

Faith Lutheran Church + Grand Blanc, MI + www.faithgb.org

Bible Reading Journey

Key Study Points by Rev. Dr. Todd Biermann

Each day, using the notes on this page:

- Pray for Spirit-filled insight as you read God's Word.
- Look for Law and Gospel themes that point us to Jesus.
- Apply the readings to your life.
- Pray to Jesus, as the readings inspire you, for yourself, your family, your church and your world.

Historical Context:

Deuteronomy ends with Israel in Moab, across the Jordan, east of Canaan. Joshua begins with Israel crossing the Jordan to take possession of the promised land (1407/1406 BC).

Law & Gospel Themes: Dt

33 is Moses' final blessing on Israel, pointing even beyond the land of Canaan to eternity in heaven through our LORD, Jesus. Moses dies and is buried by the LORD in Moab in a place still unknown. The LORD commissions & encourages Joshua for the conquest ahead. God uses a deceptive prostitute for His good purposes in the overthrow

of Jericho. The Jordan parts to grant Israel entrance into Canaan. Memorial stones and circumcision keep Israel focused on the LORD. Jericho falls by God's hand. Achan betrays God's command and dies for it.

Life Application Starters:

What is our "promised land" and how do we possess it? Why wouldn't the LORD want Israel to know Moses' burial place? What made Moses great (Dt 34:10)? How do God's words to Joshua apply to us in our effort to lead the chosen ones into the promised land of heaven? What comfort & challenge

do you find in the account of Rahab? What other ethical issues arise in the conquest of Canaan? (SEE LSB Pg. 376) How do we enter the promised land through water? What does Achan teach us about our level of devotion?

Prayer Starters: In thanks for the examples of Moses and Joshua. In thanks for Baptism and our certain entrance into the promised land. For courage to be fully devoted to the LORD as we do battle with sin and evil. For all to repent and receive freedom through Jesus from the LORD's destruction of evil.

Daily Readings and notes:

Monday: Deuteronomy 33:1-29

Tuesday: Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Wednesday: Joshua 1:1-18

Thursday: Joshua 2:1-3:17

Friday: Joshua 4:1-5:12

Saturday: Joshua 5:13-7:26



**May's
Memory
Verses:**

*Joshua 1:5c & 7, "I will not leave you or forsake you. Only be strong and courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you."
Joshua 24:14, "Now therefore fear the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness."
Joshua 24:15, "And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites.... But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."*

Author of Deuteronomy: Moses the Prophet **Date:** 1407/1406 BC
Side Note: Genesis through Deuteronomy are called The Books of Moses or "Pentateuch"

New Insights:	Questions to Pursue Further:

Insights from My Accountability Partners:

My Personal Prayers:





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Historical Context: Under Joshua's command, the Israelites take control of the promised land and each tribe receives its allotted territory. (1406-1400 BC).

Law & Gospel Themes: All the inhabitants of Ai are utterly destroyed and the city burned after spoils have been taken, showing the LORD's intolerance for sin. Joshua reviews all the Word of the LORD (etched in stone) for all the people, including the little ones and sojourners. (8:35) Gibeon deceives Joshua and Israel's leaders as they fail to ask counsel from the LORD. The LORD adds time to the day of battle at Joshua's faithful

request. All the tribes of Israel are given their allotment in the promised land. Tiny Benjamin receives the heartland of Israel, including Jerusalem. Conquest of the land required patience.

Life Application Starters:

How is the LORD's total destruction of sinners still a threat today? How are we spared? Why is it significant that even "the little ones, and the sojourners" were present for the reading of God's Word? What do we learn from Gibeon in Ch 9? What lesson does Joshua teach us about the power of prayer in Ch 10? Will

heaven have a place for you? ...for everyone who is a child of Abraham through faith in Jesus? Benjamin's inheritance reminds us that the LORD cares for the weak and lowly. Does God's slowness mean He is not delivering?

Prayer Starters: To be faithful and free from the threat of hell. That all, including children and converts to Christianity, would be able to hear God's Word and be blessed. For faithfulness in prayer for all things. To be humble and trusting even when weak. For patience as we await the LORD's deliverance.

Daily Readings and notes:

Monday: Joshua 8:1-9:27

Tuesday: Joshua 10:1-43

Wednesday: Joshua 11:1-12:24

Thursday: Joshua 13:1-15:63

Friday: Joshua 16:1-17:18

Saturday: Joshua 18:1-19:51



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Faithfully Living Every Relationship in God's Way...
...to Unite Everyone with Jesus for Eternity



WEEK 20

May 17th-22nd, 2021



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Historical Context: Israel continues its conquest of the promised land and then Joshua dies. (1400-1375 BC) Judges picks up with troubles that befall Israel as they fail to fully drive out the godless inhabitants of the promised land. (1380-1370 BC)

Law & Gospel Themes: The tribes living east of the Jordan build an altar to remind all Israel of their unity, but it is first seen as an act of rebellion. Pg 376 offers a great explanation of "Divine Warfare." Joshua renews the commitment of he and his house to God's covenant and calls on all Israel to do the same. The

key downfall of Israel made clear in Judges is recurring rejection of God. Judges 2:10 summarizes saying the new generation of Israel "did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel." Yet, God graciously rescues Israel over and over through his chosen judges.

Life Application Starters: How do misunderstandings threaten the unity of your family and your church and how do you overcome them? How well is the head of your household / church setting the tone for the faith of the whole family / church? How does

the spiritual failure of one generation impact the next and how do you prevent it? Who is our "judge" who saves us from our repeated rebellion against the LORD?

Prayer Starters: For patience to listen to others to prevent conflict. To regularly pass on faith to the next generation in the home. For the whole church to unite in teaching faith to all its children. For preservation from moral lapse as we follow our own selfish ways. In thanks for grace and, especially, for Jesus, our ultimate "judge" and Savior.

Daily Readings and notes:

Monday: Joshua 20:1-21:45

Tuesday: Joshua 22:1-34

Wednesday: Joshua 23:1-16

Thursday: Joshua 24:1-33

Friday: Judges 1:1-36

Saturday: Judges 2:1-23



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Historical Context: Israel continues to turn from the LORD in the newly received promised land, but He continues to raise up judges to deliver them (1370-1040 BC)

Law & Gospel Themes: The repeated refrain of condemnation in this section is, "Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD." It's part of the historical cycle over and over in Judges: 1. Israel strays, 2. foreign powers come to oppress, 3. Israel cries to the LORD to deliver them, 4. the LORD provides a judge (NOT a courtroom kind, but a "savior" to lead and deliver). Each judge was

a type of Jesus, the greatest Savior. Fittingly, the LORD uses a humble woman, Jael, to destroy mighty Sisera. Songs of praise are due the LORD. Fearful Gideon receives two clear signs of support from God. Jephthah makes a foolish vow. Samson falls, repents, and is raised to deliver one last time.

Life Application Starters: How often do we do evil in the sight of the LORD and are only spared from destruction by God's mercy? What should we learn from Israel's experiences in Judges? Is any one too weak to serve the LORD in mighty ways?

How often do the mighty (you at times) fall in their pride? How do you "sing" in praise to Jesus? Have you ever "laid out a fleece" for God to speak to you? Should we? Pg 403 gives a great reminder of our true identity. How is this needed today (sex, humanism, politics, etc.)?

Prayer Starters: To learn from history so we do not repeat its cycle of sin. To be strong in the LORD and humble in self. That praise to God will fill our lives. To see God's signs, esp. in Scripture, and know His will. In thanks for our baptismal identity in Jesus.

Daily Readings and notes:

Monday: Judges 3:1-31

Tuesday: Judges 4:1-5:31

Wednesday: Judges 6:1-8:35

Thursday: Judges 9:1-10:18

Friday: Judges 11:1-12:15

Saturday: Judges 13:1-16:31



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