

LOVE IS THE FULFILLING OF THE LAW

Romans 12:8-10

This year's Bible reading program revolves around Paul's comment in Romans 13:8-10 that "love is the fulfilling of the law"¹. Given Paul's conviction about love's place in understanding God's law, a conviction he shared with Jesus (*Matthew 22:34-40*), we will use our Bible reading program for 2022 to explore love's place in understanding and obeying God's will as expressed to us in the Bible.

August reading schedule

- August 1 - Isaiah 28-30
- August 2 - Isaiah 31-35
- August 3 - Isaiah 36-41
- August 4 - Isaiah 42-44
- August 5 - Isaiah 45-48
- August 6 - Isaiah 49-53
- August 7 - Isaiah 54-58
- August 8 - Isaiah 59-63
- August 9 - Isaiah 64-66
- August 10 - Jeremiah 1-3
- August 11 - Jeremiah 4-6
- August 12 - Jeremiah 7-9
- August 13 - Jeremiah 10-13
- August 14 - Jeremiah 14-17
- August 15 - Jeremiah 18-22
- August 16 - Jeremiah 23-25
- August 17 - Jeremiah 26-29
- August 18 - Jeremiah 30-31
- August 19 - Jeremiah 32-34
- August 20 - Jeremiah 35-37
- August 21 - Jeremiah 38-41
- August 22 - Jeremiah 42-45
- August 23 - Jeremiah 46-48
- August 24 - Jeremiah 49-50
- August 25 - Jeremiah 51-52
- August 26 - Lamentations 1-3
- August 27 - Lamentations 4-5
- August 28 - Ezekiel 1-4
- August 29 - Ezekiel 5-8
- August 30 - Ezekiel 9-12
- August 31 - Ezekiel 13-15

Exploration

Considering the place God gives to love in His Bible, use the following items to help you explore what this month's readings reveal about love and its place in your life.

Isaiah and Jeremiah wrote before, and at the beginning of, Judah's captivity to Babylon. God had warned the Israelites about the possibility of such an event at the beginning of their corporate history in Deuteronomy 28:15-68, a passage whose warnings trace out the Jews' history as recorded in the Bible. What insights do Isaiah and Jeremiah give us about the reasons the Jews

¹ All quotes from the Bible come from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version* (ESV Permanent Text Edition, Crossway, 2016) unless otherwise noted.



failed to heed the warning in Deuteronomy 28:15-68? In what ways might we similarly fail to heed God's warnings?

What things did you notice Isaiah and Jeremiah focusing on in their address of the Israelites' sins? What might those areas of focus reveal about God's interests and what might those areas, along with the things both Isaiah and Jeremiah instructed their audiences to do in those areas, reveal to us about lifestyle God expects from His people today?

Why do you think God used poetry as a principle way of writing the material in Isaiah and Jeremiah? How do the major prophets differ from the books we commonly refer to as the books of poetry (*Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon*) and how might those differences shape the way we should read the poetry of the prophets?



What did you learn about God in this month's readings and how will those things help you become a more loving person and so "fulfill the Law"?

