

Read Through the Old Testament

Daily Bible Reading Guide with Devotional Thoughts-and Prayer Starters © Pastor Frank Eckert

GET INTO IT ANYWAY YOU CAN!

JUNE, YEAR A

(Recommended: READ summary BEFORE reading the Bible verses!)

- ☐ **June 1** **Deuteronomy 27: 1-26** **Psalm 143: 7-11**
Reflect: The response of the people to the covenant would determine their future. God's Law inscribed on stone would assist their spiritual continuity on the other side of the Jordan. They were to acknowledge it as decisive to their destiny.
Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank You for delivering us from the curse of the Law. Amen.
- ☐ **June 2** **Deuteronomy 28: 1-24** **Psalm 144: 10-15**
Reflect: To the list of blessings and curses, the people in a dramatic setting said, "Amen" thus re-affirming their covenant relationship with God. We cannot understand why He reversed the saving acts He promised.
Prayer: Father, strengthen us to obey You moved by praise for Your grace. Amen.
- ☐ **June 3** **Deuteronomy 29: 1-29** **Psalm 145: 1-12**
Reflect: The covenant made in Horeb is renewed in the land of Moab just before Israel crosses into its new land. A warning of destruction and exile is given if the covenant is violated.
Prayer: Lord God, help us always to remain with You in a covenant relationship of grace. Amen.
- ☐ **June 4** **Deuteronomy 30: 10-20** **Psalm 145: 13-20**
Reflect: Even exile for disobedience will not mean the end of Israel if they repent. If they return to the Lord, He will circumcise their hearts and restore in them a whole-hearted devotion. *Prayer: O God, instead of worshipping false gods, may we in love ever cleave to You. Amen.*
- ☐ **June 5** **Deuteronomy 31: 1-30** **Psalm 146: 1-10**
Reflect: Poised for the crossing of the Jordan, the Israelites were about to enter a new way of life. The same Almighty God would go before them. Moses charged his successor Joshua to be of good courage.. Joshua was now given sole responsibility for the welfare of his people.
Prayer: Father, help us to go forward with strength because You will not leave us. Amen.
- ☐ **June 6** **Deuteronomy 32: 1-14** **Psalm 147: 1-20**
Reflect: Moses shared with the people the psalm God asked him to write: God was, is and will remain a Rock for them, always dependable, just and steadfast in carrying out His will.
Prayer: Father, move us to take to heart the promises of Your steadfast love toward us. Amen.
- ☐ **June 7** **Deuteronomy 33: 1-29** **Psalm 148: 1-14**
Reflect: Before going to his death, Moses gives his blessing to the Israelite tribes. After which, he glorified the one and only true, eternal and omnipotent God, reminding them of their blessed relationship with Him. They were to bring salvation to a sin-cursed world.
Prayer: Eternal God, thank You for the promise of Your everlasting arms to uphold us. Amen.
- ☐ **June 8** **Deuteronomy 34: 1-12** **Psalm 150: 1-6**
Reflect: Moses, greatest of all prophets except Jesus, after a long and vigorous life, surveyed the land God had given to the people, though he was not permitted to enter it, died on Mt Nebo. He was not taken to heaven bodily, like Elijah, but was buried by the hand of the Lord.
Prayer: Jesus, our Great Prophet, by Your victory, You will give us the Promised Land. Amen.
- ☐ **June 9** **Joshua 1: 1-18** **Proverbs 1: 1-10**
Reflect: The Lord commands Joshua to conquer the land. The death of Moses gave the signal for beginning the invasion, since he had been forbidden to lead it himself. The Exodus generation were now dead. Joshua dared to believe in conquest, when others predicted catastrophe.
Prayer: Lord God, we praise You that as we go forward in Your name, You go with us. Amen.
- ☐ **June 10** **Joshua 2: 1-24** **Proverbs 2: 1-11**
Reflect: The spies whom Joshua sent to explore Jericho found a friendly reception in the house of Rahab. They promised her safety when the city would be taken. She believed in the true God.
Prayer: O God, we agree that You are God in heaven and on earth. In You we trust. Amen.

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☐ **June 11** **Joshua 3: 1-17** **Proverbs 3: 1-10**

Reflect: The crossing of the River Jordan is led by the Ark of the Covenant. The people performed a ritual purification. The waters of the river, swollen by the spring flood, are miraculously held back by the living God permitting the Israelites to pass through the river.

Prayer: Father, when our time comes for the Promised Land, open the way by Your grace. Amen.

☐ **June 12** **Joshua 4: 1-5:1** **Proverbs 3: 11-20**

Reflect: At God's command, twelve stones were taken from the River Jordan. They were erected in Gilgal as a memorial to the Lord God and the miracle of crossing the river on dry land, like was done at the Red Sea in the Exodus.

Prayer: O Lord, move us to find ways of remembering important events in our lives where You demonstrated Your special power and help, delivering us through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

☐ **June 13** **Joshua 5: 2-15** **Proverbs 3: 1-28**

Reflect: The male Israelites of the new generation who had not taken part in the Exodus, are circumcised at Gilgal. Circumcision meant admission to full membership of the community, a sign of God's covenant relationship. In a vision, Joshua met "the commander of the army of the Lord", who gave him his orders.

Prayer: O Jesus, our Strength, move us not to rely on earthly resources, but on You to win. Amen.

☐ **June 14** **Joshua 6: 1-27** **Proverbs 3: 29-35**

Reflect: Jericho's walls were strong.. Yet the people were assured of victory in this holy war. A blast on the trumpet signals the attack. A shout initiates it. The walls fall down. The city is burned. Valuable metals are placed in the sanctuary. The people and all else are destroyed, except Rahab and her family. A curse is placed on any rebuilding of the city.

Prayer: O Divine Warrior, we look to You to fight on our behalf against the Devil. Amen.

☐ **June 15** **Joshua 7: 1-26** **Proverbs 4: 1-9**

Reflect: Achan, a man of impeccable ancestry, ignored God's ban, and stole some of the booty. The entire nation was blamed for the sin of one man. Achan was stoned to death.. Israel, cleansed of Achan's guilt, now won the battle for the city of Ai after failing the first time.

Prayer: Father, even if we cannot see why You prohibit certain things, help us to obey. Amen.

☐ **June 16** **Joshua 8: 1-35** **Proverbs 4: 10-19**

Reflect: By a clever strategy, Joshua destroyed the city of Ai. He now obeys Mosaic ordinance by building an altar for sacrifice. He wrote on stones and arranged the people for blessings and curses. He read the Book of the Law: all its words to all the assembly.

Prayer: Lord of the Church, stir our pastors ever to keep Your Gospel before our eyes. Amen.

☐ **June 17** **Joshua 9: 1-27** **Proverbs 4: 20-27**

Reflect: The men of Gibeon trick the Israelites into making an agreement with them that they will not destroy them. In reality, they were Hivites who were to be exterminated. Israel punishes them by making them their servants but accepted them into the fellowship of the blessings of Jehovah.

Prayer: Lord God, let us always ask Your guidance before making important decisions. Amen.

☐ **June 18** **Joshua 10: 1-43** **Proverbs 8: 1-9**

Reflect: Heavy losses move Canaanite rulers to unite against Israel. The Divine Warrior enabled Israel to make further conquests. Their victories are miracles from God, rather than the result of human skill.

Prayer: Father, thank You for the faith that overcomes the world. Empower us to keep fighting the good fight of faith. Amen.

☐ **June 19** **Joshua 11: 1-23** **Proverbs 8: 10-21**

Reflect: The northern Canaanite rulers are overwhelmingly defeated. With victory in the north. The conquest of the land is now completed. The Book of Joshua views the entire conquest as a miracle rather than a military achievement.

Prayer: O God, even as Your promise of victory was finally fulfilled for the Israelites, so we trust that in Your Son Jesus, we shall have ultimate victory in Your Kingdom forever. Amen.

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☐ **June 20** **Joshua 12: 1-24** **Proverbs 8: 2-30**

Reflect: This chapter gives a record of all the kings that Moses and Joshua conquered. And yet there were still some who needed to be defeated. By giving a “total conquest” view, the authors of Joshua anticipate what they know eventually came to pass.

Prayer: Lord God, even as You achieved what was humanly impossible, so we too shall overcome with You as our Divine Warrior. Amen.

☐ **June 21** **Joshua 13-20** **Proverbs 21: 41-45**

Reflect: A brief perusal of these chapters will indicate details of land distribution to the people. Joshua allocated Canaan before all of it was occupied by the Israelites, so sure he of God’s complete victory for them. There was rest on every side. War had now been replaced by peace.

Prayer: Father, we praise You that in our lives too, not one of Your promises has failed. We are confident we can entrust all we are and have into Your hands. Amen.

☐ **June 22** **Joshua 22: 1-6, 10-34** **Proverbs 10: 6-12**

Reflect: Much land remained to be occupied. But Joshua divided it all among the Twelve Tribes. Misunderstood by the western tribes, the eastern tribes assure them that the altar they built was meant only as a symbol of unity between east and west. So civil war was averted.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, where there is misunderstanding, guide us by your Spirit, to create unity and harmony. Amen.

☐ **June 23** **Joshua 23:1-16** **Proverbs 10:13-24**

Reflect: Joshua is old. The conquest is complete. A new era is dawning. In a farewell speech, Joshua exhorts the people to remain faithful to the Lord. Obedience will ensure blessings.

Prayer: Father Almighty, help us to take heed to ourselves that we remain loyal to You. Amen.

☐ **June 24** **Joshua 24: 1-33** **Proverbs 10: 25-32**

Reflect: Joshua now finally reviews the mercies God has shown them. He challenges to people to put away false gods and worship only the true God. The people respond: “We will serve the Lord our God.” Joshua, at age of 110, dies. Before he died, he made a covenant for the people, wrote its rules in the Book of the Law and set up a witness tree.

Prayer: Lord God, incline our hearts toward You, and to serve You in love above all else. Amen.

☐ **June 25** **Judges 1: 1-36** **Proverbs 11: 1-10**

Reflect: The Book tells of the exploits of particular heroes, (“judges”), whom God appoints as leaders of Israel. Battles still needed to be fought to gain all the land.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, when it looks like we’ve nearly won the battle, help us not to grow weary but give us patient endurance to battle on. Amen.

☐ **June 26** **Judges 2: 1-22** **Proverbs 11: 11-20**

Reflect: Israel would abandon the Lord for other gods. This would lead to the Lord’s anger and oppression by enemies. He would then send judges to deliver Israel. Then, the cycle would begin over again.

Prayer: O God, open our eyes to Your warnings on how easy it is to fall away from You. Amen.

☐ **June 27** **Judges 3: 1-31** **Proverbs 11: 21-31**

Reflect: Intermarriage unavoidably entangled Israel in idolatry. Falling away from God was followed by defeat. The pattern is completed by Israel’s cry to the Lord for deliverance. The Spirit of the Lord empowers God’s heroes to perform extraordinary deeds of leadership.

Prayer: Lord God, please continue to raise up positive leaders during times of adversity. Amen.

☐ **June 28** **Judges 4: 1-24** **Proverbs 12: 1-14**

Reflect: As a prophetess, Deborah delivers messages from the Lord. He dictates tactics and gives assurance of victory. Near Mount Tabor, Deborah, Barak and Jael lead the victory over the King.

Prayer: God Almighty, give us faith to keep Your promises always before our eyes enabling to keep battling on to victory because of You. Amen.

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June 29

Judges 5: 1-31

Proverbs 12: 15-20

Reflect: This “Song of Deborah”, the oldest remaining fragment of Hebrew literature, celebrates Deborah’s victory over King Jabin. The Divine Warrior overwhelmed the enemy.

Prayer: Father, because of Your victory on our behalf may we finally rise like the sun in the power of Your Son’s resurrection. Amen.



June 30

Judges 6: 1-40

Proverbs 12: 21-28

Reflect: Because of doing evil again, Israel is delivered into the hands of the Midianites. An angel appears to Gideon to inform him he has been chosen to deliver Israel from the enemy. Gideon is terrified both by the task given and by seeing God. The angel of the Lord reassures him and the Spirit of the Lord comes upon him.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, give us faith and certainty that You will answer our prayers. Amen.