

Celebrating Advent

First Sunday in Advent: HOPES	Second Sunday in Advent: PEACE	Third Sunday in Advent: JOY	Fourth Sunday in Advent: LOVE	CHRISTMAS EVE or CHRISTMAS DAY
Light the first Advent candle.	Light the first and second Advent candles.	Light the first, second, and third Advent candles.	Light the first, second, third, and fourth Advent candles.	Light all the candles on the Advent wreath, including the Christ candle.
Read: Isaiah 11:1-10 Luke: 1:26-38 Isaiah 7:10-14 Matthew 1:18-24	Read: Micah 5:2 Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11 Isaiah 2:1-5 Matthew 3:1-6	Read: Isaiah 9:6-7 John 1:19-34 Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 Philippians 2:11	Read: Malachi 3:1-5 Romans 8:18-25 Isaiah 52:7-10 Revelation 21:1-4	Read: Isaiah 9:1-6 Luke 2:1-20 John 1:1-18 Titus 2:11-14
Sing: <i>O Come, O Come Emmanuel</i>	Sing: <i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	Sing: <i>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i>	Sing: <i>Savior of the Nations, Come</i>	Sing: <i>Joy to the World</i>

Celebrating Advent

READING PLAN AND STUDY GUIDE

Easily use this reading plan to spiritually prepare for Christmas. Includes reading selection and reflection questions to help you celebrate the birth of Jesus and anticipate His glorious return. This is designed to be used alongside Rose's *Christmas Story* Pamphlet. [Get this pamphlet for just \\$1.50](#)

SUGGESTIONS FOR USE

SMALL GROUP/ FAMILY: Follow the advent suggestion included in the "Suggestions for Celebrating Advent" chart above. Encourage individual members to dig deeper into the scriptures by giving each member Rose's *Christmas Story* pamphlet and discussing the study questions included below. There are several different types of questions. You don't need to cover all the questions.

INDIVIDUAL: Pick 1-2 scriptures to review each day. Reflect, journal, and/or meditate on 1-2 questions per day. During the week of Advent of Hope, focus on the Advent of Hope readings and questions. During the week of Advent of Peace, focus on the Advent of Peace readings and questions. Repeat this for each Advent week. For your convenience, we added the Advent Calendar above.



Sign up for more free eCharts & studies at www.rose-publishing.com/echarts

Advent of Hope

1st study of Advent

Read	Isaiah 9:6-7; 11:1-10 Luke 1:26-38 Isaiah 7:10-14 Matthew 1:18-24
Dig Deeper	Pgs. 1-4 in Rose's <i>Christmas Story</i> Pamphlet
Review/Reflect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How did John the Baptist prepare the way for Christ? Why was a “voice” preparing the way necessary?• What does Immanuel mean? Why is this significant?• Why does Mary and Joseph’s genealogy matter? What prophecies did this fulfill?• How did the Virgin Mary respond to the news that she would become pregnant? Why would this news be shocking?• How did Joseph react to the angel’s instructions not to end the betrothal?
Apply <i>(Choose 1-2 questions to discuss; or do them all if time permits)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• John the Baptist “prepared the way.” Look up the word “prepare.” What does preparation have to do with anticipation? How can we prepare our hearts for Christmas?• Jesus would inherit the throne of David and fulfill the promise given to David centuries before. How does knowing that God keeps his promises bring you peace?• Each name listed in Isaiah 9:6-7 provides a window into understanding the nature, the authority, and ultimately the person of Jesus. Circle each name in your Bible. Which name stands out to you? Pick one name and meditate on its meaning. How does this attribute of Jesus apply to your life?• When God calls you to do something unexpected or even shocking, how do you respond? What questions do you ask? Explain.• In Luke 1:35, the angel says to Mary the “Holy Spirit shall come upon you.” When God called you, he also sent the Holy Spirit to empower you. How have you seen this to be true in your life?
Pray	Read Isaiah 9:6-7. Take a moment in prayer and make this verse personal: <i>Thank you Jesus for being wonderful to me. Thank you for being my counselor when I am in need. Thank you for being my mighty God when I feel weak. Thank you for always being there for me, my Everlasting Father. Thank you for being my Prince of Peace, calming the storms of my life and granting me rest. Amen.</i>

Advent of Peace

2nd study of Advent

Read	Micah 5:2 Matthew 2:1-2; 9-11 Isaiah 2:1-5 Matthew 3:1-6
Dig Deeper	Pgs. 5-6 in Rose's <i>Christmas Story</i> Pamphlet
Review/Reflect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why did Joseph have to go to Bethlehem?• Why was Bethlehem an unusual city for the “Son of God” to be born?• Jesus was born into humble conditions. What were these humble conditions? Why do you think God chose these circumstances? What does this reveal about the nature of God? Consider Philippians 2:1-11• Why do you think God announced the coming of Jesus to shepherds?
Apply (Choose 1-2 questions to discuss; or do them all if time permits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does knowing that Micah prophesied the birthplace of Jesus thousands of years in advance affect you?• Bethlehem was “little” and unimpressive. Yet, God chose this to be the birthplace of the Son of God. Does your life ever feel too “little” or unworthy to be used by God? Consider 2 Corinthians 4:7• Reread Luke 2:10-14. At first the shepherds were afraid, but then they heard the Good News and their fear turned to joy. How does the good news of Christ bring you joy? How do you show it?• The shepherds “made haste” to see Christ and then told everyone what they saw. Who in your life can you share the good news of Christ with?
Pray	<p><i>Jesus, you amaze me. You are a glorious king and yet you were born in a manger. Thank you for showing me what true humility looks like. I know that even when I feel unworthy; you can still use me. Give me the boldness to share my faith with others and I pray you are preparing their hearts in advance to hear the Good News. Thank you for being Immanuel; God with us. Thank you for being with me throughout this day. Amen.</i></p>

Advent of Joy

3rd study of Advent

Read	Isaiah 9:6-7 John 1:19-34 Matthew 2:3-4 Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 Philippians 2:1-11
Dig Deeper	Pgs. 8-9 in Rose's <i>Christmas Story</i> Pamphlet
Review/Reflect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">When we think of people opposing Jesus, we often think of the Pharisees and Sadducees who plotted to kill Jesus as an adult. But, even as a child, Jesus had people plotting against Him. Who wanted to have Jesus killed as a child? Why?Read Isaiah 60:3. How does this verse link to the wise men? What directed the path of the wise men to come to Jesus?
Apply (Choose 1-2 questions to discuss; or do them all if time permits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Herod tried to deceive the three wise men (magi) so he could kill Jesus. But, both the wise men and Joseph were warned. Has God ever warned you not to do something? How has God guided you in the past? What do you need his guidance on now?Even when Jesus was born, the wise men, who were Gentiles, were welcomed into His presence, bringing him gifts. What gifts can you lay at the feet of Jesus? Identify 3 specific ways you can surrender your "treasure" unto Him.The wise men were drawn to the light of a star. By following the light, they found Jesus. How were you drawn to Jesus? How did you hear the good news?
Pray	<i>Thank you for being the light of the world. Help me to shine brightly for you and to point people to your love. Although you are my friend, Jesus, help me to fully understand what it means to have you as my king. Show me how to worship you with my treasures, my talents, and my time. When people try to rise up against me, thank you for you for your protection, your guidance, and your direction. Your timing is perfect; give me eyes to see how true that is. Amen.</i>

Advent of Love

Last study of Advent

Read	Isaiah 52:7-10 Luke 19:10 Romans 8:18-25 Isaiah 53:5-6 Revelations 21:1-4
Dig Deeper	Pgs. 10-11 in Rose's <i>Christmas Story</i> Pamphlet
Review/Reflect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">What's significant about Jesus being born of a virgin? How does his virgin birth enable him to be our spotless sacrifice?God didn't just send Jesus on earth to be with us. According to the verses above, what did Jesus come to do? What was the greater purpose for Jesus' life? How did he redeem us? Consider Isaiah 53:5-6.Read Revelations 21:1-4 What future hope do we have in Christ?
Apply (Choose 1-2 questions to discuss; or do them all if time permits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Christmas is all about gift-giving. How is Jesus the greatest gift of all? How might you explain this gift to someone else at Christmas time?Reflect on what the Good News means to you. What part of the Jesus' story touches you most? Is it God sending his only son out of love for you? Is it Christ's death on the cross? Explain.God gave His Son not because he had to, but because of his love for you. How does love prompt generosity? How is this different than gifts given out of obligation? How does understanding the generosity of Father affect your generosity? Explain.At the time of Jesus' birth, there was war and destruction. Within a few years of Jesus' death, Jerusalem and the Temple were destroyed. Do you ever feel discouraged by the war, famines, and disasters you hear about on the news? What hope does Jesus bring to a dark world?
Pray	<i>Heavenly Father, thank you for loving me so much that you sent your son to earth to die for me. Thank you for the future hope I now have in Christ. When I feel discouraged, help me to remember that you will wipe away every tear. Help me to never take for granted your love or the incredible gift you have given to me.</i>

Christmas Day/Eve Prayer

Lord, thank you for this wonderful season of Advent in which we can celebrate and reflect on your glory and magnificence. Thank you for reminding me what it means to be your child and friend, and for sharing the eternal hope, peace, love and joy we have in Christ. Help me to boldly share with others what you have given so freely! Amen.

Verses to Read on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day

Isaiah 9:1-6
Luke 2:1-20
John 1:1-18
Titus 2:11-14

THE Christmas Story

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counse^{lor}, Mighty God, Everlasting^{Prince} of Peace.



The

THE WONDERFULLY familiar Christmas story took place 2000 years ago, but it was many more centuries in the making. In speaking through the ancient prophets, God foretold how He would bring His beloved Son into the world.

THE BIRTH of Jesus took place in an historical setting that the prophets foretold. The underlying story of His genealogy, in itself, was a Divine masterpiece of intrigue, suspense, and prophetic fulfillment. But the quiet events of that first Christmas morning, so long ago, have become commonplace in our modern traditions. Wise men and shepherds are familiar Christmas symbols as they gather around the tender baby who lies in a manger, while a chorus of angels proclaims the Lord's good will to mankind. But how did the prophets envision this story? What hopes had they formed in the hearts of men, and what is the hope to which we look?

LET THE story unfold afresh between the Old Testament prophets and the New Testament writers.



The Advent of Hope

IN THE fullness of time, God sent the angel Gabriel to Zacharias, a humble Levite priest, who ministered before God at the temple in Jerusalem. Appearing in a vision, the angel foretold the birth of John the Baptist who would be sent to prepare the way for the Messiah. And with the coming of His forerunner the first stirring of the Messiah's own coming was announced:

"And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias [Elijah], to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." —LUKE 1:17

THIS STATEMENT echoed a prophecy from 460 years earlier:

"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD..." —MALACHI 4:5

AND ALSO *"... The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness: Prepare ye the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."* —ISAIAH 40:3

FOR MANY centuries, the promise of the Messiah had tarried. But now that ancient hope was renewed and a sense of anticipation awakened. For the

opening steps had begun, the Messiah was coming at last, and the world would be forever changed. Prophecies long dormant were springing to life before their eyes.

IN THE sixth month the angel was sent again, this time to a young virgin named Mary, who was espoused to Joseph of the house of David. And in greeting her, he spoke of the favor she had found with God:

"Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women!"

—LUKE 1:28

Espousal was a stronger version of our modern concept of an engagement, though it was less than an actual marriage. Because of this, Joseph had not yet known Mary intimately.

IN MARY's genealogy the seed of David had been preserved, and through her espoused husband Joseph, the claim to David's kingdom, which had fallen long ago. And in the child she would bear, the two parts of God's ancient covenant would come together again in one person at last.

OLD TESTAMENT scriptures are in red.

NEW TESTAMENT scriptures are in brown.



*"I have made a covenant with
My chosen, I have sworn unto
David My servant, 'Thy seed will
I establish for ever, and build
up thy throne to all generations.*

—PSALM 89:3–4

THE ANGEL told how the child would inherit the throne of David, his earthly forefather:

*"He shall be great, and shall be
called the Son of the Highest:
and the Lord God shall give
unto him the throne of his father
David: And He shall reign over
the house of Jacob for ever; and
of His kingdom there shall be no
end." —LUKE 1:32–33*

*"For unto us a Child is born,
unto us a Son is given: and the
government will be upon His
shoulder: and His name will be
called Wonderful, Counselor,
The mighty God, The everlasting
Father, The Prince of Peace. Of
the increase of His government
and peace there shall be no
end, upon the throne of David,
and upon his kingdom, to order
it, and to establish it with
judgment and with justice from
henceforth even forever. The zeal
of the LORD of hosts will perform
this." —ISAIAH 9:6–7*

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

BUT MARY was confused by his proclamation. How could the angel speak of her giving birth, when she was still a virgin? "How shall this be?" She asked. So the angel foretold the virgin birth to her:

*"The Holy Ghost shall come upon
thee, and the power of the Highest
shall overshadow thee: therefore,*

also, that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.” —LUKE 1:35

FOR THREE months, Mary stayed with her cousin Elizabeth (to whom John the Baptist would be born), and when she returned to Joseph in Nazareth her pregnancy was beginning to show. Joseph, not understanding what had taken place, naturally suspected the worst, and considered ending the betrothal. But being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, he was minded to do this quietly. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost” (Matthew 1:18–20).



“Hear ye now, O house of David!... the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.” (which is translated ‘God with us’)

—ISAIAH 7:13–14, MATTHEW 1:23

“And she shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call His name JESUS...” —MATTHEW 1:21

“...The LORD hath called Me from the womb; from the bowels of My mother hath He made mention of My name.” —ISAIAH 49:1

“... For He will save His people from their sins.” —MATTHEW 1:21

“...the LORD ...formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him . . .”

—ISAIAH 49:5

Then Joseph, being raised from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: and knew her not until she had brought forth her firstborn Son: and he called His name JESUS. —MATTHEW 1:24–25

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Advent of Peace

IN A world full of trouble and doubt human hearts yearned for peace, yet it ever eluded them. For true peace begins with God, and it was well beyond their means to achieve it. Comfort and joy, darkness and dread, hung together in a balance, and only the Lord Himself could tip the scales in our favor. On behalf of lowly man came a lowly yet sinless savior, to redeem us all and bring forgiveness, and our reconciliation with God. In times of great peril, the peace He gave us would arise from within Himself.

THE NATION stirred with trouble as His coming drew near.

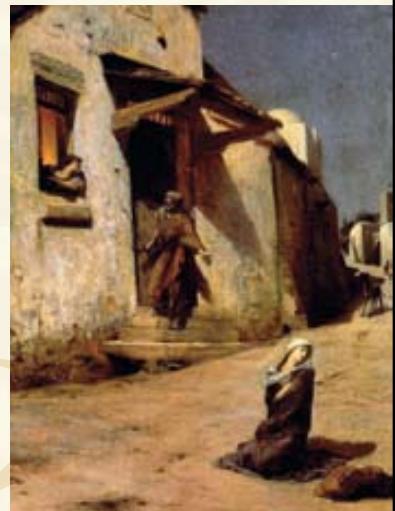
And it came to pass in those days that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

—LUKE 2:1

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David;) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. —LUKE 2:3–6

"But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be Ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."

— MICAH 5:2



BUT WHEN they came to Bethlehem, no room was made for them at the inn. So Mary brought forth her firstborn Son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger. As it was spoken by the prophet:

"The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, My people doth not consider." —ISAIAH 1:3



And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid —LUKE 2:8–9

“Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD will arise over thee, and His glory will be seen upon thee.” —ISAIAH 60:1–2

And the angel said unto them, “Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!” —LUKE 2:10–14

THIS FULFILLED the words of Isaiah:
“Sing, O ye heavens, for the LORD hath done it! shout, ye lower parts of the earth: break forth

into singing, ye mountains, O forest, and every tree therein! For the LORD has redeemed Jacob, and glorified Himself in Israel.”

—ISAIAH 44:23

Gentle Mary laid her Child
Lowly in a manger.
He is still the Undefiled,
But no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth,
Beautiful the story.
Praise His name in all the earth.
Hail! The King of Glory!

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, “Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.” And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds; but Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. —LUKE 2:15–19



The Advent of Joy

THE COMING of the Messiah would challenge every man. Some, who loved the things of this world, would fear and oppose Him, nurturing ungodly desires in their hearts; while others longed for the day of His coming and the joyous new life He would bring. For these last, the shining of a star meant the rising of a king, full of truth and grace, who would one day rule the world in righteousness forever.

NOW WHEN Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea, in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem:

"The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." —ISAIAH 60:3

And the Wise Men came before Herod saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." —MATTHEW 2:2

"I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel..." —NUMBERS 24:17

"And when Herod the king heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And

when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born." —MATTHEW 2:3–4

"The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against His Anointed, saying, 'Let us break Their bands asunder, and cast away Their cords from us.' —PSALM 2:2–3

QUOTING FROM the prophet Micah's writings around 700 BC, the chief priests and scribes told King Herod that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. So Herod secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star had appeared, and sent them under a pretense, saying:

"Go and search diligently for the young Child; and when ye have found Him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship Him also." —MATTHEW 2:8

BUT HIS real intention was to slay the Christ child.

"When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was."

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down, and worshiped Him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts: gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

—MATTHEW 2:9–11



“The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts. Yea, all kings shall fall down before Him: all nations shall serve Him . . . and He shall live; and to Him shall be given the gold of Sheba: prayer also shall be made for Him continually; and daily shall He be praised.” —PSALM 72:10–15

AND “. . . the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee. The multitude of camels shall cover

thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and incense, and they shall shew forth the praises of the LORD.”

—ISAIAH 60:5–6

AFTERWARD, BEING divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, the wise men departed for their own country another way. And when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.” When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying,

“I . . . called My Son out of Egypt.”

—HOSEA 11:1

AND “His king shall be higher than Agag, and His kingdom shall be exalted. God brought Him forth out of Egypt.”

—NUMBERS 24:7–8



The Advent of Love

IN OUR modern understanding of the Christmas story, the birth of Jesus was a touching event with barnyard animals and the shepherd's adoration. But from another perspective the countdown of his life was on; for ultimately, God had sent this Child into the world for a greater purpose:

"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." —LUKE 19:10

"For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." —JOHN 3:16

JESUS HAD been born through a virgin by the Spirit of God, making Him both the Son of God and the Son of Man, which put Him in a completely unique position. Being fully human, He could be tempted in every way as we, and touched with our feelings and infirmities; yet being fully Divine as well, He could—and did—overcome every trial in life. This makes him our champion in a very special way.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." —JOHN 15:13

BECAUSE JESUS never sinned, He could offer His life in the place of sinners, but it would take all of His

love for this to happen. His soul was greatly troubled and He agonized over the sacrifice He would make. But though the cost was truly great, His care for us was greater still, so that He gave Himself freely to redeem us all:

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." —ISAIAH 53:5–6

He rules the world
with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His love.

Jesus

JESUS HAS loved us with an everlasting love and has washed us from our sins in His own blood (Jeremiah 31:3; Revelation 1:5). But the same passage offers a challenge: "Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?" (Isaiah 53:1). For God requires each of us to believe the testimony that He has given of His Son, and to put our trust in Him.

AFTER JESUS died, He rose again on the third day as the prophets foretold. After His resurrection, He appeared to many witnesses who had seen the prophecies come true in Him. Many of them wrote accounts of His life, of His loving sacrifice, and His resurrection, and what He meant to us through these.

AS THE season of Advent unfolds and Christmas Day draws near, our sense of anticipation awakens. While the world falls deeper into darkness, the true light is already shining in our hearts.

THE RISEN Christ ascended into heaven, and we again wait in hope for His imminent return. With the inner peace and joy He gives, we look to a day when He will wipe away all of our tears and we will know a love that is perfected in His presence forever.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Hail! the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail! the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die:
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored:
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veil'd in flesh, the Godhead see;
Hail, th' incarnate Deity:
Pleased, as man, with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

What is Advent?

ADVENT IS a season of four Sundays that mark the beginning of a new church year. The ancient Christian church celebrated Advent as a kind of fresh start to faith and worship. Advent is a time to anticipate and spiritually prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior: God's gift of love to us. At the same time, Advent anticipates and hopes for Jesus' glorious return at the end of the age.

THE WORD "advent" comes from the Latin *advenio* meaning "coming" or "arrival."

THE TRADITIONAL Bible readings for Advent teach how the prophets, kings, and forerunners prepared the way for the coming Messiah.

MANY CHRISTIANS celebrate Advent with a special time of devotions including Bible reading, prayer, singing, and lighting candles on an Advent wreath.

Advent Colors

PURPLE HAS traditionally been the main Advent color, symbolizing repentance and fasting. A royal color, purple looks forward to reception of the coming King who is celebrated during Advent. Today, however, many churches use blue instead of purple.

PINK OR rose is used during the third Sunday. It represents joy, anticipating the coming celebration.

WHITE IS the color of the center candle, representing Christ as the sinless, pure Savior.



The Advent Wreath

THE ADVENT WREATH was developed in the 1500s as a way to mark the season of Advent, preparing for the coming of Jesus Christ, the light of the world. The wreath is made of evergreens, and is usually placed on a table with spaces for four candles around the wreath and one in the center. Candles are often purple or blue (three), rose (one), and white (one). One candle is lit on each succeeding Sunday during Advent, with the fifth candle in the center (the white Christ candle) also lit on Christmas Eve.

As a symbol of light, the Advent wreath reminds us of Jesus' words: "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12).



Prayer

YOU ARE our eternal salvation,
The unfailing light of the world.
Light everlasting,
You are truly our redemption.
Grieving that the human race was perishing
through the tempter's power,
without leaving the heights
You came to the depths in your loving kindness.
Readily taking our humanity by Your gracious will,
You saved all earthly creatures, long since lost,
Restoring joy to the world.
Redeem our souls and bodies, O Christ,
and so possess us as Your shining dwellings.
By Your first coming, make us righteous;
At Your second coming, set us free:
that we may serve You and all Your creations in full confidence
and when the world is filled with light
and You judge all things,
may we be clad in spotless robes
and follow in Your steps, O King,
Into the heavenly hall.

WE LIGHT these candles of hope, peace and joy,
and await Your advent with us.

Suggestions for Celebrating Advent

First Sunday in Advent: HOPE	Second Sunday in Advent: PEACE	Third Sunday in Advent: JOY	Fourth Sunday in Advent: LOVE	CHRISTMAS EVE <i>or</i> CHRISTMAS DAY
Light the first Advent candle.	Light the first and second Advent candles.	Light the first, second, and third Advent candles.	Light the first, second, third, and fourth Advent candles.	Light all the candles on the Advent wreath, including the Christ candle.
Read: Isaiah 11:1-10 Luke 1:26-38 Isaiah 7:10-14 Matthew 1:18-24	Read: Micah 5:2 Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11 Isaiah 2:1-5 Matthew 3:1-6	Read: Isaiah 9:6-7 John 1:19-34 Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 Philippians 2:1-11	Read: Malachi 3:1-5 Romans 8:18-25 Isaiah 52:7-10 Revelation 21:1-4	Read: Isaiah 9:1-6 Luke 2:1-20 John 1:1-18 Titus 2:11-14
Sing: <i>O Come, O Come Emmanuel</i>	Sing: <i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	Sing: <i>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i>	Sing: <i>Savior of the Nations, Come</i>	Sing: <i>Joy to the World</i>

ADVENT OR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

For an Advent or Christmas program, use panels 1-11 as a dramatic reading. See suggestions below for using only a few or several performers.

LOW PREPARATION:

- Three readers (narrator, Old Testament reader, New Testament reader)
- Congregation sings carols where marked

HIGH PREPARATION:

- Any number of readers (narrator, plus several Old & New Testament readers)
- Place Old Testament readers on one side of stage or one balcony; place New Testament readers opposite
- Children or adults may perform a silent pageant or tableau of the actions during the readings
- Carols may be performed by a soloist, choir or children's group



© 2010 Bristol Works, Inc.
4733 Torrance Blvd., #259
Torrance, CA 90503 U.S.A.
email: info@rose-publishing.com
www.rose-publishing.com

All rights reserved. It is illegal to copy, transmit electronically, or reproduce this pamphlet in whole or in part in any form. May not be posted or transmitted on the internet.

Scripture taken from THE HOLY BIBLE: KING JAMES VERSION. All rights reserved.

Other products available from Rose Publishing:

717X *Life of Jesus* pamphlet
630X *Christ in the Old Testament* pamphlet
537X *100 Prophecies Fulfilled by Jesus* pamphlet
Printed in the United States of America. 010610SCG

Author: Loren D. Bishop

Bible Pamphlets for Bible Studies, Small Groups, Youth Groups, and New Member Classes

What are Bible Reference Pamphlets?

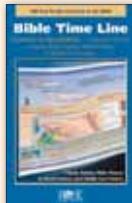
These pamphlets are full-color, glossy, plastic-coated fact sheets that contain hundreds of facts at a glance and fit inside a Bible. Each pamphlet unfolds 33" long and is an easy-to-understand summary of the major teachings on each Bible topic.

Ready-to-use PowerPoints are available.



Fits inside most Bibles

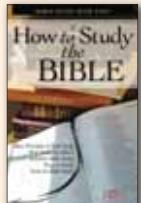
Bible Basics



Bible Time Line

Compare Bible and world history side by side. Every Bible student needs this.

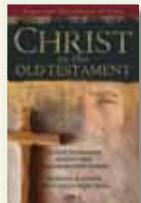
9789901983513



How to Study the Bible

Learn to do inductive Bible study: reading the context, using commentaries, and word studies.

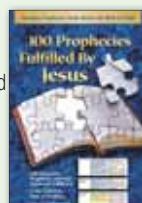
9781890947637



Christ in the Old Testament

Christ is foreshadowed in the lives of many people in the Old Testament. Gain new insights into Jesus.

9781596361690



100 Prophecies Fulfilled

100 Old Testament prophecies about Jesus fulfilled in the New Testament.

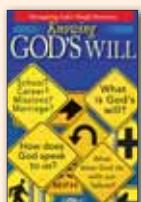
9781890947194



Bible Overview

Summarizes each book of the Bible: author, date, key verse, theme, outline.

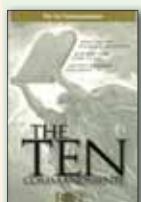
9781890947712



Knowing God's Will

Choosing a career? A college major? A spouse? Gives guidelines for knowing God's will in life.

9781596360761



Ten Commandments

The Ten Commandments in traditional and contemporary language with explanation of each.

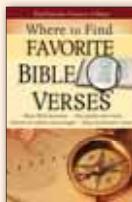
9781596360617



Heroes of the Old Testament

See the strengths and weaknesses in the lives of Abraham, Moses, David, Joshua, and eight others.

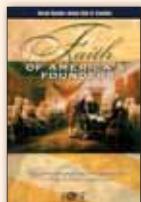
9781596360327



Where to Find Your Favorite Verses

Perfect for people who do not remember the exact Bible reference for their favorite passage.

9781596361959



Faith of America's Founders

Beautiful quotes about God, Jesus, and the Bible from important people who shaped America.

9781596360777



Creation & Evolution

Shows how scientific findings cannot be explained by Darwinian Evolution.

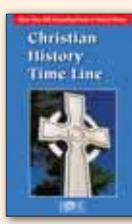
9781890947019



Genesis Time Line

Key events and people in Genesis includes maps, and the promises God made to each patriarch.

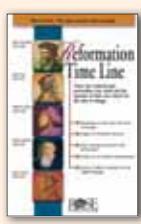
9781596360105



Christian History Time Line

200 people and key events from the time of Jesus to today. Missions, Bible translation, and more.

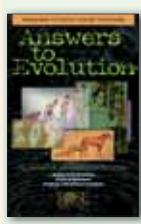
9780965508292



Reformation Time Line

100 key events and people in the Protestant Reformation. Explains denominations, Bible translations, etc.

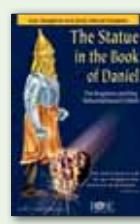
9781596360938



Answers to Evolution

Good for youth. Quotes from scientists; evidence that Darwinism isn't completely accurate.

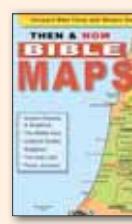
9781890947897



Statue in the Book of Daniel

King Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the 4 beasts and 4 kingdoms. Good fact sheet for Beth Moore studies.

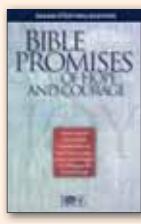
9781890947774



Then & Now Bible Maps

12 colorful maps for the back of your Bible.

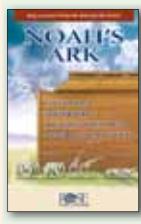
9781596361300



Bible Promises

100 Bible passages that shows God's care, love, and tenderness for us as we go through tough times.

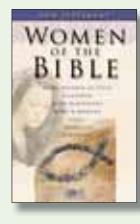
9781596360747



Noah's Ark

Shows the massive ark and animals on board, it also shows the size of the ark compared to everyday objects.

9781596360204



Women of the Bible: OT

Learn the strengths and weaknesses and lessons of Esther, Ruth, Sarah, Rahab, Tamar, Bathsheba, and more.

9781596361713

ROSE
PUBLISHING

www.rose-publishing.com

© 2009 Rose Publishing, Inc. Bible Reference Made Easy

More than 70 Bible reference charts and PowerPoints® available.

Download catalog and sign up for Rose Bible e-Charts at www.rose-publishing.com

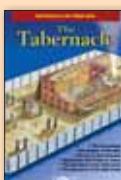
Any Rose Publishing item

15% off • SAVE!

When you use discount code 3AHF737

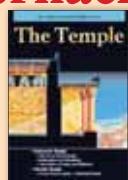
At www.rose-publishing.com
(Do not enter a "catalog" or "source code")

Glossy, full color, 14-page pamphlets with hundreds of facts.

**Tabernacle**

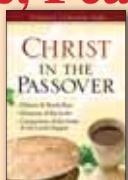
Shows the furnishings, garments, and symbols that point to Jesus. Many full color charts and diagrams

9781890947996

**The Temple**

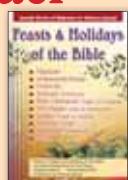
Hundreds of facts about the Temple, the furnishings, the high priests, and the sacrifices.

9781596360013

**Christ in the Passover**

The Passover is the Old Testament feast that celebrates and remembers God's liberation of Israel from Egypt.

9781596361850

**Feasts & Holidays of the Bible**

See symbols of Jesus in the Jewish feasts: Passover, Yom Kippur, Chanukah, Tabernacles

9781890947583

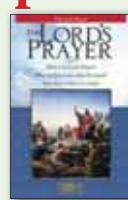
Tabernacle, Temple, Feasts of Israel

Popular New Testament Topics

**Armor of God**

Shows each piece of the armor and how it relates to our faith and being prepared spiritually.

9781596360297

**The Lord's Prayer**

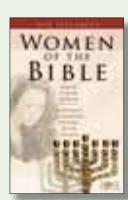
Jesus' teaching about God's will, sin, forgiveness, and assurance that God will provide for us.

9781596361263

**Following Jesus**

Basics of the faith: assurance of salvation, prayer, forgiveness, Bible study, giving, church, and more.

9781596360358

**Women of the Bible: NT**

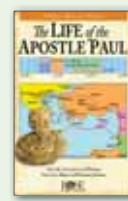
Learn lessons from the lives of Mary, Mary Magdalene, Martha & Mary, Priscilla, and more.

9781596361737

**Beatitudes**

Understanding the Beatitudes will help Christians learn how to live the "Kingdom" life

9781596361935

**Life of the Apostle Paul**

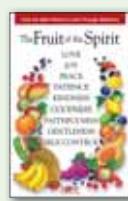
Overview includes maps, time line, key events, chart of the books Paul wrote. Supplements the Beth Moore study

9781596360631

**Twelve Disciples**

Gives a clear description of each disciple, his strengths, his weaknesses, and his relationship to Christ.

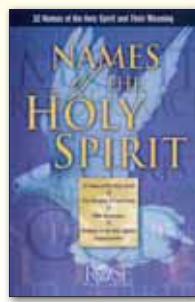
9781890947934

**Fruit of the Spirit**

Encouraging traits such as love, joy, and peace in the life of the believer.

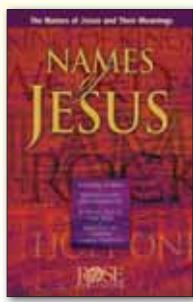
9781890947811

NAMES OF GOD

**Comforter Counselor Guide****Names of the Holy Spirit**

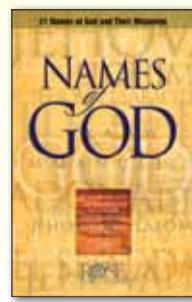
Here are 20 names of the Holy Spirit that help us understand the power and work of God in people's lives.

9781596362079

**King of Kings Good Shepherd Messiah****Names of Jesus**

50 names of Jesus their meanings, Bible reference, and application to our lives.

9781596360594

**Adonai Jehovah El Shaddai****Names of Jesus**

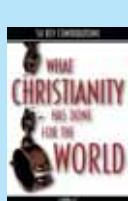
50 names of Jesus their meanings, Bible reference, and application to our lives.

9781596360594

**Why Wait?**

24 reasons of abstinence: 12 biblical and 12 medical and emotional. Backed by scientific research.

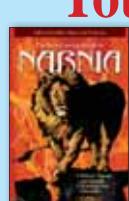
9789901980727

**What Christianity Has Done For The World**

Know About the contributions Made by

Christians and Christianity.

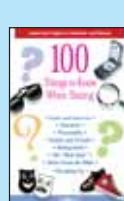
9781596361478

**Rose Guide to Narnia**

Compare the symbols in Lewis's Narnia books with the Christian themes from

the Bible. Good movie companion.

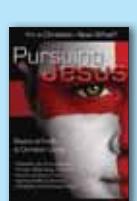
9781596360686

**100 Things to Know**

100 topics to consider when you are interested in someone. Includes a

"risk quiz."

9781890947408

**Pursuing Jesus**

First steps in the faith, written in contemporary language. Prayer, salvation, forgiveness,

serving, giving, fellowship and more.

9781596361751

Any Rose Publishing item

15% off • SAVE!

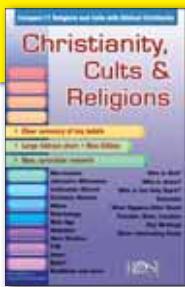
When you use discount code 3AHF737

At www.rose-publishing.com

(Do not enter a "catalog" or "source code")

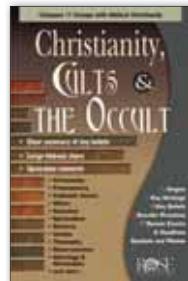
Know What You Believe!

Glossy 14-page full-color fact sheets for Bible studies, small groups, new member, youth, college, & adults



Christianity, Cults & Religion

Compare 18 world religions and cults on Jesus, Salvation, other beliefs
9789901981403



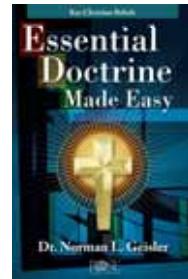
Christianity, Cults & Occult

Compare Christianity with Freemasonry, Kabballah, Wicca, Voodoo, Santeria, and more. Good youth topic.
9781596360532



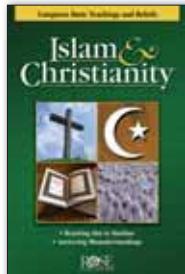
Bible Overview

Summarizes each book of the Bible: author, date, key verse, theme, outline.
9781890947712



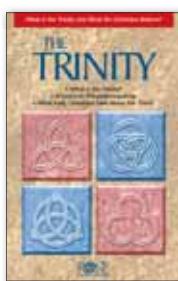
Essential Doctrine Made Easy

Simple explanation of the 14 essential doctrines of the faith. Perfect for basic Christian training.
9781596361430



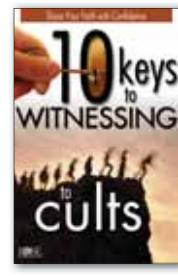
Islam and Christianity

What each believes about topics such as God, Jesus, and prophets. How to share your faith.
9781890947675



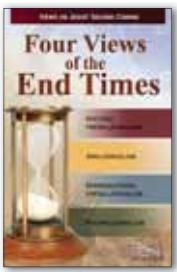
The Trinity

A simple explanation of this key doctrine. Gives reasons to believe.
9781890947026



10 Keys to Witnessing to Cults

Ten easy keys will prepare you to witness in a loving, respectful and informed way to the cults.
9781596361980



Four Views of the End Times

Four views are explained in easy-to-understand terms. Dispensationalism, Premillennialism, Amillennialism, Postmillennialism.
9781596360891



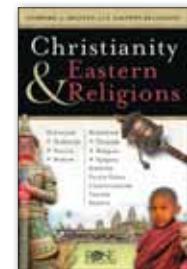
Denominations Comparison

Compare 12 Christian denominations and what they believe on different topics
9781890947354



Worldviews Comparison

Compare Christianity with atheism, pantheism, polytheism, deism, panentheism, and more.
9781596361492



Christianity & Eastern Religions

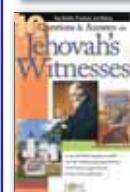
A detailed comparison of Christianity with the major types of Hinduism and Buddhism.
9781596361911

10 QUESTION & ANSWER SERIES



10 Q&A on Angels

Learn about what the Bible says (and doesn't say) about these powerful servants of God.
9781596362833



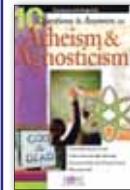
10 Q & A Jehovah's Witnesses

Answers to Jehovah's Witnesses teachings about Jesus, prophecy, Trinity, salvation, and more.
9781596361201



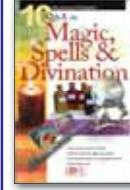
10 Q & A for Mormons

Answers to Mormon beliefs about Jesus, becoming "God," salvation, Temple rites, and more.
9781596361171



10 Q & A Atheists

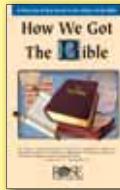
Covers issues of evil, morality, science & faith. Includes quotes from former atheists. Great for college students.
9781596361232



10 Q&A on Magic & Divination

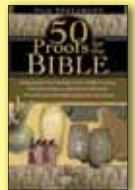
Are horoscopes, casting spells, and doing seances OK? Gives biblical answers to these practices.
9781596361539

Reliability of the Bible



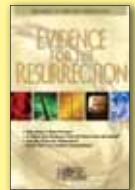
How We Got the Bible

Time line of how we got the Bible: Wycliffe, Tyndale, and other early Bible translators.
9780965508261



50 Proofs for the Bible: OT

Here are 50 archaeological finds that support the accuracy of Scripture.
9781596361584



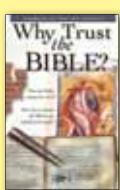
Evidence for the Resurrection

12 reasons skeptics should believe that Jesus rose again after the crucifixion. Clear and logical.
9781890947972



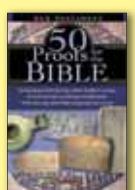
Bible Translation Comparison

Compares 20 popular Bible translations side by side. Shows translators, method, reading level, etc.
9781596361331



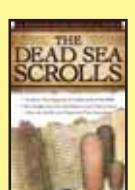
Why Trust the Bible?

Was the Bible "tampered with" and now unreliable? See why we can trust the Bible.
9781596361393



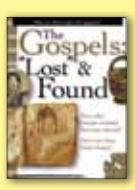
50 Proofs for the Bible: NT

Is the New Testament historically reliable? Here are 50 archaeological finds that support the accuracy of Scripture.
9781596361607



Dead Sea Scrolls

The Scrolls support the reliability of the Bible. Learn how they were found and why they are important.
9781596360440



The Gospels: "Lost" & Found

Some people believe that 80 "gospels" were removed from the Bible. Learn the truth about the 4 Gospels.
9781596361416



www.rose-publishing.com

© 2009 Rose Publishing, Inc. Bible Reference Made Easy

More than 70 Bible reference charts and PowerPoints® available. Download catalog and sign up for Rose Bible e-Charts at www.rose-publishing.com

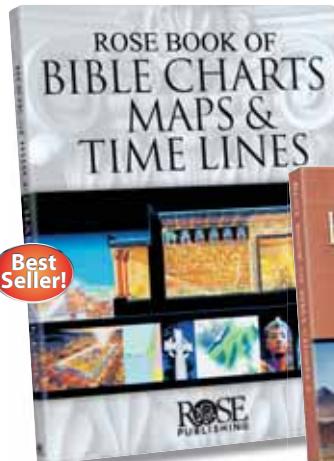
Any Rose Publishing item

15% off - SAVE!

When you use discount code 3AHF737

At www.rose-publishing.com

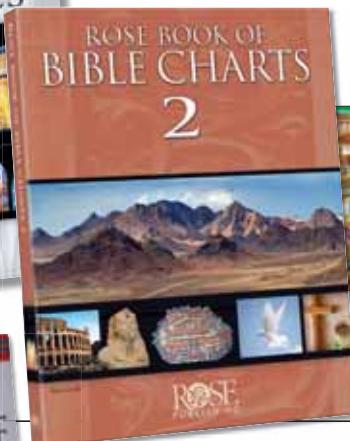
(Do not enter a "catalog" or "source code")



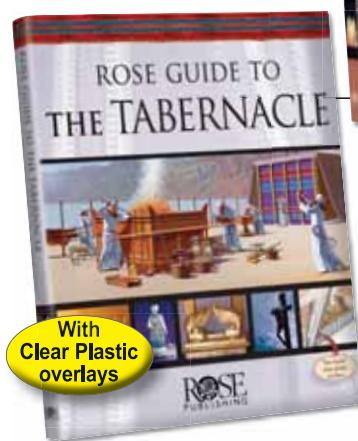
400 PAGES OF REPRODUCIBLE BIBLE CHARTS

Now you can have dozens of popular Rose Publishing Bible charts, maps, and time lines in one spiral-bound book. *The Rose Book of Bible Charts, Maps and Time Lines & Rose Book of Bible Charts 2.*

These charts separately would cost more than \$250. Plus, you can reproduce up to 300 copies of any chart free of charge (use in one church, not for sale). 192 & 230 pages. Hardcover.



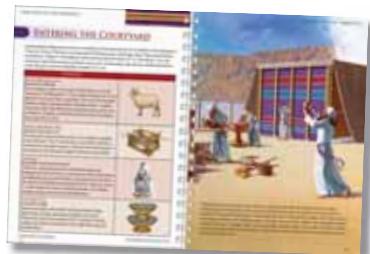
Rose Book of Bible Charts, Maps, and Time Lines 9781596360228
Rose Book of Bible Charts 2 9781596362758



Rose Guide to the Tabernacle

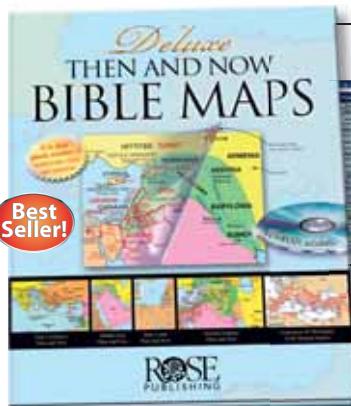
Full color with clear overlays and reproducible pages

The Tabernacle ("tent of meeting") was the place where the Israelites worshiped God after the Exodus. Learn how the sacrifices, utensils, and even the structure of the tabernacle were designed to show us something about God. See the parallels between the Old Testament sacrifices and priests' duties, and Jesus' service as the perfect sacrifice and perfect high priest. You may reproduce up to 300 copies of any chart free of charge for your classroom. 128 pages.



Rose Guide to the Tabernacle: God With Us 9781596362765

Reproducible!



Deluxe

"THEN AND NOW" BIBLE MAP BOOK

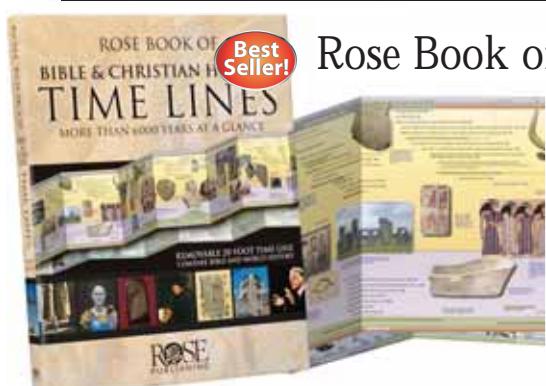
With clear plastic overlays of modern-day cities & countries

Know where Bible places are today. This deluxe edition comes with a CD-ROM that gives you a JPG and PDF of each map to print out, or use in your own Bible material.



Includes CD-ROM

DELUXE Then and Now Bible Map Book 9781596361638



Rose Book of Bible & Christian History Time Lines

20-Foot Time Line!

Six thousand years and 20 feet of time lines in one

beautiful hard-bound cover! This unique resource allows you to easily store and reference the time line in book form. This gorgeous time line, printed on heavy chart paper, can also be slipped out of the binding and posted in a hallway or large room for full effect.

The Bible Time Line compares scriptural events with world history and Middle East history. Shows hundreds of facts; includes dates of kings, prophets, battles, and key events. Colorful photos and illustrations. From Genesis to today: hundreds of facts.

Rose Book of Bible & Christian History Time Lines 9781596360846

Any Rose Publishing item

15% off • SAVE!

When you use discount code 3AHF737

At www.rose-publishing.com
(Do not enter a "catalog" or "source code")