

Other descriptions of this meekest man were humble, servant of the LORD, faithful in all God's house, led by God, rejected by the people. These descriptions remind us of Jesus but also describe a man who lived 1,500 years before Jesus.

Moses was born into a family of slaves, saved from death as an infant by being abandoned in a basket on a river, adopted and raised by the king's daughter, murdered a man in his youth, and escaped with his life by fleeing to the desert. All this was just the prelude to the real purpose of his life. God had a purpose and plan for Moses

The first 40 years were spent in Pharaoh's house living the life of an Egyptian prince. It was at this time that he decided to try to help his people by defending a Hebrew slave who was being mistreated. In the process he killed the Egyptian. Later when he tried to settle a dispute between two Hebrews, they turned on him and said, "Who made you ruler and judge over us? Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" They were not ready for Moses' help. When finding out that Pharaoh was trying to kill him because of the death of the Egyptian, Moses fled to the desert. At this point in time descriptions such as humble, meek, and servant of the LORD don't

seem to fit Moses. But God is not finished with him yet.

The next forty years of Moses life were spent many miles from home and in a different world from the Egyptian palace. He ran to the desert region of Midian, settled as a foreigner, married a shepherd's daughter and raised two sons. By the time Moses was 80 years old he probably wondered why he ever thought that God would use him to rescue his people from slavery. But God did not just want to rescue the Hebrews from slavery; he had plans for them to become his special people. He needed Moses to become that special leader who would teach the people God's laws, form them into a nation, and lead them to the Promised Land. It was during his years in Midian that Moses would learn humility, perseverance, trust in God, and develop compassion and wisdom that would be needed in his work as leader of God's people.

Finally, the day comes. God appears to Moses in a burning bush. He sends him back to Egypt and Pharaoh. He sends him back to rescue his people and bring them out of Egypt. Moses doesn't feel ready or able but God promises to be with him. Moses obeys God's command and returns to Egypt. Through the power and direction of God, Moses brings

devastating plagues on Egypt, leads the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt, through the Red Sea and into the desert. And that was the easy part. For the next forty years in the wilderness Moses is leader, lawgiver, and prophet to a stubborn and rebellious people who would not listen and at times rejected God and rejected Moses. But Moses persevered with caring and compassion for his people.

The young, brash Moses would not have been ready for this heavy task in his earlier years. In the desert he had learned the lessons of a true servant of God and God's words concerning Moses are: *"When a prophet of the LORD is among you, I reveal myself to him in visions, I speak to him in dreams. But this is not true of my servant Moses; he is faithful in all my house. With him I speak face to face, clearly and not in riddles; he sees the form of the LORD..."* Numbers 12:6-8

Moses led the people for forty years through the desert to the very edge of the Promised Land but was not allowed to enter. He, along with Abraham, David, Daniel and many others, died in faith not having received what was promised. They wait the day when together with all the faithful, they will be made perfect.

"Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, who did all those miraculous signs and wonders the LORD sent him to do in Egypt — to Pharaoh and to all his officials and to his whole land. For no one has ever shown the mighty power or performed the awesome deeds that Moses did in the sight of all Israel."

Deut 34:10-12 NIV

We encounter the subjects of sin and death very early on in the Bible story and not surprisingly we find them linked together. We all, without exception, feel the effects of sin and should the return of the Lord be delayed beyond the allotted years of our life, we will experience the ultimate outcome of sin, death itself. The apostle Paul in writing to the Romans stated it quite clearly, “For the wages of sin is death...” (6:23) and in writing to the Galatians he states that “the whole world is a prisoner of sin” (3:22).

The introduction of sin into the world is found in the third chapter of Genesis or the book of beginnings. The first chapter starts with the words “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” and it goes on to describe the seven days of creation and what was brought forth on each of the six days, all of it very good as God said at the end of the sixth day as he prepared to rest on the seventh. In chapter two we are told about the beautiful garden where Adam was placed, how he was told he could eat of the fruit of any tree in the garden with the exception of one and that if he did eat of the fruit of that one tree, he would surely die. In the third chapter we are given the details of this simple test of Adam and Eve’s desire to obey God rather than let the deception posed by the serpent govern their actions, a test they failed. The consequences of this first sin was felt by Adam and Eve and passed on to all generations since. The apos-

tle Paul again makes a statement relative to the pervasiveness of sin, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Rom 3:23)

The principal Hebrew words for sin are *chattah* (noun) and *chata* (verb). The word *chata* is used in Judges 20:16, “Among all this people there were seven hundred chosen men lefthanded; every one could sling stones at an hair breadth, and not miss.” The lefthanded stone slingers hit the target. They did not miss the mark; they did not transgress.

The moral target that men are to reach is complete obedience to God in our actions, our thoughts and disposition, and our being. When we fail in these, we sin. When our lives are not in line with God’s will, we sin. When we react to those tendencies within us to do what feels good or when we let ourselves be ruled by the “lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh or the pride of life” as the Bible puts it, we sin. And when we sin we most assuredly fall under the curse of Adam and die.

What then is death? It is the cessation of life, the cessation of being. The idea of an immortal soul that lives on beyond the grave is a Hellenistic idea that made its way into the Christian church around the time of Plato. It has no basis in the Bible. The Bible teaching is plain, “the soul that sinneth, it shall die.”

And so, we all live and one day

we die. Is that then all there is to life? Far from it. The verse we quoted from Paul’s letter to the Roman’s at the beginning of this article, “for the wages of sin is death...” only tells half the story. Let’s finish the verse, for within it we find a marvelous hope of a future life: “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

The Christian hope is, and always has been, the hope of resurrection. This dying body that we now possess, termed in the Bible a corruptible body, will one day be replaced by a spirit body that will never die. This will be given to those who are found to be “in Christ” or part of His body when he returns to claim his own and establish his kingdom here on this earth. We will look at the resurrection in a future article in this quarterly newsletter but for now we would like to finish with the words from the Apostle Paul’s first letter to the believers at Corinth:

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this cor-

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ruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swal-

lowed up in victory.

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast,

unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

1 Cor 15:50-58 KJV

Williamsburg Area

Free

Learn to Read the Bible Effectively Seminar

Four Thursdays - April 16, 23, 30 and May 7, 2009
Lexington George Washington Inn & Conference Center
500 Merrimac Trail
Williamsburg, VA 23185

Starts at 7:00 PM and ends at 9:00 PM

Space is limited. To register for free Learn to Read the Bible Effectively seminar send your name and telephone number to info@dailybiblereader.com or P.O. Box 16070, Newport News, VA 23608

Newport News Area

An eight-week series of weekly Bible studies combining the Book of Acts and the Bible Study Course "To Be A Disciple"

Starts Tuesday April 14th, 2009

Hampton Inn and Suites
(Across Jefferson from Patrick Henry Mall)
12251 Jefferson Ave., Newport News, VA 23602

Starts at 7:00 PM and ends at 8:30 PM

Take a Bible Quiz

From the Bible readings for this quarter, name the books of the Bible where these are found:

1. Israel fought the battle of Jericho.
2. Moses dies.
3. David kills Goliath.
4. Paul talks about the importance of the Resurrection.
5. Jesus tells us where evil comes from.
6. The shortest biography of Jesus' life on earth.
7. Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth.
8. Shepherds are told that the Messiah is born.
9. The parable of the Good Samaritan.
10. One whole chapter about love.
11. A righteous man suffers the loss of everything.
12. David is anointed king over Israel.
13. God makes a special promise to King David.
14. Paul the Apostle lists his credentials.
15. A young woman leaves her family to follow her mother-in-law back to Israel.

- Answers:**
1. Joshua 5 & 6
 2. Deuteronomy 34
 3. I Samuel 17
 4. I Corinthians 15
 5. Mark 7
 6. Mark 1-16
 7. Luke 1
 8. Luke 2
 9. Luke 10
 10. I Corinthians 13
 11. Job 1 & 2
 12. I Samuel 16
 13. II Samuel 7
 14. II Corinthians 11
 15. Ruth 1

The Bible for All Seasons

The Bible can provide comfort and strength for every changing need. Here are some examples which may be helpful:

In Times of Sorrow
In Times of Fear
In Times of Loneliness
In Times of Illness

Psalm 90
Psalm 91
Psalm 142
Psalm 103

If You Are Concerned:

For Your Children
For The Future
For What Life Is About
For A Promise From God

Proverbs 4
Luke 21
Eccl 12
Isaiah 55

Bible readings for the months of April, May and June include:

Deuteronomy. This is the fifth book of Moses and concludes the history of the children of Israel as they wandered in the desert for 40 years. The book, as the name implies, is a repetition of the law and many of the events found in Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers. Before his death, Moses warns and encourages the people to serve only the LORD and obey him in everything.

Joshua: Joshua leads the Israelites into the Promised Land. With God's strength and help they conquer the cities in the land including Jericho and Ai. Finally the land is divided and allotted to the different tribes.

Judges: After the death of Joshua, a series of judges (rulers) led Israel under God's direction. The book of Hebrews in the New Testament lists several of these rulers as examples of faithful

people. Among them are Samson, Deborah, Gideon, Barak, and Samuel.

I and II Samuel: The books of Samuel continue the history of Israel from the time of Samuel, the last Judge, through the reigns of King Saul and King David. The history of David from the time he is anointed by Samuel as a young boy to the time he becomes an aged king is a fascinating story to follow.

Job: This book is unique in the Bible for many reasons. It is a treatise on the subject of suffering. While there is some narration at the beginning and end of the book, most of it is a series of conversations between Job, several of his friends, and finally with God. The author, location, and date of the book are unknown.

Mark: This is the shortest Gospel narrative of the life of Jesus and probably the earliest. This Gospel

may have been dictated by the Apostle Peter to Mark. It appears to be aimed at a non-Jewish audience since he describes Jewish customs in detail.

Luke: The third Gospel was written by Luke the Physician who also wrote the Acts of the Apostles. It is the most complete book of the life of Jesus. This is the only Gospel with the parables of the Good Samaritan and the Rich Man and Lazarus. Luke also writes in much more detail about the birth of John the Baptist and the events surrounding the birth of Jesus.

I and II Corinthians: These are two letters written by the Apostle Paul to the church in the Greek city of Corinth. The very famous chapter about love is found here. Also, Paul gives the most complete writings concerning the resurrection, spiritual gifts, and his own history that are found in the New Testament.

What Others Have Said About the Bible

There is a book worth all other books which were ever printed."

Patrick Henry

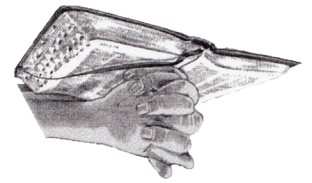
In what light so ever we regard the Bible, whether with reference to revelation, to history, or to morality, it is an invaluable and inexhaustible mine of knowledge and virtue."

John Quincy Adams

A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education.

Theodore Roosevelt

See Pg. 3 for more info:
 Williamsburg Area
 Learn To Read the Bible
 Effectively Seminar
 Starts Thursday, April 16th
 Newport News Area
 Special Bible Study Series
 Starts Tuesday, April 14th



DailyBibleReader
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 Newport News, VA 23608

Your DailyBibleReader Quarterly Newsletter

Daily Bible Readings for April, May and June

Read the Entire Bible in One Year

Day	APRIL		MAY		JUNE	
	Old Test	New Test/Psa	Old Test	New Test/Psa	Old Test	New Test/Psa
1	Deut 13,14	Mark 6	Judges 3,4	1 Corinth 11	Job 38,39	Psalm 59
2	Deut 15,16	Psalm 33,34	Judges 5,6	1 Corinth 12	Job 40-42	Luke 17
3	Deut 17,18	Mark 7	Judges 7,8	1 Corinth 13	I Sam 1. 2	Luke 18
4	Deut 19,20	Mark 8	Judges 9,10	Psalm 48	I Sam 3. 4	Psalm 60. 61
5	Deut 21,22	Mark 9	Judges 11,12	I Corinth 14	I Sam 5. 6	Luke 19
6	Deut 23,24	Psalm 35	Judges 13,14	I Carinth 15	I Sam 7. 8	Luke 20
7	Deut 25,26	Mark 10	Judges 15,16	Psalm 49	I Sam 9.10	Luke 21
8	Deut 27,28	Mark 11	Judges 17,18	I Corinth 16	I Sam 11. 12	Psalm 62. 63
9	Deut 29,30	Psalm 36,37	Judges 19,20	Psalm 50	I Sam 13. 14	Luke 22
10	Deut 31,32	Psalm 38,39	Judge 21 Ruth 1	Psalm 51. 52	I Sam 15. 16	Luke 23
11	Deut 33,34	Mark 12	Ruth 2-4	Luke 1	I Sam 17. 18	Luke 24
12	Provb 17,18	Mark 13	Provb 29,30	Luke 2	I Sam 19. 20	Psalm 64. 65
13	Provb 19,20	Mark 14	Provb 31	Luke 3	I Sam 21. 22	Psalm 66. 67
14	Provb 21,22	Mark 15	Job 1-3	Psalm 53	I Sam 23. 24	II Corinth 1
15	Joshua 1,2	Mark 16	Job 4,5	Luke 4	I Sam 25. 26	II Corinth 2
16	Joshua 3,4	Psalm 40,41	Job 6,7	Luke 5	I Sam 27. 28	II Corinth 3
17	Joshua 5,6	1 Corinth 1	Job 8,9	Luke 6	i Sam 29-31	Psalm 68
18	Joshua 7. 8	1 Corinth 2	Job 10,11	Psalm 54,55	Eccles 1. 2	Psalm 69
19	Joshua 9,10	1 Corinth 3	Job 12,13	Luke 7	Eccles 3. 4	II Corinth 4
20	Joshua 11,12	Psalm 42,43	Job 14,15	Luke 8	Eccles 5. 6	II Corinth 5
21	Joshua 13,14	1 Corinth 4	Job 16,17	Psalm 56	Eccles 7. 8	II Corinth 6
22	Joshua 15,16	1 Corinth 5	Job 18,19	Luke 9	Eccles 9.10	Psalm 70. 71
23	Joshua 17,18	Psalm 44	Job 20,21	Luke 10	Eccles 11. 12	II Corinth 7
24	Joshua 19,20	1 Corinth 6	Job 22,23	Luke 11	II Sam 1. 2	II Corinth 8
25	Joshua 21,22	1 Corinth 7	Job 24,25	Psalm 57	II Sam 3. 4	II Corinth 9
26	Joshua 23,24	1 Corinth 8	Job 26,27	Luke 12	II Sam 5. 6	II Corinth 10
27	Provb 23,24	Psalm 45	Job 28,29	Luke 13	II Sam 7. 8	Psalm 72
28	Provb 25,26	1 Corinth 9	Job 30,31	Psalm 58	II Sam 9. 10	Psalm 73
29	Provb 27,28	1 Corinth 10	Job 32,33	Luke 14	II Sam 11.12	II Corinth 11
30	Judges 1,2	Psalm 46. 47	Job 34,35	Luke 15	II Sam 13.14	II Corinth 12
31			Job 36,37	Luke 16		

See page 5 for some thoughts on the daily readings.

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Coming to the Newport News and Williamsburg Areas

Free

Learn to Read the Bible Effectively Seminar

Newport News:

Tuesday - February 3, 10, 17, 24, 2009

Comfort Suites Airport

(Behind Red Lobster and Olive Garden)

12570 Jefferson Ave.

Newport News, VA 23602

Williamsburg:

Thursday - April 16, 23, 30 and May 7, 2009

Lexington George Washington Inn & Conference Center

500 Merrimac Trail

Williamsburg, VA 23185

Starts at 7:00 PM and ends at 9:00 PM

Why you should attend this free Bible seminar?

- To help and encourage you to open and read the Bible yourself
- To do so in a more organized way so that it is easier to understand and remember what you read.
- To learn what God is saying to you and everyone through the pages of the Bible

Some of the subjects that will be covered in this seminar:

- Overview of the Books of the Bible
- Bible Principles in the Old and New Testaments
- The Purpose of God Revealed from Genesis to Revelations
- Tips for Effective Reading
- Why Believe the Bible
- Introduction to Bible Study Aids
- Prophecy Primer

Space is limited. To register for either one of these free Learn to Read the Bible Effectively seminars send your name and telephone number to info@dailybiblereader.com or leave your name and telephone number at 757-898-5069.