

The Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela: A Closer Walk



“Stand at the crossroads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way lies; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls.” Jeremiah 6:16.

**Bible verses selected by Gary T. Johnson
for the pilgrimage journey to Santiago de Compostela, Spain,
including spiritual preparation for the journey and
reflections after its completion, over a period of one year.**

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A Closer Walk

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Table of Contents

*Note: Each entry below is printable as a chapter from:
<http://gryjhnsn.tripod.com/santiago/id13.html>*

Title, Copyright Notice and How to Use this Book

Introduction

Daily Selections for the Pilgrimage Year for Each Month Selections for each month of the year.

Special Selections for the Actual Pilgrimage, including -- **The Eve of Departure on the Actual Pilgrimage, the Day of** **Departure, the Eve of Arrival in Santiago de Compostela, the** **First Full Day in Santiago and the Day of Departure from** **Santiago**

Notes and Sources

Index of Bible Verses

How to Use This Book

A Year of Devotions -- The book is written with a whole year in mind, a year that will include the actual journey to the city of Santiago de Compostela, but also time for daily reflections both before and after the journey. There is a Bible passage for each day of the year beginning July 25, the feast day of Saint James the Greater (“Santiago”), and ending that day a year later. The actual journey can come at any time during your year of spiritual devotions and need not take a certain number of days. No doubt, the readings will have special meaning during the actual journey, but the book reflects my belief that the preparation and the aftermath are essential parts of the faith journey.

If possible, start the book on July 25. If not, then simply begin whenever it makes sense for you and turn to the page for each day. When you reach July 25, start at the beginning and catch up on the pages you missed until you have read for a year.

On the day before your actual journey begins, turn to the Special Selections for the Actual Pilgrimage Journey. After your first day on the road, return to the regular daily selections. Turn again to the Special Selections on the eve of your arrival in Santiago de Compostela. After your departure from that city, return to regular selections for each day.

There may be readers who begin the book planning the trip to Santiago, but, for whatever reason, they cannot make the journey. To you I would say: Continue reading each day. You are still a pilgrim. The journey is meant to be a graphic demonstration that your life as a whole is a pilgrimage. This same sense will grow in you, if you continue to read the Bible for a year from the viewpoint of a pilgrim. Stay the course.

Printing -- This is the first part of a book that is posted by the author on an Internet website:

<http://gryjhnsn.tripod.com/santiago/id13.html>

Please print out each chapter for your personal use and reflection.

The book is designed for printing in two columns on 8-1/2 x 11 (letter-sized) paper and allows for double-sided printing and printing on three-holed punch paper for loose-leaf notebooks. It also will shrink to fit A4 (European) paper and notebooks. See the link to “Printing Tips” posted on the Internet website for further information on printing.

This format will allow the pilgrim to take along only the pages that are needed for the journey, and, if necessary, to print replacement pages. If you like, use the white spaces for notes or journal entries, or take along some blank pages for that purpose.

The author has posted additional resources for the Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage at:

<http://gryjhnsn.tripod.com/santiago>

Links -- Owners of websites dedicated to Santiago de Compostela and to pilgrimages are invited to create a link to the author’s websites. No permission is necessary.

Sources of Illustrations for Title Pages, Table of Contents and How to Use this Book

Note: Fuller explanations of the illustrations are included in a separate section at the back of the book.

Illustration on cover: Pilgrim's bridge. Puente la Reina.
September 2003. Photograph by author.

Sources of Illustrations page: Outside Portomarín. The author's
group during their Camino of
the Holy Year of Santiago 2004. October 2004. Photograph by
author.

Closing Page: St. James the Great (Santiago) depicted as a
pilgrim, from the church of Santiago el Mayor. Triacastela.
October 2004. Photograph by author.



Holy Year of Santiago, 2004



*I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go.
(Psalm 32) 8.*