

CONTENTS



PART I: THE PENTATEUCH

GENESIS-DEUTERONOMY

1. And So It Begins (<i>Genesis 1–2</i>).....	16
2. A Very Bad Day (<i>Genesis 3</i>).....	24
3. From Bad to Worse (<i>Genesis 3–4</i>).....	30
4. Rain, Rain, Go Away (<i>Genesis 6–9</i>).....	34
5. A Table and a Tower (<i>Genesis 10–11</i>).....	44
6. The Father of Nations (<i>Genesis 11–13</i>).....	48
7. Let’s Make a Deal (<i>Genesis 15; 17</i>).....	54
8. The Judge Judges Justly (<i>Genesis 18–19</i>).....	58
9. It’s a Boy! (<i>Genesis 21–22</i>).....	62
10. God’s Tricky, Hairy, Blessed People (<i>Genesis 25; 27</i>).....	66
11. Blessings in the Night (<i>Genesis 28; 32</i>).....	70
12. Joseph’s Mean Brothers and What God Meant to Do (<i>Genesis 37; 50</i>).....	74
13. God Raises Up a Deliverer (<i>Exodus 1–3</i>).....	80
14. Free at Last (<i>Exodus 4–15</i>).....	84
15. The Way to Stay Free (<i>Exodus 19–20</i>).....	92
16. A Fancy Tent and a Foolish Cow (<i>Exodus 32–34</i>).....	96
17. A Tale of Two Goats (<i>Leviticus 16</i>).....	100
18. Big People, Little Faith (<i>Numbers 13–14</i>).....	104
19. You’re Not the Boss of Me (<i>Numbers 16</i>).....	108
20. The Daughters of Zelophehad (<i>Numbers 27; 36</i>).....	112

PART 2: HISTORY

JOSHUA-ESTHER

21. The Walls Came Tumbling Down (<i>Joshua 6</i>).....	118
22. The Fight of Gideon and the Flight of Midian (<i>Judges 6-7</i>).....	124
23. Samson's Strength (<i>Judges 13-16</i>).....	128
24. The Girl Who Wouldn't Go Away (<i>Ruth 1-4</i>).....	134
25. The Lord's Word and Samuel (<i>1 Samuel 1; 3</i>).....	140
26. The Rise and Fall of King Saul (<i>1 Samuel 8-15</i>).....	144
27. David Stands Tall (<i>1 Samuel 16-17</i>).....	148
28. David Sins . . . and Repents (<i>2 Samuel 11-12</i>).....	152
29. The Wise and Foolish King (<i>1 Kings 3; 11</i>).....	156
30. The Kingdom Cracks (<i>1 Kings 12</i>).....	162
31. Elijah Proves a Point (<i>1 Kings 18</i>).....	166
32. Grime and Punishment (<i>2 Kings 5</i>).....	172
33. The Boy Who Sought the Lord (<i>2 Chronicles 34</i>).....	178
34. Promises Broken and Promises Kept (<i>2 Chronicles 36</i>).....	182
35. Walls and Worship (<i>Nehemiah 6-8</i>).....	186
36. More Than a Pretty Face (<i>Esther 1-4</i>).....	190

PART 3: POETRY

JOB-SONG OF SOLOMON

37. A Hard Life and a Good God (<i>Job 1</i>).....	198
38. Cover Your Mouth (<i>Job 38-42</i>).....	202
39. The Lord Is My Shepherd (<i>Psalms 23</i>).....	206
40. The Beginning of Wisdom (<i>Proverbs 1</i>).....	212



PART 4: THE PROPHETS

ISAIAH-MALACHI

41. What Isaiah Saw (<i>Isaiab 6</i>).....	218
42. Jeremiah against Everyone (<i>Jeremiah 1</i>).....	222
43. The Valley of Dry Bones (<i>Ezekiel 37</i>).....	226
44. The Fiery Furnace (<i>Daniel 3</i>).....	232
45. Writing on the Wall (<i>Daniel 5</i>).....	238
46. The Miraculous Catnap (<i>Daniel 6</i>).....	244
47. A Marriage Made in Heaven (<i>Hosea 1-3</i>).....	250
48. Let Justice Roll Down (<i>Amos 5</i>).....	256
49. Famine and Feast (<i>Amos 8-9</i>).....	260
50. Big Fish, Bigger Mercy (<i>Jonab 1-4</i>).....	264
51. A Change of Clothes (<i>Zechariah 3</i>).....	270
52. The Great and Awesome Day of the Lord (<i>Malachi 3-4</i>).....	274

PART 5: THE GOSPELS

MATTHEW-JOHN

53. A New Baby and a New Beginning (<i>Matthew 1</i>).....	282
54. Wise Men, Smart Move (<i>Matthew 2</i>).....	288
55. The Pointer and the Point (<i>Matthew 3</i>).....	292
56. The Sin That Wasn't (<i>Matthew 4</i>).....	296
57. The Sermon That Was (<i>Matthew 5-7</i>).....	300
58. Mr. Clean (<i>Mark 1</i>).....	304
59. Get Up! (<i>Mark 2</i>).....	308
60. Follow the Leader (<i>Mark 3</i>).....	314
61. A Story about Soils (<i>Mark 4</i>).....	318
62. The Scary Boat Ride (<i>Mark 4</i>).....	322
63. Send Us to the Pigs! (<i>Mark 5</i>).....	326
64. A Sick Woman and a Sad Dad (<i>Mark 5</i>).....	330
65. The Voice Is Silenced (<i>Mark 6</i>).....	336
66. The Happy Meal That Kept on Going (<i>Mark 6</i>).....	340

67. A Walk on the Water (<i>Matthew 14</i>).....	344
68. A Dogged Faith (<i>Mark 7</i>).....	350
69. Confessing Christ (<i>Matthew 16</i>).....	354
70. Glory Mountain (<i>Matthew 17</i>).....	358
71. The Kids Can Come Too (<i>Mark 10</i>).....	364
72. Who Is My Neighbor? (<i>Luke 10</i>).....	368
73. Lost and Found (<i>Luke 15</i>).....	374
74. Debts and Debtors (<i>Matthew 18</i>).....	380
75. Grumbles and Grace (<i>Matthew 20</i>).....	384
76. Little Man, Big Faith (<i>Luke 19</i>).....	388
77. The King Comes (<i>Luke 19</i>).....	392
78. Jesus Cleans House (<i>Mark 11</i>).....	398
79. A Woman to Be Remembered (<i>John 12</i>).....	404
80. A Meal for the Ages (<i>Matthew 26</i>).....	408
81. Everyone Leaves Jesus (<i>Mark 14</i>).....	412
82. The Snake Crusher Is Crushed for Us (<i>Mark 15</i>).....	418
83. Jesus Lives (<i>Luke 24</i>).....	426
84. A Mission for the Ages (<i>Matthew 28</i>).....	432

PART 6: ACTS AND EPISTLES

ACTS—JUDE

85. The Spirit Comes (<i>Acts 2</i>).....	438
86. The Beautiful and the Beggar (<i>Acts 3</i>).....	442
87. One Name under Heaven (<i>Acts 4</i>).....	446
88. The Couple Who Lied and Died (<i>Acts 5</i>).....	450
89. Stephen's Speech (<i>Acts 7</i>).....	454
90. Philip and the Man from Africa (<i>Acts 8</i>).....	458
91. Saul Sees the Light (<i>Acts 9</i>).....	464
92. Peter Eats and a Soldier Believes (<i>Acts 10</i>).....	468
93. Knock Knock, Who's There? (<i>Acts 12</i>).....	472
94. Paul, Purple Goods, and a Prison Quake (<i>Acts 16</i>).....	476

95. The God Who Can Be Known (<i>Acts 17</i>).....	480
96. Ships and Snakes and Sermons, Oh My! (<i>Acts 27–28</i>).....	484
97. No Nothing (<i>Romans 8</i>).....	490
98. Love Is (<i>1 Corinthians 13</i>).....	494
99. More Than a Slave (<i>Philemon</i>).....	498
100. Taming the Tongue (<i>James 3</i>).....	502

PART 7: REVELATION

101. Jesus Writes a Letter (<i>Revelation 1–3</i>).....	508
102. The Center of the Universe (<i>Revelation 4–5</i>).....	512
103. The Snake Crusher Wins (<i>Revelation 20</i>).....	518
104. All Things New (<i>Revelation 21–22</i>).....	522

