

Read Through the Old Testament

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

GET INTO IT ANYWAY YOU CAN!

MARCH, YEAR A

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

☐ **March 1 Exodus 18:1-27 (Psalm 77: 1-14)**

Reflect: Moses wisely accepts the advice of his father-in-law and divides his responsibilities among judges whom he appoints.

Prayer: Lord, speak to us through the good advice of others, and make us to listen. Amen.

☐ **March 2 Exodus 19:1-25 (Psalm 78:1-7)**

Reflect: God spoke to Israel and made a covenant with them. For they are God's own possession. Earthquake, wind and fire depict the majesty of God's revelation.

Prayer: Father, thank You that You are our God and we are Your people. Amen.

☐ **March 3 Exodus 20: 1-25 (Psalm 78: 12-16)**

Reflect: God gives His commandments. For God's mighty deliverance from slavery, He calls His people to obey His holy Commandments not out of a sense of being afraid but out of love to Him.

Prayer: Lord God, move us to obey Your commandments because we are grateful. Amen.

☐ **March 4 Exodus 24: 12-18 (Psalm 78: 52-55)**

Reflect: The glory of the Lord appeared to Moses on the Mountain, and God sealed His commandments on tablets of stone.

Prayer: Lord God most holy, move us with a deep sense of respect and love to obey You and Your Holy Commandments. Amen.

☐ **March 5 Exodus 25:1-40 (Psalm 79:8,9, 13)**

Reflect: The Lord gave details for His people to make special items to go into a Tabernacle: a wooden chest to keep the commandments on the stone tablets; also for a table and a lamp stand.

Prayer: Lord; let the symbols in our churches tell us of Your light and grace. Amen.

☐ **March 6 Exodus 26: 1-37 (Psalm 80: 1-3)**

Reflect: Giving detailed instructions on how it should be made, God asked Moses to set up a Tabernacle, a sanctuary where God's special presence would dwell among His people.

Prayer: Lord God, thank You for Your presence in our churches through Your Word. Amen.

☐ **March 7 Exodus 27:1-21 (Psalm 81:1-3,10)**

Reflect: We marvel further at the details God gave for the altar (where sacrifices for sin would be made) and the courtyard near the Tabernacle where God would communicate with His people.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, let the cross on our altar remind us You gave Yourself for our sins. Amen.

☐ **March 8 Exodus 28:1-43 (Psalm 84:1-4, 11,12)**

Reflect: We are again amazed at the care God took in specifying details for the vestments of the High Priest who acted as an intermediary between God and the people.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for interceding for us as our Great High Priest. Amen.

☐ **March 9 Exodus 29: 1-46 (Psalm 85:7-13)**

Reflect: After the High Priest was consecrated, his sins were symbolically transferred to a bullock whose death paid the penalty. Two lambs were sacrificed daily for the sins of the nation.

Prayer: Thank You, Lord Jesus, for giving Yourself as the Lamb of God for our sins. Amen.

☐ **March 10 Exodus 30:1-38 (Psalm 86:1-12)**

Reflect: God gave instructions concerning public worship, especially about the altar of incense (symbolic of prayer); about the laver (for purification); and about the oil of ointment (as a sign of the Holy Spirit). *Prayer: O Father, by Your Holy Spirit, let our prayers rise to You like sweet incense.*

Amen.

☐ **March 11 Exodus 31: 1-18 (Psalm 89:1-18)**

Reflect: God appointed the chief artisans to carry out the work of building the Tabernacle and designing and making all its equipment--all to be done with great detail and loving care!

Prayer: Lord God, move us to honour You, regularly and devotedly in public worship. Amen.

☐ **March 12 Exodus 32:1-35 (Psalm 90:1-17)**

Reflect: The people's worship of the golden calf deeply stirred God's anger. Moses, too, was enraged and smashed the two tablets of stone with the Commandments. Many people were punished. Moses interceded for the people, pleading for God's mercy.

Prayer: Lord; move us to feel sorrow for our sins. Give us the faith to accept Your forgiveness. Amen.

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- ☐ **March 13 Exodus 33:1-23 (Psalm 91: 1-6; 11-16)**
Reflect: The people responded to God's anger with true sorrow and repentance. God promised again that His presence and grace would go with the people.
Prayer: Father, we praise You that instead of Your wrath, You offer us Your grace. Amen.
- ☐ **March 14 Exodus 34: 1-35 (Psalm 92:1-5; 12-15)**
Reflect: On Mt Sinai God re-issued the Commandments on fresh tablets of stone. Moses received from God a renewing of the covenant. Moses' face now shone with the glory of God.
Prayer: Thank you, Father, for the glory of Your grace in the face of Your Son Jesus. Amen.
- ☐ **March 15 Exodus 35: 10-29; 36:1-7 (Psalm 93:1-5)**
Reflect: The people responded generously to God's invitation to make voluntary offerings of jewellery and materials and skills to build and equip the Tabernacle.
Prayer: Lord God; may we use gratefully, wisely and generously all You've given us. Amen.
- ☐ **March 16 Exodus 38:21-31 (Psalm 95:1-7)**
Reflect: The sacrificial gifts of gold, silver and brass given by the children of Israel for the Sanctuary are an inspiring example for Christian giving also in our time.
Prayer: Lord God, inspire us to give generously of our treasure to spread Your Word. Amen.
- ☐ **March 17 Exodus 39:32-43 (Psalm 96:1-13)**
Reflect: The work is completed in less than six months and the items brought to Moses. He approves and blesses the people.
Prayer: Give us, O Lord, a similar willingness, readiness and zeal to serve You. Amen.
- ☐ **March 18 Exodus 40:1-38 (Psalm 97: 1-12)**
Reflect: Amid great excitement, the Tabernacle is erected, furnished and consecrated in accordance with God's directions.
Prayer: Father, let the light of Your presence guide and protect us all the way. Amen.
- ☐ **March 19 Leviticus 1:1-17 (Psalm 98: 1-9)**
Reflect: In Leviticus, God gives us details about Tabernacle and Temple worship. This Book begins with the shedding of an animal's blood symbolic of Christ's shedding of blood on the cross. The burning of the animal on the altar pointed to Christ's total commitment for us.
Prayer: Lord Jesus, help us to give ourselves totally to serving You, like You served us. Amen.
- ☐ **March 20 Leviticus 2: 1-16 (Psalm 99:1-9)**
Reflect: The cereal offering, symbolising the restoration of fellowship with God, was to be made from the first fruits of the harvest.
Prayer: Father, with our first fruits we praise You for a restored fellowship with You. Amen.
- ☐ **March 21 Leviticus 3: 1-17 (Psalm 100:1-5)**
Reflect: Peace offerings of bullock, lamb and goat were to be used as a sign that their shattered relationship with God could be restored through the shedding of blood for sin.
Prayer: Father, let our worship praise You for Your peace and Your presence. Amen.
- ☐ **March 22 Leviticus 4: 1-35 (Psalm 102: 25-28)**
Reflect: Sin offerings were to be made for the sins of the priests, of the congregation and of the princes.
Prayer: Father, we thank You that Your Son's sacrifice completely atones for our sins. Amen.
- ☐ **March 23 Leviticus 9: 1-24 (Psalm 103: 1-12)**
Reflect: Installing Aaron into his office as High Priest, Moses introduces him to his place of activity in the Tabernacle and blesses the people.
Prayer: O God; we praise You/or the ministrations o/Your servants in Your House. Amen.
- ☐ **March 24 Leviticus 10: 1-20 (Psalm 104: 1-13)**
Reflect: Nadab and Abihu, two of Aaron's sons, became unduly exalted after being made priests. They then disobeyed God's directives about worship and were struck dead by the Lord.
Prayer: Lord Jesus enable our pastors to fulfil their duties according to Your will. Amen.
- ☐ **March 25 Leviticus 11: 1-28 (Psalm 104: 14-23)**
Reflect: In His mysterious purposes for His people in Old Testament days, God gave ordinances as to what foods were clean and unclean, as to what they were allowed to eat and not eat.
Prayer: Thank You, Father that since Christ's coming we have freedom in what we eat. Amen.
- ☐ **March 26 Leviticus 14: 1-20 (Psalm 104: 24-35)**
Reflect: The Lord is concerned about care of the body. He gives sanitary precautions regarding the dreaded disease of leprosy.
Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank You for cleansing us from the leprosy of our sins. Amen.

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- ☐ **March 27** **Leviticus 16:1-34** **(Psalm 105:1-15)**
Reflect: On the Day of Atonement, the High Priest on entering the Holy of Holies sprinkled the blood of a bullock and a goat on the mercy seat for the sins of the priests and the people.
Prayer: Thank You, Lord Jesus, for shedding Your blood to atone for our sins. Amen
- ☐ **March 28** **Leviticus 23:1-44** **(Psalm 105:16-26)**
Reflect: God gives further regulations: about the Sabbath, and about the Passover Festival; also about three festivals: the Feast of Weeks, and of Trumpets, and of Tabernacles.
Prayer: Lord God; we praise You for our worship times including the special festivals. Amen.
- ☐ **March 29** **Leviticus 24:1-9** **(Psalm 105:27-45)**
Reflect: The light on the lamp stand would be a continual reminder that the Lord as their light would guide them, and the showbreads would be a continual reminder of God's Presence.
Prayer: Thank You, Jesus, for Your special Presence with the Bread of the Sacrament. Amen.
- ☐ **March 30** **Leviticus 25:1-24** **(Psalm 106:1-13)**
Reflect: As the weekly Sabbath was to be used to refresh the body and soul, so a Sabbath every seventh year is to give a year's rest to the land. Furthermore, every fiftieth year was to a jubilee year in which debts were wiped out and slaves freed.
Prayer: Thank You, Lord Jesus, for coming to rescue us and for the gift of continual jubilee, freed from the burdensome debt of sins. Amen
- ☐ **March 31** **Leviticus 26:1-12** **(Psalm 106:21-34)**
Reflect: Though He punishes disobedience, God re-affirms his covenant that He will bless obedience and He will be their God and they will be His people.
Prayer: We praise You, Lord God, for the covenant of grace You have made with us. Amen.