And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, [Jesus] expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. ... Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." (Luke 24:27, 44)

The entire storyline of the Bible, not only in the New Testament but also in the Old, points to the Savior, the Messiah, Jesus Christ. This Bible study takes you through many Old Testament passages; in some, there is a foreshadowing of Christ, while in others, the preincarnate (before being born of Mary) Christ is actually present.

Then I said, "Behold, I come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me. I delight to do Your will, O my God, and Your law is within my heart." (Psalm 40:7-8)

Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. Then I said, 'Behold, I have come—in the volume of the book it is written of Me—to do Your will, O God.'" (Hebrews 10:5-7)

#### Day 1 - Jan. 1 Genesis 1:1-4

All of the words in the Bible (see Heb. 4:12), along with Jesus Christ, who is the Word made flesh (see John 1:5, 14), do the same thing that God did in the very beginning. He divided light from darkness; the Bible divides light from darkness to expose our sin.

#### Day 2 - Jan. 2 Genesis 1:18, 26-27

Again we see God dividing light from darkness (see John 3:19, 8:12, 12:35, and 12:46). Then in verse 26, we find the first allusion to the Trinity in the very first chapter of the Bible as God says "Let Us make man in Our image."

#### Day 3 - Jan. 3 Genesis 3:14-15, 22

In verse 15, we find the very first prophecy of a coming Savior—One who will bruise Satan's head. Then, in verse 22, we find another allusion to the Trinity as God describes Himself as "Us."

#### Day 4 - Jan. 4 Genesis 3:17-21

Not only was this the occasion of the first sin, and the consequences that followed, but this was also the occasion of the very first sacrifice, made by God Himself when He had to kill an animal in order to make clothes for Adam and Eve.

#### Day 5 - Jan. 5 Genesis 4:3-4, 8-10

Abel's offering was from his flock of sheep—a picture of the sacrificial laws God would give to the Israelites, and ultimately, a very early picture of Jesus' sacrifice of Himself for His sheep. Abel was also the first martyr for Christ (see Matt. 23:35).

#### Day 6 - Jan. 6 Genesis 4:14, 26

Sadly, Cain did not know God's salvation through the coming Savior as his brother Abel did. As men multiplied, they worshipped together and called upon the name of the Lord—their Savior, though they did not yet know His name was Jesus.

#### Day 7 - Jan. 7 Genesis 6:8-9; 7:16, 9:3-4

Just like all believers, Noah was made righteous by the blood of Christ—we see how blood is significant to God (see Heb. 9:22). God Himself closed the door of the ark, and the ark itself is a picture of Christ, in whom alone is salvation from death.

#### Day 8 - Jan. 8 Genesis 11:5-8

Here we find another reference to the Trinity, as God says "let Us go down" after the people tried to bring glory and fame to themselves by building what we now call the Tower of Babel.

# Day 9 - Jan. 9 Genesis 14:18-20

Melchizedek is a unique person in Scripture. He is a type of Christ because no genealogy is given for him, and it is as if he had no beginning or no end. In addition, he is used to prove that there can be a Priest greater than the Levites (see Heb. 7:1-10).

#### Day 10 - Jan. 10 Genesis 15:3-6

Once again (see Gen. 12:3, 13:16), God promises Abram that his physical descendants (Israel) and his spiritual descendants (those Jesus saves) will be numerous. But no one can earn their salvation. God gave Abram the righteousness of Christ.

#### Day 11 - Jan. 11 Genesis 16:7-12

This is the first instance in Scripture where we read of "the Angel of the Lord," which is the preincarnate Christ. Here, He appears to Hagar and gives her a promise concerning her son Ishmael, to whom we trace the ancestry of the Islam religion.

## Day 12 - Jan. 12 Genesis 17:1-6

God repeats His promise once more and changes Abram's name to Abraham, which means "father of a multitude." Notice that God makes His covenant with Abraham by His own choice, not because Abram did anything special to earn God's favor.

## Day 13 - Jan. 13 Genesis 18:1-3, 10a; 19:1

One of the three men who met Abraham in Mamre was the preincarnate Christ. We know this because Abraham bowed before Him, and angels would have told him not to (see Rev. 19:10). But Christ did not go with the two angels into sinful Sodom.

## Day 14 - Jan. 14 Genesis 22:7-12

The "Angel of the Lord" is the preincarnate Christ speaking to Abraham. In addition, this whole event is an early picture of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. Since we cannot pay for our own sins, God Himself had to provide the sacrifice—His Son, Jesus Christ.

#### Day 15 - Jan. 15 Genesis 22:13-18

The Angel of the Lord, the preincarnate Christ, continues to speak to Abraham, and repeats the promise already given to Abraham, that his physical seed and his spiritual seed will multiply greatly.

#### Day 16 - Jan. 16 Genesis 24:60; 26:4, 24

Here, God gives Abraham's son Isaac and his wife Rebekah the same promise He had given to Abraham—that He will multiply their descendants and that their physical and spiritual descendants will be victorious over those who hate them.

#### Day 17 - Jan. 17 Genesis 28:14-15

Here, God gives the same promise to Jacob that He had given to Jacob's father, Isaac, and his grandfather, Abraham. But God further promises to someday bring Jacob's descendants back to the land that would eventually be known as Israel.

#### Day 18 - Jan. 18 Genesis 31:11-13

Here we find Christ, the "Angel of God," speaking to Jacob in a dream, which God sometimes did before the written Bible was completed. He tells Jacob to leave Laban, his father-in-law, who was taking advantage of him, and return to his family.

#### Day 19 - Jan. 19 Genesis 32:24-30

The Man who wrestles with Jacob and who gives him a new name (Israel) was none other than the preincarnate Christ. But Christ chose to not prevail against Jacob, instead strengthening Jacob's faith as Christ and Jacob struggled together.

## Day 20 - Jan. 20 Genesis 35:10-12

Not only would the nation of Israel come from the descendants of Jacob, who has been renamed Israel, but so would its kings—and most significantly, the King of Kings, the Messiah Himself, would come from his descendants.

# Day 21 - Jan. 21 <u>Genesis 48:15-16</u>

These verses give us a unique view of the Trinity. Jacob (now known as Israel) gives his son Joseph a blessing before he dies, and he asks both God the Father and "the Angel who has redeemed me" (who we know as Jesus) to bless Joseph's children.

## Day 22 - Jan. 22 Genesis 49:10, 18, 24

In this chapter, Jacob (Israel) blesses the rest of his sons. The Messiah ("Shiloh", which means peace) would come out of the tribe of Judah. In verse 24, Joseph receives a final blessing; he was a type of Christ, the Great Shepherd, the foundation stone.

#### Day 23 - Jan. 23 **Exodus 3:2-6**

The One who appears to Moses in the midst of the bush is none other than the preincarnate Christ. We know that because He tells Moses that the place where he stands is holy ground. Then, Christ clearly states that He is God.

#### Day 24 - Jan. 24 **Exodus 12:12-13**

This is a strong foreshadowing of the work Jesus Christ would accomplish on the cross. For those whom Jesus saves. God sees the shed blood of Jesus and His righteousness instead of our sins, so God passes over us and does not destroy us.

<u>Day 25 - Jan. 25</u> <u>Exodus 12:21-25</u> Here we find a more detailed explanation of the Passover, which foreshadows how God passes over the sins of His children. Jesus Himself is the perfect Passover lamb, scarified for the sins of His people who are unable to pay that debt to God.

#### Day 26 - Jan. 26 Exodus 14:19-22

Israel left their enslavement in Egypt after the ten plagues, but the Egyptians foolishly pursue Israel. This night, the preincarnate Christ stands between the two nations to protect Israel, then the next day, He parted the Red Sea so they could cross safely.

#### Day 27 - Jan. 27 Exodus 17:3-6

This situation gives us another picture of the coming Messiah. People often complained against Jesus and tried to kill him. But Jesus is our Rock, and those who go to Him in true repentance receive living water for our souls (see John 4:7-14).

## Day 28 - Jan. 28 Exodus 23:20-23

Here again is the preincarnate Christ, as God the Father sends Him to protect His people as they journey toward the promised land. Notice how He will not forgive sins except for those who truly have faith in Him, which is proven by obedience.

## <u>Day 29 - Jan. 29 Exodus</u> 32:31-35

The names of those who have sinned are blotted out of God's book—at least, those who have not been forgiven by the shed blood of Christ, who is the same Angel who went before the Israelites to lead them into the Promised Land.

### Day 30 - Jan. 30 Exodus 33:1-3

Again, God tells Moses that He will send His Angel, who is the preincarnate Christ, before His chosen people to lead them into the Promised Land, very much like how Jesus now leads His people into heaven when they pass away from this life.

### Day 31 - Jan. 31 Leviticus 2:11, 13; 5:9

One purpose of the laws God gave to Israel was to set His people apart and cause others to see the difference. Similarly, Christians are called to be salt to the world, proclaiming God's truth among an otherwise dark and ungodly world (see Matt. 5:13).

#### Day 32 - Feb. 1 Leviticus 7:26-27; 17:10

In some cultures, eating blood along with their meat was part of devil worship, thus it is strictly forbidden for God's people. Also, blood is a special part of God's plan of redemption, as the shedding of blood is necessary for the forgiveness of sins (Heb. 9:22).

## Day 33 - Feb. 2 Leviticus 14:10-13

The offerings and sacrifices that God instructed His people to give in the Old Testament were merely a shadow of the coming Christ who would offer a one-time sacrifice for sin, because the blood of animals cannot take away sins (see Heb. 10:4).

#### Day 34 - Feb. 3 Leviticus 16:5-10

Both of these goats from the Day of Atonement represent the work that Jesus Christ alone would accomplish. He is our one-time and final sacrifice for sin, but He also lives and carries our sins away from us, as is symbolized here by the scapegoat.

## Day 35 - Feb. 4 Leviticus 16:15-16, 21-22

Again we see the two goats that together represent the work Christ would later perform on the cross. This passage provides more details about the process. Thankfully, now, because of Christ, God's people no longer have to do all of these things.

## Day 36 - Feb. 5 (Leviticus 16:26-28, 34)

The Jews were commanded to make this sacrifice outside the camp, foreshadowing how Christ would die on the cross outside the walls of Jerusalem, and further symbolizing how Christians are to live separate from the world (see Heb. 13:11-14).

# Day 37 - Feb. 6 Leviticus 20:23-26

One reason why God gave Israel these rules is so they would be separated, noticeably different, from all the other nations. Similarly, those who have been born again in Christ should live differently from the way the rest of the world lives.

# Day 38 - Feb. 7 Leviticus 22:20-21

This also foreshadows the coming Christ, because He was perfect and sinless, without any defect. Only a perfect sacrifice for sin can be acceptable to a holy, righteous God. Since Jesus never sinned, He was able to bear the sins of others on the cross.

### Day 39 - Feb. 8 Numbers 7:89; 9:12, 14

It is believed that the voice Moses heard was that of Christ. Then the Passover meal recalls how God delivered Israel from Egypt and pictures Christ, who had none of His bones broken. Christ died for both strangers (Gentiles) and native people (Israel).

#### Day 40 - Feb. 9 Numbers 8:5-9

At this time, the Levites (one of the twelve tribes of Israel) were set apart by God to be Israel's priests. Now, Jesus is our one, eternal Priest, who offered a sacrifice once and for all. Christians are all part of a holy priesthood (see Heb. 7 and 1 Peter 2).

# Day 41 - Feb. 10 Numbers 16:5, 23:19-21

Salvation in Jesus works in the same way: Those whom God chooses He causes to come near to Him as He makes them more like Jesus (see John 6:35-51, 15:16). God did not observe iniquity in His people because they were covered in Jesus' blood.

#### Day 42 - Feb. 11 Numbers 22:22-25

Balak, king of the Moabites, was afraid of Israel and hired Balaam to curse them. But God would not allow a curse to fall upon His people, so He sent the preincarnate Christ, again referred to as "the Angel of the Lord," to stop Balaam.

#### Day 43 - Feb. 12 Numbers 22:26-30

The preincarnate Christ continues to block Balaam from placing a curse on Israel, God's chosen people. In an unusual display of God's power, He allows the donkey to speak to Balaam to try to get him to realize what is really happening here.

## Day 44 - Feb. 13 Numbers 22:31-35

Finally, God allows Balaam to see the preincarnate Christ standing before Him, which is why his donkey stopped. We know this is Christ because Balaam is not stopped from bowing. Also, notice how Christ causes Balaam to recognize his sin.

## **Day 45 - Feb. 14 Numbers 24:17-19**

Balaam gave four prophecies, as God gave him the words to speak. His final prophecy points to David but ultimately to Jesus Christ, the Star of Jacob, the One who has all power and dominion.

### Day 46 - Feb. 15 Numbers 25:12-13, 27:17

The first passage pictures the covenant of peace that Christ, the eternal priest who made atonement for sin, has brought. The last verse pictures pastors who shepherd churches, and ultimately the Good Shepherd, Jesus (see Matt. 9:36 and John 10).

## **Day 47 - Feb. 16 Deuteronomy 18:15-18**

As Moses speaks to Israel shortly before his death, he gives a prophecy of the coming Prophet who we know as Jesus. When He came to earth, Jesus did indeed speak all that God commanded Him to speak, and He saves souls from the fire of hell.

#### Day 48 - Feb. 17 Deut. 21:22-23, 27:26

Jesus took the curse for sin that we deserve by hanging on the cross; in God's law, anyone who hangs on a tree was cursed (see Gal. 3:13). None of us can perfectly keep the law of God, but true believers are covered in His perfect righteousness.

#### Day 49 - Feb. 18 Joshua 5:13-15

Prior to the battle of Jericho, Joshua encounters Christ. The place he stood is holy because Christ is there. It is interesting how Christ answers "no" to Joshua's question. God doesn't take our side; God is always right, and we must be on His side.

## Day 50 - Feb. 19 Judges 2:1-4

The Angel of the Lord (the preincarnate Christ) is speaking as if He is God—because He is. Those who teach false doctrines about Christ, claiming that He is not God, are in disagreement with this and many other passages of Scripture.

### Day 51 - Feb. 20 Judges 6:11-14

God had allowed the Midianites to defeat Israel and rule over them for seven years because of Israel's disobedience. That period of time has ended, and here the Angel of the Lord (Christ) appears to Gideon, whom God will use to free His people.

## Day 52 - Feb. 21 Judges 6:15-18

Gideon questions the preincarnate Christ. Gideon \u00edwonders why God chose him to free His people. But all things are possible through Christ who strengthens us (see Phil. 4:13), and God's power is made perfect in our weakness (see 2 Cor. 12:9).

## Day 53 - Feb. 22 Judges 6:19-22

Gideon did not know that this Angel's name would later be known as Jesus, but still he knew who this was, and Gideon was in awe at the sight of the preincarnate Christ. We also see one way here in which God is a consuming fire (see Heb. 12:29).

## Day 54 - Feb. 23 Judges 13:5-10

This couple had been unable to have children, but the preincarnate Christ visited Manoah's wife to tell her that they would give birth to a boy (Samson) who would be dedicated to the service of God.

## Day 55 - Feb. 24 Judges 13:11-16

Christ declined Manoah's offer of food. Though He did eat at times during His time on earth, neither God nor angels need food. Instead, Christ focused on doing the work of His Father (see John 4:31-34).

#### Day 56 - Feb. 25 Judges 13:17-23

The name "Jesus" was not to be known until the angel Gabriel visited Mary and Joseph. In addition, although no one can see God the Father and live (see Ex. 33:20), many people have seen angels as well as God's Son, Jesus Christ.

## Day 57 - Feb. 26 Judges 17:7-13

This passage provides an interesting comparison to Jesus. This priest came from Bethlehem, where Jesus would be born, yet he had nowhere to stay, as Jesus once said about Himself (see Luke 9:58).

#### Day 58 - Feb. 27 Ruth 1:2, 19; 2:4, 11

Naomi and her daughter-in-law, Ruth, were both widowed. They returned to Naomi's homeland of Bethlehem where they knew there would be people there who would take care of them. The rest of Ruth's story parallels the coming Messiah.

#### Day 59 - Feb. 28 Ruth 3:9-13

Boaz (the person speaking first in this passage) is a shadow of Jesus, our Redeemer. In salvation, we are beggars with nothing to offer to a holy God. Jesus covers those who are His with His robe of righteousness and makes us His (see Ezek. 16:8).

#### February 29

On this extra day, which comes around just once every four years, I encourage you to read and meditate upon your favorite psalm. Look to see if anything in that psalm points to Christ.

## Day 60 - Mar. 1 Ruth 3:14-18

Mirroring the abundant grace given by God through Christ in salvation, Boaz gave Ruth abundant food to ensure she and Naomi were well provided for. Boaz did not rest until this matter was concluded, just as God works out every detail of our salvation.

## Day 61 - Mar. 2 Ruth 4:1-6

As Ruth was to become the bride of the man who would redeem her, so the church—the true church, made up of those whom Christ has redeemed through His death on the cross—is called the bride of Christ. (see Eph. 5:25 and Rev. 21:1-9).

## Day 62 - Mar. 3 Ruth 4:7-12

Here, Boaz's redemption of Ruth is completed. In a similar way, Christ redeems His people so that the name of God might continue to be proclaimed. It is also no coincidence that this occurs in Bethlehem.

#### Day 63 - Mar. 4 Ruth 4:13-22

The book of Ruth ends with a brief genealogy, pointing even more clearly toward Christ. King David, who was a type of Christ and who pictured Christ as much as anyone in the Old Testament, was to be Ruth's great-grandson (see Matt. 1:5-6).

## Day 64 - Mar. 5 1 Samuel 2:1, 10, 35

The first two verses are from Hannah's prayer of thanks when God gave her a son, Samuel, after such a long time of waiting. In the last verse, after rebuking unfaithful priests, God says one day He will raise up a faithful Priest—the Messiah, Jesus.

# Day 65 - Mar. 6 2 Samuel 7:12-17

This prophecy is for Solomon, David's son, but it also finds later fulfillment in Christ. Solomon built God's temple in Jerusalem, but Jesus referred to Himself as the temple (see Matt. 12:6, 23:17). And only the kingdom of Christ will truly last forever.

#### Day 66 - Mar. 7 2 Samuel 7:18-24

This is the first part of David's prayer to God, giving thanks and praising Him, after God revealed to David that his earthly kingdom would last for many generations, and ultimately, that the eternal King, Christ, would descend from the lineage of David.

## Day 67 - Mar. 8 2 Samuel 7:25-29

This is the conclusion of David's prayer of praise to God. David's kingdom has lasted forever because Jesus descended from the lineage of David, and Jesus is the eternal King who will rule forever.

## Day 68 - Mar. 9 2 Samuel 18:15-20, 33

This is the story of how King David's son Absalom was killed, and it bears some similarity to the death of God's Son, Jesus. For those who are saved, God's precious Son Jesus Christ died in our place.

## Day 69 - Mar. 10 2 Samuel 24:14-17

David knew he has sinned against God by counting the people in his own pride, but he rightly asked for God's wrath rather than the wrath of men, because He trusted God. The One who enacted the plague, David's consequence, was the preincarnate Christ.

### Day 70 - Mar. 11 1 Kings 9:5-9

God warns Israel through King Solomon what will happen if they fail to worship Him and go off and follow false idols instead. Nevertheless, God keeps His promises, so the kingdom of David will last forever, through his descendant Jesus Christ.

#### Day 71 - Mar. 12 1 Kings 2:33,45; 11:13

The first part of this passage has ultimate fulfillment in Christ, as the spiritual descendants of David receive true peace from Christ. The last part shows how God doesn't change, continuing the lineage of David even after Solomon had sinned against Him.

## Day 72 - Mar. 13 1 Kings 19:5-8

In this instance, where an angel is caring for the needs of Elijah, it is not certain whether the angel was the preincarnate Christ or if it was just another angel. Either way, this foreshadows the forty days and forty nights that Jesus fasted in the desert.

#### Day 73 - Mar. 14 2 Kings 1:12-15

This is another instance where the angel of the Lord may have been Christ, or just another angel; we aren't told for sure. We also see evidence of Elijah's strong faith, and of God's consuming fire against His enemies (see Heb. 12:29).

#### Day 74 - Mar. 15 2 Kings 8:16-19

We see here how God continues to keep His promise to David, by placing David's descendants on the throne to reign over Judah. But David's descendants are only able to truly rule forever because Christ is our eternal King.

## Day 75 - Mar. 16 2 Kings 19:32-35

Once again, this "angel of the Lord" may or may not have been Christ. Either way, this foreshadows the work of Christ. He saves, preserves, and protects those who belong to Him while ultimately destroying those who are the enemies of God.

## **Day 76 - Mar. 17** 1 Chronicles 22:8-10

King David's son, Solomon, would build the temple of the Lord in Jerusalem. But the last verse in this passage points to the true temple, Christ (see John 2:19), who is God's only begotten Son and who will rule as the eternal King over His people forever.

## Day 77 - Mar. 18 1 Chronicles 28:6-7

David is recounting what God had told him about his son Solomon. God has chosen to adopt as children all those whom He saves, and He is our Father. This is also a picture of Christ, God's only begotten Son, who will reign as King forever.

### Day 78 - Mar. 19 Job 13:15-16

Since Job is considered to be the oldest book in the Bible, Job no doubt knew far less about His Savior than most other people in the Old Testament. Still, Job knew that his salvation could be found in God alone, and that God hates hypocrisy in religion.

#### Day 79 - Mar. 20 Job 14:4, 14-17

Only through the righteousness of Christ can an unclean person be made clean; Job understood correctly that no one on earth can do that. Job also understood the work that Christ would accomplish, to cover over his transgressions against God.

## Day 80 - Mar. 21 Job 19:25-27

Job 19:25 is one of the most amazing verses in the entire Bible. Job lived some 2,000 years before Christ walked in the earth and was crucified on the cross, yet Job knew that he had a Redeemer who would live and ultimately be victorious!

#### Day 81 - Mar. 22 Job 33:8-9, 23-24

Here, Job's friend Elihu correctly rebukes Job for believing that he is pure and innocent, since none of us is without sin. Christ, of course, is the only mediator between God and man (see 1 Tim. 2:5), who delivers His people from going down to the pit.

#### Day 82 - Mar. 23 Job 35:1-3

We fail to understand how holy God is. Even the good things we do are like filthy rags to Him because we are such sinful beings (see Isaiah 64:6). Only through Christ can we receive the perfect righteousness that is acceptable to God.

#### 

For the first time in Scripture, God declares that the coming Messiah, the One often referred to as the "Angel of the Lord", is actually God's own begotten Son. All the nations of the earth are His inheritance, and those who are against God will face His wrath.

## Day 84 - Mar. 25 Psalm 16:3-4, 9-11

The Bible uses the word "saint" to refer to all those who believe, and God delights in all who are His. Only the Messiah, Jesus Christ, died but did not see corruption in the grave, because He rose again on the third day, and He is the path of life.

#### Day 85 - Mar. 26 Psalm 18:43-50

This passage is about King David, but it ultimately points to Christ. The Gentiles ("a people I have not known") for the most part did not know God in Old Testament times, but are now among those who are blessed to be able to know and serve Him.

#### 

Christ, the Bridegroom, the Sun of Righteousness who rises with healing in His wings, is pictured in these verses as David expresses awe over God's creation (see Mark 2:19-20 and Mal. 4:2). Christ is also judge, and nothing is hidden from Him.

#### 

We should all rejoice for the salvation that comes through Christ Jesus. The heart's desire of Jesus was and is for the redemption of His people (see Song of Sol. 7:10). Jesus gives His people rich blessings and makes us exceedingly glad.

#### Day 88 - Mar. 29 Psalm 22:1-8

This Psalm pictures Jesus on the cross in so many ways. Jesus said the words of the first sentence just before He died. On many occasions, during His ministry and while dying on the cross, Jesus was ridiculed, mocked, and despised by many people.

#### Day 89 - Mar. 30 Psalm 22:9-15

God the Father brought Jesus out of Mary's womb and into this life. He was always near His Son Jesus, even when Jesus was being attacked on all sides by those who hate Him.

#### Day 90 – Mar. 31 Psalm 22:16-21

Some of His followers watched as He was hung on the cross, but most of the people there were wicked and wanted Jesus to die. They pierced His hands and feet and cast lots to see who would win His clothes, but they did not break any of His bones.

#### 

Christ is our Great Shepherd. But why does God lead His children in the paths of righteousness? For the sake of His holy name. Why does the psalmist fear no evil? Because he is comforted by God's loving care and also by God's staff of chastisement.

# 

Those who belong to Christ receive righteousness from Him, the God of our salvation. Clean hands and a pure heart are a gift from Him. We cannot earn our own salvation. Only with the righteousness of Christ covering us can we be made clean.

#### 

God's forgiveness and forgetting of our sin, and His pardoning of our iniquity, are all accomplished through Jesus Christ. In salvation, God humbles a person, then teaches that person the ways of God. He does all this so we can understand His mercy.

### Day 94 - Apr. 4 Psalm 28:8-9; 31:4-5

Jesus is our Great Shepherd who leads us along the way, and He alone is our Redeemer. "Into Your hands I commit My Spirit" were the very last words spoken by Jesus before He died on the cross, as He submitted fully to the Father (see Luke 23:46).

#### Day 95 - Apr. 5 Psalm 30:2-5

For those who are true believers, God brought our souls up from the grave and saved us from an eternity in hell through the work that Jesus Christ accomplished on the cross. God's favor is for life; a true believer can never lose his or her salvation.

# Day 96 - Apr. 6 Psalm 31:11-15

David is writing about himself in this psalm, but it also foreshadows Christ, who would be foolishly hated, slandered, and schemed against by many of the Jews. But both David and Christ fully trusted in deliverance from God the Father.

#### Day 97 - Apr. 7 Psalm 32:1-2; 33:18-20

Even though David wrote what we know as Psalm 32 hundreds of years before Jesus came and died on the cross, he knew that in some way, God would cover over and forgive sin. Only in Christ do we have the hope that can deliver souls from death.

### Day 98 - Apr. 8 Psalm 40:6-9

In this psalm, Christ is directly speaking through David (see Heb. 10:5-9). Christ states that He is written about in the Old Testament (which was all we had at this time), and as we see throughout this study, the entire Bible does point to Jesus Christ.

## Day 99 - Apr. 9 Psalm 41:4-9

Much of this psalm could apply to the hatred toward Jesus from those around Him. But specifically, the last verse foreshadows the betrayal of Judas. In fact, Jesus quotes this very verse to His apostles shortly before dying on the cross (see John 13:18).

## 

This righteousness comes through Jesus Christ, the One who will rule forever and ever in the eternal kingdom of God. In addition, because God loves righteousness and hates wickedness, and because He is a just judge, He must punish sin for eternity.

## 

David wrote this psalm after his sin with Bathsheba. David knows that he sinned against God, and that God alone, through the work that Christ would perform on the cross, is able to blot out all of his transgressions and cleanse him from his sin.

#### 

The purging and cleansing that David describes is only possible through the saving work of Jesus Christ. He is the only one who can blot out all of the sins we commit against a holy God. He alone can renew a sinful heart and make it clean.

#### 

This is similar to Psalm 40:6, which is quoted in Hebrews 10:5-6. God has no interest in people who follow religious rituals. But someone who has truly repented of sin and been born again in Christ will sincerely love God with a broken and contrite heart.

# 

God chose Jesus as our Mediator, who alone can approach God on our behalf. And in salvation, God chooses those whom are saved and are allowed to enter heaven for eternity (see John 6:44). And Christ has set the captives free (see Luke 4:18).

## 

Jesus Christ bore reproach in order to accomplish the work on the cross to satisfy the justice required by His Father. Also, Jesus quoted the last verse when He cleansed the temple from those who were dishonestly selling things inside (see John 2:14-17).

#### 

This passage, continuing in this psalm written by David, also speaks of the reproach borne by Jesus on the cross. We also find a foreshadowing in this psalm of the vinegar (or wine) that Jesus was offered while on the cross (see Matt. 27:34, 48).

## 

The only way anyone's name can be written in the book of the living is to be born again through salvation in Jesus Christ, when a person who is unrighteous becomes mercifully covered in the robe of Christ's perfect righteousness.

## 

Only Christ, the eternal King, the Son of God, possesses perfect righteousness, which He graciously gives to those whom He saves. In addition, God alone is the only one who is able to judge with perfect righteousness and justice.

# 

This passage describes the eternal reign of Christ, who will reign over all creation and be King forever. He will bring peace like nothing we have ever seen. Everyone, even those who are now His enemies, will bow before Him and serve Him in eternity.

### Day 110 - Apr. 20 Psalm 72:12-15

This psalm continues to speak about the work that Christ performs. He is our great Deliverer, Savior, and Redeemer, not only from troubles in this life, but ultimately from an eternity in hell. He will live and reign forever, and we will praise Him forever.

#### 

This is the conclusion of the psalm about Christ's eternal reign. His name will indeed endure forever, and all He does is wondrous! What a wonderful picture of eternity this psalm is for those who have been saved and born again in Jesus Christ.

## 

Christ has always been King and has always been the author of salvation (see Heb. 12:2). Christ is also the great Judge, the only one who can judge with perfectly righteous judgment (see 2 Tim. 4:8).

# Day 113 - Apr. 23 Psalm 77:15; 8:1, 9

Redemption of God's people is the work that Christ has performed through His death and resurrection. Christ is our Great Shepherd who leads His people like a flock (see John 10:11-16). The gospel of salvation in Christ is sure and now fills the earth.

#### 

The branch, which is in some versions of the Bible translated "son", is a reference to Christ (see Jer. 23:5, 33:15 and Zech. 3:8, 6:12). Christ is at the right hand of God (see Heb. 1:3) and is the one who revives and restores those whom He saves.

#### 

This is the work of Christ. He is the one who has forgiven the sin of His people and has taken away the wrath of God which we all deserve. Because of Christ's sacrifice of Himself, sin can be forgiven and God is not angry with His children forever.

## 

People from all over the world have been and will be saved, with all those names being recorded in the Lamb's Book of Life (see Rev. 13:8). The second passage points to the eternal covenant of salvation that God has made with His people.

## Day 117 - Apr. 27 Psalm 89:19-23, 51

This psalm speaks of David, but also finds ultimate fulfillment in Christ. God chose David to be king, but ultimately, God chose Christ and anointed Him, and God has exalted and strengthened Christ to defeat the enemy of Satan and death.

#### 

Though He has existed for all eternity (see John 1:1-5), Christ is referred to as God's firstborn (see Col. 1:15 and Heb. 1:6) because everyone whom God saves become adopted children, after Jesus. Christ is the highest King and will endure forever.

#### Day 119 - Apr. 29 Psalm 89:30-37

This passage gives a beautiful picture of God's fatherly chastisement when one of His children sins against Him. Just as any loving father would do, He chastens His children in order to teach them, but it is done in love. True salvation can never be lost.

## 

Who sits at the right hand of God? Who has won the victory? Who has made known salvation and righteousness? Only Jesus Christ, through whose sacrifice we see the mercy of God. Through Christ, God delivers from hell those whom He loves.

#### Day 121 - May 1 Psalm 102:13-15, 28

Through Christ, God has mercy on His people whom He favors, who are often referred to in the Bible as Zion. And because God is sovereign over all things, we know that He will continue to save people from every generation.

#### Day 122 - May 2 Psalm 103:1-5

What is the focus here? Yes, God can heal our diseases and He provides for our needs, but just like Jesus' ministry on earth, most of these verses focus on the most important thing—forgiveness from sin and salvation from eternal destruction.

#### Day 123 - May 3 Psalm 103:6-10

Because each of us has sinned mightily against our perfect, holy God, we all earn eternal punishment. But God has saved some and has not given His children what we deserve, so that we might understand His mercy, graciousness, and love.

## Day 124 - May 4 Psalm 103:11-14

Through Christ's sacrifice, God removed the sins of His people as far away as the east is from the west. Think about this: if you go north, you will eventually be going south. But east and west never meet; you can go that way forever. God's mercy never ends.

#### Day 125 - May 5 Psalm 103:15-18

We are able to possess the perfect righteousness of God only through the work that Christ performed on the cross, because only Christ could perfectly obey God. His mercy has always existed, just as Christ has always existed (see John 1:1-5).

#### Day 126 - May 6 Psalm 106:4-8

This passage covers several important doctrines. God initiates salvation and chooses whom He will save, although we have sinned wickedly against Him. God doesn't save because we deserve it; He saves to show forth His mercy and mighty power.

#### Day 127 - May 7 Psalm 110:1-3

The only way the phrase "the Lord said to my Lord" (sometimes translated "the Lord said to His Word") could make sense is if it is God the Father speaking to Christ, His Son. Both are equal parts of the Godhead Trinity and both have always existed.

#### Psalm 110:4-7 Day 128 - May 8

The priest Melchizedek, to whom Abram paid tithes (see Gen. 14:17-24), lived before the Levites were priests in Israel. God used this example to show that Christ was superior to the Levitical priesthood. See Hebrews 7 for an in-depth explanation of this.

#### 

God's law never changes. Its purpose is to help us understand the nature of God and to help us see how sinful we are compared to God. Because none of us is able to keep God's law on our own, he sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to redeem His people.

#### Day 130 - May 10 Psalm 112:4-9

The first phrase here has multiple applications, one of which is Christ, who is the Light that arose in the darkness (see John 1:5). The last few verses apply to believers because of what Christ has done. He has given us His perfect, eternal righteousness.

#### Day 131 - May 11 Psalm 116:12-16

The thankful spirit of this psalm is an attitude that all Christians should have. For believers. God has given us innumerable benefits, from blessings in this life to eternal salvation through Jesus Christ. He has loosened the bondage of sin for us.

## 

Those who have been born again can joyfully say those words, "I shall not die, but live," because Jesus Christ paid the sin debt to God that each of us owes. Like any good father, God chastens and corrects His children out of love (see Heb. 12:5-11).

## Day 133 - May 13 Psalm 118:19-23

Jesus quoted the last two verses, applying them to Himself and using it against the Pharisees, the Jewish religious leaders who had rejected Him. But Jesus is the chief cornerstone of the foundation. and this is indeed marvelous in our eyes!

### Day 134 - May 14 Psalm 118:26-29

Not only has God given us the light of the sun to provide for our physical needs on this earth, He has also given us Christ, the light of the world, to shine in the darkness in order to reveal our sin to us and to save some of us from our sin (see John 8:12).

#### Day 135 - May 15 Psalm 119:41-45

The longest chapter in the Bible is all about God's law. His law is not a boring set of rules but it helps us to understand who God is. God's law shows us how sinful we are and how much we need a Savior who came to fulfill the law (see Matt. 5:17-20).

<u>Day 136 - May 16</u> <u>Psalm 119:49-53</u>
"Your word has given me life." Not only do we find the path to eternal life within the pages of the Bible, but the living Word, Jesus Christ, is Himself the way to eternal life (see John 1:1-5, 14 and Rev. 19:13). Literally, the Word, Jesus, gives us life.

#### 

Christ was treated wrongfully with falsehood during the trial prior to His crucifixion. Many believers have also endured mistreatment because they sought to spread the gospel. But our hope is in God's Word the Bible as well as the living Word, Jesus.

## <u>Day 138 - May 18 Psalm 119:89-93</u>

God's word, the Bible, never changes, just as the Living Word, Jesus Christ, also never changes and now resides in heaven. We should delight in God's law because it shows us who He is, and also in the One who came to fulfill the law and give us life.

## 

God's law shines a light on our darkness, showing us how sinful we are (John 3:19-21, 8:12; Rom. 7:7). The law acted as a tutor to bring us to Christ (Gal. 3:24), and only Christ could fully obey the law so He could take the punishment that we deserve.

## Day 140 - May 20 Psalm 119:140-144

God's written Word, the Bible, is pure, in that it is a reflection of God Himself and it contains no errors. Similarly, the Living Word, Jesus Christ, is wholly pure, which is why His sacrifice is the only way we could ever receive God's perfect righteousness.

# <u>Day 141 - May 21 Psalm 119:149, 154-156</u>

The revival of a dead heart, the completely pure justice of God, the redemption of lost souls, the tender mercies of God, the salvation of the Lord—all these wonderful, amazing benefits come to the believer through the Savior, Jesus Christ.

### 

Jesus Himself was persecuted, and He told us that any of us who are His true followers should expect nothing different from unbelievers in the world (see John 15:20). But no matter what, we can always find comfort when we spend time in God's Word.

#### Day 143 - May 23 Psalm 119:165-170

Deliverance does come according to God's Word. His written word shows us our sinfulness and need of a Savior, and His Living Word, Christ, was sent to take our punishment. After salvation, obeying God's law shows the world that we are different.

# 

As the entirety of Psalm 119 reminds us, God's Word, God's law, God's Son are all one in the same. God's Son is the Living Word who came to fulfill God's law. In Him alone is salvation, and He seeks His people as a shepherd seeks lost sheep.

#### 

Our sins against God are uncountable; no one can stand before our holy God on their own merits and expect to get into heaven. But we can be thankful that He offers forgiveness for our sins for those who repent and trust in Jesus Christ.

## Day 146 - May 26 Psalm 130:5-8

God's Word never fails, so we must trust His Word (both His written Word, the Bible, and the living Word, Jesus Christ) and wait on the Lord, for His timing is always perfect. Our redemption from our iniquities comes only through salvation in Christ.

## 

David was anointed to be king of Israel for a time, but the eternal Anointed One to whom this psalm ultimately refers is Christ. David's descendants will continue to sit upon the throne forever because Christ, the eternal King, is a descendant of David.

## 

This passage refers to a combination of heaven and the church, which is the Lord's dwelling place as well as the people whom He blesses. The horn of David and His Anointed both refer to Christ, whose enemies will face God's wrath in shame.

#### 

Christ, the coming Messiah, is magnified by God above all things. He saves those who are humble, but resists those who are proud (see James 4:6 and 1 Peter 5:5). Salvation comes through Christ, who sits at the right hand of God (see Heb. 10:12).

### Day 150 - May 30 Psalm 143:1-2, 11-12

God saves people not because of anything we have done but for the sake of His name and His righteousness, so all may see how merciful He is. Those who are saved are covered in Christ's righteousness, so we are not judged by our deeds.

#### Day 151 - May 31 Psalm 144:10-11, 15

God, through Christ, is the One who gives salvation and the one who delivers and rescues His people from their enemies. Those who have received that gift of salvation can be happy even in the midst of trouble because we have eternal joy in Christ.

# **Day 152 - Jun. 1 Psalm 149:4-9**

The two-edged sword is the Word of God, through the power given to those all saints—everyone who is a true Christian—to use God's Word to rebuke sinners and share the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ (see Eph. 6:17 and Heb. 4:12).

## **Day 153 - Jun. 2 Proverbs 1:20-23**

Throughout the book of Proverbs, the preincarnate Christ is referred to by the name of "Wisdom", since Proverbs is full of wisdom and Christ possesses all wisdom and knowledge. Picture Christ saying these words, rebuking fools to turn from their sinful ways.

#### Day 154 - Jun. 3 Proverbs 1:24-28

Christ, called Wisdom, speaks against those who refuse to come to the Savior (see Rom. 10:20-21 and Luke 7:30). Jesus warned that the time of salvation is now; a time will come when He will not answer (see John 7:34 and Luke 13:24-25).

## Day 155 - Jun. 4 Proverbs 1:29-33

Christ continues to speak here about those who do not repent, rejecting salvation in Him. But Christ ends His words on a positive note, reminding us that those who listen to Him and obey Him, those who are truly His, will be safe and should not fear.

## **Day 156 - Jun. 5 Proverbs 2:10-15**

This is a list of some things that take place when wisdom enters one's heart, when the Holy Spirit comes in through salvation in Jesus Christ. When that happens, a sinful person now has the new ability to choose good things that honor God.

## Day 157 - Jun. 6 Proverbs 2:16-22

This is a continuation of the previous passage and explains how the indwelling Holy Spirit can help keep us from a sinful seductress. Instead, the now-reborn person can run away from such sin and run to God, walking in the paths of righteousness.

### **Day 158 - Jun. 7 Proverbs 3:19-22**

The parallels in the first verse of this passage are fascinating. Not only did God use His all-knowing, perfect wisdom when He created everything, but in addition, God created everything through Wisdom Himself, Jesus Christ (see John 1:3).

#### Day 159 - Jun. 8 Proverbs 4:5-9

Solomon recounts the wisdom his father, David, gave him when he was young. But beyond just being wise, think again of "wisdom" as "Christ." He will preserve those who truly follow and love Him. We exalt Him and He gives His people grace.

#### Day 160 - Jun. 9 Proverbs 4:10-13

The instruction of wisdom, pointing to the law of God and ultimately to Christ, is indeed the only source of eternal life. In addition, the wisdom we receive through Christ enables us to choose to do what is right so we can run without stumbling.

#### Day 161 - Jun. 10 Proverbs 6:20-24

While obeying the law of God can never earn someone salvation because no one can obey it perfectly, the law is a lamp and a light in two ways. It shines in the darkness of our hearts to show us our sin, and it leads us to the Light, Jesus Christ.

#### Day 162 - Jun. 11 Proverbs 6:32-35

Sexual sin is so common yet it destroys families and dishonors God. Yet this passage, too, points to Christ, the husband or bridegroom of the church, who is jealous for His people in a godly way, desiring that we would cling to Him and forsake sin.

## Day 163 - Jun. 12 Proverbs 7:1-5

Again, wisdom and understanding ultimately points to Christ. When He saves a person and the Holy Spirit comes to dwell within, only then are we able to love the law of God, flee from sins (sexual and otherwise), and live in such a way that honors God.

## **Day 164 - Jun. 13 Proverbs 8:1-5**

The eighth chapter of Proverbs is amazing to read since the entire chapter consists of the preincarnate Christ, called Wisdom, speaking to us nearly 1,000 years before He came to earth. Unbelievers are "fools", as He also said later (see Matt. 23:17-19).

## Day 165 - Jun. 14 Proverbs 8:6-11

Christ continues to speak. As is always the case, He can only speak right things and truth. He alone is the only source of complete righteousness. True believers who know Him understand these things plainly, unlike those who desire worldly treasures.

## Day 166 - Jun. 15 Proverbs 8:12-16

Christ calls Himself "Wisdom" here and continues to share godly wisdom. He reminds us of how much He hates evil, pride, arrogance, and the perverse mouth. All things that occur on earth, even choices made by kings and judges, are governed by Christ.

#### Day 167 - Jun. 16 Proverbs 8:17-21

When Christ was on earth, He echoed the words that He had earlier said here (see John 14:21-23). His path of righteousness is far better than earthly treasures, and true spiritual fruit comes through Christ alone (see Matt. 7:15-20 and John 15:1-8).

#### Day 168 - Jun. 17 Proverbs 8:22-26

If you had any lingering doubts as to whether or not this is Christ speaking, this passage makes it totally clear. The speaker has always existed, even before the earth was created. That could be none other than Jesus Christ (see John 1:1-14 and Heb. 1:2).

#### Day 169 - Jun. 18 Proverbs 8:27-31

Christ continues to tell us how He has always existed, even before creation. Christ was the "master craftsman" through whom all things were created (see John 1:3 and Col. 1:16-17, and is His Father's delight (see Isa. 42:1 and Matt. 3:17).

#### Day 170 - Jun. 19 Proverbs 8:32-36

His eternal existence firmly established, Christ tells us that we must listen and obey what He says in order to be wise and blessed. Whoever finds Christ finds eternal life (see John 14:6), while those who hate Him face eternal death (see John 15:23-24).

## Day 171 - Jun. 20 Proverbs 10:11-13, 25

This reminds us that our words should point the way to eternal life. And not only does love between people help right the wrongs we commit against each other, but ultimately, Christ's love and His shed blood cover all sins of those who trust in Him.

# **Day 172 - Jun. 21 Proverbs 11:4-9**

How can we possess complete righteousness and be blameless before God? Only through salvation, when Christ gives us His perfect righteousness, is that made possible. Believers are delivered by our righteousness, which is given to us by Christ.

## **Day 173 - Jun. 22 Proverbs 11:17-21**

This passage again speaks of things God provides to His children through Christ as part of salvation. We receive righteousness, life, and deliverance, and through the sacrifice of Christ, we are made blameless before God and we become His delight.

### Day 174 - Jun. 23 Proverbs 12:28; 20:2

The way of righteousness is to repent, believe, and follow Christ, and those who follow that path face no death but receive eternal life. The second verse is true for earthly kings but moreso for Christ; those who anger Him and do not repent sin unto death.

#### Day 175 - Jun. 24 Proverbs 13:12-14, 24

Christ is alluded to as the tree of life in the new heaven and earth (see Rev. 22:2). Those who despise the living Word, Christ, will be sent to eternal destruction in hell. Like a good father, God disciplines His children in love (see Heb. 12:6-8).

## Day 176 - Jun. 25 Proverbs 14:25-27, 32

Christ is the source of the fountain containing the eternal water of life (see John 4:10 and Rev. 21:6) and is the only way to escape the snares of eternal death. Those who are saved have a refuge when they die because of Christ's righteousness.

## **Day 177 - Jun. 26 Proverbs 16:2-6**

Atonement for our iniquities was provided by the sacrifice of Christ, through His mercy. God even created the wicked for the day of doom, to display His justice and wrath against sin (see Rom. 9:19-23). Following Christ is the way to depart from evil.

### Day 178 - Jun. 27 Proverbs 16:16-20

Christ, who is true wisdom and understanding, is indeed infinitely better than any earthly treasures. Repenting of pride and being humble is something Jesus preached about frequently during His time on earth (see Matt. 23:12 and Luke 14:11; 18:9-14).

## **Day 179 - Jun. 28 Proverbs 17:5-10**

There is a wide array of good advice and wisdom in this passage, but the next-to-last verse is the one that especially points to Christ. In an act of amazing love and sacrifice, He paid the price that we owe in order to cover the transgressions of God's children.

## Day 180 - Jun. 29 Proverbs 17:13-17

Jesus Christ is both the friend (see John 15:12-17) and the brother (see Mark 3:31-35). If you truly belong to Him, He will never fail to love you just as He has promised. He is also our Brother, and stands by us during the good and the bad.

Day 181 - Jun. 30 Prov. 18:4, 10, 24; 19:16

Jesus is the friend who sticks closer than a brother (see John 15:12-17). If God has truly saved you, He will never leave nor forsake you (see Joshua 1:5 and Heb. 13:5). Keeping God's commandments is evidence that one's soul has been rescued.

### **Day 182 - Jul. 1 Proverbs 19:8-12**

God receives glory in the forgiveness of sin, when He saves someone through the sacrifice of Christ and is able to overlook our transgressions because He paid the price that we owe. But those who remain lost in their sin face the wrath of the King.

#### Day 183 - Jul. 2 Prov. 19:23; 21:16, 21, 31

The fear of the Lord leads to eternal life through Jesus Christ, and eternal life can only be found in the righteousness and mercy of Christ. Deliverance from trials and troubles in this life, but ultimately from eternal punishment, indeed is of the Lord.

#### Day 184 - Jul. 3 Proverbs 20:7-12

No one can say "I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin." We are unable to accomplish that on our own apart from salvation in Christ. But we are able to recognize our sinful condition when God grants us ears to hear and eyes to see.

#### Day 185 - Jul. 4 Proverbs 20:26-30

Jesus Christ is the wisest King of all, and He easily sifts out the saved from the lost (see Matt. 13:24-30 and Luke 3:16-17). God may chasten His children so much that it hurts because He loves us and wants us to be free from evil (see Heb. 12:5-11).

#### Day 186 - Jul. 5 Proverbs 22:1-4, 11

Just as Jesus frequently taught, eternal life is unimaginably better than earthly riches (see Matt. 6:19-24). Those of us who have received God's gift of grace and eternal life can call King Jesus our friend (see Matt. 5:8 and John 15:13-17).

## Day 187 - Jul. 6 Proverbs 23:10-14

Indeed, our Redeemer is mighty, and He is victorious over all who stand against Him. Good parents should chasten and discipline their children out of love, to teach them right from wrong, just as God does for His children (see Heb. 12:5-11).

## <u>Day 188 - Jul. 7 Proverbs 23:15-19</u>

True wisdom comes from Christ, after a new birth within the heart. Sometimes believers foolishly envy sinners who seem to be prospering, but we must keep eternity in view and stay focused on bringing God the glory because our hope will not be cut off.

#### Day 189 - Jul. 8 Proverbs 23:22-26

This passage can be understood of wisdom from a father to his children, or as wisdom from God to His children. The last verse, in particular, are the words of God to His children through Christ. He receives our hearts in salvation, and we follow His ways.

### Day 190 - Jul. 9 Proverbs 24:13-16

Anyone who has found true wisdom by receiving salvation in Christ can be assured that hope will not be cut off. We also see here how God always protects His people, but unrepentant people who remain enemies of God have no such promise.

#### Day 191 - Jul. 10 Proverbs 25:5-7, 27

In eternity, there will be no more wickedness or sin, so the throne King Jesus will be established in righteousness. Before God, we have no right to exalt ourselves or seek our own glory; all exaltation, glory, and honor belongs to God alone.

#### Day 192 - Jul. 11 Proverbs 28:1-5

Though salvation cannot be earned by obeying God's law, those who have been saved love the law and seek to obey it in order to honor God. We see conflict in the world because God's enemies do not love the law and fail to understand justice.

#### Day 193 - Jul. 12 Proverbs 28:6-10

Again we are reminded of how obeying God's law shows wisdom—not that we are saved through obedience, but that obeying God's law shows the world that Christians are different and uninterested in worldly things, and it brings glory to God.

### Day 194 - Jul. 13 Proverbs 28:11-14, 26

This passage points to the significance of salvation. Attempting to cover our own sins is foolish and can never work, but repenting from our sins, forsaking them, and living for God instead is a testimony to the mercy that Christ gives those who follow Him.

## Day 195 - Jul. 14 Proverbs 29:3-7

In this life, we hope for kings or presidents who rule with justice. In eternity, we know the one and only eternal King Jesus will rule with perfect justice. The other verses provide a comparison between those who are saved by Christ and those who are not.

## Day 196 - Jul. 15 Proverbs 29:23-27

Just as Jesus taught, pride, which God hates, is to our detriment, while true humility, which is possible through salvation, honors God. The other verses here continue to show the comparison between those who are saved and those who are not.

#### Day 197 - Jul. 16 Proverbs 30:3-6

Even in Old Testament times, God had revealed to His people that He had a Son. These people did not know His name, but we do. His name is Jesus, the Christ. And not only is every word of God pure, but the living Word, Jesus, is also completely pure.

### **Day 198 - Jul. 17 Proverbs 30:7-10**

All of us are guilty before God, the Master of the universe (see Rom. 3:19). We all deserve to be cursed for our sin. But praise be to God that He sent His innocent Son to take the curse of our guilt (see Gal. 3:13), so Christians are no longer guilty.

#### Day 199 - Jul. 18 Proverbs 31:2-5

Not only does this passage contain good wisdom, as is true of all of the book of Proverbs, but it also brings to mind Christ on the cross. Jesus, the eternal King, refused the drink offered to Him on the cross. But Jesus will never pervert justice.

#### Day 200 - Jul. 19 Proverbs 31:8-10

We should seek to judge righteously as we follow Christ, the perfect Judge. The rest of Proverbs 31 is about the virtuous wife, but it can also be thought of in terms of what marriage is ultimately a picture of: Christ (the husband) and His church (the wife).

#### Day 201 - Jul. 20 Proverbs 31:11-16

As a husband trusts his virtuous wife, so Christ trusts His church, which is not merely a building but consists of those whom He has truly saved. As the wife does her husband good and not evil, so the people of God should do the same to honor Christ.

#### Day 202 - Jul. 21 Proverbs 31:17-21

Continuing the comparison between the virtuous wife and the church (the bride of Christ), we in the church should strengthen ourselves for any work that Jesus would have us to do. Just like Jesus, we should care for the needy and care for our own.

## Day 203 - Jul. 22 Proverbs 31:22-26

The husband of the church is Christ, and we must make Him known to the people around us and all over the world. Those of us who have received salvation are able to speak with true wisdom from Christ and share unselfish kindness with others.

## Day 204 - Jul. 23 Proverbs 31:27-31

Like the virtuous wife, the people of the church should watch over one another and not be idle. A church (not just a building but a group of believers) that truly fears the Lord and isn't just trying to please people should be praised and respected.

# <u>Day 205 - Jul. 24</u> Song of Solomon 4:7-9

Like Proverbs 31, the Song of Solomon compares a wife with the church (the bride of Christ). Because of the work Christ accomplished on the cross, those who have repented and received salvation can say there is no spot in us since He took our guilt away.

### **Day 206 - Jul. 25 Song of Solomon 5:2-5**

This is not Christ knocking on the door of the heart of an unbeliever—a mistaken picture of salvation (see Luke 13:24-25). Rather, He is knocking at the door of the heart of someone who is saved but who has become lazy, to reawaken them for His work.

#### Day 207 - Jul. 26 Song of Solomon 5:6-9

While God will never permanently leave nor forsake anyone whom He has truly saved and brought into His family (see Heb. 13:5), He may leave in a way for a short time for the purpose of discipline and chastisement, as any good father would do.

## Day 208 - Jul. 27 Song of Solomon 5:10-13

The wife answers the question asking what sets her beloved apart. No one is like Christ, represented by the colors white and ruddy (or red)—white for His purity and His robe of righteousness and red for the blood He shed to atone for the sins of His people.

#### Day 209 - Jul. 28 Song of Solomon 5:14-16

Here, the wife concludes her description of her beloved, which can be applied to Christ. The true Christian should not behold anyone or anything else to be as lovely as our Savior. There is no one like Him, and He is our friend (see John 15:12-17).

## Day 210 - Jul. 29 Song of Solomon 6:1-3

Christ, the Good Shepherd (see Mark 6:34 and John 10:1-18), feeds His flock with His Word so that we might know and understand God's truth. If you have truly been born again in Christ, praise God that you are His and that He is yours!

## Day 211 - Jul. 30 Song of Sol. 7:10; 8:6-7

Christ loved His people so much that He went to the grave to take the punishment we deserve. God is jealous for His people in a proper way, because He knows best what is best for us. There is no substitute for God's love; nothing can quench it.

# 

The book of Isaiah gives us more clear prophecies about the coming Messiah than any other book in the Old Testament. Here, we are given a fuzzy picture of the atoning work of Christ, that He would cover our sins with His perfect righteousness.

## **Day 213 - Aug. 1 Isaiah 4:1-3**

Our reproach is taken away when God brings us into His family, calling us His children. Christ is sometimes called the Branch, referring to His lineage from David. Those who belong to Him are made holy because of His sacrifice on the cross.

### Day 214 - Aug. 2 Isaiah 7:13-17

This is the first specific prophecy in Scripture that reveals how the Messiah would come to us. We are told that He will be born of a virgin, an impossible act unless accomplished by God, and His name will be called Immanuel, which means "God with us."

#### Day 215 - Aug. 3 Isaiah 8:8-10

God would preserve this land for His people until the coming of His Son, Immanuel. No one can stand against God or against His people. God was with the Israelites of this time in a sense. Later, Jesus literally dwelled among us in human form.

## 

Jesus is the stone of stumbling and rock of offense (see Rom. 9:30-33 and 1 Peter 2:6-8). In Romans, Paul writes that the Jews stumbled at the stumbling stone of Christ because they thought they could earn salvation through obedience to the law.

#### Day 217 - Aug. 5 Isaiah 9:1-2

Jesus left Nazareth and went to Galilee where many Gentiles lived, fulfilling this prophecy. In the Old Testament, only Jews and those with them had knowledge of God; everyone else was in darkness. Now, the light of Christ shines for all to see.

#### Day 218 - Aug. 6 Isaiah 9:3-5

The people of Old Testament Israel had the burden of keeping God's laws and ceremonies. Everyone carries the burden of sin. But Christ came and broke the yoke of our burdens, for His yoke is easy and His burden is light (see Matt. 11:28-30).

## 

God gave us this very specific prophecy of the coming Savior through Isaiah. Unfortunately, many Jews misunderstood this and were looking for a political savior. Jesus told us that His kingdom is not of this world but is eternal (see John 18:33-37).

## Day 220 - Aug. 8 Isaiah 11:1-2, 10

This prophecy clearly says that the coming Messiah would descend from David, who was the son of Jesse (see Matt. 1:6). Because He would not be who many of the Jews were expecting, they hated Him and the Gentiles sought after Him instead.

#### Day 221 - Aug. 9 Isaiah 11:3-5

Jesus Christ is the only judge who is perfectly just and righteous in His judgments (see John 8:15-16 and Acts 10:42). Though we are flawed and cannot do so perfectly, His followers are also told to judge righteously in order to glorify God (see John 7:24).

### Day 222 - Aug. 10 Isaiah 12:1-3

This salvation only comes through Jesus Christ. God hates sin and is angry with the wicked every day (see Psalm 7:11). But He is able to turn away His anger for those who have received salvation in Christ because His righteousness covers our sin.

#### Day 223 - Aug. 11 Isaiah 16:3-5

That One is King Jesus, in the lineage of David. Jesus Christ alone is the perfect judge, and He alone possesses perfect righteousness. His throne is established in mercy—the mercy He showed when He sacrificed Himself to take our punishment.

## 

Jesus is the Savior and the Mighty One, the only one who can deliver any of us from the curse of sin. He is our sacrifice and our offering, sacrificing Himself on the cross and making the atonement for sin that we are unable to do ourselves.

#### Day 225 - Aug. 13 Isaiah 19:22-25

Nations like Egypt and Assyria are mentioned here to represent all Gentiles, as the coming Messiah would usher in the spreading of the gospel beyond just Israel. God's people are now all over the world, but all true Christians share fellowship in Christ.

#### Day 226 - Aug. 14 Isaiah 25:7-9

Before Jesus came to earth, the world was covered in guilt due to sin, and all the world except for Israel had little or no knowledge of God. Christ took away death for His people and He also removed the veil as the gospel began to be preached in all the world.

## Day 227 - Aug. 15 Isaiah 25:10-26:2

That righteous nation is the New Jerusalem (see Rev. 21:12), which will be filled with those whom God has saved through repentance and faith in His Son, Jesus Christ. God will defeat all His enemies but He will never fail to protect all of His children.

## 

Jesus Christ is this precious cornerstone, the only sure foundation upon which faith can rest (see Eph. 2:20 and 1 Peter 2:6-7). Through His sacrifice, the covenant with eternal death that we all deserve is annulled for all those who repent and follow Him.

## 

Paul uses the first part of this passage to explain salvation, which is begun and accomplished solely by God; He saves whomever He chooses (see Rom. 9:10-25). We also see another reference to salvation coming to Gentiles, who had been blind.

### Day 230 - Aug. 18 Isaiah 31:4-7

The Lord never fails to defend His people. Through the sacrifice of Christ, He also passes over the sins of His people, just as He passed over and saved His people from death in Egypt during the time of Moses and the tenth plague. Cling to Him, not idols.

#### Day 231 - Aug. 19 Isaiah 32:1-4

This King is none other than Jesus Christ, who is the only king who can reign in righteousness and rule with perfect justice. Those who have been given eyes to see and ears to hear spiritual things can understand true knowledge (see Matt. 13:43).

#### Day 232 - Aug. 20 Isaiah 32:15-17

This is the work of Christ. After his resurrection, the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Day of Pentecost (see Acts 2:1-4), and the same work happens to anyone who receives salvation. Then, God brings peace and assurance to the hearts of His children.

#### Day 233 - Aug. 21 Isaiah 33:17-19

Jesus is infinitely more beautiful than any other not in a worldly sense, for we are told He has no beauty that we would desire Him (see Isaiah 53:2), but He is beautiful to those who have been saved because of what He did and continues to do for us.

#### 

This tabernacle that will not be taken down may refer to the true church, all those who belong to Jesus Christ, which will never fail (see Matt. 16:18). Or, it may refer to Christ Himself, who told us that He is the true Temple of God (see John 2:19-21).

## 

Judge, Lawgiver, and King describe three of the things which Jesus has done and continues to do. Interestingly, this passage was also known to the founding fathers of the United States, who made our three branches of government similar to this.

## 

Though Christ came to earth as a baby at first, He was not weak. He still possessed all the power of God. This also prophesies of His healing, to open blind eyes and deaf ears—not only physically, but spiritually, showing people their sinful condition.

## Day 237 - Aug. 25 Isaiah 35:8-10

This Highway of Holiness is the way of salvation, which is through Jesus Christ alone (see John 14:6 and Acts 9:2). Salvation happens in an instant, but the path of holiness is lifelong, as a child of God is sanctified, gradually becoming more like Christ.

## Day 238 - Aug. 26 Isaiah 37:33-36

This momentous event, which was accomplished either by Christ or by an angel is recorded twice in Scripture (see 2 Kings 19:32-35). It is a reminder that God is in control of all things, even kings and empires who think they cannot be defeated.

#### Day 239 - Aug. 27 Isaiah 38:15-17

God Himself does this work. Through salvation in Jesus Christ, the sin debt of a child of God is paid. Therefore, God can be a perfectly just and fair judge while casting all the sins of His child behind His back because the penalty has been paid.

#### Day 240 - Aug. 28 Isaiah 40:9-11

Jesus is the Good Shepherd (see John 10:1-18); His followers are called His lambs or His sheep. Those who belong to Him follow Him just as sheep follow their shepherd, and Jesus protects His flock and gave His life in exchange for His sheep.

#### Day 241 - Aug. 29 Isaiah 40:12-14

Following the previous passage about how Christ shepherds His sheep, this reminds us of how the whole Godhead (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) never changes. God created all things and knows all things; no one has ever taught God anything.

#### Day 242 - Aug. 30 Isaiah 41:2-4

The first part of this passage refers to Abraham, whom God chose, granted salvation, and used to begin the nation of Israel. Though God doesn't interact with us in the same way today, salvation is still begun and completed by God through Christ.

## 

God can say these things to His people, those whom He has saved, because of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Without His shed blood, our sin would keep us out of God's presence and God would not do any of these things that He does for His people.

## 

God protects those who belong to Him and fights against His enemies. Those who have been saved should be eternally thankful to Jesus Christ for His sacrifice. We are no better than God's enemies, and without Christ, we would all be as nothing.

## 

God does help in times of trouble during our lives, but the ultimate help He provides is to save His children from eternal punishment in hell. That is the great work of Christ, our Redeemer, and that is why those who have been saved do not need to fear.

### Day 246 - Sep. 3 Isaiah 42:1-4

Jesus Christ is the Elect One of God, the One who brought salvation to the Gentiles. Though He unapologetically spoke God's truth, He did not go around starting unnecessary arguments (see Matt. 12:15-21). Instead, He tenderly cared for others.

#### Day 247 - Sep. 4 Isaiah 42:5-7

Jesus healed some who were blind to prove that He possessed the power of God, but His ultimate purpose was to come and save those who had been spiritually blind, locked in the prison of sin. God gave Jesus to us to accomplish those things.

#### Day 248 - Sep. 5 Isaiah 42:8-10

God deserves to receive all our praise and glory because He created everything, everything belongs to Him, and He alone grants salvation to unworthy sinners through Jesus Christ. It is foolish to bow down to idols or to put anything ahead of God.

#### Day 249 - Sep. 6 Isaiah 42:13-15

We fail to realize just how holy and righteous God is and, therefore, we fail to realize how patient He is with all of us sinners. Specifically, this passage speaks about God's patience with the ungodliness of the Gentiles prior to the coming of Christ.

#### Day 250 - Sep. 7 Isaiah 42:16-17

Those who were blind and in darkness were the Gentiles, who God led them in paths they had not known before when Jesus and His followers brought the gospel into Gentile lands, shaming those who had foolishly served false idols.

## Day 251 - Sep. 8 Isaiah 42:18-21

Here God rebukes Israel, His people, many of whom are just as blind and deaf to the truth of the gospel as the Gentiles were prior to the time when Jesus came to earth. Christ, who fulfilled the law, is highly exalted by God (see Matt. 5:17-20).

#### Day 252 - Sep. 9 Isaiah 43:1-3

All these things are accomplished through the Holy One of Israel, our Savior, Jesus Christ. He is the One who has redeemed all those whom God has called by name and made to be His children. If that describes you, then these promises are to you.

## Day 253 - Sep. 10 Isaiah 43:4-7

In Old Testament times, God focused on Israel and nearly all the people He saved were Israelites. This is a prophecy of how God would save people from all over the earth, which was fulfilled when Christ came to earth and is still being fulfilled today.

### Day 254 - Sep. 11 Isaiah 43:8-10

This is a further prophecy of salvation coming to the Gentiles, as God would begin to save people out of nations all around the world. All those God saves are His servants whom He chose, but especially Christ, who came so that we might know God.

#### Day 255 - Sep. 12 Isaiah 43:11-13

God alone—specifically, Jesus Christ—is Savior. He has always existed and is sovereign over all things, including salvation. When God saves someone, there is nothing that person or anyone else can do to undo the work of God.

## Day 256 - Sep. 13 Isaiah 43:14-17

Jesus Christ is our Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, the Creator (see Col. 1:15-17), and the only eternal King (see Matt. 27:11). We also see here that God protects His people—those who have been saved through the blood of Jesus Christ.

#### Day 257 - Sep. 14 Isaiah 43:18-21

This new thing was the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Although He has always existed, He brought salvation to the Gentiles. He brought living water (see John 4:10-13) to areas where there had been a drought concerning the things of God.

#### Day 258 - Sep. 15 Isaiah 43:22-24

Before Jesus came to earth, many Israelites were performing religious rituals while their hearts were far from God (see Mark 6:7-9). God desires hearts that truly love and worship Him, not mindless rituals and sacrifices (see Matt. 12:7 and Heb. 10:1-9).

## Day 259 - Sep. 16 Isaiah 43:25-28

Adam passed down the curse of sin to all of us. God saves people for His own sake, so we might understand His love, grace, and mercy. God saves Gentiles to provoke Israel to jealousy because they disobeyed (see Deut. 32:21 and Rom. 10:19-21).

## Day 260 - Sep. 17 Isaiah 44:21-22, 24

For anyone who has been truly saved by God, He has blotted out our transgressions, redeeming us through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, for there is no remission of sins without the shedding of blood from a perfect sacrifice (see Heb. 9:22 and 10:4).

#### Day 261 - Sep. 18 Isaiah 48:16-18

Jesus Christ has always existed. He was always there, even before time began (see John 1:1-5, 14). For those who belong to Him, He is our Redeemer, the One who saves and then teaches His people how to live in a way that honors and glorifies God.

### Day 262 - Sep. 19 Isaiah 49:5-6

The spiritual nation of Israel consists of all those whom God saves, and those are the people who are being gathered to Christ (see Rom. 2:28-29). Here is another prophecy that the coming Messiah would bring the light of the gospel to the Gentiles.

#### Day 263 - Sep. 20 Isaiah 49:7-8

The One whom God chose to Redeem His people, Jesus, was and still is despised by many (see Isa. 53:3). This was most obvious at the crucifixion, but is also evident anytime people speak against God or use the name of Jesus Christ in vain.

## 

Like others we have seen recently, this passage also uses figurative language to speak of spiritual things. The idea is that Gentiles who have been in spiritual darkness, prisoners of sin, will receive the gospel during and after the time when Christ came.

## Day 265 - Sep. 22 Isaiah 50:1-3

Most of God's people, the Israelites, have left the worship of the one true God to worship false idols instead. But the fault does not lie with God; He never changed. The people of Israel turned away and chose to do things their own way instead.

#### Day 266 - Sep. 23 Isaiah 50:4-6

The preincarnate Christ is speaking through Isaiah in this passage, which is why words like "Me" and "My" are capitalized. Christ is telling us what God the Father has given Him. In turn, Christ did not retaliate against those who led Him to the cross.

## Day 267 - Sep. 24 Isaiah 50:7-9

The preincarnate Christ continues to speak through Isaiah. God the Father was always with Him during His time on earth, and He was not disgraced, even though others treated Him cruelly. His adversaries tried to defeat Him, but no one can defeat God.

# Day 268 - Sep. 25 Isaiah 50:10-11

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge (see Prov. 1:7, 9:10). Jesus is the light of the world; He is the one we must follow in order to find the path to eternal life (see John 3:19, 8:12, 9:5, 12:46). We must obey and walk in His light.

### Day 269 - Sep. 26 Isaiah 52:13-15

This is the beginning of one of the most powerful prophecies of Christ, the eternal Servant of God the Father. He was exalted by the people as He rode into Jerusalem, but not long after, His appearance was marred as He was taken to be crucified.

### Day 270 - Sep. 27 Isaiah 53:1-3

Even though they saw Jesus perform miracles right before their eyes, many Jews were hard-hearted and prideful and refused to believe that He was the Son of God (see John 12:36-38). Christ has no physical beauty to attract those who reject God.

#### Day 271 - Sep. 28 Isaiah 53:4-6

Many who watched Jesus be crucified thought He was dying for His own sins, but He was afflicted and crucified for the transgressions of His people. Because He paid our penalty, we can have peace, even though we went astray and are undeserving.

## Day 272 - Sep. 29 Isaiah 53:7-9

Even while hanging on the cross, Jesus did not speak out against those who were blaspheming Him (see Luke 23:34). He died alongside wicked sinners but was buried in the tomb of a rich man (see Matt. 27:57-60 and John 19:38-42).

#### Day 273 - Sep. 30 Isaiah 53:10-12

It pleased God the Father to bruise Jesus Christ. Think about that for a moment. Why is that true? Because in sacrificing His Son to pay the penalty of sin, God is able to save many others, and show forth His love, mercy, and grace to all the world.

#### Day 274 - Oct. 1 Isaiah 54:7-10

To all those who have truly received salvation from God—those who can call Jesus "my Redeemer"—these promises are given. His mercy and kindness will never end, and His promise of eternal peace in our hearts through Christ will endure forever.

## Day 275 - Oct. 2 Isaiah 55:2-5

Jesus Christ is the bread of life (see John 6:30-35, 47-58). Feasting on the Word of God, learning about God and growing closer to Christ, is what is meant here in a figurative sense. This passage also has another reference to the salvation of Gentiles.

## Day 276 - Oct. 3 Isaiah 59:15-18

Over time, as the Israelites drifted away from God, He observed that justice was not served among His people. So God brought salvation through His own Son, and those who are saved receive Christ's own righteousness. This whole passage is about Christ.

## Day 277 - Oct. 4 Isaiah 59:19-21

After the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the gospel spread throughout the world, especially the western part. The Redeemer, Jesus Christ, will come to all those who repent and turn away from their sins. God has made that promise and it will never fail.

### Day 278 - Oct. 5 Isaiah 61:1-3

After Jesus began His public ministry, He read this passage at the synagogue. Reading Scripture was common, but He added, "This day is this Scripture fulfilled in your ears." Everyone was shocked, and many spoke out against Him (see Luke 4:14-30).

#### Day 279 - Oct. 6 Isaiah 61:4-7

Those who were strangers and foreigners to the Israelites are now partakers of grace, as the gospel spread into Gentile lands after Christ came to earth. Jews who are saved are still honored, but Gentiles who were in confusion now hear the gospel as well.

## Day 280 - Oct. 7 Isaiah 61:10-11

All those who are saved can rejoice in the Lord, for our sins have been washed away and we have been clothed in the robe of Christ's righteousness. The bridegroom, Jesus Christ, adorns Himself with His bride, the church—all those that He has saved.

## Day 281 - Oct. 8 Isaiah 63:1-4

Who is this described at the beginning of this passage? It is none other than Jesus Christ, the mighty Savior. His apparel is red because it is stained with all the sins of those whom He died on the cross to forgive and give the gift of salvation.

#### Day 282 - Oct. 9 Isaiah 63:5-7

Jesus Christ accomplished our salvation Himself; He does not need any help. His fury, both to protect and save His people and also against His enemies, sustained Him as He died on the cross and accomplished what He came to earth to do.

## Day 283 - Oct. 10 Isaiah 63:8-10

God formed the nation of Israel as His special, chosen people, set apart from the rest of the world to be unique. Christ saved and redeemed them out of love and pity, as He does for all those whom He saves. But they repeatedly rebelled and disobeyed.

## 

This passage reminds us of the mercy of the Lord. The preincarnate Christ led the Israelites through the wilderness (see Ex. 14:19-22) and set them apart to bring glory to God. But their disobedience caused people to disrespect God (see Rom. 2:24).

## Day 285 - Oct. 12 Isaiah 65:1-3, 5

In Old Testament times, those outside of Israel had little or no knowledge of God. Largely, Gentiles did not seek God. But Israel disobeyed repeatedly, so God began to save many Gentiles to provoke the Jews to jealousy (see Rom. 10:19-21, 11:11-16).

### Day 286 - Oct. 13 Jeremiah 7:8-11

God gave this warning to Israel in Old Testament times, when they were worshipping false idols. Jesus quoted the last verse when rebuking those who were misusing the temple to sell things and take advantage of people (see Luke 19:45-48).

#### Day 287 - Oct. 14 Jeremiah 23:3-6

God will have people all over the world, and He will also place pastors over local churches to preach truth to His people. The Branch of righteousness, the eternal king and only perfect judge, is Jesus Christ. For the saved, He is our righteousness.

## Day 288 - Oct. 15 Jeremiah 30:8-11

The phrase "David their king" does not refer to King David in the Old Testament but to the descendant of David, Jesus Christ (see Matt. 1:1). God Himself has raised Him up, and He alone has the power to save us from Satan, death, and the power of sin.

#### Day 289 - Oct. 16 Jeremiah 31:6, 21-22

The first verse is a prophecy of the gospel coming to the Gentiles during and after the time of Christ. The second passage is a more vague prophecy of the virgin birth compared to what we saw in Isaiah. The eternal Son, Jesus, was in a woman's womb.

#### Day 290 - Oct. 17 Jeremiah 31:31-34

God communicated with His people directly in Old Testament times. He no longer does that; now, true believers have the Holy Spirit dwelling within. This passage is a prophecy of the coming of the Holy Spirit and the forgiveness of sin through Christ.

## Day 291 - Oct. 18 Jeremiah 32:38-41

Since the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the subsequent coming of the Holy Spirit (see Acts 2:1-6), all Christians are united through the Holy Spirit, which dwells inside each true believer. All Christians, then, have "one heart and one way."

## Day 292 - Oct. 19 Jeremiah 33:14-16

We recently looked at another passage in Jeremiah which is similar to this one (see Jer. 23:3-6). God gives this prophecy again, that a descendant of David, who is Jesus Christ, would execute perfect judgment and righteousness like none other.

## Day 293 - Oct. 20 Jeremiah 33:17-18, 50:2

Israel has not always been a sovereign nation, so this prophecy is only true of Christ, the descendant of David who is the eternal King and Priest. We are all sinners, but those who have been forgiven in Christ make up the true Israel (see Rom. 2:28-29).

### Day 294 - Oct. 21 Lamentations 3:55-58

This passage points to the work of Christ. For those whom God saves, Jesus is the Redeemer, the One who pleads our case before God. He takes away our sins and covers us with His righteousness so that we no longer stand guilty before our holy God.

#### Day 295 - Oct. 22 Ezekiel 1:25-28

The voice speaking to Ezekiel was the preincarnate Christ, and we will look at what He said to Ezekiel over the next five days. Fire accompanied Him, as He is not a weak little baby in a manger (see Isa. 66:15, 2 Thess. 1:8-10, and Heb. 12:29).

#### Day 296 - Oct. 23 Ezekiel 2:1-5

Christ is sending Ezekiel as a prophet to the people of Israel, because they have been sinful and have rebelled against God's commands. Whether or not they listened, the people would know a prophet was among them, because they would hear the truth.

#### Day 297 - Oct. 24 Ezekiel 2:6-10

The responsibility of any servant of God, anyone who has been saved and redeemed, is to spread God's truth. People may listen or they may rebel, but our responsibility is to speak the truth about Jesus and the gospel and leave the rest up to God.

#### Day 298 - Oct. 25 Ezekiel 3:1-6

First, Ezekiel figuratively eats God's words, an illustration of how we should all feast on and learn from God's Word (see Matt. 4:4 and John 6:26-58). Further, Christ implies that the Gentiles would have listened better than Israel, if He sent Ezekiel there.

## 

Imagine being told my Christ that you were being called to preach God's truth, yet the people won't listen to you. That is what Christ told Ezekiel, and other prophets in the Bible were told similar things. Again, we must share God's truth, no matter what.

## Day 300 - Oct. 27 Ezekiel 3:12-15

After Christ had finished talking to Him, Ezekiel was simply astonished. And even though God does not communicate in the same way with us today, we should be similarly amazed and in awe of our God anytime we hear from Him, through His Word.

#### Day 301 - Oct. 28 Ezekiel 11:17-20

Though this prophecy was specifically intended for Israel at this time, it also points to the coming salvation of the Gentiles and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, who unites all true Christians with one heart and one spirit (see Acts 4:31-32).

### Day 302 - Oct. 29 Ezekiel 16:60-63

In Old Testament Israel, priests regularly made sacrifices for sin. Yet none of them paid for even a single sin (see Heb. 10:1-18). Instead, God Himself had to provide the One perfect sacrifice, Christ, that atoned for all the sins of all His people for all time.

#### Day 303 - Oct. 30 Ezekiel 17:22-24

This prophecy is more difficult to understand, but it is generally believed that the high cedar described here is a picture of Christ, whom God put in a high, prominent place to deliver His truth. He resists the proud but gives grace to the humble (see Jam. 4:6).

## Day 304 - Oct. 31 Ezekiel 33:13-16

All of this was accomplished through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross. We are all sinners when compared to a holy God, so we cannot trust in our own righteousness (see Matt. 5:20). With Christ's forgiveness, God no longer remembers our sin.

#### Day 305 - Nov. 1 Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-16

Jesus is the Good Shepherd, who seeks out and finds His sheep. This passage has a lot of similarity to John 10, when Jesus describes His work as the Good Shepherd (see John 10:1-18). He finds and will not lose all those who belong to Him.

#### Day 306 - Nov. 2 Ezekiel 34:20-24

Jesus is not only the Shepherd of His people, He is also the Judge of all, the One who will judge each one of us at the end (see John 5:30 and 2 Tim. 4:1, 8). He will divide those who truly belong to Him and those who do not (see Matt. 13:30 and 1 Peter 4:5).

## Day 307 - Nov. 3 Ezekiel 34:25-27

Though this prophecy had a literal fulfillment when God returned the Israelites from their captivity, it also applies to Christ. He brings true peace, not to the world itself, but into the hearts of all those who follow and truly belong to Him (see John 14:27).

## Day 308 - Nov. 4 Ezekiel 34:28-31

Like the previous passage, this prophecy had a literal fulfillment for the nation of Israel but also has further fulfillment in Christ, the One whom God has raised up to save and protect His people. Those who are saved in Christ make up His flock.

## Day 309 - Nov. 5 Ezekiel 36:22-24

Why does God save people? It is not because we are good people who deserve it. He saves people for the sake of His name, to display His grace, love, and mercy (see Isaiah 48:9-11 and Psalm 79:9). When Christians sin, we profane the name of God.

### Day 310 - Nov. 6 Ezekiel 36:25-28

Only forgiveness and salvation from Jesus Christ can cleanse us from our sin so that we become righteous and clean in the sight of God. For those who receive salvation, God gives a new heart and a new spirit that desires to worship and serve God.

#### Day 311 - Nov. 7 Ezekiel 36:29-32

God saves people from our uncleanness through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. We also see in this passage how God protects and provides for His people and how the Holy Spirit causes us to hate and forsake sin; instead, we desire to serve God.

#### Day 312 - Nov. 8 Ezekiel 36:33-36

Notice how God says that He will cleanse His people from their iniquities. The only way that could have been accomplished was through the sacrifice of the Son of God, Jesus Christ, on the cross. And again we see how God provides for His people.

## Day 313 - Nov. 9 Ezekiel 37:21-23

All of this is the work of Christ. He is the eternal King, ruling over and caring for all His people who are united together through the Holy Spirit. He is also the One who cleanses all His people from sin, and the Holy Spirit works to keep us free from sin.

#### Day 314 - Nov. 10 Ezekiel 37:24-25

These different things all describe Jesus Christ, the descendant of David, the eternal King, the Good Shepherd (see Matt. 1:1, 27:11, and John 10:11-14). Jesus Christ is also called our great Prince who will rule forever (see Acts 3:15 and 5:31).

## 

This is not merely referring to the tabernacle that Israel built by hand. That building was destroyed a few decades after Jesus walked on this earth. Rather, it refers to the Word of God that remains with us and the Holy Spirit that dwells within.

# 

Though it would still be hundreds of years before Jesus would walk on this earth in the form of a man, the preincarnate Christ appears to Ezekiel with an appearance like bronze. He tells Ezekiel to declare what He sees to all those in Israel.

## Day 317 - Nov. 13 Ezekiel 43:1-5

The preincarnate Christ gives Ezekiel a detailed, divine tour of the eternal temple in Ezekiel 40-43. There are doors which symbolize how Christ is the only door to salvation, and walls that symbolize how the people of God are separated.

### 

This passage confirms that it is the preincarnate Christ who has been speaking to Ezekiel and showing Him the eternal temple. Only He will reign on the throne in the midst of His people forever, when sin will no longer have any power over us.

#### Day 319 - Nov. 15 Ezekiel 45:15-17

All of these sacrifices point forward to Christ, who has previously been called the "prince" by Ezekiel (see Ezek. 34:24, 37:25). When He died on the cross, He made the one and only perfect sacrifice that forever took the place of all of these sacrifices.

## 

This river is a picture of Jesus, who is the one and only source of living water (see John 4:10-14). It symbolizes the gospel, which flows outward from Jesus, who gives spiritual healing and eternal life to everyone He reaches out to and saves from hell.

#### Day 321 - Nov. 17 Ezekiel 47:10-12

This passage provides us with a beautiful picture of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Many different types of people from all around the world are saved by Him, though others remain in their sin. True believers bear spiritual fruit and receive healing from Jesus.

#### Day 322 - Nov. 18 Daniel 2:44-45

As God gave Daniel the interpretation of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream, he concluded the interpretation with this description of the eternal kingdom of Jesus Christ that is to come. That is the only kingdom that can and will stand forever.

## Day 323 - Nov. 19 Daniel 3:23-25

Though these men did not know salvation through Christ, they were correct—the fourth Man was the very Son of God. The preincarnate Christ protected these men, who were thrown into the fiery furnace for refusing to worship anyone other than God.

## Day 324 - Nov. 20 Daniel 3:28-29

Notice what can happen when followers of Christ stand up for Him, no matter what the consequences might be. God delivered these men from the fiery furnace, and King Nebuchadnezzar gained a new respect for God after seeing His power on display.

## Day 325 - Nov. 21 Daniel 4:7-9

When King Nebuchadnezzar had another troubling dream, he again sent for Daniel to find out what it meant. Although Nebuchadnezzar did not follow God himself, he knew the spirit of God was within Daniel because of the evidence in Daniel's life.

### Day 326 - Nov. 22 Daniel 6:20-23

Daniel's testimony was obvious to King Darius as well, just as it had been to King Nebuchadnezzar. Although Daniel disobeyed the king's decree to not worship God, the king could tell that Daniel's God was real because of the evidence in Daniel's life.

#### Day 327 - Nov. 23 Daniel 6:25-27

Because of the witness and testimony of Daniel, King Darius saw the love and power of God. Christ rescued Daniel's friends from the fiery furnace and Daniel was also saved from the lions. Today, Christ still delivers from hell those who repent and follow.

## Day 328 - Nov. 24 Daniel 7:13-14

God gave Daniel this vision (though God no longer works in that way, since the Bible is complete) in which God the Father, the Ancient of Days, gives Christ, the Son of Man, His everlasting kingdom, which shall never pass away nor be destroyed.

#### Day 329 - Nov. 25 Daniel 7:21-22, 27

Here God sends Daniel a vision of the future, when God the Father (the Ancient of Days) protects His people from the antichrist. Then the saints (all those whom God has saved) will be part of God's everlasting kingdom, ruled by Jesus Christ.

#### Day 330 - Nov. 26 Daniel 9:24-25

Who is the only one who can end sin and make reconciliation for iniquity? Who is the only one who possesses everlasting righteousness? It is the Messiah, also called the Prince, Jesus Christ.

#### Day 331 - Nov. 27 Daniel 9:26-27

People interpret this challenging prophecy in different ways, but there is no doubt that it is talking about Jesus Christ, the Messiah, who died for His people, putting an end to Old Testament sacrifices, and He will also ultimately destroy His enemies.

## Day 332 - Nov. 28 Daniel 10:5-8

Daniel was given a special vision by God as he was allowed to see the preincarnate Christ in this vision. In the verses that follow, Christ gave Daniel details about some future events that would take place concerning Israel and other surrounding kingdoms.

### Day 333 - Nov. 29 Daniel 12:1-3

Remember that no one knew the name of Jesus until the time of Joseph and Mary. Here, Christ is called by the name of Michael, and we are told that He will rise up in the end and deliver all His people, whose names are written in the Book of Life.

## Day 334 - Nov. 30 Daniel 12:4-7

The prophecy from Christ to Daniel may refer to our time, considering the vast array of knowledge that is available to us via technology and the internet. In our day, we have tools to study and understand Scripture like no one has ever had before.

#### Day 335 - Dec. 1 Daniel 12:8-10, 13

This concludes the words of prophecy that Christ gave to Daniel, and it concludes the book of Daniel as well. The wicked continue to stand against God, but some are "purified, made white, and refined" through the shed blood of Christ on the cross.

#### Day 336 - Dec. 2 Hosea 1:9-11

God repeats the promise He had given to Abraham so long ago, that through the coming Messiah, His people would be so numerous that they cannot be counted. Also, the "one head" that His people will appoint as their leader is a reference to Christ.

#### Day 337 - Dec. 3 Hosea 2:16-18

Ephesians 5 is a well-known passage that can help strengthen a marriage, but marriage ultimately is intended as a picture of the relationship between Christ, the husband or bridegroom, and His church, the bride (see Eph. 5:32 and Rev. 19:7).

#### Day 338 - Dec. 4 Hosea 2:19-23

Again God proclaims the coming Messiah, in whom we find righteousness, justice, lovingkindness, and mercy. This is also a prophecy of salvation being extended beyond Israel to the Gentiles, who are those who were not His people before that time.

## Day 339 - Dec. 5 Hosea 3:5, 11:1, 14:8

This assortment of verses from Hosea all point to the coming Messiah, who is the descendant of King David. He came out of Egypt just as the Israelites did in the days of Moses (see Matt. 2:13-15). Those who are His bear spiritual fruit (see John 15:1-17).

## Day 340 - Dec. 6 Hosea 12:2-6

Within the prophecy that He gives to Hosea, God recalls the struggle between the preincarnate Christ and Jacob that happened a thousand years before (see Gen. 32:22-32). In addition, followers of Christ are called to practice His traits of mercy and justice.

## Day 341 - Dec. 7 Hosea 13:4, 10, 14

The Lord who brought His people out of Egypt, the one and only Savior, the only eternal King, the only One who can rescue souls from the power of the grave and redeem them from death, the One who destroyed the power of the grave, is Jesus alone.

### Day 342 - Dec. 8 Joel 2:27-29

This is another prophecy of salvation coming to the Gentiles after the time that Jesus was on the earth, but it is a specific reference to the initial coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Peter references this passage as he speaks that day (see Acts 2:16-21).

#### Day 343 - Dec. 9 Joel 2:32, 3:20-21

The first verse is often misused (see Rom. 10:13). It does not mean that just calling to Jesus will save someone. That would contradict Jesus (see Matt. 7:21-23). Rather, that verse is part of this prophecy of salvation being extended to the Gentiles.

## Day 344 - Dec. 10 Obadiah 17-18, 21

This deliverance will come through Jesus Christ, who will deliver His people from death and hell. These "saviors" proclaim the gospel truth to those around them. But those who reject God (the "house of Esau") will be devoured by death and hell.

#### Day 345 - Dec. 11 Micah 2:12-13

"The one who breaks open" is believed to refer to Jesus Christ, who broke into this world in a most extraordinary manner when He was born of the virgin Mary. He is our eternal King, the Shepherd and ruler over all those who are saved in Him.

#### Day 346 - Dec. 12 Micah 4:1-3

Here we find another prophecy about salvation coming to the Gentiles, as the prophet Micah writes that many nations will come to be taught by God to follow His ways and walk in His paths once the gospel was sent out from Israel into all the world.

## Day 347 - Dec. 13 Micah 4:4-8

The coming of the Messiah, the spreading of His gospel, and the eventual everlasting kingdom of Jesus Christ are all prophesied within this passage. We are given a beautiful picture here of how Jesus saves many who seem to be outcasts in the world.

# Day 348 - Dec. 14 Micah 5:2-5a

The Son of God, who has existed for all eternity, will be born in the small town of Bethlehem to rule over all His people. He feeds His flock with the Word of God and brings peace to the hearts of all His people. What an amazing prophecy this is!

## Day 349 - Dec. 15 Micah 5:7-8, 15

This prophecy seems to refer to two things—the Jews who will be saved in the latter days, and the Gentiles who are being saved now. Both groups of people are small compared to all the people in the world. Those who ignore God will face His wrath.

### Day 350 - Dec. 16 Micah 7:8-9, 14-15

This passage provides a picture of several different attributes of Jesus. He is our Light in the darkness. Though we sin against Him, He pleads our case and covers His people with His own righteousness. He is the Great Shepherd as He leads His people.

#### Day 351 - Dec. 17 Micah 7:18-20

How does God pardon our iniquities and pass over our transgressions? Only through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, which atones for sin. For all those who truly belong to Jesus, our sins have been cast deep into the sea, never to be seen again.

#### Day 352 - Dec. 18 Habakkuk 2:14, 3:13

The earth became "filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord" as the gospel was proclaimed throughout all the world after the resurrection of Jesus. God Himself provided salvation for His people through His Anointed Son, our Savior.

#### Day 353 - Dec. 19 Haggai 2:7, 20-23

Christ is referred to as "the Desire of All Nations" in whom all the nations of the world will be blessed (see Gen. 22:18). He is also called Zerubbabel, the leader of the tribe of Judah and an ancestor of Christ, like how Christ is sometimes called David.

#### Day 354 - Dec. 20 Zechariah 1:11-15

This passage also refers to this Angel as a Man (see Zech. 1:8-10), indicating that this seems to be another appearance of the preincarnate Christ. We also get to observe an interesting conversation between God the Father and God the Son.

## Day 355 - Dec. 21 Zechariah 2:8-13

The preincarnate Christ speaks of God the Father sending His Son against His enemies, to protect those who belong to Him. He again foretells about the gospel being spread into Gentile lands and Christ foretells that He will dwell in their midst.

# Day 356 - Dec. 22 Zechariah 3:1-5

Joshua, the high priest when the temple was rebuilt (see Ezra), is used here by God to give a beautiful picture of the cleansing from sin that Christ was to accomplish several hundred years later. He takes away iniquity, covering sin with His righteousness.

## **Day 357 - Dec. 23 Zechariah 3:6-10**

In this prophecy the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ, is called the BRANCH. Picture a family tree, and Jesus would be a branch (an offspring) in David's family. He is God's Servant and He is the One who will remove iniquity through His death on the cross.

### Day 358 - Dec. 24 Zechariah 4:6-10

Zerubbabel led the tribe of Judah as they returned from captivity and rebuilt the temple (see Ezra 5:2). This passage compares that temple with Christ, who brings grace to His people and who is the chief cornerstone of the temple (see Matt. 21:42).

#### Day 359 - Dec. 25 Zechariah 6:12-15

Christ is again called the BRANCH but the meaning is expanded beyond David's family tree. Jesus was to be born in a stable in a small town, yet because He is the Son of God and He proclaimed the truth of God. He became known all across the world.

## Day 360 - Dec. 26 Zechariah 9:9-11, 16

This is a very clear prophecy of King Jesus, the One who brings salvation to His people. Yet Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a lowly young donkey (see Matt. 21:1-11). He is ruler over all the earth and is the One who can set us free from eternal death.

## Day 361 - Dec. 27 Zechariah 10:3-4; 13:1

God's wrath is against all those rulers and leaders who are His enemies. Yet He would soon send the cornerstone, King Jesus (see Eph. 2:20). Jesus is the fountain of life who alone can atone for our sin and make us clean before God (see Titus 3:5-7).

#### Day 362 - Dec. 28 Zechariah 12:8-11

Jewish religious leaders were focused on staying in control and keeping their power. So they had Jesus Christ, the firstborn over all creation (see Col. 1:15), arrested and subsequently hanged on the cross, where His body was pierced (see John 19:34-37).

## Day 363 - Dec. 29 Zechariah 13:7-9

God Himself takes responsibility as the One who had Jesus crucified on the cross (see Isa. 53:10 and Matt. 26:31), as it was all part of His plan from the beginning. God refines His people, those who are saved, to make us more and more like Christ.

## Day 364 - Dec. 30 Malachi 3:1-3

The preincarnate Christ speaks one more time to say that He would send His messenger, John the Baptist (see Matt. 11:10), before He would come to His temple. But no one can endure Him unless we have been born again and refined to be made pure.

## Day 365 - Dec. 31 Malachi 3:4-6

Only when we are saved and are covered in the righteousness of Christ can we become pleasing to God. And because God does not change, He will always keep His promises to those who belong to Him, no matter how much we deserve His wrath.