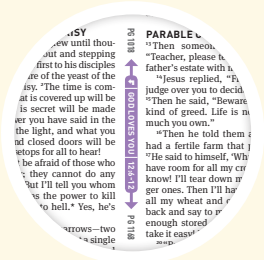
HISTORICAL MARKERS

Historical Markers will draw your attention to specific locations and the events that happened there. These markers will shed light on the stories you're reading and will fill in background details you might not know.



SCENIC OVERLOOKS

Scenic Overlooks will allow you to pause and see many of the significant locations mentioned in the Bible. You'll also gain more insight into the history, the people, and God's Word itself as you explore the full-color infographics.



SIDE TRIPS

In the margins throughout this Bible, you'll see markers for various Side Trips. These twenty-five topic-based trips will highlight various Scripture passages that will show you what the Bible has to say about each topic. You can find a full listing of these Side Trips in the back of this Bible, or you can simply pick up and follow any marker you encounter while reading.

5 ENJOY THE JOURNEY

No matter which route you choose, we know your Wayfinding journey through God's story will give you a greater understanding of the biblical narrative and a closer, more intimate relationship with God.

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ABOUT THE WAYFINDING BIBLE

The Wayfinding Bible has been created to encourage the reading of God's Word. Many people want to read the Bible—or want to read it more often—but they're challenged by its rich complexity. It is over a thousand pages long, it was written dozens of centuries ago in cultures very different from ours, and it consists of sixty-six separate books that aren't arranged in typical chronological order.

In many ways, navigating the Bible is like navigating an unfamiliar environment—a large city, a confusing hospital, or a new airport. Because people often get lost in these types of environments, architects and urban planners use wayfinding signs to help people find their way around and minimize their frustration. These signs show your present location, help you select the best route, and enable you to journey from one point to another without getting lost.

The Wayfinding Bible draws from the science of wayfinding to help you successfully navigate God's Word. Route lines across the top of the pages provide easy-to-follow paths through Scripture. Getting Your Bearings articles orient you when the Bible's story takes a significant turn. Historical Markers and Scenic Overlooks add cultural information and visual details to enrich your reading. *The Wayfinding Bible* helps new Bible readers find their way with confidence, even as it encourages experienced readers to explore familiar territory from a unique perspective.

Throughout the development of *The Wayfinding Bible*, an advisory committee consisting of Bible readers of various backgrounds reviewed the features and designs. We are very grateful for the time and advice provided by these committee members.

*Show me the right path,
O LORD; point out the
road for me to follow.
Lead me by your truth
and teach me, for you
are the God who saves
me. All day long I put
my hope in you.*

PSALM 25:4-5

Doris Ridders
Jeannette Taylor

OLD TESTAMENT



START  FLYOVERSTART  DIRECTSTART  SCENIC

GETTING YOUR BEARINGS

THE BEGINNING

God's story has no beginning or end, but our part in it begins when he creates the heavens and the earth. God has big plans for his creation. He creates humans in his own image, giving them both dominion over all creation and also the privilege of being in intimate relationship with him. The first humans enjoy direct fellowship and conversation with God until they choose to violate God's only commandment. The communion they had with their Creator is gone, and evil permeates God's creation. Things are no longer the way they are supposed to be. God punishes humanity, but he doesn't destroy them. In fact, he already has a plan to restore the relationship he intended to have with them.

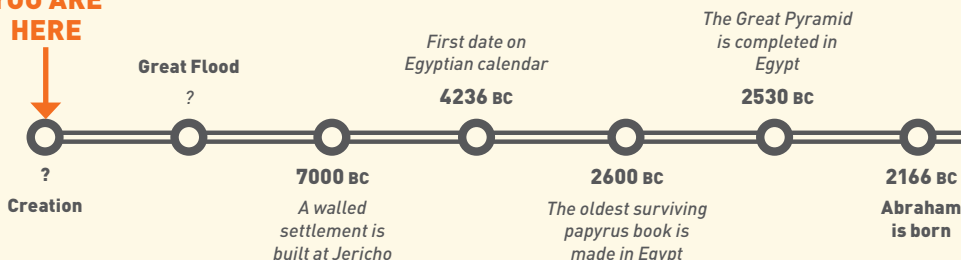
WHERE ARE WE GOING?

We get glimpses of God's plan even in the earliest stories of the Bible. When creation becomes consumed with sin, God cleanses the world with a flood, sparing the righteous Noah and his family. When it is all over, God sends a rainbow as a sign of his promise to never again send such a catastrophe.

God eventually selects one man, Abraham, through whom he will restore his close relationship with humanity. God promises to bless Abraham and his family by making them his chosen people. They will represent God to the world and demonstrate his desire to reunite with all humanity.

Abraham and his family are far from perfect. In fact, Genesis records the many failures of God's chosen people right alongside the stories of their faithfulness. God is at work in this family, transforming them into the kind of people he wants as his representatives on earth.

**YOU ARE
HERE**



PG 6

PG 6

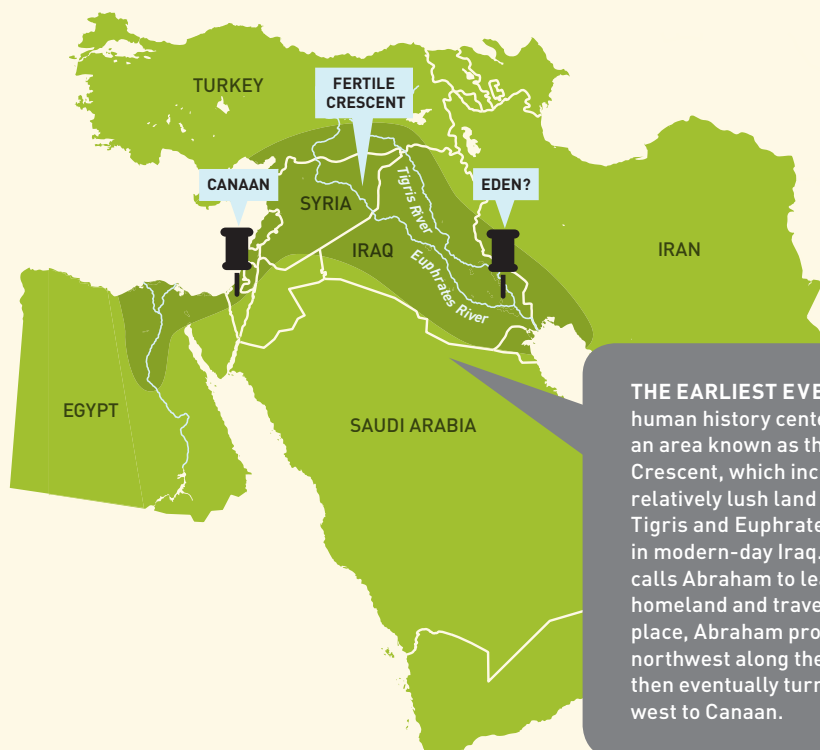
PG 6



JESUS AS TRUE NORTH

Although thousands of years will pass before Jesus Christ comes to earth as a baby, he is present with God even before creation. Christ “existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth” (Colossians 1:15-16). Everything in the Old Testament points the way to Jesus. He embodies God’s ultimate plan for restoring fellowship with his people and for renewing his creation.

WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE WE?



THE EARLIEST EVENTS of human history center around an area known as the Fertile Crescent, which included the relatively lush land around the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in modern-day Iraq. When God calls Abraham to leave his homeland and travel to a new place, Abraham probably travels northwest along the Euphrates, then eventually turns south and west to Canaan.

Abraham travels
to Canaan

2091 BC

Jacob and Esau
are born

2006 BC

Hammurabi
begins his reign
in Babylon

1792 BC

2066 BC
Isaac
is born

1876 BC
Jacob's family
moves to Egypt

4 BC
Jesus
is born

WELCOME TO

GENESIS

Every journey starts with the first step. And your journey through the Bible begins with Genesis, the book about beginnings: the beginning of the world, the beginning of humanity, the beginning of sin, and the beginning of redemption. In fact, the word *genesis* means “origin” or “beginning.”

Genesis also tells us the story of the beginning of God’s special people, as God calls Abraham to leave his home and move to Canaan, the land God will give Abraham’s descendants. Abraham’s family isn’t perfect, but God loves them and promises to bless the entire world through them.

Genesis is more than a collection of stories, though. It answers the most basic human questions: Where did we come from? Why are we here? Why is there evil in the world? Does God care? The answers to these questions shape every facet of our lives, and in Genesis we hear answers that come from God himself.

7
STOPS

ON THE FLYOVER ROUTE: You’ll get a glimpse of the great stories of Genesis as they outline God’s plan for his creation and his people. Your first stop is on page 6.

21
STOPS

ON THE DIRECT ROUTE: Along the way, you’ll see God at work in the life of the world and then in the lives of Abraham and his descendants. Your first stop is on page 6.

30
STOPS

ON THE SCENIC ROUTE: You’ll be reading all of Genesis except for a few chapters, so sit back and enjoy all the fabulous stories, starting at the very beginning. Your first stop is on page 6.



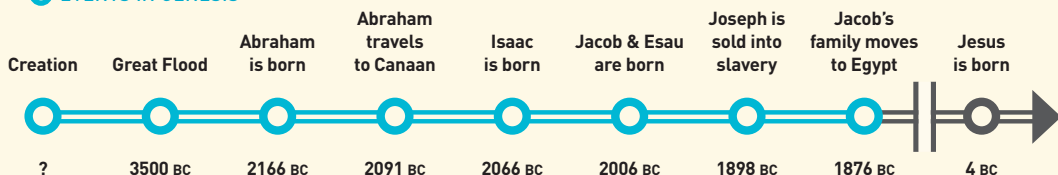
FINDING JESUS IN GENESIS

Before the events in the book of Genesis even begin, Jesus is there. Jesus, the Word, already existed with God before the creation of the world (John 1:1). God created all things through his Son, Jesus.

You will catch glimpses of Jesus throughout the book: He is Eve’s promised offspring who will crush the serpent’s head (Genesis 3:15); he is Abraham’s descendant who will bless the whole world (12:2); and he is the ultimate king promised as a descendant of Judah (49:10). In the book of Hebrews, Jesus is likened to Melchizedek, the priest-king who appears in Genesis 14.

When Abraham climbs Mount Moriah, prepared to sacrifice his son Isaac on an altar, a ram is found to take Isaac’s place, prefiguring what Jesus would become for us: our substitute.

EVENTS IN GENESIS



PG 2 FLYOVER

PG 2 DIRECT

PG 2 SCENIC

1:1-2:25

1:1-2:25

1:1-2:25

2

2

2

THE ACCOUNT OF CREATION

Before the beginning there is only God. The story of Creation is a story about God, what he does and how he interacts with his creation. By God's hand, everything comes into existence out of nothing. He builds it all with grandeur, makes each creature with attention and care, and calls everything good. The Creation story shows us how much God loves all that he has made. This is the beginning of the big story—God's story told in the Bible.



THE ACCOUNT OF CREATION



1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.* ²The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

³Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light "day" and the darkness "night."

And evening passed and morning came, marking the first day.

⁶Then God said, "Let there be a space between the waters, to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth." ⁷And that is what happened. God made this space to separate the waters of the earth from the waters of the heavens.

⁸God called the space "sky."

And evening passed and morning came, marking the second day.

⁹Then God said, "Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear." And that is what happened. ¹⁰God called the dry ground "land" and the waters "seas." And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the land sprout with vegetation—every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came." And that is what happened. ¹²The land produced vegetation—all sorts of seed-bearing plants, and trees with seed-bearing fruit. Their

seeds produced plants and trees of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

¹³And evening passed and morning came, marking the third day.

¹⁴Then God said, "Let lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them be signs to mark the seasons, days, and years. ¹⁵Let these lights in the sky shine down on the earth." And that is what happened. ¹⁶God made two great lights—the larger one to govern the day, and the smaller one to govern the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷God set these lights in the sky to light the earth, ¹⁸to govern the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

¹⁹And evening passed and morning came, marking the fourth day.

²⁰Then God said, "Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind." ²¹So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that scurries and swarms in the water, and every sort of bird—each producing offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²Then God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply. Let the fish fill the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth."

²³And evening passed and morning came, marking the fifth day.

²⁴Then God said, "Let the earth produce every sort of animal, each producing offspring of the same kind—livestock, small animals

1:1 Or In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, . . . Or When God began to create the heavens and the earth, . . .

PG 1445



HOLY SPIRIT

1:1-8



PG 120

OBSERVATION POINT

The first two chapters of Genesis provide the only record we have of a perfect world. This is what perfection looks like. God wanted this world for all of us. Notice the activities that existed before sin invaded. Contrary to what most people believe, work was part of the good creation: God created, blessed, and planted; man tended the garden, watched over it, and named the animals. Man and woman were to be fruitful, multiply, govern the earth, and reign over the animals. God rested, man slept. These were all perfect activities.

EXPLORATION POINT

The climax of God's creation was the formation of humans. Male and female were made in his image. You are like him. Out of all of Creation, you carry his image, breathed into you by his breath of life. No other part of Creation can claim to have his image or his breath. You are infused with his likeness through your moral conscience and spiritual awareness. When you are feeling beaten down and questioning yourself, these truths can be of great encouragement!

that scurry along the ground, and wild animals." And that is what happened.

²⁵God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to produce offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make human beings* in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth,* and the small animals that scurry along the ground."

²⁷ So God created human beings* in his own image.

In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

²⁹Then God said, "Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food.

³⁰And I have given every green plant as food for all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—everything that has life." And that is what happened.

³¹Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good!

And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.

2 So the creation of the heavens and the earth and everything in them was completed. ²On the seventh day God had

finished his work of creation, so he rested* from all his work. ³And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when he rested from all his work of creation.

⁴This is the account of the creation of the heavens and the earth.

GARDEN OF EDEN

The exact location of the Garden of Eden remains a mystery, but we do know its general vicinity. The Tigris and Euphrates Rivers are the clearest landmarks. We also know that early civilization centered in the Fertile Crescent, the area sweeping through modern-day Kuwait, Iraq, Syria, and Israel. Eden was located either in the northern mountains around the source of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, or in the southern delta region, closer to the Persian Gulf.



Gen 2:8-9

THE MAN AND WOMAN IN EDEN

When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵neither wild plants nor grains were growing on the earth. For the LORD God had not yet sent rain to water the earth, and there were no people to cultivate the soil. ⁶Instead, springs* came up from the ground and watered all the land. ⁷Then the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person.

1:26a Or man; Hebrew reads adam. **1:26b** As in Syriac version; Hebrew reads all the earth. **1:27** Or the man; Hebrew reads ha-adam. **2:2** Or ceased; also in 2:3. **2:6** Or mist.

3:1-24

3:1-24

3:1-24

PG 6 FLYOVER

PG 6 DIRECT

PG 6 SCENIC

THE MAN AND WOMAN SIN

Adam and Eve are free to roam, to enjoy the garden and the animals, and to walk and talk with God. They live with only one restriction—to not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. But they choose to defy God and eat the tree's fruit. Then sin enters the world; it divides everything and uncertainty reigns. Adam and Eve are separated from God, but God continues to love them. Even though sin enters the world, changing everything, God's big story continues.

⁸Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden in the east, and there he placed the man he had made. ⁹The LORD God made all sorts of trees grow up from the ground—trees that were beautiful and that produced delicious fruit. In the middle of the garden he placed the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁰A river flowed from the land of Eden, watering the garden and then dividing into four branches. ¹¹The first branch, called the Pishon, flowed around the entire land of Havilah, where gold is found. ¹²The gold of that land is exceptionally pure; aromatic resin and onyx stone are also found there. ¹³The second branch, called the Gihon, flowed around the entire land of Cush. ¹⁴The third branch, called the Tigris, flowed east of the land of Asshur. The fourth branch is called the Euphrates.

¹⁵The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. ¹⁶But the LORD God warned him, “You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden—¹⁷except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.”

¹⁸Then the LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.” ¹⁹So the LORD God formed from the ground all the wild animals and all the birds of the sky. He brought them to the man* to see what he would call them, and the man chose a name for each one. ²⁰He gave names to all the livestock, all the birds of the sky, and all the wild animals. But still there was no helper just right for him.


²¹So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the LORD God took out one of the man's ribs* and closed up the opening. ²²Then the LORD God

made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to the man.

²³“At last!” the man exclaimed.

“This one is bone from my bone,
and flesh from my flesh!
She will be called ‘woman,’
because she was taken from ‘man.’”

²⁴This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.

²⁵Now the man and his wife were both naked, but they felt no shame. 



THE MAN AND WOMAN SIN

3 The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the LORD God had made. One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”

²“Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied. ³“It's only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.’”

⁴“You won't die!” the serpent replied to the woman. ⁵“God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.”

⁶The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. ⁷At that moment

2:19 Or Adam, and so throughout the chapter. 2:21 Or took a part of the man's side.

PG 14-19



WEDDINGS

2:18-25



PG 46

OBSERVATION POINT

God settled Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden with a wide variety of fruit-producing trees to satisfy their hunger. He also created two special trees that grew in the middle of the Garden: the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and the tree of life. God clearly told Adam not to eat the fruit of the first tree, but he didn't restrict the second. Adam and Eve had the opportunity to eat from the tree of life, but the Bible never says that they did. The serpent pointed out God's one restriction, causing Eve to doubt God and then disobey him.

EXPLORATION POINT

The story of how sin came into the world is known as the Fall. It answers the question, "Why is there evil in the world?" Although Eve disobeyed God's command first by eating the fruit and Adam followed her, Adam is the one who represents all humanity separated from God. Adam's disobedience and sin separate everyone from God, but Christ's righteousness and sacrifice reunite us with him. Humanity suffers under God's indictment and conviction because of Adam's actions; however, God graciously offers humanity a way of salvation through Jesus Christ (the second Adam).

their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.

⁸When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man* and his wife heard the LORD God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the LORD God among the trees. ⁹Then the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

¹⁰He replied, "I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked."

¹¹"Who told you that you were naked?" the LORD God asked. "Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?"

¹²The man replied, "It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it."

¹³Then the LORD God asked the woman, "What have you done?"

"The serpent deceived me," she replied. "That's why I ate it."

¹⁴Then the LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, you are cursed
more than all animals, domestic and wild.
You will crawl on your belly,
groveling in the dust as long as you live.

¹⁵ And I will cause hostility between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring.

He will strike* your head,
and you will strike his heel."

¹⁶Then he said to the woman,

"I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy,
and in pain you will give birth.
And you will desire to control your husband,
but he will rule over you.*"

¹⁷And to the man he said,

"Since you listened to your wife and ate
from the tree
whose fruit I commanded you not to eat,
the ground is cursed because of you.
All your life you will struggle to scratch
a living from it.

¹⁸ It will grow thorns and thistles for you,
though you will eat of its grains.

¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow
will you have food to eat
until you return to the ground
from which you were made.
For you were made from dust,
and to dust you will return."

PARADISE LOST: GOD'S JUDGMENT

²⁰Then the man—Adam—named his wife Eve, because she would be the mother of all who live.* ²¹And the LORD God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife.

²²Then the LORD God said, "Look, the human beings* have become like us, knowing both good and evil. What if they reach out, take fruit from the tree of life, and eat it? Then they will live forever!" ²³So the LORD God banished them from the Garden of Eden, and he sent Adam out to cultivate the ground from which he had been made. ²⁴After sending them out, the LORD God stationed mighty cherubim to the east of the Garden of Eden. And he placed a flaming sword that flashed back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life. ➡➡➡

3:8 Or Adam, and so throughout the chapter. 3:15 Or bruise; also in 3:15b. 3:16 Or And though you will have desire for your husband, / he will rule over you. 3:20 Eve sounds like a Hebrew term that means "to give life." 3:22 Or the man; Hebrew reads ha-adam.

◀ PG 8 → DIRECT

◀ PG 8 → SCENIC

4:1-16

4:1-26

CAIN AND ABEL

In the wake of the Fall, Adam and Eve's family begins. In sixteen verses we cover the events that transpire over several years—the concise history of a generation. No lovely recollection of the pregnancies and birth experiences, no talk about first steps, first smiles, or first words. It's a summary that penetrates to the heart of the story: sin's horrible consequences of anger, jealousy, murder, and death.

THE CITY OF ENOCH

Cain might have built this city in order to defy God's punishment—the curse that Cain would always be wandering. Or God may have used the city to protect Cain as he promised. Walls surrounded the city to protect its inhabitants. The city, named after Cain's firstborn son, Enoch, is the first city mentioned in the Bible. This Enoch is a completely different person than the one who walked with God and never died [Genesis 5:22-24].

Gen 4:17

→ CAIN AND ABEL

4 Now Adam* had sexual relations with his wife, Eve, and she became pregnant. When she gave birth to Cain, she said, "With the LORD's help, I have produced* a man!" ²Later she gave birth to his brother and named him Abel.

When they grew up, Abel became a shepherd, while Cain cultivated the ground. ³When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the LORD. ⁴Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The LORD accepted Abel and his gift, ⁵but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected.

⁶"Why are you so angry?" the LORD asked Cain. "Why do you look so dejected? ⁷You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master."

⁸One day Cain suggested to his brother, "Let's go out into the fields."* And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and killed him.

⁹Afterward the LORD asked Cain, "Where is your brother? Where is Abel?"

"I don't know," Cain responded. "Am I my brother's guardian?"

¹⁰But the LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground! ¹¹Now you are cursed and banished from the ground, which has swallowed your brother's blood. ¹²No longer will the ground yield good crops for you, no matter how hard you work! From now on you will be a homeless wanderer on the earth."

¹³Cain replied to the LORD, "My punishment* is too great for me to bear! ¹⁴You have banished me from the land and from your presence; you have made me a homeless wanderer. Anyone who finds me will kill me!"

¹⁵The LORD replied, "No, for I will give a seven-fold punishment to anyone who kills you." Then the LORD put a mark on Cain to warn anyone who might try to kill him. ¹⁶So Cain left the LORD's presence and settled in the land of Nod,* east of Eden. →

THE DESCENDANTS OF CAIN

¹⁷Cain had sexual relations with his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Then Cain founded a city, which he named Enoch, after his son. ¹⁸Enoch had a son named Irad. Irad became the father of* Mehujael. Mehujael became the father of Methushael. Methushael became the father of Lamech.

¹⁹Lamech married two women. The first was named Adah, and the second was Zillah.

²⁰Adah gave birth to Jabal, who was the first of those who raise livestock and live in tents. ²¹His

4:1a Or the man; also in 4:25. **4:1b** Or I have acquired. Cain sounds like a Hebrew term that can mean "produce" or "acquire." **4:8** As in Samaritan Pentateuch, Greek and Syriac versions, and Latin Vulgate; Masoretic Text lacks "Let's go out into the fields." **4:13** Or My sin. **4:16** Nod means "wandering." **4:18** Or the ancestor of, and so throughout the verse.

OBSERVATION POINT

Cain and Abel had occupations: One was a farmer, the other a shepherd. The brothers performed a formal religious ceremony of presenting gifts to the Lord at harvest time. Both brought appropriate gifts, but God rejected Cain's gift—not because it was grain rather than a lamb, but because Cain's attitude was all wrong. Cain didn't give generously or willingly. He brought "some" rather than "the best." He worshiped out of obligation, not with a thankful heart.

EXPLORATION POINT


Cain had a choice: to resist sin and do the right thing or to give in and let it overtake him. Like his parents, he gave in to it. God's warning to Cain is for us too: "Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you." We have a choice: to resist sin and master it, or to give in and let it master us. We don't have to do this by ourselves, by our own strength, or with our own willpower. The power of God through the Holy Spirit helps us stand firm and resist sin.

brother's name was Jubal, the first of all who play the harp and flute.²² Lamech's other wife, Zillah, gave birth to a son named Tubal-cain. He became an expert in forging tools of bronze and iron. Tubal-cain had a sister named Naamah.²³ One day Lamech said to his wives,

"Adah and Zillah, hear my voice;
listen to me, you wives of Lamech.
I have killed a man who attacked me,
a young man who wounded me.

²⁴ If someone who kills Cain is punished seven times,
then the one who kills me will be
punished seventy-seven times!"

THE BIRTH OF SETH

²⁵ Adam had sexual relations with his wife again, and she gave birth to another son. She named him Seth,* for she said, "God has granted me another son in place of Abel, whom Cain killed."²⁶ When Seth grew up, he had a son and named him Enosh. At that time people first began to worship the LORD by name. 

THE DESCENDANTS OF ADAM

5 This is the written account of the descendants of Adam. When God created human beings,* he made them to be like himself.² He created them male and female, and he blessed them and called them "human."

³ When Adam was 130 years old, he became the father of a son who was just like him—in his very image. He named his son Seth.

⁴ After the birth of Seth, Adam lived another 800 years, and he had other sons and daughters.⁵ Adam lived 930 years, and then he died.

⁶ When Seth was 105 years old, he became the father of* Enosh.⁷ After the birth of* Enosh, Seth lived another 807 years, and

he had other sons and daughters.⁸ Seth lived 912 years, and then he died.

⁹ When Enosh was 90 years old, he became the father of Kenan.¹⁰ After the birth of Kenan, Enosh lived another 815 years, and he had other sons and daughters.¹¹ Enosh lived 905 years, and then he died.

¹² When Kenan was 70 years old, he became the father of Mahalalel.¹³ After the birth of Mahalalel, Kenan lived another 840 years, and he had other sons and daughters.

¹⁴ Kenan lived 910 years, and then he died.

¹⁵ When Mahalalel was 65 years old, he became the father of Jared.¹⁶ After the birth of Jared, Mahalalel lived another 830 years, and he had other sons and daughters.

¹⁷ Mahalalel lived 895 years, and then he died.

¹⁸ When Jared was 162 years old, he became the father of Enoch.¹⁹ After the birth of Enoch, Jared lived another 800 years, and he had other sons and daughters.²⁰ Jared lived 962 years, and then he died.

²¹ When Enoch was 65 years old, he became the father of Methuselah.²² After the birth of Methuselah, Enoch lived in close fellowship with God for another 300 years, and he had other sons and daughters.

²³ Enoch lived 365 years,²⁴ walking in close fellowship with God. Then one day he disappeared, because God took him.

²⁵ When Methuselah was 187 years old, he became the father of Lamech.²⁶ After the birth of Lamech, Methuselah lived another 782 years, and he had other sons and daughters.²⁷ Methuselah lived 969 years, and then he died.

4:25 Seth probably means "granted"; the name may also mean "appointed." 5:1 Or man; Hebrew reads adam; similarly in 5:2.

5:6 Or the ancestor of; also in 5:9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 25. 5:7 Or the birth of this ancestor of; also in 5:10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 26.

◀ PG 10 → DIRECT

◀ PG 10 → SCENIC

6:1-22

6:1-22

5

5

A WORLD GONE WRONG

Over time, people multiply and fill the earth. Sinful thoughts and actions multiply with them. Everything is cursed by the first sin of Adam and Eve, and God regrets what has become of his beautiful plan for his creation. His heart aches as he looks out on the mess the world has become, so he decides to destroy it all and start again. In the middle of sin's ugliness, a glimmer of hope remains—one righteous man named Noah.

²⁸When Lamech was 182 years old, he became the father of a son. ²⁹Lamech named his son Noah, for he said, “May he bring us relief* from our work and the painful labor of farming this ground that the LORD has cursed.” ³⁰After the birth of Noah, Lamech lived another 595 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ³¹Lamech lived 777 years, and then he died.

³²After Noah was 500 years old, he became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

→ A WORLD GONE WRONG

6 Then the people began to multiply on the earth, and daughters were born to them. ²The sons of God saw the beautiful women* and took any they wanted as their wives. ³Then the LORD said, “My Spirit will not put up with* humans for such a long time, for they are only mortal flesh. In the future, their normal life-span will be no more than 120 years.”

⁴In those days, and for some time after, giant Nephilites lived on the earth, for whenever the sons of God had intercourse with women, they gave birth to children who became the heroes and famous warriors of ancient times.

⁵The LORD observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil. ⁶So the LORD was sorry he had ever made them and put them on the earth. It broke his heart. ⁷And the LORD said, “I will wipe this human race I have created from the face of the earth. Yes, and I will destroy every living thing—all the people, the large animals, the small animals that scurry along the ground, and even the birds of the sky. I am sorry I ever made them.” ⁸But Noah found favor with the LORD.

THE STORY OF NOAH

⁹This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, the only blameless person living on earth at the time, and he walked in close fellowship with God. ¹⁰Noah was the father of three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

¹¹Now God saw that the earth had become corrupt and was filled with violence. ¹²God observed all this corruption in the world, for everyone on earth was corrupt. ¹³So God said to Noah, “I have decided to destroy all living creatures, for they have filled the earth with violence. Yes, I will wipe them all out along with the earth!”

¹⁴“Build a large boat* from cypress wood* and waterproof it with tar, inside and out. Then construct decks and stalls throughout its interior. ¹⁵Make the boat 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high.* ¹⁶Leave an 18-inch opening* below the roof all the way around the boat. Put the door on the side, and build three decks inside the boat—lower, middle, and upper.

¹⁷“Look! I am about to cover the earth with a flood that will destroy every living thing that breathes. Everything on earth will die. ¹⁸But I will confirm my covenant with you. So enter the boat—you and your wife and your sons and their wives. ¹⁹Bring a pair of every kind of animal—a male and a female—into the boat with you to keep them alive during the flood. ²⁰Pairs of every kind of bird, and every kind of animal, and every kind of small animal that scurries

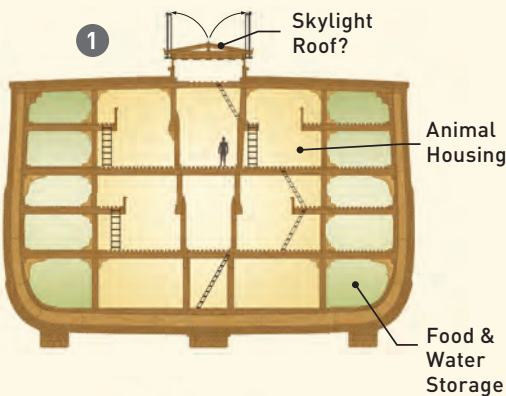
5:29 Noah sounds like a Hebrew term that can mean “relief” or “comfort.” 6:2 Hebrew daughters of men; also in 6:4. 6:3 Greek version reads will not remain in. 6:14a Traditionally rendered an ark. 6:14b Or gopher wood. 6:15 Hebrew 300 cubits [138 meters] long, 50 cubits [23 meters] wide, and 30 cubits [13.8 meters] high. 6:16 Hebrew an opening of 1 cubit [46 centimeters].

OBSERVATION POINT

The boat God instructed Noah to build was no beauty; it had no rudder, no sails, no means of navigation. It was built only to float and to protect its precious cargo as long as the floodwaters raged below. God provided the instructions, and Noah started building. For the next 120 years, hundreds of miles from a sea or an ocean, Noah constructed his boat on dry ground. Upon completing it, Noah filled the boat with pairs of every living creature, with food, and with his family.

EXPLORATION POINT

Noah "walked in close fellowship with God." This explains why he silently and respectfully obeyed God's outrageous instructions. Noah did not rail against God's destructive plan for the world; he did not argue or reason with him. Instead, Noah listened carefully and followed God's instructions perfectly. He remained steadfast and focused on his mission in spite of the probable doubts of his wife, skepticism of his sons, and ridicule of his neighbors. Through Noah's trust and obedience, God saved the world from annihilation.

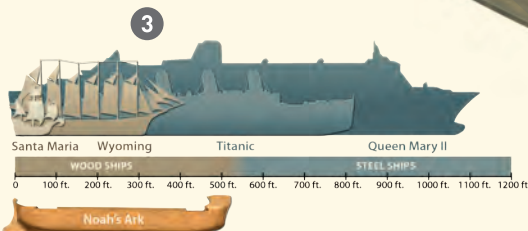


NOAH'S ARK

- 1 Cross-section view of the ark featuring lower, middle, and upper decks referenced in Genesis 6:16.
- 2 A possible design of the ark using the proportions in Genesis 6:15, featuring ramps to help to get animals between decks and a large stern extension seen on the earliest large ships of the Mediterranean.
- 3 Diagram showing how Noah's ark would compare to other large ships.



Gen 6:14-16



◀ PG 8 FLYOVER

◀ PG 12 → DIRECT

◀ PG 12 SCENIC

7:1–8:22

7:1–8:22

7:1–8:22

4

6

6

THE FLOOD COVERS THE EARTH

The sin of Adam and Eve has spread to all their offspring, and their sin has become a curse to all creation. Everywhere people dream of more and more sin. But God does not give up. God will not allow sin to have the victory in his big story. Instead, in his love he sends a flood to cleanse the world, and he begins again with Noah and his family. He waits until Noah finishes building the boat and everything is ready. Then the rain pours down and the underground waters gush out of every crevice. Soon everything is submerged.

THE MOUNTAINS OF ARARAT

The mountains of Ararat may be the same mountain range that today is located south-east of the Black Sea near Lake Van. This mountain range spreads across parts of modern-day Turkey, Armenia, and Iran. A Mount Ararat is located in eastern Turkey, but the Bible refers to a range of mountains, not one specific summit.

Gen 8:3–4

along the ground, will come to you to be kept alive. ²¹And be sure to take on board enough food for your family and for all the animals.”

²²So Noah did everything exactly as God had commanded him. → →

THE FLOOD COVERS THE EARTH

7 When everything was ready, the LORD said to Noah, “Go into the boat with all your family, for among all the people of the earth, I can see that you alone are righteous. ²Take with you seven pairs—male and female—of each animal I have approved for eating and for sacrifice,* and take one pair of each of the others. ³Also take seven pairs of every kind of bird. There must be a male and a female in each pair to ensure that all life will survive on the earth after the flood. ⁴Seven days from now I will make the rains pour down on the earth. And it will rain for forty days and forty nights, until I have wiped from the earth all the living things I have created.”

⁵So Noah did everything as the LORD commanded him.

⁶Noah was 600 years old when the flood

covered the earth. ⁷He went on board the boat to escape the flood—he and his wife and his sons and their wives. ⁸With them were all the various kinds of animals—those approved for eating and for sacrifice and those that were not—along with all the birds and the small animals that scurry along the ground. ⁹They entered the boat in pairs, male and female, just as God had commanded Noah. ¹⁰After seven days, the waters of the flood came and covered the earth.

¹¹When Noah was 600 years old, on the seventeenth day of the second month, all the underground waters erupted from the earth, and the rain fell in mighty torrents from the sky. ¹²The rain continued to fall for forty days and forty nights.

¹³That very day Noah had gone into the boat with his wife and his sons—Shem, Ham, and Japheth—and their wives. ¹⁴With them in the boat were pairs of every kind of animal—domestic and wild, large and small—along with birds of every kind. ¹⁵Two by two they came into the boat, representing every living thing that breathes. ¹⁶A male and female of each kind entered, just as God had commanded Noah. Then the LORD closed the door behind them.

¹⁷For forty days the floodwaters grew deeper, covering the ground and lifting the boat high above the earth. ¹⁸As the waters rose higher and higher above the ground, the boat floated safely on the surface. ¹⁹Finally, the water covered even the highest mountains on the earth, ²⁰rising more than twenty-two feet* above the highest peaks. ²¹All the living things on earth

7:2 Hebrew of each clean animal; similarly in 7:8. 7:20 Hebrew 15 cubits [6.9 meters].

OBSERVATION POINT

To find out if any dry ground was available, Noah had to send something out of the ark. He first selected the raven, a large, black scavenger that could survive in the harsh post-flood conditions since it ate decaying corpses. The raven's release didn't tell Noah much about the water levels, since it could find places to rest even if the water was still high. Releasing the dove would provide more useful information since this bird refused to rest on floating debris or a corpse. On its second flight, the dove returned with an olive branch, so Noah knew that the olive trees, which grew in the lower plains, were sprouting again.

died—birds, domestic animals, wild animals, small animals that scurry along the ground, and all the people. ²²Everything that breathed and lived on dry land died. ²³God wiped out every living thing on the earth—people, livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and the birds of the sky. All were destroyed. The only people who survived were Noah and those with him in the boat. ²⁴And the floodwaters covered the earth for 150 days.

THE FLOOD RECEDES

8 But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and livestock with him in the boat. He sent a wind to blow across the earth, and the floodwaters began to recede. ²The underground waters stopped flowing, and the torrential rains from the sky were stopped. ³So the floodwaters gradually receded from the earth. After 150 days, ⁴exactly five months from the time the flood began,* the boat came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. ⁵Two and a half months later,* as the waters continued to go down, other mountain peaks became visible.

⁶After another forty days, Noah opened the window he had made in the boat ⁷and released a raven. The bird flew back and forth until the floodwaters on the earth had dried up. ⁸He also released a dove to see if the water had receded and it could find dry ground. ⁹But the dove could find no place to land because the water still covered the ground. So it returned to the boat, and Noah held out his hand and drew the dove back inside. ¹⁰After waiting another seven days, Noah released the dove again. ¹¹This time the dove returned to him in the evening with a fresh olive leaf in its beak. Then Noah knew that the floodwaters were

EXPLORATION POINT

We've all seen flooding; if not firsthand, we've seen it on video clips—spring floods of the Mississippi River, hurricanes on southern coastlines, and tsunamis in Japan. We've also seen post-flood devastation—bloating bodies, mucky debris, broken trees, and colorless vegetation. There's nothing pretty "after the flood." Starting over is difficult. But God's presence and his promise strengthened Noah to persevere; he will strengthen us too during difficult times.

almost gone. ¹²He waited another seven days and then released the dove again. This time it did not come back.

¹³Noah was now 601 years old. On the first day of the new year, ten and a half months after the flood began,* the floodwaters had almost dried up from the earth. Noah lifted back the covering of the boat and saw that the surface of the ground was drying. ¹⁴Two more months went by,* and at last the earth was dry!

¹⁵Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶"Leave the boat, all of you—you and your wife, and your sons and their wives. ¹⁷Release all the animals—the birds, the livestock, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—so they can be fruitful and multiply throughout the earth."

¹⁸So Noah, his wife, and his sons and their wives left the boat. ¹⁹And all of the large and small animals and birds came out of the boat, pair by pair.

²⁰Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and there he sacrificed as burnt offerings the animals and birds that had been approved for that purpose.* ²¹And the LORD was pleased with the aroma of the sacrifice and said to himself, "I will never again curse the ground because of the human race, even though everything they think or imagine is bent toward evil from childhood. I will never again destroy all living things. ²²As long as the earth remains, there will be planting and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night."

8:4 Hebrew on the seventeenth day of the seventh month; see 7:11.

8:5 Hebrew On the first day of the tenth month; see 7:11 and note on 8:4.

8:13 Hebrew On the first day of the first month; see 7:11.

8:14 Hebrew The twenty-seventh day of the second month arrived; see note on 8:13.

8:20 Hebrew every clean animal and every clean bird.

21:1–22:6

21:1–22:6

21:1–22:6

PG 1362 FLYOVER

PG 1408 DIRECT

PG 1410 SCENIC

52

213

384

THE NEW JERUSALEM

While in exile on the island of Patmos, John experiences amazing visions. These visions give the early Christian church great hope that God will be victorious in all things. God's big story has always been a story of hope for the future. God made covenant promises with his people—for a son, a great nation, a homeland. He provided hope even in times of despair—hope for restoration, renewal, and a Messiah. God continues to promise a future of hope for his church. He shows John his plans through this vision, and God has preserved it to share with the world.

⁵This is the first resurrection. (The rest of the dead did not come back to life until the thousand years had ended.) ⁶Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. For them the second death holds no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him a thousand years.

THE DEFEAT OF SATAN

⁷When the thousand years come to an end, Satan will be let out of his prison. ⁸He will go out to deceive the nations—called Gog and Magog—in every corner of the earth. He will gather them together for battle—a mighty army, as numberless as sand along the seashore. ⁹And I saw them as they went up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded God's people and the beloved city. But fire from heaven came down on the attacking armies and consumed them.

¹⁰Then the devil, who had deceived them, was thrown into the fiery lake of burning sulfur, joining the beast and the false prophet. There they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

THE FINAL JUDGMENT

¹¹And I saw a great white throne and the one sitting on it. The earth and sky fled from his presence, but they found no place to hide.

¹²I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books. ¹³The sea gave up its dead, and death and the grave* gave up their dead. And all were judged according to their deeds. ¹⁴Then death and the grave were

thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death. ¹⁵And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire.



THE NEW JERUSALEM

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

³I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them.* ⁴He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever."

⁵And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!" And then he said to me, "Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true." ⁶And he also said, "It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega—the Beginning and the End. To all who are thirsty I will give freely from the springs of the water of life. ⁷All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.

⁸"But cowards, unbelievers, the corrupt, murderers, the immoral, those who practice witchcraft, idol worshipers, and all liars—their fate is in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

⁹Then one of the seven angels who held the

20:13 Greek and Hades; also in 20:14. **21:3** Some manuscripts read *God himself will be with them, their God.*

PG 1384



THE FUTURE 21:1–8



PG 1447

OBSERVATION POINT

The description of the holy city contains imagery from the Garden of Eden, the city of Jerusalem, and the Temple. The Eden imagery is seen in God's dwelling among his people, the springs of the water of life, and the tree of life. The city of Jerusalem is depicted in the imagery of foundation stones, gates, and massive walls. And the shape of the city (a perfect square) corresponds with that of the Most Holy Place, the innermost sanctum of the Temple. An actual Temple is no longer needed because God's presence permeates the entire holy city.

EXPLORATION POINT

God created humans so that he could be in loving relationship with them. Ever since sin shattered that intended relationship, God has been working toward restoration. Covenants, promises, commandments, and the incarnate presence of his Son have all been steps in the process of showing humans his great love for them. The day will come when God will make all things new again. His creation will be restored, and his relationship with his children will be perfected. On that day, sin will be completely eradicated, and every human will bow before him and call him Lord!

seven bowls containing the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come with me! I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."

¹⁰So he took me in the Spirit* to a great, high mountain, and he showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God. ¹¹It shone with the glory of God and sparkled like a precious stone—like jasper as clear as crystal. ¹²The city wall was broad and high, with twelve gates guarded by twelve angels. And the names of the twelve tribes of Israel were written on the gates. ¹³There were three gates on each side—east, north, south, and west. ¹⁴The wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them were written the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

¹⁵The angel who talked to me held in his hand a gold measuring stick to measure the city, its gates, and its wall. ¹⁶When he measured it, he found it was a square, as wide as it was long. In fact, its length and width and height were each 1,400 miles.* ¹⁷Then he measured the walls and found them to be 216 feet thick* (according to the human standard used by the angel).

¹⁸The wall was made of jasper, and the city was pure gold, as clear as glass. ¹⁹The wall of the city was built on foundation stones inlaid with twelve precious stones:* the first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, ²⁰the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst.

²¹The twelve gates were made of pearls—each gate from a single pearl! And the main street was pure gold, as clear as glass.

²²I saw no temple in the city, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

²³And the city has no need of sun or moon, for the glory of God illuminates the city, and the Lamb is its light. ²⁴The nations will walk in its light, and the kings of the world will enter the city in all their glory. ²⁵Its gates will never be closed at the end of day because there is no night there. ²⁶And all the nations will bring their glory and honor into the city. ²⁷Nothing evil* will be allowed to enter, nor anyone who practices shameful idolatry and dishonesty—but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

JERUSALEM

In AD 70 the Romans destroyed the Temple and much of Jerusalem during their war against the Jews. Throughout their history the Jews had taken pride in their glorious city, which was situated high on a hill and could be seen for miles around. John's vision of a restored Jerusalem, more glorious than the earthly city had ever been, would have given the church of new believers great joy and hope.



Rev 21:1-2

22 Then the angel showed me a river with the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. ²¹It

^{21:10} Or in spirit. ^{21:16} Greek 12,000 stadia [2,220 kilometers]. ^{21:17} Greek 144 cubits [65 meters]. ^{21:19} The identification of some of these gemstones is uncertain. ^{21:27} Or ceremonially unclean.

◀ PG 1416 FLYOVER

◀ PG 1416 DIRECT

◀ PG 1416 SCENIC

22:7-21

53

22:7-21

214

22:7-21




385

JESUS IS COMING


As the Christian church grew, so did opposition to the new Christian beliefs and their new way of living. The persecuted churches needed hope to persevere. The vision God gave to the apostle John provided great comfort for the early church, and it has continued to do so for the church through the centuries. That story of God's hope continues today. The big story that started at the beginning of time is not over yet. God will reveal himself in Christ the conquering King, and he will unite himself with his followers for all time.


flowed down the center of the main street. On each side of the river grew a tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit,* with a fresh crop each month. The leaves were used for medicine to heal the nations.

³No longer will there be a curse upon anything. For the throne of God and of the Lamb will be there, and his servants will worship him. ⁴And they will see his face, and his name will be written on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no night there—no need for lamps or sun—for the Lord God will shine on them. And they will reign forever and ever.

⁶Then the angel said to me, “Everything you have heard and seen is trustworthy and true. The Lord God, who inspires his prophets,* has sent his angel to tell his servants what will happen soon.”   

JESUS IS COMING

 ⁷“Look, I am coming soon! Blessed are those who obey the words of prophecy written in this book.*”

 ⁸I, John, am the one who heard and saw all these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me. ⁹But he said, “No, don’t worship me. I am a servant of God, just like you and your brothers the prophets, as well as all who obey what is written in this book. Worship only God!”

¹⁰Then he instructed me, “Do not seal up the prophetic words in this book, for the time is near. ¹¹Let the one who is doing harm continue to do harm; let the one who is vile continue to be vile; let the one who is righteous continue to live righteously; let the one who is holy continue to be holy.”

¹²“Look, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”




¹⁴Blessed are those who wash their robes. They will be permitted to enter through the gates of the city and eat the fruit from the tree of life. ¹⁵Outside the city are the dogs—the sorcerers, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idol worshipers, and all who love to live a lie.

¹⁶“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this message for the churches. I am both the source of David and the heir to his throne.* I am the bright morning star.”

¹⁷The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” Let anyone who hears this say, “Come.” Let anyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who desires drink freely from the water of life. ¹⁸And I solemnly declare to everyone who hears the words of prophecy written in this book: If anyone adds anything to what is written here, God will add to that person the plagues described in this book. ¹⁹And if anyone removes any of the words from this book of prophecy, God will remove that person’s share in the tree of life and in the holy city that are described in this book.

²⁰He who is the faithful witness to all these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon!”

Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

²¹May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s holy people.*   

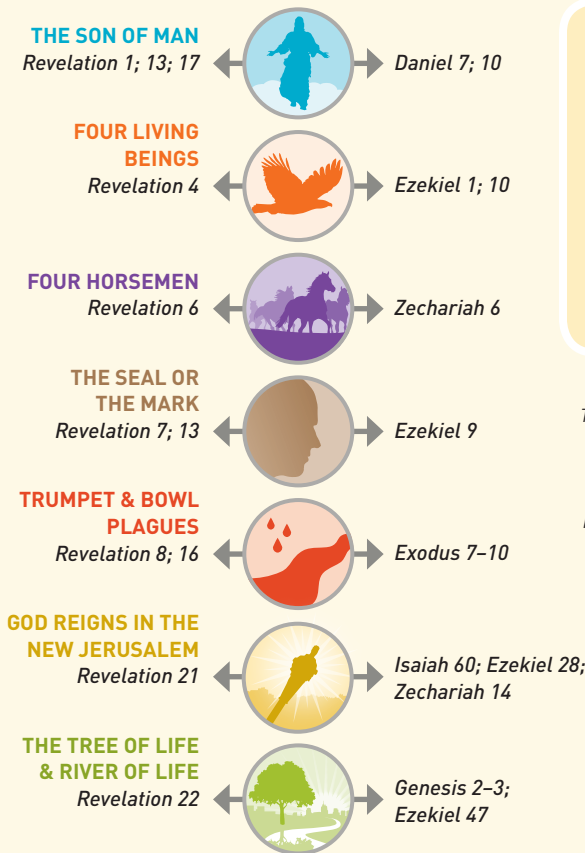
22:2 Or twelve kinds of fruit. 22:6a Or The Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets. 22:6b Or suddenly, or quickly; also in 22:7, 12, 20. 22:7 Or scroll; also in 22:9, 10, 18, 19. 22:16 Greek I am the root and offspring of David. 22:21 Other manuscripts read be with all; still others read be with all of God’s holy people. Some manuscripts add Amen.

OBSERVATION POINT

In 22:16, Jesus clearly identifies himself and ties the past to the future. Long ago God promised his people that a star would come from Jacob (Numbers 24:17). To Isaiah he promised that a shoot would come from “the stump of David’s family” (Isaiah 11:1). When Jesus walked the earth, people knew he was the son of David (Matthew 22:42). What was promised so many centuries before has come true. In one statement, Jesus unites thousands of years of prophecies and history.

EXPLORATION POINT

What a triumphant ending! God promises to come again to earth to be with his people. We can rejoice—there’s a happy ending to God’s big story. And we are all going to be part of it!



REVELATION'S OLD TESTAMENT IMAGERY

John’s thinking and writing were steeped in the Old Testament. The book of Revelation adopts imagery that appears everywhere from Genesis to Malachi. Understanding the meaning of these images in the Old Testament can help make sense of what John meant in Revelation.

Tracing over 500 connections to the Old Testament, here’s a picture of how much those books contributed to Revelation’s famous imagery and indelible prophecy.

1 Samuel
Esther
Lamentations
Jonah
Nahum
Nehemiah
Micah
Ezra
Judges
1 Chronicles
2 Chronicles
Zephaniah
Malachi
2 Samuel
Amos
Numbers
Proverbs
Joel
Hosea
2 Kings
Job
Leviticus
Deuteronomy
1 Kings
Zechariah
Daniel
Genesis
Jeremiah
Exodus
Ezekiel
Psalms
Isaiah

◀ PG 1418  FLYOVER

◀ PG 1418  DIRECT

◀ PG 1418  SCENIC



GETTING YOUR BEARINGS

YEAR:
AD 100

CURRENT WORLD POWER:
Rome

STATUS OF GOD'S PEOPLE:
Filled with God's Spirit

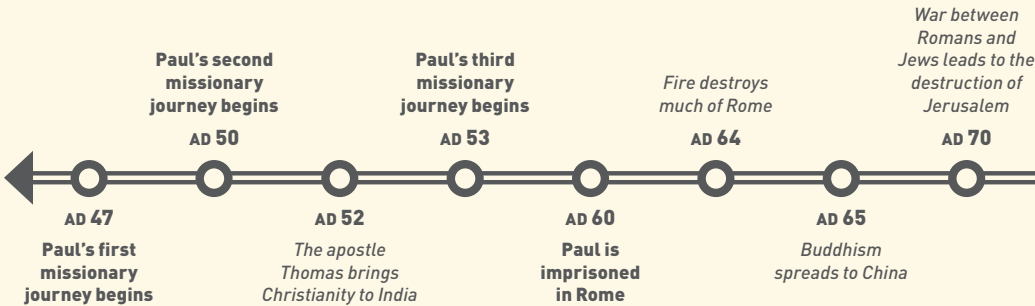
WAITING FOR CHRIST

The story of God's chosen people did not end with the Revelation of John; it continued through the centuries to the present. Although the writings of the early church fathers are not included in the Bible, they contributed to the church's foundation and its beliefs. The beliefs established and recorded during the early centuries of church history are expressed in the creeds and confessions that are based on the biblical canon and have guided the church for ages.

In the two thousand years since Jesus came to earth, his followers have spread the Good News to every continent of the world. Christianity has greatly shaped Western civilization, influencing law, ethics, social practices, philosophy, the arts, and politics. Much of the modern West is steeped in Judeo-Christian beliefs, first formed in the Old Testament and renewed by Jesus Christ. Today, over two billion people call themselves Christians and are waiting for Christ's glorious return to earth.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Just as all believers in the past have waited, we too wait for God to fulfill his promise that Jesus will come again to reign in glory. We do not know when he will come, but we live in faithful anticipation of his triumphant return. As we wait, we live in faithful obedience to God, doing what he has called us to do in life to bring him glory and promote his Kingdom. With expectation, we pray with the church through the ages this simple prayer: "Come, Lord Jesus!"



54

215

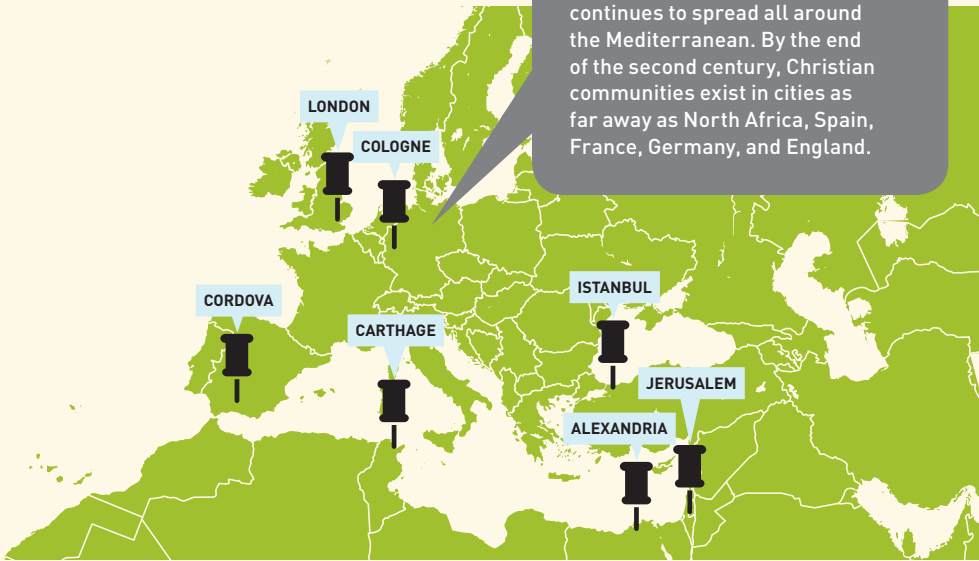
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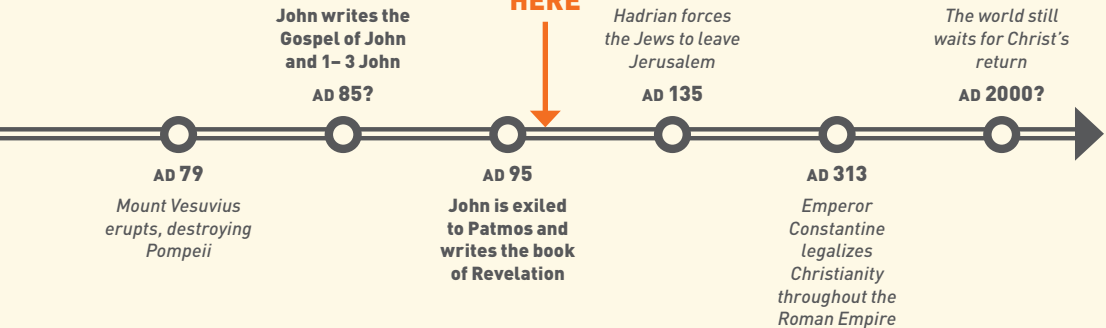
JESUS AS TRUE NORTH

From the time of Creation, Jesus has been present in the world. He was present when the universe was set in place, and he was present with the chosen people of the Old Testament. He came to earth as a human baby and lived with his people for thirty-three years. He suffered and died for the sins of the world, then he conquered death when he rose again—all so that he could be with the people and creation he loved. After he ascended into heaven, he gave his Spirit to his people, comforting them and enabling them to boldly share the Good News with others. Jesus' followers live for him, worship him, and bring him glory. At a time known only to God, Jesus will come again to earth and reign in glory over the new creation. He will be with us forever.

WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE WE?



**YOU ARE
HERE**





ITINERARY

Some people like to see where the wind takes them. Others like to know where they're going before they leave. If you're in the second group, here's an itinerary to help you plan your trip. This itinerary lists all the scheduled stops on all three routes through *The Wayfinding Bible*.

This chart may be used as a checklist for your personal reading journey.

FLYOVER ROUTE	DIRECT ROUTE	SCENIC ROUTE	✓ EVENT	PASSAGE	PAGE
			The Beginning	GETTING YOUR BEARINGS	2
			<input type="radio"/> The Account of Creation	<i>Genesis 1:1-2:25</i>	6
			<input type="radio"/> The Man and Woman Sin	<i>Genesis 3:1-24</i>	8
			<input type="radio"/> Cain and Abel	<i>Genesis 4:1-26</i>	10
			<input type="radio"/> A World Gone Wrong	<i>Genesis 6:1-22</i>	12
			<input type="radio"/> The Flood Covers the Earth	<i>Genesis 7:1-8:22</i>	14
			<input type="radio"/> God Confirms His Covenant with Noah	<i>Genesis 9:1-29</i>	16
			<input type="radio"/> The Tower of Babel	<i>Genesis 11:1-9</i>	18
			<input type="radio"/> The Call of Abram	<i>Genesis 11:27-12:9</i>	20
			<input type="radio"/> Abram and Lot Separate	<i>Genesis 13:1-18</i>	22
			<input type="radio"/> The LORD's Covenant Promise to Abram	<i>Genesis 15:1-21</i>	24
			<input type="radio"/> The Birth of Ishmael	<i>Genesis 16:1-16</i>	26
			<input type="radio"/> A Son Is Promised to Sarah	<i>Genesis 17:1-18:15</i>	28
			<input type="radio"/> Sodom and Gomorrah	<i>Genesis 18:16-19:38</i>	30
			<input type="radio"/> Isaac and Ishmael	<i>Genesis 21:1-34</i>	32
			<input type="radio"/> Abraham's Faith Tested	<i>Genesis 22:1-24</i>	34
			<input type="radio"/> A Wife for Isaac	<i>Genesis 24:1-67</i>	36
			<input type="radio"/> Births and Birthrights	<i>Genesis 25:19-34</i>	38
			<input type="radio"/> Jacob Steals Esau's Blessing	<i>Genesis 27:1-28:9</i>	40
			<input type="radio"/> Jacob's Dream at Bethel	<i>Genesis 28:10-29:14</i>	44
			<input type="radio"/> Jacob Marries Leah and Rachel	<i>Genesis 29:14-30:43</i>	46
			<input type="radio"/> Jacob Flees from Laban	<i>Genesis 31:1-55</i>	48



SIDE TRIPS

Every journey has unexpected detours. As you travel through the Bible, you may find yourself glancing at some topics off the beaten path. The best thing to do when you see one that interests you is to take it!

Scattered along your journey through the Bible, you'll find markers for various topics. You can follow them to learn more about that topic and to see places in the Bible you won't see on your regular routes. Below is a complete list of all the side trips you can take, where they go, and how to find them.

THE AFTERLIFE

Most people wonder what will happen to them after they die and where they will go. The Bible provides us with some details of heaven and hell, though not as many as some would like. Heaven is the place where God lives and reigns over all things. It is heaven because he is there. Hell is the place for all those who rebel against God. Satan and the fallen angels reside there, eternally separated from God's presence. It is hell because God is not there.

LUKE 16:19-31 | TWO DESTINATIONS

Jesus uses stories called parables to teach his followers about the Kingdom of God. In this parable about two very different people, Jesus gives us a tiny glimpse of what heaven and hell are like.

LUKE 23:32-43 | HEAVEN IS MOMENTS AWAY

Two criminals are executed along with Jesus. Before Jesus dies, one of the criminals acknowledges that Jesus is truly a king. Jesus promises that man that they will soon be in heaven together.

JOHN 14:1-14 | HEAVEN HAS PLENTY OF ROOM

Talking to his disciples, Jesus describes his Father's house to encourage and comfort them. As the Crucifixion looms, he explains to them where he is going after he leaves them.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:1-10 | HEAVEN IS OUR ETERNAL HOME

To believers in Corinth who had wondered about those who had died, Paul explains that when we die we will leave behind our earthly bodies and receive new heavenly bodies in our eternal home.

2 PETER 2:1-11 | HELL IS THE RESIDENCE OF FALLEN ANGELS

In his condemnation of false teachers, Peter states that God will punish them as he did the fallen angels. Peter describes hell as "gloomy pits of darkness."

JUDE 1:3-11 | HELL IS A PRISON

Jude, as he condemns false teachers in the church, gives us a glimpse of hell as a dark prison where the ungodly must wait for judgment day.

✦ REVELATION 7:9-17 | THE THRONE ROOM OF HEAVEN

John's vision provides a magnificent picture of God's great heavenly throne room and of how he cares for those who have given their lives to him.

ANGELS

Angels are spiritual beings, created by God for a variety of duties. They worship and praise God, and they carry out his will. They bring messages to earth, announcing good news and words of comfort. They also provide for and protect God's people. Only three angels have specific names in the Bible: Michael, Gabriel, and the fallen angel Lucifer (Satan). In many Old Testament stories, an angel is referred to as "the angel of the LORD." Here are just a few of the many stories about angels in the Bible.

✦ EXODUS 23:20-33 | GOD'S ANGEL PREPARES THE WAY

While the Israelites wandered in the wilderness on their way to the Promised Land, God promises them that he will send an angel to lead them through unfamiliar territory. The angel will guard and protect them until they arrive safely.

✦ ISAIAH 36-37 | GOD'S ANGEL DESTROYS AN ARMY

During King Hezekiah's reign, the Assyrians conquer the nations around Judah and are heading for Jerusalem. The Assyrian king dispatches his chief of staff with nearly 200,000 troops to threaten Hezekiah. The Assyrians are right outside Jerusalem, but God's angel intervenes (Isaiah 37:36).

✦ DANIEL 6:1-28 | AN ANGEL APPEARS IN THE LION'S DEN

Daniel, a Jewish captive in the Persian Empire, works in the nation's administration. He obeys King Darius until he is required to bow down and pray to Darius. Although Daniel suffers the consequences of breaking the law, God's angel protects him.

✦ ZECHARIAH 3:1-10 | AN ANGEL CLOTHES A PRIEST WITH GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Jeshua, the high priest, is the religious leader of the exiles who have returned from Babylon to Jerusalem. In Zechariah's vision, an angel presents him with new clothes to symbolically cleanse him from his sins and restore him to his priestly position before God.

✦ ACTS 12:1-19 | AN ANGEL RESCUES PETER FROM PRISON

King Herod Agrippa persecutes the believers of the newly founded church and throws Peter in jail. In the middle of the night, an angel appears in the prison cell and helps Peter escape.

✦ ACTS 27:1-44 | AN ANGEL APPEARS TO PAUL

The apostle Paul has a pressing desire to bring the Good News to Rome and proclaim it to Caesar. His journey to Rome, however, is fraught with disaster. During a violent storm at sea, an angel appears to Paul at night and reassures him that he and the others aboard the ship will arrive safely in Italy.



THRU-HIKE

The Thru-Hike route is a fourth route through *The Wayfinding Bible*. It will take you through every word of the Bible chronologically. People who hike the entire length of long trails—such as the Appalachian Trail or the Continental Divide Trail—refer to their journey as “thru-hiking.” Walking every step of a lengthy trail requires time and dedication, as does reading every verse of the Bible. Completing the Thru-Hike in *The Wayfinding Bible* is not only a significant accomplishment but offers a wonderful opportunity to draw closer to God.

Your Thru-Hike guide is listed below. Simply begin with the first reading and follow the route to the end. Along the way you’ll cover all of the readings on the flyover route, the direct route, and the scenic route. As you travel the entire course of the Bible, take the time to read the Historical Markers, stop at the Scenic Overlooks, and gain perspective via the Getting Your Bearings articles. Set a pace for yourself that’s comfortable. You’re thru-hiking, not racing! Like all thru-hikers, you may occasionally get discouraged. Take a break, then pick up where you left off and keep going. You can do it!

The Beginning

○ GYB	2
○ Gn 1–2	6
○ Gn 3–4	8
○ Gn 5–6	11
○ Gn 7–8	14
○ Gn 9–10	16
○ Gn 11–12	18
○ Gn 13–14	22
○ Gn 15–16	24
○ Gn 17–18	28
○ Gn 19–20	31
○ Gn 21–22	33
○ Gn 23–24	35
○ Gn 25–26	39
○ Gn 27–28	41
○ Gn 29–30	44
○ Gn 31–32	48
○ Gn 33–34	52
○ Gn 35–36	54
○ Jb 1–3	584
○ Jb 4–5	586
○ Jb 6–7	588
○ Jb 8–10	589
○ Jb 11–12	591
○ Jb 13–14	593
○ Jb 15–17	594
○ Jb 18–19	596
○ Jb 20–21	598
○ Jb 22–24	599

○ Jb 25–27	601
○ Jb 28–30	602
○ Jb 31–32	604
○ Jb 33–34	606
○ Jb 35–36	607
○ Jb 37–38	608
○ Jb 39–40	610
○ Jb 41–42	612
○ Ps 1	616
○ Gn 37–38	56
○ Gn 39–40	60
○ Gn 41–42	62
○ Gn 43–44	66
○ Gn 45–46	68
○ Gn 47–48	71
○ Gn 49–50	73

Waiting for a Deliverer

○ GYB	76
○ Ex 1–2	80
○ Ex 3–4	82
○ Ex 5–6	85
○ Ex 7–8	88
○ Ex 9–10	91
○ Ex 11–12	94
○ Ex 13–14	96
○ Ex 15–16	100
○ Ps 90	665
○ Ex 17	103
○ Ex 18–19	104
○ Ex 20–21	107

○ Ex 22–23	109
○ Ex 24–25	111
○ Ex 26–27	113
○ Ex 28–29	116
○ Ex 30–31	119
○ Ex 32–33	121
○ Ex 34–36	123
○ Ex 37–38	127
○ Ex 39–40	129
○ Lv 1–3	134
○ Lv 4–6	136
○ Lv 7–8	138
○ Lv 9–10	142
○ Lv 11–12	144
○ Lv 13–14	145
○ Lv 15–16	149
○ Lv 17–18	151
○ Lv 19	153
○ Ps 119	682
○ Lv 20–21	154
○ Lv 22–23	156
○ Lv 24–25	158
○ Lv 26–27	162
○ Nm 1–2	166
○ Nm 3–4	168
○ Nm 5–6	172
○ Nm 7–8	174
○ Nm 9–10	178
○ Nm 11–12	180
○ Nm 13–14	182

○ Nm 15–16	186
○ Nm 17–18	190
○ Nm 19–20	192
○ Nm 21–22	195
○ Nm 23–24	199
○ Nm 25–26	200
○ Nm 27–28	204
○ Nm 29–30	206
○ Nm 31–32	208
○ Nm 33–34	210
○ Nm 35–36	212
○ Dt 1–2	216
○ Dt 3–4	218
○ Dt 5–6	222
○ Dt 7–8	223
○ Dt 9–10	226
○ Dt 11–12	227
○ Dt 13–14	229
○ Dt 15–16	231
○ Dt 17–18	233
○ Dt 19–20	234
○ Dt 21–22	236
○ Dt 23–24	238
○ Dt 25–26	240
○ Dt 27–28	241
○ Dt 29–30	244
○ Dt 31–32	246
○ Dt 33–34	249
○ Jo 1–2	254
○ Jo 3–4	256

FEATURES INDEX

HISTORICAL MARKERS

Garden of Eden (Gen 2:8-9)	7	The Temple (1 Kgs 6-7)	400
City of Enoch (Gen 4:17)	10	Sheba (1 Kgs 10:1-13)	407
Mountains of Ararat (Gen 8:3-4)	14	Samaria (1 Kgs 16:29-32)	417
Nations of the World (Gen 10:32)	17	Mount Carmel (1 Kgs 18:1-40)	421
Tower of Babel (Gen 11:4)	19	The Land of Aram (2 Kgs 5:1)	436
Ur of the Chaldeans (Gen 11:28)	20	The City of Riblah (2 Kgs 23:33)	457
The Negev (Gen 13:1)	23	The Land of Ophir (1 Chr 29:4)	491
Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen 18-19)	30	Mount Zemaraim (2 Chr 13:4)	504
Shechem (Gen 34)	55	The Town of Libnah (2 Chr 21:10)	513
Egypt (Gen 37-50)	69	Boundaries of Israel (2 Chr 30:5)	525
Pithom and Rameses (Exod 1:11)	81	Hezekiah's Tunnel (2 Chr 32:30)	528
Midian (Exod 2:15)	82	The City of Ecbatana (Ezra 6:2)	546
The Nile Delta (Exod 7:20-25)	91	The Ahava Canal (Ezra 8:15)	550
Elim (Exod 15:27)	100	The City of Susa (Neh 1:1)	555
Wilderness of Sinai (Exod 19:1-2)	103	The Land of Uz (Job 1:1)	585
Mount Sinai (Exod 19:3-8)	105	Ancient Writings about Suffering (Job 27:8)	603
Mount Sinai (Lev 7:37-38)	142	Sheba (Ps 72:10)	653
The Priestly Blessing (Num 6:22-27)	174	The Rivers of Babylon (Ps 137)	692
The Lampstand (Num 8:1-4)	177	The Sharon Plain (Song 2:1)	744
The Wilderness of Paran (Num 12:16)	183	The Temple on Mount Zion (Isa 8:18)	759
The King's Highway (Num 21:21-22)	195	Facing the Empire (Isa 17:1-20:6)	767
The Land of Pethor (Num 22:5)	198	Sharon and Achor (Isa 65:8-10)	812
Wilderness of Sin (Num 33:11)	212	The Valley of Ben-Hinnom (Jer 7:30-34)	825
Pisgah Peak (Deut 3:26-27)	219	Tarshish (Jer 10:8-10)	829
The Ten Commandments (Deut 5:6-21)	222	Shiloh (Jer 26:4-6)	847
Hazor (Josh 11:10-11)	266	Kiriath-jearim (Jer 26:20)	848
The City of Shechem (Josh 24:32)	280	Jerusalem's Surroundings (Jer 31:38-40)	854
Between the Two Rivers (Judg 3:8)	286	Anathoth (Jer 32:6-9)	856
The Moabites (Judg 3:12)	289	The Pagan Shrines at Topheth (Jer 32:35)	858
Mount Tabor (Judg 4:14)	290	The City of Sodom (Lam 4:6)	887
The Land of Midian (Judg 6:1)	294	Edom (Lam 4:21)	888
The Valley of Jezreel (Judg 6:33)	296	The Jews in Exile (Ezek 1:1-3)	893
Ammon (Judg 11:4)	301	Tyre (Ezek 26:1-19)	915
Mahanah-dan (Judg 13:25)	304	Excavating Babylon (Dan 1:1-2)	940
The Land of Moab (Ruth 1:2)	315	The City of Babylon (Dan 1:3)	941
The City of Shiloh (1 Sam 1:3)	321	The Plain of Dura (Dan 3:1)	945
The City of Ashdod (1 Sam 5:6)	325	Belshazzar's Feast (Dan 5:1-31)	949
The Valley of Elah (1 Sam 17:19)	339	Admah and Zeboiim (Hos 11:8)	968
The City of Ramah (1 Sam 19:18)	342	The Valley of Jehoshaphat (Joel 3:1-2)	975
The Caves of En-gedi (1 Sam 24:1-2)	349	Edom (Obad 1:1)	989
Jerusalem: The City of David (2 Sam 5:6-7)	361	Joppa (Jon 1:3)	992
The Kidron Valley (2 Sam 15:23)	377	Tarshish (Jon 1:3)	993
Absalom's Monument (2 Sam 18:18)	381	Nineveh (Jon 3:3)	995
The City of Mahanaim (2 Sam 18:23)	382	The Fall of Samaria (Mic 1:5)	999
The City of Gibeon (1 Kgs 3:3-4)	397	The Fall of Jerusalem (Mic 3:12)	1000

Nineveh (Nah 3:19)	1008	Jacob's Well (John 4:6)	1170
Gilead (Zech 10:10)	1031	The Jews and the Samaritans (John 4:9)	1172
Lebanon (Zech 10:10)	1033	The Pool of Siloam (John 9:7)	1180
The Fall of Edom (Mal 1:4)	1038	The Origin of Hanukkah (John 10:22)	1182
Nazareth (Matt 2:23)	1050	The Upper Room (John 13–17)	1187
Baptism in the Jordan River (Matt 3:13–17)	1052	Mount of Olives (Acts 1:6–12)	1199
Jesus' Temptation in the Wilderness (Matt 4:1–11)	1053	The Temple in Jerusalem (Acts 3:1–26)	1205
Capernaum and Nazareth (Matt 4:13)	1054	The Island of Cyprus (Acts 4:36)	1206
The Ten Towns (Matt 4:25)	1055	Solomon's Colonnade (Acts 5:12)	1209
The Sermon on the Mount (Matt 5:1)	1056	Ethiopia (Acts 8:27)	1213
Jesus' Ministry in Galilee (Matt 4:12–15:20)	1065	Damascus (Acts 9:2)	1215
The Sea of Galilee (Matt 14:13–36)	1069	Caesarea (Acts 10:1)	1217
The Mount of Transfiguration (Matt 17:1–13)	1073	Joppa (Acts 10:23)	1218
The Olivet Discourse (Matt 24:3)	1081	Philippi (Acts 16:12)	1227
The Region of the Gerasenes (Mark 5:1)	1096	Thessalonica (Acts 17:1)	1228
Tyre and Sidon (Mark 7:31)	1100	Ephesus (Acts 19:1)	1232
Caesarea Philippi (Mark 8:27)	1101	Malta (Acts 28:1–10)	1241
Passovers throughout the Bible (Mark 14:12)	1109	Rome (Acts 28:15)	1244
The Mount of Olives (Mark 14:26)	1110	Corinth (1 Cor 1:2)	1267
The Home of the High Priest (Mark 14:53)	1112	Asia (2 Cor 1:8)	1280
Golgotha (Mark 15:22)	1113	Macedonia and Achaia (2 Cor 9:2)	1287
Ancient Burial Practices (Mark 15:42–16:1)	1114	Galatia (Gal 1:2)	1293
Mary and Joseph's Journey to Bethlehem (Luke 2:4–5)	1123	Ephesus (Eph 1:1)	1301
The Judean Wilderness (Luke 3:2)	1125	Philippi (Phil 1:1)	1309
The Road to Jericho (Luke 10:30)	1137	Colosse (Col 1:2)	1314
The Village of Bethany (Luke 10:38)	1139	Crete (Titus 1:5)	1345
Samaria (Luke 17:11)	1149	Philemon and the Colossians (Phlm 1:1–2)	1348
Jericho and Jerusalem (Luke 19:1)	1152	Babylon in the New Testament (1 Pet 5:13)	1378
The Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13)	1160	John's Later Ministry (1 John 1:1–4)	1387
Cana (John 2:1)	1166	Patmos (Rev 1:9)	1400
Jerusalem under Herod's Rule (John 2:23)	1168	Mount Zion (Rev 14:1)	1411
		Jerusalem (Rev 21:1–2)	1417

SCENIC OVERLOOKS

Noah's Ark (Gen 6:14-16)	13	The Persian Empire (Esth 1:1-2)	574
Abraham's Journey (Gen 12:4-6)	21	The Book of Job	592
The Land Promised to Abraham (Gen 15:18-21)	25	Places in the Psalms	621
Abraham's Descendants (Gen 17:4-7)	27	The Book of Psalms.	675
Jacob's Journey to Paddan-Aram (Gen 28:5).	43	Themes in Proverbs.	709
The Twelve Tribes of Israel (Gen 35:23-26)	45	Solomon's Decadence (1 Kgs 4-5; 9-11)	733
Jacob Returns to Canaan (Gen 31:33)	51	Isaiah in the New Testament	757
The Plagues and Egypt's Deities (Exod 7-12).	87	Assyria Invades Judah (Isa 36-37).	781
Israel's Route in the Book of Exodus (Exod 12-19)	97	The Prophets	798-799
The Tabernacle (Exod 26).	115	Israel's Prophets	857
How to Make a Sacrifice (Lev 1-7)	139	Dating in Ezekiel	928-929
Biblical Calendar (Lev 23)	159	Judgment beyond Judah (Zeph 2:4-15)	1017
Israel's Camp and Population (Num 2).	169	Jesus' Ancestry (Matt 1:1-17)	1049
Israel's Route in the Book of Numbers (Num 10-22).	187	The Wise Men (Matt 2:1-12).	1051
Balaam in Moab (Num 22-24)	203	The Miracles of Jesus	1093
The Cities of Refuge (Deut 19:1-13).	235	Prophecies of the Messiah	1121
Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim (Deut 27-28)	241	The Parables of Jesus	1145
Conquering Canaan (Josh 10-12)	261	Jesus Appears after His Resurrection	1161
A Piece of the Promised Land (Josh 13-21).	271	Jesus in Jerusalem.	1167
The Judges Cycle	287	Traveling to Jerusalem (John 2:13).	1169
1 Samuel at a Glance.	336-337	Jesus' Travels (John 5:1)	1173
David in Hiding (1 Sam 19-30).	347	The Good News Spreads.	1211
The People of Moab (2 Sam 8:2).	367	How Far Paul Traveled (Acts 13-28)	1223
Battles of the Old Testament	371	Sending Letters	1231
Solomon's Building Projects (1 Kgs 9:15-19)	395	The Letters to the Churches	1246-1247
David's Family	409	Letters from Corinth (2 Thes 1:1)	1327
Worship in the Northern Kingdom (1 Kgs 12:25-33)	413	The Life of Timothy.	1339
David's Military (1 Chr 12:23-39).	476	The Authors of the New Testament.	1349
Moving the Ark (1 Chr 15:25).	478	Jesus is Superior	1357
Kings of Israel and Judah (2 Chr 3:10-16)	501	The Old Testament in the New.	1361
Rulers of the Southern Kingdom.	505	The Life of Peter	1375
Josiah versus Egypt (2 Chr 35:20-25)	533	The Seven Churches (Rev 1-3)	1403
Returning to the Promised Land (Ezra 2:1).	541	Revelation's Old Testament Imagery	1419
Jerusalem through the Centuries (Neh 2:11).	561		

PROPHECIES OF THE MESSIAH

To see an infographic of this chart, see pg. 1121.

New Testament quotes	SUBJECT	Old Testament references
Matt 1:22-23; Luke 1:31-34	Born of a virgin and called Immanuel	Isa 7:14
Matt 2:11	Kings bearing gifts	Ps 72:10; Isa 60:3, 6
Matt 2:15	Out of Egypt	Num 24:8; Hos 11:1
Matt 2:17-18	A massacre of innocents	Jer 31:15
Matt 2:5-6; Luke 2:4-6	Born in Bethlehem	Mic 5:2
Matt 3:1-3; Luke 1:76-78; 3:3-6	A voice in the wilderness, a messenger	Isa 40:3-5; Mal 3:1
Matt 4:13-16; Acts 13:47	Light to the Gentiles	Isa 9:1-2; 42:1-3, 6-7; 49:6; 60:1-3
Matt 8:16-17	Healed many	Isa 53:4
Matt 13:10-15	Watchers and listeners will not understand	Isa 6:9-10
Matt 21:16	Praised by children	Ps 8:2
Matt 21:42	Rejected cornerstone	Ps 118:22-23
Matt 21:4-5; John 12:14-15	The king enters Jerusalem on a donkey	Zech 9:9
Matt 26:3-4; John 1:11; 7:5; 12:37-43; Acts 4:1-12	Rejected by his own people	Isa 53:1, 3; Pss 69:8; 118:22
Matt 26:14-16, 47-50; Luke 22:21-23	Betrayed by his own follower	Ps 41:9
Matt 26:31, 56	Forsaken by disciples	Zech 13:7
Matt 26:37-38	Man of sorrows	Isa 53:3
Matt 26:67; 27:26, 30 Mark 14:65	Struck and spat on by his enemies	Isa 50:6
Matt 27:9-10	Betrayed for the price of a potter's field	Jer 18:1-4; 19:1-4; 32:6-9; Zech 11:12-13
Matt 27:12-14; Mark 15:3-5; Luke 23:8-10	Silent before his accusers	Isa 53:7
Matt 27:34, 48; John 19:28-30	Given vinegar	Ps 69:21
Matt 27:35; Luke 23:34; John 19:23-24	They threw dice for his garments	Ps 22:18
Matt 27:38; Mark 15:27-28; Luke 22:37	To suffer with criminals and pray for his enemies	Isa 53:12
Matt 27:39-44; Mark 15:29-32; Luke 23:11, 35	Mocked and insulted	Ps 22:7-8
Matt 27:57-60	Buried in a rich man's tomb	Isa 53:9

Matt 28:2-7; Acts 2:22-32	Raised from the dead	Ps 16:10
Mark 16:19; Luke 24:50-51	At God's right hand	Ps 110:1
Luke 1:31-32	Would have David's throne	2 Sam 7:11-12; Ps 132:11; Isa 9:6-7; 16:5; Jer 23:5
Luke 1:33	Eternal throne	Dan 2:44; 7:14, 27
Luke 4:18-19	Anointed with God's Spirit	Isa 11:2; 61:1-2
Luke 23:46	Commends his spirit to the Father	Ps 31:5
John 1:29; 11:49-52; Acts 10:43; 13:38-39	Dies as a sacrifice for sin	Isa 53:5-6, 8, 10-12
John 2:13-17	Zealous for his Father	Pss 69:9; 119:139
John 7:40	A prophet like Moses	Deut 18:15, 18-19
John 19:28	He would thirst	Pss 22:15; 69:21
John 19:33-36	No broken bones	Exod 12:46; Num 9:12; Ps 34:20
John 19:34, 37; 20:25-27	Pierced hands and feet, stared at in death	Ps 22:1-17; Zech 12:10

THE OLD TESTAMENT IN THE NEW

To see an infographic of this list, see pg. 1361.

Rom 1:17 Hab 2:4	Rom 15:11 Ps 117:1
Rom 2:24 Isa 52:5 (Greek version)	Rom 15:12 Isa 11:10 (Greek version)
Rom 3:4 Ps 51:4 (Greek version)	Rom 15:21 Isa 52:15 (Greek version)
Rom 3:10-12 Pss 14:1-3; 53:1-3 (Greek version)	1 Cor 1:19 Isa 29:14
Rom 3:13 Pss 5:9 (Greek version); 140:3	1 Cor 1:31 Jer 9:24
Rom 3:14 Ps 10:7 (Greek version)	1 Cor 2:9 Isa 64:4
Rom 3:15-17 Isa 59:7-8	1 Cor 2:16 Isa 40:13 (Greek version)
Rom 3:18 Ps 36:1	1 Cor 3:19 Job 5:13
Rom 4:3 Gen 15:6	1 Cor 3:20 Ps 94:11
Rom 4:7-8 Ps 32:1-2 (Greek version)	1 Cor 5:13 Deut 17:7
Rom 4:17 Gen 17:5	1 Cor 6:16 Gen 2:24
Rom 4:18 Gen 15:5	1 Cor 9:9 Deut 25:4
Rom 7:7 Exod 20:17; Deut 5:21	1 Cor 10:7 Exod 32:6
Rom 8:36 Ps 44:22	1 Cor 10:26 Ps 24:1
Rom 9:7 Gen 21:12	1 Cor 14:21 Isa 28:11-12
Rom 9:9 Gen 18:10, 14	1 Cor 15:27 Ps 8:6
Rom 9:12 Gen 25:23	1 Cor 15:32 Isa 22:13
Rom 9:13 Mal 1:2-3	1 Cor 15:45 Gen 2:7
Rom 9:15 Exod 33:19	1 Cor 15:54 Isa 25:8
Rom 9:17 Exod 9:16 (Greek version)	1 Cor 15:55 Hos 13:14 (Greek version)
Rom 9:25 Hos 2:23	2 Cor 4:13 Ps 116:10
Rom 9:26 Hos 1:10	2 Cor 6:2 Isa 49:8 (Greek version)
Rom 9:27-28 Isa 10:22-23 (Greek version)	2 Cor 6:16 Lev 26:12; Ezek 37:27
Rom 9:29 Isa 1:9	2 Cor 6:17 Isa 52:11; Ezek 20:34 (Greek version)
Rom 9:33 Isa 8:14; 28:16 (Greek version)	2 Cor 6:18 2 Sam 7:14
Rom 10:6-8 Deut 30:12-14	2 Cor 8:15 Exod 16:18
Rom 10:11 Isa 28:16 (Greek version)	2 Cor 9:7 See footnote on Prov 22:8
Rom 10:13 Joel 2:32	2 Cor 9:9 Ps 112:9
Rom 10:15 Isa 52:7	2 Cor 10:17 Jer 9:24
Rom 10:16 Isa 53:1	2 Cor 13:1 Deut 19:15
Rom 10:18 Ps 19:4	Gal 3:6 Gen 15:6
Rom 10:19 Deut 32:21	Gal 3:8 Gen 12:3; 18:18; 22:18
Rom 10:20 Isa 65:1 (Greek version)	Gal 3:10 Deut 27:26
Rom 10:21 Isa 65:2 (Greek version)	Gal 3:11 Hab 2:4
Rom 11:3 1 Kgs 19:10, 14	Gal 3:12 Lev 18:5
Rom 11:4 1 Kgs 19:18	Gal 3:13 Deut 21:23 (Greek version)
Rom 11:8 Isa 29:10; Deut 29:4	Gal 3:16 See notes on Gen 12:7 and 13:15
Rom 11:9-10 Ps 69:22-23 (Greek version)	Gal 4:27 Isa 54:1
Rom 11:26-27 Isa 59:20-21; 27:9 (Greek version)	Gal 4:30 Gen 21:10
Rom 11:34 Isa 40:13 (Greek version)	Gal 5:14 Lev 19:18
Rom 12:19 Deut 32:35	Eph 4:8 Ps 68:18
Rom 12:20 Prov 25:21-22	Eph 4:26 Ps 4:4
Rom 13:9 Exod 20:13-15, 17	Eph 5:31 Gen 2:24
Rom 13:9 Lev 19:18	Eph 6:2-3 Exod 20:12; Deut 5:16
Rom 14:11 Isa 49:18; 45:23 (Greek version)	1 Tim 5:18 Deut 25:4; Luke 10:7
Rom 15:3 Ps 69:9	2 Tim 2:19 Num 16:5
Rom 15:9 Ps 18:49	Heb 1:5 Ps 2:7
Rom 15:10 Deut 32:43	Heb 1:5 2 Sam 7:14
	Heb 1:6 Deut 32:43

Heb 1:7Ps 104:4 (Greek version)
Heb 1:8-9Ps 45:6-7
Heb 1:10-12Ps 102:25-27
Heb 1:13Ps 110:1
Heb 2:6-8Ps 8:4-6 (Greek version)
Heb 2:12Ps 22:22
Heb 2:13Isa 8:17-18
Heb 3:7-11Ps 95:7-11
Heb 3:15Ps 95:7-8
Heb 4:3Ps 95:11
Heb 4:4Gen 2:2
Heb 4:5Ps 95:11
Heb 4:7Ps 95:7-8
Heb 5:5Ps 2:7
Heb 5:6Ps 110:4
Heb 6:14Gen 22:17
Heb 7:17Ps 110:4
Heb 7:21Ps 110:4
Heb 8:5Exod 25:40; 26:30
Heb 8:8-12Jer 31:31-34
Heb 9:20Exod 24:8
Heb 10:5-7Ps 40:6-8 (Greek version)
Heb 10:16Jer 31:33a
Heb 10:17Jer 31:34b
Heb 10:30Deut 32:35
Heb 10:30Deut 32:36

Heb 10:37-38Hab 2:3-4
Heb 11:5Gen 5:24
Heb 11:18Gen 21:12
Heb 12:5-6Prov 3:11-12 (Greek version)
Heb 12:20Exod 19:13
Heb 12:21Deut 9:19
Heb 12:26Hag 2:6
Heb 13:5Deut 31:6, 8
Heb 13:6Ps 118:6
Jas 2:8Lev 19:18
Jas 2:11Exod 20:13-14; Deut 5:17-18
Jas 2:23Gen 15:6
Jas 4:6Prov 3:34 (Greek version)
1 Pet 1:16Lev 11:44-45; 19:2; 20:7
1 Pet 1:24-25Isa 40:6-8
1 Pet 2:6Isa 28:16 (Greek version)
1 Pet 2:7Ps 118:22
1 Pet 2:8Isa 8:14
1 Pet 2:10Hos 1:6, 9; 2:23
1 Pet 2:22Isa 53:9
1 Pet 3:10-12Ps 34:12-16
1 Pet 4:18Prov 11:31 (Greek version)
1 Pet 5:5Prov 3:34 (Greek version)
2 Pet 2:22Prov 26:11
Rev 2:26-27Ps 2:8-9 (Greek version)
Rev 3:7Isa 22:22

POINTS OF INTEREST

ABORTION

God cares for the unborn (Exodus 21:22-25)	page 108
We should protect the helpless (Psalm 82:3-4)	page 660
Children are from God (Psalm 127:3)	page 689
God forms every child (Psalm 139:13-16)	page 694
God plans the future of every child (Jeremiah 1:5)	page 816

ABUSE

God cares about minorities (Exodus 22:21)	page 109
God protects those who are helpless (Psalm 12:5)	page 620
Jesus was abused (Matthew 26:67-68)	page 1086
Abuse has no place in family relationships (Ephesians 5:21-6:4)	page 1304

ADOLESCENCE

Young people should worship God (1 Kings 18:12)	page 420
God can give hope to young people (Psalm 71:5)	page 651
Young people should remember God (Ecclesiastes 12:1)	page 740
Young people should be an example to others (1 Timothy 4:12)	page 1332
Young people should run from their youthful lust (2 Timothy 2:22)	page 1340

ADULTERY

God forbids adultery (Exodus 20:14)	page 107
Adultery has consequences (Proverbs 6:26)	page 707
Adultery is foolish (Proverbs 6:32)	page 707
Adultery is disgusting to God (Jeremiah 7:9-10)	page 824
God considers lust as sinful as adultery (Matthew 5:27-28)	page 1055
Divorce often leads to adultery (Mark 10:11-12)	page 1104
God can forgive the adulterer (John 8:1-11)	page 1177

ADVICE

Leaders should consider the advice of others (Exodus 18:13-26)	page 105
Older people often give wise advice (1 Kings 12:1-11)	page 412
Stay away from people who give wicked advice (Psalm 1:1)	page 616
God's advice is best (Psalm 73:24)	page 654
Wise people seek advice (Proverbs 1:5)	page 702
Advice helps provide success (Proverbs 11:14)	page 712
Foolish people do not listen to advice (Proverbs 12:15)	page 713
Give advice to those in need (1 Thessalonians 5:14)	page 1323

ALCOHOL

Being controlled by alcohol is foolish (Proverbs 20:1)	page 719
Becoming drunk is sin (Romans 13:13-14)	page 1258
God hates drunkenness (Galatians 5:19-21)	page 1296
Church leaders should not be controlled by alcohol (Titus 1:7)	page 1344

ANGELS

Angels carry out God's judgment (2 Samuel 24:16-17)	page 388
Angels serve God (Psalm 103:21)	page 672
Angels praise God (Psalm 148:2)	page 699
Angels are messengers (Daniel 4:17)	page 947
Angels protect God's people (Daniel 6:22)	page 951
Angels do not marry (Matthew 22:30)	page 1079
Angels do not die (Luke 20:36)	page 1154

Angels will be judged by people (1 Corinthians 6:3)	page 1267
Satan disguises himself as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14)	page 1288
Angels encourage Christians (Hebrews 1:14)	page 1352
Angels who sinned were thrown into hell (2 Peter 2:4)	page 1383
Angels are holy (Jude 1:14)	page 1396
Angels are in the presence of God (Revelation 4:8)	page 1404
Angels should not be worshiped (Revelation 22:8-9)	page 1418

ANGER

Anger can lead to murder (Genesis 4:3-8)	page 10
Anger leads to evil actions (Psalm 37:8)	page 634
Showing anger is foolish (Proverbs 12:16)	page 713
Gentle words can soothe anger (Proverbs 15:1)	page 715
Being quick-tempered is foolish (Ecclesiastes 7:9)	page 736
God becomes angry when we are ruled by anger (Amos 1:11)	page 978
Anger is like murdering someone (Matthew 5:21-22)	page 1055
Jesus grew angry at sin (John 2:13-17)	page 1166
Anger can give Satan a place in your life (Ephesians 4:26-27)	page 1303
Christians should get rid of anger (Colossians 3:8)	page 1316
Leaders in the church should not be quick-tempered (Titus 1:7)	page 1344
Be slow to become angry (James 1:19)	page 1368

ANTICHRIST

Many will claim to be God's messenger (Matthew 24:5)	page 1080
Many will have miraculous powers (Matthew 24:24)	page 1081
Many will claim to be Christ (Luke 21:8)	page 1154
The Antichrist will be lawless and deceitful (2 Thessalonians 2:1-10)	page 1326
There are many antichrists (1 John 2:18)	page 1387
The Antichrist will oppose God (1 John 4:3)	page 1389
The Antichrist will curse God (Revelation 13:1-8)	page 1410
The Antichrist will be punished by God (Revelation 20:10)	page 1416

APPEARANCE

God is not impressed by someone's appearance (1 Samuel 16:7)	page 337
Physical beauty fades (Proverbs 31:30)	page 729
Do not worry about clothes (Matthew 6:25-34)	page 1057
Appearances can be deceiving (Matthew 23:27)	page 1080
Christians should care more about their spiritual welfare than their physical appearance (1 Timothy 2:9-10)	page 1331
Do not judge others by their appearance (James 2:2-4)	page 1369
Inner beauty is more important than physical beauty (1 Peter 3:1-6)	page 1377

ARGUMENTS

Arguments can be avoided by using gentle words (Proverbs 15:1)	page 715
Loving arguments is a sin (Proverbs 17:19)	page 717
A fool is quick to argue (Proverbs 20:3)	page 719
Avoid becoming entangled in others' arguments (Proverbs 26:17)	page 724
Avoid arguing with a weak Christian (Romans 14:1)	page 1258
We should avoid arguments (Philippians 2:14)	page 1310
Arguments between Christians are useless (Titus 3:9)	page 1345

ASSURANCE

God always holds his children (Psalm 37:23-24)	page 635
God will never abandon his people (Psalm 138:8)	page 693
God's promises last forever (Jeremiah 32:40)	page 856
False assurance is dangerous (Luke 18:18-30)	page 1150
We can be assured of eternal life (John 5:24)	page 1172
God will not refuse any who come to him (John 6:37-40)	page 1175
Our place in God's family is secure (John 10:27-28)	page 1182
Christians have peace with God (Romans 5:1-5)	page 1250
Nothing can separate us from God's love (Romans 8:35-39)	page 1254

Salvation cannot be canceled (Romans 11:29)	page 1257
Accountability should help others (Galatians 6:1)	page 1297
Our salvation was guaranteed before Creation (Ephesians 1:4-5)	page 1300
Assurance comes from faith (Ephesians 3:12)	page 1302
God will guard what has been entrusted to him (2 Timothy 1:12)	page 1338

ATONEMENT

God required a perfect sacrifice (Exodus 12:5)	page 95
God required blood for our atonement (Leviticus 17:11)	page 152
Jesus paid for all of our sins (Isaiah 53:3-12)	page 800
Atonement is good news (Luke 4:18-19)	page 1127
Jesus willingly died for our sins (John 10:17)	page 1181
Christ secured salvation through his blood (Acts 20:28)	page 1235
Jesus provided the atonement for sins (Romans 3:23-25)	page 1248
Jesus' death purchased forgiveness (1 Corinthians 7:23)	page 1268
Jesus died for sins (1 Corinthians 15:3)	page 1276
Our atonement allows us to know God (Ephesians 2:13)	page 1301
Jesus' death rescues us from eternal punishment (Colossians 1:13)	page 1314
Christ's death purifies God's people (Titus 2:14)	page 1345
Sin requires that a sacrifice be made (Hebrews 9:22)	page 1359
Jesus' sacrifice was perfect (1 Peter 1:18-19)	page 1374
Jesus took our punishment (1 Peter 2:21-24)	page 1376
We cannot improve Jesus' sacrifice (1 Peter 3:18)	page 1377

ATTITUDE

Bad attitudes hurt our relationship with God (Genesis 4:6-7)	page 10
Bad attitudes lead to poor decisions (Numbers 14:1-4)	page 184
Always trust God for your life (Proverbs 29:25)	page 727
Choose a positive attitude (Habakkuk 3:17-19)	page 1013
God will reward the meek (Matthew 5:5)	page 1054
God gives Christians a new attitude (Philippians 1:20-25)	page 1308
We should imitate Jesus' attitude (Philippians 2:5)	page 1309
Christians should always rejoice (Philippians 4:4)	page 1312
Never be anxious (Philippians 4:6-7)	page 1312

AUTHORITY (SEE ALSO RESPECT)

God will hold people in authority accountable for their actions (Daniel 4:31)	page 948
Jesus is the highest authority (Matthew 28:18)	page 1088
God gave government its authority (John 19:11)	page 1193
Christians should obey the government (Romans 13:1-2)	page 1258
Parents are authorities to their children (Ephesians 6:1)	page 1305
The Bible is our authority (2 Timothy 3:16)	page 1341
Church leaders are authoritative (Hebrews 13:17)	page 1366

BAPTISM

Baptism signifies repentance (Matthew 3:11)	page 1052
All followers of Jesus should be baptized (Matthew 28:19)	page 1088
Jesus was baptized (Mark 1:9)	page 1090
Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit (John 1:32-33)	page 1165
Baptism is closely linked with a changed life (Acts 2:38)	page 1201
New Christians should be baptized (Acts 8:12-17)	page 1212
Entire families of the early church were baptized (Acts 16:33-34)	page 1227
Baptism initiates us into Christ (Romans 6:3-8)	page 1251
Salvation is identified with baptism (1 Peter 3:21)	page 1378

BELIEF

Believing God makes us righteous (Genesis 15:6)	page 25
Belief in God should be accompanied by action (Deuteronomy 27:10)	page 241
Belief affects the way we live (Mark 1:15)	page 1090
Right beliefs are important for salvation (Romans 10:9)	page 1256
Believing is more than acknowledging (James 2:21)	page 1369

