

# **STORYLINE**

**THE BIBLE IN ONE YEAR**

**July 2026**

**Kings and Prophets: Solomon to Malachi, Romans to Galatians**

July witnesses Solomon's rise to glory and his eventual downfall, the divided kingdom under various kings, and the voices of all twelve Minor Prophets from Obadiah through Malachi. The New Testament moves from Acts' conclusion through Romans' theological foundation of justification, 1 Corinthians' addressing division and gifts, 2 Corinthians' comfort and reconciliation, and begins Galatians' defense of grace. Proverbs wisdom threads throughout. This month traces the arc from kingdom's glory to prophetic warning, while revealing the gospel's power.

## Day 1: Kindness to David's House and Journey to Rome

### READ

**Old Testament:** 2 Samuel 10-12

**New Testament:** Acts 27:1-26

**Psalm:** Psalm 21

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does David do for Jonathan's son Mephibosheth? What dangers does Paul face on his voyage to Rome?

**Interpret:** Why does David seek to show kindness to Saul's house? What does the journey's peril reveal about God's faithfulness?

**Apply:** How are you showing kindness to your enemies' families? Do you trust God in danger?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 2 Samuel 9:7 with Acts 27:24. David gives Mephibosheth a place of honor; Paul is told by an angel that God has granted safety to all sailing with him.

## Day 2: David's Sin and Shipwreck

### READ

**Old Testament:** 2 Samuel 13-15

**New Testament:** Acts 27:27-28:16

**Psalm:** Psalm 22

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What terrible sin does David commit with Bathsheba? How does the shipwreck and rescue unfold?

**Interpret:** Why does the narrative include such explicit detail about David's sin? What does the shipwreck symbolize about God's sovereignty?

**Apply:** How do you respond when you fall into serious sin? Do you see God's hand in rescue?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 2 Samuel 12:10 with Acts 28:1-6. The sword will never depart from David's house; Paul is safe even on Malta and unharmed by a viper.

## Day 3: Bathsheba's Son and Paul's Ministry in Rome

### READ

**Old Testament:** 2 Samuel 16-18

**New Testament:** Acts 28:17-31

**Psalm:** Psalm 23

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What is the consequence of David's sin regarding his son? How does Paul's ministry in Rome conclude Acts?

**Interpret:** Why is the death of Bathsheba's child presented as judgment? What does Paul accomplish despite imprisonment?

**Apply:** How do you understand consequences of sin in your own life? Are you proclaiming Jesus boldly?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 2 Samuel 12:13-14 with Acts 28:31. David's sin is forgiven but consequences follow; Paul preaches the kingdom boldly and without hindrance for two years.

## Day 4: Absalom's Rebellion and Romans' Righteousness

### READ

**Old Testament:** 2 Samuel 19-21

**New Testament:** Romans 1:1-32

**Psalm:** Psalm 24

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Absalom's rebellion teach about family and kingdom? How does Paul begin Romans with foundational theology?

**Interpret:** Why does David's son turn against him? What does Paul mean by "the righteousness of God"?

**Apply:** How are your relationships with family affected by your choices? Do you understand God's righteousness?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 2 Samuel 18:33 with Romans 1:16. David weeps over Absalom's death; Paul is not ashamed of the gospel for it is the power of God for salvation.

## Day 5: David's Final Years and Grace Abounding

### READ

**Old Testament:** 2 Samuel 22-24

**New Testament:** Romans 2:1-3:20

**Psalm:** Psalm 25

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What is David's final song and what does he acknowledge? How does Paul explain that all are condemned without grace?

**Interpret:** Why does David praise God despite his failures? Why does Paul's logic lead to universal condemnation?

**Apply:** Do you praise God despite your failures? How are you humbled by your sinfulness?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 2 Samuel 23:5 with Romans 3:22. Though His house is not so with God, yet God has made an everlasting covenant; God's righteousness comes through faith in Christ to all who believe.

## Day 6: Solomon's Wisdom and Faith Justified

### READ

**Old Testament:** 1 Kings 1-3

**New Testament:** Romans 3:21-4:25

**Psalm:** Psalm 26

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** How does Solomon become king and what does he request from God? How does Paul explain Abraham's faith?

**Interpret:** Why does Solomon ask for wisdom rather than riches or long life? Why is Abraham the model of faith?

**Apply:** Are you seeking wisdom from God? Do you have faith like Abraham?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 1 Kings 3:12 with Romans 4:3. God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding; Abraham believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness.

## Day 7: Solomon's Splendor and Peace in Christ

### READ

**Old Testament:** 1 Kings 4-6

**New Testament:** Romans 5:1-21

**Psalms:** Psalm 27

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What is the extent of Solomon's wealth and power? What is the foundation of peace with God?

**Interpret:** Why does God grant Solomon unprecedented prosperity? How does Christ's sacrifice create permanent peace?

**Apply:** How do you understand true prosperity? Do you have peace with God through Christ?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 1 Kings 4:29 with Romans 5:10. God gave Solomon wisdom; while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through Christ's death.

## Day 8: Temple Built and Death Defeated

### READ

**Old Testament:** 1 Kings 7-9

**New Testament:** Romans 6:1-7:25

**Psalms:** Psalm 28

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** How is the temple constructed and dedicated? What does Paul teach about death's power and freedom in Christ?

**Interpret:** Why is the temple central to Israel's worship? How does Paul explain freedom from sin's power?

**Apply:** How do you approach worship? Are you experiencing freedom from sin?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 1 Kings 8:11 with Romans 6:9. The glory of the Lord fills the temple; Christ being raised from the dead dies no more, death no longer has dominion over Him.

## Day 9: Solomon's Downfall and Spirit's Intercession

### READ

**Old Testament:** 1 Kings 10-12

**New Testament:** Romans 8:1-39

**Psalms:** Psalm 29

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** How does Solomon fall into idolatry despite his wisdom? How does the Holy Spirit help us in weakness?

**Interpret:** Why does Solomon's heart turn away from God? What comfort does the Spirit's intercession offer?

**Apply:** Where are you vulnerable to turning from God? Do you experience the Spirit's help?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 1 Kings 11:9-10 with Romans 8:26. God was angry with Solomon; the Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words.

## Day 10: Kingdom Divided and Israel Secure

### READ

**Old Testament:** 1 Kings 13-15

**New Testament:** Romans 9:1-33

**Psalms:** Psalm 30

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What causes the kingdom to divide after Solomon's death? How does Paul address Israel's rejection of God's grace?

**Interpret:** Why does God permit the kingdom to split? Why does Paul grieve over Israel's hardening?

**Apply:** How do you see God's judgment and mercy in history? Do you long for all to know Christ?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 1 Kings 11:31-32 with Romans 9:27. The kingdom will be torn from Solomon's son; though the number of Israelites be like the sand of the sea, only a remnant will be saved.

## Day 11: Jeroboam's Sin and Gentile Grafting

### READ

**Old Testament:** 1 Kings 16-18

**New Testament:** Romans 10:1-11:36

**Psalms:** Psalm 31

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Jeroboam do to keep Israel divided? How does Paul explain both Israel and Gentile salvation?

**Interpret:** Why does Jeroboam create false worship? How does the olive tree metaphor explain inclusion?

**Apply:** Are you created false worship systems? How do you understand your place in God's plan?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 1 Kings 18:37 with Romans 11:32. Elijah prays that Israel would know God is Lord; God has bound all over to disobedience that He may have mercy on all.

## Day 12: Elijah's Ministry and Living Sacrifice

### READ

**Old Testament:** 1 Kings 19-21

**New Testament:** Romans 12:1-13:14

**Psalms:** Psalm 32

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What is Elijah's experience on Mount Horeb? What does Paul command regarding how to live?

**Interpret:** Why does Elijah despair despite his miraculous victories? How does the living sacrifice transform daily life?

**Apply:** How do you recover from discouragement? Are you presenting your body as a living sacrifice?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 1 Kings 19:18 with Romans 12:2. Seven thousand have not bowed to Baal; be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

## Day 13: Ahab's Defeat and the Weak and Strong

### READ

**Old Testament:** 1 Kings 22

**New Testament:** 1 Corinthians 1:1-2:16

**Psalm:** Psalm 33

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What is the outcome of Ahab's reign? How does Paul address division in the Corinthian church?

**Interpret:** Why does God allow Ahab to be deceived by false prophets? What does Paul mean by "the wisdom of God"?

**Apply:** How do you discern truth from deception? Are you unified with other believers?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: 1 Kings 22:23 with 1 Corinthians 1:25. God put a lying spirit in the prophets; the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom.

## Day 14: Obadiah's Vision and Spiritual Gifts

### READ

**Old Testament:** Obadiah

**New Testament:** 1 Corinthians 3:1-4:21

**Psalm:** Psalm 34

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What judgment does Obadiah bring against Edom? How should spiritual gifts be used in the church?

**Interpret:** Why does Obadiah focus on Edom's pride? Why does Paul critique the Corinthians' spiritual immaturity?

**Apply:** Where are you proud in your own understanding? Are you growing spiritually?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Obadiah 1:3 with 1 Corinthians 3:18. Edom's pride deceives him; if you think you are wise by worldly standards, become a fool so you may become wise.

## Day 15: Nahum's Comfort and Sexual Immorality

### READ

**Old Testament:** Nahum 1-3

**New Testament:** 1 Corinthians 5:1-6:20

**Psalm:** Psalm 35

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What comfort does Nahum bring to Judah? What sexual immorality does Paul address in Corinth?

**Interpret:** Why does Nahum emphasize God's vengeance? Why does Paul call for radical church discipline?

**Apply:** How do you trust God's justice? Are you living in sexual purity?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Nahum 1:2 with 1 Corinthians 6:18. The Lord is a jealous God and avenging; flee from sexual immorality.

## Day 16: Habakkuk's Questions and Marriage

### READ

**Old Testament:** Habakkuk 1-3

**New Testament:** 1 Corinthians 7:1-40

**Psalm:** Psalm 36

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** How does Habakkuk wrestle with God's justice? What does Paul teach about marriage?

**Interpret:** Why does Habakkuk question God's use of the wicked Babylonians? How does Paul balance singleness and marriage?

**Apply:** Do you wrestle with God's justice? How do you understand marriage as God's design?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Habakkuk 3:17-18 with 1 Corinthians 7:29-31. Though the fig tree does not bud, I will rejoice in God; those who marry will face many troubles.

## Day 17: Zephaniah's Cleansing and Idolatry

### READ

**Old Testament:** Zephaniah 1-3

**New Testament:** 1 Corinthians 8:1-9:27

**Psalms:** Psalm 37

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Zephaniah promise about restoration after judgment? What does Paul teach about conscience and idols?

**Interpret:** Why does Zephaniah's message move from judgment to restoration? Why does knowledge puff up but love builds up?

**Apply:** Do you believe in restoration after judgment? How do you handle matters of conscience?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Zephaniah 3:14-15 with 1 Corinthians 8:1. The Lord will be in your midst; knowledge puffs up, but love builds up the church.

## Day 18: Haggai's Rebuilding and Running the Race

### READ

**Old Testament:** Haggai 1-2

**New Testament:** 1 Corinthians 10:1-11:1

**Psalms:** Psalm 38

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Haggai call the people to rebuild? What warnings does Paul give about presumption?

**Interpret:** Why does Haggai emphasize rebuilding the temple? Why does Paul connect Israel's wilderness experience to our struggles?

**Apply:** What are you being called to rebuild? Are you guarded against presumption?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Haggai 2:9 with 1 Corinthians 10:4. The glory of this latter house will be greater; our fathers drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, which is Christ.

## Day 19: Zechariah's Visions and the Lord's Supper

### READ

**Old Testament:** Zechariah 1-3

**New Testament:** 1 Corinthians 11:2-34

**Psalms:** Psalm 39

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Zechariah see in his opening visions? What is the significance of how the Corinthians observe the Lord's Supper?

**Interpret:** Why does Zechariah emphasize God's comfort for Jerusalem? Why does Paul critique the Corinthians' divisions at the table?

**Apply:** Do you experience God's comfort? How do you approach the Lord's Supper?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Zechariah 1:3 with 1 Corinthians 11:24. Return to me and I will return to you; this is my body given for you.

## Day 20: Zechariah's Branch and Spiritual Gifts Diversity

### READ

**Old Testament:** Zechariah 4-6

**New Testament:** 1 Corinthians 12:1-31

**Psalms:** Psalm 40

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Zechariah see regarding the Branch and the lampstand? How does Paul explain the diversity of spiritual gifts?

**Interpret:** Why does Zechariah emphasize "not by might, nor by power"? How does the body metaphor explain unity in diversity?

**Apply:** Do you trust God's way rather than human strength? How are you using your spiritual gifts?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Zechariah 4:6 with 1 Corinthians 12:12. Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit; just as a body has many members, so is the body of Christ.

## Day 21: Zechariah's Horsemen and Love's Supremacy

### READ

**Old Testament:** Zechariah 7-9

**New Testament:** 1 Corinthians 13:1-14:40

**Psalms:** Psalm 41

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What do the horsemen represent in Zechariah's vision? How does Paul describe the supremacy of love?

**Interpret:** Why does Zechariah emphasize justice and compassion? Why is love greater than any spiritual gift?

**Apply:** How are you pursuing justice and compassion? Is love your highest aim?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Zechariah 7:9 with 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. Execute true justice, show mercy and compassion; love never fails and bears all things.

## Day 22: Zechariah's King Comes and Resurrection Reality

### READ

**Old Testament:** Zechariah 10-12

**New Testament:** 1 Corinthians 15:1-58

**Psalms:** Psalm 42

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Zechariah prophesy about the coming King? What is the centerpiece of Paul's gospel?

**Interpret:** Why does Zechariah's vision of the King emphasize humility and saving power? Why is Christ's resurrection the cornerstone of faith?

**Apply:** How do you understand Jesus as the humble King? Do you believe in resurrection?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Zechariah 9:9 with 1 Corinthians 15:57. Your King comes to you, righteous and victorious, yet humble; thanks be to God who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Day 23: Zechariah's Pierced One and Resurrection Body

### READ

**Old Testament:** Zechariah 13-14

**New Testament:** 1 Corinthians 16:1-24

**Psalms:** Psalm 43

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Zechariah reveal about the pierced One? How does Paul conclude his letter with resurrection hope?

**Interpret:** Why does Zechariah describe mourning over the pierced One? How does the resurrection body relate to our present struggle?

**Apply:** How do you mourn over Jesus' piercing? Are you confident in resurrection?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Zechariah 12:10 with 1 Corinthians 15:42-44. They will look on me, the one they have pierced; so will it be with the resurrection of the dead.

## Day 24: Malachi's Final Call and Transition

### READ

**Old Testament:** Malachi 1-4

**New Testament:** 2 Corinthians 1:1-2:17

**Psalms:** Psalm 44

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What final message does Malachi bring to Israel? How does Paul comfort the Corinthians in his second letter?

**Interpret:** Why does Malachi end the Old Testament with both curse and promise? Why does Paul emphasize comfort in affliction?

**Apply:** Do you see God's mercies renewed each morning? Are you a comforter of others?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Malachi 4:5-6 with 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. Elijah will come to turn hearts; God comforts us in all our troubles so we can comfort those who are troubled.

## Day 25: A New Testament Dawn

### READ

**Old Testament:** Malachi 1-4

**New Testament:** 2 Corinthians 3:1-4:18

**Psalm:** Psalm 45

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** How does Malachi prepare Israel for the Messiah? What does Paul teach about the glory of the new covenant?

**Interpret:** Why does the OT end with expectation? Why does the new covenant exceed the old in glory?

**Apply:** Do you live in the light of Christ's coming? Do you understand the new covenant's freedom?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Malachi 3:1 with 2 Corinthians 3:18. I will send my messenger; we all reflect the Lord's glory and are being transformed into His likeness.

## Day 26: Reconciliation Through Christ

### READ

**Old Testament:** Proverbs 1-3

**New Testament:** 2 Corinthians 5:1-6:13

**Psalm:** Psalm 46

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Proverbs teach about the beginning of wisdom? How does Paul explain reconciliation?

**Interpret:** Why does wisdom begin with fear of the Lord? Why is reconciliation central to the gospel?

**Apply:** Are you beginning with the fear of the Lord? Are you reconcilers?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Proverbs 1:7 with 2 Corinthians 5:19. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ.

## Day 27: Way of the Righteous and Hardship

### READ

**Old Testament:** Proverbs 4-6

**New Testament:** 2 Corinthians 6:14-8:15

**Psalms:** Psalm 47

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Proverbs say about guarding the heart? How does Paul address hardship and generosity?

**Interpret:** Why is the heart the wellspring of life? How do afflictions test our faith?

**Apply:** Are you guarding your heart? How are you responding to hardship?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Proverbs 4:23 with 2 Corinthians 7:4. Above all else, guard your heart; I am greatly encouraged and my joy knows no bounds.

## Day 28: Folly and Boasting

### READ

**Old Testament:** Proverbs 7-9

**New Testament:** 2 Corinthians 8:16-10:18

**Psalms:** Psalm 48

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What warnings does Proverbs give about adultery and folly? How does Paul address boasting and apostolic authority?

**Interpret:** Why does Proverbs emphasize the snares of the strange woman? Why does Paul warn against false boasting?

**Apply:** Where are you vulnerable to temptation? Are you boasting in the right things?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Proverbs 9:10 with 2 Corinthians 10:17. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.

## Day 29: Wisdom and Suffering

### READ

**Old Testament:** Proverbs 10-12

**New Testament:** 2 Corinthians 11:1-12:13

**Psalms:** Psalm 49

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Proverbs teach about the righteous and the wicked? How does Paul present his sufferings as credential?

**Interpret:** Why does Proverbs promise blessing to the righteous? Why does Paul boast in his weakness?

**Apply:** Are you pursuing righteousness? How are your sufferings revealing God's grace?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Proverbs 11:4 with 2 Corinthians 11:30. Wealth is worthless in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death; if I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.

## Day 30: Speech and Final Warnings

### READ

**Old Testament:** Proverbs 13-15

**New Testament:** 2 Corinthians 12:14-13:14

**Psalms:** Psalm 50

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Proverbs teach about the power of words? How does Paul close 2 Corinthians with final exhortations?

**Interpret:** Why is the tongue so powerful? What is Paul's final concern for the Corinthians?

**Apply:** How are you guarding your speech? Are you examining yourself?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Proverbs 15:1 with 2 Corinthians 13:11. A gentle answer turns away wrath; aim for perfection, listen to my appeal, be of one mind, live in peace.

## Day 31: Justice and Grace Complete

### READ

**Old Testament:** Proverbs 16-18

**New Testament:** Galatians 1:1-24

**Psalms:** Psalm 51

### REFLECT (Observe • Interpret • Apply)

**Observe:** What does Proverbs teach about justice and mercy? How does Paul begin Galatians defending his apostolic authority?

**Interpret:** Why does Proverbs emphasize both justice and compassion? Why does Paul immediately address false teachers?

**Apply:** How are you pursuing justice with mercy? Are you standing firm in the true gospel?

### EXPLORE (Optional Depth)

**Cross-reference:** Cross-reference: Proverbs 17:5 with Galatians 1:6-7. Whoever mocks the poor shows contempt for the Maker; Paul is astonished they are turning to a different gospel.