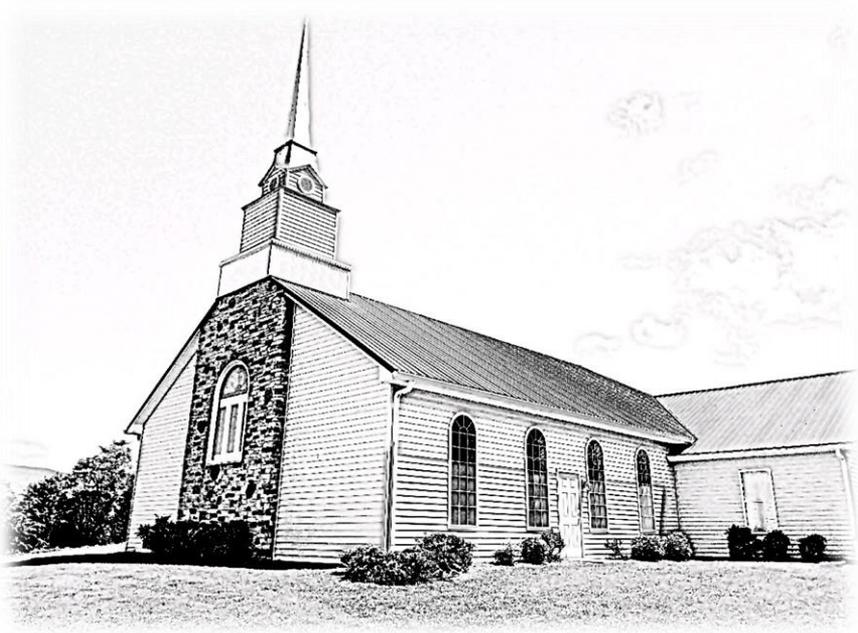


# Bible Reading Guide 2020



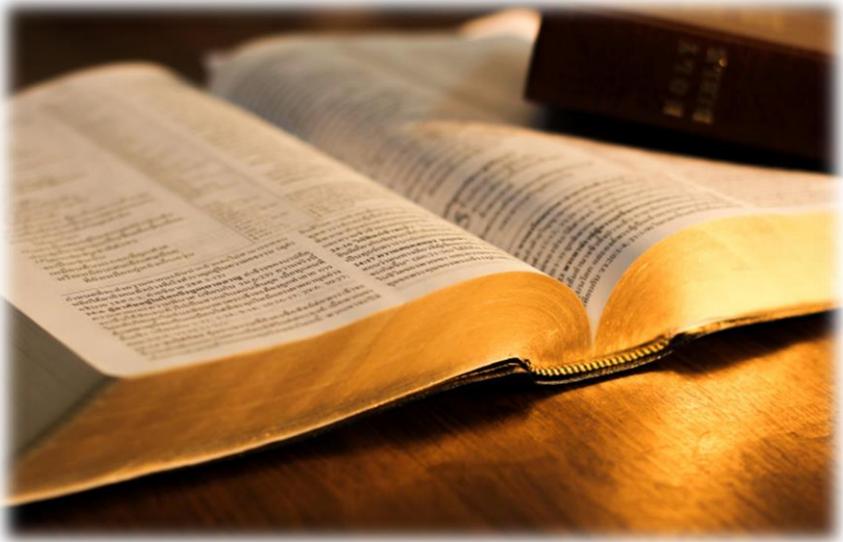
Week 14  
April 5-April 11, 2020

Written by Rev. William F. Hill, Jr.

## ~Instructions~

1. Pray
2. Read the assigned text of Scripture.
3. Answer the discussion questions as offered. Keep a notebook of your thoughts and answers.

Each chapter is a summary. It is not meant to be overly educational or intellectual. It is intended to give the reader a good thumbnail sketch of each chapter.



## ~Lord's Day, April 5, 2020 ~

Reading: Psalm 25-26

### **PSALM 25**

Psalm 25 is a Psalm of David. It is an individual lament, but one that can be applied to the covenant community. The Psalm has seven sections.

The first section (25:1-3) begins the Psalm with prayer – the whole Psalm is a prayer of lament. Note the trust and hope the writer places in the LORD of heaven and earth.

The second section (25:4-5) is a plea to know the ways of the LORD. In the face of treachery and wickedness, the psalmist desires to walk in the ways of the LORD.

The third section (25:6-7) is punctuated by the term “remember.” The psalmists desire that the LORD remember that he is a God of mercy and steadfast love. He desires that the LORD forgive his sins for the sake of the goodness and mercy of God.

The fourth section (25:8-10) is a section of praise. Here the writer highlights various attributes of the LORD. They are his goodness and uprightness, his guidance and wisdom, and faithfulness.

The fifth section (25:11-15) is a prayer of confession and trust in the LORD who will deliver his people. This section is highlighted by those who fear the LORD.

The sixth section (25:16-18) is a further confession of sin.

The seventh section (25:19-22) is a plea for help and an expression of trust that the LORD will deliver his people.

This Psalm is one that is very useful in prayer. It is a psalm that sets before the reader many things in which God's people can pray.

Discussion Questions:

1. How can you apply the first section to various circumstances you face in your life?
2. What areas in your life do you desire to see perfect in holiness and godliness? Use those areas as a plea to the LORD.
3. How does this Psalm instruct you regarding confession of sin?

## **PSALM 26**

Psalm 26 is divided into three sections. The first (26:1-3) is a plea for vindication from the LORD. Note the items that he places before the face of the LORD. He appeals to his integrity as defined by walking in God's truth. He also appeals to the all-searching eyes of the LORD. He wants the LORD to try him and examine the integrity of his heart.

The second section (26:4-7) is a contrast between the behavior of the Psalmist and the behavior of the wicked. The writer does not sit among them, and he proclaims his hatred of their ways. Instead, he sits in the worship of God and proclaims thanksgiving to him.

The final section (26:8-12) is further evidence of the love of the writer for the LORD. He refers to his zeal for worship in the face of an evil generation.

## Discussion Questions:

1. When you pray, are you willing for the Spirit of God to search your heart and your behavior? When you do, and he finds things, do you repent and turn from them?
2. What is the danger of receiving counsel and instruction from the wicked? What does that look like in the world today? Consider the various mediums of communication available today.
3. Do you love God's worship and have a zeal for it as the psalmist expresses in this Psalm?

## ~Monday, April 6, 2020 ~

Reading: Exodus 27, Acts 28

### **EXODUS 27**

This chapter continues the instruction of the tabernacle, focusing on the bronze altar, the court of the tabernacle, and the oil for the lamp.

The bronze altar receives the opening words of the chapter (27:1-8). This altar is fulfilled in the work of Christ as the Passover lamb sacrificed for the sins of the people. It is on this altar that all of the offerings to God are consumed.

The court of the tabernacle is significant—the tabernacle proper houses two rooms: the holy place, and the Most Holy Place. The tabernacle proper is only open to the priests and the high priest. The court of the tabernacle was designated solely for the people of God. No one else was allowed in the court that surrounded the tabernacle.

The oil was to be brought by the people and used by Aaron to be burned perpetually.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does the bronze altar represent the work of Christ?
2. Why was Moses required to make poles for the altar?
3. Who is allowed in the court of the tabernacle?

## **ACTS 28**

This chapter contains the record of the events that led Paul to Rome. The chapter can be divided into three sections.

The first section (28:1-10) contains the events that happened to Paul and his companions on the island of Malta. There are few items to note in this section. First, the text highlights the kindness of the people on this small island. Second, the miracle that occurred to Paul in the events of the viper that struck him. This led to an erroneous conclusion that Paul was a murderer. Since Paul did not die, they wrongly concluded that he was a god. Third, Paul worked a miracle of healing.

The second section (28:11-16) contains the events that brought Paul, finally, to Rome. After three months on the island of Malta, Paul and his companions set sail for Rome. Note that as they journeyed, they ran into “brothers,” that is, fellow believers. The gospel was spreading. Upon arriving at Rome, Paul was put under guard.

The third section (28:17-31) detail the events that happened to Paul in Rome. It is here that Paul was martyred for the Christian faith. There are some important items to note in this section. First, Paul addresses his countrymen, the Jews. These were not enemies. They

were desirous to hear Paul's report. Second, while Paul was under house arrest, he was busy proclaiming the gospel to others.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think the people of Malta thought Paul was a murderer?
2. What does the fact that Paul and his companions ran into other brothers in the faith say about the spread of the gospel?
3. What does the example of Paul say about our need to proclaim the gospel to all who will hear it?
4. Where is Paul when the book closes?

**~Tuesday, April 7, 2020 ~**

Reading: Exodus 28, Romans 1

### **EXODUS 28**

This chapter contains the instructions of Jehovah regarding the garments worn by the priests. This begins the set of guidelines regarding the priesthood (Ex. 28-30:3).

Discussion Questions:

1. Why does the LORD offer such explicit instructions regarding the dress of the priests?
2. What is the main emphasis of the dress that the priests were to wear?

### **ROMANS 1**

This book is the magnum opus of the apostle Paul. It contains the clearest expression of Christian theology. Throughout these sixteen

chapters, the apostle sets forth the themes of sin, justification, election and predestination, sanctification, and Christian living.

The opening chapter sets the foundation for all that the apostle will say in this book. The chapter can be divided as follows:

First, (1:1-7) is the opening and greeting of the apostle Paul. It sets forth the author and the goal of the letter.

Second, (1:8-15) describes Paul's desire to be with the people in Rome. It offers encouragement to the saints who are laboring in that city.

Third, (1:16-32) highlights the power of the gospel and the fact that man is without excuse because God has clearly shown them that he exists.

Discussion Questions:

1. Who authored the letter to the Romans?
2. Read 1:1:5 and compare it with 16:26. What does that teach you about the goal of this letter?
3. How is the Gospel the "power of God for salvation"?
4. Why is a man without an excuse?

**~Wednesday, April 8, 2020 ~**

Reading: Exodus 29, Romans 2

### **EXODUS 29**

This chapter contains instructions regarding the consecration of the priests. In this chapter, we note the serious nature of the office in which these men were entering.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does the word “consecration” mean?
2. Why are the priests consecrated?
3. To whom are they consecrated?
4. The Scriptures teach the “priesthood of all believers.” Since that is true, what does this chapter teach you regarding your service before and to the Lord?

## **ROMANS 2**

This chapter is a demonstration of Paul’s theology regarding the Jews and the Gentiles. The chapter can be divided as follows:

First (2:1-11), Paul sets forth the argument that no one is without excuse. He begins the chapter with the word “therefore,” connecting it to what he has taught previously.

Second, (2:12-29) the apostle teaches that no one can be saved by keeping the Law. No man can keep it. This is a point he will make very clear in chapter three.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why does Paul address the Jews in this chapter?
2. Who are the Gentiles?
3. Why is a man unable to keep the Law?

**~Thursday, April 9, 2020 ~**

Reading: Exodus 30, Romans 3

## **EXODUS 30**

This chapter contains instructions regarding the altar of incense and the bronze basin and the anointing oil and incense. Additionally, there are instructions regarding the census tax.

### Discussion Questions:

1. Where is the altar of incense located?
2. What does the altar of incense represent?
3. What is the bronze basin, and where is it located?
4. What purpose does the bronze basin serve?

## **ROMANS 3**

This chapter can be divided into three parts. The first (3:1-8) is Paul's argument that God's righteousness and just demands will be upheld in the world. The second (3:9-20) contains the argument that no man is exempt from God's righteous demands. There is none who does good, and there are none righteous. The third (3:21-31) is a proclamation that all have sinned, and, as a result, righteousness must come from another.

### Discussion Questions:

1. To what were the Jews entrusted, and why is that important in Paul's argument?
2. Does everyone sin? How do you respond to people who ignorantly declare that they have not sinned?

**~Friday, April 10, 2020 ~**

Reading: Exodus 31, Romans 4

## **EXODUS 31**

This chapter contains the narrative and appointment of the two men called by the Lord to work on the Tabernacle. It also includes instructions regarding the Sabbath Day. Thus, all of these instructions are contained within the context of worship.

### Discussion Questions:

1. Who called the two men to work on the Tabernacle? What characterized these men?
2. Who helped these men complete the work? What does that say about our labors before the Lord?
3. What are the instructions regarding the Sabbath Day?
4. Why do people resist the Sabbath Day today? Do you?

### **ROMANS 4**

This chapter is Paul's argument that man, who is unable to be justified by works because they cannot and will not keep the law, must be justified by another. In this chapter, Paul uses the example of Abraham to make his point.

### Discussion Questions:

1. Why is Abraham used as an example to make Paul's argument?
2. How was Abraham justified?
3. What is justification?

**~Saturday, April 11, 2020 ~**

Reading: Exodus 32, Romans 5

### **EXODUS 32**

Exodus thirty-two is a sad chapter in the history of God's people. This chapter details the wickedness of the hearts of God's people. While Moses was on the mountain, they became concerned and afraid and implored Aaron to craft a golden calf so they might worship it.

The chapter has two fundamental parts. The first (32:1-10) is the narrative of the sin the people committed. The second (32:11-35) contains the results of that sin.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did the people demand Aaron make the golden calf?
2. How did Aaron make the calf? What excuse did he offer to Moses when he was confronted with this sin?
3. Read 32:7. Note the pronoun “your.” What does that say about the LORD’s anger?
4. How does Moses respond to the LORD’s anger? What office of the Savior is he exercising in that labor?
5. What two results occur as a result of the sin of the people?

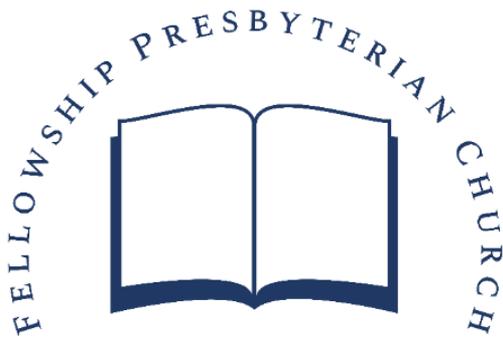
## **ROMANS 5**

This chapter continues the argument that started in chapter four regarding the doctrine of justification. The chapter can be divided into two parts.

First (5:1-11) describes the result offered to the one who is justified by faith in Christ. The second (5:12-21) describes the life one has in Christ. It further describes the work of Christ in securing justification for his people.

Discussion Questions:

1. What do those who are justified enjoy now?
2. When did Christ die for the ungodly?
3. How did sin enter the world? How is it reversed?



PREACH THE WORD - 2 TIM. 4:2