

# Traveling God's Word

A chronological study of the Bible

## INTRODUCTION

### Inside this issue:

Spotting Christ 2

Learning the 3

Language

Itinerary 3

Writing Home 3

Points of Interest 4

Map 4

Puzzle 5

Answers and 6

Sources

Read for  
next week:  
Genesis 1-2

## Traveling God's Word

The thought of a trip, any trip, fills me with excitement and anticipation as I plan what I will need to take along, the route I will travel, and the things that I plan to see. The sense of new things waiting for my discovery and new adventures waiting to be lived begins to consume me as the departure date draws near.

Even though I have traveled God's Word before, I am filled with an eager anticipation as I look forward to meeting up again with old friends and favorite places, as well as the expectancy of new and life changing encounters with the Lord that I love.

On this journey, we will learn bits of foreign tongues. We will examine the ways of cultures unfamiliar to us. We will stop by the work of archaeologists and contemplate the meanings of their finds. We will fill our minds with the places and people of the Bible. But I hope that we will not stop there. I also aspire for us to travel the pages of God's revealing words with Spirit eyes that we might encounter our living Lord in a way that changes our hearts and lives. I pray that we don't study God's Word that we might collect knowledge that fossilizes the living truths into hard and cold stone, but that we gain fresh new understandings that till the fertile soil of our hearts and brings forth new life.

How are you shaped and challenged by these passages?

Hebrews 4:12 \_\_\_\_\_

Isaiah 55:11 \_\_\_\_\_

## SPOTTING CHRIST

**“When you want to believe in something, you also have to believe in everything that’s necessary for believing in it.” Ugo Betti**



The message of Scripture is Christ. To believe in Christ, His death, burial and resurrection, and to respond to that belief in repentance and baptism is the essential core of our salvation. But to believe in the Christ of the New Testament, we must know the Lord of the Old. The primary purpose of the Old Testament, to introduce man to God, to show us and tell us who He is. However, we tend to separate the Testaments into man’s encounter with only God the Father in the Old, and with God the Son in the New. But **all** Scripture is for the purpose of a saving relationship with our Lord. All of it is the story of our Lord going about the business of revealing Himself to mankind that they might know Him. He is helping us believe in what we need to believe in, in order to believe in the God-as-man Jesus. So, as we move into God’s Word, keep in mind that what you are reading is not everything about Him, but what He has determined that we most need to know in order to come to a saving relationship with Him.

According to John 1:1-12, when do we first meet Christ in Scripture? \_\_\_\_\_

According to Colossians 1:16, who in fact is responsible for creation? \_\_\_\_\_

Since the Old Testament was the scripture available to those who Jesus was speaking to, what did Jesus say the Old Testament was about in John 5:39 and 46? \_\_\_\_\_

What do these passages say about man’s interactions with God the Father?

John 1:18 \_\_\_\_\_

John 5:37 \_\_\_\_\_

1 John 4:12 \_\_\_\_\_

From these passages, what do you conclude about man’s interactions with God in the Old Testament? \_\_\_\_\_

How difficult is it for you to see Christ as present and active throughout the Old Testament? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

## Learning the Language

There are two language issues to be dealt with as we read Scripture. One is the original language that they were written in. While God's thoughts and communication is not bound to the Old Testament language of Hebrew, or the New Testament language of Greek, those who actually first penned His words were obliged to write divine words in the constraints of human language. The Bible is further

The original language of the Old Testament was Hebrew. The Hebrew names of the books came from the first words in the book, but the names that we are accustomed to are translated from the later Greek version of the Old Testament called the Septuagint. For example, in Hebrew the name of Genesis is *beresit*. Genesis is actually the Greek word for beginning.

translated into a language familiar to us, but sometimes the depth of meaning is dulled in the translation. For that reason, we will occasionally take a look of the meanings of the original Hebrew and Greek words and phrases used.

The second and larger issue of language that can hinder the transforming work of God's Word in our lives is that we tend to deal with the size of God by cutting His Word into tiny morsels. While that can be a good aid to digestion, it can also keep us from seeing the big picture. Sometimes we will zoom in on a single verse, phrase or even word, but I hope to also step back once in awhile to remind ourselves of the big picture and the narrative being told. The verses that we harvest from the Bible and transplant one by one into our hearts are treasures to hold, but so is the context from which they came.

### Itinerary

WEEK:	READING:
.....	INTRODUCTION
1 .....	GENESIS 1-2
2 .....	GENESIS 3-6:8
3 .....	GENESIS 6:9-11
4.....	JOB
5 .....	GENESIS 12-23
6 .....	GENESIS 24-36
7 .....	GENESIS 37-50
8 .....	EXODUS 1-10
9 .....	EXODUS 11-23
10 .....	EXODUS 24-30
11 .....	EXODUS 31-40

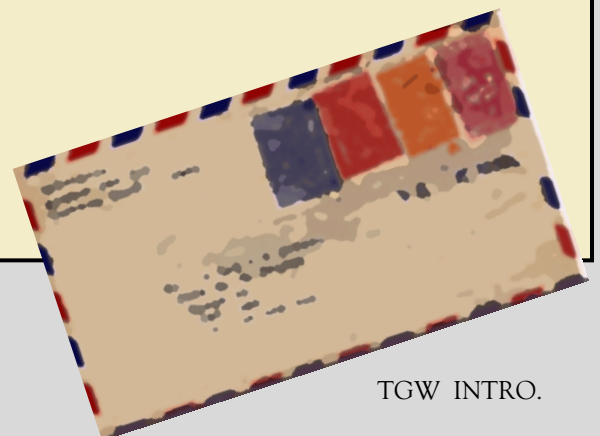
### Worth writing home about:

What do you most look forward to about your coming trip through God's Word?

---

---

---



## PACKING LIST

**Bible**—I suggest trying a different translation than you normally use.

**Journal**—the Holy Spirit uses His written word to prick our hearts and change our lives. Write down the work that He is doing in you!

**Highlighters**—mark the passages that are especially meaningful to you. It makes it easier to find them again!

**An expectancy**—leave behind ideas of what Scripture says that have been set in stone. We want to explore God's Word with fresh and expectant eyes, ready to learn new things about who God is, and who we are, in the story that He tells.

## POINTS OF INTEREST

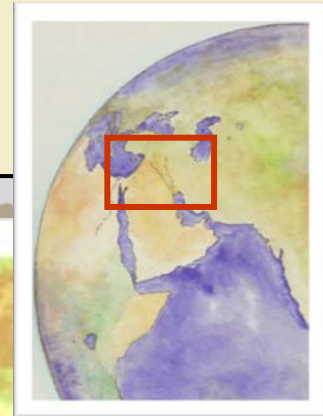
The setting of the Old Testament world has been, and still is the strategic center of world events. God could have picked anywhere to set things in motion. Why do you think He chose this particular area of the globe?

-----

-----

-----

-----



Using an atlas, draw the present day political boundaries for this area.

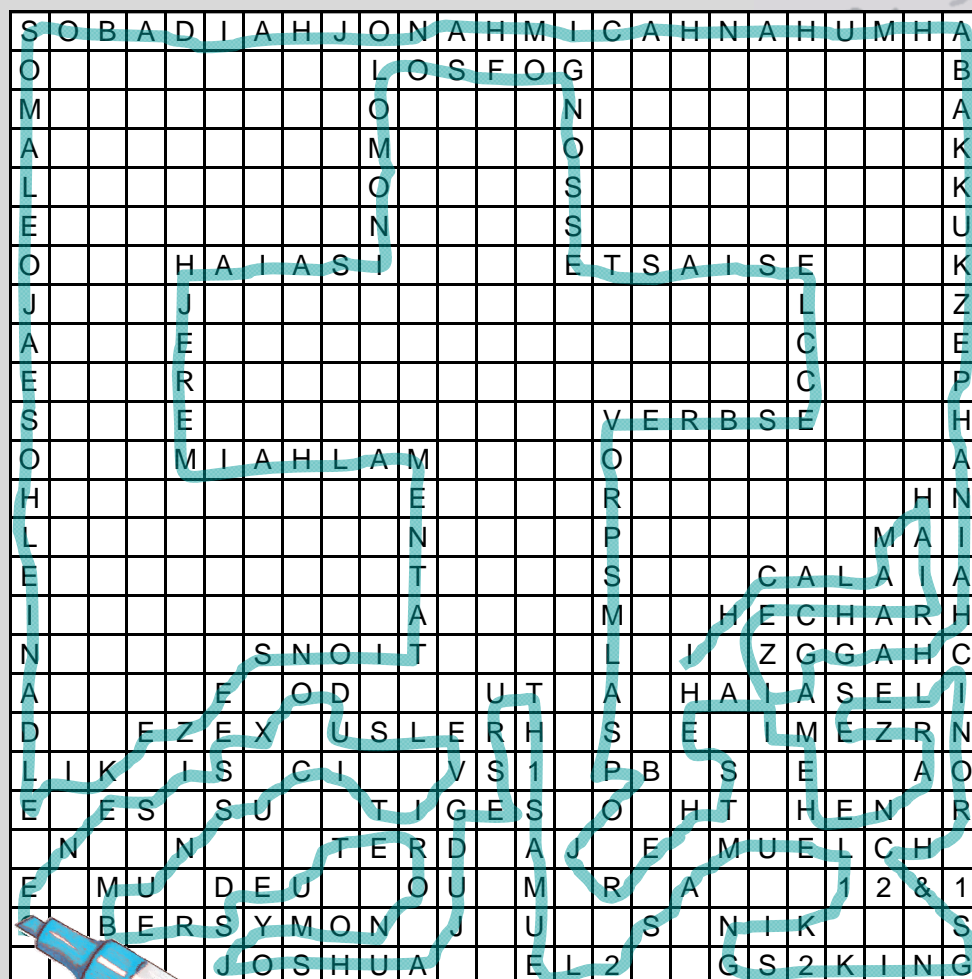


# Puzzle Page

Starting at the arrow, draw a line through all the letters that spell the books of the Old Testament in the order they appear in your Bible. You can move in any direction; vertical, horizontal, diagonal, and backward. When you are finished you will find the message of the Bible.

S	O	B	A	D	I	A	H	J	O	N	A	H	M	I	C	A	H	N	A	H	U	M	H	A
O	A	W	Q	N	P	R	F	V	L	O	S	F	O	G	N	S	E	B	X	S	W	E	Q	B
M	Q	M	Y	J	I	F	G	B	O	G	M	X	R	N	J	R	R	N	E	A	S	R	A	A
A	B	R	U	D	U	E	H	X	M	T	I	S	S	O	K	T	K	K	W	P	A	T	L	K
L	S	H	I	R	Y	T	Y	W	O	Y	T	E	T	S	R	Y	L	E	N	R	Z	Y	P	K
E	G	I	S	F	S	Q	U	S	N	I	R	W	W	S	L	M	T	M	T	T	G	U	O	U
O	T	U	E	H	A	I	A	S	I	O	Q	L	Q	E	T	S	A	I	S	E	H	I	T	K
J	Y	J	R	J	N	M	J	G	R	P	S	K	M	N	P	N	S	P	W	L	J	Q	G	Z
A	P	T	W	E	K	L	H	M	E	S	A	R	I	J	T	P	A	I	R	C	U	A	H	E
E	R	N	Q	R	R	S	W	N	M	A	W	F	L	U	O	E	N	O	F	C	Y	S	R	P
S	L	M	S	E	T	K	A	I	T	M	D	P	O	K	V	E	R	B	S	E	I	V	F	H
O	E	L	N	M	I	A	H	L	A	M	F	T	P	L	O	X	K	F	K	X	P	C	E	A
H	F	O	M	L	O	R	S	D	S	E	B	U	T	X	R	S	O	W	H	Q	O	L	H	N
L	Q	P	O	P	L	E	X	E	X	N	V	I	Y	S	P	A	T	E	J	O	E	M	A	I
E	Z	I	P	W	T	T	R	G	D	T	Z	W	F	A	S	Z	Y	K	C	A	L	A	I	A
I	M	Q	T	T	Z	J	O	F	E	A	O	O	P	N	M	R	X	H	E	C	H	A	R	H
N	B	S	Y	Q	X	S	N	O	I	T	P	N	T	T	L	E	I	R	Z	G	G	A	H	C
A	C	A	L	X	E	T	O	D	R	S	D	U	T	R	A	K	H	A	I	A	S	E	L	I
D	N	V	E	Z	E	X	P	U	S	L	E	R	H	P	S	L	E	J	I	M	E	Z	R	N
L	I	K	N	I	S	G	C	I	L	Q	V	S	I	O	P	B	Q	S	R	E	N	T	A	O
E	F	E	S	J	S	U	T	X	T	I	G	E	S	Q	O	F	H	T	T	H	E	N	K	R
R	N	O	P	N	M	S	D	T	E	R	D	T	A	J	X	E	Z	M	U	E	L	C	H	Q
E	Z	M	U	Q	D	E	U	Z	A	O	U	H	M	S	R	G	A	V	K	N	1	2	&	1
G	L	B	E	R	S	Y	M	O	N	D	J	M	U	T	Z	S	C	N	I	K	S	W	T	S
S	P	A	F	T	J	O	S	H	U	A	E	U	E	L	2	M	V	G	S	2	K	I	N	G

# ANSWERS AND SOURCES



You might also be interested in:

<http://www.esword.net> - easy to use and free software for looking up Hebrew and Greek words used in Scripture.

<http://www.ebibleteacher.com/imagehtml/batlas.html> - for great free maps of Bible lands.

And for some thought provoking conversation on how we read the Bible, read:

McKnight, Scot. The Blue Parakeet. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2008.



For comments or questions, contact me at [victoryrd@hotmail.com](mailto:victoryrd@hotmail.com) or for more studies visit [www.downvictoryrd.com](http://www.downvictoryrd.com)