

Believe *His* Prophets

*This Morning Watch Calendar
follows the
Believe His Prophets
2019
Daily Bible Reading Guide*

*Each chapter has a study verse
to be used as the Youth Morning
Watch verse of the day*

*A chapter Summary Statement
is provided each day*



JANUARY 1

Chapter: Exodus 31

Theme: God's Gifts of Craftsmanship

Study Verse: Exodus 31:3

STATEMENT: This is a great chapter for people who have creative natures. Sometimes it seems Christians only value “religious” gifts, like preaching or teaching. But God says in so many words that creative people are meant to be “filled with the Spirit of God” in their artistry. As a creative person, how can you use that gift for God and His people? The new year is a good time to make new plans for this. Note also that there is another reminder of the importance of Sabbath in this chapter.

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Creative Spirit, You said You made us in Your own image, and this includes making us (in a small way) creators like You. Help me to find and build up my creativeness for You.

JANUARY 2

Chapter: Exodus 32

Theme: The Golden Calf

Study Verse: Exodus 32:32

STATEMENT: Perfect timing—an excellent example of creative artistry being used against God! What shocking thing does Aaron tell the people in verse 4? Do you remember a few weeks ago when we said we would remember the Egyptians’ gifts to the Hebrews in Ex. 11:2, 3, and 12:35? Here is the way the people thanked God for giving them favor with their old neighbors, who gave them valuables. They made an idol out of them! The rest of the chapter is heartbreaking to us—imagine how much more so for God, their patient Father!

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Patient Lord, I am so sorry when I sometimes do the same wrong things over and over again! Thank You for giving us this story and showing us through Moses’ example how limitless Your love and forgiveness are, to those who will accept.

JANUARY 3

Chapter: Exodus 33

Theme: Reconciliation

Study Verse: Exodus 33:13, 14

STATEMENT: God is justifiably angry with the people. He gave them favor, rescued them, gave them silver, gold, and clothing from the Egyptians, and then they took some of that gold and not only made an idol, but gave that the credit for getting them out of slavery! So, He takes the ornaments away. He also waits until they show true remorse before promising to go with them the rest of their journey. Besides going with them, what does He promise to give them? Why?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Lord God, I hope I never do anything so terribly rebellious as that! But I know I do sin against You, and I am humbly sorry, and very grateful for Your patience and forgiveness.

JANUARY 4

Chapter: Exodus 34

Theme: Covenant Renewed

Study Verse: Exodus 34:6, 7

STATEMENT: God rewrites the Ten Commandments on new stones, and again lists some of His commands. But this list is interestingly different. Compare this chapter with chapter 20. How many of the Ten Commandments do you find? What other commands are mentioned? Can you tell why God might choose some of these to emphasize?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: God, You may not make my face glow, but You make my heart glow. God with me always and forever.

JANUARY 5

Chapter: Exodus 35

Theme: Renewed Hearts

Study Verse: Exodus 35:21

STATEMENT: You can clearly see the people's new attitude of submission and repentance. They want to please God, and they've found a much better use for the silver, gold, and cloth they've been given than creating idols out of it! Make a list of all the things that God accepts as heartfelt gifts in this chapter. That's quite a list! What do you have that you would like to give to God?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Giving God, You give and give, and sometimes we are smart enough to give back! All that I am and all that I have, You gave me, and all of it is Yours back again!

JANUARY 6

Chapter: Exodus 36

Theme: Giving Too Much!

Study Verse: Exodus 36:5

STATEMENT: This is a great story. Has it ever happened at your church that people gave more than the church needs for its work? What a nice problem to have! Of course, there's no such thing as giving too much to God. The people in this story no longer needed to bring materials for the tabernacle, but they could keep on giving to God. What are some ways you can think of that they could keep on giving? If they had done this, do you think they would have fallen away from God so often?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: God of the giving heart, make me like You. Make me love to give so much that I am always seeking ways to help You and Your other children.

JANUARY 7

Chapter: Exodus 37

Theme: Inner Furnishings

Study Verse: Exodus 37:9

STATEMENT: The ark, table, lampstand, and altar described in this chapter were for the most holy and holy places inside the tabernacle. They represent the inner spaces of Gods' True Temple in heaven: His throne of grace where real angels bow, and the place from which our provision and our light comes. But more than that, they also represent the inner rooms of your own heart. Have you enthroned God there? Do you have a "table" where He provides your daily spiritual "bread," and a lamp of His Spirit's light, and an altar that sends up the incense of your daily prayers?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Most Holy God, You have promised to make my heart Your temple. Dwell here always and bring Your light and love and provision for my need. Thank You!

JANUARY 8

Chapter: Exodus 38

Theme: The Altar and Court

Study Verse: Exodus 38:8

STATEMENT: The story of the building of the tabernacle shows all the people of God, young and old, male and female, working together for God. This chapter gives a glimpse of some of the work women did. (Their mirrors in those days were metal, not glass.) Do you have an altar in your inner heart, too, where you sacrifice all you have and are to God every day? Is there an outer courtyard where you can share your love of God with others?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: God of all gifts, thank You for sending to each community just the kinds of gifts that community needs. If there is anything my community still needs, help us to seek it among Your people.

JANUARY 9

Chapter: Exodus 39

Theme: Finished!

Study Verse: Exodus 39:43

STATEMENT: For months, hundreds of people worked hard to make every detail of the tabernacle “just as the Lord commanded Moses.” (How many times can you find those words in this chapter?) Now it was all finished, and it must have been beautiful! How do you think the people felt? Have you ever helped to build a new church or to refurbish or redecorate one? How did you feel?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: God of heaven, it’s amazing to me that You are willing to come down and live in the small “tabernacle” of my inmost heart. Help me to be as faithful to keep this tabernacle clean and beautiful for you as the Israelites were in the desert.

JANUARY 10

Chapter: Exodus 40

Theme: God Shows His Blessing

Study Verse: Exodus 40:38

STATEMENT: The people had now been out of Egypt for a year. They had accomplished a lot in that time, and now they had a portable church they could take down and carry with them wherever they went. God showed what He thought of their offering to Him—He overflowed the whole place with His glory—so much that even Moses, who had already spent weeks with God on the mountain, couldn’t enter! Don’t you wish you’d been there?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Glorious God, I wish I could see Your glory visibly the way the Israelites did. But I see it in sunrises and sunsets, in smiles on the faces of babies or grandparents, and in the loving acts of the people around me. Let me show Your glory wherever I go.

JANUARY 11

Chapter: Leviticus 1

Theme: Laws for Offerings

Study Verse: Leviticus 1:4

STATEMENT: This book is named Leviticus because it is the book of rules for the priesthood, and they were all Levites. It will be boring unless you bear two things in mind: 1) all these rules are of historic interest and 2), much more importantly, we can find principles in them that will apply to our lives today. That's what we'll be watching for. What universal principles can you find in this first chapter?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Lord, You are high and holy, and what I offer You must be pure. But I am not pure, and my possessions are not pure. Thank You so much that You came and offered Yourself in my place, so that my life and my offerings can be holy.

JANUARY 12

Chapter: Leviticus 2

Theme: Grain Offerings

Study Verse: Leviticus 2:3

STATEMENT: There is something important about offerings that many people today don't understand. When animals, grains, wine, oil, and so on were brought to the temple, only a small part of it was burned up to God. The rest was for the priests. Just as our tithes pay pastors' salaries today, so these offerings supported the priests, who were busy all day serving in the temple and could not grow their own food. Notice what three ingredients were brought in grain offerings, which part was burned to God, and which part was for the priests.

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: God of the harvest, You are the one who cares for us through the products of the earth. Help me be faithful to share Your bounty with Your ministers and with the poor.

JANUARY 13

Chapter: Leviticus 3

Theme: Peace Offerings

Study Verse: Leviticus 3:17

STATEMENT: It is especially interesting to note which parts of animal offerings were burned. First, the blood was drained and sprinkled around the altar. Then the fat and intestines were burned. Only the rest of the meat was given to the priests, or in some cases, some was for the priests and some for the family who brought the offering. Note our study verse. Do those of us who eat meat still live by these principles? Our health would be better if we did.

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Dear God, You gave us the plants of the earth for food, but You did allow certain meat, too. But You gave principles for its use. Help me and my family to be faithful in our healthful eating.

JANUARY 14

Chapter: Leviticus 4

Theme: Sin Offerings

Study Verse: Leviticus 4:12

STATEMENT: Now, here is an exception. If it is an anointed priest who sins, the offering is not eaten at all. It is still separated; the blood is sprinkled, and the fat and organs are burned on the altar. But all the rest, including all the flesh, is not even burned in the temple court—it is taken outside and burned with wood, entirely. Why do you think that is?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: God of forgiveness, please burn all sin out of me. Don't leave a single bit. I want to be all Yours, inside and out.

JANUARY 15

Chapter: Leviticus 5

Theme: Unintentional Sin

Study Verse: Leviticus 5:10b

STATEMENT: Everybody makes mistakes. Often our mistakes are simple missteps and are not sin. If you trip over someone's foot, you say you're sorry, and they may say, "Oh, it's okay!" But often our mistakes are sinful, even if they were unintended. Perhaps you say something that you meant to be good-natured teasing, but someone's feelings are hurt by it. God says those things are sinful, too, and they require forgiveness. It's not "okay." You have to confess, ask forgiveness, and hope the person will forgive you. Is there anyone you need to ask forgiveness from, or anyone you need to forgive?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: God of mercy, I know all forgiveness, great and small, comes from You. I am sorry for the times I do something wrong even when I didn't mean to. I ask Your forgiveness, secure that You will give it. I also ask You to show me if there is any person whose forgiveness I should seek.

JANUARY 16

Chapter: Leviticus 6

Theme: Priests' Offerings

Study Verse: Leviticus 6:23

STATEMENT: We have seen that many offerings brought to the temple were partly for the support of the priests. But what about the offerings they offered? All of those were for God alone. All consecrated priests and their families could eat from the offerings (except sin offerings, and never blood or fat) but their own offerings, which were the best of what was brought, were all for God.

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, thank You for Your mercy and love toward us. You give different offering amounts for rich and poor but offer the same forgiveness and salvation. You make provision for Your servants in ministry, but also ask for cheerful giving from them. Your system is the best!

JANUARY 17

Chapter: Leviticus 7

Theme: Priestly Regulations

Study Verse: Leviticus 7:23, 26

STATEMENT: This chapter lists again, in summary form, the ways that the offerings are to be divided up among God, priests, and people. Mixed in with the other regulations are things that have to do with health. Notice again how God says not to eat fat or blood. He is very strict about it—whoever does is cut off from their people. There are also regulations about not touching unclean things. People then didn't know about germs as we do now. But God did! What do you think of His rules?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Lord, I ask for a clean heart, but also a strong mind in a healthy body. Thank You for the health knowledge You have given us and help me to live by that knowledge.

JANUARY 18

Chapter: Leviticus 8

Theme: Consecration

Study Verse: Leviticus 8:36

STATEMENT: Just imagine what this must have been like! For months, the people have been preparing, building the tabernacle, making the holy priestly clothing, learning the ways to do the sacrifices. Now, for the first time, they experience it. Aaron and his sons, set aside with their descendants to be priests before God, go through the rituals, then sit in front of the doorway and eat the consecrated food. How do you think they felt?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Dear Lord, I am not a priest. But I am consecrated to You. I want to belong to You through all my days and nights. Bless me and guide me in the ways You want me to go.

JANUARY 19

Chapter: Leviticus 9

Theme: God's Affirmation

Study Verse: Leviticus 9:23, 24

STATEMENT: For the first time as a consecrated, ordained priest, Aaron offers the sacrifices, first for himself and his own sin, then for the people. Step by step, he follows the directions he has been given from God, through Moses. To show them that they have done rightly and pleased God, God sends His own heavenly fire to consume the offering. This heavenly fire is now the fire that must be kept burning in the tabernacle from now on. What must that have been like? Would you have shouted with the rest of the people?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: O great God, I wait for the day when I can see the fullness of Your glory! But I know Your glory covers me and dwells with me, even when I can't see it.

JANUARY 20

Chapter: Leviticus 10

Theme: "Strange Fire"

Study Verse: Leviticus 10:3

STATEMENT: Nadab and Abihu, two of the newly consecrated priests, apparently thought they were now special and didn't have to obey instruction. First, they got drunk, then they used ordinary fire to burn incense, instead of the heavenly fire God had provided. That fire became their death. How sorrowful God must have been to lose two of His priests so soon after the sanctuary system began! How can we be sure not to fall into that kind of presumptuous sin?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: O Lord, I know You are high and holy and above anything I can even imagine. As I think of You as my Father and my Friend, don't let me then become disrespectful or take You for granted!

JANUARY 21

Chapter: Leviticus 11

Theme: Clean and Unclean

Study Verse: Leviticus 11:46, 47

STATEMENT: This is still an important chapter to us today. We do not believe God simply gave these laws as arbitrary rules for the Israelites alone. We believe there were and are important health reasons for the distinctions made in this chapter. If you do some research, you can learn very important reasons for these health rules. For example, shellfish are given the job of cleaning up the waste that flows from the continents into the seas. We don't want to eat that! Can you find other health reasons for these distinctions?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Lord of all the earth, You didn't originally create us to eat meat at all. But if we do, You ask us to observe careful health guidelines. Help me to be obedient to You.

JANUARY 22

Chapter: Leviticus 12

Theme: Laws for Mothers

Study Verse: Leviticus 12:8

STATEMENT: Some of the rules God gave have been used as excuses by men to think that women are unclean or unholy. Over the centuries, there has been a lot of that. God did not say any such thing! He loves His daughters just as much as His sons and seeks both to protect their health and also to give them some time off when they are new mothers. Also, as in other laws, you can see God's mercy in making different offering requirements for rich and poor.

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Great Father, thank You for mothers! Help me to follow Your example and take good care of the mothers that I know.

JANUARY 23

Chapter: Leviticus 13

Theme: Health Laws

Study Verse: Leviticus 13:6

STATEMENT: In Bible times, people did not have the understanding we do today of diseases, medicine, or sanitation. God made many precise laws about cleanliness, many of which we shall see. He also gave precise instructions about disease. Here are some details about how to know if something was chronic or not. It's important to understand these were various chronic diseases called leprosy; not all were what we call leprosy today. Why do you think He made the priests responsible for these things?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: God of true health, thank You for all the things we've learned over the centuries. Forgive us for the arrogance we've developed along the way. Help me to be careful of my health and in so doing, honor You as Creator.

JANUARY 24

Chapter: Leviticus 14

Theme: More Health Laws

Study Verse: Leviticus 14:20

STATEMENT: This chapter continues to deal with physical health, but also gets into the ways in which a building can become unhealthy to its occupants. After a flood, for instance, we know now that very dangerous mold can infiltrate the wood to the point that it will no longer be possible for people to live there. The building sometimes has to be burned and a new one built. The chapter also makes provision for spiritual cleansing. Why do you think people need spiritual cleansing from physical health issues?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: God of the seen and the unseen, thank You that in those days before people had microscopes, You looked out for their wellness in ways they didn't understand yet.

JANUARY 25

Chapter: Leviticus 15

Theme: Becoming Clean Again

Study Verse: Leviticus 15:31

STATEMENT: All people have various discharges. Some are normal, some are unhealthy, but all can cause uncleanness if not cleansed. God here teaches the people how to remain well by being careful about cleanliness. This is not meant to imply that discharges in general are bad. The people in that era had simple ideas, and God had to speak to them in language they would understand.

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Dear Father, thank you for sending Jesus as my high priest and sacrifice of atonement. Please sanctify and cleanse me, and forgive me for my sin and unclean state. Father God, please help me to be holy as you are holy.

JANUARY 26

Chapter: Leviticus 16

Theme: The Day of Atonement

Study Verse: Leviticus 16:29, 30

STATEMENT: This chapter describes the holiest feast of the year. Almost all the details of this Day contain symbols of Jesus sacrificing Himself to atone for us. For instance, the goat that is taken outside the camp and set free represents the devil, the one who is really responsible for all the sin that has engulfed this planet. If you are interested, you can read much more about this in Patriarchs and Prophets, pp. 355-358.

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Great Atonement, I am in awe of Your holiness and Your love. How can You value me so much that You give Yourself in place of me?

JANUARY 27

Chapter: Leviticus 17

Theme: Outside Sacrifices

Study Verse: Leviticus 17:14

STATEMENT: The people still carry with them some memories of sacrifices to other false gods, and this chapter is intended to prevent them from doing those sacrifices. It may also represent people trying to create their own separate worship rituals or be their own priests. All are to come to the tabernacle to sacrifice only to God. The word translated “life” which is said to be in the blood can also be translated “soul.” Why do you think God forbids the eating of blood?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Lord of life, it is through Your blood that we live. I choose to follow only You, and accept only Your true sacrifice.

JANUARY 28

Chapter: Leviticus 18

Theme: Laws against Immorality

Study Verse: Leviticus 18:4, 5

STATEMENT: If you read these two verses side-by-side, you can see that they interpret each other. What details can you learn about what it means to live by God’s laws and statutes by looking at the two together? Later, the Bible will say that we live by faith; here it says we live by God’s law. Do you think these are the same? If a person simply seeks to follow the list of rules, but doesn’t have faith in God’s grace, is that really living by God’s law of love? Naturally, if one is truly living by God’s law of love, one will be faithful and not immoral.

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Dear God, I want to live my whole life, moment by moment, day by day, in Your law of love. I want to be faithful and pure, and I want Your law to live in my heart, not just be a dusty list of dos’ and don’ts.

JANUARY 29

Chapter: Leviticus 19

Theme: True Holiness

Study Verse: Leviticus 19:2

STATEMENT: Sure enough—just what we talked about yesterday is referenced here. It is not enough, God says, to simply perform the correct actions. His people are to be holy, as He is. What is holy? It means “set aside for sacred use,” which is to say, for God’s use. It is extremely interesting to notice which commandments God chooses in verses 3 and 4 to highlight to exemplify this holy life. Why do you think these are so essential? Then, from verse 5 on, there is a variety of instructions. Make a list of general subjects, such as care of the poor, or integrity and justice.

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Holy One, make me like You. Nothing I can do will make me holy. Only You can do that. Fill me with Your love for others, and then I will be Your child.

JANUARY 30

Chapter: Leviticus 20

Theme: Horrible Sins

Study Verse: Leviticus 20:24

STATEMENT: Just as God has chosen to repeat and highlight certain of His commandments as being extra important, here He highlights some sins that are especially abhorrent. This is an ugly chapter to read. Idolatry is bad enough, but to burn your children to Molech is worse. Immorality is bad enough, but to steal each other’s spouses is worse. Cursing your own parents, using family members lustfully—these are terrible sins. Why? Because they destroy the people God loves so much. Israel is looked upon as an example of godliness. If the other nations see this kind of thing, what will they think of God?

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Great Creator, You are so patient, but I’ve noticed the things that make You the most angry are the things that hurt Your children. Help me never to be like that!

JANUARY 31

Chapter: Leviticus 21

Theme: Priests Set Aside

Study Verse: Leviticus 21:8

STATEMENT: The priest is to be seen as an example of God, and he and his life are to be holy and consecrated. They are held to a higher standard than other members of the congregation. Notice (in verses 22 and 23) God's love toward members of priestly families who are disabled in some way. Other societies would throw them out. Not Israel. God excuses them from priestly duties but makes it clear that they are still to be supported by the offerings of the people.

RESPONSE: _____

PRAYER: Lord, You love us all. We live in a world that is not how You planned it. That's our own fault, for choosing to follow Satan instead of You. Grant me your mercy and love to those who are different from me.