

Preface

Over fifty years ago, I first read through the Bible, reading a number of chapters each day. The problem was that the chapters were not of the same length. Then I discovered that I could read a certain number of pages (usually four, depending on print size) each day and make it through the Bible in a year. Of course, sometimes I had to go back to the beginning of the passage on the previous page, and often continue to the next page to finish the sentence or paragraph. I have tried to read a different translation each year to keep the reading fresh. In 2024 I read through the 2021 Updated Edition of the New Revised Standard Version (NRSVue) of the Bible. For each day, I wrote down devotional thoughts from that day's readings. They are presented in this book. The language of each devotional reflects the wording of the NRSVue although I have sometimes used wording that I thought was more familiar to the readers.

While teaching at Ohio Valley University, I had a colleague who complained that we taught too many Bible text classes and not enough application classes. My belief is that the Bible text itself contains its own applications if one will read it with possible applications in mind. In this work I have tried to do exactly that. God's word speaks to us today if we will only listen.

My thanks are due to the over seventy readers who followed these devotions day by day via email. Sometimes they replied with helpful comments and occasionally with suggestions regarding mistakes that had slipped through. Just knowing they were following these readings improved them.

My thanks are also due to my wife Barbara who put up with daily retreats to the computer to go back over what I had read and put my thoughts down to send out.

Abilene, Texas

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