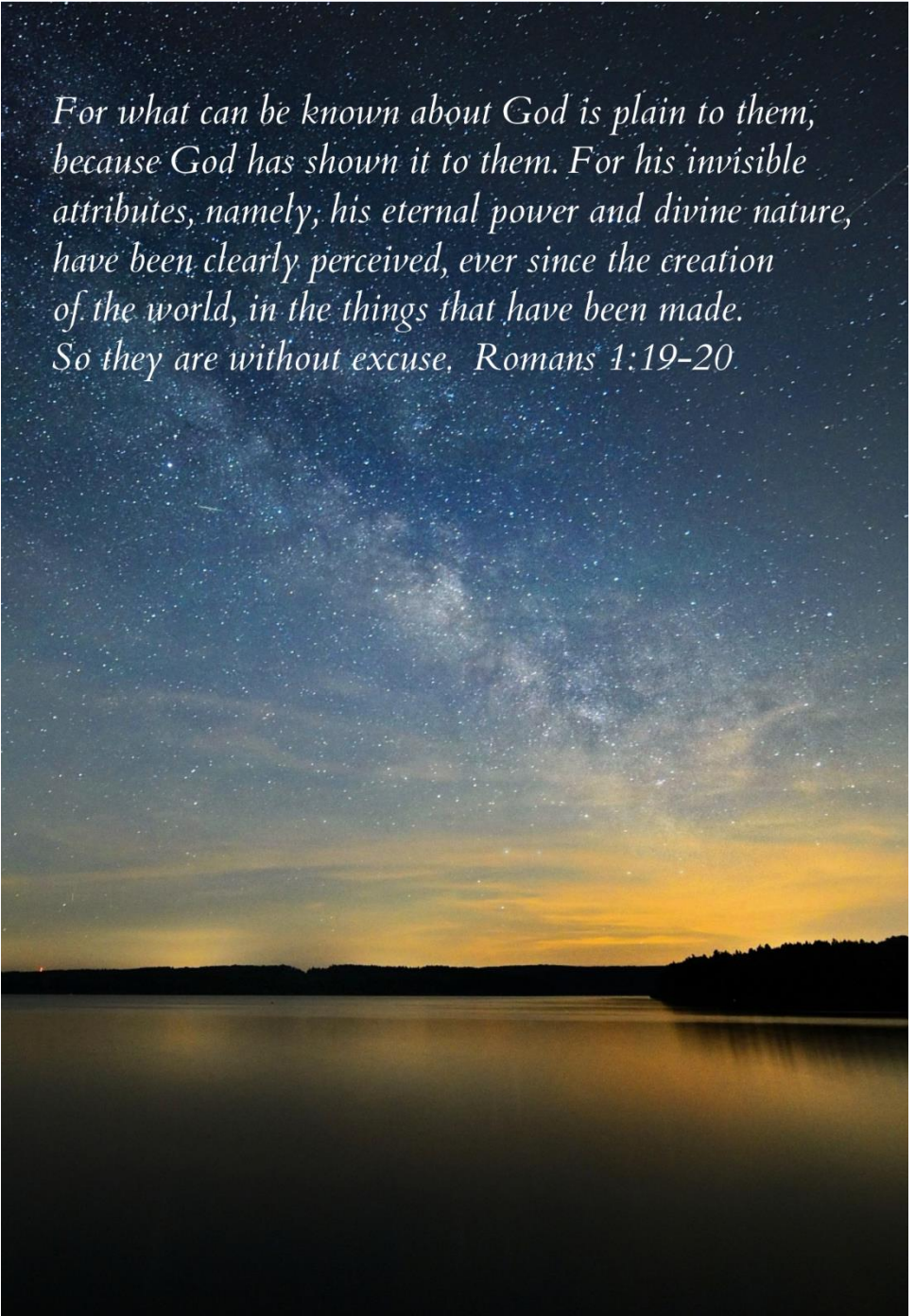


March 2023

Memory Verse and Bible Reading Plan

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. Romans 1:19-20.



Reading Numbers

As you read through Numbers you may find yourself asking: “What’s with all this math!? What spiritual good is there in knowing there are 46,500 Reubenites? Who would have thought that government documents could be inspired by the Holy Spirit?” So before your eyes glaze over it might help to have a bit of perspective on this book.

As the name of the book suggests Numbers starts and ends with the details of two censuses, the reason for each was to count the number of fighting men who could lead Israel into the conquest of the Promised Land. The dates for Numbers encompass the entire 40 years of Israel’s wanderings in the wilderness.

After the completion of the Tabernacle we read of Israel’s departure from Mt. Sinai, their subsequent disobedience when they refuse to take the Promise Land, and the resulting judgment of 40 years of wilderness wanderings. A journey which only should have taken a couple of months, lasted forty years. The book recounts again and again human unfaithfulness and God’s faithfulness and patient provision for the needs of His people. God’s sovereign power is sufficient for every need and every situation.

In this book we will be confronted with the seriousness of sin, the threat of God’s holiness and how we approach Him, God’s giving of second chances and His faithfulness to lead us through this hostile world. God’s grace never fails.

Finally, Numbers points to Jesus who is the true Water who gives life and the true Rock who gives safety and strength. Beware of grumbling and unbelief and when God gives you a second chance, be sure to take it with humble thanksgiving.

I Corinthians 10:9-12

We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

Reading Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy might be a bit of tough sledding for us who like action and drama. There isn't any in this fifth and final book of the Pentateuch written down by Moses. In this book we fast forward 40 years to the end of Israel's wilderness wanderings.

Deuteronomy consists of three "farewell" speeches or sermons by Moses. It is sort of his last will and testament. The word Deuteronomy means second law because it's a repetition of the law God gave His people in Exodus and Leviticus. Moses is preparing the people for entering the Promised Land before he dies by giving them a powerful exhortation to fear God and love Him by obeying His Word.

We are reminded of the blessings of obedience and the dangers of disobedience. We are reminded of God's absolute sovereignty over Israel and over all the nations of the earth.

Don't lose sight of the fact that though the book emphasizes the Law of God the heart of the book is love, God's love for us and our love for God. We are reminded that the greatest commandment is to love God with everything you have. But notice also the emphasis on the poor and needy and the call to love them as well. In other words, the best response to the Covenant, which is God's promises to His people, is to love God and His people.

Deuteronomy is Jesus' favorite book, He quotes from it often. Deuteronomy points to Jesus who is our Passover Lamb, who is our one true prophet, and who is the mediator of the new covenant written on our hearts.

Deuteronomy 5:9

Oh that they had such a heart as this always, to fear me
and to keep all my commandments,
that it might go well with them and with their descendants forever!

Deuteronomy 6:4-6

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.
You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.
And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

Bible Reading Plan - March

1	Numbers 1-3	Psalm 49
2	Numbers 4-6	Psalm 50
3	Numbers 7-9	Psalm 51
4	Numbers 10-12	Psalm 52
5	Numbers 13-15	Psalm 53
6	Numbers 16-18	Psalm 54
7	Numbers 19-21	Psalm 55
8	Numbers 22-24	Psalm 56
9	Numbers 25-27	Psalm 57
10	Numbers 28-30	Psalm 58
11	Numbers 31-33	Psalm 59
12	Numbers 34-36	Psalm 60
13	Deuteronomy 1-3	Psalm 61
14	Deuteronomy 4-6	Psalm 62
15	Deuteronomy 7-9	Psalm 63
16	Deuteronomy 10-12	Psalm 64
17	Deuteronomy 13-15	Psalm 65
18	Deuteronomy 16-18	Psalm 66
19	Deuteronomy 19-20	Psalm 67
20	Deuteronomy 21-22	Psalm 68
21	Deuteronomy 23-25	Psalm 69
22	Deuteronomy 26-28	Psalm 70
23	Deuteronomy 29-30	Psalm 71
24	Deuteronomy 31-32	Psalm 72
25	Deuteronomy 33-34	Psalm 73