



## HOW TO USE THIS BIBLE-READING CHART

This is a double chart, one imposed on the other.

First, the grid counts off all of the 1189 chapters of the Bible, though Psalm 119 is subdivided into 5 squares. As you read the books of the Bible in *any* order you find helpful, simply mark off the box for each chapter. These are arranged in rows of 50 to simplify your counting and to encourage you to finish a bit early.

Each Saturday you will add up all the chapters you have read. When you complete any full row of chapters, simply fill in the small box at the far left end of that row. This serves as a convenient marker of 50. You only need to add up the marked boxes in any incomplete rows and then add in the multiples of 50 for your running total.

The second chart is a graph with the number of chapters read recorded on the vertical axis. The horizontal axis counts the Saturdays for the year. You will find it helpful to get a calendar and write the dates of each Saturday under the number (e.g. Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26). When you have added up your running total of chapters read (paragraph #2), simply find the vertical line for that Saturday and go up that line. Mark a dot on the line at the number of chapters read so far.

Each week, you can connect that dot to the previous week's dot. The growing line of your reading progress should be kept *above* the target line printed on the graph. You will always know just how many chapters or weeks you are ahead of (or behind) schedule.

You can modify this chart for a more accelerated reading program. Simply draw a new target line from the lower left corner to the top of the line for your target week (30th week, 40th week). Or, if you finish the Bible in July and want to reread the New Testament by Thanksgiving, just draw a new target line from the bottom of the last July Saturday to 260 up the last Saturday line in November.

Do you wish to read through the Bible in two years instead of one? Simply mark the Saturday lines with the dates of every other Saturday. This simple system puts *you* in charge of your Bible-reading program while motivating you to reach your goal. Read, meditate, obey.

Please feel free to make copies of this chart for your own use or for distribution. I first devised it in 1972 and have found it stimulating and flexible.

—W. H. Smallman