

World English Bible

January 1: Day One

Suggested Morning Readings:

The Psalms: BOOK I Psalm 1

1:1 Blessed is the man who doesn't walk in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stand in the way of sinners,
nor sit in the seat of scoffers;

1:2 but his delight is in [Yahweh's](#) law.
On his law he meditates day and night.

1:3 He will be like a tree planted by the streams of water,
that brings forth its fruit in its season,
whose leaf also does not wither.
Whatever he does shall prosper.

1:4 The wicked are not so,
but are like the chaff which the wind drives away.

1:5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

1:6 For Yahweh knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall perish.

Proverbs

1:1 The proverbs of Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel:

1:2 to know wisdom and instruction;
to discern the words of understanding;

1:3 to receive instruction in wise dealing,
in righteousness, justice, and equity;

1:4 to give prudence to the simple,
knowledge and discretion to the young man:

1:5 that the wise man may hear, and increase in learning;
that the man of understanding may attain to sound counsel:

1:6 to understand a proverb, and parables,
the words and riddles of the wise.

Old Testament Chapter Reading

Genesis 1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ²Now the earth was formless and empty. Darkness was on the surface of the deep. God's Spirit was hovering over the surface of the waters.

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³God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴God saw the light, and saw that it was good. God divided the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." There was evening and there was morning, one day.

⁶God said, "Let there be an expanse in the middle of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters." ⁷God made the expanse, and divided the waters which were under the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. ⁸God called the expanse "sky." There was evening and there was morning, a second day.

⁹God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together to one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land "earth," and the gathering together of the waters he called "seas." God saw that it was good. ¹¹God said, "Let the earth yield grass, herbs yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit after their kind, with its seed in it, on the earth"; and it was so. ¹²The earth yielded grass, herbs yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit, with its seed in it, after their kind; and God saw that it was good. ¹³There was evening and there was morning, a third day.

¹⁴God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of sky to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years; ¹⁵and let them be for lights in the expanse of sky to give light on the earth"; and it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the expanse of sky to give light to the earth, ¹⁸and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good. ¹⁹There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

²⁰God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of sky." ²¹God created the large sea creatures, and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed, after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind. God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³There was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

²⁴God said, "Let the earth produce living creatures after their kind, livestock, creeping things, and animals of the earth after their kind"; and it was so. ²⁵God made the animals of the earth after their kind, and the livestock after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind. God saw that it was good.

²⁶God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the sky, and over the livestock, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." ²⁷God created man in his own image. In God's image he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them. God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹God said, "Behold, I have given you every herb yielding seed, which is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree, which bears fruit yielding seed. It will be your food. ³⁰To every animal of the earth, and to every bird of the sky, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so.

³¹God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. There was evening and there was morning, a sixth day.

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The heavens and the earth were finished, and all their vast array. ²On the seventh day God finished his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. ³God blessed the seventh day, and made it holy, because he rested in it from all his work which he had created and made.

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⁴This is the history of the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that Yahweh God made the earth and the heavens. ⁵No plant of the field was yet in the earth, and no herb of the field had yet sprung up; for Yahweh God had not caused it to rain on the earth. There was not a man to till the ground, ⁶but a mist went up from the earth, and watered the whole surface of the ground. ⁷Yahweh God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. ⁸Yahweh God planted a garden eastward, in Eden, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹Out of the ground Yahweh God made every tree to grow that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the middle of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. ¹⁰A river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from there it was parted, and became four heads. ¹¹The name of the first is Pishon: this is the one which flows through the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; ¹²and the gold of that land is good. There is aromatic resin and the onyx stone. ¹³The name of the second river is Gihon: the same river that flows through the whole land of Cush. ¹⁴The name of the third river is Hiddekel: this is the one which flows in front of Assyria. The fourth river is the Euphrates. ¹⁵Yahweh God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. ¹⁶Yahweh God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat of it; for in the day that you eat of it you will surely die."

¹⁸Yahweh God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him." ¹⁹Out of the ground Yahweh God formed every animal of the field, and every bird of the sky, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. Whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all livestock, and to the birds of the sky, and to every animal of the field; but for man there was not found a helper suitable for him. ²¹Yahweh God caused a deep sleep to fall on the man, and he slept; and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. ²²He made the rib, which Yahweh God had taken from the man, into a woman, and brought her to the man. ²³The man said, "This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh. She will be called 'woman,' because she was taken out of Man." ²⁴Therefore a man will leave his father and his mother, and will join with his wife, and they will be one flesh. ²⁵They were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

Suggested Evening Readings

The Good News According to Matthew

1:1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus [Christ](#), the son of David, the son of Abraham. **1:2** Abraham became the father of Isaac. Isaac became the father of Jacob. Jacob became the father of Judah and his brothers. **1:3** Judah became the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar. Perez became the father of Hezron. Hezron became the father of Ram. **1:4** Ram became the father of Amminadab. Amminadab became the father of Nahshon. Nahshon became the father of Salmon. **1:5** Salmon became the father of Boaz by Rahab. Boaz became the father of Obed by Ruth. Obed became the father of Jesse. **1:6** Jesse became the father of King David. David became the father of Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. **1:7** Solomon became the father of Rehoboam. Rehoboam became the father of Abijah. Abijah became the father of Asa. **1:8** Asa became the father of Jehoshaphat. Jehoshaphat became the father of Joram. Joram became the father of Uzziah. **1:9** Uzziah became the father of Jotham. Jotham became the father of Ahaz. Ahaz became the father of Hezekiah. **1:10** Hezekiah became the father of Manasseh. Manasseh became the father of Amon. Amon became the father of Josiah. **1:11** Josiah became the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the exile to Babylon. **1:12** After the exile to Babylon, Jechoniah became the father of Shealtiel. Shealtiel became the father of Zerubbabel. **1:13** Zerubbabel became the father of Abiud. Abiud became the father of Eliakim. Eliakim became the father of Azor. **1:14** Azor became the father of Sadoc. Sadoc became the father of Achim. Achim became the father of Eliud. **1:15** Eliud became the father of Eleazar. Eleazar became the father of Matthan. Matthan became the father of Jacob. **1:16** Jacob became the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, from whom was born [Jesus](#), who is called Christ. **1:17** So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; from David to the exile to Babylon fourteen generations; and from the carrying away to Babylon to the Christ, fourteen generations.

The Acts of the Apostles

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1:1 The first book I wrote, Theophilus, concerned all that Jesus began both to do and to teach, 1:2 until the day in which he was received up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 1:3 To these he also showed himself alive after he suffered, by many proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days, and speaking about God's Kingdom. 1:4 Being assembled together with them, he commanded them, "Don't depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which you heard from me. 1:5 For John indeed baptized in water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

1:6 Therefore when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, are you now restoring the kingdom to Israel?"

1:7 He said to them, "It isn't for you to know times or seasons which the Father has set within his own authority. 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you. You will be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth."

1:9 When he had said these things, as they were looking, he was taken up, and a cloud received him out of their sight. 1:10 While they were looking steadfastly into the sky as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white clothing, 1:11 who also said, "You men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who was received up from you into the sky will come back in the same way as you saw him going into the sky."

1:12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mountain called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away.

1:13 When they had come in, they went up into the upper room, where they were staying; that is Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. 1:14 All these with one accord continued steadfastly in prayer and supplication, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

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