

GENESIS

BEGINNINGS, COVENANT & PROMISE

1. CREATION & THE FALL



God creates a good world and humanity in His image. Adam and Eve disobey, sin enters creation, and God announces the first promise of redemption.

2. NOAH & THE COVENANT



Human violence fills the earth. God preserves Noah, his family, and the creatures through the flood, then places the rainbow as a sign of covenant.

3. BABEL & THE NATIONS



Human pride builds a city and tower for its own glory. Languages are confused and the peoples scatter across the earth.

4. ABRAHAM & THE PROMISE



God calls Abraham and promises land, descendants, and blessing for every nation. Abraham learns to walk by faith.

5. JACOB & THE TWELVE TRIBES



God renews the promise through Isaac and Jacob. Jacob is named Israel, and his twelve sons become the fathers of the tribes.

6. JOSEPH & PROVIDENCE



Joseph is sold by his brothers but rises in Egypt. God turns suffering toward good and preserves the covenant family during famine.



PASSAGE:
Genesis 1–50



CHAPTERS:
50



THEME:
Beginnings, Covenant & Promise

WHAT OTHERS INTENDED FOR HARM, GOD USED FOR GOOD. — GENESIS 50:20

EXODUS

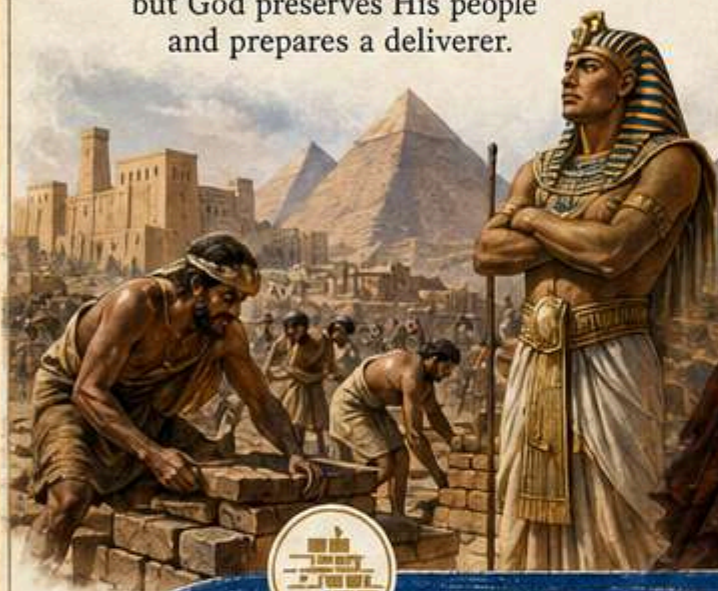
GOD DELIVERS. GOD COVENANTS. GOD DWELLS.

The story of how God sets His people free from slavery, leads them to Himself, and makes them His own.

1

ISRAEL IN EGYPT

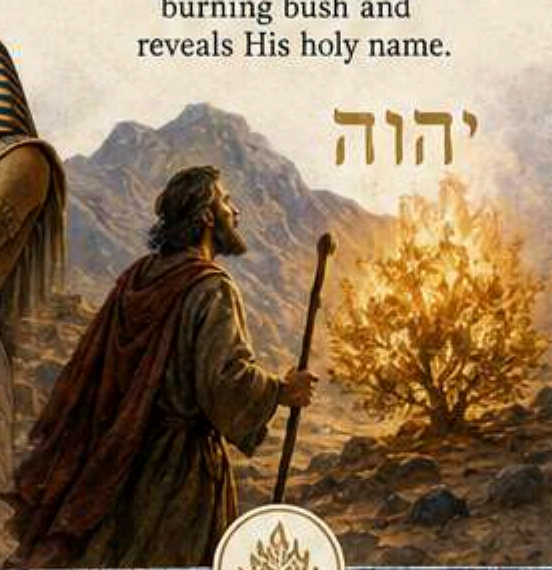
Pharaoh enslaves Israel, but God preserves His people and prepares a deliverer.



2

MOSES IS CALLED

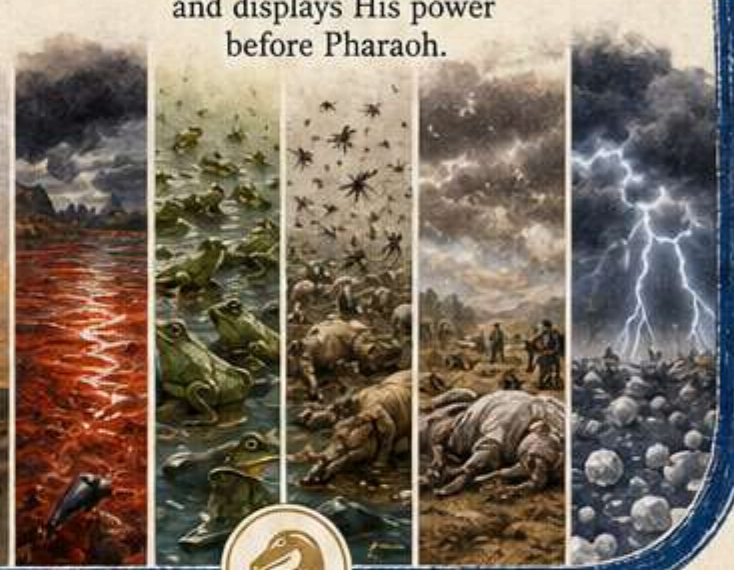
God speaks from the burning bush and reveals His holy name.



3

THE TEN PLAGUES

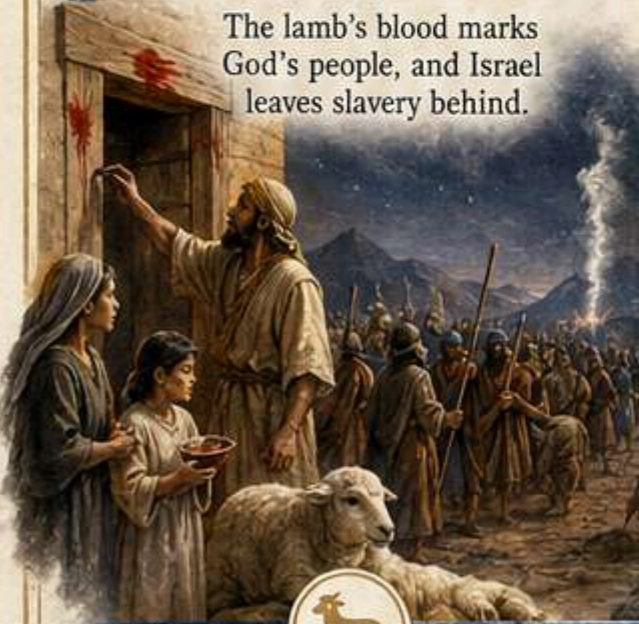
God confronts Egypt's gods and displays His power before Pharaoh.



4

PASSOVER & DELIVERANCE

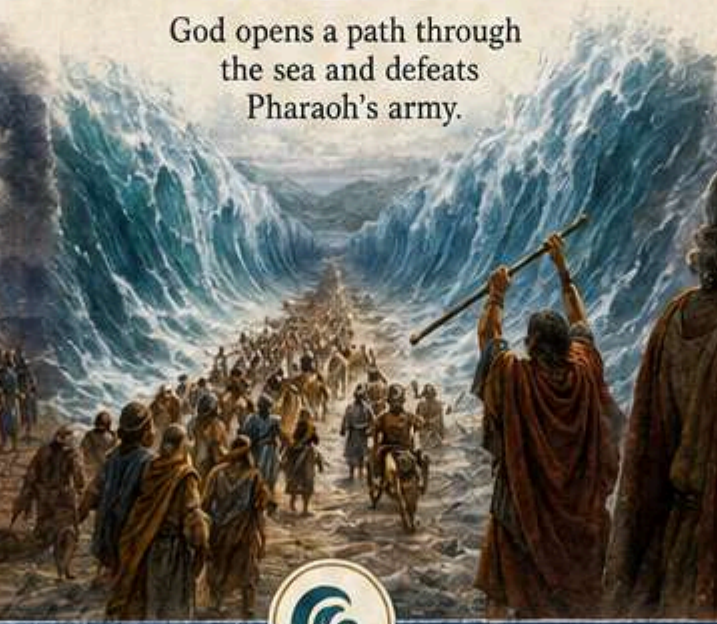
The lamb's blood marks God's people, and Israel leaves slavery behind.



5

THE RED SEA

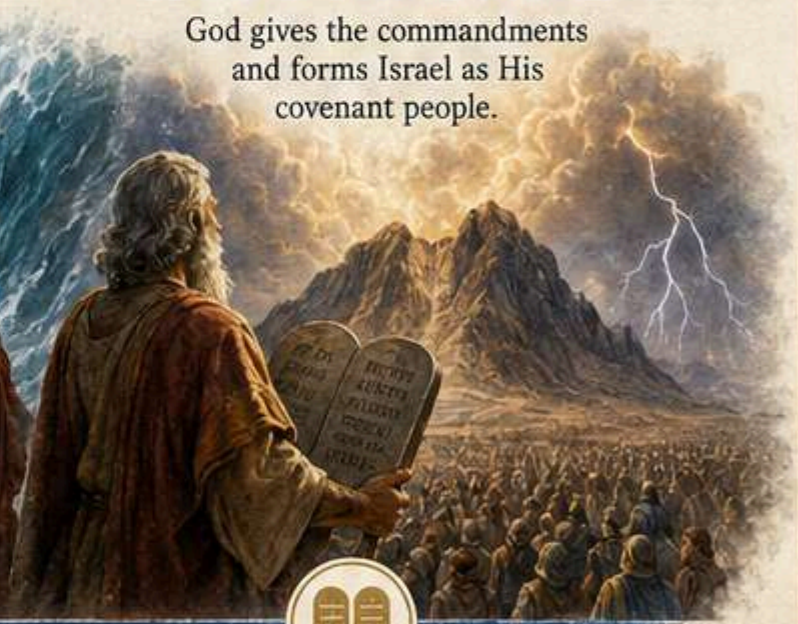
God opens a path through the sea and defeats Pharaoh's army.



6

SINAI & THE COVENANT

God gives the commandments and forms Israel as His covenant people.



PASSAGE:
Exodus 1-40



CHAPTERS:
40



THEME:
Deliverance,
Covenant & Worship



"THE LORD WILL FIGHT FOR YOU;
YOU NEED ONLY TO BE STILL. — EXODUS 14:14



Leviticus

HOLINESS, SACRIFICE & WORSHIP

1

THE FIVE OFFERINGS

Burnt, grain, peace, sin, and guilt offerings teach Israel how to approach God.



2

PRIESTS & WORSHIP

Aaron and his sons are consecrated to serve before the Lord.



3

CLEAN & UNCLEAN

Daily distinctions teach that holiness touches every part of life.



THE TABERNACLE

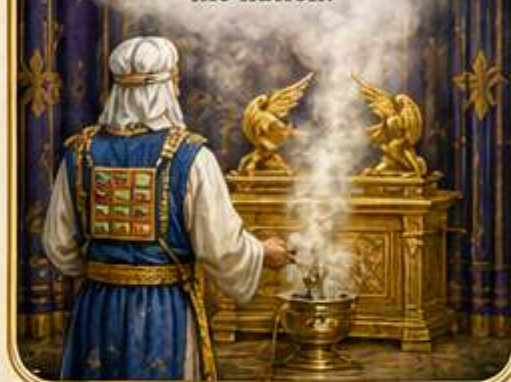
God dwells in the midst of His people.



4

DAY OF ATONEMENT

The high priest enters the Holy of Holies to make atonement for the nation.



5

THE HOLINESS CODE

God's people are called to holiness, justice, mercy, and faithful love.



6

FEASTS & SACRED TIME

Passover, Pentecost, and other feasts shape Israel's worship and memory.



Worship the Lord with reverence and live in holiness, for He is holy.

— LEVITICUS 11:44-45



PASSAGE:
Leviticus 1-27



CHAPTERS:
27



THEME:
Be Holy,
for I Am Holy.

BE HOLY, BECAUSE I, THE LORD YOUR GOD, AM HOLY.
— LEVITICUS 19:2

DEUTERONOMY

REMEMBER, LOVE & OBEY

MOSES' FINAL SPEECHES TO ISRAEL

"These words that I command you today shall be on your heart." – Deuteronomy 6:6

1 REMEMBER THE JOURNEY

Moses reviews Israel's failures and God's faithful guidance.

- From Sinai to the edge of the Promised Land.
- Israel's rebellion and God's mercy.
- God disciplined, provided, and protected His people.



"Remember the whole journey." – Deuteronomy 8:2

2 THE COVENANT RENEWED

The Law is explained to a new generation preparing to enter the land.

- Teach the statutes and judgments.
- Obey all that the Lord commands.
- The Law is for life and blessing.



"You shall observe to do all the commands that I command you today." – Deuteronomy 11:1

3 LOVE THE LORD

Israel is called to love God with heart, soul, and strength.

- Love the Lord your God.
- Keep His words in your heart.
- Teach them to your children.



"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength." – Deuteronomy 6:5

4 BLESSING OR CURSE

Obedience leads to life; rebellion leads to judgment and exile.

- Blessings for faithfulness: life, prosperity, and peace.
- Curses for disobedience: judgment, famine, defeat, and exile.
- God calls Israel to choose wisely.



"I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life..." – Deuteronomy 30:19

5 CHOOSE LIFE

Moses urges the people to choose covenant faithfulness.

- Set your heart on loving the Lord.
- Walk in His ways and keep His commandments.
- Life and the land are His gifts.



"Choose life, that you and your descendants may live." – Deuteronomy 30:19

6 MOSES' FINAL DAYS

Joshua is commissioned, Moses blesses the tribes, and dies overlooking the land.

- Joshua is appointed as leader.
- Moses blesses the twelve tribes.
- Moses dies and is buried by God.



"Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab..." – Deuteronomy 34:5

THE HEART OF DEUTERONOMY



GOD'S WORD IS LIFE



The Law is not a burden but a gift — it shows the way to life and communion with God.

Deuteronomy 30:20



COVENANT LOVE IS THE CENTER



God chose Israel and calls her to love Him in return with all that she is.

Deuteronomy 7:6–8



GOD IS FAITHFUL TO HIS PROMISES



God keeps His promises to give the land and bless His people for all generations.

Deuteronomy 7:9



PASSAGE:
Deuteronomy 1–34



CHAPTERS:
34



THEME:
Covenant Faithfulness

LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, SOUL AND STRENGTH. — DEUTERONOMY 6:5

NUMBERS

WILDERNESS, TESTING & FAITHFULNESS

THE
PROMISED
LAND

MOUNT
SINAI

1

THE CENSUS & THE CAMP

Israel is counted and arranged around the Tabernacle for the journey.

2

JOURNEY FROM SINAI

The cloud lifts, the tribes depart, and God leads His people.

3

COMPLAINT & REBELLION

Fear and unbelief repeatedly challenge Israel's trust in God.

4

THE TWELVE SPIES

Ten spies spread fear; Joshua and Caleb remain faithful.

5

FORTY YEARS

The unbelieving generation wanders until a new generation rises.

6

PREPARING TO ENTER

God preserves Israel and prepares them east of the Jordan.



PASSAGE:
Numbers 1–36



CHAPTERS:
36



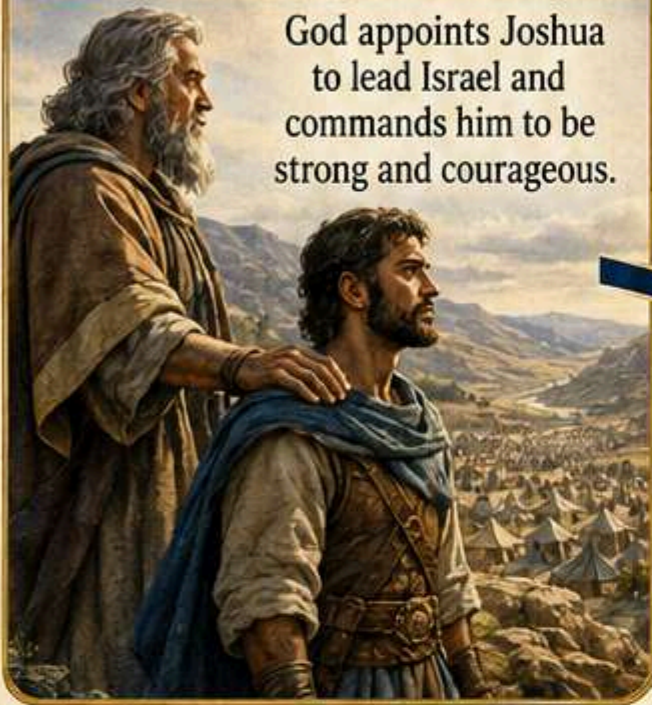
THEME:
Trust God in
the Wilderness.

THE LORD IS SLOW TO ANGER, ABUNDING IN LOVE.
— NUMBERS 14:18

JOSHUA

COURAGE, CONQUEST & COVENANT

1 JOSHUA COMMISSIONED



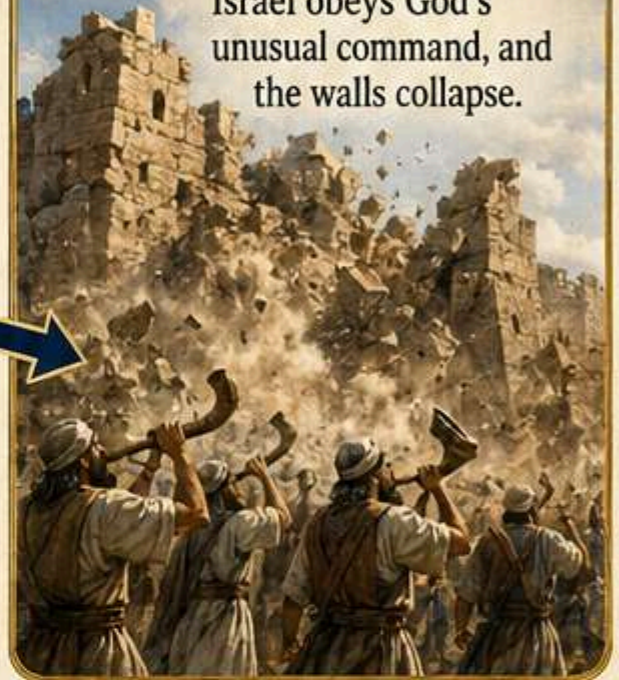
God appoints Joshua to lead Israel and commands him to be strong and courageous.

2 CROSSING THE JORDAN



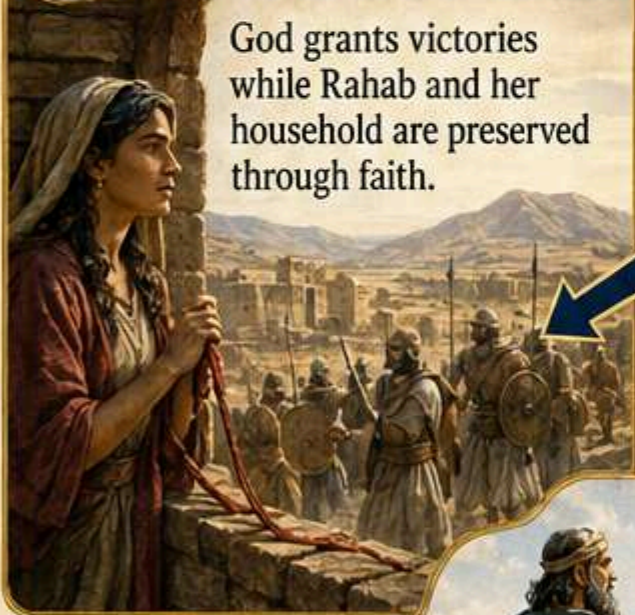
The priests carry the Ark, the waters stop, and Israel enters the Promised Land.

3 JERICHO FALLS



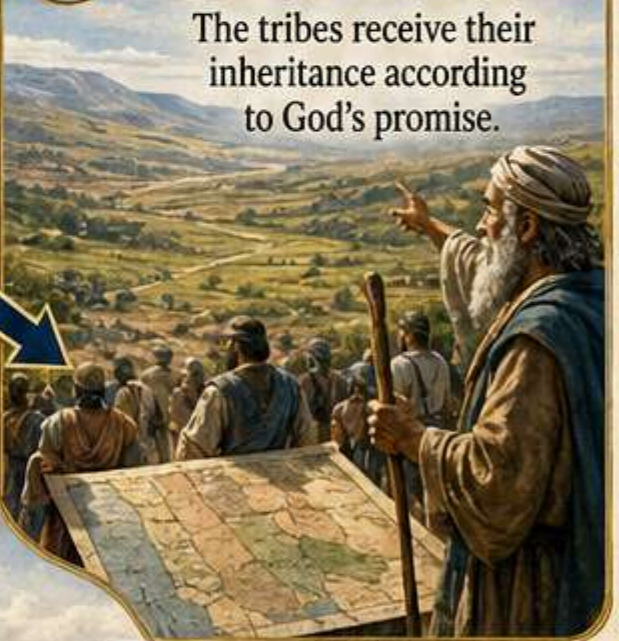
Israel obeys God's unusual command, and the walls collapse.

4 CONQUEST & MERCY



God grants victories while Rahab and her household are preserved through faith.

5 THE LAND DIVIDED



The tribes receive their inheritance according to God's promise.

6 COVENANT RENEWED



Joshua gathers Israel at Shechem and calls the nation to serve the Lord.



PASSAGE:
Joshua 1–24



CHAPTERS:
24



THEME:
Courageous Faith & Fulfilled Promise



AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD. — JOSHUA 24:15



JUDGES

REBELLION, DELIVERANCE & MERCY

1 THE CYCLE OF JUDGES

Israel repeatedly abandons God, suffers oppression, cries out, and is rescued.



2 DEBORAH & BARAK

A prophetess and a commander trust God and defeat Sisera's army.



3 GIDEON'S 300

God reduces Gideon's army so the victory clearly belongs to Him.



4 JEPHTHAH'S TRAGEDY

A rash vow reveals the spiritual confusion of the age.



5 SAMSON'S STRENGTH

A gifted but flawed judge battles the Philistines and suffers for his choices.



6 A NATION WITHOUT A KING

Moral chaos grows when everyone follows personal judgment.



PASSAGE:
Judges 1–21



CHAPTERS:
21



THEME:
God Rescues an Unfaithful People

WHENEVER THE LORD RAISED UP A JUDGE,
HE WAS WITH THE JUDGE. — JUDGES 2:18

Ruth

LOYALTY, REDEMPTION & PROVIDENCE

1

LOSS IN MOAB

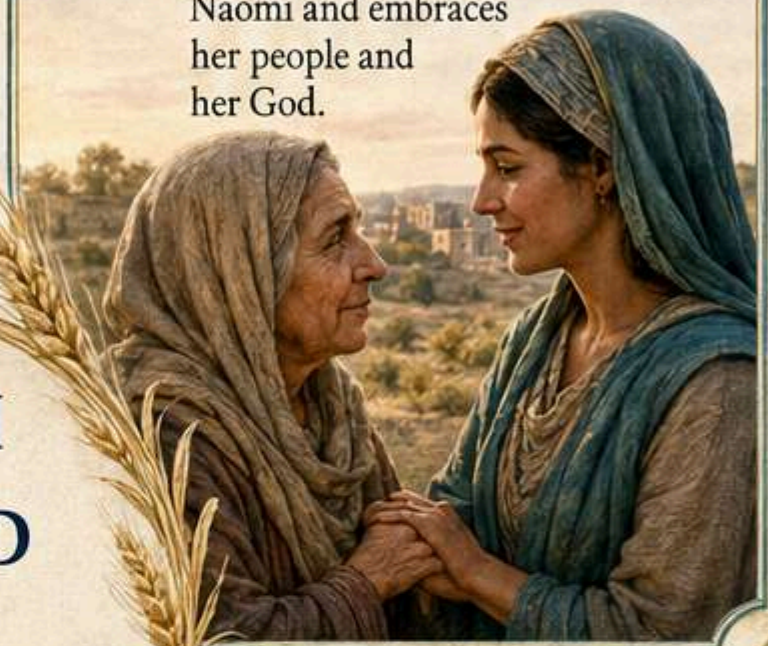
Naomi loses her husband and sons and prepares to return to Bethlehem.



2

RUTH'S LOYALTY

Ruth refuses to abandon Naomi and embraces her people and her God.



FROM
RUTH
TO
DAVID

Ruth
↓
Obed
↓
Jesse
↓
David



3

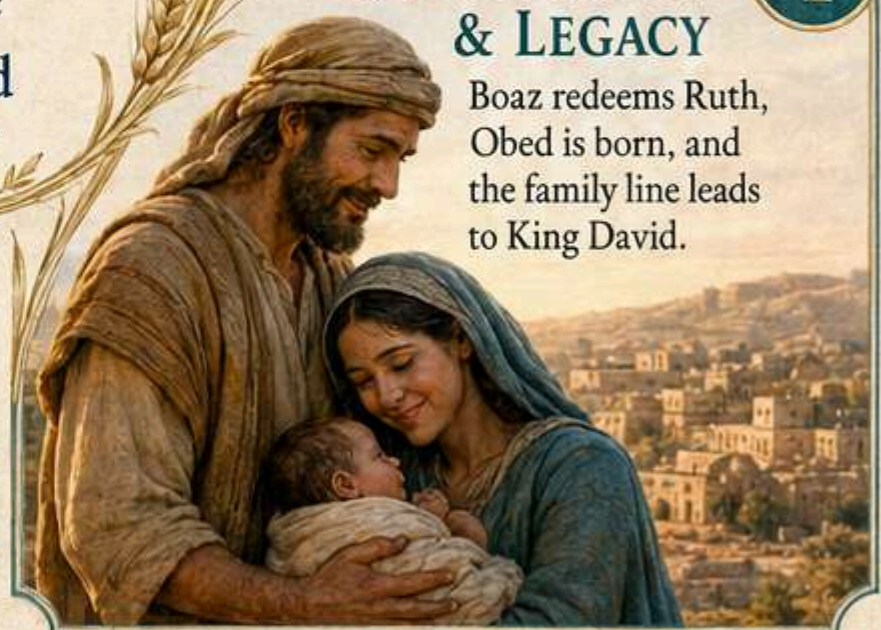
BOAZ THE REDEEMER

Ruth gleans in Boaz's field, where kindness and protection reveal God's providence.



RESTORATION & LEGACY

Boaz redeems Ruth, Obed is born, and the family line leads to King David.



4



HESED

*covenant loyalty
expressed through
faithful love.*



KINSMAN-REDEEMER

*one who restores
family inheritance
and protects the
vulnerable.*



PASSAGE:
Ruth 1-4



CHAPTERS:
4



THEME:
Faithful Love
Brings Redemption

WHERE YOU GO I WILL GO, AND WHERE YOU STAY I WILL STAY.
— RUTH 1:16

1 SAMUEL

PROPHET, KINGSHIP & THE HEART



ACT I

CALLING & CONVICTION

God calls. Israel is shaped.



ACT II

KING & KINGDOM TESTED

Israel has a king. The heart is tested.



ACT III

A HEART AFTER GOD

God raises a man after His own heart.

1 SAMUEL IS CALLED

The boy Samuel hears God's voice and becomes a faithful prophet.



2 THE ARK & GOD'S HOLINESS

Israel learns that God's presence cannot be controlled or used as a weapon.



3 ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

The people demand a king like other nations, and Saul is anointed.



4 SAUL'S DISOBEDIENCE

Pride and partial obedience cost Saul his kingdom.



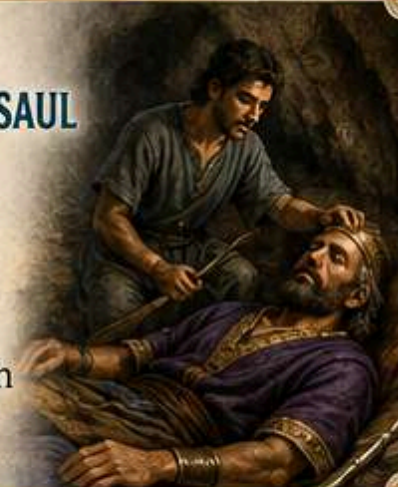
5 DAVID & GOLIATH

David trusts the Lord and defeats the Philistine champion.



6 DAVID SPARES SAUL

Though persecuted, David refuses to seize the throne through violence.



PASSAGE:
1 Samuel 1–31



CHAPTERS:
31



THEME:
God Looks at the Heart.

THE LORD LOOKS AT THE HEART.

— 1 SAMUEL 16:7

2 Samuel

DAVID'S KINGDOM, COVENANT & CONSEQUENCES

1 DAVID BECOMES KING



The tribes unite under David, and Jerusalem becomes the royal city.

2 THE ARK IN JERUSALEM



David brings the Ark to the city with worship and celebration.

3 GOD'S COVENANT WITH DAVID



God promises an enduring dynasty ultimately fulfilled in the Messiah.

MESSIANIC PROMISE



Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever.

2 SAMUEL 7:16

4 DAVID'S VICTORIES



The kingdom expands as God gives David success over surrounding enemies.

5 DAVID & BATHSHEBA



David's grave sin brings judgment, grief, and lasting consequences.

6 REBELLION & RESTORATION



Absalom rebels, David flees, and the king eventually returns to Jerusalem.



PASSAGE:
2 Samuel 1-24



CHAPTERS:
24



THEME:
Covenant, Sin & Mercy

YOUR HOUSE AND YOUR KINGDOM SHALL ENDURE FOREVER.

— 2 SAMUEL 7:16



1 KINGS

GLORY, DIVISION & PROPHETIC TRUTH



OVERVIEW

First Kings traces Israel from Solomon's glorious reign to the division of the kingdom and the prophetic ministry of Elijah.



KEY EVENTS

- Solomon asks for wisdom; the Temple is built and dedicated.
- Solomon turns toward foreign gods.
- Rehoboam's harshness divides the kingdom.
- Jeroboam establishes false worship.
- Elijah defeats the prophets of Baal.



THEOLOGICAL MESSAGE

Wisdom without obedience cannot preserve a kingdom. God remains faithful to His covenant while confronting idolatry through His prophets.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Solomon's wisdom and temple anticipate Jesus, the true Wisdom of God and the One greater than the Temple.



BOOK STRUCTURE

- **Chapters 1–11:** Solomon and the united kingdom.
- **Chapters 12–16:** The kingdom divides into Israel and Judah.
- **Chapters 17–22:** Elijah confronts idolatry.



KEY PEOPLE

- **Solomon:** wise king whose compromise brings decline.
- **Rehoboam:** David's grandson and king of Judah.
- **Jeroboam:** first king of northern Israel.
- **Elijah:** prophet who calls Israel back to God.
- **Ahab and Jezebel:** rulers who promote Baal worship.



REFLECT

Where can success or comfort quietly weaken wholehearted devotion to God?



PASSAGE:
1 Kings 1–22



CHAPTERS:
22



THEME: Faithfulness Matters More Than Splendor.

IF THE LORD IS GOD, FOLLOW HIM, — 1 KINGS 18:21

2 KINGS

WARNING, EXILE & GOD'S FAITHFUL WORD



OVERVIEW

Second Kings records the decline of Israel and Judah, the ministries of Elijah and Elisha, and the exile of both kingdoms.



BOOK STRUCTURE

Chapters 1–8: Elijah's departure and Elisha's ministry.

Chapters 9–17: Israel's final kings and the fall of Samaria.

Chapters 18–25: Judah's final years and the fall of Jerusalem.



ELISHA'S MINISTRY

God works through Elisha to heal, provide, raise the dead, guide kings, and reveal His compassion.



WHY ISRAEL FELL

Persistent idolatry, rejection of the prophets, injustice, and covenant unfaithfulness lead to Assyrian exile in 722 BC.



JUDAH'S LAST HOPE

Hezekiah trusts God; Josiah renews the covenant; yet national repentance remains incomplete.



JERUSALEM FALLS

Babylon destroys the Temple and carries Judah into exile in 586 BC. God's warnings prove true.



THEOLOGICAL MESSAGE

God's patience is great, but persistent rebellion has consequences. His prophetic word never fails.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Elisha's works of healing and restoration anticipate Christ's compassionate kingdom; the exile deepens hope for a faithful King.



REFLECT

Do I respond to God's correction while there is still time?



PASSAGE:

2 Kings 1–25



THEME:

God's Word Stands Through Judgment.

THE LORD WARNED ISRAEL AND JUDAH THROUGH ALL HIS PROPHETS.
— 2 KINGS 17:13

1 CHRONICLES

IDENTITY, WORSHIP & DAVID'S LEGACY



PURPOSE

Written for the restored community after exile, First Chronicles reminds God's people who they are and how they belong within His covenant story.



BOOK STRUCTURE

- Chapters 1–9: Genealogies from Adam to the returned exiles.
- Chapters 10–21: David's rise and reign.
- Chapters 22–29: Preparations for the Temple.



WHY THE GENEALOGIES MATTER

They connect creation, Abraham, Israel, Judah, David, the priesthood, and the restored community. No generation is forgotten by God.

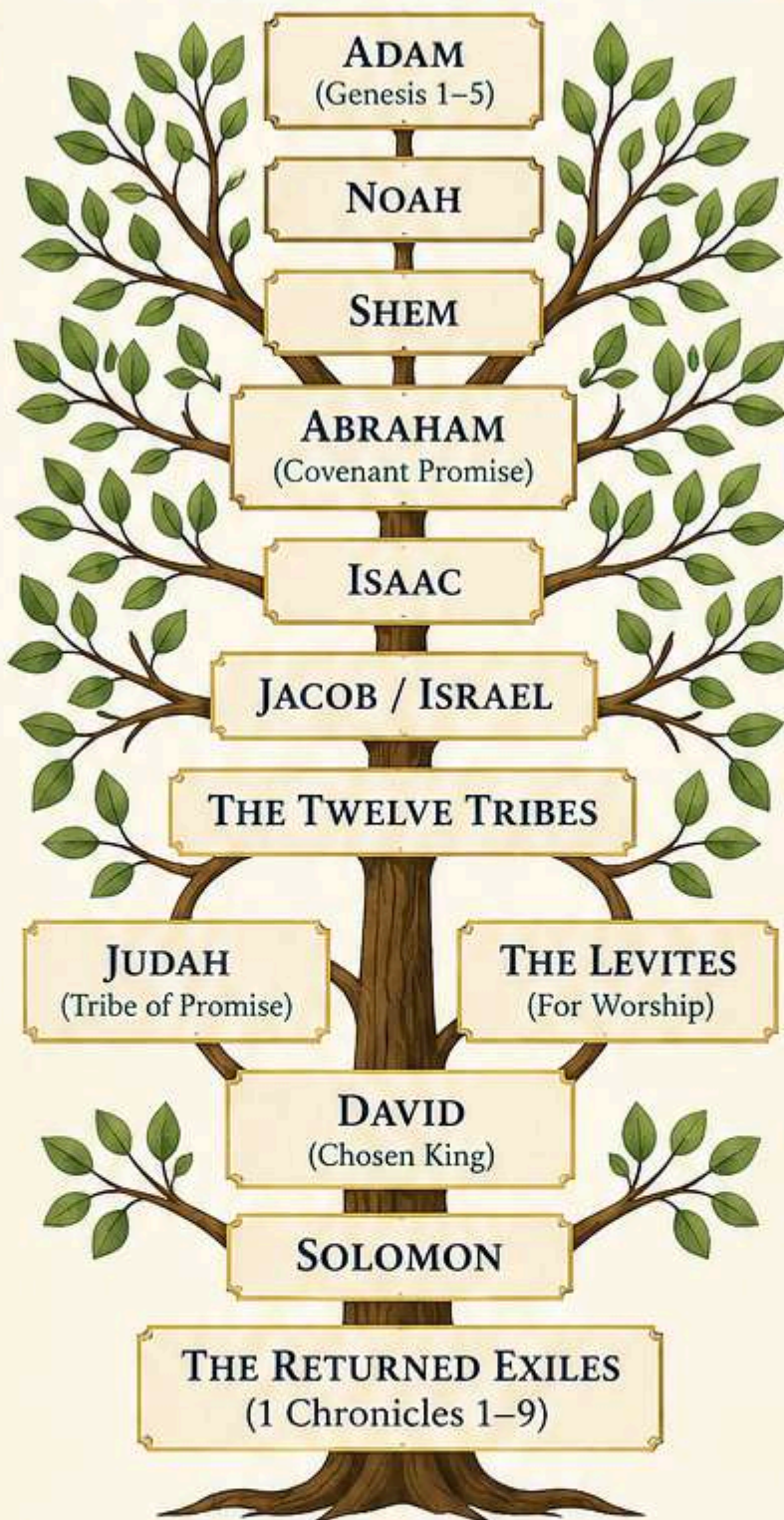


KEY PEOPLE

- Adam
- Abraham
- Judah
- David
- the Levites
- Solomon

THE TREE OF ISRAEL

GOD'S STORY THROUGH GENERATIONS



"From generation to generation
His mercy endures forever."
— 1 Chronicles 16:36



REFLECT How remembering God's faithfulness reshape my identity and worship?



DAVID & WORSHIP

David brings the Ark to Jerusalem, organizes Levites and musicians, appoints gatekeepers, and places worship at the center of national life.



PREPARING THE TEMPLE

David gathers materials, gives plans, commissions Solomon, and invites Israel to give willingly.



THEOLOGICAL MESSAGE

God's covenant continues through judgment and exile. Worship, memory, and faithful leadership rebuild a people.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

The Davidic line points toward Jesus Christ, Son of David and eternal King.



PASSAGE:
1 Chronicles 1–29



CHAPTERS:
29



THEME:
Remember Who You Are.



YOURS, LORD, IS THE GREATNESS AND THE POWER AND THE GLORY.
— 1 CHRONICLES 29:11



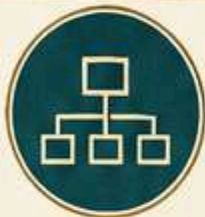
2 CHRONICLES

TEMPLE, REFORM & RETURN



OVERVIEW

Second Chronicles follows Solomon and the kings of Judah, emphasizing the Temple, covenant worship, repentance, and God's readiness to forgive.



BOOK STRUCTURE

Chapters 1–9: Solomon and the Temple.
Chapters 10–28: Judah's kings and spiritual decline.
Chapters 29–36: Reforms, exile, and Cyrus's decree.



TEMPLE DEDICATION

God's glory fills the Temple. Solomon prays that God will hear His people when they repent and turn toward Him.



KINGS WHO SOUGHT GOD

- Asa removes idols;
- Jehoshaphat teaches the Law;
- Hezekiah restores worship;
- Josiah renews the covenant.



A REPEATED PATTERN

Seeking God brings renewal. Pride and idolatry bring decline. Prophetic correction offers a path back.



EXILE & HOPE

Jerusalem falls to Babylon, but the book ends with Cyrus permitting the exiles to return and rebuild.



THEOLOGICAL MESSAGE

God responds to humble repentance. True reform requires the heart, not merely outward ritual.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Jesus is greater than the Temple and opens the way for God's people to return, be cleansed, and worship.



REFLECT

What part of my spiritual life needs genuine reform rather than a temporary adjustment?



PASSAGE:
2 Chronicles 1–36



CHAPTERS:
36



THEME:
Seek God and Return.

SOLOMON DEDICATES THE TEMPLE



God's glory fills the Temple. Solomon prays that God will hear His people when they repent and turn toward Him.

A LINE OF JUDAH'S KINGS



ASA
REMOVES
IDOLS

JEHOSHAPHAT
TEACHES
THE LAW

HEZEKIAH
RESTORES
WORSHIP

JOSIAH
RENEWS THE
COVENANT



Jerusalem falls to Babylon, but the book ends with Cyrus permitting the exiles to return and rebuild.

**IF MY PEOPLE HUMBLE THEMSELVES AND PRAY,
I WILL HEAL THEIR LAND. — 2 CHRONICLES 7:14**

EZRA

RETURN, REBUILD & RENEW



OVERVIEW

Ezra tells how God brings His people home from Babylon, restores Temple worship, and renews the community through His Word.



BOOK STRUCTURE

Chapters 1–6: The first return under Zerubbabel and the rebuilding of the Temple. Chapters 7–10: Ezra arrives and leads spiritual reform.



THE FIRST RETURN

Cyrus permits the exiles to return. Zerubbabel leads the people, restores the altar, and begins rebuilding.



OPPOSITION & PERSEVERANCE

Enemies discourage the builders and the work stops, but Haggai and Zechariah call the people to continue.



THE TEMPLE COMPLETED

The second Temple is dedicated, and Passover is celebrated with joy.



EZRA THE SCRIBE

Ezra devotes himself to studying, practicing, and teaching the Law of the Lord.



COVENANT RENEWAL

The community confronts serious compromise and responds with confession and difficult reform.



KEY PEOPLE

Cyrus; Zerubbabel; Jeshua the high priest; Haggai; Zechariah; Ezra.



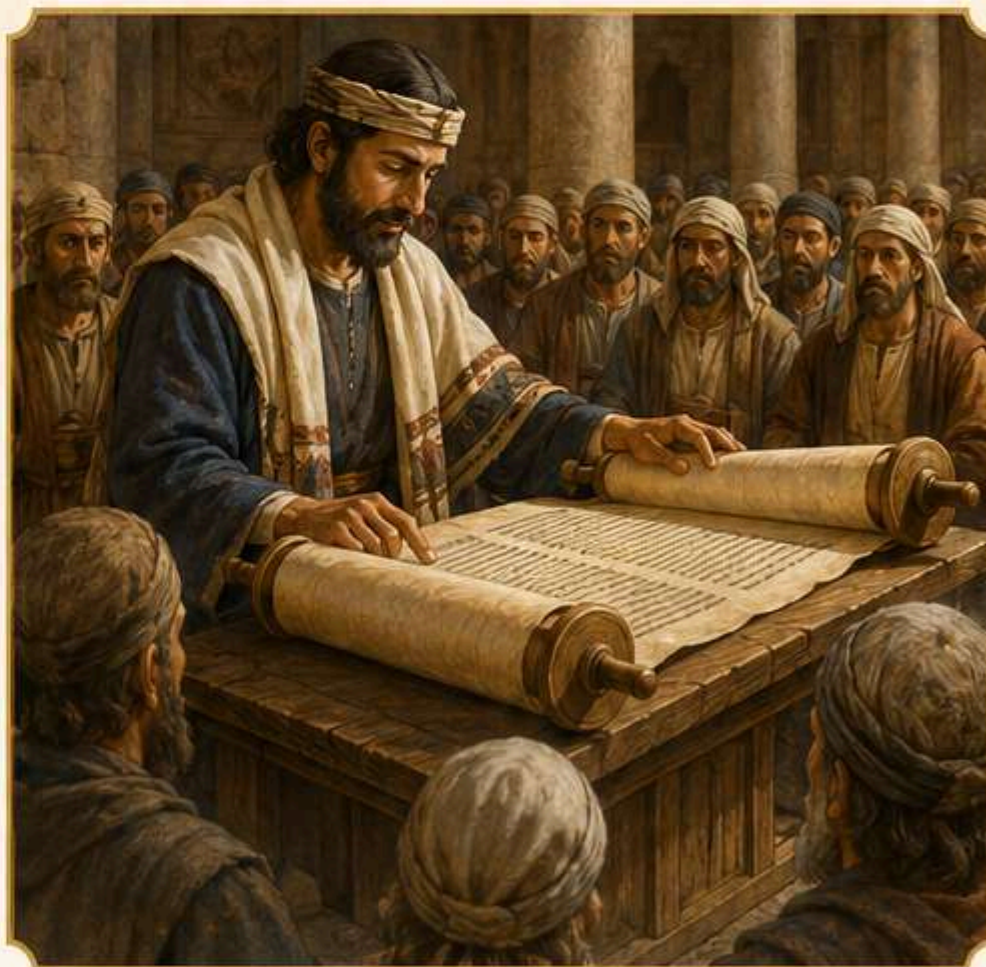
THEOLOGICAL MESSAGE

God restores His people through providence, courageous obedience, worship, and Scripture.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

The restored Temple and renewed community prepare the story for Christ, who brings the deeper return from sin and exile.



PASSAGE:
Ezra 1–10



CHAPTERS:
10



THEME:
Restoration Through
Word and Worship



REFLECT — What has God called me to rebuild, and what opposition must I faithfully overcome?



THE HAND OF THE LORD HIS GOD WAS UPON HIM. — EZRA 7:6



NEHEMIAH

REBUILD, REFORM & REMAIN FAITHFUL



OVERVIEW

Nehemiah leaves the Persian court to rebuild Jerusalem's walls and restore the spiritual integrity of God's people.



BOOK STRUCTURE

Chapters 1–7: The wall is rebuilt despite opposition. Chapters 8–10: Ezra reads the Law and the covenant is renewed. Chapters 11–13: Jerusalem is repopulated and reforms are enforced.



A BURDEN BECOMES A MISSION

Nehemiah hears of Jerusalem's ruin, mourns, fasts, prays, and receives permission from King Artaxerxes.



BUILDING UNDER PRESSURE

Ridicule, threats, conspiracy, and exhaustion do not stop the work. Families build side by side.



JUSTICE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

Nehemiah confronts wealthy leaders who exploit the poor and calls them to restore what was taken.



THE WORD IS READ

Ezra reads Scripture publicly. The people understand, worship, celebrate, and confess their sins.



REFORM & PERSEVERANCE

Nehemiah corrects neglect of worship, Sabbath violations, and covenant compromise.



KEY PEOPLE

Nehemiah; Ezra; Artaxerxes; Sanballat; Tobiah.



THEOLOGICAL MESSAGE

Prayerful leadership joins faith with organized action. Rebuilding structures must be accompanied by rebuilding hearts.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Nehemiah's burden to restore Jerusalem anticipates Christ, who gathers and rebuilds God's people.



REFLECT

What broken place has God entrusted me to rebuild with prayer and courage?



PASSAGE:

Nehemiah 1–13



CHAPTERS:

13



THEME:

Faith That Rebuilds

“THE JOY OF THE LORD IS YOUR STRENGTH. – NEHEMIAH 8:10



TOBIT

PROVIDENCE, FAMILY & HEALING



1 TOBIT'S FAITHFULNESS

In exile, Tobit gives alms, buries the dead, and remains faithful despite suffering.



2 TWO PRAYERS RISE

Blind Tobit and afflicted Sarah pray in anguish; God hears them both.



3 RAPHAEL IS SENT

The angel Raphael, appearing as Azariah, accompanies Tobias on his journey.



4 TOBIAS & SARAH

Through prayer, courage, and Raphael's guidance, Tobias marries Sarah and the demon is driven away.



5 TOBIT IS HEALED

Tobias uses the fish's gall as instructed, and his father's sight is restored.



6 RAPHAEL REVEALS HIS MISSION

Raphael declares that he presented their prayers before God and was sent to heal them.



CATHOLIC INSIGHT



Tobit highlights almsgiving, prayer, marriage, care for the dead, angelic ministry, and God's providence.



God hears our prayers and works through hidden ways for our good.



Faithful relationships and trust in God bring blessing and healing.



Angels are sent by God to guide, protect, and bring His saving help.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST



The journey from affliction to healing points toward God's saving care, fulfilled perfectly in Christ.



PASSAGE:
Tobit 1–14



CHAPTERS:
14



THEME:
God Works Through
Hidden Providence.

PRAYER WITH FASTING IS GOOD, BUT BETTER THAN BOTH
IS ALMSGIVING. — TOBIT 12:8



JUDITH



COURAGE, PRAYER & DELIVERANCE



OVERVIEW

Judith tells how a faithful widow uses wisdom, courage, and trust in God to save her threatened people.



BOOK STRUCTURE

Chapters 1–7:
Holofernes advances and Bethulia is besieged.
Chapters 8–13:
Judith prays, enters the enemy camp, and defeats Holofernes.
Chapters 14–16:
Israel is delivered and Judith sings praise.



THE CRISIS

Assyria's army cuts off Bethulia's water. The leaders plan to surrender if God does not act within five days.



JUDITH'S RESPONSE

Judith rebukes the attempt to test God. She fasts, prays, dresses with purpose, and enters the enemy camp.



COURAGE WITH WISDOM

Judith gains Holofernes' confidence while remaining faithful to God and discerning the moment to act.



DELIVERANCE

With the enemy commander defeated, Israel regains courage and drives away the invading army.



JUDITH'S SONG

Judith praises God, declaring that divine strength is not limited by human power.



CATHOLIC INSIGHT

Judith is one of the seven deuterocanonical books of the Old Testament received in the Catholic canon.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

God repeatedly saves through unexpected humility; Judith's victory participates in the biblical pattern culminating in Christ's triumph.



REFLECT

Where is God asking me to unite prayer, wisdom, and courageous action?



PASSAGE:
Judith 1–16



CHAPTERS:
16



THEME:
Courage Rooted
in Prayer

“THE LORD ALMIGHTY HAS FOILED THEM
BY THE HAND OF A WOMAN.” — JUDITH 16:5

ESTHER

COURAGE, PROVIDENCE & REVERSAL

1

ESTHER BECOMES QUEEN

The Jewish orphan Hadassah, raised by Mordecai, is chosen as queen of Persia.



2

HAMAN'S PLOT

Haman's pride turns into a decree intended to destroy the Jewish people.



3

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

Mordecai challenges Esther to recognize that her position may carry a divine purpose.



4

FASTING BEFORE ACTION

Esther asks the Jewish community to fast, then risks her life by approaching the king.



5

THE GREAT REVERSAL

Haman's scheme collapses, Mordecai is honored, and the threatened people are permitted to defend themselves.



6

PURIM

The Jewish people establish a yearly feast to remember sorrow turned into joy.



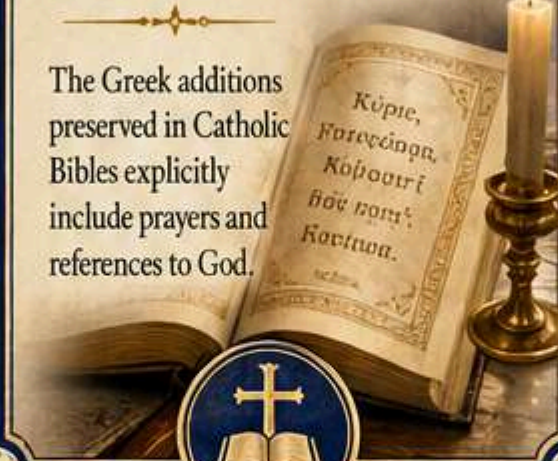
HIDDEN PROVIDENCE

God's name is not explicitly mentioned in the Hebrew form, yet His guidance is visible throughout the story.



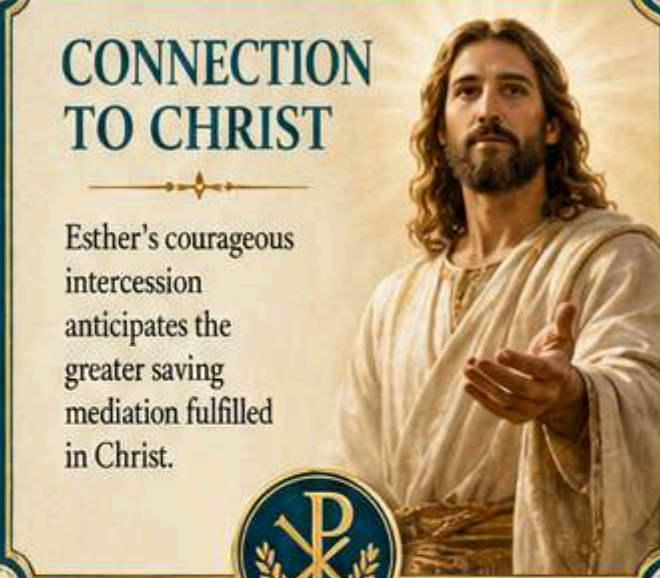
CATHOLIC NOTE

The Greek additions preserved in Catholic Bibles explicitly include prayers and references to God.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Esther's courageous intercession anticipates the greater saving mediation fulfilled in Christ.



PASSAGE:
Esther 1–10
with Greek Additions



THEME:
Providence Behind
the Scenes

AND WHO KNOWS BUT THAT YOU HAVE COME
TO YOUR ROYAL POSITION FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS?

— ESTHER 4:14 —



1 MACCABEES

RESISTANCE, COVENANT & DEDICATION



OVERVIEW

First Maccabees recounts the Jewish resistance against Seleucid oppression and the struggle to preserve covenant faith and worship.



HISTORICAL SETTING

In the second century BC, Antiochus IV suppresses Jewish practices, desecrates the Temple, and demands religious conformity.



BOOK STRUCTURE

- Chapters 1–2: Persecution and Mattathias' revolt.
- Chapters 3–9: Judas Maccabeus leads the resistance.
- Chapters 10–12: Jonathan's leadership.
- Chapters 13–16: Simon brings political stability.



MATTATHIAS' STAND

The elderly priest refuses idolatrous sacrifice and calls those zealous for the Law to follow him.



JUDAS MACCABEUS

Judas wins unlikely victories through courage, strategy, prayer, and confidence in God's help.



THE TEMPLE DEDICATED

The sanctuary is cleansed and rededicated, an event remembered in the Feast of Dedication, Hanukkah.



JONATHAN & SIMON

Judas' brothers continue the struggle through warfare, diplomacy, and leadership.

THE MACCABEAN CAMPAIGN

A FAITHFUL RESISTANCE ACROSS JUDEA
c. 167–134 BC



They put their trust in him and courageously fought for the Law.
— 1 Maccabees 2:28

THE TEMPLE PURIFIED AND REDEDICATED



So they built the altar on its foundations and offered sacrifices of peace offerings and gave thanks to the Lord who had dealt so well with Israel.

— 1 Maccabees 4:36

Hanukkah (Feast of Dedication)

commemorates this rededication and the miraculous endurance of the Temple lamp for eight days.



CATHOLIC INSIGHT

First Maccabees preserves essential history between the Old and New Testaments and belongs to the Catholic Old Testament canon.



CONNECTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT

The political and religious world shaped by these events forms part of the setting into which Jesus is born.



REFLECT

What convictions must remain non-negotiable when culture pressures faith to compromise?



PASSAGE:
1 Maccabees 1–16



CHAPTERS:
16



THEME:
Faithful Resistance

**IT IS BETTER FOR US TO DIE IN BATTLE
THAN TO SEE THE CALAMITIES OF OUR NATION.** — 1 MACCABEES 3:59



2 MACCABEES

MARTYRDOM, RESURRECTION & FAITHFUL HOPE



OVERVIEW

Second Maccabees focuses on the persecution under Antiochus IV, the purification of the Temple, and faithful witness under suffering.



SCOPE

The book is an abridgment of a larger history and covers key events from approximately 180 to 161 BC.



BOOK STRUCTURE

- Chapters 1–2: Letters and introduction.
- Chapters 3–7: Temple threats and persecution.
- Chapters 8–10: Judas' victories and Temple purification.
- Chapters 11–15: Continued conflict and deliverance.



HELIODORUS & THE TEMPLE

An attempt to seize the Temple treasury is stopped, emphasizing God's protection of the sanctuary.



ELEAZAR'S WITNESS

The elderly scribe chooses an honorable death rather than publicly compromise the Law.



A MOTHER & SEVEN SONS

A family faces martyrdom with courageous hope that God will raise the faithful to life.



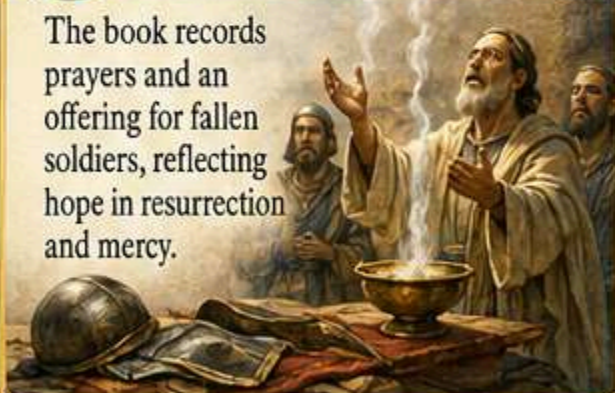
JUDAS MACCABEUS

Judas leads resistance, prays for God's help, and restores worship in Jerusalem.



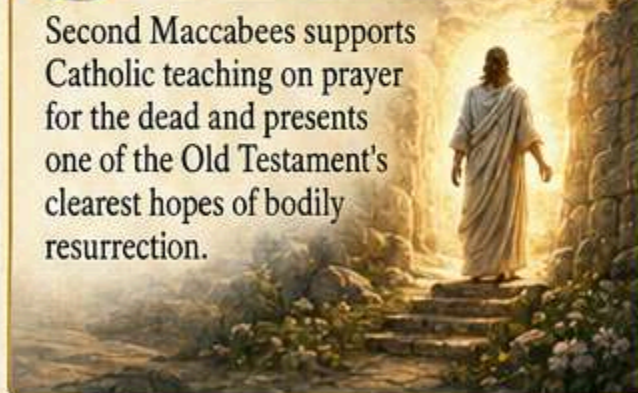
PRAYER FOR THE DEAD

The book records prayers and an offering for fallen soldiers, reflecting hope in resurrection and mercy.



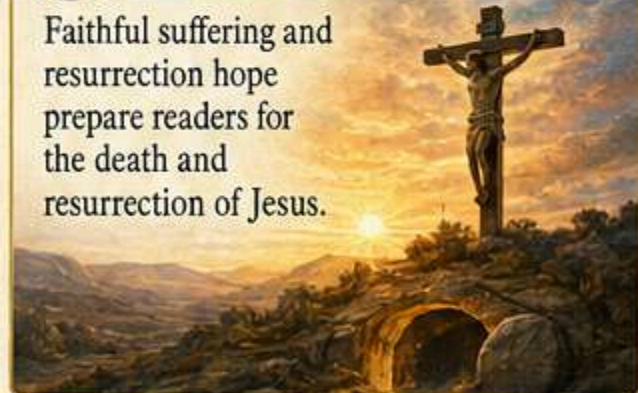
CATHOLIC INSIGHT

Second Maccabees supports Catholic teaching on prayer for the dead and presents one of the Old Testament's clearest hopes of bodily resurrection.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Faithful suffering and resurrection hope prepare readers for the death and resurrection of Jesus.



REFLECT

What eternal hope enables believers to remain faithful when obedience becomes costly?



PASSAGE:
2 Maccabees 1–15



CHAPTERS:
15



THEME:
Faithful unto Resurrection

THE KING OF THE UNIVERSE WILL RAISE US UP TO AN EVERLASTING RENEWAL OF LIFE. — 2 MACCABEES 7:9

JOB

SUFFERING, WISDOM & THE MYSTERY OF GOD



1 THE TEST

Job is righteous and prosperous, yet suddenly loses wealth, children, and health.

Job 1–2



2 THE FRIENDS' ARGUMENT

Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar insist that suffering must be punishment for personal sin.

Job 4–31



3 JOB'S LAMENT

Job maintains his integrity, questions his suffering, and longs for a mediator.

Job 3; 19



4 ELIHU SPEAKS

A younger observer argues that suffering can instruct, though he cannot fully explain Job's case.

Job 32–37



5 GOD ANSWERS

From the whirlwind, God reveals the vastness, order, and mystery of creation rather than giving a simple explanation.

Job 38–41



6 RESTORATION

Job humbles himself before divine wisdom, prays for his friends, and receives renewed blessing.

Job 42



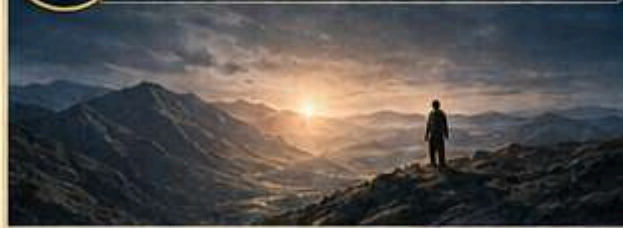
WHAT JOB DOES NOT TEACH



It does not teach that every sufferer is guilty or that faith guarantees an easy life.



THEOLOGICAL MESSAGE



Human wisdom is limited. Honest lament can coexist with faith. God remains worthy of trust even when reasons remain hidden.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST



Job's longing for a mediator and innocent suffering point toward Jesus, the righteous sufferer and living Redeemer.



REFLECT

Can I trust God's character when I cannot understand His purposes?



PASSAGE:
Job 1–42



CHAPTERS:
42



THEME:
Trust Beyond Understanding

I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES. — JOB 19:25



PSALMS

PRAYER, PRAISE & THE WHOLE HUMAN HEART



OVERVIEW

The Psalms are 150 inspired prayers and songs that teach God's people to bring every emotion into worship.



FIVE-BOOK STRUCTURE

- Book I: Psalms 1–41
- Book II: 42–72
- Book III: 73–89
- Book IV: 90–106
- Book V: 107–150

Each section closes with praise.

MAJOR TYPES



PRAISE

Celebrating God's character and works.



LAMENT

Crying out in pain while turning toward trust.



THANKSGIVING

Remembering answered prayer and deliverance.



ROYAL & MESSIANIC

Presenting God's king and pointing toward the Messiah.



WISDOM

Contrasting the way of righteousness with the way of evil.



PENITENTIAL

Confessing sin and seeking mercy; traditionally Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143.



PILGRIMAGE

Songs of Ascents, Psalms 120–134, sung on the way to Jerusalem.

HOW TO PRAY THE PSALMS



1. READ SLOWLY
Let the words sink in.



2. IDENTIFY THE EMOTION
Name what you feel.



3. SPEAK THE WORDS TO GOD
Make the psalm your own prayer.



4. CONNECT THEM TO CHRIST
See how they point to Him.

5. FINISH IN TRUST OR PRAISE
Rest in His goodness and faithfulness.



CATHOLIC LIFE

The Psalms form the heart of the Liturgy of the Hours and appear throughout the Mass.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Jesus prays the Psalms, fulfills their messianic hope, and carries lament through suffering into resurrection praise.



PASSAGE:
Psalms 1–150



CHAPTERS:
150



THEME:
Every Emotion
Becomes Prayer.

LET EVERYTHING THAT HAS BREATH PRAISE THE LORD.

— PSALM 150:6

PROVERBS

WISDOM FOR EVERYDAY FAITHFULNESS



OVERVIEW

Proverbs trains God's people to live skillfully, worshipfully, and wisely in ordinary decisions.



BOOK STRUCTURE

Chapters 1–9: A father's instructions and Lady Wisdom's invitation.

Chapters 10–29: Collections of short sayings.

Chapter 30: Words of Agur.

Chapter 31: Words of King Lemuel and the woman of noble character.



THE FOUNDATION

The fear of the Lord is reverent trust that places God at the center of knowledge and conduct.

WISDOM IN DAILY LIFE



WORDS — Speak truthfully, gently, and at the right time.



WORK — Practice diligence; reject laziness and dishonest gain.



MONEY — Value generosity, justice, contentment, and wise stewardship.



RELATIONSHIPS — Choose trustworthy friends; pursue peace; accept correction.



FAMILY — Honor parents, teach children, and cultivate faithfulness.



JUSTICE — Defend the poor and vulnerable; reject partiality and corruption.



SELF-CONTROL — Guard desires, anger, appetite, and pride.

TWO PATHS



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

The New Testament presents Christ as the wisdom of God; in Him true wisdom becomes personal and complete.



PRACTICE

Before a decision ask:



Is it true?



Is it loving?



Is it just?



Does it honor God?



What fruit will it produce?



PASSAGE:
Proverbs 1–31



CHAPTERS:
31



THEME:
Wisdom Lived Daily

TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART.

— PROVERBS 3:5

ECCLESIASTES

MEANING, MORTALITY & THE GIFT OF GOD



OVERVIEW

Ecclesiastes explores life “under the sun” and exposes the limits of pleasure, achievement, wealth, and human control.



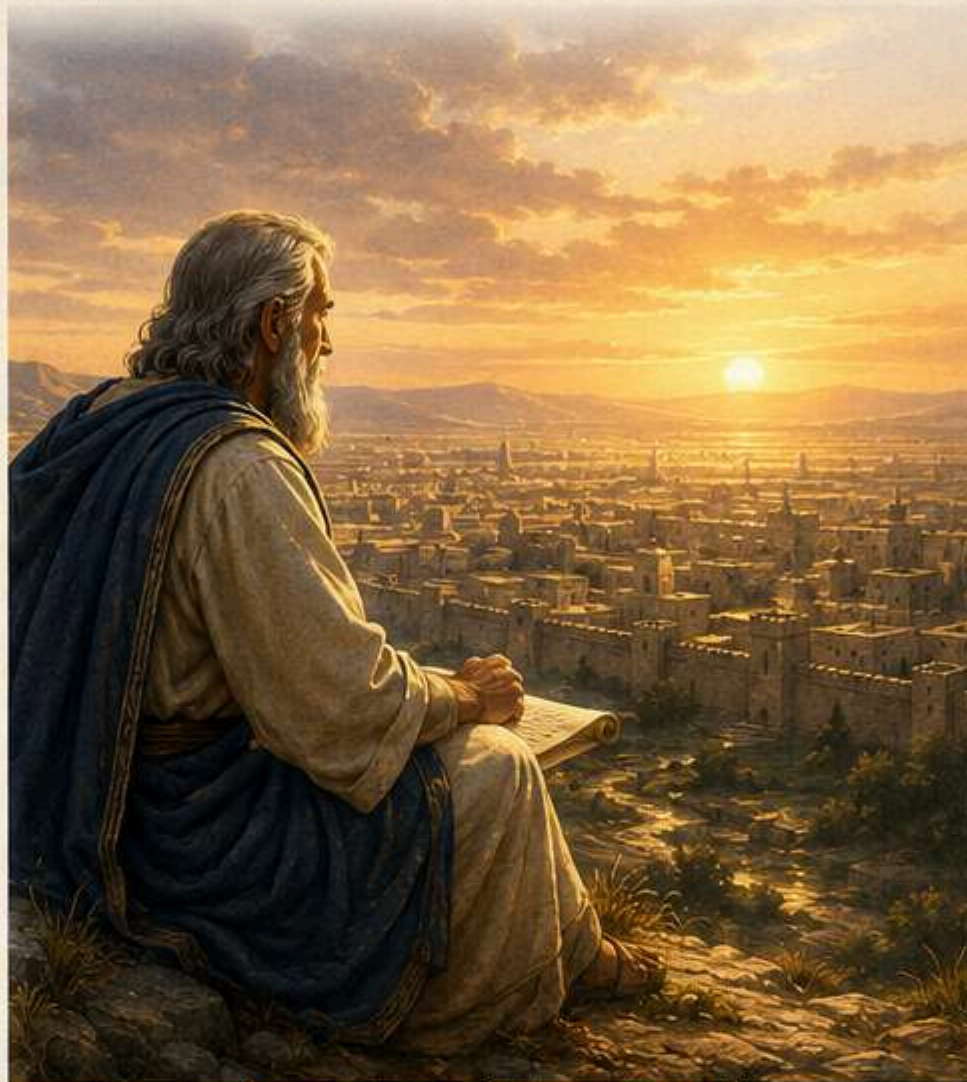
KEY WORD

HEBEL: vapor, breath, or mist. It describes what is fleeting, elusive, and impossible to grasp permanently.



BOOK MOVEMENT

- **Chapters 1–2:** The search for satisfaction.
- **Chapters 3–6:** Time, work, wealth, and injustice.
- **Chapters 7–10:** Wisdom within life’s limits.
- **Chapters 11–12:** Live faithfully and remember your Creator.



“Vanity of vanities,
says the Teacher;
vanity of vanities,
all is vanity.

— ECCLESIASTES 1:2

REFLECT

*Am I trying to obtain
permanent meaning from
something temporary?*



THE GREAT EXPERIMENT

The Teacher tests wisdom, pleasure, possessions, projects, and status, but none can overcome death or secure lasting meaning.



A TIME FOR EVERYTHING

Life unfolds in seasons beyond human control; wisdom receives each season without pretending to master it.



GIFTS TO RECEIVE

Food, work, companionship, celebration, and daily life can be received gratefully as gifts from God.



REALISM ABOUT THE WORLD

The book honestly confronts injustice, oppression, uncertainty, aging, and death.



FINAL WISDOM

Fear God and keep His commandments. Meaning is not manufactured by achievement but received through faithful relationship with the Creator.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Jesus offers the eternal life and lasting treasure that life under the sun cannot produce.



PASSAGE:
Ecclesiastes 1–12



CHAPTERS:
12



THEME:
Receive Life as God’s Gift.

REMEMBER YOUR CREATOR IN THE DAYS OF YOUR YOUTH.

— ECCLESIASTES 12:1

SONG OF SONGS

LOVE, DELIGHT & COVENANT BEAUTY



OVERVIEW

Song of Songs is a collection of love poetry celebrating desire, fidelity, mutual delight, and the goodness of committed human love.



VOICES

The Woman speaks with confidence and longing. The Man responds with admiration and delight. The Daughters of Jerusalem form a poetic chorus.



BOOK MOVEMENT

1:1–3:5: Desire and seeking.
3:6–5:1: Union and celebration.
5:2–8:4: Separation, searching, and renewed delight.
8:5–14: Love's enduring strength.



HOW CATHOLICS READ IT

The literal sense celebrates marital love. The spiritual tradition also reads it as an image of God's covenant love for His people and Christ's love for the Church.



WHAT IT TEACHES

Love is mutual, embodied, patient, exclusive, joyful, and stronger than forces that seek to extinguish it.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

The Bridegroom imagery finds its fullest expression in Christ, who loves and sanctifies His Bride, the Church.



REFLECT

How can faithful love become more attentive, grateful, and self-giving?



PASSAGE:

Song of Songs 1–8



CHAPTERS:

8



THEME:

Love Strong as Death

KEY IMAGES



GARDEN

Protected beauty and fruitful intimacy.



VINEYARD

Love that must be tended with care and faithfulness.



SEAL

Exclusive and lasting commitment.



SPRING

Renewal, joy, and invitation to love.

SET ME AS A SEAL UPON YOUR HEART.

— SONG OF SONGS 8:6

SIRACH

REVERENCE, CHARACTER & PRACTICAL WISDOM



OVERVIEW

Sirach gathers mature instruction for worship, family, friendship, speech, work, leadership, generosity, and faithful life.



SETTING

Written in Hebrew by Jesus ben Sira around 200 BC and later translated into Greek by his grandson.



BOOK STRUCTURE

- Chapters 1–23: Wisdom, discipline, speech, temptation, and relationships.
- Chapters 24–43: Wisdom, worship, society, creation, and daily conduct.
- Chapters 44–50: Praise of Israel’s ancestors.
- Chapter 51: Thanksgiving and pursuit of wisdom.

CORE TEACHINGS



FEAR OF THE LORD

Reverence for God is the beginning and crown of wisdom.



SPEECH

Listen before answering; truthful words reveal a disciplined heart.



FRIENDSHIP

A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter and priceless treasure.



FAMILY

Honor parents, teach children wisely, and practice patience at home.



GENEROSITY

Care for the poor and give with humility.



HUMILITY

The greater you become, the more you should humble yourself.



TRIALS

Prepare for testing and cling to God with a steadfast heart.



WORSHIP

Wisdom and liturgical faithfulness belong together.



PRAISE OF THE ANCESTORS

Remembering holy men and women connects present faith to God’s acts in history.



CATHOLIC LIFE

Sirach is a deuterocanonical book frequently reflected in Catholic moral and liturgical tradition.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Christ embodies perfect Wisdom and forms disciples whose character matches their worship.



PASSAGE:
Sirach 1–51



CHAPTERS:
51



THEME:
Wisdom Forms
Character.

✠ A FAITHFUL FRIEND IS A STURDY SHELTER. — SIRACH 6:14

WISDOM

also called WISDOM OF SOLOMON



OVERVIEW

Wisdom encourages God's people to remain faithful amid a powerful surrounding culture, contrasting the destiny of the righteous and the wicked.



SETTING

Written in Greek, likely in Alexandria, the book speaks to Jews living within the intellectual and religious world of the Hellenistic age.



BOOK STRUCTURE

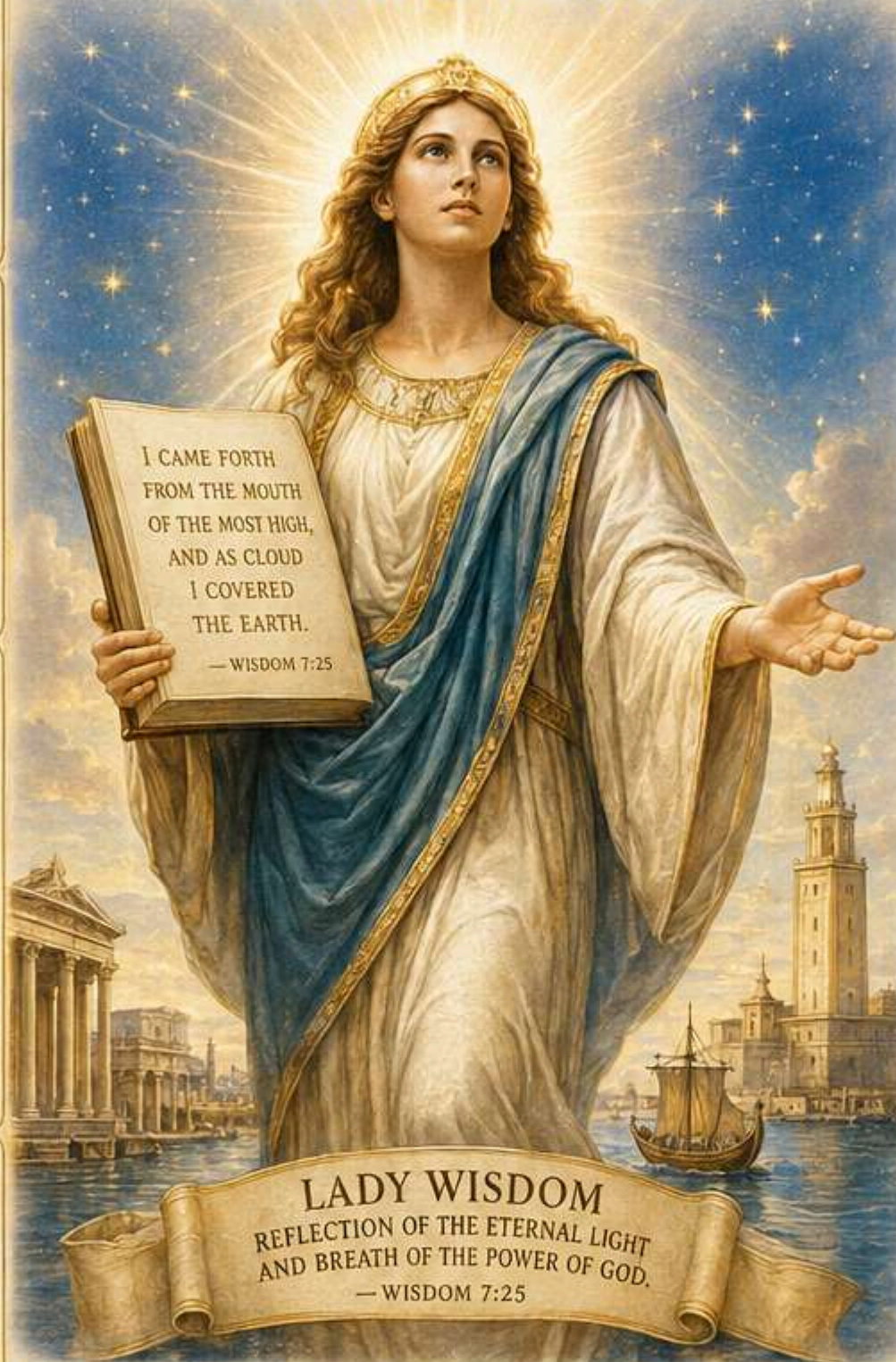
- Chapters 1–5: Righteousness, judgment, and immortality.
- Chapters 6–9: Solomon's praise and prayer for Wisdom.
- Chapters 10–19: Wisdom at work in salvation history.



THE RIGHTEOUS IN GOD'S HAND

The faithful may suffer and appear defeated, but their hope is full of immortality and they remain in God's care.

RIGHTEOUSNESS, IMMORTALITY & DIVINE WISDOM



THE GIFT OF WISDOM

Wisdom is more valuable than power, wealth, beauty, or health. Solomon prays because she must be received from God.



CREATION & IDOLATRY

Creation reveals the Creator; worshiping created things instead of God distorts human reason and life.



WISDOM IN HISTORY

Divine Wisdom guides Adam, Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and Israel.



CATHOLIC INSIGHT

Wisdom belongs to the Catholic Old Testament canon and deepens biblical teaching about immortality, providence, and divine Wisdom.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

The New Testament presents Christ as the power and wisdom of God, the perfect revelation of the Father.



REFLECT

Do my choices show that I value divine wisdom above status, comfort, and approval?



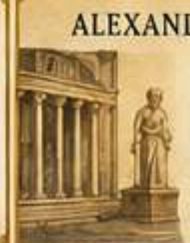
PASSAGE:
Wisdom
1–19



CHAPTERS:
19



THEME:
Wisdom
Leads to Life



ALEXANDRIAN CONTEXT

Wisdom engages the world with truth, reason, and revelation—calling every heart to the fear of the Lord and the hope of immortality.



THE SOULS OF THE RIGHTEOUS ARE IN THE HAND OF GOD.



— WISDOM 3:1 —

ISAIAH

HOLINESS, JUDGMENT & MESSIANIC HOPE

OVERVIEW — Isaiah confronts Judah's sin, reveals God's holiness, warns of judgment, and announces a coming salvation extending to the nations.

1 HISTORICAL SETTING



Isaiah ministers in Judah during the eighth century BC amid Assyrian

expansion and the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah.

2 BOOK STRUCTURE



Chapters 1–39: Judgment, historical crisis, and promised King.

Chapters 40–55: Comfort, return, and the Servant of the Lord.

Chapters 56–66: Restoration, justice, and new creation.

3 THE HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL



Isaiah's Temple vision reveals God's overwhelming holiness and the prophet's need for cleansing.

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory."

ISAIAH 6:3

4 IMMANUEL



A promised child becomes a sign that God is with His people.

"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

ISAIAH 7:14



"Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips... yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

ISAIAH 6:5

9 — CONNECTION TO CHRIST —

The New Testament repeatedly identifies Jesus with Isaiah's Immanuel, Spirit-anointed Messiah, light to the nations, and suffering Servant.

★	Immanuel — God with us	Matthew 1:23
✎	Spirit-anointed Messiah	Luke 4:18–21
✨	Light to the nations	Acts 13:47
⚰	Suffering Servant	Matthew 26:31–56 1 Peter 2:24

5 THE RIGHTEOUS KING



A shoot from Jesse will rule with justice, wisdom, and the Spirit of the Lord.

"There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit."

ISAIAH 11:1

6 THE SUFFERING SERVANT



The Servant bears sin, suffers innocently, and brings healing to many.

"He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed."

ISAIAH 53:5

7 COMFORT & RETURN



God promises a new exodus and restoration beyond Babylonian exile.

"Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended..."

ISAIAH 40:1–2

8 NEW HEAVENS & NEW EARTH



Isaiah's hope culminates in renewed creation, worship, justice, and peace.

"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind."

ISAIAH 65:17

10 REFLECT



Does encountering God's holiness lead me to repentance, mission, and hope?



PASSAGE:
Isaiah 1–66



CHAPTERS:
66



THEME:
The Holy God Saves.

“HERE I AM; SEND ME!” — ISAIAH 6:8



JEREMIAH

WARNING, TEARS & THE NEW COVENANT

"I KNOW
THE PLANS
I HAVE FOR YOU,
DECLARES THE LORD,
PLANS TO PROSPER
YOU AND NOT TO
HARM YOU, PLANS
TO GIVE YOU HOPE
AND A FUTURE."
— JEREMIAH 29:11



OVERVIEW

Jeremiah calls Judah to repent during its final decades, witnesses Jerusalem's fall, and announces hope beyond judgment.



HISTORICAL SETTING

Jeremiah ministers from the reign of Josiah through the Babylonian destruction of Jerusalem in 586 BC.



BOOK MOVEMENT

- Chapters 1–20: Jeremiah's call and early warnings.
- Chapters 21–29: Conflict with kings and false prophets.
- Chapters 30–33: The Book of Consolation.
- Chapters 34–45: Jerusalem's fall and aftermath.
- Chapters 46–51: Oracles concerning nations.
- Chapter 52: Historical conclusion.



THE PROPHET'S CALL

God appoints Jeremiah before birth and sends him to uproot and tear down, to build and to plant. **JEREMIAH 1:4–10**



BROKEN COVENANT

Outward religion cannot hide injustice, idolatry, and stubborn hearts. **JEREMIAH 7:1–15**



THE COST OF SPEAKING

Jeremiah faces ridicule, isolation, imprisonment, threats, and rejection. **JEREMIAH 20:1–3, 7–18**



THE POTTER & THE CLAY

God has authority to reshape a nation that responds to His word. **JEREMIAH 18:1–6**



THE NEW COVENANT

God promises to write His law upon hearts, forgive sin, and restore relationship. **JEREMIAH 31:31–34**



HOPE IN EXILE

Jeremiah buys a field while Jerusalem is under siege, embodying confidence that restoration will come. **JEREMIAH 32:6–15**



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Jesus fulfills the promised new covenant through His blood and shares Jeremiah's rejected prophetic sorrow over Jerusalem. **LUKE 22:20 • MATTHEW 23:37–39**



REFLECT

Am I willing to receive difficult truth when God uses it to restore me?



PASSAGE:
Jeremiah 1–52



CHAPTERS:
52



THEME:
Judgment Gives Way to Covenant Hope.

I WILL PUT MY LAW WITHIN THEM AND WRITE IT UPON THEIR HEARTS.

— JEREMIAH 31:33

LAMENTATIONS

GRIEF, JUDGMENT & HOPE IN GOD'S MERCY



OVERVIEW

Lamentations gives poetic voice to Jerusalem's devastation after the Babylonian conquest, teaching God's people how to grieve faithfully.



HISTORICAL SETTING

Jerusalem and the Temple were destroyed in 586 BC. Survivors faced death, hunger, displacement, and exile.



FIVE POEMS

Chapter 1: The lonely city mourns.
Chapter 2: God's judgment is acknowledged.
Chapter 3: Personal affliction turns toward hope.
Chapter 4: Former glory is contrasted with present ruin.
Chapter 5: The community prays for restoration.



THE ACROSTIC DESIGN

The first four poems follow the Hebrew alphabet in different ways, giving ordered expression to overwhelming grief.



HONEST LAMENT

The book does not hide pain, confusion, guilt, or anger. Faith brings suffering into God's presence.



REFLECT

Can I grieve honestly without surrendering my hope in God's character?



THE CENTER OF HOPE

In the middle of the book, memory shifts from affliction to God's steadfast love, mercy, and faithfulness.



SIN & CONSEQUENCE

Jerusalem's fall is connected to long-term covenant rebellion, injustice, and rejection of prophetic warning.



PRAYER FOR RESTORATION

The final chapter asks God to remember, restore, and renew His people.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Jesus weeps over Jerusalem and enters human suffering; through His death and resurrection, lament is not the final word.



PASSAGE:

Lamentations 1–5



CHAPTERS:

5



THEME:

Mercy in the Ruins

THE LORD'S MERCIES ARE NEW EVERY MORNING;
GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS. — LAMENTATIONS 3:22–23



BARUCH

CONFESSION, WISDOM & RETURN



OVERVIEW — Baruch speaks to God's people in exile through confession, wisdom, consolation, and hope of return.



SETTING — Presented in the voice of Baruch, Jeremiah's scribe, the book addresses the spiritual meaning of exile and the path toward renewal.



BOOK STRUCTURE —
1:1–3:8: Confession and prayer.
3:9–4:4: A poem praising divine Wisdom.
4:5–5:9: Jerusalem consoles her children and announces restoration.
Chapter 6: The Letter of Jeremiah warns against idols.



CONFESSION — The people acknowledge that disobedience brought judgment and appeal to God's mercy rather than their own righteousness.



WISDOM & THE LAW — Wisdom belongs to God and has been made known to Israel through His commandments.



JERUSALEM'S SORROW — The holy city is pictured as a grieving mother whose children have been carried away.



HOPE OF RETURN — Jerusalem is told to exchange mourning for glory because God will bring her children home.



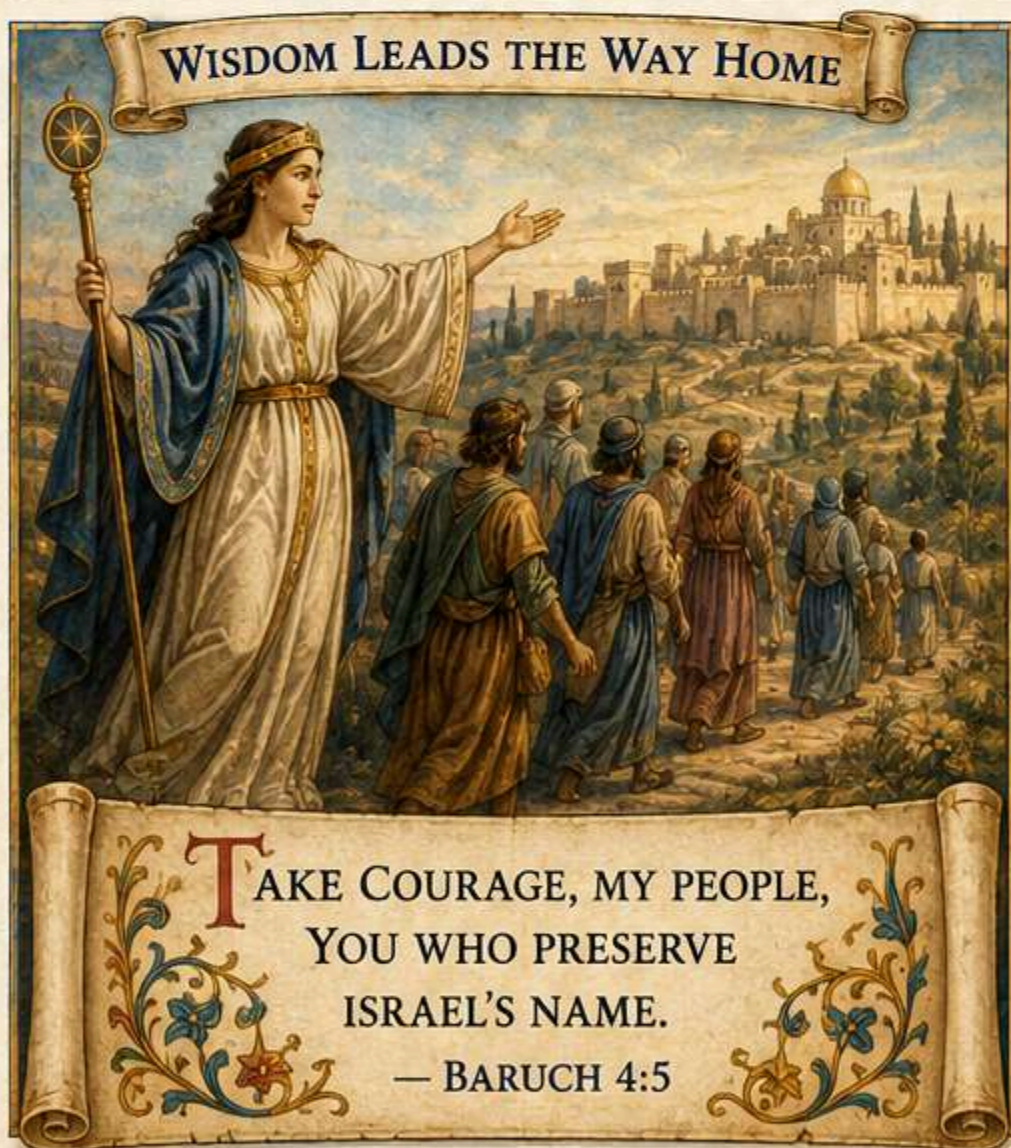
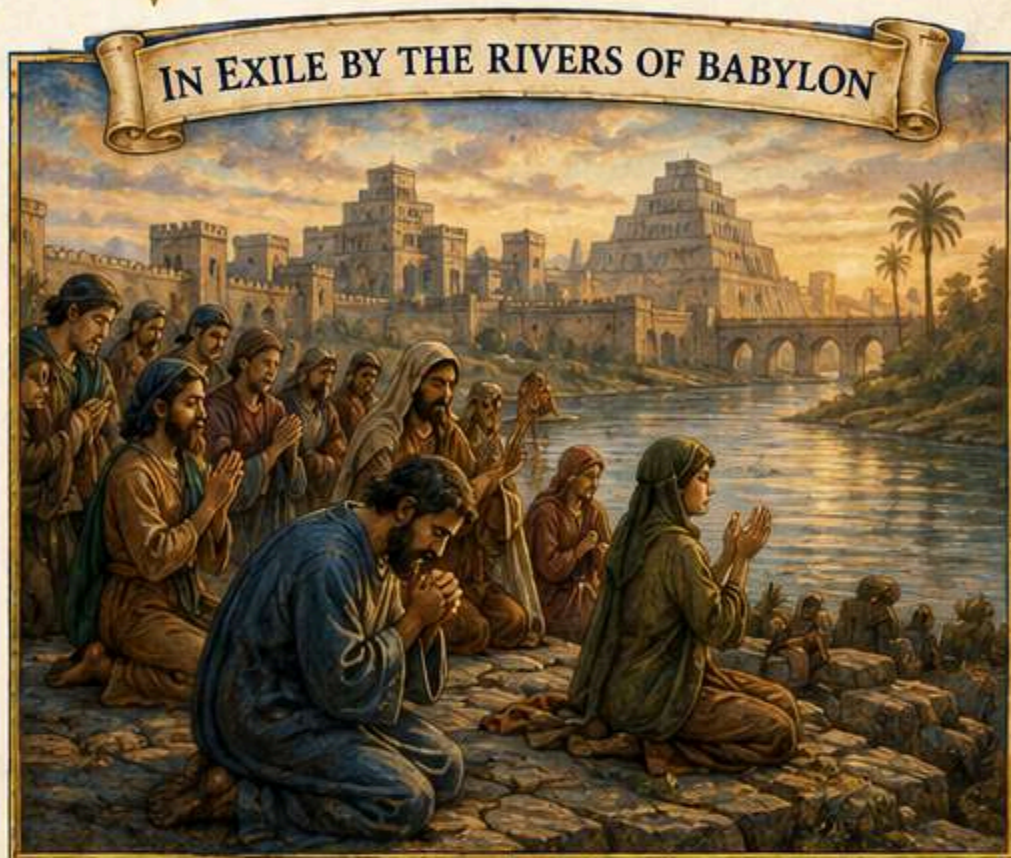
THE FOLLY OF IDOLS — Crafted images cannot speak, move, save, judge, or give life; they must not be feared.



CATHOLIC INSIGHT — Baruch, including the Letter of Jeremiah, is received within the Catholic Old Testament canon.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST — The search for divine Wisdom and the hope of return find fulfillment in Christ, the Wisdom of God who gathers the scattered.



PASSAGE:
Baruch 1–6



CHAPTERS:
6



THEME:
Return Through
Wisdom and Mercy



TAKE COURAGE, MY PEOPLE, YOU WHO PRESERVE
ISRAEL'S NAME. — BARUCH 4:5





EZEKIEL



GLORY, RESPONSIBILITY & A NEW HEART



1. OVERVIEW

Ezekiel ministers among the exiles, explaining Jerusalem's fall and announcing God's future restoration.



2. HISTORICAL SETTING

A priest taken to Babylon in 597 BC, Ezekiel prophesies before and after Jerusalem's destruction in 586 BC.



3. BOOK STRUCTURE

Chapters 1–24:
Judgment on Jerusalem.

Chapters 25–32:

Oracles against nations.

Chapters 33–48:

Restoration, renewed worship, and God's returning glory.



4. THE THRONE VISION

Ezekiel sees God's mobile throne, revealing that divine glory is not confined to Jerusalem.



9. THE NEW TEMPLE

Ezekiel's final vision portrays ordered worship, holy presence, healing water, and renewed land.



10. CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Jesus is the Good Shepherd, gives the Spirit, raises the dead, and becomes the true meeting place between God and humanity.



11. REFLECT

Where do I need God's Spirit to replace hardness with living obedience?



5. THE WATCHMAN

The prophet must faithfully warn the people; each person is responsible for responding to God's word.



6. THE DEPARTING GLORY

Idolatry and injustice defile the Temple, and God's glory departs before the city's fall.



7. A NEW HEART & SPIRIT

God promises cleansing, an undivided heart, and His Spirit within His people.



8. THE DRY BONES

A lifeless valley becomes a living army, symbolizing Israel's restoration through God's breath.



PASSAGE:
Ezekiel 1–48



CHAPTERS:
48



THEME:
God's Glory Returns

**“I WILL GIVE YOU A NEW HEART AND PUT A NEW SPIRIT WITHIN YOU.”
— EZEKIEL 36:26**

HOSEA

BETRAYAL, MERCY & COVENANT LOVE



OVERVIEW

Hosea's marriage becomes a living sign of Israel's unfaithfulness and God's persistent covenant love.



HISTORICAL SETTING

Hosea prophesies to the northern kingdom of Israel during its final decades before the Assyrian conquest in 722 BC.



BOOK STRUCTURE

Chapters 1–3: Hosea's family as a prophetic sign. Chapters 4–11: Charges against Israel and God's wounded compassion. Chapters 12–14: Final warnings and invitation to return.



A PROPHETIC MARRIAGE

Hosea's painful family story symbolizes Israel's betrayal through idolatry and false alliances.



THE CHILDREN'S NAMES

Jezreel signals judgment; Lo-Ruhamah means "not pitied"; Lo-Ammi means "not my people." Yet each judgment is answered by future restoration.



KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

Israel maintains religious activity while lacking faithful, relational knowledge of the Lord.



MERCY, NOT EMPTY RITUAL

God desires steadfast love and true knowledge more than sacrifices disconnected from obedience.



DIVINE COMPASSION

God speaks like a grieving parent who taught Ephraim to walk and cannot easily give His child up.



RETURN & HEALING

The book ends by calling Israel to return; God promises to heal apostasy and love freely.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Jesus quotes Hosea's call for mercy, fulfills the faithful Son pattern, and restores a people called "not my people."

'I WILL BETROTH YOU TO ME FOREVER; I WILL BETROTH YOU IN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND JUSTICE, IN STEADFAST LOVE AND MERCY.

HOSEA 2:19



BROKEN BY BETRAYAL



RESTORED BY MERCY
SEALED IN LOVE

Though Israel was unfaithful,
God's love remains faithful.
He disciplines to restore,
not to destroy.
He seeks a people who
know Him and love Him.
That is true covenant life.



THREE PROPHETIC SCENES FROM HOSEA

1 IDOLATRY & INFIDELITY

HOSEA 4:12–14



Israel turns to idols and false alliances, breaking covenant and pursuing empty security.

2 GOD'S WOUNDED HEART

HOSEA 11:1–4



Like a father to Ephraim, God disciplines, yet His compassion is deeply moved. His love will not let go.

3 INVITATION TO RETURN

HOSEA 14:1–4



"Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God." He promises forgiveness, healing, and abundant life for those who turn back.



REFLECT

Where has religious habit replaced genuine covenant love in my life?



PASSAGE:
Hosea 1–14



CHAPTERS:
14



THEME:
Love That
Refuses to Abandon

I DESIRE MERCY, NOT SACRIFICE, AND KNOWLEDGE OF GOD.

— HOSEA 6:6



DANIEL

FAITHFULNESS, KINGDOMS & EVERLASTING HOPE



OVERVIEW — Daniel shows how God's people can remain faithful within pagan empires and trust His sovereign rule over history.



BOOK STRUCTURE

Chapters 1–6:

Court narratives of faithfulness and deliverance.

Chapters 7–12:

Apocalyptic visions of kingdoms, persecution, judgment, and resurrection.

Chapters 13–14 in Catholic Bibles:

Susanna; Bel and the Dragon.



CATHOLIC ADDITIONS



SUSANNA

Reveals justice and wise judgment; God sees and defends the innocent.



BEL AND THE DRAGON

Exposes the powerlessness of idols; God alone is Lord of heaven and earth.



THE PRAYER OF AZARIAH

A hymn of praise to God in the fiery furnace, trusting His mercy in every trial.



COURAGE IN EXILE

Faithful witness in a foreign land.

1



FAITHFUL IN BABYLON

Daniel and his friends refuse the king's food and drink (1:8) and are blessed with wisdom and favor.

2



THE FIERY FURNACE

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refuse to worship the image (3:16–18) and are preserved in the flames. God is with His faithful ones.

3



THE WRITING ON THE WALL

Babylon's pride is weighed in the balance and found wanting. God humbles the proud and ends their reign (5:25–28).

4



THE LIONS' DEN

Daniel continues praying to God despite the decree (6:10) and is delivered from the lions. God's kingdom rules over all.



VISIONS OF KINGDOMS

God reveals His plan for history and hope.



THE SON OF MAN

Daniel sees "one like a son of man" come with the clouds and receive everlasting dominion, glory, and kingship from God (7:13–14). His kingdom is eternal and cannot be destroyed.

6



RESURRECTION HOPE

Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt (12:2). God keeps His promise of life beyond death.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Jesus identifies Himself with Daniel's "Son of Man" (Matthew 24:30) and announces the everlasting kingdom of God (Mark 14:62; Luke 22:69). In Him, God's promises are fulfilled and we have hope that endures.



REFLECT

How can I practice courageous faith without withdrawing from the world around me?



Stand firm in truth and virtue.



Serve others with love and integrity.



Pray, trust, and remember God's promises.



PASSAGE:
Daniel 1–14



CHAPTERS:
14 in Catholic Bibles



THEME:
God's Kingdom Will Endure.

HIS KINGDOM SHALL NEVER BE DESTROYED. — DANIEL 7:14

JOEL

THE DAY OF THE LORD & THE OUTPOURED SPIRIT

OVERVIEW

Joel interprets a devastating locust plague as a call to repentance and looks ahead to God's judgment, restoration, and Spirit.

THE CRISIS

Locusts consume crops, drought strikes the land, worship is disrupted, and every generation is told to remember.

THE DAY OF THE LORD

This is a day when God decisively confronts evil and reveals His rule; it brings both warning and hope.

RETURN WITH ALL YOUR HEART

Joel calls for fasting, prayer, mourning, and sincere interior conversion rather than outward display alone.

A COMMUNAL RESPONSE

Elders, children, newlyweds, priests, and the whole assembly are summoned to seek God together.

DEVASTATION

JOEL 1

REPENTANCE

JOEL 2:12–17

RESTORATION & SPIRIT

JOEL 2:18–29

GOD'S COMPASSION

The Lord is gracious, merciful, slow to anger, and ready to restore those who return.

RESTORATION

God promises renewed land, abundant provision, freedom from shame, and His presence among the people.

THE SPIRIT POURED OUT

Sons and daughters prophesy; old and young receive visions and dreams; God's Spirit is offered across social boundaries.

CONNECTION TO CHRIST & ACTS

Peter declares at Pentecost that Joel's promise is being fulfilled through the risen Christ's gift of the Holy Spirit.

REFLECT

Is my repentance merely emotional, or does it return my whole heart to God?

PASSAGE:
Joel 1–3

CHAPTERS:
3

THEME:
Return and
Receive the Spirit

I WILL POUR OUT MY SPIRIT UPON ALL FLESH. — JOEL 2:28



AMOS



JUSTICE, WORSHIP & COVENANT ACCOUNTABILITY

OVERVIEW

Amos, a shepherd from Judah, is sent north to confront Israel's prosperity, injustice, and empty worship.

1

HISTORICAL SETTING



During the eighth century BC, Israel enjoys wealth and stability while the poor are exploited and spiritual complacency grows.

2

ORACLES AGAINST THE NATIONS



Amos announces that God judges cruelty and injustice among Israel's neighbors—and then turns the accusation toward Israel.

3

THE CRIMES OF ISRAEL



The powerful sell the poor, corrupt courts, practice sexual immorality, live in luxury, and ignore suffering.

4

WORSHIP GOD REJECTS



Festivals, songs, and sacrifices become offensive when separated from justice and covenant obedience.



You only have I known of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

AMOS 3:2

5

FIVE VISIONS

Amos receives five visions that reveal God's control of history and the certainty of judgment.



LOCUSTS — Judgment comes like a devouring army.



FIRE — Nothing escapes the purifying and consuming fire.



A PLUMB LINE — God measures His people with perfect justice.



SUMMER FRUIT — The end is near; the harvest is over.



THE LORD BESIDE THE ALTAR — God is present and will judge from His holy place.

6

THE PLUMB LINE



God measures His people by covenant truth, not national pride or religious appearance.

7

AMOS & AMAZIAH



The priest of Bethel tells Amos to leave; the prophet insists that God called him to speak.



A FINAL PROMISE

After judgment, God promises to raise David's fallen booth and restore His people.

"I will rebuild its ruins and restore it, that the remnant of Edom may possess it."

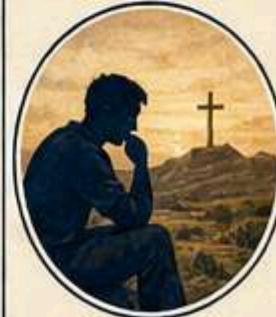
AMOS 9:11–12



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Jesus announces good news to the poor and forms a kingdom where worship, mercy, and justice belong.

"He has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor ... to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." LUKE 4:18–19



REFLECT

Does my worship change how I treat people with less power?



PASSAGE:
Amos 1–9



CHAPTERS:
9



THEME:
True Worship Produces Justice.

LET JUSTICE ROLL DOWN LIKE WATERS. — AMOS 5:24



OBADIAH

PRIDE, BROTHERHOOD & THE DAY OF THE LORD



1. **OVERVIEW** — The shortest Old Testament book condemns Edom for pride and violence against Judah and announces God's just rule.



2. **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND** — Edom descended from Esau, while Judah descended from Jacob. Their shared ancestry makes Edom's betrayal especially serious.



3. **EDOM'S FALSE SECURITY** — Mountain strongholds, political alliances, wealth, and reputation create the illusion that Edom cannot fall.



4. **THE SIN OF PRIDE** — Edom exalts itself and asks, "Who can bring me down?" God answers that no human height escapes His judgment.



5. **VIOLENCE AGAINST A BROTHER** — When Jerusalem suffers, Edom watches, rejoices, loots, blocks fugitives, and hands survivors to enemies.



6. **AS YOU HAVE DONE** — Obadiah teaches moral reversal: violence and betrayal return upon the perpetrator.



7. **THE DAY OF THE LORD** — God's judgment extends beyond Edom to all nations that oppose His justice.



8. **ZION RESTORED** — The book ends with deliverance, holiness, restored inheritance, and the declaration that the kingdom belongs to the Lord.



9. **CONNECTION TO CHRIST** — Christ confronts pride, reconciles divided peoples, and establishes God's kingdom through humble victory.

THE CONTRAST REVEALED

EDOM

VS.

ZION



PRIDE
Exalts itself



HUMILITY
Trusts in the Lord



SECURITY
Trusts in wealth and strongholds



SECURITY
Trusts in God's protection



CRUELTY
Rejoices in another's fall



COMPASSION
Restores and welcomes



BETRAYAL
Violates brotherhood and justice



BROTHERHOOD
Walks in covenant faithfulness



JUDGMENT
Brings destruction on itself



RESTORATION
Receives deliverance and inheritance

*For the day of the LORD is near upon all the nations.
As you have done, it shall be done to you; your reward
shall return upon your own head.*

— Obadiah 1:15



REFLECT —

Do I secretly rejoice in another person's fall or use their weakness for my advantage?



PASSAGE:
Obadiah 1–21



CHAPTERS:
1

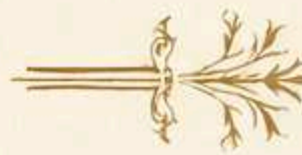


THEME:
Pride Falls,
God's Kingdom Stands.

"THE KINGDOM SHALL BE THE LORD'S. — OBADIAH 21"



JONAH

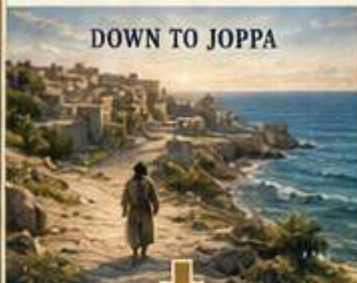


MERCY, MISSION & THE HEART OF GOD

THE GREAT DESCENT

Jonah goes down to Joppa, down into the ship, down into sleep, and down into the sea; flight from God becomes spiritual descent.

DOWN TO JOPPA



DOWN INTO THE SHIP



DOWN INTO SLEEP



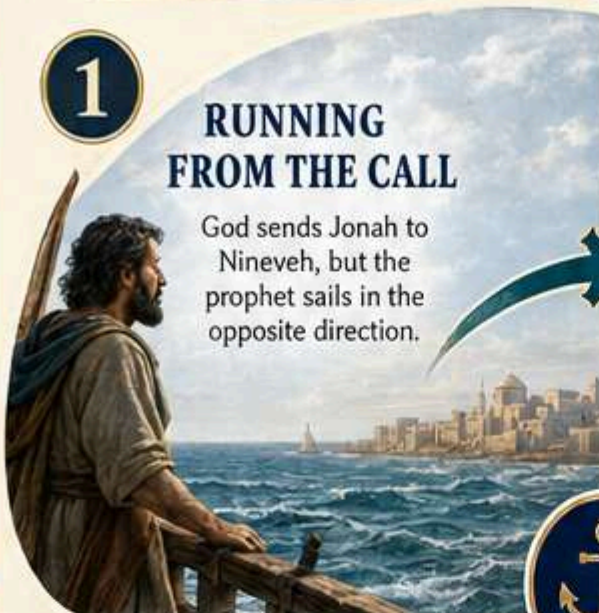
DOWN INTO THE SEA



1

RUNNING FROM THE CALL

God sends Jonah to Nineveh, but the prophet sails in the opposite direction.



2

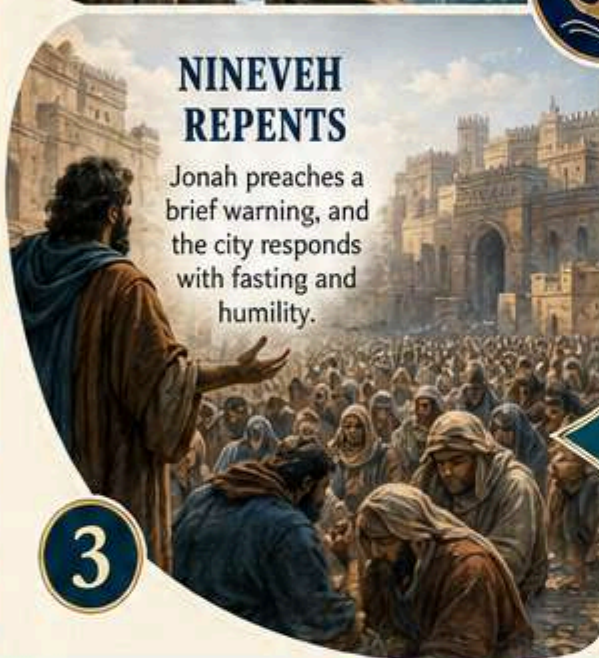
DOWN INTO THE DEEP

A storm threatens the ship; Jonah is thrown overboard and preserved by a great fish.



NINEVEH REPENTS

Jonah preaches a brief warning, and the city responds with fasting and humility.



4

ANGRY AT MERCY

Jonah resents God's compassion, and the Lord uses a plant to expose the prophet's narrow heart.



THE SIGN OF JONAH

Three days in the fish become a biblical sign of death and deliverance.



"For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

— MATTHEW 12:40

GOD CARES FOR THE NATIONS

The Lord shows compassion for pagan sailors, a violent foreign city, and even animals.



PAGAN SAILORS

God sends a great fish to spare Jonah and restrains the storm.



VIOLENT CITY

Nineveh, known for violence, repents and is shown mercy.

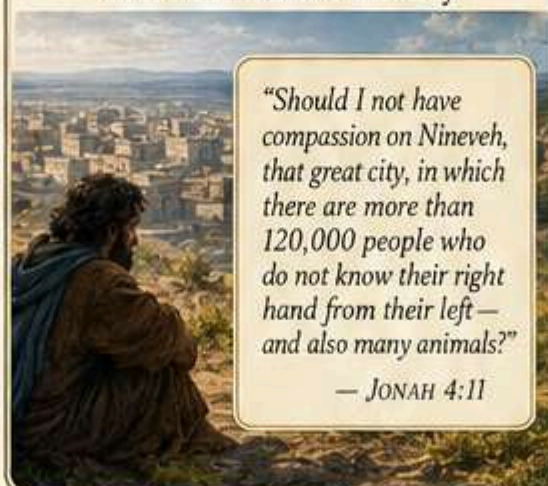


EVEN ANIMALS

God provides for Jonah's plant—and cares for every creature.

THE OPEN ENDING

The book ends with God's question, inviting readers to examine whether their hearts reflect His mercy.

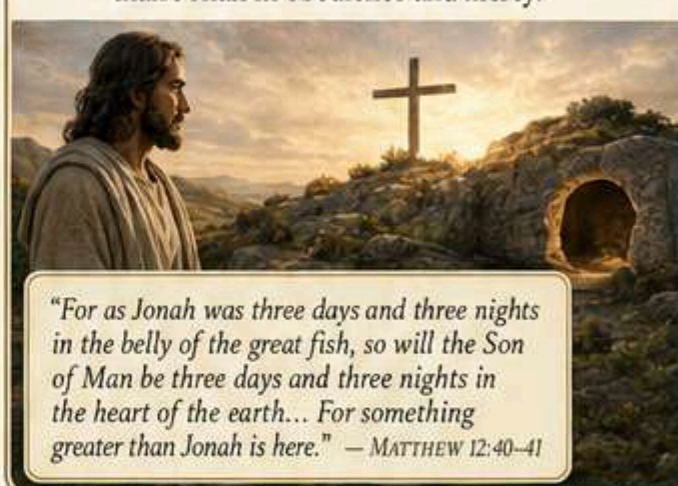


"Should I not have compassion on Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 people who do not know their right hand from their left—and also many animals?"

— JONAH 4:11

CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Jesus identifies His death and resurrection with the sign of Jonah and is greater than Jonah in obedience and mercy.



"For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth... For something greater than Jonah is here." — MATTHEW 12:40–41



REFLECT

Is there anyone I believe should be beyond God's compassion?



PASSAGE:
Jonah 1–4



CHAPTERS:
4



THEME:
God's Mercy Is Wider

SALVATION BELONGS TO THE LORD. — JONAH 2:9

MICAH

JUSTICE, BETHLEHEM & SHEPHERDING HOPE



OVERVIEW

Micah confronts corruption in Samaria and Jerusalem while announcing a ruler from Bethlehem and a future of peace.



HISTORICAL SETTING

Micah ministers in the eighth century BC during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, amid Assyrian aggression.



BOOK MOVEMENT

Chapters 1–2: Judgment and promised gathering. Chapters 3–5: Corrupt leaders contrasted with the coming ruler. Chapters 6–7: God's covenant case, true devotion, lament, and hope.



LAND THEFT & OPPRESSION

Powerful people seize fields and homes, using law and wealth against vulnerable families.



CORRUPT LEADERS

Rulers distort justice, prophets speak for payment, and priests teach for profit.



THE RULER FROM BETHLEHEM

From a small town will come a ruler for Israel whose greatness reaches to the ends of the earth.



SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES

God's future brings instruction, justice, security, and peace among nations.



WHAT THE LORD REQUIRES

True covenant life joins justice, faithful love, and humble walking with God.



THE SHEPHERD KING

God promises to gather the remnant and shepherd His people.



MERCY TRIUMPHS

Micah ends by praising the God who pardons sin and delights in steadfast love.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Matthew identifies Jesus' birth in Bethlehem as the fulfillment of Micah's promised ruler.



REFLECT

Are justice, mercy, and humility visible together in my daily faith?



PASSAGE:
Micah 1–7



CHAPTERS:
7



THEME:
Walk Humbly with God.

DO JUSTICE, LOVE MERCY, AND WALK HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD. — MICAH 6:8

NAHUM

JUSTICE, REFUGE & THE FALL OF NINEVEH



OVERVIEW — Nahum announces the fall of Assyria's capital and comforts people crushed by violent empire.



HISTORICAL SETTING — Nineveh, capital of Assyria, falls to Babylon and its allies in 612 BC after generations of conquest and cruelty.



BOOK STRUCTURE —
Chapter 1: A hymn to God's justice and refuge.
Chapter 2: A poetic vision of Nineveh's fall.
Chapter 3: The reasons for the city's judgment.



GOD IS JUST — Divine patience does not mean indifference. God confronts entrenched violence, exploitation, and arrogance.



GOD IS A REFUGE — The same Lord who judges oppression knows and protects those who trust in Him.



THE FALL DESCRIBED — Shields flash, chariots race, gates open, and the apparently invincible city collapses.



WHY NINEVEH FALLS — Bloodshed, deception, exploitation, cruelty, and imperial pride bring moral accountability.



JONAH & NAHUM — Jonah shows Nineveh receiving mercy after repentance; Nahum shows judgment after later generations return to violence.



GOOD NEWS FOR THE OPPRESSED — The collapse of an oppressor means freedom and peace for its victims.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST — The cross reveals both God's judgment against evil and His refuge for sinners who trust in Christ.



REFLECT —
*Do I mistake God's
patience with injustice
for approval or absence?*



PASSAGE:
Nahum 1–3



CHAPTERS:
3



THEME:
God Is Refuge
and Judge.

THE LORD IS GOOD, A STRONGHOLD IN THE DAY OF TROUBLE.
— NAHUM 1:7

HABAKKUK

QUESTIONS, FAITH & WAITING FOR GOD

OVERVIEW — Habakkuk brings honest questions about injustice to God and learns to live by faith while waiting for His purposes.



1 HABAKKUK ASKS

FIRST QUESTION —
Why does God tolerate violence, corruption, conflict, and the collapse of justice within Judah?



2 GOD ANSWERS

GOD'S FIRST ANSWER —
Babylon is rising as an instrument of judgment, an answer so shocking that it creates a deeper question.



3 HABAKKUK ASKS AGAIN

SECOND QUESTION —
How can a holy God use a nation more violent than Judah to accomplish judgment?



4 GOD ANSWERS AGAIN

GOD'S SECOND ANSWER —
The proud will not endure. God announces woes against greed, exploitation, bloodshed, immorality, and idolatry.



THE WATCHTOWER

Habakkuk waits attentively, ready to receive correction rather than abandoning dialogue with God.



5 THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL LIVE BY FAITH

Faith means steadfast trust and loyalty while God's promise appears delayed.



6 THE PRAYER OF CHAPTER 3

The prophet remembers God's saving acts and asks Him to renew His work with mercy.



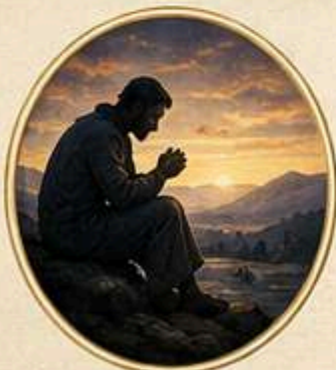
7 JOY WITHOUT CIRCUMSTANCES

Even if crops fail and flocks disappear, Habakkuk chooses joy in the God of salvation.



8 CONNECTION TO CHRIST

The New Testament uses Habakkuk 2:4 to explain life by faith; Christ secures the salvation believers trust.



REFLECT

Can my faith remain rooted in God when visible circumstances do not improve?

“ Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior. ”

— HABAKKUK 3:17–18



PASSAGE:
Habakkuk 1–3



CHAPTERS:
3



THEME:
Faith While Waiting

THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL LIVE BY FAITH. — HABAKKUK 2:4

HAGGAI

PRIORITIES, COURAGE & REBUILDING GOD'S HOUSE



OVERVIEW

Haggai challenges returned exiles to stop delaying and rebuild the Temple, restoring worship to the center of community life.



HISTORICAL SETTING

In 520 BC, the people have returned from Babylon, but the Temple remains unfinished while their own homes receive attention.

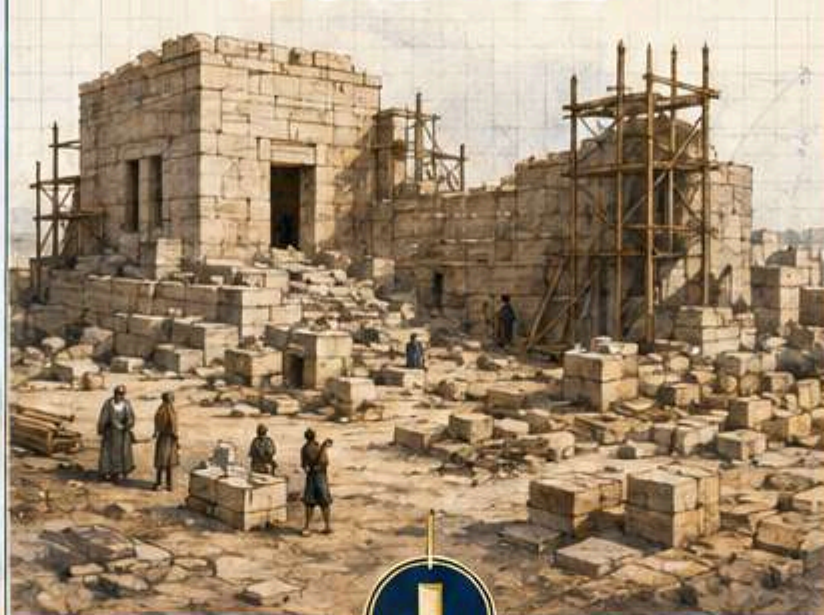


FOUR DATED MESSAGES

- 1:1–15: Consider your ways and begin the work.
- 2:1–9: Be strong; future glory will come.
- 2:10–19: Defilement spreads, but obedience opens a new beginning.
- 2:20–23: Zerubbabel receives a promise of divine purpose.

BEFORE

THE TEMPLE IN NEGLECT



AFTER

THE TEMPLE REBUILT



THE GLORY OF THIS LATTER HOUSE
SHALL BE GREATER THAN THE GLORY
OF THE FORMER, SAYS THE LORD.

HAGGAI 2:9



MISPLACED PRIORITIES

The people say it is not yet time to build, while living in finished homes and accepting spiritual neglect.



CONSIDER YOUR WAYS

Frustrated labor and scarcity reveal that outward busyness cannot replace ordered devotion.



THE PEOPLE RESPOND

Zerubbabel, Joshua, and the remnant obey; God declares, "I am with you," and stirs their spirits.



BE STRONG AND WORK

Older people remember Solomon's Temple, but God tells the community not to despise the new beginning.



GREATER GLORY

God's presence, not human splendor, gives the Temple its true glory.



ZERUBBABEL THE SIGNET

The governor becomes a sign of God's continuing Davidic purpose.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

Jesus is greater than the Temple and fulfills the Davidic hope associated with Zerubbabel.



REFLECT

What good activity has pushed God's priorities to the margins of my life?



PASSAGE:
Haggai 1–2



CHAPTERS:
2



THEME:
Put God's Presence First.

**BE STRONG, ALL YOU PEOPLE OF THE LAND, AND WORK;
FOR I AM WITH YOU. — HAGGAI 2:4**

ZEPHANIAH

THE DAY OF THE LORD & RESTORING JOY

1 DAY OF JUDGMENT

2 HUMBLE REMNANT

3 GOD REJOICES



OVERVIEW — Zephaniah warns Judah of sweeping judgment but ends with a purified people rejoicing in God's presence.



HISTORICAL SETTING — Zephaniah prophesies during King Josiah's reign in the seventh century BC, before Judah's great reform is complete.



THE DAY OF THE LORD — Judgment exposes idolatry, violence, complacency, injustice, and trust in wealth.



SEARCHING JERUSALEM — God confronts those who believe He will do neither good nor harm; spiritual indifference is itself dangerous.



THE NATIONS JUDGED — Philistia, Moab, Ammon, Cush, and Assyria are accountable to the Lord of all peoples.



SEEK THE LORD — The humble are called to seek righteousness and humility before the day arrives.



A PURIFIED PEOPLE — God promises purified speech and a remnant that practices truth, humility, and trust.



THE KING IN YOUR MIDST — Zion is told not to fear because the Lord has removed judgment and dwells among His people.



GOD REJOICES OVER HIS PEOPLE — The book's final image is astonishing: God quiets His people with love and rejoices over them with singing.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST — Jesus is the King in the midst of His people who bears judgment and gathers a humble remnant.



REFLECT — Have comfort and routine made me spiritually indifferent to God's presence?



PASSAGE:
Zephaniah 1–3



CHAPTERS:
3



THEME:
Judgment Ends in Rejoicing.

HE WILL REJOICE OVER YOU WITH GLADNESS.

— ZEPHANIAH 3:17

ZECHARIAH

VISIONS, RESTORATION & THE COMING KING



OVERVIEW — Zechariah encourages the returned exiles to rebuild while unveiling symbolic visions of cleansing, divine protection, and the coming Messiah.



HISTORICAL SETTING

Beginning in 520 BC, Zechariah ministers alongside Haggai during the rebuilding of the second Temple.



BOOK STRUCTURE

- **Chapters 1–6:** Eight night visions.
- **Chapters 7–8:** Questions about fasting and promises of restoration.
- **Chapters 9–14:** The coming King, rejected shepherd, pierced one, and final reign of God.



1
HORSEMEN AMONG MYRTLES:
God remembers Jerusalem.



2
FOUR HORNS AND CRAFTSMEN:
Hostile powers are removed.



3
MEASURING LINE:
Jerusalem will be restored.



4
JOSHUA CLEANSSED:
Priestly guilt is removed.



BEHOLD, YOUR KING IS COMING TO YOU.
— ZECHARIAH 9:9



5
LAMPSTAND AND OLIVE TREES:
God's work advances by His Spirit.



6
FLYING SCROLL:
Wickedness is judged.



7
WOMAN IN A BASKET:
Evil is removed.



8
FOUR CHARIOTS:
God's rule reaches the earth.



NOT BY MIGHT

Zerubbabel's work will be completed through God's Spirit, not merely human power.



TRUE FASTING

God desires justice, mercy, compassion, and care for the vulnerable.



THE HUMBLE KING

Zion's King comes righteous and victorious, riding on a donkey.



THE PIERCED ONE

The people will look upon the one they pierced and mourn.



THE SHEPHERD

Rejection, scattering, purification, and restoration shape the final visions.

CONNECTION TO CHRIST

The Gospels apply Zechariah's donkey, thirty silver pieces, pierced one, and struck shepherd to Jesus.



DONKEY
The King comes humbly.
Zechariah 9:9



THIRTY SILVER PIECES
He was valued at thirty pieces of silver.
Zechariah 11:12–13



PIERCED ONE
They will look upon the one they pierced.
Zechariah 12:10



STRUCK SHEPHERD
They will strike the shepherd.
Zechariah 13:7



REFLECT

Am I trying to accomplish spiritual work by force rather than by God's Spirit?



PASSAGE:
Zechariah 1–14



CHAPTERS:
14



THEME:
The King Is Coming.

NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT.

— ZECHARIAH 4:6

MALACHI

COVENANT FAITHFULNESS & THE COMING MESSENGER



OVERVIEW

Malachi confronts spiritual apathy after the exile and calls priests and people back to wholehearted covenant faithfulness.



HISTORICAL SETTING

The Temple has been rebuilt, but disappointment and routine have produced careless worship, injustice, and doubt.



SIX DISPUTES

1. God declares His love; the people question it.
2. Priests dishonor God's name through defective offerings.
3. Judah breaks covenant faithfulness in marriage.
4. The people accuse God of tolerating evil.
5. They rob God by withholding tithes and offerings.
6. They claim serving God is useless.



POLLUTED WORSHIP

God rejects offerings that cost nothing and priestly service that treats His altar with contempt.



COVENANT IN RELATIONSHIPS

Faithfulness to God must shape marriage, family, justice, and treatment of others.



THE LORD WILL COME

God promises a messenger who prepares the way and a purifying visitation to His Temple.



A BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Those who fear the Lord encourage one another, and God remembers them as His treasured possession.



ELIJAH PROMISED

The book ends by promising Elijah before the great day of the Lord.



CONNECTION TO CHRIST

The Gospels identify John the Baptist as the promised messenger preparing the way for



BRIDGE TO THE NEW TESTAMENT

Malachi closes the prophetic books with expectation: the messenger, the Lord, purification, and covenant renewal are coming.



REFLECT

Has familiarity with ^{Jesus}worship weakened the honor, sacrifice, and love I bring to God?



PASSAGE:
Malachi 1–4



CHAPTERS:
4



THEME: Prepare the Way of the Lord.

I AM SENDING MY MESSENGER TO PREPARE
THE WAY BEFORE ME. — MALACHI 3:1

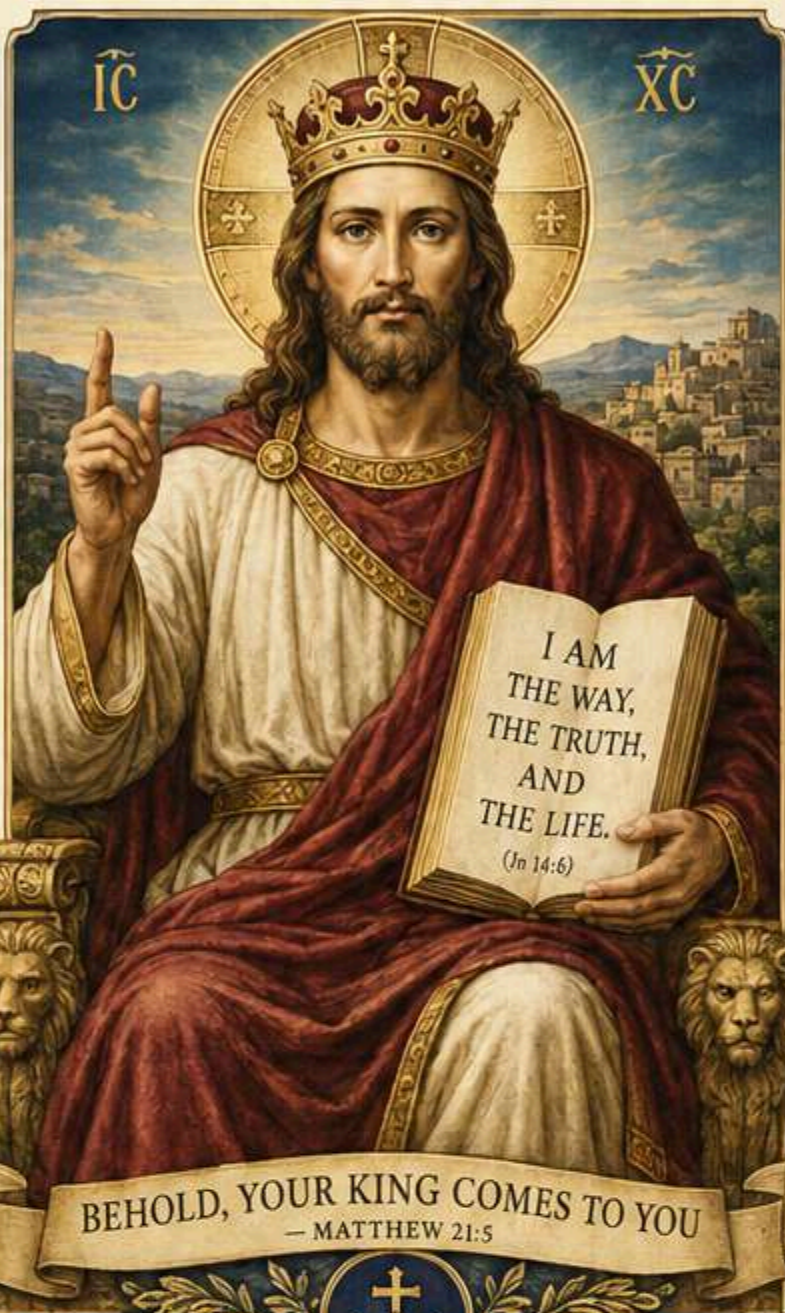
THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

JESUS THE MESSIAH, KING & NEW MOSES

1 OVERVIEW



Matthew presents Jesus as Israel's Messiah, the Son of David, the authoritative Teacher, and Emmanuel—God with us.



2 AUDIENCE & PURPOSE



Written with strong Jewish context, Matthew repeatedly shows how Jesus fulfills Scripture and completes Israel's story.

3 BOOK STRUCTURE



1–4: Origins and preparation.



5–7: Sermon on the Mount.



8–10: Miracles and mission.



11–13: Responses and kingdom parables.



14–20: Formation of the disciples.



21–25: Jerusalem and final teaching.



26–28: Passion and resurrection.

4 FIVE MAJOR DISCOURSES



Kingdom life



Mission



Parables



Community life



Final judgment and watchfulness

5 JESUS THE NEW MOSES



He comes out of Egypt, passes through water, enters the wilderness, ascends a mountain, and gives authoritative teaching.

6 THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN



God's reign arrives through Jesus and calls for repentance, righteousness, mercy, discipleship, and watchfulness.

7 PETER & THE CHURCH



Peter confesses Jesus as Messiah; Christ promises to build His Church and gives the keys of the kingdom.

8 PASSION & RESURRECTION



Jesus gives His life, inaugurates the new covenant, rises bodily, and receives all authority.

9 THE GREAT COMMISSION



The risen Christ sends the apostles to make disciples, baptize, and teach all nations.

10 CATHOLIC CONNECTION



Matthew strongly illuminates the Church, sacramental mission, apostolic authority, reconciliation, and discipleship.

11 REFLECT



Am I merely admiring Jesus' teaching, or actually building my life upon it?



PASSAGE:
Matthew 1–28



CHAPTERS:
28



SYMBOL:
Winged Man



THEME:
The Promised King Is Here.

I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, UNTIL THE END OF THE AGE. — MATTHEW 28:20



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK



JESUS THE SERVANT, SON OF GOD & SUFFERING MESSIAH

OVERVIEW



Mark presents Jesus in urgent action, revealing His authority while leading disciples toward the mystery of the cross.

OPENING DECLARATION



Jesus is the Messiah and Son of God; John prepares the way and Jesus announces God's kingdom.



1

AUTHORITY IN ACTION

Jesus teaches, heals, casts out demons, forgives sins, commands nature, and confronts spiritual oppression.



3

TURNING POINT

Peter confesses Jesus as Messiah at Caesarea Philippi.



5

THE SERVANT KING

The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and give His life as a ransom for many.



7

RESURRECTION

The empty tomb announces that the crucified Jesus has risen and goes before His disciples.



CATHOLIC TRADITION

Mark is traditionally associated with Peter's apostolic preaching in Rome.



2

THE SECRET & THE QUESTION

Crowds wonder, disciples struggle, and Jesus repeatedly silences premature claims until His identity is understood through the cross.



4

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

Jesus predicts His passion three times and teaches that discipleship means self-denial, service, and faithful following.



6

PASSION

Jesus is abandoned, mocked, crucified, and recognized by a Roman centurion as God's Son.



8

MARK'S DISTINCTIVE STYLE

Frequent action, vivid details, human emotion, misunderstanding disciples, and movement toward Jerusalem.



REFLECT

Will I follow Jesus when discipleship moves from excitement toward sacrifice?



PASSAGE:
Mark 1–16



CHAPTERS:
16



SYMBOL:
Winged Lion



THEME:
The Cross Reveals the King.

THE SON OF MAN CAME TO SERVE AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE
AS A RANSOM FOR MANY. — MARK 10:45

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

JESUS THE SAVIOR FOR ALL PEOPLE



OVERVIEW — Luke offers an orderly account showing Jesus as the Spirit-anointed Savior who brings mercy to the poor, sinners, outsiders, and all nations.



PROLOGUE & INFANCY — Angelic announcements, Mary's fiat and Magnificat, Elizabeth, Zechariah, shepherds, Simeon, and Anna reveal salvation arriving in humility.



MARY IN LUKE — Mary receives the Word in faith, bears Christ, treasures God's works, and models faithful discipleship.



JESUS' MISSION — In Nazareth, Jesus announces good news to the poor, freedom, sight, and the Lord's favor.



THE GREAT JOURNEY — From 9:51 onward, Jesus sets His face toward Jerusalem while teaching disciples what life in God's kingdom requires.



PARABLES OF MERCY — The Good Samaritan; the Lost Sheep, Coin, and Son; the Rich Man and Lazarus; the Pharisee and Tax Collector.



PRAYER & THE HOLY SPIRIT — Luke repeatedly shows Jesus praying and the Spirit guiding every stage of His mission.



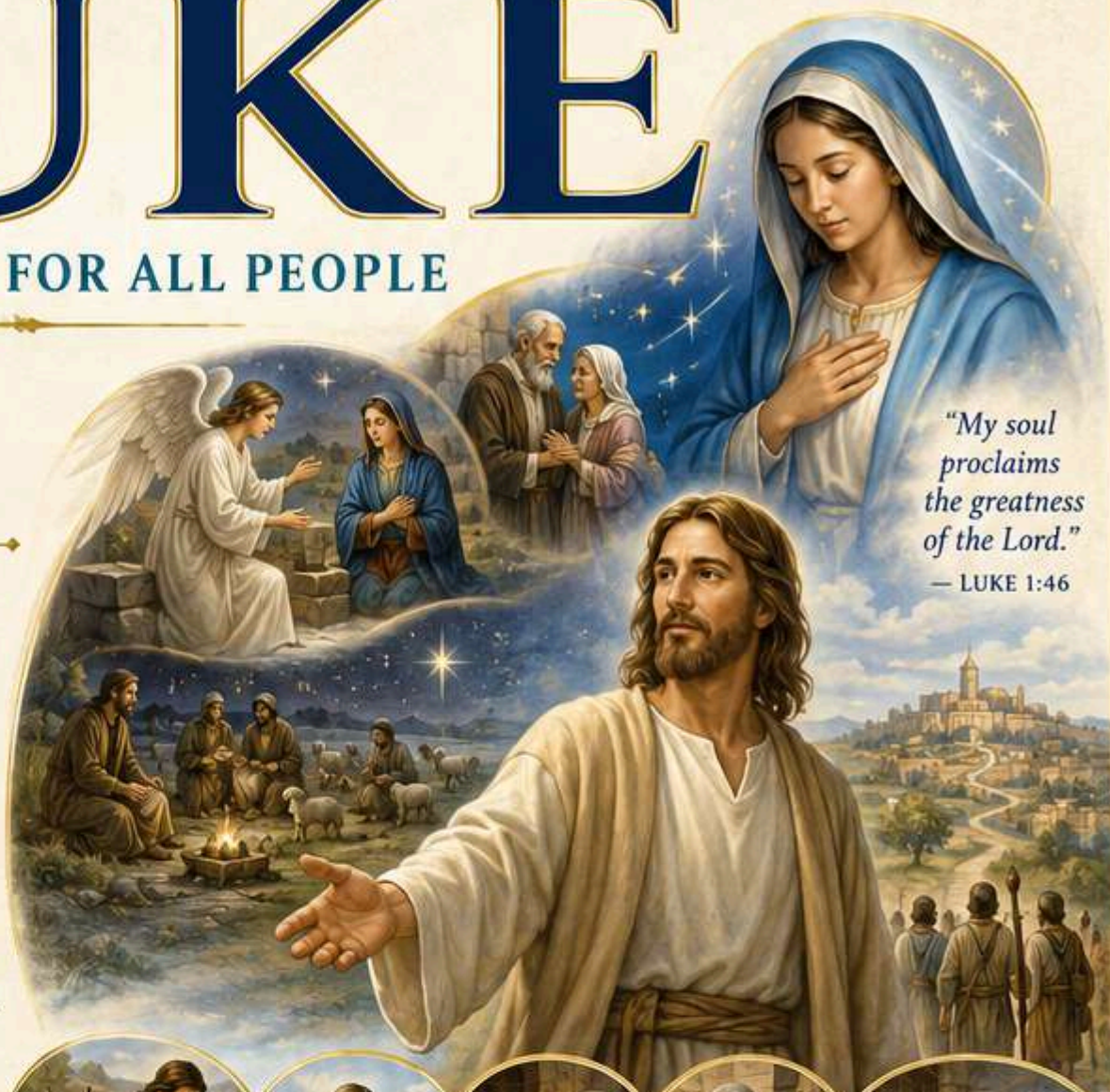
TABLE FELLOWSHIP — Jesus eats with sinners, welcomes outsiders, and transforms meals into signs of grace and kingdom reversal.



PASSION & RESURRECTION — Jesus forgives from the cross, promises paradise, rises, walks to Emmaus, and opens the Scriptures.



LUKE-ACTS — Luke's Gospel continues into Acts: from Jesus' ministry in Galilee to the Church's mission among the nations.



"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord."

— LUKE 1:46



"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

— LUKE 23:34



"Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures."

— LUKE 24:45



REFLECT — Whom might God's mercy be asking me to notice, welcome, or serve?



PASSAGE:
Luke 1–24



CHAPTERS:
24



SYMBOL:
Winged Ox



THEME:
Mercy for Every Nation

THE SON OF MAN CAME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THE LOST. — LUKE 19:10



THE WORD BECAME FLESH

SEVEN I AM SAYINGS



7. RAISING LAZARUS



7. I AM THE TRUE VINE



OVERVIEW — John reveals Jesus as the eternal Word, the Son who makes the Father known and gives eternal life to all who believe.



PROLOGUE — The Word exists with God, is God, creates all things, becomes flesh, and dwells among us. (*John* 1:1–18)



THE BOOK OF SIGNS — Chapters 1-12 reveal Jesus publicly through signs, feasts, conversations, and growing conflict.



THE BOOK OF GLORY—Chapters 13–20 reveal glory through the Last Supper, foot washing, cross, resurrection, and gift of the Spirit.



FAITH & MISUNDERSTANDING —

Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman, the blind man, Martha, Thomas, and others move from partial understanding toward faith.



MARY IN JOHN — Mary appears at Cana and the cross; Jesus entrusts the beloved disciple and His mother to one another. (John 19:25-27)



EUCCHARISTIC DEPTH — John 6 presents Jesus as the living Bread whose flesh is true food and blood true drink.



PURPOSE — These signs are written so readers may believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and have life in His name. (John 20:30-31)



REFLECT — Which sign or saying most directly calls me into deeper faith in Jesus?



PASSAGE:
John 1-21



CHAPTERS:
21



SYMBOL:
Eagle



THEME:
*Believe and
Have Life*

THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND DWELT AMONG US. — JOHN 1:14



ACTS

THE HOLY SPIRIT & THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH



OVERVIEW

Acts continues Luke's Gospel, showing the risen Christ extending His mission through the Holy Spirit and the apostolic Church.



PROGRAM VERSE

"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

— ACTS 1:8



BOOK MOVEMENT

Chapters 1–7: Witness in Jerusalem.

8–12: Judea and Samaria; Gentiles welcomed.

13–20: Paul's missionary journeys.

21–28: Paul witnesses from Jerusalem to Rome.



PENTECOST

The Spirit descends, Peter preaches, thousands are baptized, and the Church begins public mission.



LIFE OF THE FIRST CHRISTIANS

Apostolic teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, prayers, generosity, signs, and courageous witness.



PETER'S MISSION

Healings, preaching, persecution, and the conversion of Cornelius show God opening the covenant community to Gentiles.



STEPHEN & PERSECUTION

Stephen's martyrdom scatters believers, and suffering unexpectedly advances the Gospel.

1

JERUSALEM

Acts 1–7

PENTECOST — The Spirit descends, Peter preaches, thousands are baptized, and the Church begins public mission.

LIFE OF THE FIRST CHRISTIANS — Apostolic teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, prayers, generosity, signs, and courageous witness.



2

JUDEA & SAMARIA

Acts 8–12

PETER'S MISSION — Healings, preaching, persecution, and the conversion of Cornelius show God opening the covenant community to Gentiles.



3

ANTIOCH & THE MISSIONS

Acts 13–20

PAUL'S CONVERSION — The persecutor encounters the risen Jesus and becomes an apostle to the nations.



4

JERUSALEM

Acts 15

THE COUNCIL OF JERUSALEM — Apostles and elders discern how Gentile converts enter the Church, preserving unity without requiring full Mosaic observance.



5

ROME

Acts 21–28

MISSION TO ROME — Shipwreck, imprisonment, and opposition cannot stop the Word; Acts ends with Paul proclaiming freely in the imperial capital.



CATHOLIC CONNECTION

Acts displays apostolic authority, councils, baptism, confirmation-like reception of the Spirit, Eucharistic fellowship, ordained ministry, and missionary unity.



APOSTOLIC AUTHORITY

The apostles teach with authority in the name of the Lord.



BAPTISM

Repentance and baptism bring new life in Christ.



RECEPTION OF THE SPIRIT

The laid-on of hands confers the Holy Spirit.



EUCCHARISTIC FELLOWSHIP

Breaking of bread sustains communion in Christ.



ORDAINED MINISTRY

Apostles, elders, and deacons serve the Church.



MISSIONARY UNITY

One Church, many peoples, one Gospel.



REFLECT

Where is the Holy Spirit asking me to become a courageous witness?



PASSAGE:
Acts 1–28



CHAPTERS:
28



THEME:
The Gospel Cannot Be Stopped.



YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES UPON YOU. — ACTS 1:8



ROMANS

THE GOSPEL, GRACE & A TRANSFORMED LIFE



OVERVIEW —

Romans presents Paul's fullest explanation of the Gospel and its power to unite Jews and Gentiles in Christ.



SETTING —

Paul writes to Christians in Rome before visiting them, seeking unity and support for future mission.



BOOK STRUCTURE —

1:1–3:20: Humanity under sin.

3:21–5:21: Justification, faith, grace, and peace.

6–8: Baptismal union, freedom, and life in the Spirit.

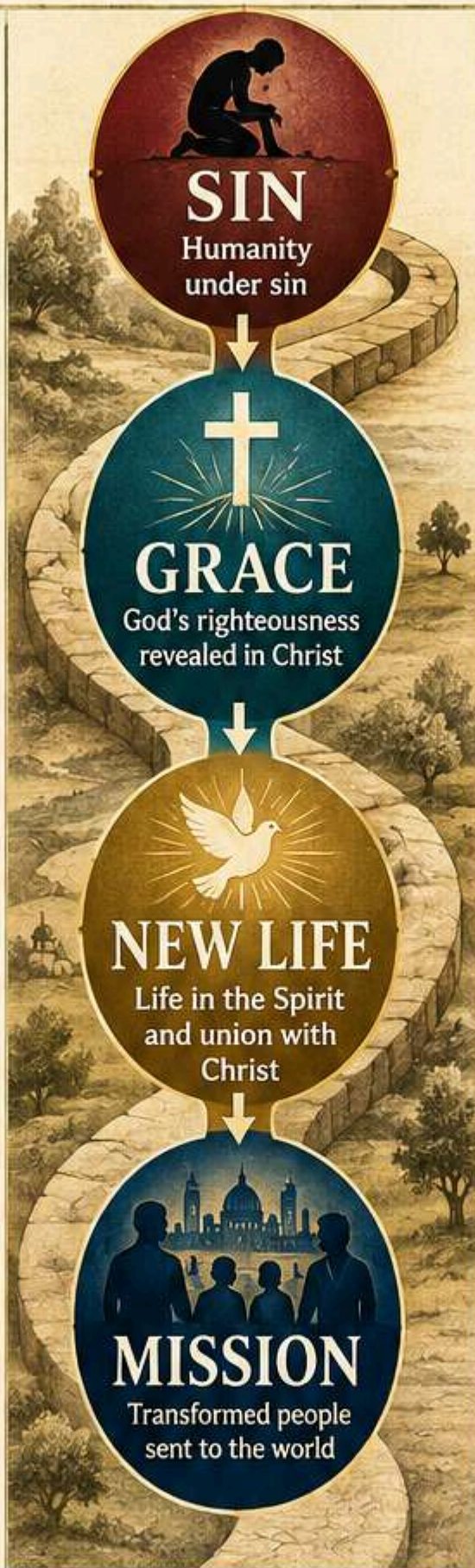
9–11: Israel within God's saving plan.

12–16: Transformed community and mission.



TO THE ONLY WISE GOD
BE GLORY FOREVER
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST!

ROMANS 16:27



THE HUMAN PROBLEM —

Gentiles and Jews alike stand under sin; religious privilege cannot replace obedience.



GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS REVEALED —

Through Christ's faithful saving work, grace is offered as gift and received in faith.



ABRAHAM & FAITH —

Abraham becomes father of all who believe, showing God's promise precedes the Mosaic Law.



BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST —

Baptism unites believers to Jesus' death and resurrection, beginning a new life free from sin's dominion.



LIFE IN THE SPIRIT —

The Spirit gives adoption, prayer, hope, holiness, and assurance that nothing can separate believers from God's love.



ISRAEL & THE NATIONS —

Paul rejects arrogance and trusts God's mercy and faithfulness toward Israel.



A LIVING SACRIFICE —

Christian worship becomes embodied through renewed minds, humble gifts, love, mercy, justice, and peace.



CATHOLIC READING —

Romans holds faith, grace, baptism, obedience, perseverance, and ecclesial unity together rather than opposing them.



REFLECT —

Where must grace reshape not only what I believe but how I live?



PASSAGE:

Romans 1–16



CHAPTERS:

16



THEME:

The Gospel Creates a New Humanity.



DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS AGE,
BUT BE TRANSFORMED. — ROMANS 12:2



1 CORINTHIANS

HOLINESS, UNITY & RESURRECTION



OVERVIEW

Paul addresses a gifted but divided Church, applying the Gospel to worship, morality, relationships, spiritual gifts, and resurrection.



SETTING

Corinth is wealthy, diverse, status-conscious, and morally permissive. These cultural pressures enter the Christian community.

PROBLEMS



1. DIVISIONS

The Church belongs to Christ; leaders are servants, not rival brands.



2. SEXUAL IMMORALITY

Bodies belong to the Lord and are temples of the Holy Spirit.



3. MARRIAGE & VOCATION

Faithfulness, mutual responsibility, celibacy, and undivided devotion are honored.



4. FOOD OFFERED TO IDOLS

Knowledge must be governed by love and concern for another's conscience.



5. LORD'S SUPPER ABUSES

The Eucharistic assembly cannot humiliate the poor or ignore the unity of Christ's body.



6. SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Many gifts serve one body; no member is unnecessary.



7. THE WAY OF LOVE

Without love, knowledge, sacrifice, eloquence, and gifts become empty.



8. ORDERED WORSHIP

Worship must build up the Church with intelligibility, reverence, and peace.



9. THE RESURRECTION

Christ has truly risen; believers will be raised bodily, and death will be defeated.



For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

— 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12

GOSPEL RESPONSES

The Church belongs to Christ; leaders are servants, not rival brands.



Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit; glorify God in your body.



Live your vocation to honor the Lord—whether married, single, or called to celibacy.



Your freedom ends where another's conscience would be wounded.



One bread, one body: discern the Lord and treat every member with dignity.



Different gifts, same Spirit; each member is vital to the body of Christ.



Love is the greatest way and the fulfilling of the Law.



Let all things be done decently and in order for the building up of the Church.



Christ is risen! Our bodies will be raised incorruptible and share in His glory.



CATHOLIC CONNECTION

Paul teaches Eucharistic realism, ecclesial unity, the body as sacred, charisms under order, and bodily resurrection.



REFLECT

Is my knowledge and giftedness actually building up other members of Christ's body?



PASSAGE:
1 Corinthians 1–16



CHAPTERS:
16



THEME:
One Body, Many Gifts,
One Lord.

FAITH, HOPE, LOVE REMAIN, THESE THREE;
BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE. — 1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

2 CORINTHIANS

COMFORT, WEAKNESS & APOSTOLIC MINISTRY

1 OVERVIEW

Paul's most personal letter reveals the heart of Christian ministry: suffering, reconciliation, generosity, integrity, and power made perfect in weakness.

2 SETTING



After painful conflict with Corinth, Paul explains his actions, defends his apostolic ministry, and seeks restored trust.

3

THE GOD OF ALL COMFORT



God comforts believers in affliction so they can comfort others.

4 THE NEW COVENANT MINISTRY



The Spirit gives life; ministers proclaim Christ rather than themselves.

5

TREASURE IN CLAY JARS

Human weakness makes clear that extraordinary power belongs to God.

6 RECONCILIATION

In Christ, God reconciles the world to Himself and entrusts the Church with a ministry of reconciliation.

7

GODLY SORROW

Genuine repentance produces change and restored relationship rather than despair.

8 THE GRACE OF GIVING

The Macedonians give generously despite poverty; Christian generosity reflects Christ, who became poor for our sake.

9

FALSE APOSTLES

Paul exposes leaders who boast in status, power, and appearance while exploiting the community.



10

THE THORN IN THE FLESH



Paul learns that Christ's grace is sufficient and divine power is perfected in weakness.

11

MARKS OF TRUE MINISTRY



Integrity, endurance, sacrificial love, truthful teaching, suffering, and concern for the Church.



REFLECT

Am I hiding weakness that God wants to transform into dependence and service?



PASSAGE:
2 Corinthians 1–13



CHAPTERS:
13



THEME:
Power Perfected in Weakness

MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR YOU. — 2 CORINTHIANS 12:9

GALATIANS

GRACE, FREEDOM & LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

ABRAHAM

THE PROMISE

THROUGH CHRIST

TO THE NATIONS



"In you all the nations shall be blessed."

GENESIS 12:3



The promise is fulfilled in Christ and reaches the nations.
GALATIANS 3:16

Faith in Christ brings blessing and the gift of the Spirit to all peoples.

GALATIANS 3:14



SLAVERY FLESH



Relies on human effort and external requirements.



Produces fear, division, pride, and condemnation.



Builds barriers between people and excludes from God's family.



Leads to works of the flesh that destroy community.



Cannot give the Spirit or make us right with God.



Results in bondage and never-ending seeking of acceptance.



OVERVIEW — Paul defends the Gospel against teachers who require Gentile Christians to adopt circumcision and the Mosaic Law as necessary for covenant membership.



THE CRISIS — Some believers are being told that faith in Christ is insufficient unless they become Jewish through circumcision.



PAUL'S GOSPEL & CALL — Paul received his apostolic mission through Jesus Christ and later met the recognized leaders in Jerusalem.



ANTIOCH CONFRONTATION — Paul corrects Peter when fear causes table separation from Gentile believers.



ABRAHAM & THE PROMISE — God's promise to Abraham comes before the Law and reaches the nations through Christ.



THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW — The Law serves within salvation history but cannot replace the promise or give the Spirit.



BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST — In Christ, ethnic, social, and gender distinctions no longer determine equal dignity or access to God's family.



FREEDOM FOR LOVE — Christian freedom is not selfish independence; it becomes service through love.



FLESH VS SPIRIT — Works of the flesh destroy community; the Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.



NEW CREATION — Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is decisive; what matters is new creation in Christ.



CATHOLIC READING — Grace initiates salvation, faith works through love, baptism unites believers to Christ, and Spirit-led obedience expresses freedom.



REFLECT — Am I using freedom to serve in love, or merely to protect my preferences?

FREEDOM SPIRIT



Received by grace through faith in Christ.



Produces love, unity, humility, and peace.



Builds up community and welcomes all in Christ.



Led by the Spirit who produces good fruit in our lives.



Brings the gift of the Holy Spirit and life with God.



Results in true freedom and joyful obedience to God.



PASSAGE:
Galatians 1–6



CHAPTERS:
6



THEME:
Called to Freedom in Christ



FOR FREEDOM CHRIST SET US FREE. — GALATIANS 5:1

EPHESIANS

GRACE, UNITY & THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCH



OVERVIEW — Ephesians celebrates God's plan to unite all things in Christ and form Jews and Gentiles into one holy people.



BOOK STRUCTURE — **Chapters 1–3:** The blessings and identity believers receive in Christ. **Chapters 4–6:** The worthy walk that flows from this new identity.



WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST



EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING
Election, adoption, redemption, forgiveness, revelation, inheritance, and the seal of the Holy Spirit come through Christ.



SAVED BY GRACE FOR GOOD WORKS
Salvation is God's gift, not human boasting; grace recreates believers for a life of faithful action.



ONE NEW HUMANITY
Christ breaks down hostility between Jew and Gentile, reconciling both to God in one body.



THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCH
The Church reveals God's wisdom and participates in Christ's mission throughout the world.



ONE BODY
One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father; diverse ministries equip the saints for mature unity.



HOW WE WALK BELOW



PUT OFF / PUT ON
Christians leave falsehood, bitterness, impurity, and darkness, putting on truth, forgiveness, love, and light.



HOUSEHOLD DISCIPLESHIP
Marriage, parenting, family life, and work are transformed by mutual responsibility under Christ.



SERVANT HEART IN WORK
Work done in the Lord's strength, with integrity and generosity, serves others and glorifies God.



UNITY IN LOVE
Walk in humility, gentleness, patience, and love, preserving the unity of the Spirit in peace.



WALK IN THE SPIRIT
Be filled with the Spirit, giving thanks always and discerning God's will.



ARMOR OF GOD



TRUTH
Belt



RIGHTEOUSNESS
Breastplate



READINESS OF THE GOSPEL
Shoes



FAITH
Shield



SALVATION
Helmet



THE WORD OF GOD
Sword



PERSEVERING PRAYER
All Times



CATHOLIC CONNECTION

Ephesians illuminates baptism, ecclesial unity, ordained ministry, sacramental marriage, and the Church as Christ's body and bride.



REFLECT

Does my conduct visibly match the identity I have received in Christ?



PASSAGE:
Ephesians 1–6



CHAPTERS:
6



THEME:
One Body in Christ



LIVE IN A MANNER WORTHY OF THE CALLING YOU HAVE RECEIVED.

— EPHESIANS 4:1



PHILIPPIANS

JOY, HUMILITY & LIFE IN CHRIST



OVERVIEW

Written from imprisonment, Philippians reveals joy rooted not in comfort but in participation in Christ and partnership in the Gospel.



SETTING

Paul writes to a beloved Church that has supported his mission financially and personally.



BOOK MOVEMENT

Chapter 1: Gospel partnership and courage.

Chapter 2: Christ's humility and faithful service.

Chapter 3: Knowing Christ above all gain.

Chapter 4: Unity, prayer, contentment, and generosity.



TO LIVE IS CHRIST

Whether through life or death, Paul's purpose is that Christ be magnified.



WORK OUT YOUR SALVATION

Believers actively cooperate in obedient discipleship because God is at work within them.

Philippians 2:12–13

THE CHRIST HYMN

Christ empties Himself, taking the form of God, but does not cling to equality with God.

Philippians 2:6



He takes the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

Philippians 2:7



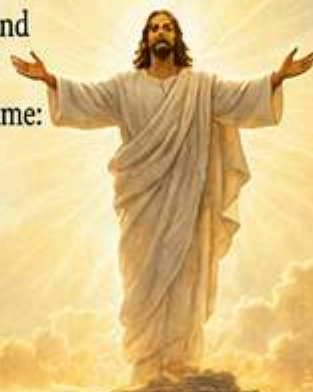
He humbles Himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Philippians 2:8



Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name: Jesus Christ is Lord!

Philippians 2:9–11



REFLECT

Is my joy dependent on favorable circumstances or on belonging to Christ?



TIMOTHY & EPAPHRODITUS

Two servants embody genuine concern, sacrifice, courage, and Gospel partnership.

Philippians 2:19–30



KNOWING CHRIST

Paul counts status and achievement as loss compared with knowing Christ and sharing His resurrection life.

Philippians 3:7–11



PRESSING FORWARD

Christian maturity refuses complacency and continues toward the heavenly calling.

Philippians 3:12–14



REJOICE & PRAY

Anxiety is met with prayer, thanksgiving, disciplined thought, and trust in God's peace.

Philippians 4:4–7



CONTENTMENT

Paul can endure abundance or need through Christ who strengthens him.

Philippians 4:11–13



PASSAGE:

Philippians 1–4



CHAPTERS:

4



THEME:

Joy Rooted in Christ

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS. — PHILIPPIANS 4:4

COLOSSIANS

THE SUPREMACY & SUFFICIENCY OF CHRIST

OVERVIEW —

Colossians proclaims that Jesus is supreme over creation, the Church, spiritual powers, and every competing philosophy.

SETTING —

Paul writes to believers facing teachings that mix religious regulations, ascetic practices, visions, and fascination with spiritual beings.

THE CHRIST HYMN —

Christ is the image of the invisible God, firstborn of creation, creator and sustainer of all things, head of the Church, and firstborn from the dead.

RECONCILIATION —

Through Christ's blood on the cross, God reconciles all things and presents believers holy.

FULLNESS IN CHRIST —

The fullness of deity dwells bodily in Jesus; believers do not need hidden spiritual additions beyond Him.

BAPTISMAL UNION —

Buried and raised with Christ in baptism, believers receive new life and freedom from hostile powers.

SHADOW & SUBSTANCE —

Food rules, festivals, asceticism, and visionary claims cannot replace Christ, the true substance.

SEEK WHAT IS ABOVE —

Put to death immorality, greed, anger, slander, and lying.

PUT ON THE NEW SELF —

Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, love, peace, gratitude, and God's Word.

CHRISTIAN HOUSEHOLDS —

Relationships are reordered under the Lordship of Christ and responsibility toward one another.

PRAYER & MISSION —

Persevere in prayer and speak with wisdom and grace toward outsiders.

REFLECT —

What influence or practice am I treating as though Christ were not enough?

PASSAGE:

Colossians 1–4

CHAPTERS:

4

THEME:

Christ Is All and in All.

IN HIM ALL THINGS HOLD TOGETHER.

— COLOSSIANS 1:17



2 THESSALONIANS

PERSEVERANCE, DISCERNMENT & STEADY WORK



OVERVIEW — Paul strengthens persecuted believers and corrects confusion that the day of the Lord has already arrived.



1 ENDURANCE IN SUFFERING
The Thessalonians' growing faith and steadfast love show that hardship has not defeated their discipleship. 1:3–4



2 GOD'S JUST JUDGMENT
Christ will reveal truth, confront evil, vindicate the oppressed, and be glorified in His people. 1:5–10



3 DO NOT BE DECEIVED
Claims, prophecies, or letters supposedly from Paul must not panic the Church. 2:1–2



4 THE REBELLION & LAWLESS ONE
Paul describes a mysterious rebellion and figure of lawlessness whose power is temporary and defeated by Christ. 2:3–12



5 STAND FIRM
Believers must hold to the apostolic traditions taught by word and letter. 2:13–17



6 PRAYER FOR MISSION
Paul asks that the Word of the Lord spread rapidly and that the community be delivered from evil. 3:1–5



7 THE PROBLEM OF IDLENESS
Some have stopped working and become disruptive, possibly using end-times expectation as an excuse. 3:6–11



8 STEADY CHRISTIAN WORK
Do not grow weary in doing good; responsible labor and quiet conduct belong to faithful waiting. 3:12–13



9 PASTORAL DISCIPLINE
Correction aims to restore a brother or sister, not treat them as an enemy. 3:14–15

CLARIFICATION CHART

WHAT PAUL TEACHES

- Christ will return at the proper time; God is just and faithful.
- Perseverance, faith, and love in the midst of persecution.
- Hold fast to apostolic teaching by word and letter.
- Prayer and mission: the Word spreads; God delivers from evil.
- Work with quiet responsibility; do good to all.
- Encourage, correct, and restore in love.

WHAT PAUL DOES NOT TEACH

- Date-setting or speculation about the day or hour.
- Panic or fear that the day of the Lord has already come.
- Abandonment of work or normal responsibilities.
- Fascination with speculation about the future.
- Contempt for ordinary work or everyday duties.



KEY FOCUS: CHRIST'S RETURN

Paul does not remove mystery, but he removes confusion and fear, calling the Church to faithful endurance and holy living. 2:8



WHY IT MATTERS

- Suffering is not a sign of God's abandonment.
- God's timing is perfect; our holiness matters.
- Truth protects the Church from deception.
- Work and good deeds are part of discipleship.
- Love restores and builds up the community.



REFLECT

Does my interest in prophecy produce steady holiness or restless speculation?



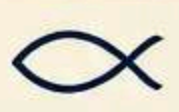
PASSAGE:
2 Thessalonians 1–3



CHAPTERS:
3



THEME:
Stand Firm and Do Good.



DO NOT GROW WEARY IN DOING GOOD.

— 2 THESSALONIANS 3:13

1 THESSALONIANS

FAITHFUL WORK, HOLY LIVING & CHRIST'S RETURN



OVERVIEW — Paul encourages a young persecuted Church to remain holy, loving, hopeful, and ready for Christ's return.



SETTING — Thessalonica receives the Gospel amid opposition; Paul is forced to leave and writes after Timothy brings encouraging news.

BOOK MOVEMENT

1

Chapter 1:
A model Church
of faith, love,
and hope.

2

Chapter 2:
Paul's sincere
ministry.

3

Chapter 3:
Timothy's report
and Paul's
prayer.

4

Chapter 4:
Holiness, love,
work, and
resurrection hope.

5

Chapter 5:
Watchfulness
and community
life.



FAITH, LOVE & HOPE — Genuine conversion turns from idols, serves the living God, and waits for His Son.



AUTHENTIC MINISTRY — Paul rejects flattery, greed, manipulation, and self-glory, serving with parental tenderness and integrity.



SANCTIFICATION — God's will includes sexual holiness, respect for the body, and self-controlled love.



QUIET FAITHFUL WORK — Believers should love one another, live responsibly, work honestly, and bear credible witness.



HOPE FOR THE DEAD — Christians grieve with hope because Jesus died and rose; those who have died in Christ will share His victory.



"We do not want you to be uninformed about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope."

— 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13



THE DAY OF THE LORD — Its timing is unknown; readiness means sober faith, love, hope, and daily obedience.



LIFE TOGETHER — Respect leaders, encourage the discouraged, support the weak, pray, give thanks, discern prophecy, and hold fast to what is good.



CATHOLIC HOPE — Christian expectation is bodily resurrection and communion with Christ, not escape from responsibility.



REFLECT — If Christ came today, what ordinary act of faithfulness would I want Him to find me doing?



PASSAGE:
1 Thessalonians 1–5



CHAPTERS:
5



THEME:
Hope That
Produces Holiness



WRITTEN BY:
St. Paul the Apostle
(c. A.D. 50–51)

WE SHALL ALWAYS BE WITH THE LORD. — 1 THESSALONIANS 4:17

1 TIMOTHY

SOUND TEACHING, WORSHIP & PASTORAL LEADERSHIP



OVERVIEW —
Paul instructs Timothy on protecting sound doctrine, ordering Church life, and leading with mature character.



SETTING —
Timothy serves in Ephesus, where speculation, distorted teaching, and unhealthy leadership threaten the community.



BOOK MOVEMENT —

- Chapter 1: Guard the Gospel.
- Chapter 2: Prayer and ordered worship.
- Chapter 3: Qualifications for bishops and deacons.
- Chapter 4: A faithful minister.
- Chapter 5: Care for groups within the Church.
- Chapter 6: Wealth, contentment, and perseverance.



THE GOAL OF TEACHING —
Christian instruction should produce love from a pure heart, a good conscience, and sincere faith.



REFLECT —
Is my influence built primarily on gifting, or on tested Christian character?



PRAYER FOR ALL —
The Church intercedes for rulers and all people because God desires salvation and Christ is the one mediator.



BISHOPS & DEACONS —
Leadership requires proven character, self-control, fidelity, hospitality, teaching ability, family responsibility, and good reputation.



THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD —
The household of God is the pillar and foundation of truth.



TIMOTHY'S EXAMPLE —
Youth is no excuse for immaturity; he must model speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity.



CARE WITHIN THE CHURCH —
Honor older believers, support genuine widows, correct impartially, and value faithful presbyters.



MONEY & CONTENTMENT —
Love of money brings ruin; godliness with contentment is great gain; the wealthy should be generous.



CATHOLIC CONNECTION —
The letter reflects structured ordained ministry, public prayer, care for widows, laying on of hands, and preservation of apostolic teaching.



PASSAGE:
1 Timothy 1–6



CHAPTERS:
6



THEME:
Guard the Deposit of Faith.



LET NO ONE DESPISE YOUR YOUTH, BUT SET AN EXAMPLE FOR THE BELIEVERS. — 1 TIMOTHY 4:12



1 OVERVIEW



Facing death, Paul urges Timothy to preserve the Gospel, endure suffering, and pass apostolic teaching to reliable people.

2 SETTING



Paul writes from imprisonment, abandoned by many and expecting martyrdom.

3 STIR INTO FLAME



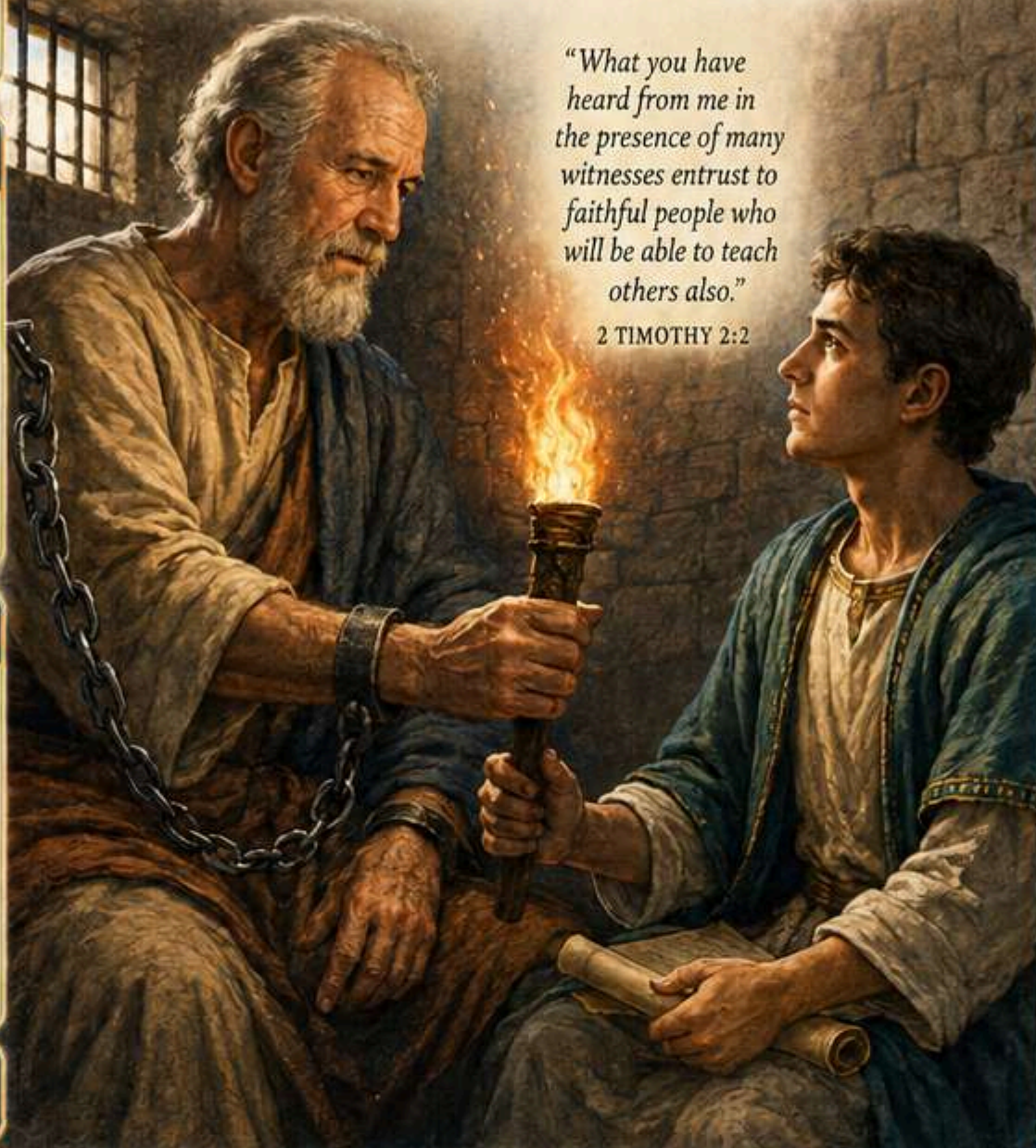
Timothy must rekindle God's gift received through the laying on of Paul's hands and reject cowardice.

2 TIMOTHY 1:6-7

4 GUARD THE GOOD DEPOSIT

2 TIMOTHY

COURAGE, ENDURANCE & FAITHFUL TRANSMISSION



"What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others also."

2 TIMOTHY 2:2

5 PASS IT ON



What Timothy heard from Paul must be entrusted to faithful people capable of teaching others.

2 TIMOTHY 2:2

6 THREE IMAGES OF ENDURANCE



SOLDIER

Avoid distracting entanglements.

2 TIMOTHY 2:3-4



ATHLETE

Compete according to the rules.

2 TIMOTHY 2:5



FARMER

Labor patiently before receiving the harvest.

2 TIMOTHY 2:6

7 RIGHTLY HANDLE THE WORD



Avoid empty disputes; teach truth carefully; correct opponents with gentleness.

2 TIMOTHY 2:14-25

8 DIFFICULT TIMES



- Self-love
- Greed
- Pride
- Pleasure
- Counterfeit religion
- Resistance to truth

Require discernment.

2 TIMOTHY 3:1-9, 13

9 SCRIPTURE



Sacred writings make believers wise for salvation and equip God's servant for every good work.

2 TIMOTHY 3:15-17

10 PREACH THE WORD



Proclaim in season and out of season with patience, correction, encouragement, and sound teaching.

2 TIMOTHY 4:2

11 PAUL'S FINAL TESTIMONY



I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith, and now the crown of righteousness awaits me.

2 TIMOTHY 4:6-8

12 CATHOLIC CONNECTION



Apostolic Succession



Laying on of Hands



Sacred Scripture



Faithful Tradition



Ordained Ministry



Martyrdom

In Christ, the Gospel is handed on through the Church across the ages—through the apostles and their successors, in Scripture and Tradition, by the Holy Spirit, for the salvation of the world.

2 TIMOTHY 1:5 • 2 TIMOTHY 2:2

REFLECT



What truth and mission must I faithfully receive, embody, and pass to the next generation?



PASSAGE:
2 Timothy 1-4



CHAPTERS:
4



THEME:
Keep the Faith and Pass It On.



I HAVE FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED THE RACE, I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH. — 2 TIMOTHY 4:7





TITUS



SOUND DOCTRINE, GOOD WORKS & HEALTHY CHURCHES



OVERVIEW —

Paul instructs Titus to organize churches in Crete so sound teaching produces credible Christian character and good works.



SETTING —

Crete's cultural reputation for dishonesty and disorder creates a difficult pastoral environment.

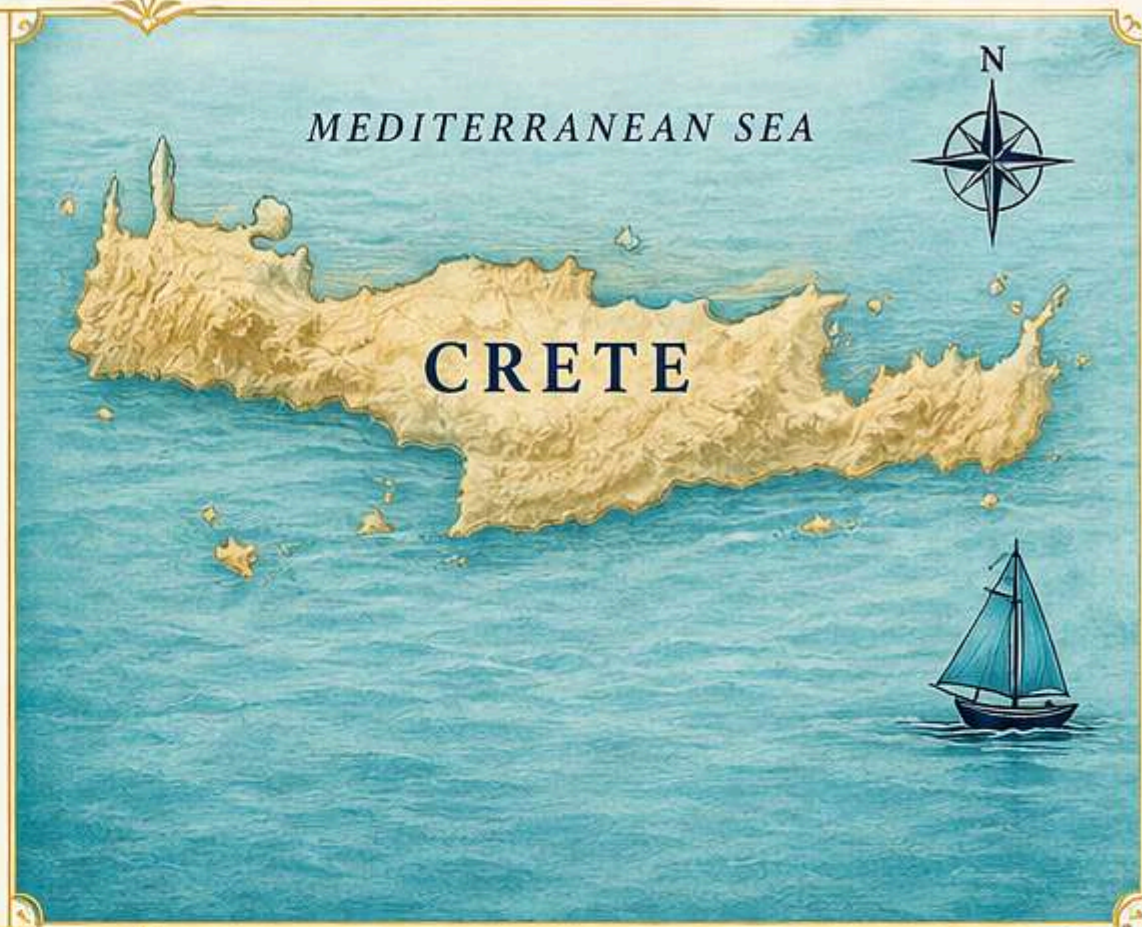


BOOK MOVEMENT —

Chapter 1: Appoint qualified presbyters and confront false teaching

Chapter 2: Teach every group to embody sound doctrine.

Chapter 3: Live gently, remember grace, and devote yourselves to good works.



APPOINT LEADERS —

Titus must establish presbyters in every town; bishops must be blameless, faithful, disciplined, hospitable, and attached to trustworthy teaching.



SILENCE DECEPTION —

False teachers disrupt households for shameful gain and must be corrected firmly.



TEACH EVERY GENERATION —

Older men, older women, younger women, younger men, and workers each receive practical instruction.



GRACE TRAINS US —

Saving grace not only forgives; it trains believers to reject ungodliness and live upright, self-controlled lives.



CHRIST'S SAVING WORK —

Jesus gives Himself to redeem and purify a people zealous for good deeds.



GENTLENESS IN PUBLIC LIFE —

Christians should respect authority, avoid quarrels, speak evil of no one, and show courtesy to all.



SAVED BY MERCY —

Renewal comes through the washing of rebirth and the Holy Spirit, not through self-earned righteousness.



AVOID FRUITLESS CONTROVERSY —

Speculation and divisive disputes distract from mission and good works.



CATHOLIC CONNECTION —

Titus reflects apostolic appointment of local ministers, baptismal regeneration, moral formation, and doctrine embodied in community life.



REFLECT —

Does the way I live make Christian teaching more believable to others?



PASSAGE:

Titus 1–3



CHAPTERS:

3



THEME:

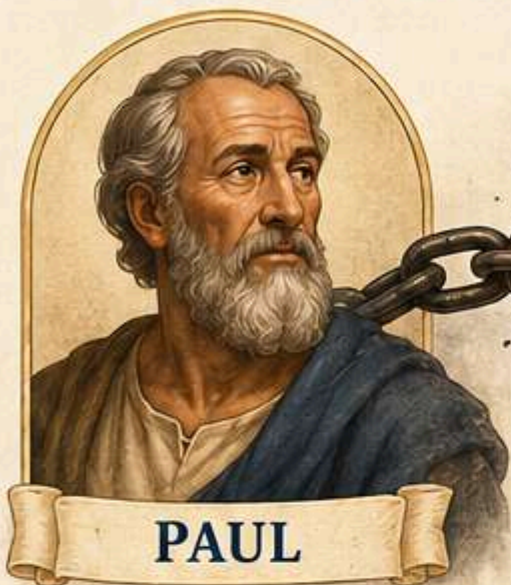
Grace Produces Good Works

HE SAVED US THROUGH THE WASHING OF REBIRTH
AND RENEWAL BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. — TITUS 3:5



PHILEMON

FORGIVENESS, BROTHERHOOD & GOSPEL RECONCILIATION



PAUL

*Imprisoned apostle
and mediator.*



PHILEMON

*Christian household leader
and friend.*



ONESIMUS

*Formerly useless to Philemon,
now Paul's spiritual son
in Christ.*



OVERVIEW — Paul's shortest letter applies the Gospel to a damaged social relationship, asking Philemon to receive Onesimus no longer merely as a slave but as a beloved brother.



THE PEOPLE — Paul: imprisoned apostle and mediator. Philemon: Christian household leader and friend. Onesimus: formerly useless to Philemon, now Paul's spiritual son in Christ.



THE SITUATION — Onesimus has become separated from Philemon under difficult circumstances and encounters Paul during imprisonment.



PAUL'S APPEAL — Rather than command, Paul appeals on the basis of love, asking for a freely chosen Christian response.



A NEW IDENTITY — Onesimus is transformed from social inferior into a beloved brother in the Lord.



RECEIVE HIM AS ME — Paul identifies himself with Onesimus and asks Philemon to welcome him as he would welcome the apostle.



CHARGE IT TO MY ACCOUNT — Paul offers to repay any debt, embodying costly mediation and reconciliation.



FREEDOM & PROVIDENCE — Paul carefully leaves room for Philemon's voluntary goodness and sees possible providence within the separation.



THE GOSPEL & SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS — The letter plants a radical principle: baptismal brotherhood challenges relationships built on possession, status, and domination.

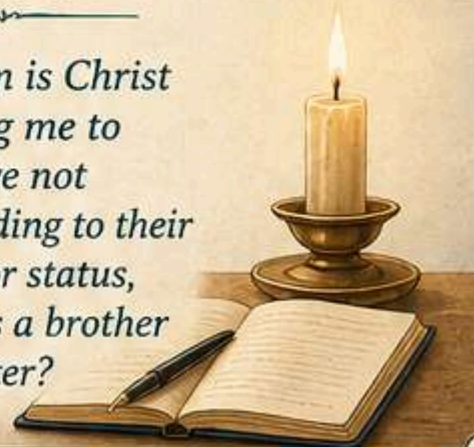
CONNECTION TO CHRIST —

Paul standing between Onesimus and debt reflects Christ's greater mediation, where He bears our debt and brings us into God's family.



REFLECT —

Whom is Christ asking me to receive not according to their past or status, but as a brother or sister?



PASSAGE:
Philemon 1–25



CHAPTERS:
1



THEME:
Receive One
Another in Christ.

RECEIVE HIM AS YOU WOULD RECEIVE ME. — PHILEMON 17

HEBREWS

JESUS THE PERFECT HIGH PRIEST & NEW COVENANT

OLD COVENANT SHADOWS

True, but temporary—
pointing forward
to Christ.



FULFILLMENT IN CHRIST

Definitive, perfect,
and eternal—our
High Priest.



OVERVIEW — Hebrews urges weary Christians to persevere by revealing the absolute greatness of Jesus and His once-for-all priestly sacrifice.



BOOK MOVEMENT — 1:1–4:13: The Son greater than angels and Moses. 4:14–10:39: Jesus the eternal High Priest and perfect sacrifice. 11:1–12:29: Faith, endurance, and the heavenly race. Chapter 13: Worship, community, and faithful living.



GOD HAS SPOKEN IN HIS SON — Jesus is the radiance of God's glory, exact imprint of His being, creator, sustainer, and enthroned Son.



GREATER THAN ANGELS & MOSES — Angels are servants; Moses is faithful within God's house; Christ is the Son over the house.



OUR HIGH PRIEST — Jesus shares human weakness without sin and opens confident access to the throne of grace.



MELCHIZEDEK — Christ's priesthood is eternal and superior, grounded in divine life rather than Levitical ancestry.



OLD & NEW COVENANT — The former sanctuary, sacrifices, and priesthood are true shadows that prepare for Christ's definitive work.



ONCE FOR ALL — Jesus enters the heavenly sanctuary with His own blood, accomplishing redemption that repeated animal sacrifices could not complete.



THE EUCHARISTIC LIFE — Believers approach God through Christ's priestly self-offering and live in thankful worship, fidelity, charity, and communion.



HALL OF FAITH — Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Moses, Rahab, martyrs, and many others endure because they trust God's promise.



RUN WITH ENDURANCE — Fix your eyes on Jesus, accept discipline, pursue holiness, and do not abandon the assembly.



CATHOLIC CONNECTION — Hebrews illuminates priesthood, sacrifice, covenant, heavenly liturgy, communion of saints, perseverance, and the sacrificial depth of Christian worship.



REFLECT — *What burden must I lay aside
to run faithfully with my eyes fixed on Jesus?*



PASSAGE:
Hebrews 1–13



CHAPTERS:
13



THEME:
Jesus Is Better.

LET US APPROACH THE THRONE OF GRACE WITH CONFIDENCE.

— HEBREWS 4:16



1 PETER



LIVING HOPE, HOLINESS & FAITHFUL WITNESS



OVERVIEW —
Peter encourages Christians facing social pressure and suffering to live with hope, holiness, unity, and courageous witness.



AUDIENCE —
Believers scattered across Asia Minor are described as exiles chosen and sanctified by God.



A LIVING HOPE —
Through Christ's resurrection, believers receive new birth, an imperishable inheritance, and joy amid testing.



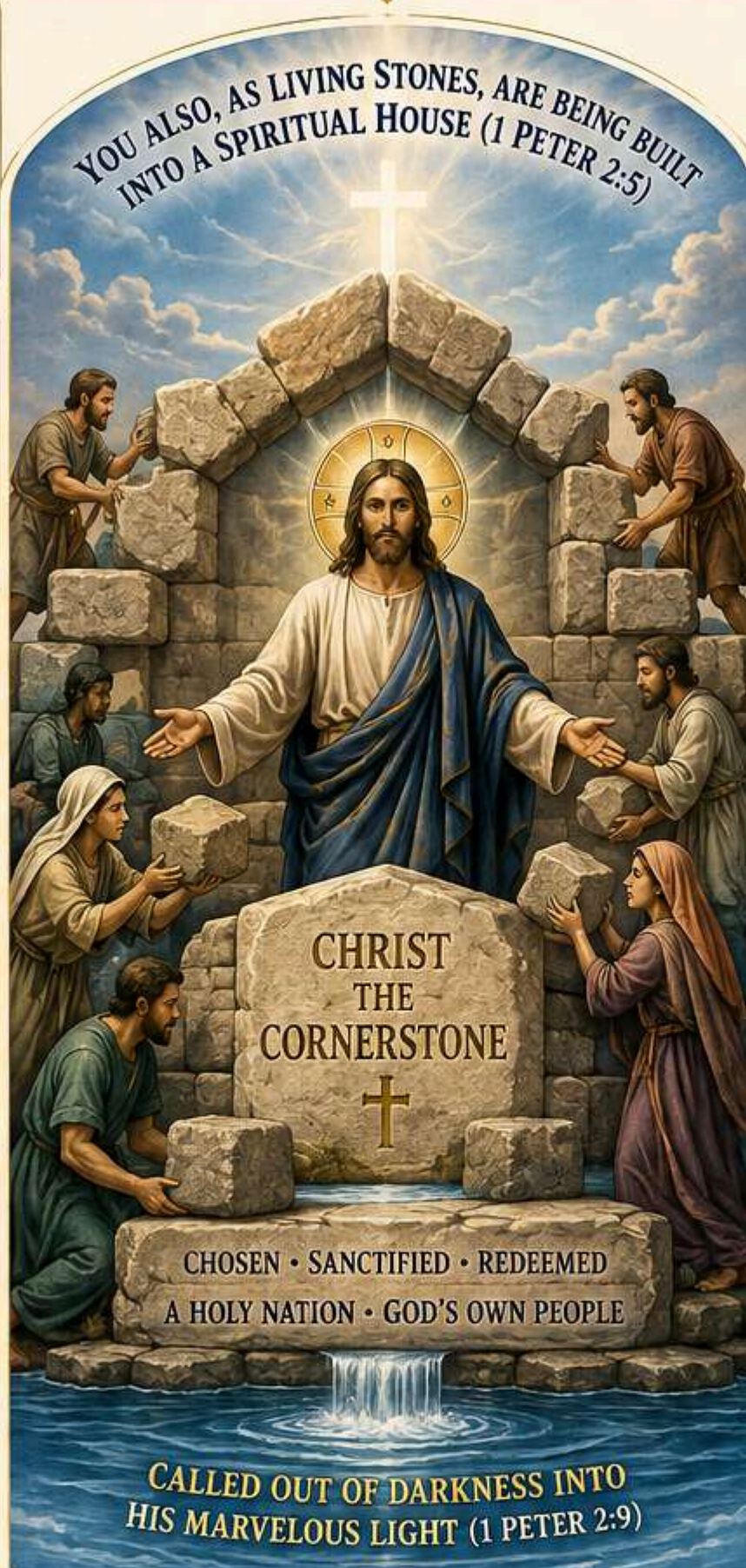
BE HOLY —
God's children must leave former desires and reflect the holiness of the One who called them.



A PRIESTLY PEOPLE —
Christians are living stones, a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, and God's own people who proclaim His mighty acts.



BAPTISM SAVES —
Peter connects the flood, Noah's deliverance, Christ's resurrection, and baptism's saving appeal to God.



REFLECT —
Does my response to hostility make Christian hope more credible?



CHRIST'S SUFFERING —
Jesus suffers innocently, bears sins, leaves an example, and entrusts Himself to the just Judge.



WITNESS IN SOCIETY —
Honorable conduct, respectful explanation of hope, and refusal to repay evil with evil make the Gospel visible.



GIFTS & SERVICE —
Hospitality, speech, and service should steward God's grace for His glory.



SHEPHERD THE FLOCK —
Presbyters lead willingly and humbly, while the community resists pride and the devil.



SUFFERING & GLORY —
Trials refine faith; sharing Christ's sufferings leads toward joy when His glory is revealed.



CATHOLIC CONNECTION —
Peter speaks as apostle and shepherd while teaching baptism, common priesthood, ordained presbyters, ecclesial unity, and persevering holiness.



PASSAGE:
1 Peter 1–5



CHAPTERS:
5



THEME:
Hope That Endures the Fire



ALWAYS BE READY TO GIVE AN EXPLANATION FOR YOUR HOPE. — 1 PETER 3:15





JAMES



WISDOM, WORKS & A LIVING FAITH



OVERVIEW — James teaches that genuine faith becomes visible through endurance, obedience, mercy, disciplined speech, justice, prayer, and works of love.



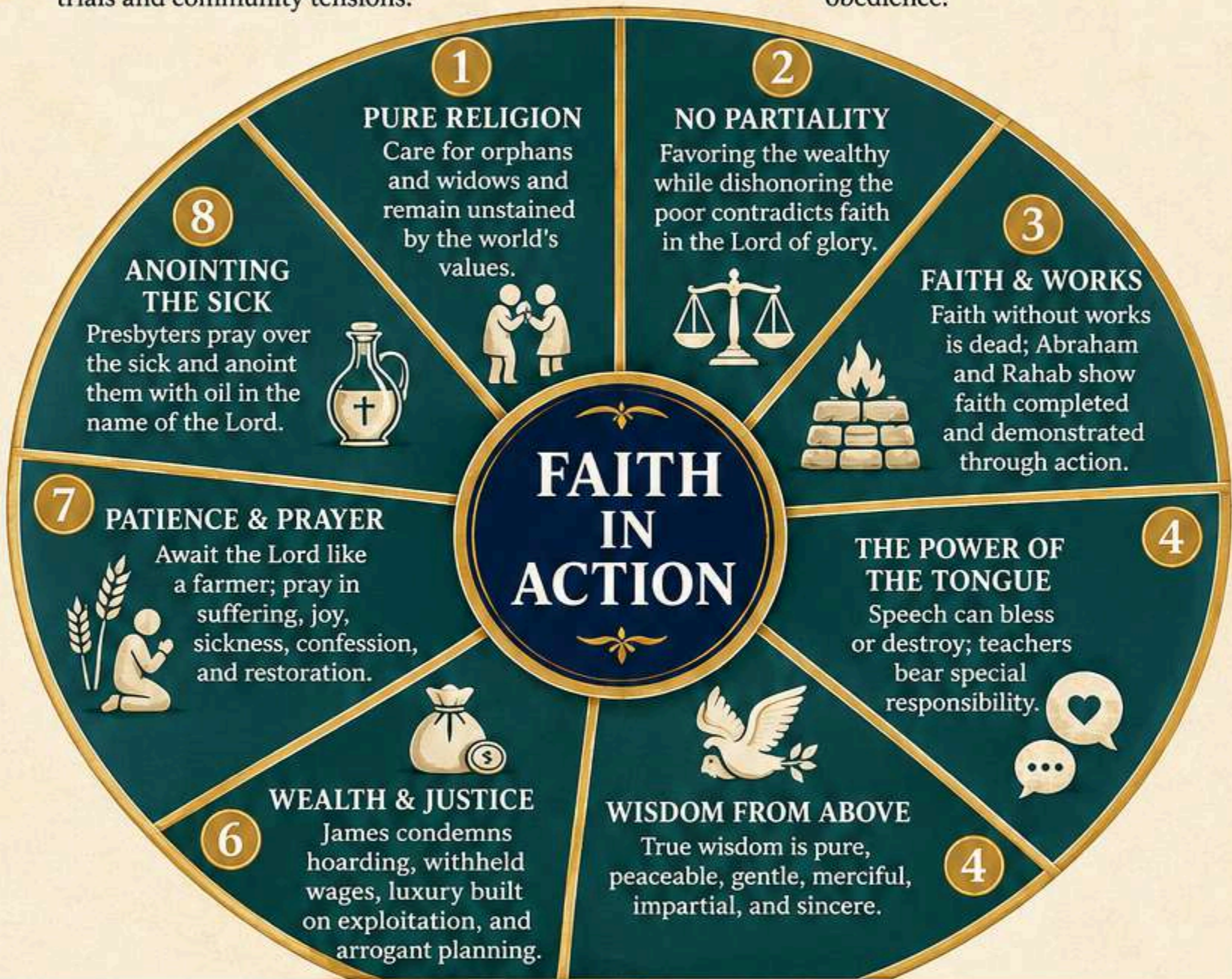
AUDIENCE — Addressed to “the twelve tribes in the dispersion,” the letter speaks to Jewish Christians facing trials and community tensions.



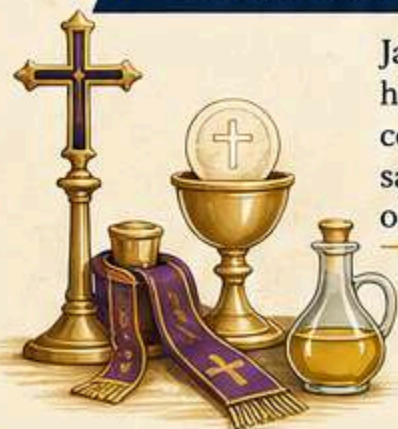
JOY IN TRIALS — Testing produces perseverance; believers should ask God for wisdom without divided loyalty.



HEARERS & DOERS — Receiving the Word requires action; self-deception occurs when hearing never becomes obedience.



CATHOLIC CONNECTION



James joins faith and works, highlights care for the vulnerable, confession, intercession, and sacramental anointing of the sick.

“Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows.”
— James 1:27

REFLECT



What concrete work of mercy should my faith produce this week?



PASSAGE:
James 1–5



CHAPTERS:
5



THEME:
Faith Made
Complete in Action



BE DOERS OF THE WORD, AND NOT HEARERS ONLY. — JAMES 1:22



2 PETER



2 PETER 2:9

GROWTH, TRUTH & THE DAY OF THE LORD

OVERVIEW — Peter urges believers to grow in holiness, remain anchored in apostolic truth, reject false teachers, and await Christ's return.

A LADDER OF GROWTH



These qualities build on one another and keep us from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Pet 1:5–8)



EYEWITNESSES OF MAJESTY

Peter recalls the Transfiguration, when Jesus was clothed in glory and Moses and Elijah appeared. This apostolic eyewitness confirms Christ's divine majesty and our hope. (2 Pet 1:16–18)



THE PROPHETIC WORD

Scripture does not come from private interpretation. No prophecy was ever produced by human will, but men spoke from God as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. (2 Pet 1:20–21)



BIBLICAL WARNINGS

God judged the fallen angels, the world of the flood, Sodom and Gomorrah, Balaam, and others. These examples show that God judges evil and rescues the faithful. (2 Pet 2)



SCOFFERS

In the last days some will scoff, saying, "Where is the promise of His coming?" They mistake God's patience for failure. (2 Pet 3:3–4)



GOD'S PATIENCE

The Lord does not delay because He is slow, but because He desires all to come to repentance. His promise is sure. (2 Pet 3:9)



NEW HEAVENS & NEW EARTH

We look forward to new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. This is our blessed hope. (2 Pet 3:13)



LIVE READY

Since all these things are to be dissolved, live holy and godly lives—be at peace, be stable, and grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord. (2 Pet 3:11, 14, 18)

FALSE TEACHERS

They mask themselves as servants of righteousness but deny its power. Beware of those who:



Are driven by greed



Indulge in sensuality



Are arrogant and self-willed



Make up fabricated stories



Show contempt for authority



Deny the Master who bought them—thus bringing swift destruction. (2 Pet 2:1–3)

CATHOLIC CONNECTION



Apostolic eyewitness: Peter witnesses Christ's glory and confirms it for the Church. (2 Pet 1:16–18)



Inspiration of Scripture: The Holy Spirit moves the prophets; Scripture is authoritative. (2 Pet 1:20–21)



Interpretive responsibility: No private invention; the Church guards and interprets the Word faithfully.



Cooperation with grace: We work diligently with God's grace to grow in holiness. (2 Pet 1:5–11)



Judgment is real: God judges evil and rescues the faithful. He is just and merciful.



New creation: Our hope is a renewed heavens and earth where God dwells with His people. (2 Pet 3:13)

MAKE YOUR CALLING FIRM



Grace does not produce passivity. Believers are to give every effort to supplement their faith with virtue, knowledge, and perseverance. In this way our calling and election will be confirmed. (2 Pet 1:10–11)

Diligence today guards us from falling tomorrow.



REFLECT

Is my knowledge of prophecy producing deeper virtue and stability?

Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be diligent to be found by Him without spot or blemish, and at peace. (2 Pet 3:14)



PASSAGE:
2 Peter 1–3



CHAPTERS:
3



THEME:
Grow in Grace and Truth



GROW IN THE GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. — 2 PETER 3:18





1 JOHN



ETERNAL LIFE, LOVE & ASSURANCE IN CHRIST

OVERVIEW — First John strengthens believers against false teaching by giving tests of authentic Christian life: right belief about Jesus, obedient conduct, and sacrificial love.



THE WORD OF LIFE

The apostles proclaim what they heard, saw, and touched concerning the incarnate Son.



WALK IN THE LIGHT

Fellowship with God requires honest confession, cleansing through Christ, and rejection of hidden sin.



JESUS OUR ADVOCATE

Christ is the righteous advocate and atoning sacrifice for sins.



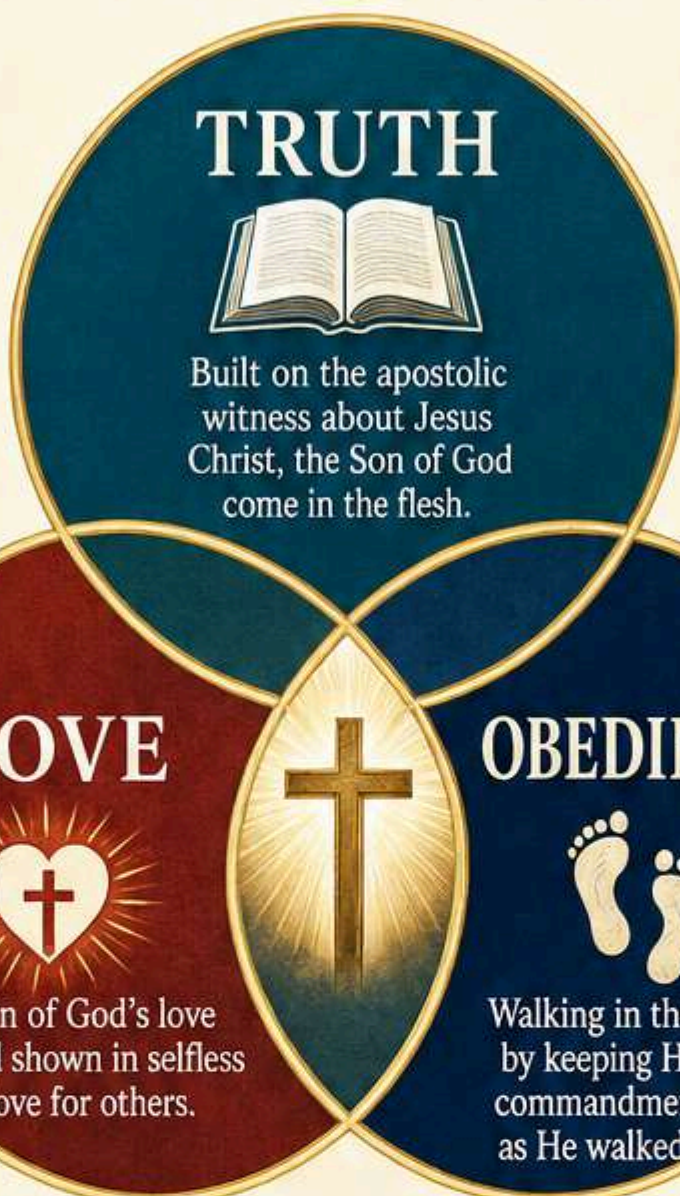
OBEDIENCE

Knowing God is demonstrated by keeping His commandments and walking as Jesus walked.



THE NEW-OLD COMMANDMENT

Love for brothers and sisters reveals light; hatred reveals darkness.



TRUTH



Built on the apostolic witness about Jesus Christ, the Son of God come in the flesh.

LOVE



Born of God's love and shown in selfless love for others.

OBEDIENCE



Walking in the light by keeping His commandments as He walked



DO NOT LOVE THE WORLD

Disordered desire, possessiveness, and pride oppose the Father's will.



ANTICHRISTS & DISCERNMENT

Denying that Jesus is the Christ and refusing His true incarnation exposes false teaching.

CHILDREN OF GOD

Divine adoption creates hope, purification, and a life that resists settled sin.



LOVE IN DEED

Christ lays down His life; believers must love through concrete action, especially toward those in need.



TEST THE SPIRITS

True confession affirms Jesus Christ come in the flesh and remains faithful to apostolic proclamation.



PERFECT LOVE CASTS OUT FEAR

Assurance grows as God's love matures through communion, truth, and obedience.



PRAYER & ETERNAL LIFE

Believers can pray confidently according to God's will and know they possess life in the Son.



REFLECT — *Are truth, obedience, and practical love growing together in my life?*



PASSAGE:
1 John 1–5



CHAPTERS:
5



THEME:
God Is Light
and God Is Love.

WE LOVE BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US. — 1 JOHN 4:19

2 JOHN

WALKING TOGETHER IN TRUTH & LOVE

OVERVIEW — The Elder writes to “the chosen Lady and her children,” urging a Christian community to unite love with fidelity to the truth about Christ.



1. THE CHOSEN LADY — The phrase likely addresses a local Church under a familial image, though it may also include an individual Christian woman and her household.



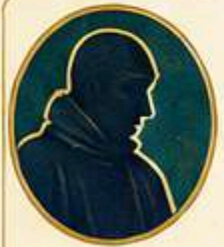
2. TRUTH ABIDES — Apostolic truth is not temporary opinion; it remains with believers and shapes their communion.



3. THE COMMANDMENT OF LOVE — Christian love is not new sentiment but faithful walking according to God’s commandments.



4. WALKING — Truth and love become a shared way of life rather than isolated ideas.



5. THE DECEIVERS — Many deny that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh, threatening the heart of the Gospel.



A HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH
ROOTED IN CHRIST



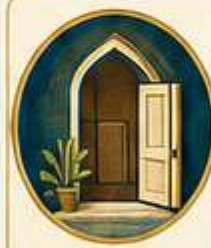
REFLECT —
*Do I confuse love
with approval, or truth
with harshness?*



6. WATCH YOURSELVES — Believers must guard what has been received so they do not lose the fruit of faithful labor.



7. THE TEACHING OF CHRIST — Progress that moves beyond Christ’s true teaching is not spiritual maturity but departure.



8. HOSPITALITY WITH DISCERNMENT — Christian welcome must not provide support or legitimacy to missionaries who actively spread false teaching.



9. FACE TO FACE — The Elder hopes for personal communion rather than relying only on written communication, so joy may be complete.



10. CATHOLIC CONNECTION — Truth, love, ecclesial identity, apostolic boundaries, discernment, and embodied communion belong together.



PASSAGE:
2 John 1–13



CHAPTERS:
1



THEME:
Love Never
Abandons Truth.



LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER, WALKING ACCORDING
TO HIS COMMANDMENTS. — 2 JOHN 5–6

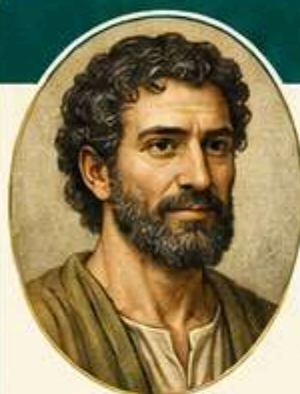


3 JOHN

HOSPITALITY, AUTHORITY & FAITHFUL PARTNERSHIP



OVERVIEW — The Elder commends Gaius for supporting faithful missionaries, confronts Diotrephes' abusive leadership, and recommends Demetrius.



GAIUS

Beloved, spiritually faithful, and hospitable. He welcomes traveling Christian workers even when they are strangers.



WALKING IN THE TRUTH — The Elder's greatest joy is hearing that his spiritual children live according to the Gospel.



MISSIONAL HOSPITALITY — Supporting faithful workers makes ordinary believers fellow workers for the truth.



AUTHORITY & ACCOUNTABILITY — Christian leadership is never self-created power. It remains accountable to apostolic truth and the good of the Church.



DIOTREPHE

He loves preeminence, rejects apostolic authority, spreads malicious accusations, refuses hospitality, and expels those who welcome others.



ABUSIVE LEADERSHIP — Desire for control can disguise itself as protection of the community while resisting accountability and mission.



His behavior opposes the Gospel and wounds the unity and mission of the Church.



DEMETRIUS

He receives good testimony from everyone, from the truth itself, and from the Elder.



IMITATE GOOD, NOT EVIL — Conduct reveals spiritual allegiance; genuine knowledge of God produces goodness.



FACE-TO-FACE COMMUNION — Written instruction matters, but Christian fellowship seeks embodied presence, conversation, and peace.



CATHOLIC CONNECTION — Apostolic authority, missionary partnership, hospitality, accountability, personal witness, and ecclesial communion appear together in 3 John.



FACE-TO-FACE COMMUNION — Written instruction matters, but Christian fellowship seeks embodied presence, conversation, and peace. The Gospel is lived and celebrated together.



REFLECT —
Does my hospitality and generosity make me a fellow worker for the truth?



PASSAGE:
3 John 1–15



CHAPTERS:
1



THEME:
Support What Serves the Truth



WE OUGHT TO SUPPORT SUCH PEOPLE, SO THAT WE MAY BECOME FELLOW WORKERS FOR THE TRUTH. — 3 JOHN 8



JUDE



CONTEND FOR THE FAITH & REMAIN IN GOD'S LOVE



OVERVIEW — Jude urgently calls believers to defend the apostolic faith against corrupt teachers while remaining rooted in mercy, prayer, and hope.



THE SHARED SALVATION — Jude wants to write about salvation but must address a crisis threatening the community.



THE FAITH ONCE DELIVERED — Christian truth is a received apostolic deposit, not endlessly reinvented according to desire.



FALSE TEACHERS — They twist grace into immorality, reject authority, follow instinct, seek profit, create division, and lack the Spirit.



THREE OLD TESTAMENT WARNINGS — Unbelieving Israel after the Exodus; rebellious angels; Sodom and Gomorrah. Privilege does not remove accountability.



CAIN, BALAAM & KORAH — Hatred, greedy corruption, and rebellion against rightful authority become patterns of destruction.



VIVID IMAGES — Hidden reefs; shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds; fruitless trees; wild waves; wandering stars.



MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL — Jude presents Michael resisting the devil without arrogant speech, leaving judgment to the Lord.



ENOCH'S WARNING — God will expose ungodly deeds and defiant words.



THE APOSTLES FORETOLD — Scoffers driven by desire will appear and create divisions.



HOW TO REMAIN — Build yourselves up in the holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit; remain in God's love; await Christ's mercy.



MERCY WITH DISCERNMENT — Rescue the wavering and endangered while maintaining moral vigilance.



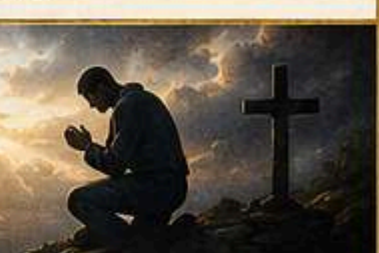
THE GREAT DOXOLOGY — God is able to keep you from falling and present you blameless before the glory of His presence with great joy.



CATHOLIC CONNECTION — Jude joins apostolic Tradition, moral vigilance, angels, spiritual conflict, mercy, perseverance, and authoritative Church teaching.



REFLECT — *Can I defend the faith firmly without losing humility, mercy, or personal holiness?*



PASSAGE:
Jude 1–25



CHAPTERS:
1



THEME:
Contend, Pray,
Remain, Show Mercy.

TO THE ONE WHO IS ABLE TO KEEP YOU FROM FALLING—
BE GLORY, MAJESTY, POWER, AND AUTHORITY. — JUDE 24–25



REVELATION

THE LAMB WINS & ALL THINGS ARE MADE NEW



OVERVIEW



Revelation unveils Jesus Christ as the victorious Lamb and strengthens persecuted churches to worship faithfully, resist compromise, and hope in new creation.

GENRE



Apocalypse uses symbolic visions; prophecy calls the Church to repentance and endurance; a circular letter addresses seven historical churches.

BOOK MOVEMENT



- Chapter 1: Vision of the risen Christ.
- Chapters 2–3: Seven churches.
- Chapters 4–5: Throne and Lamb.
- Chapters 6–16: Seals, trumpets, signs, and bowls.
- Chapters 17–20: Babylon falls and evil is judged.
- Chapters 21–22: New heaven, new earth, and New Jerusalem.

SEVEN CHURCHES



- Ephesus:** recover first love.
- Smyrna:** remain faithful in suffering.
- Pergamum:** reject compromise.
- Thyatira:** resist corruption.
- Sardis:** wake up.
- Philadelphia:** endure.
- Laodicea:** abandon lukewarm self-sufficiency.



THE CHURCH ENDURES



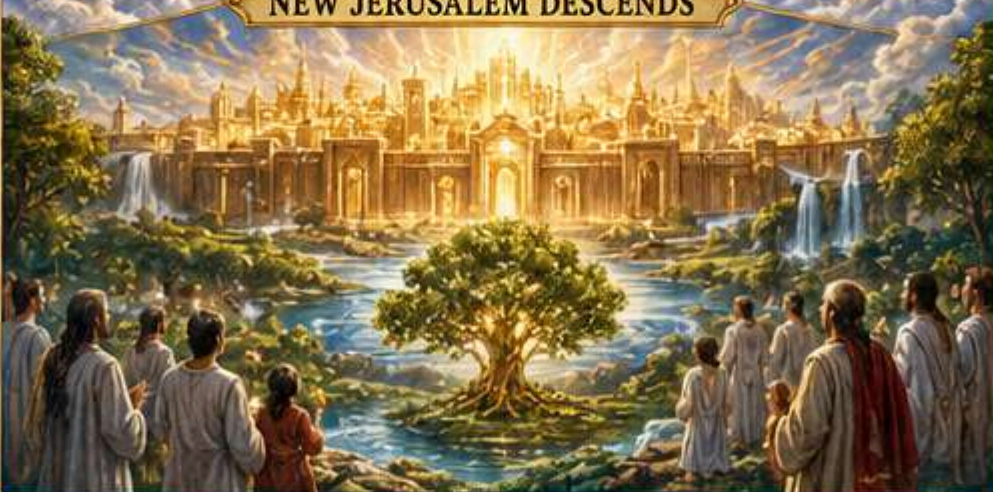
BABYLON FALLS



CHRIST'S VICTORY



NEW JERUSALEM DESCENDS



THE THRONE



History is not controlled by empire or chaos; God reigns and receives creation's worship.

THE LAMB & THE SCROLL



Jesus conquers through sacrificial death and resurrection and alone opens God's plan for history.

THE DRAGON & THE BEASTS



Satanic power works through persecution, deception, idolatrous empire, and economic coercion.

THE MARK & THE SEAL



Revelation contrasts allegiance to beastly power with belonging faithfully to God and the Lamb.

BABYLON



The seductive city represents arrogant, violent, exploitative systems opposed to God's kingdom.

CHRIST'S VICTORY



The Word of God judges evil; the martyrs are vindicated; death and Hades are defeated.

NEW JERUSALEM



God dwells with humanity; tears, death, mourning, and pain end; the river and tree of life heal the nations.

WORSHIP & LITURGY



Revelation is filled with altar, incense, hymns, elders, martyrs, white robes, sacred acclamations, and the wedding supper of the Lamb.

HOW TO READ



Read symbolically and canonically; center every vision on Christ; avoid date-setting; hear the call to worship, endurance, repentance, and hope.

CATHOLIC CONNECTION



The book illuminates heavenly liturgy, communion of saints, martyrdom, Mary and the people of God in the woman clothed with the sun, Eucharistic wedding imagery, judgment, and new creation.

REFLECT



What compromise must I resist so I can follow the Lamb faithfully?

PASSAGE: Revelation 1–22

CHAPTERS: 22

THEME: Jesus Christ Makes All Things New.



BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW.

— REVELATION 21:5



THE COMPLETE CATHOLIC BIBLE TIMELINE

From Creation to the New Jerusalem

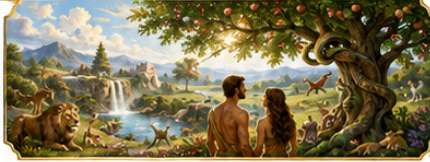


PROMISE

1

1. CREATION AND FALL

Genesis 1-3



COVENANT

2

2. PATRIARCHS

Genesis 12-50



KINGDOM

3

3. EXODUS AND COVENANT

Exodus-Deuteronomy



EXILE

4

4. PROMISED LAND

Joshua-Ruth



5

5. UNITED KINGDOM

Saul, David and Solomon



RESTORATION

6

6. DIVIDED KINGDOM

Israel and Judah



7

7. EXILE

The fall of Jerusalem and the promise of restoration



CHRIST

8

8. RETURN AND RESTORATION

Ezra-2 Maccabees



9

9. JESUS THE MESSIAH

The Gospels



CHURCH

10

10. BIRTH OF THE CHURCH

Acts and Pentecost



NEW CREATION

11

11. APOSTOLIC AGE

New Testament Letters



12

12. FULFILLMENT

Revelation and the New Jerusalem



ONE STORY • ONE GOD • ONE PLAN OF SALVATION

CATHOLIC EDITION • 73 BOOKS



FROM CREATION TO THE PROMISE

How the Old Testament prepares the way for the Messiah

1–2 CREATION, FALL AND PATRIARCHS

Genesis 1–50

God creates all things in goodness and entrusts humanity with a mission. Sin wounds communion, but it does not cancel God's plan. With Abraham a covenant begins: through his family, blessing will reach every nation.

3–4 EXODUS, COVENANT AND LAND

Exodus–Ruth

God hears Israel's cry, frees the people from Egypt and gives the Law. The wilderness teaches trust and dependence. Entering the promised land shows that God's gift calls for obedience, remembrance and faithfulness.

5–6 KINGDOM AND PROPHETS

1 Samuel–2 Kings

David receives the promise of an enduring kingdom. Solomon builds the Temple, but unfaithfulness divides the people. The prophets confront injustice and announce a righteous King, a faithful Servant and a new covenant.

7–8 EXILE AND RESTORATION

Prophets–2 Maccabees

The fall of Jerusalem appears to be final defeat. Yet God promises to gather the people, give them a new heart and restore his presence. The return from exile keeps alive the hope of the Messiah and complete deliverance.

READING KEY

The Old Testament is not a collection of disconnected stories. Promise, covenant, sacrifice, kingdom, Temple and prophecy form a progressive preparation that reaches its fulfillment in Jesus Christ.

“For all the promises of God find their Yes in him.” — 2 Corinthians 1:20

CHRIST AT THE CENTER OF HISTORY

From the Gospels to the apostolic mission

MOMENT	WHAT HAPPENS	MEANING
INCARNATION	The Son of God enters human history.	God fulfills his promises and draws near to his people.
MINISTRY	Jesus announces the Kingdom, teaches, heals and calls disciples.	The Kingdom becomes visible through mercy, truth and conversion.
CROSS	Christ freely gives his life in love.	The perfect sacrifice reconciles humanity with God.
RESURRECTION	Jesus conquers sin and death.	The new creation begins and an unshakable hope is born.
PENTECOST	The Holy Spirit descends upon the Church.	The mission opens to every people and language.
MISSION	The apostles preach the Gospel and form communities.	The Church lives by the Word, sacraments, communion and service.

THREE ESSENTIAL CONNECTIONS

Passover Lamb	The Exodus Passover points to Christ, who brings freedom through his self-offering.
Temple and presence	Jesus is the true Temple; through the Spirit, the Church becomes God's dwelling place.
Davidic Kingdom	Christ is the Son of David whose Kingdom will never end.

FROM THE CHURCH TO THE NEW CREATION

How to read, understand and apply the biblical timeline

THE END REVEALS THE MEANING OF THE WHOLE STORY

Revelation is not a calendar designed to create fear. It is a revelation of hope. Christ, the slain and risen Lamb, rules history. Evil is judged, the faithful are called to persevere, and creation reaches its goal: God dwells forever with his people.

1. LOCATE	Before reading a book, identify its stage: promise, kingdom, exile, Christ, Church or fulfillment.
2. CONNECT	Ask which covenant, character, symbol or prophecy connects this stage to Jesus Christ.
3. UNDERSTAND	Summarize what the text reveals about God, his people and the plan of salvation.
4. APPLY	Choose one truth to believe, one attitude to change and one concrete action to practice.
5. PRAY	Turn reading into conversation with God: give thanks, ask for light and respond in faith.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Where does this passage belong in the biblical story?
- What does it reveal about God's faithfulness?
- How does it prepare for, announce or reveal Jesus Christ?
- What concrete response does it ask of me today?

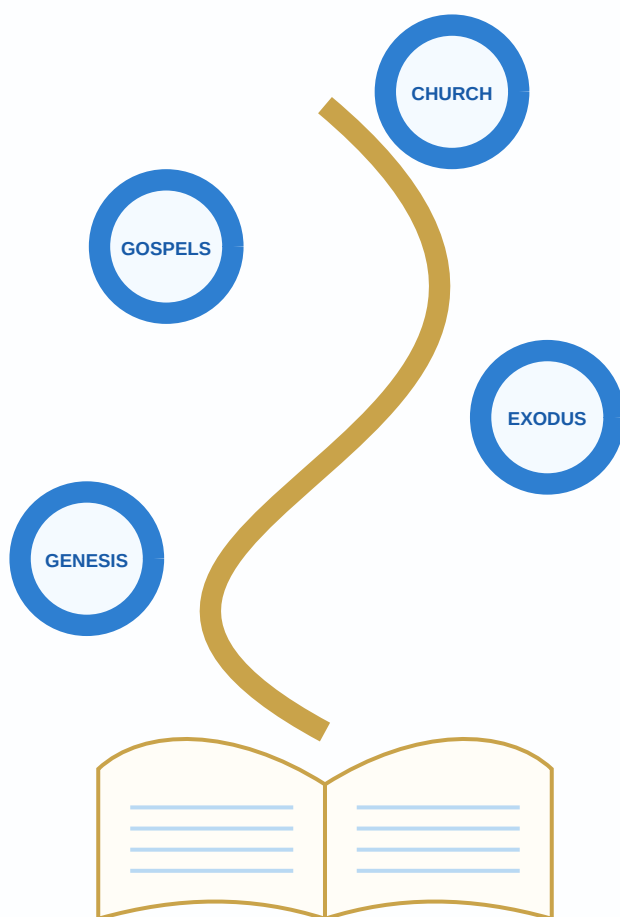
FINAL PRAYER

Lord, open my mind to understand the Scriptures. Help me discover your faithfulness from Creation to the New Jerusalem and recognize Jesus Christ as the center of the whole story. Let your Word transform my faith, my decisions and my life. Amen.



THE CATHOLIC BIBLE READING PATH

A 90-Day Journey Through All 73 Books



PREMIUM CATHOLIC BONUS

How to Use This 90-Day Journey

A simple rhythm for reading, understanding, and praying with Scripture.



READ

Follow the daily passage without rushing.



REFLECT

Notice the promise, person, and turning point.

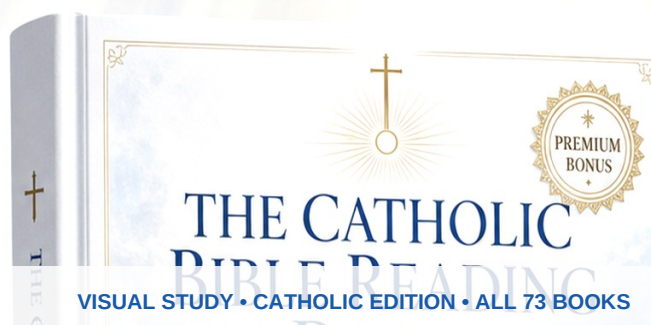


PRAY

Answer God in one honest sentence.

This path is designed for real life. Each day takes approximately 15 to 25 minutes and builds on the day before.

- Keep your Catholic Bible, this guide, and a notebook together.
- If you miss a day, continue without guilt; the goal is formation, not perfection.
- Use the weekly review to connect the books instead of treating them as isolated stories.



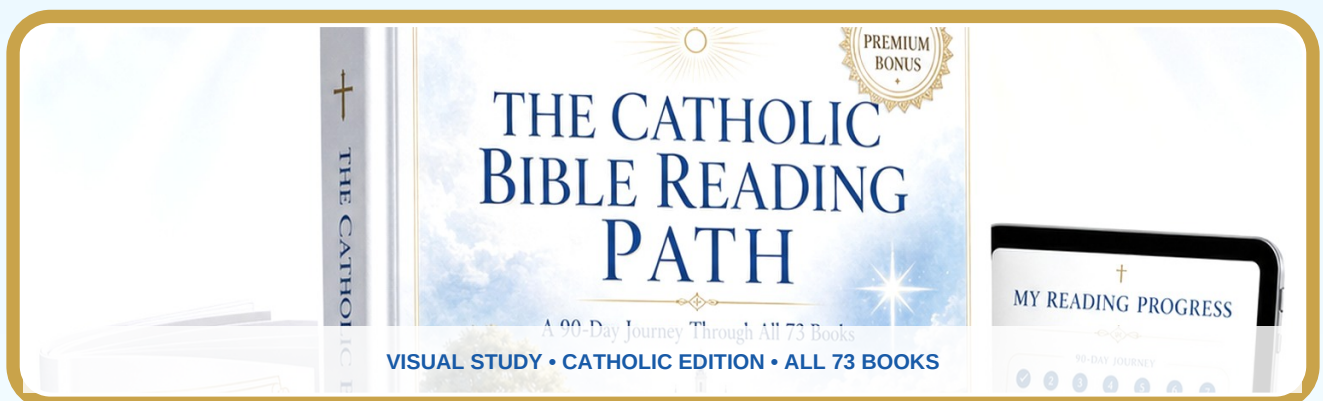
The One Story Behind All 73 Books



The Bible is a library of 73 inspired books, yet it tells one unified story: God creates, humanity falls, God forms a covenant people, Christ fulfills the promises, and the Church carries the Gospel to the world.

Beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures.

LUKE 24:27



Creation, Fall, and the First Promise

Genesis 1-11



CREATION

The world is received as gift.



FALL

Sin fractures communion.



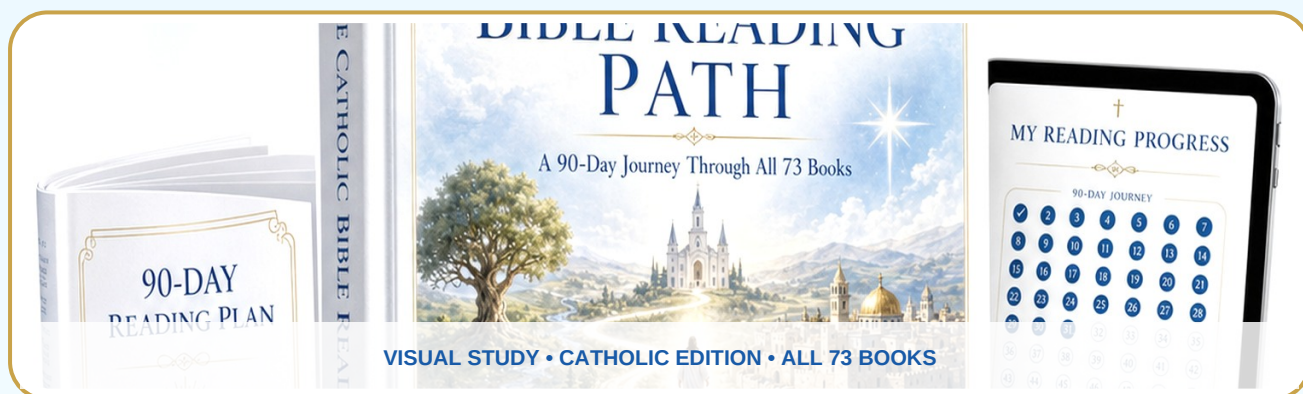
PROMISE

God begins the work of restoration.

- Read Genesis 1-3 slowly and mark every phrase about human dignity.
- Notice how Genesis 3:15 introduces the hope of victory over evil.
- Pray with gratitude for creation and ask where God desires to restore order in your life.

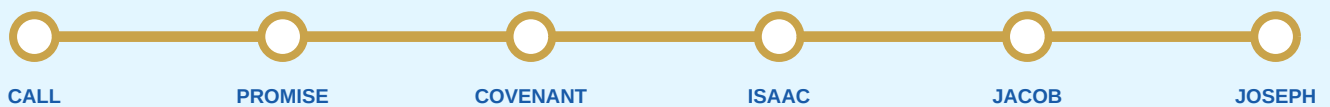
God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good.

GENESIS 1:31



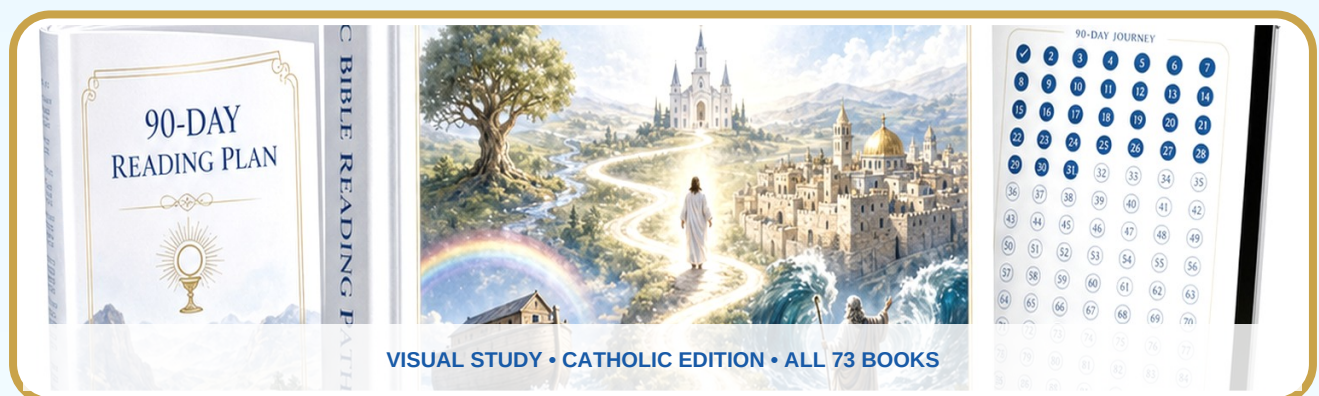
Abraham and the Covenant Family

Genesis 12-50



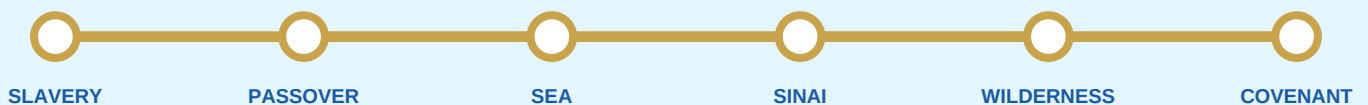
God answers human scattering by calling one family through whom all nations will be blessed.

- Track the three covenant promises: land, descendants, and blessing.
- Compare Abraham's trust with moments when fear distorts his choices.
- See Joseph's suffering become an instrument of providence and rescue.



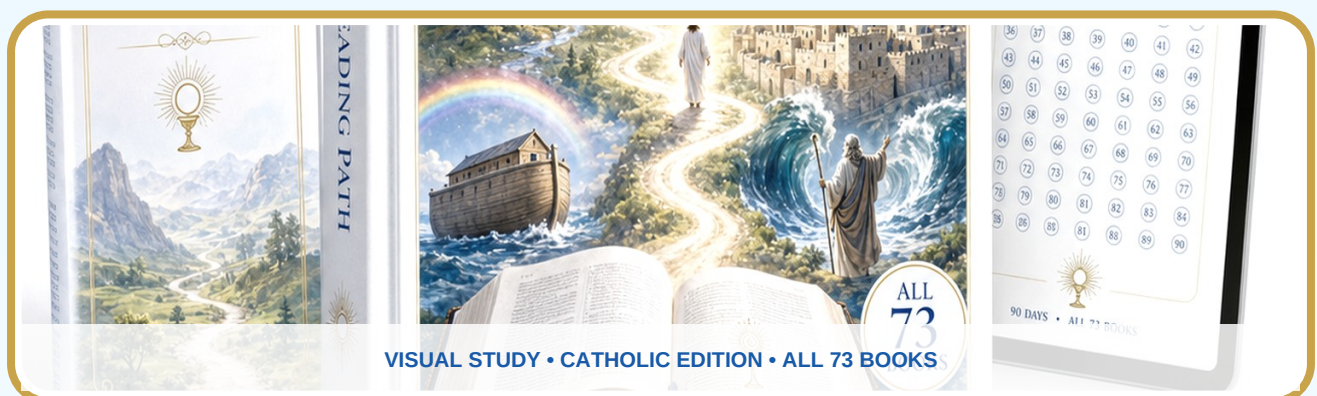
Exodus: Freedom for Worship

Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy



The Exodus is more than escape from oppression. God frees Israel so that His people may worship, become holy, and live in covenant.

- Connect the Passover lamb, deliverance through water, and covenant meal.
- Read the law as a gift that trains a redeemed people in holiness.
- Notice how the wilderness reveals both God's faithfulness and the human heart.



Entering the Promised Land

Joshua, Judges, Ruth



JOSHUA

Courage rooted in God's presence.



JUDGES

The cycle of sin and rescue.



RUTH

Covenant loyalty in ordinary life.

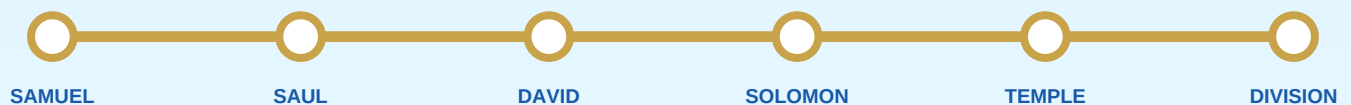
- Identify the repeated cycle: sin, oppression, cry, deliverance, peace.
- See Ruth's fidelity become part of the family line of David and Jesus.
- Ask where steady faithfulness matters more than dramatic action.



VISUAL STUDY • CATHOLIC EDITION • ALL 73 BOOKS

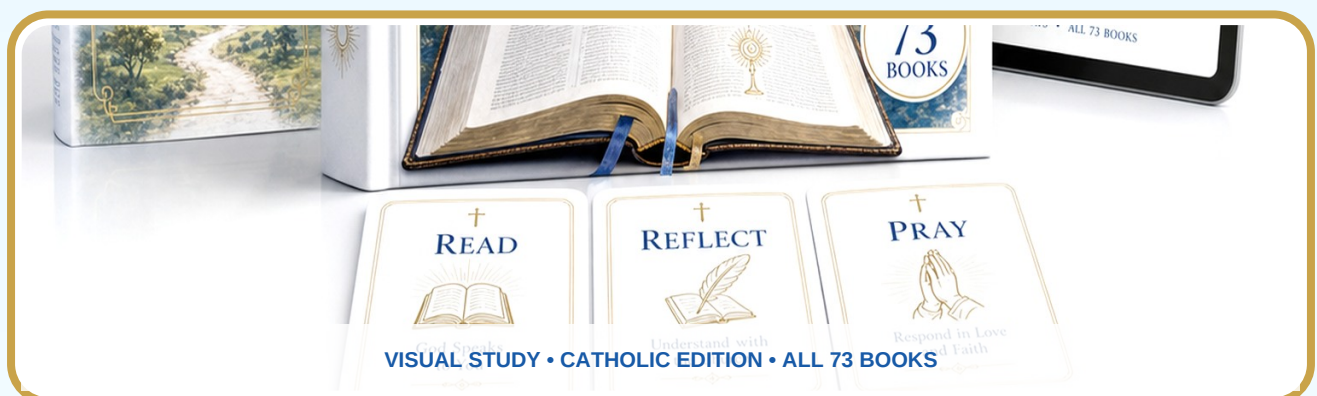
Kings, Temple, and a Divided Kingdom

Samuel, Kings, Chronicles



Israel's monarchy reveals the longing for a faithful king while also exposing the limits of human power.

- Contrast Saul's self-protection with David's repentance.
- Connect God's promise to David with the future Messiah.
- Notice how Solomon's wisdom and the Temple point beyond themselves.



The Prophets: Return to the Covenant



WARNING

Sin has real personal and social consequences.



HOPE

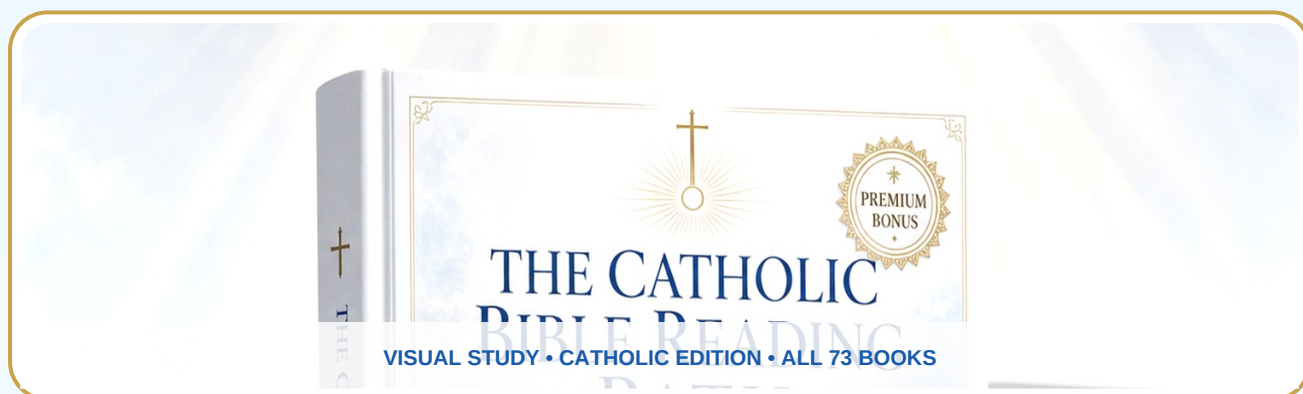
Judgment never cancels God's fidelity.



MESSIAH

A king, servant, shepherd, and savior will come.

- For each prophet, write the audience, central warning, and promise.
- Read prophetic symbols as invitations to conversion, not puzzles detached from history.
- Collect the passages that prepare for Christ and the New Covenant.



Wisdom for Daily Holiness

Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Wisdom, Sirach



MIND

Seek truth and understanding.



HEART

Bring every emotion to prayer.

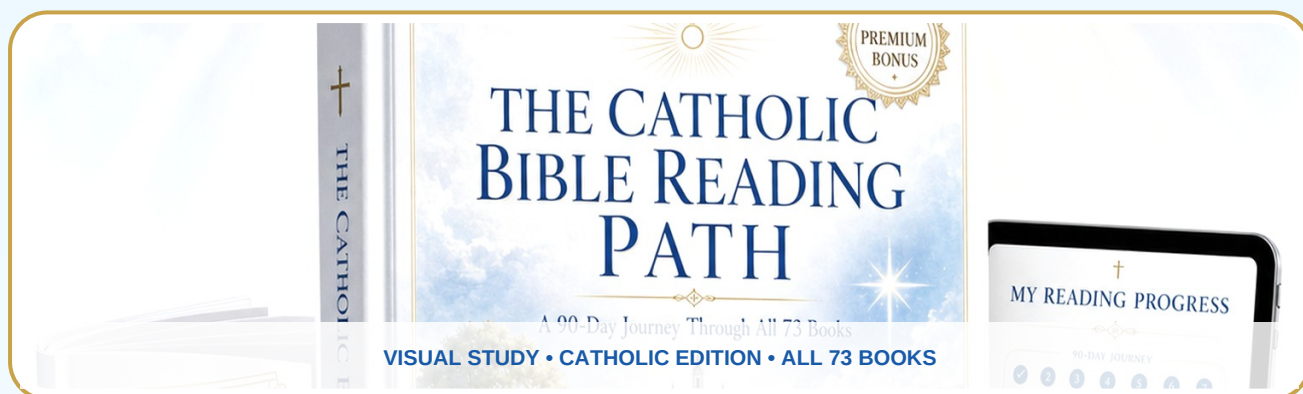


LIFE

Practice virtue in ordinary choices.

The wisdom books train believers to live faithfully when life is joyful, confusing, unjust, or painful.

- Pray one psalm aloud each day.
- Turn one proverb into a concrete action.
- Let Job and Ecclesiastes make room for mystery without surrendering faith.



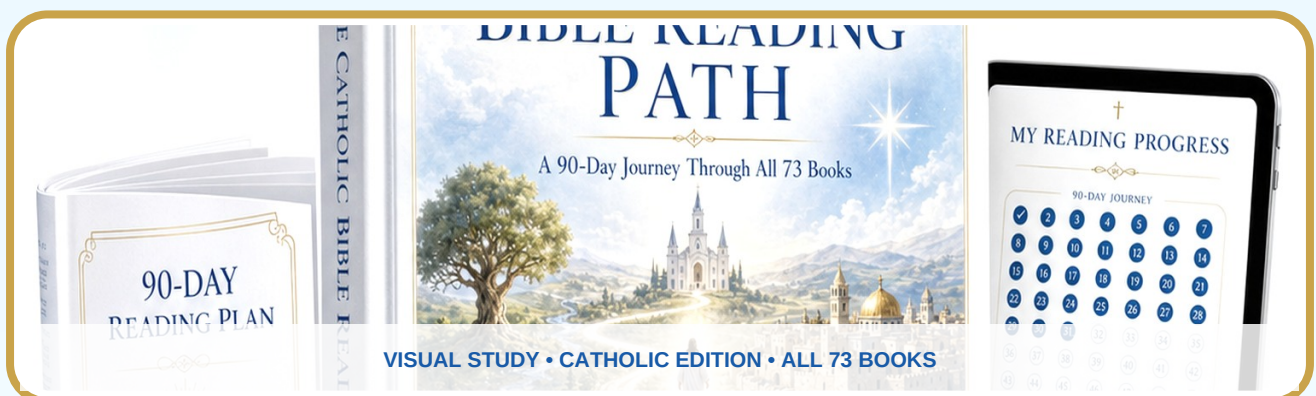
Courage in the Deuterocanonical Books

Tobit, Judith, Wisdom, Sirach, Baruch, 1-2 Maccabees



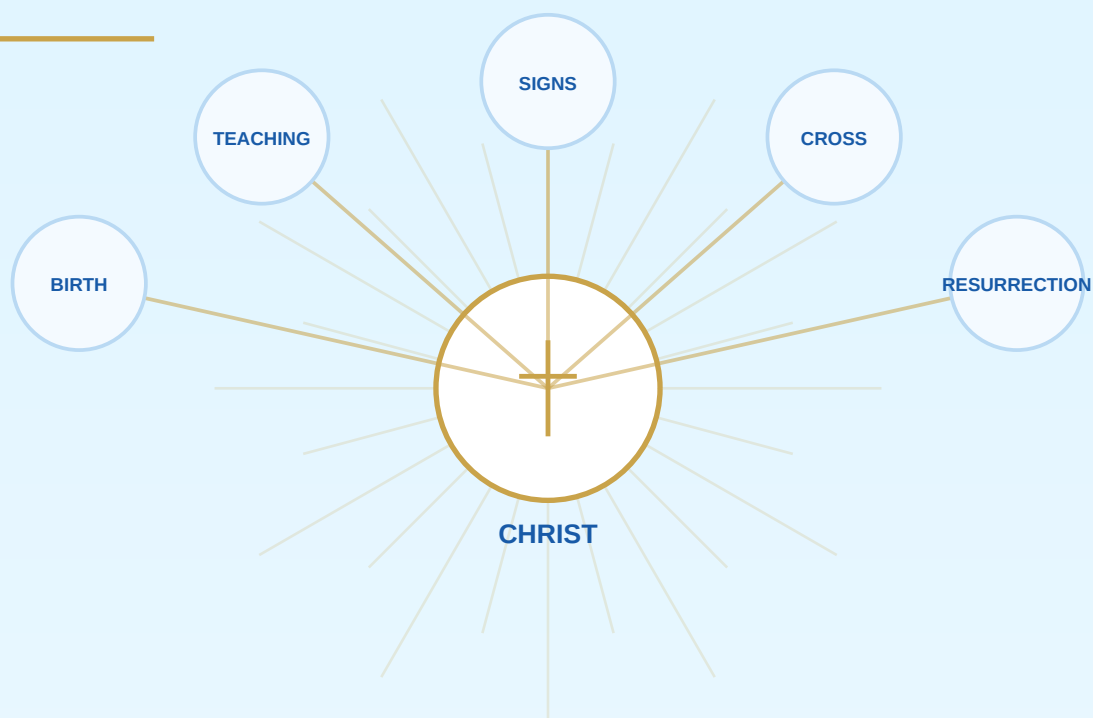
These books preserve essential Catholic witness to prayer, fidelity, resurrection hope, and courage under persecution.

- In Tobit, observe providence, family prayer, and works of mercy.
- In Judith and Maccabees, study courage without losing dependence on God.
- In Wisdom, identify themes that illuminate the righteous sufferer and eternal life.



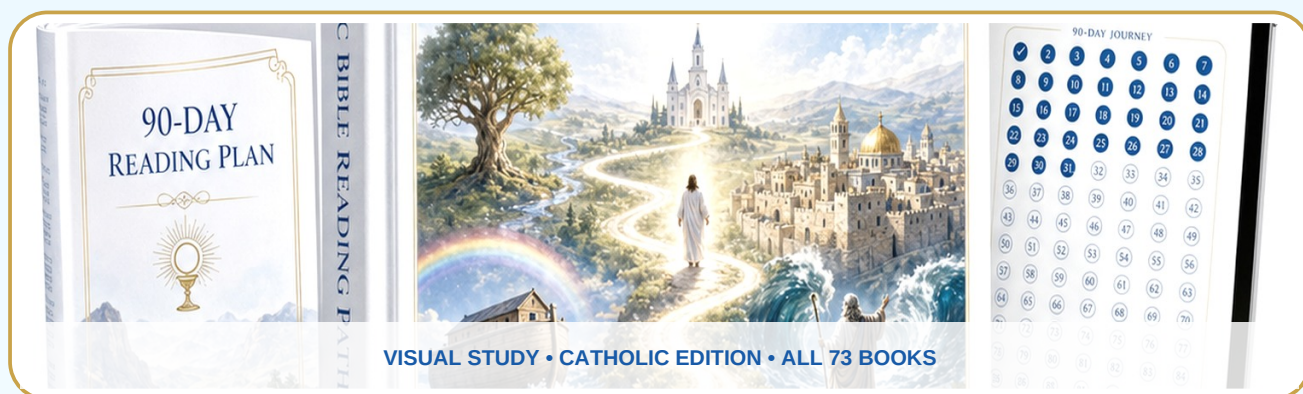
Jesus and the Kingdom of God

Matthew, Mark, Luke, John



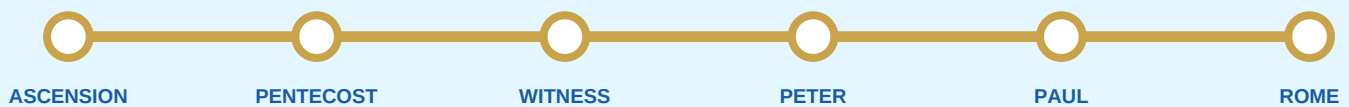
The Gospels are four inspired witnesses to one Lord. Read each for its distinctive emphasis while keeping the Paschal Mystery at the center.

- Mark what Jesus reveals about the Father.
- Notice who approaches Jesus and how He responds.
- Connect His words, signs, Cross, and Resurrection as one saving mission.



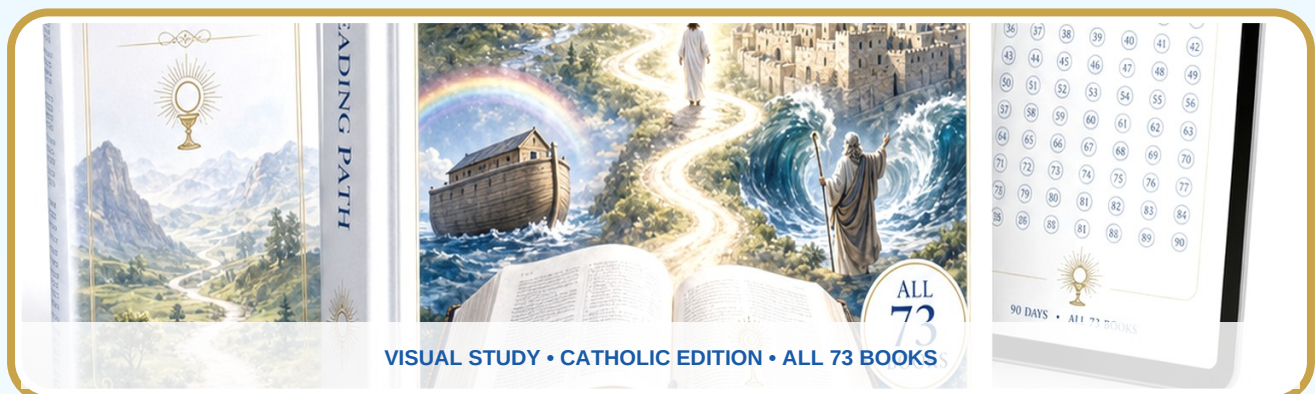
The Church Is Sent

Acts of the Apostles



Acts shows the risen Christ continuing His mission through the Holy Spirit and the visible, sacramental, missionary Church.

- Track the movement from Jerusalem to Judea, Samaria, and the nations.
- Notice prayer, teaching, fellowship, and the breaking of bread.
- Ask where the Spirit is inviting you from comfort into witness.



Life in Christ

The Letters of Paul



GRACE

Salvation is God's gift.



BODY

The Church is united in Christ.



MISSION

Faith becomes love in action.

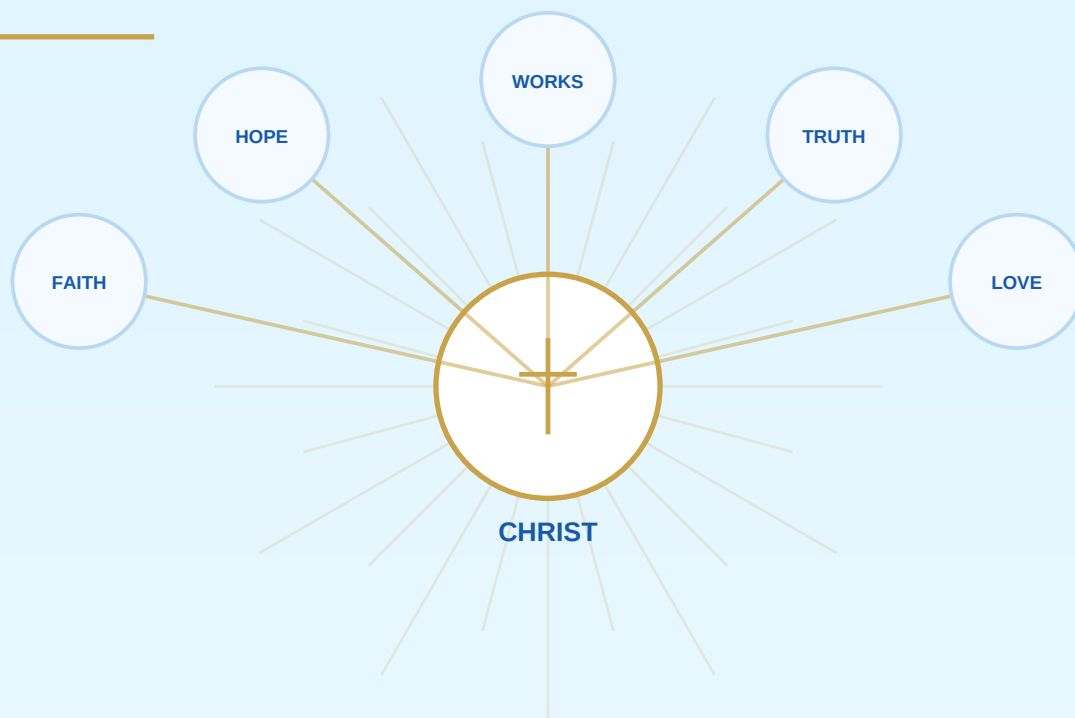
- Identify the pastoral situation behind each letter.
- Distinguish the Gospel foundation from the practical response it requires.
- Write one sentence beginning: Because I belong to Christ, today I will...



VISUAL STUDY • CATHOLIC EDITION • ALL 73 BOOKS

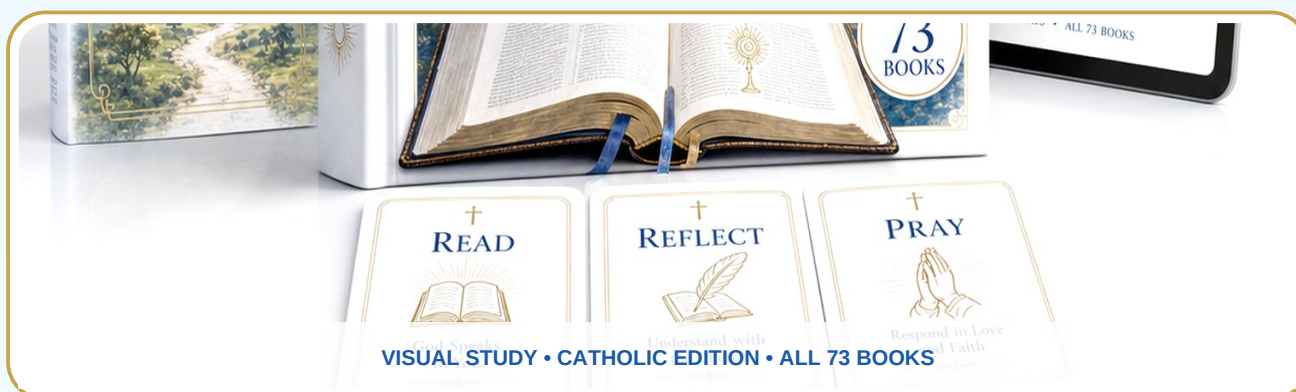
Perseverance, Truth, and Love

Hebrews and the Catholic Letters

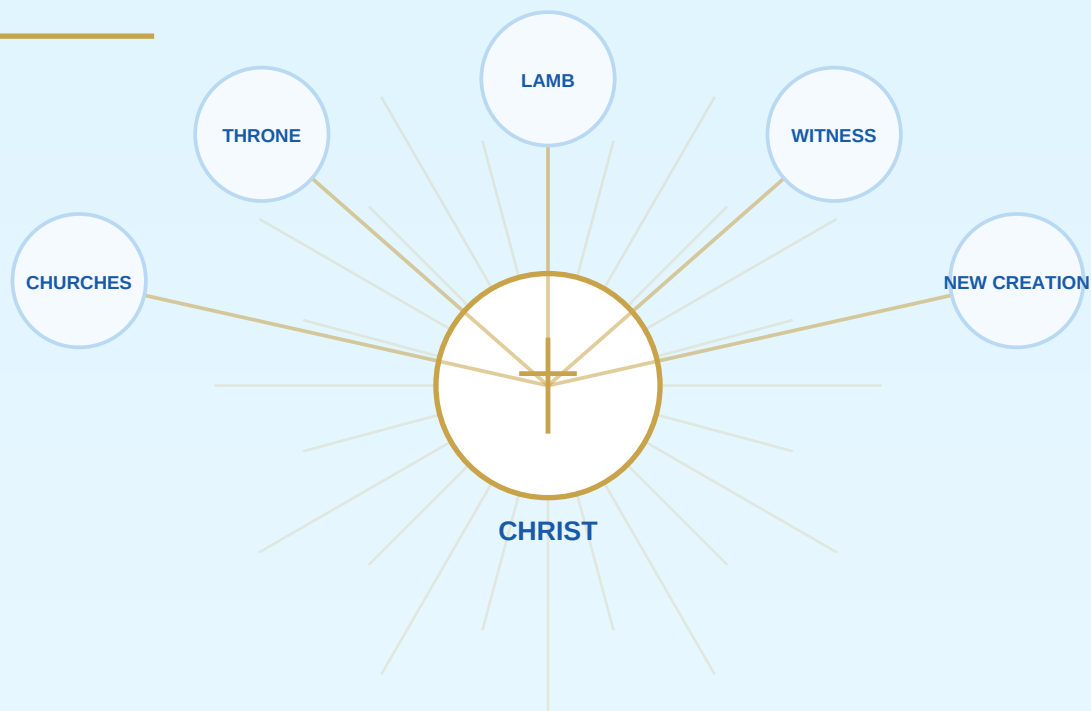


These writings strengthen believers facing pressure, confusion, division, and spiritual fatigue.

- Let Hebrews connect covenant, priesthood, sacrifice, and heavenly worship.
- Read James as a call to embodied faith.
- Receive Peter, John, and Jude as training in endurance and discernment.



Revelation: The Lamb Has Won

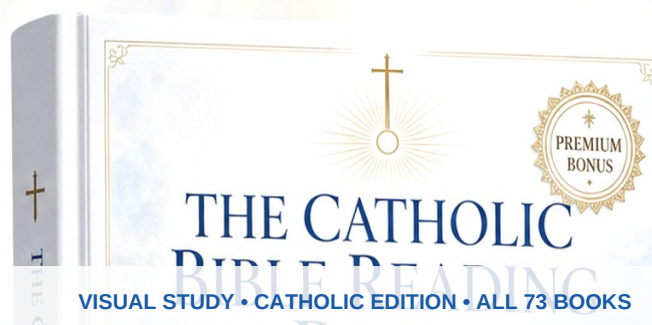


Revelation unveils reality from heaven's perspective. It is a book of worship, perseverance, judgment, and hope.

- Begin with the original churches and their need for faithful witness.
- Keep the Lamb, worship, and final renewal at the center.
- Resist speculative timelines that distract from holiness and hope.

Behold, I make all things new.

REVELATION 21:5



Connect What You Read



PERSON

Who acted faithfully or unfaithfully?



PROMISE

What did God reveal or pledge?



FULFILLMENT

How does this prepare for Christ and the Church?

YOUR NEXT STEP

☐

Write the week's central event in one sentence.

☐

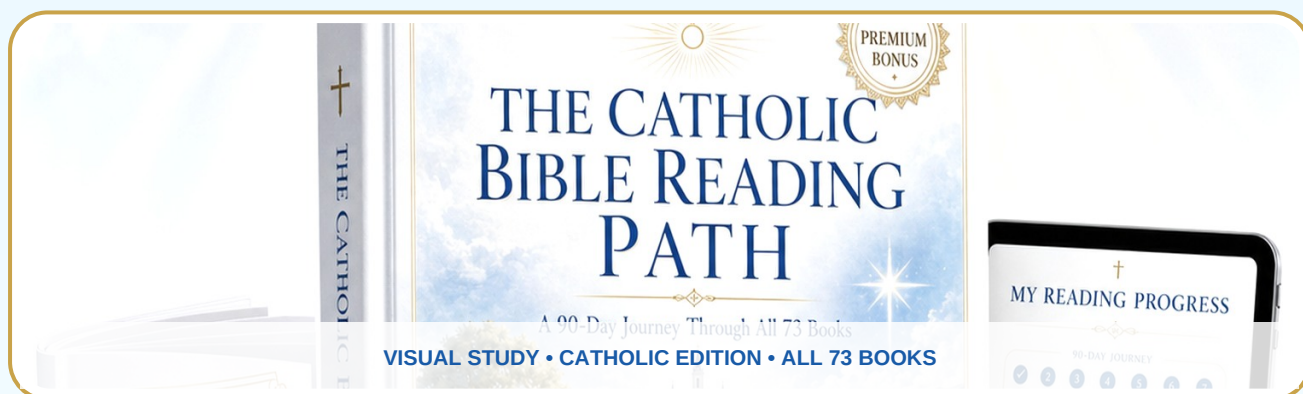
Record one repeated biblical theme.

☐

Choose one verse to memorize.

☐

Name one concrete response for the coming week.

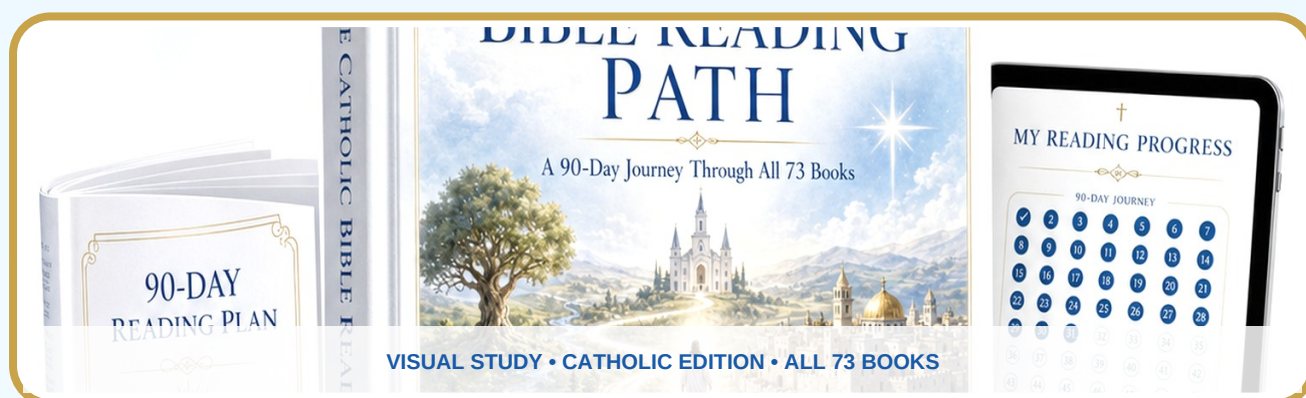


Lectio Divina in Four Movements



Lectio divina turns reading into encounter. Move slowly, leaving room for silence.

- Lectio: What does the text actually say?
- Meditatio: Which word or image draws your attention?
- Oratio: What do you desire to say to God?
- Contemplatio: Rest in God's presence.
- Actio: Carry one faithful response into the day.



Your 90-Day Covenant



REMEMBER

God has been faithful through every age.



REMAIN

Continue in Scripture, prayer, and the sacraments.

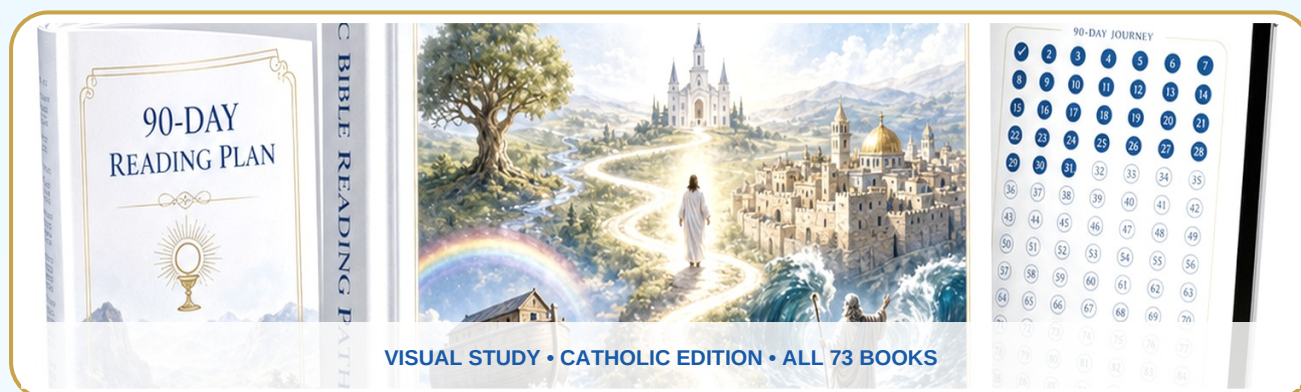


SHARE

Help someone else discover the one biblical story.

YOUR NEXT STEP

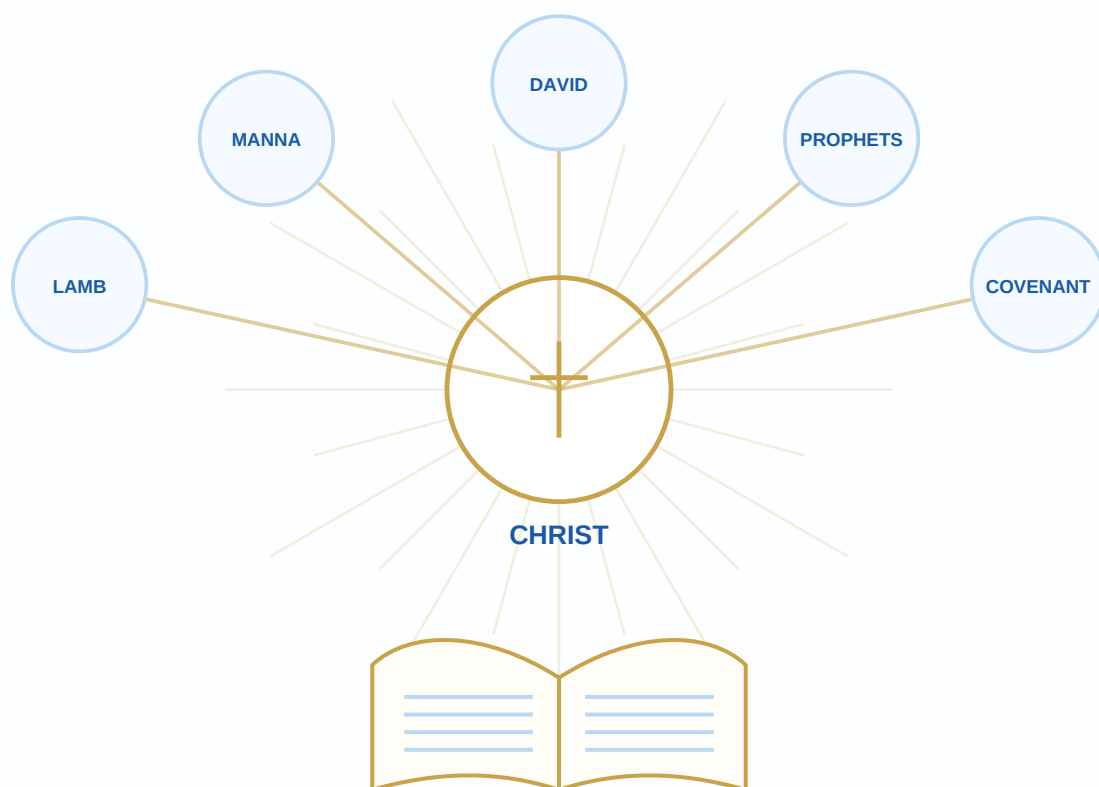
- ☐ I completed the 90-day journey.
- ☐ I identified the major covenants and turning points.
- ☐ I can explain how the 73 books form one story.
- ☐ I choose a new reading rhythm for the next 90 days.





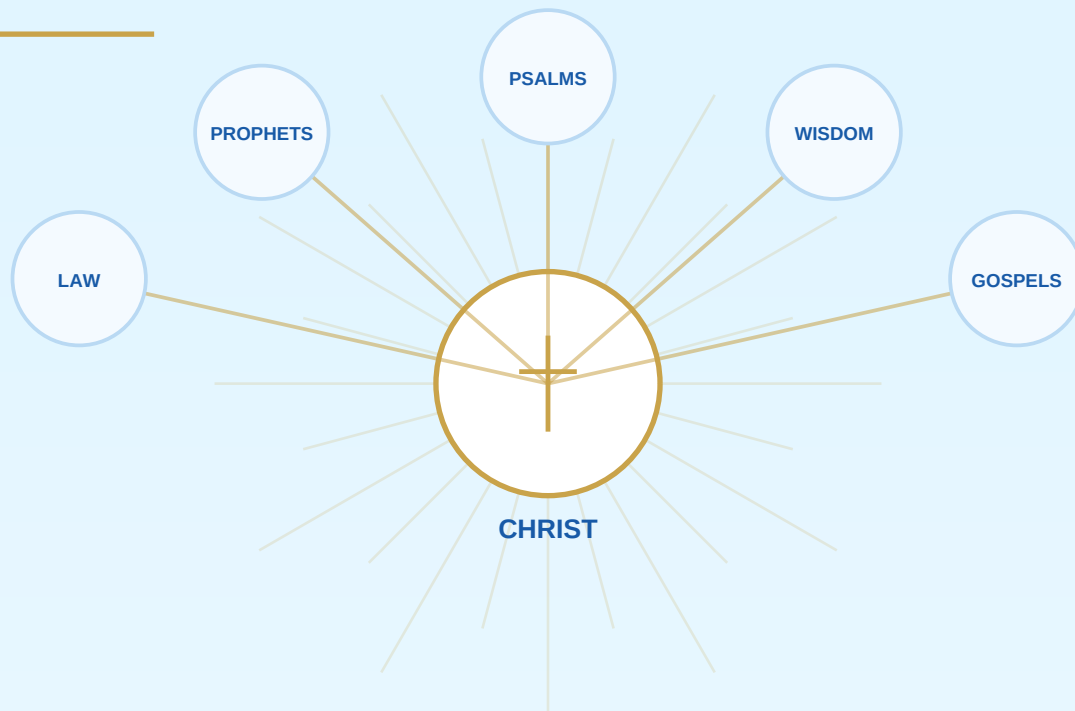
JESUS HIDDEN THROUGHOUT THE 73 BOOKS

Discover How the Entire Catholic Bible Points to Christ



FROM GENESIS TO REVELATION

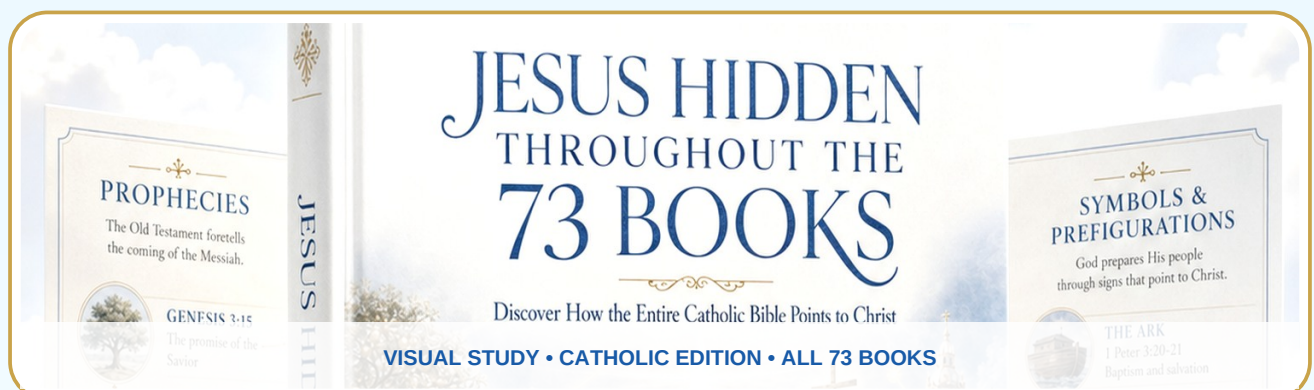
The Bible's Center Is a Person



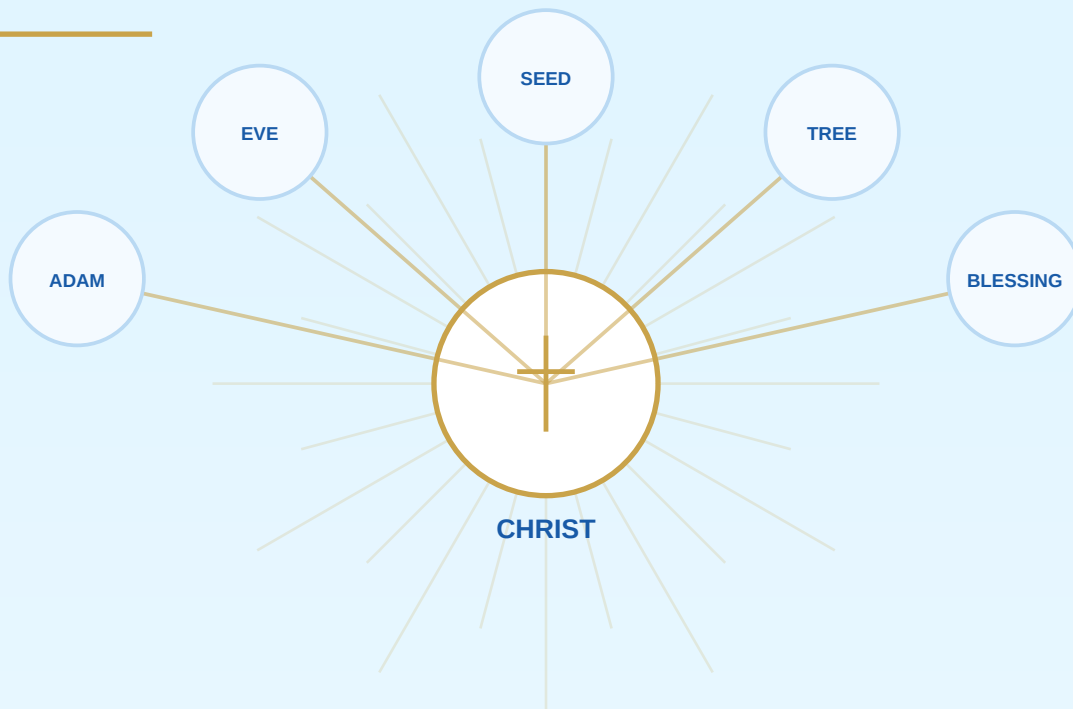
Christian reading does not force Jesus into unrelated passages. It recognizes patterns, promises, offices, sacrifices, and covenants that reach their fullness in Him.

Everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled.

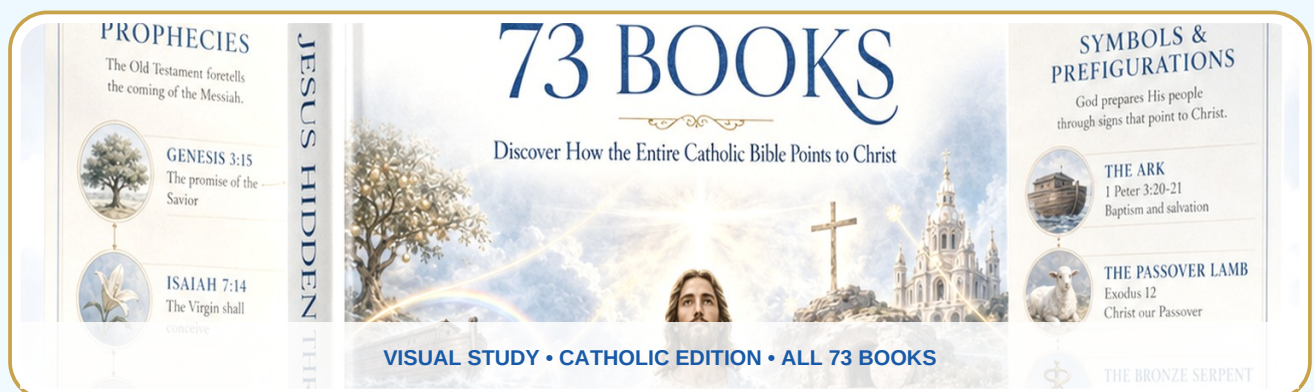
LUKE 24:44



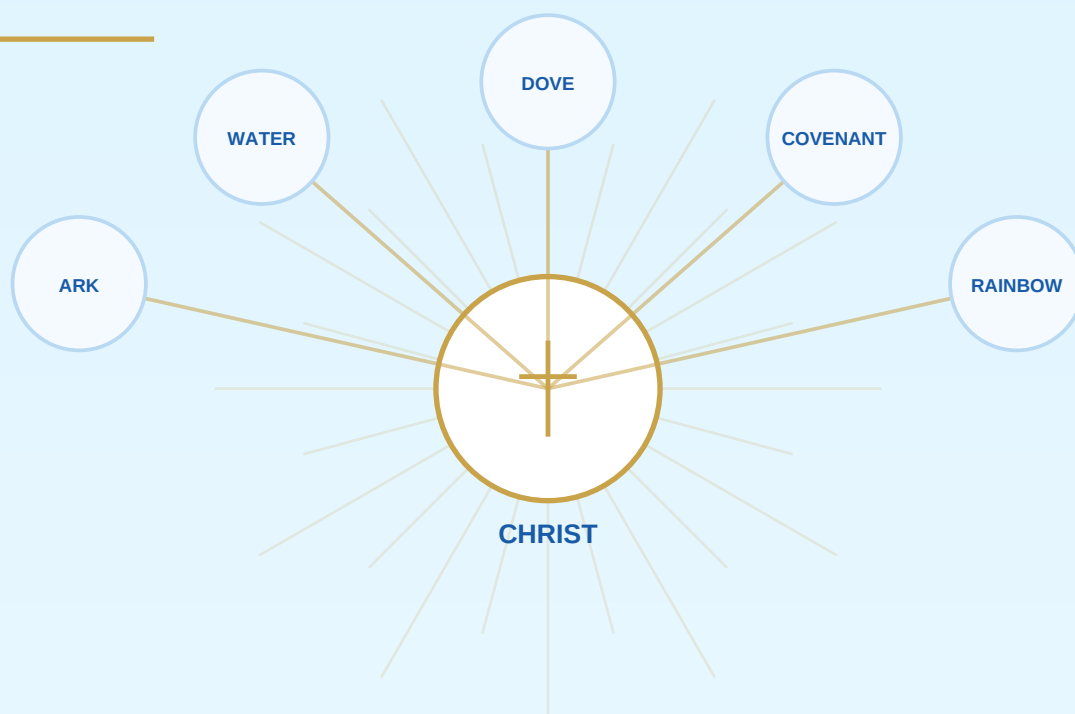
The New Adam and the Promised Seed



- Adam's disobedience introduces death; Christ's obedience opens life.
- Genesis 3:15 announces conflict and final victory over the serpent.
- The tree of the Fall is answered by the wood of the Cross.



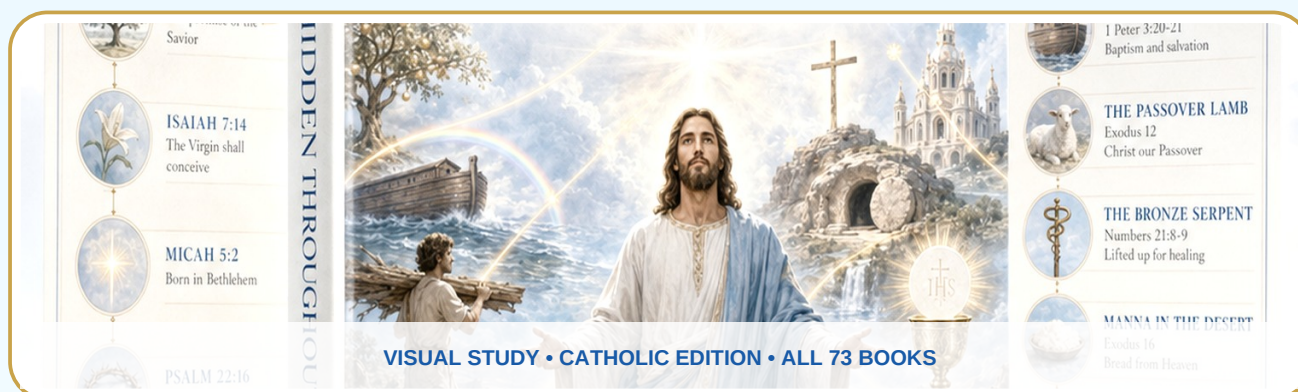
The Ark, Water, and a New Creation



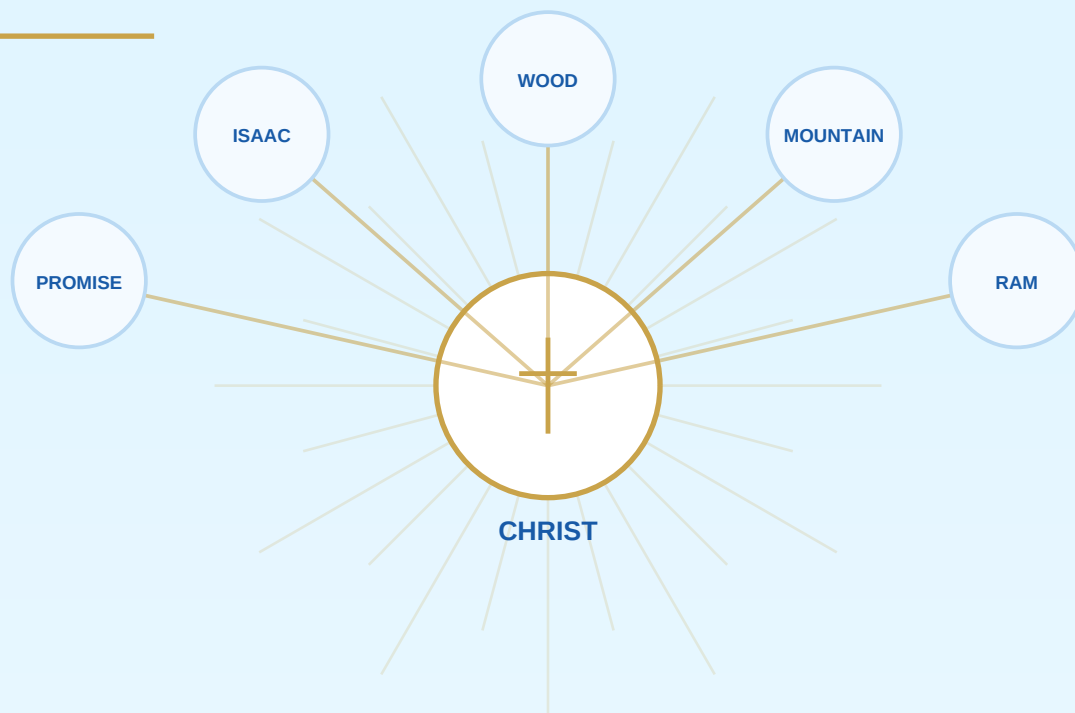
- The ark is a vessel of salvation through judgment.
- The flood becomes a biblical pattern of death, cleansing, and new beginning.
- Catholic tradition sees the ark as an image of the Church carrying a redeemed people.

This prefigured baptism, which saves you now.

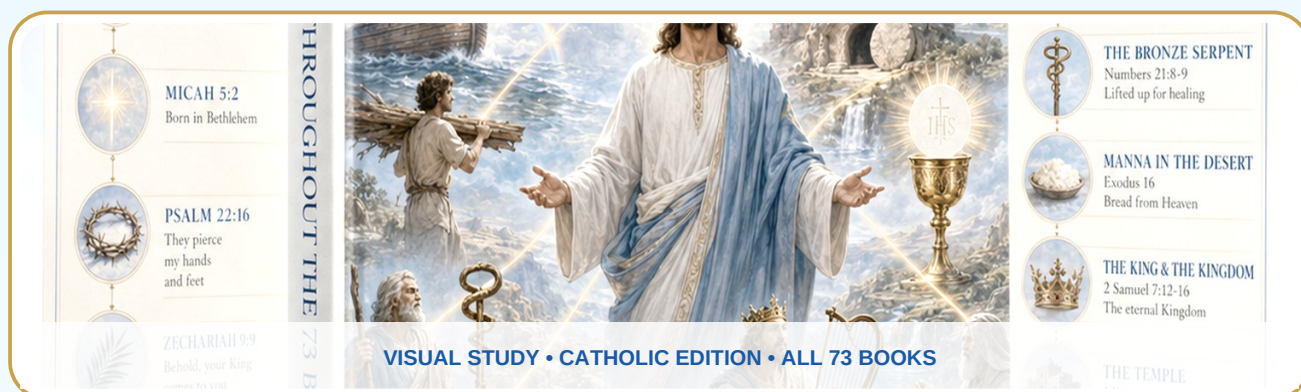
1 PETER 3:21



The Beloved Son and the Wood of Sacrifice



- Isaac is the beloved son of promise.
- He carries the wood toward the place of sacrifice.
- God provides the offering, preparing the language of divine provision fulfilled at Calvary.



The Passover Lamb



WITHOUT BLEMISH

A fitting sacrificial offering.



BLOOD

Deliverance from death.



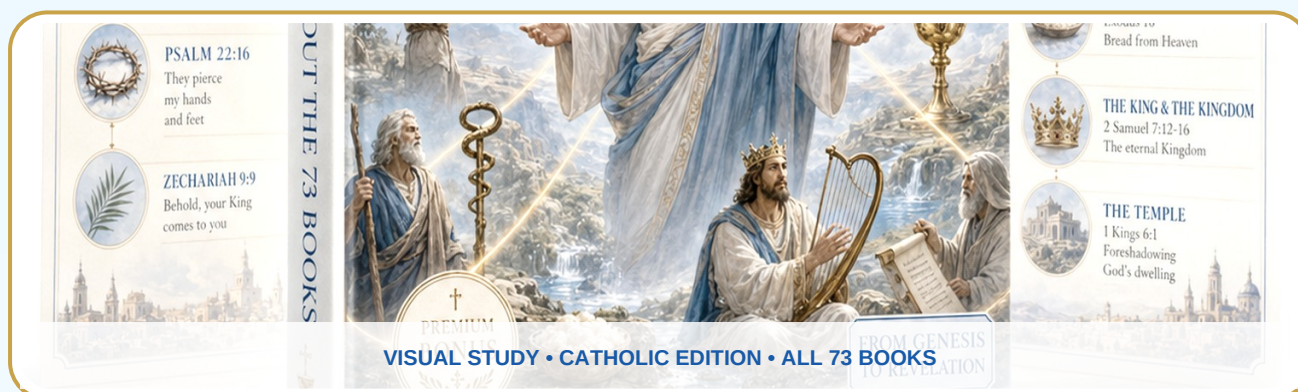
MEAL

The saved household shares the lamb.

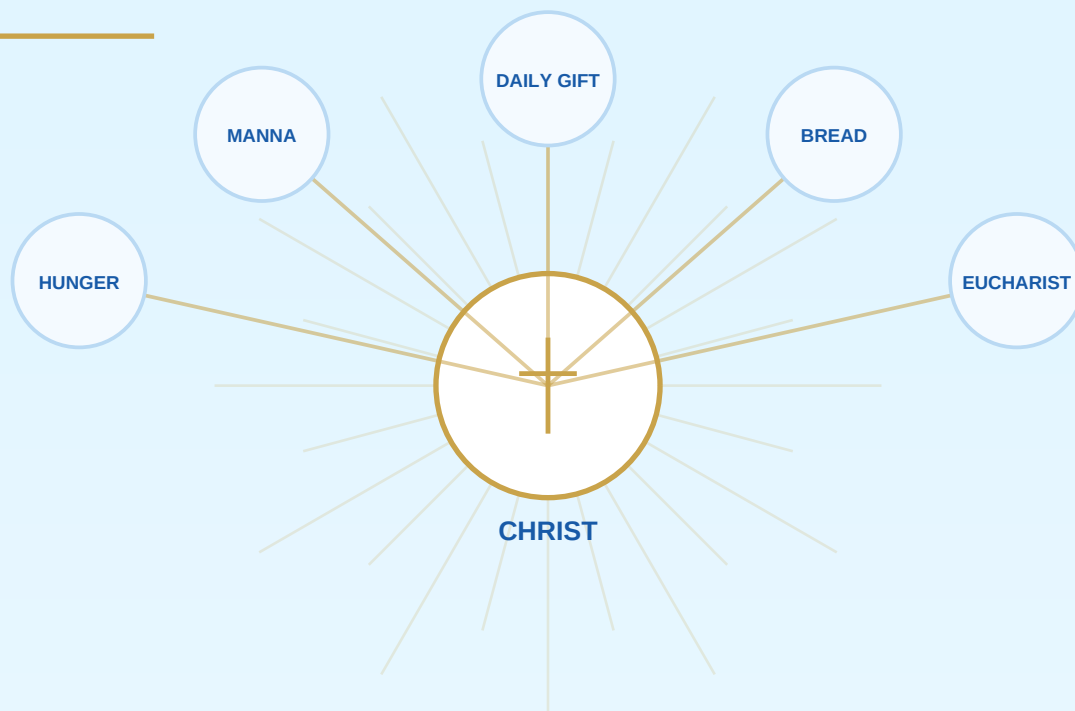
The Passover forms one of Scripture's clearest patterns for understanding Jesus' death and the Eucharistic mystery.

Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

JOHN 1:29



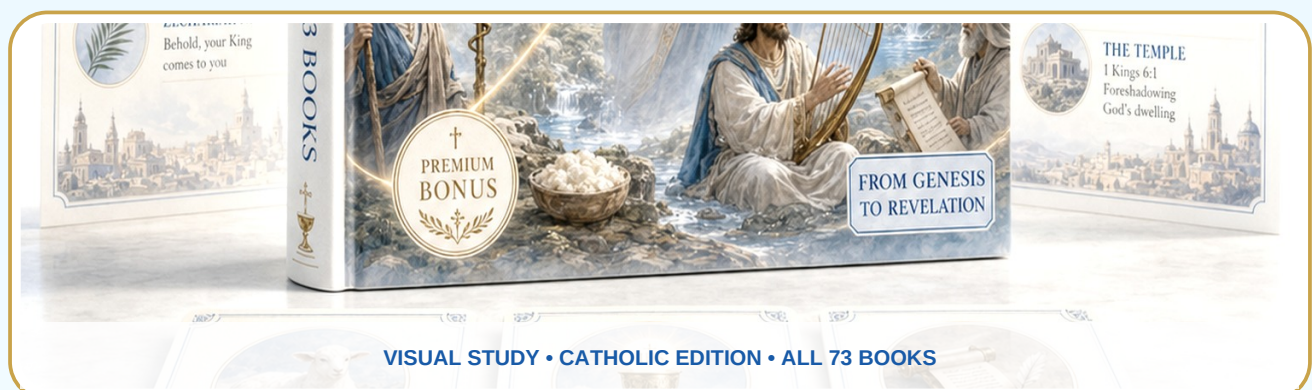
Manna and the Bread from Heaven



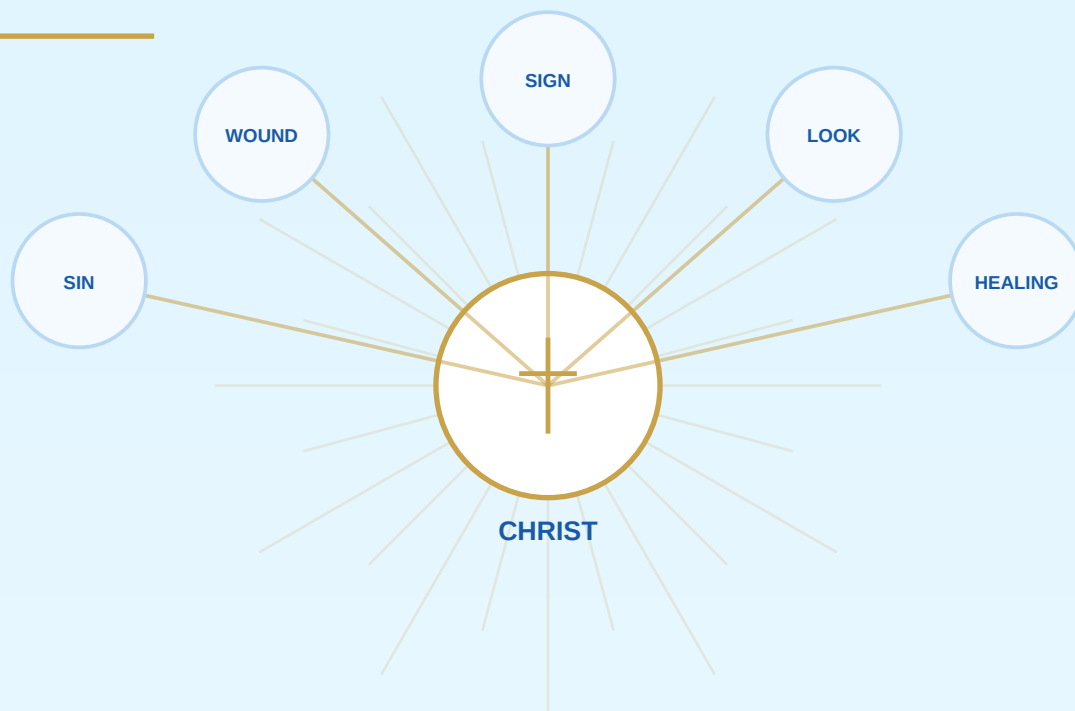
- Israel receives bread it could not manufacture.
- The gift must be received daily in trust.
- Jesus identifies Himself as the true bread from heaven and gives His flesh for the life of the world.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven.

JOHN 6:51



The Bronze Serpent Lifted Up



- A people wounded by sin receive healing by looking in faith at the sign God provides.
- Jesus directly uses this image to explain His being lifted up on the Cross.
- The sign does not glorify the serpent; it reveals God's merciful remedy.



Priest, Sacrifice, and Atonement



PRIEST

Mediator who approaches God for the people.



OFFERING

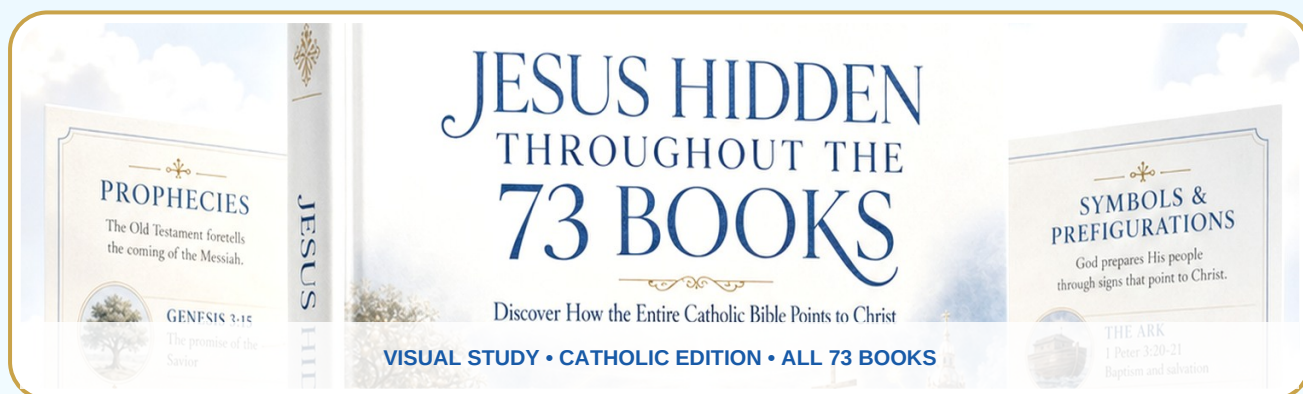
A life given in worship and reparation.



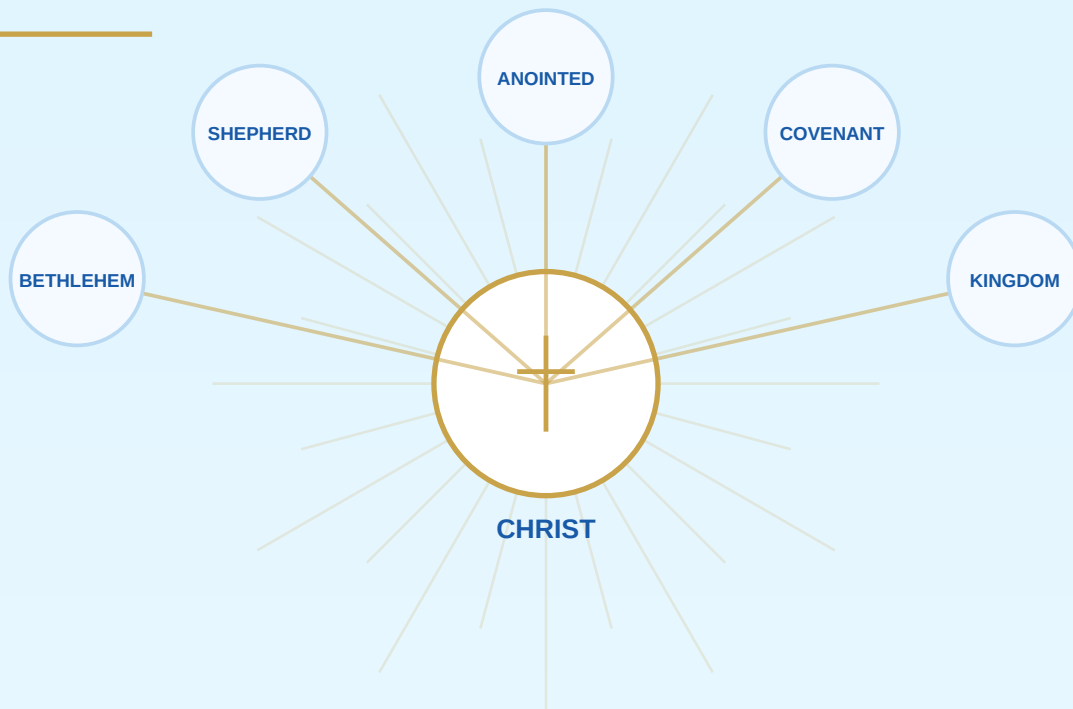
SANCTUARY

The holy place of divine presence.

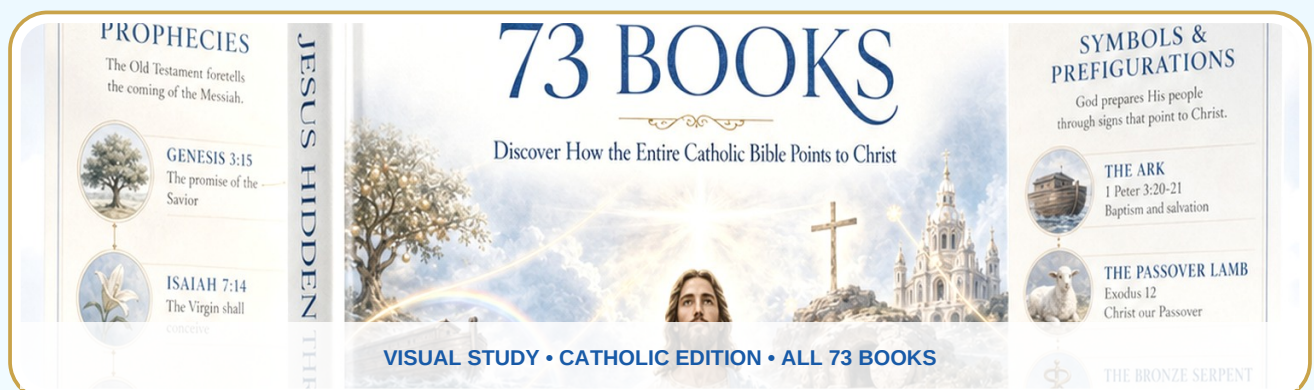
- Jesus fulfills rather than merely repeats the sacrificial system.
- He is priest and victim, offering Himself once for all.
- He opens access to the heavenly sanctuary.



The Shepherd King and Eternal Throne



- David is chosen from Bethlehem and anointed as king.
- God promises his royal house an enduring future.
- Jesus is Son of David, shepherd of Israel, and king whose reign has no end.



The Voice of the Messiah



PSALM 2

God's anointed king.



PSALM 22

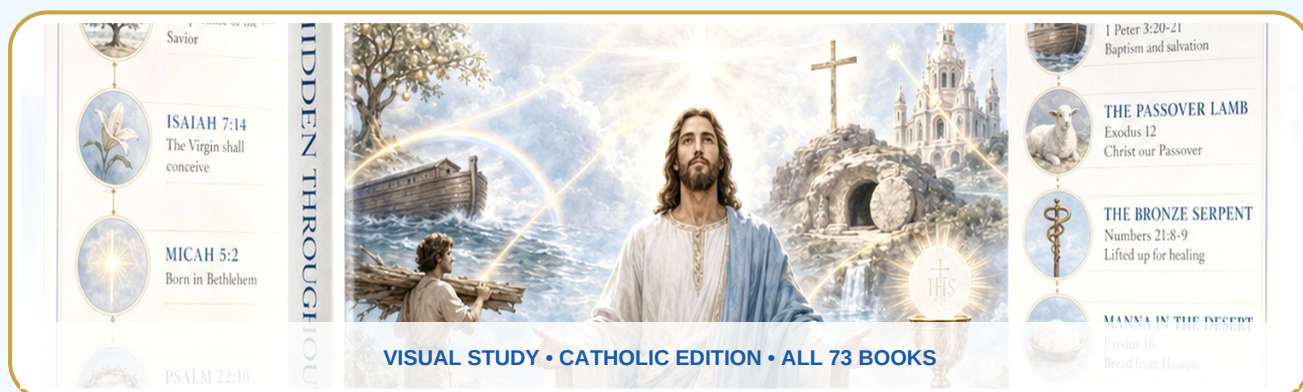
Suffering, mockery, and vindication.



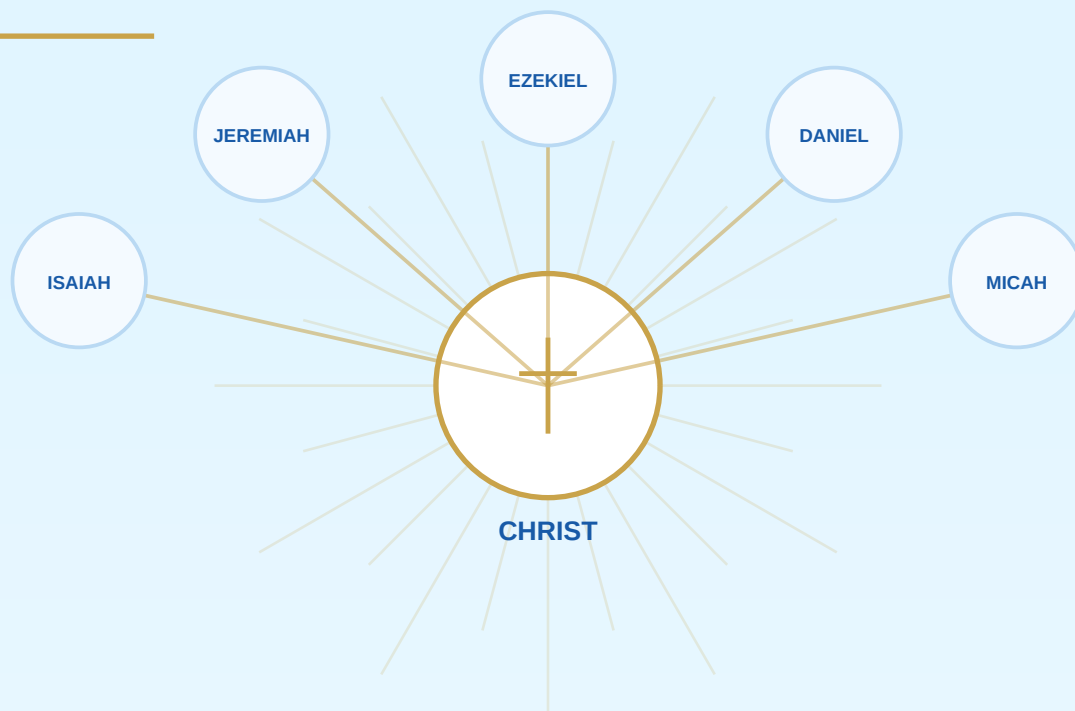
PSALM 110

Royal priest at God's right hand.

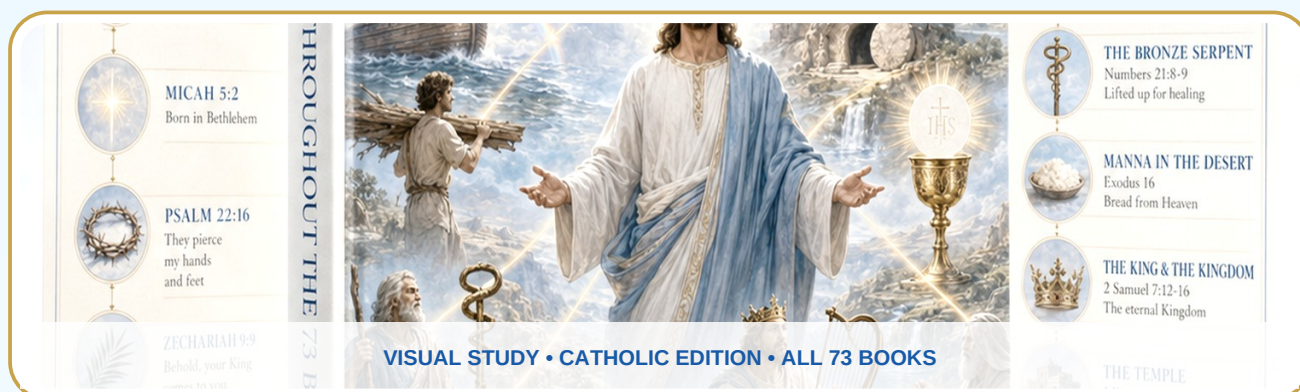
The New Testament repeatedly prays and interprets the Psalms in the light of Christ's identity, suffering, Resurrection, and reign.



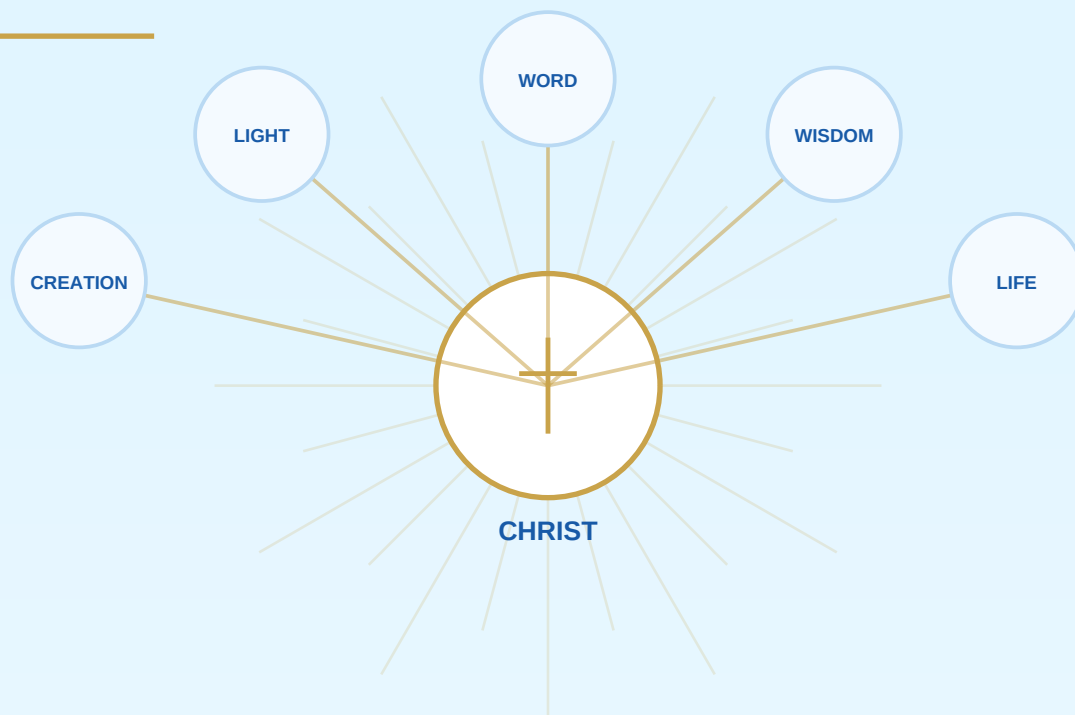
Emmanuel, Servant, Shepherd, Son of Man



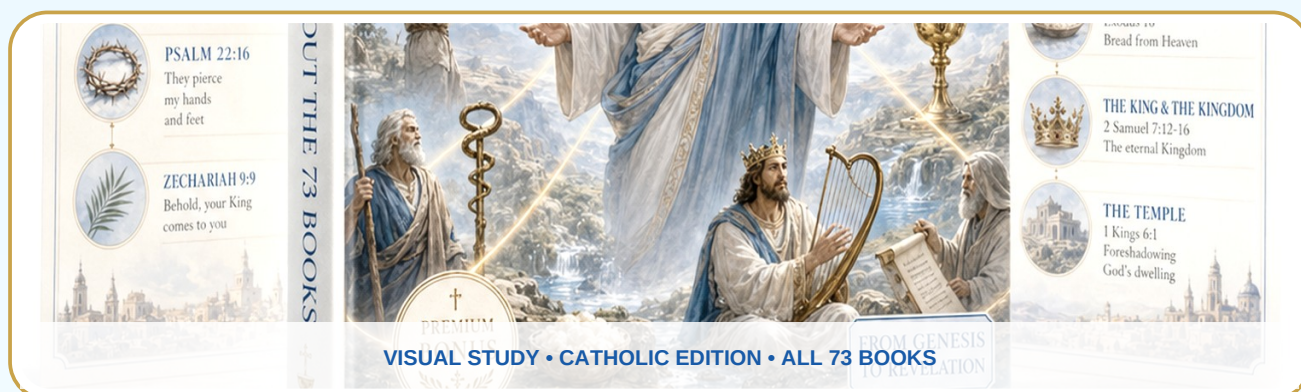
- Isaiah announces Emmanuel and the suffering servant.
- Jeremiah promises a New Covenant written on the heart.
- Ezekiel expects God to shepherd His people and give a new spirit.
- Daniel sees a Son of Man receiving an everlasting kingdom.



The Word and Wisdom of God



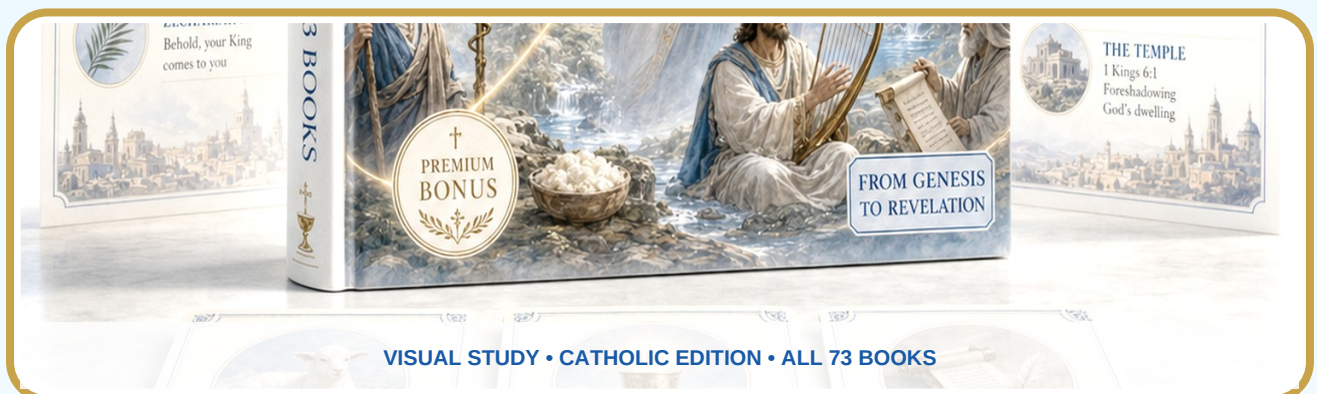
- Wisdom is described as radiance, order, and intimacy with God.
- John announces the eternal Word through whom all things were made.
- Christ is not simply one wise teacher; He is the personal fullness of divine Wisdom.



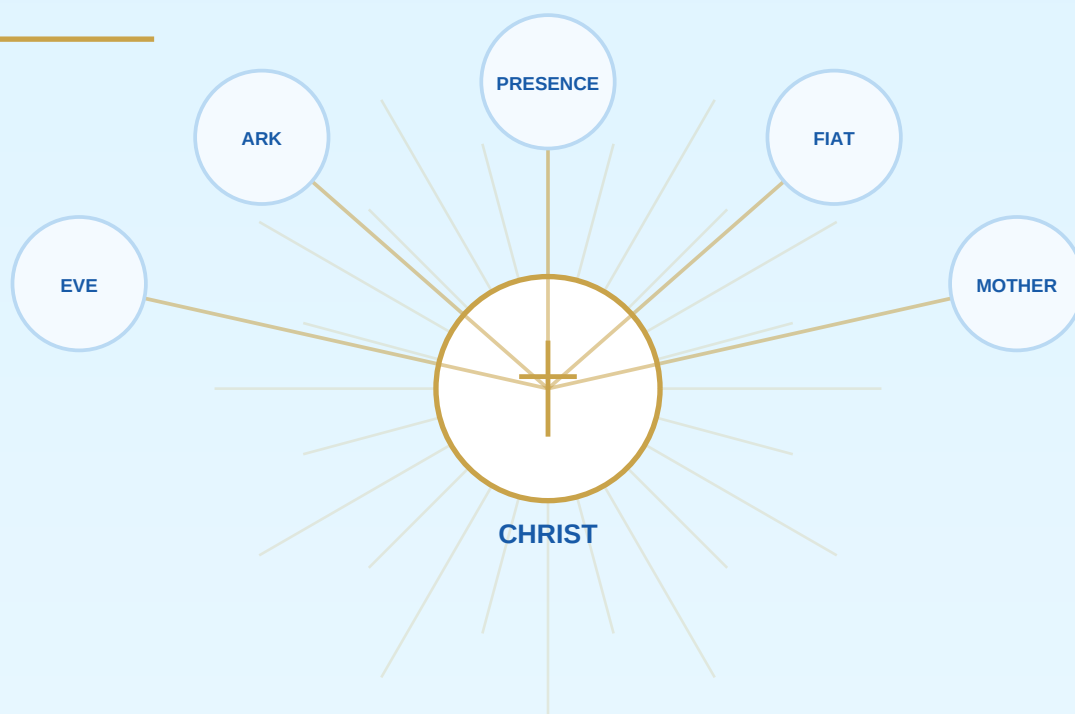
Righteous Suffering and Resurrection Hope



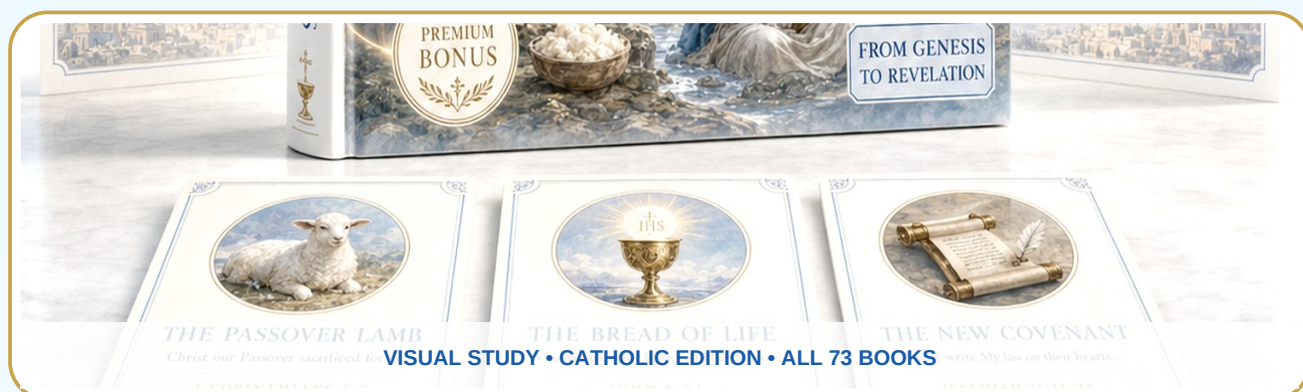
- Wisdom 2 portrays the persecution of a righteous son whose life condemns the wicked.
- Maccabean martyrs confess bodily resurrection and fidelity beyond death.
- These themes prepare the language of Christ's Passion and victory.



The New Eve and Ark of the New Covenant



- Mary's obedient fiat answers Eve's disobedience in the economy of grace.
- Luke's Visitation echoes the journey of the Ark in 2 Samuel 6.
- She bears not symbols of God's presence but the incarnate Word Himself.



Signs That Reveal His Identity



WATER TO WINE

Messianic abundance and covenant joy.



MULTIPLICATION

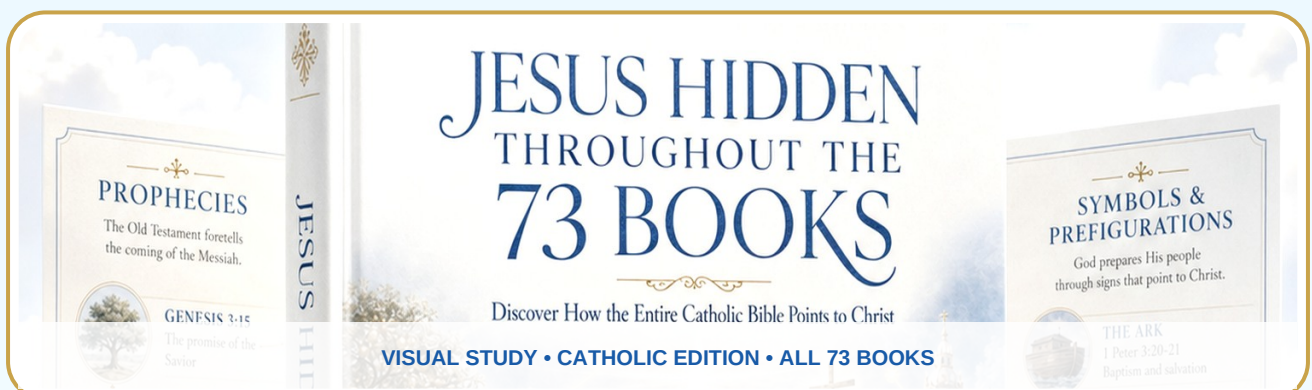
The shepherd feeds God's people.



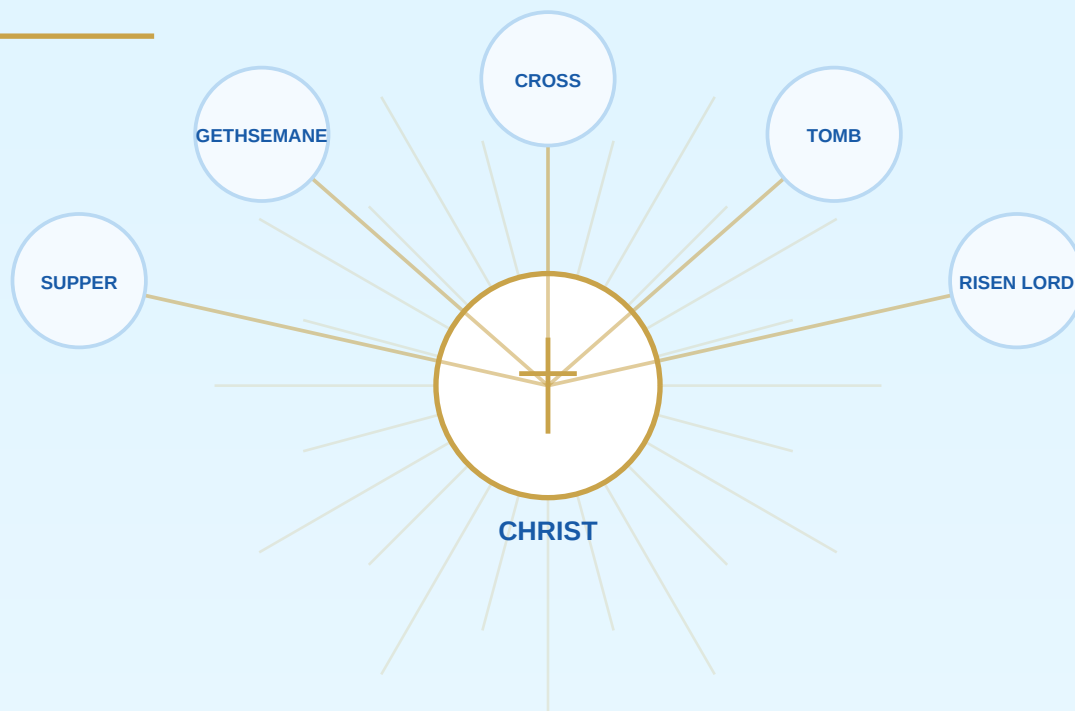
RAISING LAZARUS

The Lord of life confronts death.

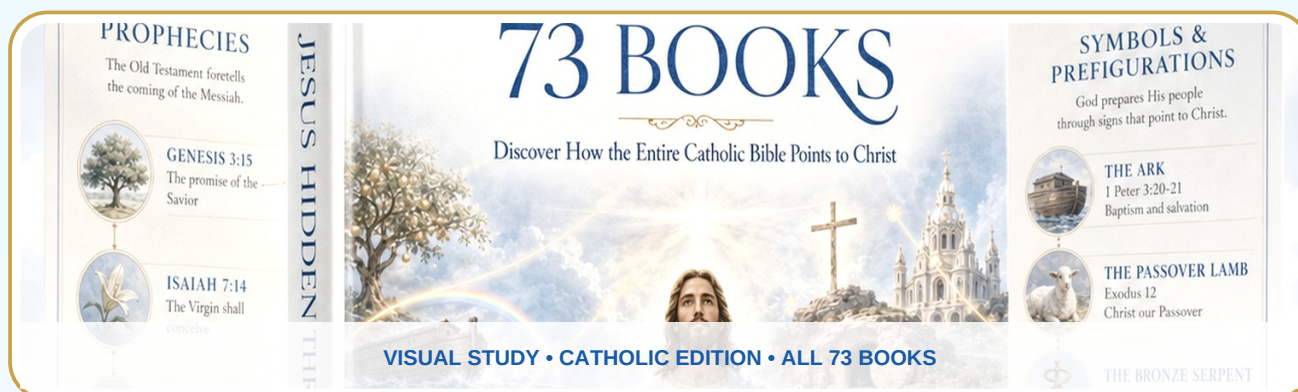
- Jesus' signs are actions with meaning, not spectacles.
- They reveal compassion, authority, and the arrival of the Kingdom.
- Each sign points toward the decisive sign of Cross and Resurrection.



Cross, Resurrection, and New Covenant



- Jesus gives the covenant meal before offering the covenant sacrifice.
- His death gathers Passover, priesthood, kingship, and servant imagery.
- The Resurrection vindicates His identity and begins the new creation.



Christ Continues His Work in His Body



BAPTISM

Union with Christ's death and Resurrection.



EUCCHARIST

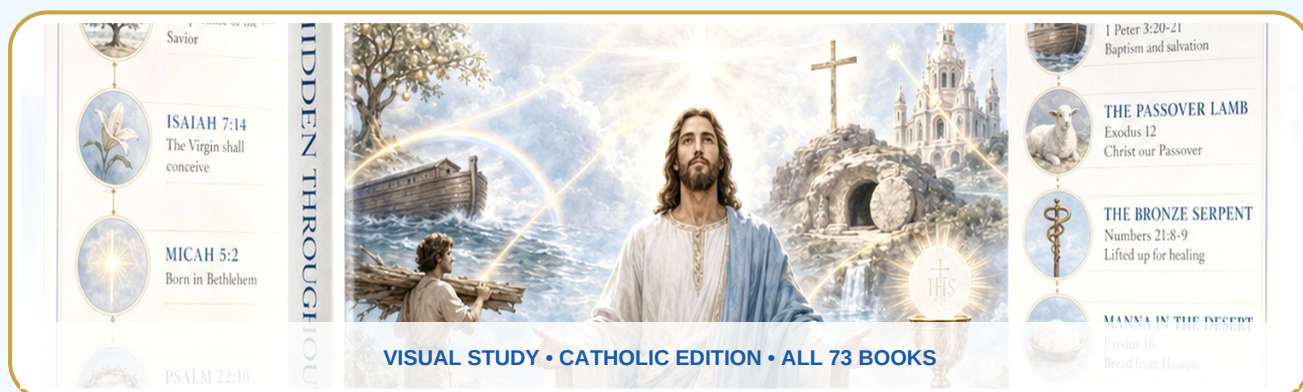
Communion in His Body and Blood.



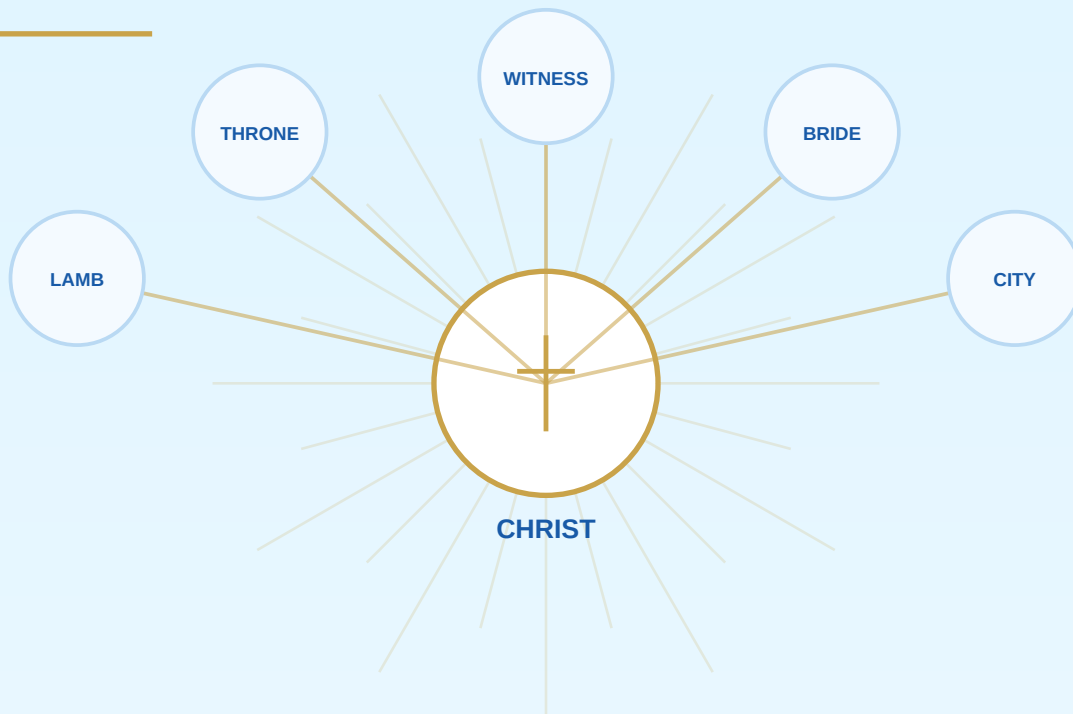
CHURCH

Many members united to the Head.

The risen Christ is not absent. Through the Spirit, His life reaches believers in the visible communion, proclamation, charity, and sacramental worship of the Church.



The Lamb, the Bride, and the New Jerusalem



- The slain Lamb stands victorious at the center of heavenly worship.
- The Church appears as bride prepared for union with Christ.
- The New Jerusalem completes the biblical movement from garden to glorified city.

The Lamb is its lamp.

REVELATION 21:23



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