

### March

<b>Sun</b>	<b>1</b>	
Mon	2	Joel 1:1-12
Tues	3	Joel 1:13-20
Weds	4	Joel 2:1-17
Thurs	5	Joel 2:18-32
Fri	6	Joel 3:1-16
Sat	7	Joel 3:17-21
<b>Sun</b>	<b>8</b>	
Mon	9	Obadiah 1:1-21
Tue	10	Jonah 1:1-17
Weds	11	Jonah 2:1-10
Thurs	12	Jonah 3:1-10
Fri	13	Jonah 4:1-11
Sat	14	Micah 1:1-16
<b>Sun</b>	<b>15</b>	
Mon	16	Micah 2:1-13
Tue	17	Micah 3:1-12
Weds	18	Micah 4:1-13
Thurs	19	Micah 5:1-15
Fri	20	Micah 6:1-16
Sat	21	Micah 7:1-20
<b>Sun</b>	<b>22</b>	
Mon	23	Nahum 1:1-15
Tue	24	Nahum 2:1-13
Weds	25	Nahum 3:1-19
Thurs	26	Habakkuk 1:1-17
Fri	27	Habakkuk 2:1-20
Sat	28	Habakkuk 3:1-19
<b>Sun</b>	<b>29</b>	
Mon	30 }	
Tues	31 }	

### April

Weds	1 }	
Thurs	2 }	
Fri	3 }	
Sat	4 }	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>5</b>	
Mon	6 }	
Tue	7 }	
Weds	8 }	
Thurs	9 }	
Fri	10 }	
Sat	11 }	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>12</b>	
Mon	13	Zephaniah 1:1-18
Tue	14	Zephaniah 2:1-15
Weds	15	Zephaniah 3:1-20
Thurs	16	Malachi 1:1-14
Fri	17	Malachi 2:1-17
Sat	18	Malachi 3:1 – 4:6
<b>Sun</b>	<b>19</b>	
Mon	20	Ecclesiastes 1:1-18
Tue	21	Ecclesiastes 2:1-26
Weds	22	Ecclesiastes 3:1-22
Thurs	23	Ecclesiastes 4:1-16
Fri	24	Ecclesiastes 5:1-20
Sat	25	Ecclesiastes 6:1-12
<b>Sun</b>	<b>26</b>	
Mon	27	Ecclesiastes 7:1-29
Tue	28	Ecclesiastes 8:1-17
Weds	29	Ecclesiastes 9:1-17
Thurs	30	Ecclesiastes 10:1-20

**See list on  
reverse**  
for  
a selection of  
Old Testament  
Prophecies  
about Jesus  
which are fulfilled  
in the  
New Testament  
to read this  
EASTER season

Jesus knew how he was the fulfilment of numerous Old Testament prophecies. After his resurrection he explained this to two of his disciples while they walked the seven mile journey from Jerusalem to Emmaus. Jesus therefore probably had about two hours to tell them all about it.

*“And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.” Luke 24:27*

Later that same day we read that Jesus said to the eleven disciples

*“This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms. Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.” Luke 24:44-47*

There are over 300 references to the Messiah/Christ/Jesus in the Old Testament and I thought that for our Bible Reading Plan over **Easter** this year it would be good to look at some of them and where their fulfilment is referred to in the New Testament.

## Easter 2026 – Prophecies about Jesus and their Fulfilment

Day	Topic	Prophecy	Fulfilment
Mon 30 March	The Suffering Servant	Isaiah 52:13–53:6	John 1:10-11; 12:37-38 1 Peter 2:22–25
Tues 31 March	Betrayed by a Friend	Psalm 41:9 Zechariah 13:6	Matthew 26:47-50; John 13:18–30
Wed 1 April	Sold for Thirty Pieces of Silver	Zechariah 11:12–13	Matthew 26:14–16; Matthew 27:3–10
Thurs 2 April	The Shepherd Struck and the Disciples Scatter	Zechariah 13:7	Matthew 26:31–35 & 56 John 16:32
Fri 3 April	Silent Before His Accusers	Isaiah 53:7–8	Matthew 27:11–14; Mark 15:3-5 Acts 8:32–35
Sat 4 April	Rejected by His Own Mocked and Spat upon	Psalm 118:22; Isaiah 53:3 Isaiah 50:6	John 1:10–11; Matthew 21:42 Matthew 26:67; 27:27-31
Mon 6 April	Pierced Hands and Feet	Psalm 22:14–18 Zechariah 12:10	John 19:31-37; 20:25-27 Luke 24:39–40
Tues 7 April	Given Vinegar to Drink Counted with the Transgressors	Psalm 69:19–21 Isaiah 53:12	John 19:28–30; Matthew 27:34 Mark 15:27-28; Luke 23:32-33
Weds 8 April	No Bones Broken Lots cast for his Garments	Exodus 12:46; Psalm 34:20 Psalm 22:18	John 19:31–36 Matthew 27:35; John 19:23-24
Thurs 9 April	Buried in a Rich Man’s Tomb	Isaiah 53:9	Matthew 27:57–61 John 19:38-42
Fri 10 April	Resurrection Foretold	Psalm 16:8–11; Jonah 1:17 Hosea 6:1–2; Isaiah 53:10-11	Acts 2:24–32; Matthew 28:1–10 Luke 24:1-7
Sat 11 April	The Risen Lord	Psalm 110:1	Acts 2:33–36; Hebrews 1:1–4

## A Brief Overview of Joel

The book of Joel is one of the most difficult Old Testament writings to date with certainty. Scholars place it anywhere between the 9th and 5th centuries BC. A widely held view situates it after the Babylonian exile, perhaps in the 5th century, because Joel mentions no king, assumes a restored temple, and reflects a community shaped by priestly leadership rather than monarchy. Whatever the precise date, the book addresses Judah in the wake of a devastating locust plague that has crippled agriculture, disrupted worship, and shaken national confidence.

Joel interprets this ecological disaster as a wake-up call from God, a sign of the approaching “Day of the Lord”—a moment when God confronts human sin and summons His people to return to Him. The book moves through three movements:

1. **Desolation** (chapter 1): the locust plague as divine warning.
2. **Repentance and renewal** (chapter 2): a heartfelt call to return to God, who is “gracious and compassionate.”
3. **Future hope and final justice** (chapter 3): God restores His people, judges evil, and pours out His Spirit on “all flesh,” a promise fulfilled at Pentecost.

### Reading Joel for Christian Living Today

- **Let crisis drive you toward God**, not away from Him.
- **Practise genuine repentance**, returning with the whole heart, not mere outward religion.
- **Live by the Spirit**, embracing God’s empowering presence for witness and holiness.
- **Hold to God’s justice and hope**, trusting that He restores what sin and suffering have damaged.

## A Brief Overview of Obadiah

Obadiah is the shortest book in the Old Testament, a single prophetic oracle against Edom, Judah’s neighbour and long-standing rival. Most scholars date it to the 6th century BC, shortly after the Babylonian destruction of Jerusalem (586 BC). During that crisis, Edom not only failed to help Judah but actively rejoiced, looted, and handed survivors over to the enemy. Obadiah announces God’s judgment on Edom for this betrayal and declares that the “Day of the Lord” will bring justice, restore Zion, and establish God’s kingdom.

The book is not merely about ancient geopolitics; it exposes the spiritual danger of pride hostility and taking advantage of others’ suffering. God’s justice is impartial, and nations—and individuals—are held accountable for how they treat their neighbours.

### Reading Obadiah for Christian Living Today

- **Resist pride and the temptation to benefit from others’ misfortune.**
- **Stand with the vulnerable**, even when costly.
- **Trust God’s commitment to justice** and His ultimate restoration of His people.

## A Brief Overview of Jonah

Jonah is a unique prophetic book - more narrative than oracle - likely written between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 5th centuries BC. The story is set in the 8th century, during the reign of Jeroboam II (2 Kings 14:25), when Jonah ministered in the northern kingdom of Israel. However, the book’s final literary form may have been shaped later, possibly after the exile, when Israel was reflecting deeply on God’s mercy toward the nations.

The narrative centres on God’s command for Jonah to preach to Nineveh, capital of the brutal Assyrian Empire. Rather than obey, Jonah flees, revealing the book’s central tension: the prophet’s heart is out of step with God’s compassion. After the famous episode of the great fish, Jonah reluctantly preaches, Nineveh repents, and God relents from judgment. Jonah’s anger exposes the deeper message: God’s mercy extends far beyond Israel, and His people must learn to share His heart for the lost.

## Reading Jonah for Christian Living Today

- **Let God's compassion shape your own**, especially toward people you find difficult or threatening.
- **Recognise that obedience matters**, even when God's call is uncomfortable or counter-intuitive.
- **Allow God to confront your prejudices**, as Jonah's story exposes the danger of a hardened or self-righteous spirit.
- **Celebrate God's mercy**, remembering that His grace reaches both rebellious prophets and repentant sinners.

## A Brief Overview of Micah

Micah prophesied in the late 8th century BC, during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah of Judah (Micah 1:1). This places him as a contemporary of Isaiah and Hosea, speaking into a turbulent period marked by Assyrian expansion, social injustice, corrupt leadership, and religious hypocrisy. The northern kingdom of Israel fell to Assyria in 722 BC, and Judah itself faced severe pressure. Micah's message confronts both kingdoms with God's coming judgment while holding out a remarkable promise of restoration.

The book alternates between warning and hope. Micah exposes the sins of the powerful land-grabbing elites, dishonest merchants, corrupt prophets, and leaders who "detest justice." Yet woven through the oracles are some of Scripture's most beautiful promises: the birth of a ruler from Bethlehem (5:2), the gathering of a remnant, and God's delight in showing mercy. Micah's famous summary of covenant faithfulness—"to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God" (6:8) captures the heart of the book.

## Reading Micah for Christian Living Today

- **Let Micah's critique search your own heart**, especially regarding justice, integrity, and compassion.
- **Resist religious complacency**, remembering that God desires transformed lives, not empty rituals.
- **Hold fast to hope**, trusting God's promise to shepherd His people and bring ultimate peace through Christ, the true ruler from Bethlehem.
- **Practise humble discipleship**, embodying justice, mercy, and faithfulness in everyday relationships.

## A Brief Overview of Nahum

Nahum is a prophetic book announcing God's judgment on Nineveh, capital of the Assyrian Empire. It was likely written between 663 and 612 BC. These dates are anchored by two historical markers: Nahum refers to the fall of Thebes (663 BC) as a past event, and he predicts the fall of Nineveh, which occurred in 612 BC. This places Nahum's ministry during a period when Assyria was still powerful but beginning to weaken.

Assyria had long terrorised the ancient Near East, including Israel and Judah, with brutality, forced deportations, and oppressive tribute. Nahum's prophecy is therefore a message of comfort (the meaning of his name) to Judah: the empire that crushed nations and mocked God will itself be judged. The book is poetic, vivid, and unflinching, portraying God as both just and sovereign, the defender of the oppressed and the one who brings down violent empires.

## Reading Nahum for Christian Living Today

- **Remember that God takes injustice seriously.** Nahum reassures believers that cruelty, oppression, and violence do not escape God's notice.
- **Trust God's timing**, even when evil seems entrenched or unchallenged.
- **Let God's character shape your hope:** He is slow to anger yet powerful in judgment, a refuge for those who trust Him.
- **Avoid the arrogance of Nineveh**, recognising that pride, violence, and self-reliance ultimately lead to ruin.

## A Brief Overview of Habakkuk

Habakkuk was written in the late 7th century BC, most likely between 620 and 605 BC, just before the Babylonian invasion of Judah. Assyria was collapsing, Babylon was rising, and Judah was spiritually compromised—marked by injustice, violence, and corrupt leadership. Unlike most prophets, Habakkuk does not address the people directly; instead, the book records a dialogue between the prophet and God. Habakkuk wrestles honestly with a troubling question: Why does God allow evil to flourish, both within Judah and through the brutal Babylonians?

God’s answer is unsettling yet profound: He will use Babylon as an instrument of judgment, but Babylon too will face His justice in time. The book’s centrepiece is God’s declaration that “the righteous shall live by faith”—a line later foundational for Paul’s teaching on justification. Habakkuk moves from **complaint to watchful trust**, to a final **psalm of worship**, where the prophet chooses joy even as disaster looms.

### Reading Habakkuk for Christian Living Today

- **Bring your questions to God honestly.** Habakkuk shows that faithful people can wrestle with doubt without being condemned.
- **Live by faith**, trusting God’s character when circumstances seem chaotic or unjust.
- **Remember God’s sovereignty and timing**—He sees all evil and will judge with perfect justice.
- **Choose worship over fear**, echoing Habakkuk’s resolve to rejoice in God even when outward security collapses.

## A Brief Overview of Zephaniah

Zephaniah prophesied during the reign of King Josiah (640–609 BC), placing his ministry in the late 7th century BC. This was a period of significant political and spiritual upheaval. Assyria’s power was fading, Babylon was rising, and Judah had endured decades of idolatry and moral decay under Manasseh and Amon. Josiah’s reforms were beginning, but the nation’s spiritual condition remained fragile. Into this context Zephaniah announces a sobering message: the coming “Day of the Lord.”

The book opens with sweeping judgment—not only on Judah but on the surrounding nations exposing the universal reach of God’s justice. Zephaniah confronts idolatry, complacency, corruption, and misplaced trust in wealth or power. Yet the book does not end in despair. After judgment comes hope: God will purify a remnant, gather His scattered people, defeat their enemies, and rejoice over them with singing. The closing vision is one of restoration, humility, and renewed relationship with God.

### Reading Zephaniah for Christian Living Today

- **Take God’s holiness seriously.** Zephaniah reminds believers that complacency and compromise erode spiritual life.
- **Let the “Day of the Lord” sharpen your priorities**, cultivating repentance, humility, and readiness.
- **Trust God’s global justice**, knowing He sees and will address all evil.
- **Rest in God’s joy over His people**, embracing the hope of restoration fulfilled ultimately in Christ.

## A Brief Overview of Malachi

Malachi is the final book of the Old Testament and was written in the mid-5th century BC, most likely between 460 and 430 BC. This places it after the ministries of Haggai and Zechariah, during the same general period as Nehemiah. Judah had returned from exile, the temple had been rebuilt, and outward religious life had resumed. Yet spiritually the community was discouraged, compromised, and drifting. Corrupt priests, half-hearted worship, marital unfaithfulness, social injustice, and cynicism toward God all marked the post-exilic generation.

Malachi delivers his message through a series of disputations—dialogues in which God confronts the people’s attitudes and they respond with sceptical questions (“How have we...?”). The book exposes the gap between religious routine and genuine devotion. God calls His people to honour His name, uphold covenant faithfulness, pursue justice, and prepare for the coming “messenger of the covenant.” Malachi ends with a forward-looking hope: God will send Elijah before the great and dreadful day of the Lord—a promise the New Testament identifies with John the Baptist.

## Reading Malachi for Christian Living Today

- **Examine the heart behind your worship**, resisting the drift toward routine, apathy, or minimal obedience.
- **Pursue integrity in relationships**, especially in marriage and community life.
- **Practise justice and compassion**, reflecting God’s character in everyday dealings.
- **Live expectantly**, remembering that God’s promises culminate in Christ’s first coming and point forward to His return.

## A Brief Overview of Ecclesiastes

Ecclesiastes is part of Israel’s wisdom literature and is traditionally associated with Solomon, though many scholars believe it was written later, perhaps between the 6th and 4th centuries BC. The book presents the reflections of “the Teacher” (Qohelet), a wise observer wrestling with the apparent futility of life “under the sun.” Its historical backdrop is one of cultural change, economic uncertainty, and the growing influence of surrounding philosophies and conditions that sharpen its probing questions about meaning, work, pleasure, justice, and mortality.

The Teacher surveys every avenue people pursue for significance—wisdom, pleasure, achievement, wealth, reputation—and repeatedly concludes that without God, all is “vanity,” a word better understood as fleeting, enigmatic, or like a mist. Ecclesiastes is not cynical; it is brutally honest about life in a fallen world. The book exposes the limits of human understanding and the frustration of trying to control outcomes. Yet woven through its realism is a quiet, steady call to fear God, receive life as a gift, and live faithfully even when answers are elusive.

The final verses anchor the whole message: “Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.”

## Reading Ecclesiastes for Christian Living Today

- **Embrace life’s limits.** Ecclesiastes frees believers from the illusion that they must understand or control everything.
- **Receive daily joys as gifts, not idols**—work, relationships, food, and rest are to be enjoyed with gratitude.
- **Let the book’s honesty deepen your faith**, especially when life feels confusing or unfair.
- **Live with eternal perspective**, recognising that meaning is ultimately found in God, fulfilled in Christ, and secured beyond the “mist” of this world.

### Explanatory Note.

These Brief Overview’s are produced by putting some specific requirements into Copilot. For a lot fuller information read books like:

- How to Read the Bible Book by Book - Gordon D Fee & Douglas Stuart
- Nelson’s Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts

Or on the internet there is a plethora of information (not all of it helpful) but The Bible Project is a helpful place to start [Watch: Old Testament Bible Book Overview Videos](#)

GotQuestions.org gives a very brief summary of all 66 books of the Bible [What is a quick summary of each of the 66 books of the Bible? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Another useful site that will give far more information than you’ll ever need is [Bible Hub: Online Bible Study Suite](#)