

## **PLAN 3: The story of creation, sin, and redemption in that order**

100 days (roughly 15 minutes per day)

*In this plan we will look at the Bible from the narrative of our creation, then our sin, and then our redemption. This could be of help to newer readers because it is often confusing why humanity exists, why Christians believe in sin and what that means, and why we need Jesus or what being redeemed or saved even looks like. To do that, we'll start in Genesis (the beginning of all creation) to get the creation narrative, then we will look at a few parts of the Old Testament (from Joshua to 2 Kings and also Malachi, the final book of the Old Testament in order to transition into the New Testament) to illustrate the sin of God's people, and then we will tell the story of the New Testament, which gives us details of the human redemption story and how we can satisfy God and be forgiven.*

**Day 1:** Genesis 1-5

**Day 2:** Genesis 6-10

**Day 3:** Genesis 11-16

**Day 4:** Genesis 17-20

**Day 5:** Genesis 21-24

**Day 6:** Genesis 25-27

**Day 7:** Genesis 28-30

**Day 8:** Genesis 31-34

**Day 9:** Genesis 35-38

**Day 10:** Genesis 39-41

**Day 11:** Genesis 42-45

**Day 12:** Genesis 46-50 then read the following **COMMENTARY** on the text: At the very beginning of Genesis we saw the creation of everything take place ("In the beginning God created" - Genesis 1:1). Humanity is the key creation - the first human being was Adam, and in Genesis 3 we see Adam disobey God. This is something we will see more of from the human race in the reading that follows (and we saw it in many other places throughout Genesis). This plan is called "creation, sin, and redemption in that order" because that is an accurate portrayal. We have seen "creation" and we are now examining the "sin" that will eventually lead us to the "redemption" portion of this reading. I did not include Exodus-Deuteronomy, though it comes

after Genesis and before Joshua, because there is already a lot of reading in this plan and some of those passages are a little too complex for a newer reader to understand. A basic summary of what happens between the end of Genesis and beginning of Joshua is this: the Egyptians enslave the Israelites and mistreat them for 400 years, and God delivers the Israelites by splitting the seas so that they could walk through on dry ground as the Egyptians chased them (planning to capture them by chasing them to the waters that obviously had never split before, this was a miracle from God), and the Egyptians pursued the Israelites on the dry ground which led the Egyptians, and not the Israelites, to drown when God brought the waters back in place. God rescued the Israelites from Egypt. From there He led them on a rough journey through the wilderness (they needed to find a new home, and He told them to never take the easy way out/go back to Egypt). Moses was the man that led the Israelites during this time. He dies and Joshua takes his place as leader of the Israelites. We now turn to Joshua.

**Day 13:** Joshua 1-4

**Day 14:** Joshua 5-8

**Day 15:** Joshua 9-12

**Day 16:** Joshua 13-17

**Day 17:** Joshua 18-21

**Day 18:** Joshua 22-24

**Day 19:** Judges 1-4

**Day 20:** Judges 5-7

**Day 21:** Judges 8-10

**Day 22:** Judges 11-14

**Day 23:** Judges 15-18

**Day 24:** Judges 19-21

**Day 25:** Ruth 1-4

**Day 26:** 1 Samuel 1-4

**Day 27:** 1 Samuel 5-9

**Day 28:** 1 Samuel 10-13

**Day 29:** 1 Samuel 14-16

**Day 30:** 1 Samuel 17-19

**Day 31:** 1 Samuel 20-22

**Day 32:** 1 Samuel 23-25

**Day 33:** 1 Samuel 26-29

**Day 34:** 1 Samuel 30-31, 2 Samuel 1-3

**Day 35:** 2 Samuel 4-7

**Day 36:** 2 Samuel 8-12

**Day 37:** 2 Samuel 13-15

**Day 38:** 2 Samuel 16-18

**Day 39:** 2 Samuel 19-21

**Day 40:** 2 Samuel 22-24

**Day 41:** 1 Kings 1-3

**Day 42:** 1 Kings 4-6

**Day 43:** 1 Kings 7-8

**Day 44:** 1 Kings 9-11

**Day 45:** 1 Kings 12-13

**Day 46:** 1 Kings 14-17

**Day 47:** 1 Kings 18-20

**Day 48:** 1 Kings 21-22

**Day 49:** 2 Kings 1-4

**Day 50:** 2 Kings 5-7

**Day 51:** 2 Kings 8-10

**Day 52:** 2 Kings 11-13

**Day 53:** 2 Kings 14-16

**Day 54:** 2 Kings 17-19

**Day 55:** 2 Kings 20-22

**Day 56:** 2 Kings 23-25 then read the following COMMENTARY on the text: We see here all kinds of sinning by the Israelites, God's people. Christians, basically the modern version of these Israelites if you think about it, are still sinning in their everyday lives. This "sin" requires the "redemption" that we will look at later on in our plan. Some of the passages stood out to me to give you the narrative of "sin" here. In 1 Samuel 12:12-15 the Israelites are attacked by another nation, and they ask God to give them a king to lead them (up until this point they basically followed God as if He were their King, which was never seen before them and hasn't been seen since). In the face of hardship they took the easy way out and did what was common and pleasing in the moment - we do this all the time with sin. In that passage, God tells them that He will give them their king (He is honoring their free will, though He is obviously hurt by them basically saying they reject Him), and that the king must obey God. In 1 Samuel 10:9 it says that Saul (the first king before the many that followed) had his heart changed by God and then he became king - so this man was so sinful that God had to actually change him before making him king - yet the people choose this man over God as their ruler. We do the same thing, putting pornography and swearing and selfishness and money on the throne that God should be on in our hearts. We, like the people in this reading, need to get our priorities straight. In 1 Samuel 13:6-14 we see King Saul (who had actually done a fairly decent job of obeying God until this point) turn on God "because the situation was critical." Again, in the face of difficulty, humanity fell. Because of temptation. Because of the past. Because of whatever hardship in your life - Saul followed God until it became difficult and involved sacrifices and hardships - this is where many Christians end up, and I pray to God that we would do better. As the passage in 1 Samuel 13 rolls on, we see that Saul has angered God and will lose his place on the throne - after Saul's reign, many kings come and go (this is mostly found in the books 1-2 Kings). There are good and bad kings who do good and bad things, but, as you probably noticed, the majority of it was evil. This is the "sin" that requires redemption, and we all have it in our lives. Eventually, in 2 Kings 25:8-11, Israel/Jerusalem falls into the hands of enemies because of this sin. The next book we will read is Malachi, the last book of the Old Testament (in order to transition into the New Testament and the "redemption" that we have promised to look at). Between the end of 2 Kings and Malachi, the Israelites remain captives to many different enemies, eventually becoming free but never half as glorious as they used to be. We now turn to Malachi.

**Day 57:** Malachi 1-4 then read the following COMMENTARY on the text: We saw all throughout the reading the “sin” that will eventually lead us to the “redemption” portion of this reading. Malachi is the final book of the Old Testament, and the next Bible book is Matthew, the beginning of the New Testament. Between Malachi and Matthew, there is 400 years of silence - no prophet, no Word from the Lord, nothing. Just silence after all the “sin.” After this 400 year period the Messiah (Jesus Christ) comes into the world. This is what we will read next as we turn to the “redemption” portion of our reading. We now turn to the New Testament.

**Day 58:** Matthew 1-3

**Day 59:** Matthew 4-7

**Day 60:** Matthew 8-10

**Day 61:** Matthew 11-13

**Day 62:** Matthew 14-16

**Day 63:** Matthew 17-19

**Day 64:** Matthew 20-21

**Day 65:** Matthew 22-23

**Day 66:** Matthew 24-25

**Day 67:** Matthew 26-28

**Day 68:** Acts 1-3

**Day 69:** Acts 4-7

**Day 70:** Acts 8-10

**Day 71:** Acts 11-13

**Day 72:** Acts 14-17

**Day 73:** Acts 18-20

**Day 74:** Acts 21-23

**Day 75:** Acts 24-26

**Day 76:** Acts 27-28, Romans 1-2

**Day 77:** Romans 3-7

**Day 78:** Romans 8-11

**Day 79:** Romans 12-16

**Day 80:** 1 Corinthians 1-6

**Day 81:** 1 Corinthians 7-12

**Day 82:** 1 Corinthians 13-16

**Day 83:** 2 Corinthians 1-7

**Day 84:** 2 Corinthians 8-13

**Day 85:** Galatians 1-6

**Day 86:** Ephesians 1-6

**Day 87:** Philippians 1-4

**Day 88:** Colossians 1-4, 1 Thessalonians 1-3

**Day 89:** 1 Thessalonians 4-5, 2 Thessalonians 1-3, 1 Timothy 1-4

**Day 90:** 1 Timothy 5-6, 2 Timothy 1-4

**Day 91:** Titus 1-3, Philemon, Hebrews 1-5

**Day 92:** Hebrews 6-10

**Day 93:** Hebrews 11-13, James 1-2

**Day 94:** James 3-5, 1 Peter 1-3

**Day 95:** 1 Peter 4-5, 2 Peter 1-3, 1 John 1-2

**Day 96:** 1 John 3-5, 2 John, 3 John, Jude

**Day 97:** Revelation 1-6

**Day 98:** Revelation 7-12

**Day 99:** Revelation 13-17

**Day 100:** Revelation 18-22 then read the following COMMENTARY on the text: So this is the New Testament. We saw the life and ministry of Jesus, how He selflessly died on the cross to forgive our sins (our “redemption”), and then we saw the disciples and followers of Jesus go off and lead the Early Church in the book of Acts (which represents their “Acts” or actions as leaders of the Church after Jesus died). We then saw the writings and ministry of those leaders, which included Paul (who wrote from Romans-Philemon), and then other writers like Jesus’s brother James and His followers Peter and John and Jude), ultimately culminating in the book of Revelation (which is the final warning from God to humans, and it gave us details on the end times). We needed to be “redeemed” for our sins - the people in the Old Testament sinned, and you and I do too. Jesus dying on the cross is that “redemption.” Without His sacrifice on the cross, our sins are not forgiven. A price had to be paid. God wouldn’t just forgive us for free, because that’s not real, there’s no real sacrifice. It would be like if I said “here’s a million bucks” and then gave you nothing - there’s nothing real there. But Jesus DID go to the cross and die and so our sins ARE forgiven for all time (those before, during, and after the crucifixion). The only thing we have to do is accept Jesus into our hearts and live our lives wholeheartedly for Him, as the New Testament detailed. So we were created, we sin, and there is redemption. Romans 3:23-24 sums this up perfectly by saying that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” in verse 23 but that “all are freely redeemed by Jesus” in verse 24. Pursue Jesus and His ways in your everyday life. Thanks for reading.