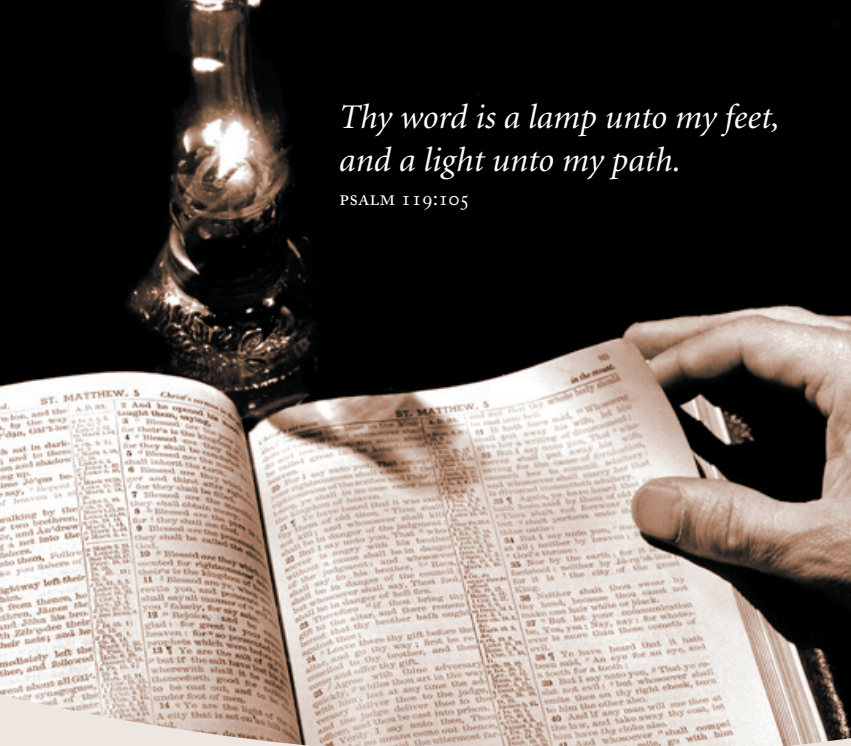


*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path.*

PSALM 119:105



Historical Bible Reading Plan

PRODUCED BY
THE ST. JOHN'S CHRISTADELPHIANS

The Bible is a reference library, in prose and poetry, of Divine law, history, theology, prophecy and guidance for daily living and devotion. Although composed of 66 books on varying subjects and recorded by different writers over a period of many centuries, it constitutes a coherent revelation of man's relationship to God and to His plan and purpose with the earth.

The fullest benefits will be obtained from an intimate familiarity with the Bible as a whole. To this end many have adopted a daily reading plan, by which they read the entire Bible in the course of a year. Others might be attracted to such a plan if they could see a more easily recognizable basis of coherence in the order of readings. History offers one such basis, making many of the non-historical books more understandable by presenting them in their original setting.

This historical plan presents, first, eleven books of the Old Testament and two books of the New Testament which form an historical framework for the whole Bible, although there is a gap of four centuries between the Old Testament and the New. In this period the Grecian Empire arose, the Maccabees tried to re-establish an independent Jewish state and the rising Roman power came into Palestine as an ally of the Jews and remained as their overlord.

The historical plan then starts again at the beginning and presents the whole Bible as nearly as possible in chronological order. The relative dates of most books can be determined with reasonable assurance. The others are placed at least in an

appropriate setting. Some of the prophetic books (eg. Jeremiah, Daniel) are themselves collections of writings without chronological arrangement. Some rearrangement of chapters and even parts of chapters has been made. Similarly, some gospel writers make more attempt than others to present events in chronological order. The readings try to group similar accounts together and in their proper sequence.

The Psalms involve particular difficulties. They were written over a considerable period of time. David is acknowledged as the chief contributor but the traditional inscriptions regarding authors are not always reliable and some psalms have no inscription at all. In the readings most psalms are listed at the time they are known or are likely to have been written, but some are attached to events which they describe (e.g. the creation) or to which they are appropriate, without regard to the date of writing. Others were sung in groups, as at the dedication of the temple, and on certain days these may constitute the entire reading.

Once the entire Bible has been read on the Historical Plan, and a relationship between its parts has been established, any system of daily Bible reading will have additional meaning. Many are familiar with the "Bible Companion" system, whereby the Old Testament is covered once and the New Testament twice during the year. For those who wish to combine the main features of both systems, the Historical Bible Reading Plan lists a portion of the Old and New Testament for each day's reading but in the same historical sequence as the Bible Companion.

JANUARY		
1	Genesis	1-4
2	...	5-8
3	...	9-12
4	...	13-17
5	...	18-21
6	...	22-24
7	...	25-27
8	...	28-30
9	...	31-33
10	...	34-36
11	...	37-40
12	...	41-42
13	...	43-46
14	...	47-50
15	Exodus	1-4
16	...	5-8
17	...	9-12
18	...	13-16
19	...	17-21
20	...	22-25
21	...	26-28
22	...	29-31
23	...	32-34
24	...	35-37
25	...	38-40
26	Numbers	1-3
27	...	4-6
28	...	7-8
29	...	9-12
30	...	13-15
31	...	16-19

FEBRUARY		
1	Numbers	20-22
2	...	23-26
3	...	27-30
4	...	31-32
5	...	33-36
6	Deuteronomy	34
	Joshua	1-4
7	...	5-8
8	...	9-12
9	...	13-16
10	...	17-20
11	...	21-24
12	Judges	1-4
13	...	5-8
14	...	9-11
15	...	12-17
16	...	18-21
17	1 Samuel	1-5
18	...	6-10
19	...	11-14
20	...	15-17
21	...	18-21
22	...	22-25

FEBRUARY		
23	1 Samuel	26-31
24	2 Samuel	1-4
25	...	5-9
26	...	10-13
27	...	14-17
28	...	18-21

MARCH		
1	2 Samuel	22-24
2	1 Kings	1-2
3	...	3-6
4	...	7-8
5	1 Kings	9-12
6	...	13-15
7	...	16-19
8	...	20-22
9	2 Kings	1-4
10	...	5-8
11	...	9-12
12	...	13-16
13	...	17-19
14	...	20-23
15	...	24-25
	Ezra	1-2
16	...	3-7
17	...	8-10
18	Nehemiah	1-5
19	...	6-8
20	...	9-11
21	...	12-13
22	Luke	1-2
23	...	3-5
24	...	6-7
25	...	8-9
26	...	10-11
27	...	12-14
28	...	15-17
29	...	18-20
30	...	21-22
31	...	23-24

APRIL		
1	Acts	1-4
2	...	5-7
3	...	8-10
4	...	11-14
5	...	15-17
6	...	18-20
7	...	21-24
8	...	25-28
9	Genesis	1
	Psalms	8
	Genesis	2-4
10	...	5-8
11	...	9-12

APRIL		
12	Genesis	13-17
13	...	18-21
14	...	22-24
15	...	25-27
16	...	28-30
17	...	31-33
18	...	34-36
19	...	37-40
20	...	41-42
21	...	43-46
22	...	47-50
23	Job	1-5
24	...	6-10
25	...	11-15
26	...	16-20
27	...	21-25
28	...	26-30
29	...	31-34
30	...	35-38

MAY		
1	Job	39-42
2	Exodus	1-4
3	...	5-8
4	...	9-12
5	...	13-14
	Psalms	98
	Exodus	15-16
6	...	17-21
7	...	22-25
8	...	26-28
9	...	29-31
10	...	32-34
11	...	35-37
12	...	38-40
13	Leviticus	1-5
14	...	6-8
15	...	9-12
16	...	13-14
17	...	15-18
18	...	19-22
19	...	23-25
20	...	26-27
	Numbers	1
21	...	2-4
22	...	5-7
23	...	8-11
24	...	12-14
	Psalms	90
25	Numbers	15-17
26	...	18-21
27	...	22-25
28	...	26-28
29	...	29-31
30	...	32-34
31	...	35-36
	Deuteronomy	1-2

JUNE		
1	Deuteronomy	3-5
2	...	6-10
3	...	11-14
4	...	15-20
5	...	21-25
6	...	26-28
7	...	29-32
8	...	33-34
	Joshua	1-4
9	...	5-8
10	...	9-12
11	...	13-16
12	...	17-20
13	...	21-24
14	Judges	1-4
15	...	5-8
16	...	9-11
17	Ruth	1-4
	Judges	12
18	...	13-17
19	...	18-21
20	1 Samuel	1-5
21	...	6-10
22	1 Samuel	11-14
23	...	15-17
	Psalms	1
24	...	19,23
	1 Samuel	18
	Psalms	11-13
	...	31,131
	1 Samuel	19
25	Psalms	63
	1 Samuel	20-21
	Psalms	26,34,56
26	1 Samuel	22
	Psalms	36,52
	...	64,109
	1 Samuel	23
	Psalms	54,16
27	1 Samuel	24
	Psalms	17,22,35
	...	57,58
28	...	140-142
	1 Samuel	25-26
	Psalms	7
29	...	86
	1 Samuel	27-31
30	1 Chronicles	10
	2 Samuel	1-3

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1	2 Samuel	4:1-5;10
	1 Chronicles	11-12
	Psalms	2

JULY	
2	2 Samuel 5:11-25 Psalms 15,25,81 ... 145 2 Samuel 6 1 Chronicles 13-14
3	... 15-16 Psalms 9,24,68
4	2 Samuel 7 Psalms 122 1 Chronicles 17 2 Samuel 8 1 Chronicles 18 Psalms 95,97
5	... 101 2 Samuel 9-10 1 Chronicles 19 Psalms 20,21,99 2 Samuel 11
6	... 12 Psalms 6,32,33 ... 38-40
7	... 41,51,65 1 Chronicles 20 2 Samuel 13-14
8	... 15 Psalms 3-5 2 Samuel 16-17
9	Psalms 55,62,70 ... 71,143 2 Samuel 18
10	... 19 Psalms 37,61 2 Samuel 20
11	Psalms 144 2 Samuel 21 Psalms 27-29 2 Samuel 22
12	Psalms 18 2 Samuel 23-24 1 Chronicles 21
13	Psalms 30,103 1 Chronicles 22 1 Kings 1
14	Psalms 72,91,110 1 Chronicles 23-24
15	... 25-28
16	... 29 1 Kings 2 Psalms 45 1 Kings 3
17	2 Chronicles 1 1 Kings 4-5 2 Chronicles 2 1 Kings 6
18	... 7 2 Chronicles 3-5

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19	1 Kings 8 2 Chronicles 6-7
20	Song of Sol. 1-8
21	Proverbs 1-3 1 Kings 9
22	Proverbs 4-7 2 Chronicles 8
23	Proverbs 8-11
24	Proverbs 12-15
25	... 16-19
26	... 20-23
27	... 24-26 2 Chronicles 9
28	Proverbs 27-30
29	... 31 1 Kings 10-11
30	Ecclesiastes 1-6
31	... 7-12
AUGUST	
1	2 Chronicles 10-11 1 Kings 12-13
2	2 Chronicles 12 1 Kings 14-15 2 Chronicles 13-15
3	... 16 Psalms 78 1 Kings 16
4	... 17-19
5	... 20-21 2 Chronicles 17 Psalms 82 2 Chronicles 18
6	1 Kings 22 2 Chronicles 19-20 Psalms 83
7	2 Kings 1-4
8	... 5-8
9	2 Chronicles 21-22 2 Kings 9-11
10	2 Chronicles 23-24 2 Kings 12 Joel 1-2
11	... 3 2 Kings 13-14 2 Chronicles 25 Jonah 1
12	... 2-4 Hosea 1-6
13	... 7-14
14	2 Kings 15 2 Chronicles 26-27 Amos 1-3
15	... 4-9
16	Isaiah 1-6

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17	2 Kings 16-17 2 Chronicles 28 Isaiah 7
18	... 8-13
19	Isaiah 14-21
20	2 Chronicles 29-31 2 Kings 18 2 Kings 19 2 Chronicles 32 Psalms 76 Isaiah 22-23 Isaiah 24-29 ... 30-35 ... 36-37
21	2 Kings 20 Isaiah 38-39
22	... 40-43
23	... 44-49
24	... 50-57 ... 58-64 ... 65-66 Micah 1-5 ... 6-7 Nahum 1-3 2 Kings 21
25	... 40-43
26	... 44-49
27	... 50-57
28	... 58-64
29	... 65-66 Micah 1-5 ... 6-7 Nahum 1-3 2 Kings 21
30	... 40-43 ... 44-49 ... 50-57 ... 58-64 ... 65-66 Micah 1-5 ... 6-7 Nahum 1-3 2 Kings 21
31	2 Chronicles 33 Zephaniah 1-3 2 Kings 22 2 Chronicles 34
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2	... 5-6 ... 17:19-27 ... 47 2 Kings 23
3	2 Chron 35:1-36:4 Jeremiah 7-9 2 Kings 24
4	Jeremiah 26 ... 46:1-12 ... 10:1-16 ... 14:1-17:18 ... 18-20 ... 23:9-40 ... 35 Daniel 1-3 Jeremiah 25
5	... 36,45 ... 12:14-17 ... 10:17-25
6	Habakkuk 1-3 Jeremiah 13
7	... 22:1-23:8 ... 11:1-12:13 ... 24,29

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9	... 27,28 ... 49:34-39 ... 51:59-64 Ezekiel 1-3
10	... 4-8
11	... 9-14
12	... 15-18
13	Ezekiel 19-22
14	... 23 Jeremiah 21,34 Ezekiel 24-25
15	Jeremiah 37-38 ... 39:15-18 ... 32-33 ... 39:1-10
16	Ezekiel 26:1-29:16 ... 30-31 2 Kings 25:1-21 2 Chron 36:5-21 Jeremiah 52:1-30 Psalms 74
17	... 79 Lamentations 1-3
18	... 4-5 1 Chronicles 1
19	... 2-4 ... 5-6 ... 7-9
20	Ezekiel 32-34 Jeremiah 39:11-14 2 Kings 25:22-26 Jeremiah 40
21	... 41:1-43:7 ... 30-31 Ezekiel 35
22	... 36-39 Jerem. 43:8-44:30
23	... 46:13-28 ... 48:1-49:33 ... 50:1-51:58 Psalms 10
24	Ezekiel 40-43 ... 44-47 ... 48,29:17-21 Obadiah Daniel 4 Psalms 14,53 2 Kings 25:27-30 Jeremiah 52:31-34
25	... 36-39 Jerem. 43:8-44:30
26	... 46:13-28 ... 48:1-49:33 ... 50:1-51:58 Psalms 10
27	Ezekiel 40-43 ... 44-47 ... 48,29:17-21 Obadiah Daniel 4 Psalms 14,53 2 Kings 25:27-30 Jeremiah 52:31-34
28	Ezekiel 40-43 ... 44-47 ... 48,29:17-21 Obadiah Daniel 4 Psalms 14,53 2 Kings 25:27-30 Jeremiah 52:31-34
29	... 44-47 ... 48,29:17-21 Obadiah Daniel 4 Psalms 14,53 2 Kings 25:27-30 Jeremiah 52:31-34
30	... 48,29:17-21 Obadiah Daniel 4 Psalms 14,53 2 Kings 25:27-30 Jeremiah 52:31-34
31	... 48,29:17-21 Obadiah Daniel 4 Psalms 14,53 2 Kings 25:27-30 Jeremiah 52:31-34
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6	... 121,123 ... 130,132 ... 139,119:1-40
7	Psalms 119:41-176
8	Ezra 1-3 Psalms 85,87
9	Daniel 10 Ezra 4 Psalms 146 Haggai 1-2 Ezra 5 Zechariah 1
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12	Psalms 46-48,96 ... 100,129,138 Esther 1-2
13	... 3-10
14	Psalms 124 Ezra 7-8 Psalms 102,104
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19	... 128 Nehemiah 5-8
20	Psalms 118 Nehemiah 9-11
21	... 12-13 Malachi 1-4
22	John 1:1-18 Luke 1:1-56 ... 3:23-38 Matthew 1
23	Luke 1:57-2:38 Matthew 2 Luke 2:39-52
24	Matthew 3:1-4:11 Mark 1:1-13 Luke 3:1-18,21-22 ... 4:1-13 John 1:19-2:12

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25	John 2:13-4:54 Matthew 4:12-17 Mark 1:14-15 Luke 3:19-20 ... 4:14-30
26	Matthew 4:18-22 ... 8:2-4, 14-17 Mark 1:16-45 Luke 4:31-5:39 Matthew 9:1-17 Mark 2:1-22
27	John 5 Matthew 12:1-21 ... 4:23-25 Mark 2:23-3:19 Luke 6:1-19
28	Matthew 5:1-8:1 Luke 6:20-49
29	Matthew 8:5-13 ... 11:2-19 ... 12:22-45 Mark 3:20-30 Luke 7:1-8:3 ... 11:14-36
30	Matt. 12:46-13:53 Mark 3:31-4:34 Luke 8:19-21 ... 8:4-18
31	Matthew 8:23-24 ... 9:18-34 Mark 4:35-5:43 Luke 8:22-56

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2	Matthew 14:13-36 Mark 6:30-56 Luke 9:10-17 John 6
3	Matt. 15:1-16:12 Mark 7:1-8:26
4	Matt. 16:13-17:27 Mark 8:27-9:32 Luke 9:18-45
5	Matt. 18 Mark 9:33-50 Luke 9:46-50 John 7
6	... 8 Matt. 19:1-2 8:18-22 & 11:20-30 Mark 10:1 Luke 9:51-10:24

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7	Luke 10:25-42 John 9-10
8	Luke 11:1-13 ... 11:37-13:35
9	Luke 14:1-17:10
10	John 11:1-54 Luke 17:11-18:14 Matt. 19:3-12 Mark 10:2-12
11	Matt. 19:13-20:34 Mark 10:13-52 Luke 18:15-43
12	... 19:1-44 Matt. 26:6-13 ... 21:1-11 Mark 14:3-9 ... 11:1-11 John 11:55-12:19
13	Matt. 21:12-22:14 Mark 11:12-12:12 Luke 19:45-20:19
14	Matt. 22:15-23:39 Mark 12:13-44 Luke 20:20-21:4
15	John 12:20-50 Matt. 24-25
16	Mark 13:1-14:2 ... 14:10-11 Luke 21:5-22:6 Matt. 26:1-5, 14-35
17	Mark 14:12-31 Luke 22:7-38
18	John 13:1-14:31 ... 15:1-18:11 Luke 22:39-53
19	Mark 14:32-72 Matt. 26:36-27:10 Luke 22:54-71 John 18:12-27
20	Matt. 27:11-31 Mark 15:1-20 Luke 23:1-25 John 18:28-19:16
21	... 19:17-42 Luke 23:26-56 Mark 15:21-47 Matt. 27:32-66
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23	Mark 16:19-20 John 20:30-31 ... 21:25 Luke 24:44-53 Acts 1-3
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27	... 11-13
28	... 14:1-15:1 Galatians 1-3
29	... 4-6 Acts 15
30	... 16:1-18:6 1 Thess. 1-2

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2	Acts 18:18-19:20 1 Cor. 1-4
3	... 5-9
4	... 10-13
5	... 14-16
6	Acts 19:21-20:1 2 Cor. 1-5
7	... 6-11
8	... 12-13 Acts 20:2-3 Romans 1-3
9	... 4-7
10	... 8-11
11	... 12-16
12	Acts 20:3-22:30
13	... 23-26
14	... 27-28 Colossians 1
15	... 2-4 Philemon
16	James 1-5
17	Philippians 1-4
18	Ephesians 1-4
19	... 5-6 Hebrews 1-3
20	... 4-9
21	... 10-13
22	Titus 1-3 1 Timothy 1-4
23	... 5-6 2 Timothy 1-4
24	1 Peter 1-5
25	2 Peter 1-3 Jude
26	1 John 1-5
27	2 John
28	3 John
29	Revelation 1-3
30	... 4-9
31	... 10-14 ... 15-18 ... 19-22