May Bible Reading Plan

-The Providence of God-

"What Man Intended for Evil, God Intended for Good"

Introduction & Context

The Writer's Perspective

The writing of Genesis is attributed to **Moses**. He was writing to a generation of Israelites who needed to know how and why they ended up in Egypt in the first place. He wanted them to see that their presence in a foreign land wasn't an accident, but a divine appointment. Please take the time to look over each page of this packet before beginning.

Key Themes for May

- **Sovereignty in Suffering:** God is often most active when He seems most silent. Joseph's journey from pit to prison to palace proves that God never loses control.
- **The Messy Family of God:** Genesis doesn't hide the flaws of the Patriarchs. We see jealousy, deception, and failure—yet God remains committed to His covenant.
- **Forgiveness & Reconciliation:** The climax of the book isn't Joseph's power, but his decision to forgive his brothers, echoing the grace God shows us.

May Reading Schedule

Week	Chapters	Theme	Dates
Week 1	Gen 34–37	The Family Fractures: From Jacob's return to Joseph's dreams.	May 1–8 Continues >>>>

Week 2	Gen 38–41	The Trials of Joseph: Judah's failure, Potiphar's house, and the Prison.	May 9–16
Week 3	Gen 42–45	The Test & The Reveal: The brothers travel to Egypt and Joseph reveals himself.	May 17–24
Week 4	Gen 46–50	The Legacy of Israel: Jacob's blessing and the end of a beginning.	May 25–31

-Daily Breakdown-

Week 1: Dreams & Deception

- **May 1–3:** Genesis 34–35 (Trouble in Shechem and the death of Isaac)
- **May 4–5:** Genesis 36 (The genealogy of Esau—God's promises to other nations)
- **May 6–8:** Genesis 37 (The Coat of many colors and the Pit)

Week 2: Character in the Dark

- **May 9–11:** Genesis 38 (The story of Judah and Tamar—the line of Christ preserved)
- **May 12–13:** Genesis 39 (Integrity in Potiphar's house)
- **May 14–16:** Genesis 40–41 (The Butler, the Baker, and Pharaoh's Dreams)

Week 3: The Journey to Repentance

- **May 17–19:** Genesis 42 (The first journey to Egypt)
- **May 20–22:** Genesis 43–44 (The second journey and the Silver Cup test)
- **May 23–24:** Genesis 45 (Joseph's revelation: "God sent me before you") Cont. >>

Week 4: The Faith of the Fathers

- **May 25–27:** Genesis 46–47 (Israel moves to Goshen)
- **May 28–29:** Genesis 48–49 (Jacob blesses his sons; the scepter promised to Judah)
- **May 30–31:** Genesis 50 (The death of Jacob and Joseph; the "Good" in the "Evil")

"Did You Know?" Sidebars for May

1. Why the story of Judah and Tamar (Chapter 38)?

It seems like a strange interruption to the Joseph story, but it's vital! It shows the moral decline of the brothers in Canaan, explaining *why* God needed to move them to Egypt to preserve them as a holy people. Plus, Tamar and Judah are direct ancestors of **Jesus**.

2. The Significance of "Goshen"

Goshen was the best land in Egypt for livestock. By placing the Israelites there, God provided for them during the famine and kept them physically separated from Egyptian idolatry, allowing the family of 70 to grow into a nation of millions.

3. The Prophecy of the Scepter (Gen 49:10)

When Jacob blesses Judah, he says the "scepter shall not depart" from him. Even though Joseph had the political power at the time, Jacob prophesied that the **True King (The Messiah)** would come from the tribe of Judah.

Final Thought for the Month:

"As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good." (Gen 50:20) —

As we finish Genesis, remember that your current "pit" or "prison" is not the end of your story. God is still writing the "palace" chapter.