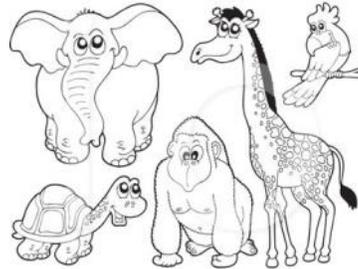


Creation and Adam & Eve

Then God said: Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the tame animals, all the wild animals, and all the creatures that crawl on the earth.

Gen 1:26 NABRE



¹ Now the snake was the most cunning of all the wild animals that the LORD God had made. He asked the woman, "Did God really say, 'You shall not eat from any of the trees in the garden?'" ² The woman answered the snake: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³ it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, 'You shall not eat it or even touch it, or else you will die.'" ⁴ But the snake said to the woman: "You certainly will not die! ⁵ God knows well that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, who know good and evil." ⁶ The woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and the tree was desirable for gaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

⁸ When they heard the sound of the LORD God walking about in the garden at the breezy time of the day, ^[c] the man and his wife hid themselves from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ The LORD God then called to the man and asked him: Where are you? ¹⁰ He answered, "I heard you in the garden; but I was afraid, because I was naked, so I hid." ¹¹ Then God asked: Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I had forbidden you to eat? ¹² The man replied, "The woman whom you put here with me—she gave me fruit from the tree, so I ate it." ¹³ The LORD God then asked the woman: What is this you have done? The woman answered, "The snake tricked me, so I ate it."

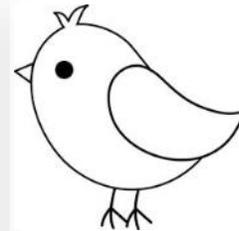
Gen 3:1-13 NABRE

Noah

Read one or both passages as time allows.

¹ Then the LORD said to Noah: Go into the ark, you and all your household, for you alone in this generation have I found to be righteous before me. ² Of every clean animal, take with you seven pairs, a male and its mate; and of the unclean animals, one pair, a male and its mate; ³ likewise, of every bird of the air, seven pairs, a male and a female, to keep their progeny alive over all the earth. ⁴ For seven days from now I will bring rain down on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and so I will wipe out from the face of the earth every being that I have made. ⁵ Noah complied, just as the LORD had commanded.

Genesis 7:1-5 NABRE



God said, ⁹“I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you ¹⁰and with every living creature that was with you: the birds, the tame animals, and all the wild animals that were with you—all that came out of the ark. ¹¹I will establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all creatures be destroyed by the waters of a flood; there shall not be another flood to devastate the earth. ¹²God said: This is the sign of the covenant that I am making between me and you and every living creature with you for all ages to come: ¹³I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.”

Genesis 9:9-13 NABRE

Abraham and Sarah

Read one or both passages as time allows.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am the Almighty God. Obey me and always do what is right. ²I will make my covenant with you and give you many descendants." ³Abram bowed down with his face touching the ground, and God said, ⁴"I make this covenant with you: I promise that you will be the ancestor of many nations. ⁵Your name will no longer be Abram, but Abraham, because I am making you the ancestor of many nations. ⁶I will give you many descendants, and some of them will be kings. You will have so many descendants that they will become nations.

⁷"I will keep my promise to you and to your descendants in future generations as an everlasting covenant. I will be your God and the God of your descendants. ⁸I will give to you and to your descendants this land in which you are now a foreigner. The whole land of Canaan will belong to your descendants forever, and I will be their God.

Genesis 17:1-8 GNT



¹⁵Abraham, your wife's name will now be Sarah instead of Sarai. ¹⁶I will bless her, and you will have a son by her. She will become the mother of nations, and some of her descendants will even be kings.

¹⁷Abraham bowed with his face to the ground and thought, "I am almost a hundred years old. How can I become a father? And Sarah is ninety. How can she have a child?" So he started laughing. ¹⁸Then he asked God, "Why not let Ishmael inherit what you have promised me?"

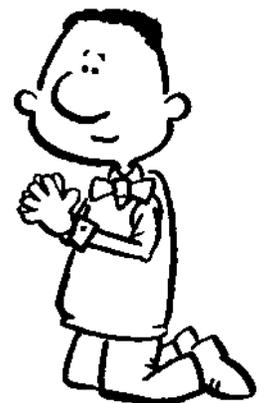
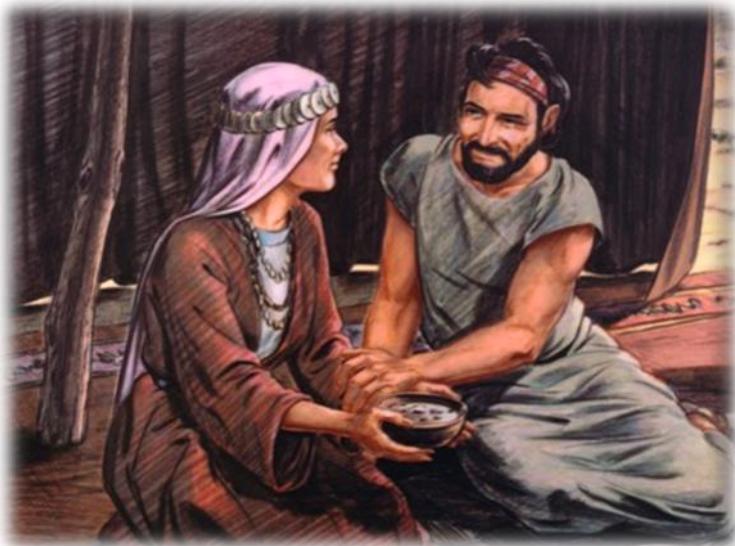
¹⁹But God answered: No! You and Sarah will have a son. His name will be Isaac, and I will make an everlasting promise to him and his descendants.

Genesis 17:15-19 CEV

Isaac and Rebekah

A Bride for Isaac: When Isaac grew up, his father, Abraham, wanted him to get married. Abraham told one of his servants, "Go to my homeland. There you will find the perfect bride for Isaac." So Abraham sent the servant on his way with ten camels and lots of jewelry and clothes. They were gifts for Isaac's new bride. The servant reached Abraham's homeland. He stopped by a well and prayed, "Dear God, please show me the woman you have chosen for Isaac. I will know she is the one if she offers water to me and my camels." Before he finished praying, a young woman with a jar walked toward the well. After she filled her jar, the servant asked her for a drink. Then she gave water to his camels. She was the answer to his prayer! Her name was Rebekah. The servant gave her the gifts, and they went to meet her father. The servant asked for his permission to take Rebekah to Isaac. Rebekah told the servant she would be happy to go. When Isaac saw Rebekah, he fell in love with her. Soon, they got married. Isaac and Rebekah had twin boys named Esau and Jacob.

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Jacob, Rachel and Leah

Read one or both passages as time allows.

Jacob's Dream at Bethel

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and started toward Haran. ¹¹ At sunset he came to a holy place and camped there. He lay down to sleep, resting his head on a stone. ¹² He dreamed that he saw a stairway reaching from earth to heaven, with angels going up and coming down on it. ¹³ And there was the LORD standing beside him. "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham and Isaac," he said. "I will give to you and to your descendants this land on which you are lying. ¹⁴ They will be as numerous as the specks of dust on the earth. They will extend their territory in all directions, and through you and your descendants I will bless all the nations. ¹⁵ Remember, I will be with you and protect you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done all that I have promised you."

Genesis 28 10-15 GNT

These passages tell a story of the naming of the 12 tribes of Israel. Each son stands for a tribe of Hebrew people that settled in the area that God promised to Jacob. God renames Jacob Israel and promises him many descendants.

FYI



⁹ When Jacob returned from Mesopotamia, God appeared to him again and blessed him. ¹⁰ God said to him, "Your name is Jacob, but from now on it will be Israel." So God named him Israel. ¹¹ And God said to him, "I am Almighty God. Have many children. Nations will be descended from you, and you will be the ancestor of kings. ¹² I will give you the land which I gave to Abraham and to Isaac, and I will also give it to your descendants after you." ¹³ Then God left him. ¹⁴ There, where God had spoken to him, Jacob set up a memorial stone and consecrated it by pouring wine and olive oil on it. ¹⁵ He named the place Bethel.

Jacob had twelve sons. ²³ The sons of Leah were Reuben (Jacob's oldest son), Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun. ²⁴ The sons of Rachel were Joseph and Benjamin. ²⁵ The sons of Rachel's slave Bilhah were Dan and Naphtali. ²⁶ The sons of Leah's slave Zilpah were Gad and Asher.

Genesis 35:9-15, 22b-26 GNT

Joseph, Son of Jacob

Read one or both passages as time allows.

Joseph was one of Jacob's twelve sons. Jacob loved him more than all of his other sons. Jacob made a colorful robe for Joseph. His brothers were jealous. They wanted nice robes too. And they wanted to be loved as much as Joseph was loved. Joseph had a dream. He told his family, "We were bundling grain from a field. Your bundles of grain bowed down to mine." Then Joseph had another dream. He said, "This time, the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me." His father asked, "Does this mean our family will bow down to you someday?" The brothers were even more angry. They threw Joseph into a dry well. Along came some traders. The brothers sold Joseph to them as a slave. They lied to their father and said Joseph had been killed by a wild animal. But God was with Joseph.

The traders took Joseph to Egypt. He was thrown in jail. But he had done nothing wrong. Joseph trusted God to help him. He made friends with some of the prisoners. One of them had been a wine taster for Pharaoh. Pharaoh was the leader of Egypt. The wine taster said, "Last night, I had a dream. I was picking grapes and squeezing them into Pharaoh's cup. Then I put the cup in his hand. What does this mean, Joseph? Joseph answered, "You will be Pharaoh's wine taster again. Once you are free, please don't forget about me. Help me get out of jail, too." A few days later, the wine taster's dream came true. He got out of jail and became Pharaoh's wine taster again. But he forgot Joseph.

Later, Pharaoh had two strange dreams. The wine taster remembered Joseph. He told Pharaoh that Joseph could explain his dreams. With God's help, Joseph told Pharaoh what his dream meant.

Joseph told him that there would be some years with plenty to eat, followed by some years where there would not be enough food because of a drought. Pharaoh said, "Joseph you are a very wise man. I will make you ruler over Egypt."

When the famine came, Jacob sent his sons to Egypt to buy food. The brothers met Joseph, but did not recognize him. Sometime later, the brothers returned to buy more food. Just as Joseph had dreamed; they bowed down to him, then Joseph revealed himself to them. Joseph told them not to be afraid. He knew God had a special plan for him. Joseph would save his family from starving and they would come to live in Egypt with Joseph.

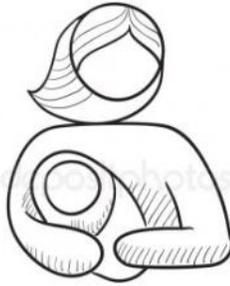
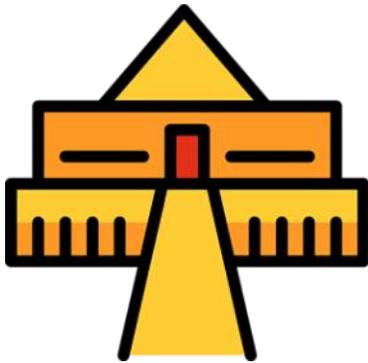
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Joseph said, "I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ But now do not be distressed, and do not be angry with yourselves for having sold me here. It was really for the sake of saving lives that God sent me here ahead of you. ... ⁹ "Hurry back, then, to my father and tell him: 'Thus says your son Joseph: God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me without delay. ¹⁰ You can settle in the region of Goshen, where you will be near me—you and your children and children's children, your flocks and herds, and everything that you own. ¹¹ I will provide for you there in the five years of famine that lie ahead, so that you and your household and all that are yours will not suffer want.' ¹⁵ Joseph then kissed all his brothers and wept with joy over them;

Genesis 45:4b-5,9-11,15 NABRE

Shiphrah and Puah



⁸Then, a new king, who knew nothing about Joseph, came to power in Egypt. ⁹He said to his people, "These Israelites are so numerous and strong that they are a threat to us. ¹⁰In case of war they might join our enemies in order to fight against us, and might escape from ^[b]the country. We must find some way to keep them from becoming even more numerous." ¹¹So the Egyptians put slave drivers over them to crush their spirits with hard labor. The Israelites built the cities of Pithom and Rameses to serve as treasure houses for the king. ¹²But the more the Egyptians oppressed the Israelites, the more they increased in number and the farther they spread through the land. The Egyptians came to fear the Israelites ¹³⁻¹⁴and made their lives miserable by forcing them into cruel slavery. They made them work on their building projects and in their fields, and they had no pity on them.

¹⁵Then the king of Egypt spoke to Shiphrah and Puah, the two midwives who helped the Hebrew women.

¹⁶When you help the Hebrew women give birth," he said to them, "kill the baby if it is a boy; but if it is a girl, let it live." ¹⁷But the midwives were God-fearing and so did not obey the king; instead, they let the boys live. ¹⁸So the king sent for the midwives and asked them, "Why are you doing this? Why are you letting the boys live?"

¹⁹They answered, "The Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they give birth easily, and their babies are born before either of us gets there." ²⁰⁻²¹Because the midwives were God-fearing, God was good to them and gave them families of their own. And the Israelites continued to increase and become strong.

Exodus 1:8-21 GNT

Jochebed, Miriam and Moses

Read one or both passages as time allows.

The Birth of Moses:

A man from the Levi tribe married a woman [Jochebed] from the same tribe, ²and she later had a baby boy. He was a beautiful child, and she kept him inside for three months. ³ But when she could no longer keep him hidden, she made a basket out of reeds and covered it with tar. She put him in the basket and placed it in the tall grass along the edge of the Nile River. ⁴The baby's older sister [Miriam] stood off at a distance to see what would happen to him.

⁵ About that time one of the [Pharaoh's] daughters came down to take a bath in the river, while her servant women walked along the river bank. She saw the basket in the tall grass and sent one of the young women to pull it out of the water. ⁶ When the [Pharaoh's] daughter opened the basket, she saw the baby and felt sorry for him because he was crying. She said, "This must be one of the Hebrew babies." ⁷ At once the baby's older sister came up and asked, "Do you want me to get a Hebrew woman to take care of the baby for you?" ⁸ "Yes," the [Pharaoh's] daughter answered. So the girl brought the baby's mother, ⁹ and the [Pharaoh's] daughter told her, "Take care of this child, and I will pay you." The baby's mother carried him home and took care of him. ¹⁰ And when he was old enough, she took him to the [Pharaoh's] daughter, who adopted him. She named him Moses because she said, "I pulled him out of the water."

Exodus 2:1-10 CEV



The Call and Commission of Moses:

³ So Moses decided, "I must turn aside to look at this remarkable sight. Why does the bush not burn up?" ⁴ When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to look, God called out to him from the bush: Moses! Moses! He answered, "Here I am." ⁵ God said: Do not come near! Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. ⁶ I am the God of your father, he continued, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. ⁷ But the Lord said: I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry against their taskmasters, so I know well what they are suffering. ⁸ Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians and lead them up from that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey, ... ⁹ Now indeed the outcry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen how the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰ Now, go! I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.

Exodus 3:3-10 NABRE

Bible translations used on this page:

NABRE-New American Bible Revised Edition CEV-Contemporary English Version

Joshua and Rahab

Read as many passages as time allows.

God's Commission to Joshua

¹After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying, ²"My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. ³Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. ⁴From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. ⁵No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you.



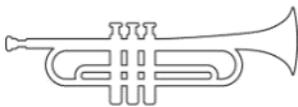
Joshua 1:1-5 NRSV

Rahab Helps Spies in Jericho

¹Then Joshua son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So they went, and entered the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab, and spent the night there. ²The king of Jericho was told, "Some Israelites have come here tonight to search out the land." ³Then the king of Jericho sent orders to Rahab, "Bring out the men who have come to you, who entered your house, for they have come only to search out the whole land." ⁴But the woman took the two men and hid them. Then she said, "True, the men came to me, but I did not know where they came from. ⁵And when it was time to close the gate at dark, the men went out. Where the men went I do not know. Pursue them quickly, for you can overtake them." ⁶She had, however, brought them up to the roof and hidden them with the stalks of flax that she had laid out on the roof. ⁷So the men pursued them on the way to the Jordan as far as the fords. As soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut.

⁸Before they went to sleep, she came up to them on the roof ⁹and said to the men: "I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that dread of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt in fear before you. ¹²Now then, since I have dealt kindly with you, swear to me by the LORD that you in turn will deal kindly with my family. Give me a sign of good faith ¹³that you will spare my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death." ¹⁴The men said to her, "Our life for yours! If you do not tell this business of ours, then we will deal kindly and faithfully with you when the LORD gives us the land."

Joshua 2:1-9, 12-14 NRSV



The Fall of Jericho

¹⁵On the seventh day they rose early, at dawn, and marched around [Jericho] in the same manner seven times. It was only on that day that they marched around the city seven times. ¹⁶And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For the LORD has given you the city. ¹⁷The city and all that is in it shall be devoted to the LORD for destruction. Only Rahab and all who are with her in her house shall live because she hid the messengers we sent. ²⁰So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpets, they raised a great shout, and the wall fell down flat; so the people charged straight ahead into the city and captured it.

Joshua 6:15-17, 20 NRSV

Deborah

Read as many passages as time allows.



⁴Deborah the wife of Lappidoth was a prophet and a leader of Israel during those days. ⁵She would sit under Deborah's Palm Tree between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, where Israelites would come and ask her to settle their legal cases.
Judges 4:4-5 CEV



Naomi and Ruth

Naomi grew up in the promised land, Israel. But now she lived far away. She had a husband and two sons. Ruth was married to one of her sons. Then something sad happened. Naomi's husband and sons died. Naomi had no man to provide for the household as was the custom in those days. Not long after that Naomi decided to return to her homeland.

Naomi told Ruth to return to her parents, but Ruth did not want to leave her. Ruth loved Naomi so much. "I will go wherever you go," Ruth said. "Your home will be my home. Your God will be my God." So Ruth went with Naomi to Israel.

They needed food to eat. Each day, Ruth gathered leftover grain from the harvested fields. A good man, Boaz, owned the land. One day he saw Ruth in the field. He wanted to help her. So he left extra grain for Ruth to gather. Boaz fell in love with Ruth. They got married and had a baby boy they named Obed. God had blessed Ruth and Grandma Naomi with a brand-new family.

Ruth Chapters 1-4 XXXXXXXXXXXXX



Hannah and Samuel

Hannah Presents Samuel to the Lord. ²⁴ Once he was weaned, she brought him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and presented him at the house of the LORD in Shiloh. ²⁵ After they had slaughtered the bull, they brought the child to Eli. ²⁶ Then Hannah spoke up: "Excuse me, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here near you, praying to the LORD. ²⁷ I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request. ²⁸ Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD." Then they worshiped there before the LORD.



1 Samuel 1:24-28 NABRE



Samuel Acknowledged as Prophet. ¹⁹ Samuel grew up, and the LORD was with him, not permitting any word of his to go unfulfilled. ²⁰ Thus all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba came to know that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD. ²¹ The LORD continued to appear at Shiloh, manifesting himself to Samuel at Shiloh through his word. Samuel's word spread throughout Israel.

1 Samuel 3:19-21 NABRE



FYI

A Prophet is a person who told others about God's message.

Prophets spoke God's word to a world that had started to not listen to God anymore.

Jesse and David

Read one or both passages as time allows.

Samuel Anoints David to Be Israel's King

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you be filled with sorrow because of Saul? I have refused to have him as king over Israel. Fill your animal horn with olive oil and go on your way. I am sending you to Jesse in Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king." The LORD said, "Take a young cow with you. Tell the elders of Bethlehem, 'I've come to offer a sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice. Then I will show you what to do. You must anoint for me the one I point out to you."

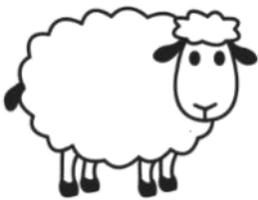
⁴Samuel did what the LORD said. Then he set Jesse and his sons apart to the LORD. He invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab [the oldest]. He thought, "This has to be the one the LORD wants me to anoint for him."⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider how handsome or tall he is. I have not chosen him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outside of a person. But the LORD looks at what is in the heart."

¹⁰Jesse had seven of his sons walk in front of Samuel. But Samuel said to him, "The LORD hasn't chosen any of them."¹¹ So he asked Jesse, "Are these the only sons you have?" "No," Jesse answered. "My youngest son is taking care of the sheep." Samuel said, "Send for him. We won't sit down to eat until he arrives."

¹²So Jesse sent for his son and had him brought in. He looked very healthy. He had a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, "Get up and anoint him. This is the one."¹³ So Samuel got the animal horn that was filled with olive oil. He anointed David in front of his brothers. From that day on, the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully on David. Samuel went back to Ramah.

1 Samuel 16: 1-13 NIRV



¹Like a branch that sprouts from a stump, someone from [Jesse and] David's family will someday be king. ²The Spirit of the LORD will be with him to give him understanding, wisdom, and insight. He will be powerful, and he will know and honor the LORD. ³His greatest joy will be to obey the LORD. This king won't judge by appearances or listen to rumors. ⁴The poor and the needy will be treated with fairness and with justice. His word will be law everywhere in the land, and criminals will be put to death. ⁵Honesty and fairness will be his royal robes.

Isaiah 11:1-5 CEV

Bible translations used on this page:

NIRV New International Revised Version

CEV-Contemporary English Version

Huldah and Esther

Read one or both passages as time allows.

¹⁴The five men left right away and went to talk with Huldah the prophet. Her husband was Shallum, who was in charge of the king's clothes. Huldah lived in the northern part of Jerusalem, and when they met in her home, ¹⁵she said: You were sent here by King Josiah, and this is what the LORD God of Israel says to him:

¹⁶"Josiah, I am the LORD! And I will see to it that this country and everyone living in it will be destroyed. It will happen just as this book says. ¹⁷The people of Judah have rejected me. They have offered sacrifices to foreign gods and have worshiped their own idols. I cannot stand it any longer. I am furious.

¹⁸"Josiah, listen to what I am going to do. ¹⁹I noticed how sad you were when you read that this country and its people would be completely wiped out. You even tore your clothes in sorrow, and I heard you cry. ²⁰So I will let you die in peace, before I destroy this place."

The men left and took Huldah's answer back to Josiah.

2 Kings 22:14-20 CEV



A Prophet is a person who told others about God's message.

Prophets spoke God's word to a world that had started to not listen to God anymore.

FYI

The Brave Queen: Esther was Jewish. She lived in the land of Persia with her older cousin Mordecai. The king of Persia was looking for someone to be his queen. "Bring me the most beautiful women from all over my kingdom," he announced. Esther was one of the women sent to the palace. When the king met Esther, he chose her to be his queen.

Haman was the king's chief helper. He did not like the Jewish people. They were God's people. Haman was selfish and wanted everyone to bow down to him. Mordecai refused to bow down to Haman. Mordecai would only bow down to God.

Haman went to the king. He selfishly said, "The Jews are bad people. You should sign a law that will help me get rid of them." So the king signed the new law. God's people were in great danger!

Mordecai heard about the new law. He ran to Esther, "You must save yourself and the rest of God's people. Perhaps God has made you queen for this reason." So Esther came up with a plan. It would be very risky for her.

Esther invited the king and Haman to a special dinner. Then she asked the king, "Why does Haman want to get rid of me?" The king was surprised. She said, "I am Jewish. Haman tricked you into signing a new law that would get rid of all the Jews."

The king told his guards, "Arrest Haman!" Then he made Mordecai his new chief assistant. He told Queen Esther, "I will make a new law that will keep you and your people safe." God used Queen Esther to save his people.

Esther Chapters 1-10 XXXXXX

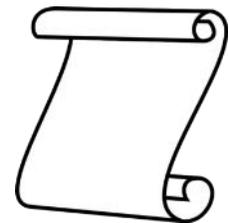
Jesus Christ our Savior

About that time Emperor Augustus gave orders for the names of all the people to be listed in record books. ² These first records were made when Quirinius was governor of Syria.

³ Everyone had to go to their own hometown to be listed. ⁴ So Joseph had to leave Nazareth in Galilee and go to Bethlehem in Judea. Long ago Bethlehem had been King David's hometown, and Joseph went there because he was from David's family.

⁵ Mary was engaged to Joseph and traveled with him to Bethlehem. She was soon going to have a baby, ⁶ and while they were there, ⁷ she gave birth to her first-born son. She dressed him in baby clothes and laid him on a bed of hay, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:1-7 CEV



¹⁶ He came to Nazareth, where he had grown up, and went according to his custom into the synagogue on the sabbath day. He stood up to read ¹⁷ and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:

¹⁸ *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
¹⁹ and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord."*

²⁰ Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him.

²¹ He said to them, "Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

Luke 4:16-21 NABRE