

Session 2 – The Bible

LIFE - Learning the Word of God

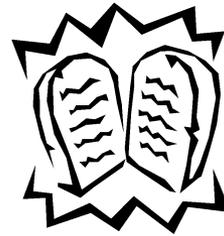
What is the Bible?



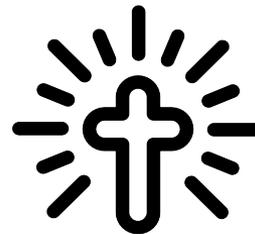
- The word Bible comes from the Latin, and ultimately Greek word, “biblia” which simply means _____.

The Bible contains 66 books divided into two main parts.

- Old Testament - consists of 39 books. These books chronicle the creation of the world, the founding and preservation of the nation of Israel, and prophesy the coming of Jesus Christ the Messiah.

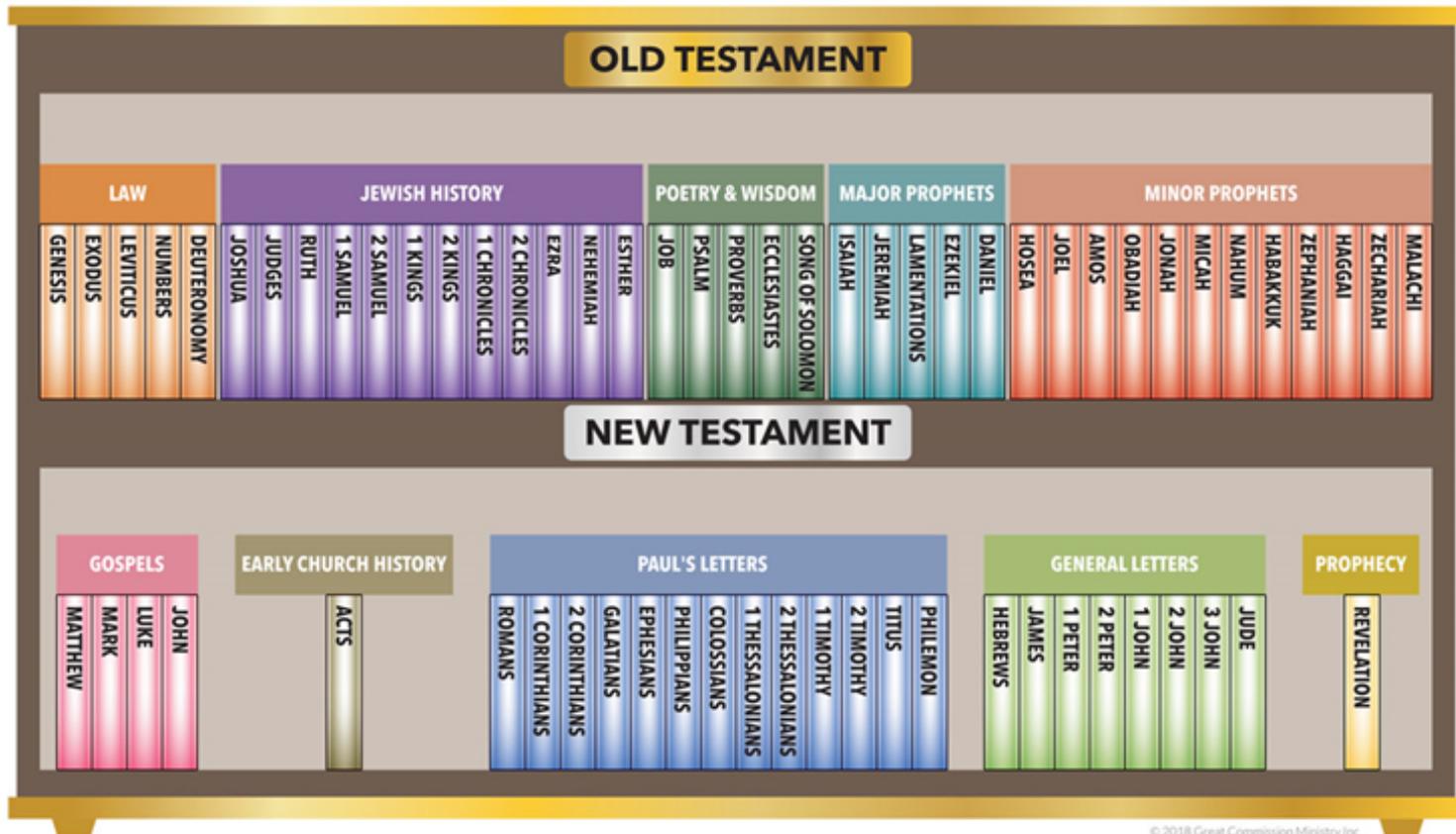


- New Testament - is made up of 27 books which describe the coming of the blessing promised in the Old Testament in the person of Jesus Christ, who fulfilled prophecy, lived a perfect life, died for the world's sins, and rose again.



Each Testament is comprised of books that are grouped primarily by their type of literature and then by chronology.

If we were to put all the books of the Bible on a bookshelf together, it would look something like this:



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The books of the Old Testament are grouped as follows:

- _____ - The first five books of the Old Testament introduce many of the important themes that will recur throughout the Bible from creation to the fall of humankind to the origin of the nation of Israel.
- _____ - These books detail Israel's history from their entry into the Promised Land to their return after exile.
- _____ - Books with a more literary or poetic style that address life's everyday questions and choices.
- _____ - Written by prophets of Israel and Judah both before and after their conquest and exile. The term major or minor relates to the length of the book and has nothing to do with the importance or the prophet.

The books of the New Testament are grouped as follows:

- _____ - The four books of the New Testament which describe the birth, ministry, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- _____ – Consisting entirely of the book of Acts, which describes the activities of the early church and the spread of the gospel message throughout the ancient world.
- _____ – Letters written by the Apostle Paul to various churches throughout Asia Minor and Rome. These letters were encouraged to be read by the whole church.
- _____ – Letters written by other Apostles or early church leaders.
- _____ – The Book of Revelation, which details the end times, second coming of Jesus Christ, and the ushering in of the New Heaven and Earth.

Two Words that Describe the Bible

The Bible is _____.

“For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” - 2 Peter 1:21

“And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.” - 1 Corinthians 2:13

The Bible is _____.

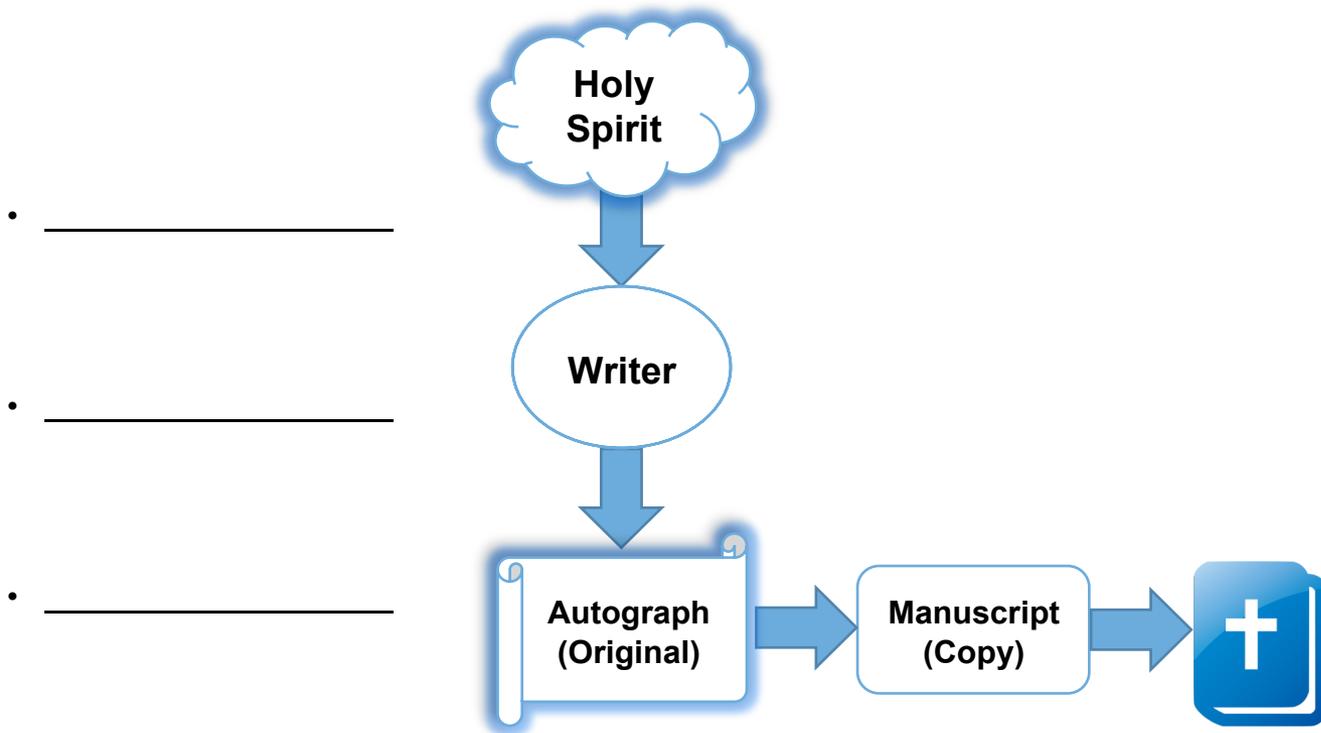
“For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.” - Mathew 5:18

“Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.” - John 17:17



How did the Bible Get to Us? ...Inspiration

The Holy Spirit perfectly guided human authors from diverse backgrounds to ensure they wrote exactly what He wanted written without error.



How Reliable is the Bible? ...It is Infallible

- The word infallible means _____.

If something is infallible, it is never wrong and is trustworthy.

- Another word applied to Scripture is _____ which means free from error.

Simply put, the Bible never fails.

Evidence the Bible is Reliable

- _____

External evidence for the Bible's reliability consists of archeological discoveries that verify Biblical accounts and parallel non-biblical historical accounts.

An example of such archeological discovery is the Tel Dan inscription found in Northern Israel.

Until 1993, no evidence could be found anywhere outside the Bible that David, the king of Israel, ever existed.

However, in 1993, a 3000-year-old inscription was unearthed in Israel mentioning David the King of Israel. This was a tremendous discovery and helped to verify for the first time, outside the Bible, that David was a historical figure.



- _____

Internal evidence includes fulfilled predictive prophecy despite hundreds of years between the prophecy and the predicted events.

Isaiah chapter 53 contains a compelling prophecy of Jesus Christ: His youth, His ministry, His sin-bearing and suffering, and His offering of Himself some 700 years before his birth.

- _____

Jesus affirmed the inerrancy of the Bible...

“Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.” - John 17:17

Jesus confirmed stories from the Bible as history...

“For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.” - Matthew 12:40

“For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.” - Matthew 24:37-39

Jesus confirmed the Bible’s authority by quoting it when responding to his critics or even Satan...

“But he answered, ‘It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” - Matthew 4:4

Books of the Bible

OLD TESTAMENT

Gn Genesis	Ex Exodus	Lv Leviticus	Nu Numbers	Dt Deuteronomy	
Js Joshua	Ju Judges	Ru Ruth	Sa¹ 1 Samuel	Sa² 2 Samuel	Ki¹ 1 Kings
Ch¹ 1 Chronicles	Ch² 2 Chronicles	Ez Ezra	Ne Nehemiah	Es Esther	
Jb Job	Ps Psalms	Pr Proverbs	Ec Ecclesiastes	So Song of Solomon	
Is Isaiah	Je Jeremiah	La Lamentations	Ek Ezekiel	Da Daniel	
Ho Hosea	Jl Joel	Am Amos	Ob Obadiah	Jh Jonah	
Mi Micah	Na Nahum	Hk Habakkuk	Zp Zephaniah	Ha Haggai	Zc Zechariah
				MI Malachi	

NEW TESTAMENT

	Mt Matthew	Mk Mark	Lk Luke	Jn John
				Ac Acts
	Ro Romans	Co¹ 1 Corinthians	Co² 2 Corinthians	Ga Galatians
	Ep Ephesians	Pp Philippians		
	Cl Colossians	Th¹ 1 Thessalonians	Th² 2 Thessalonians	Ti¹ 1 Timothy
	Ti² 2 Timothy	Tt Titus	Pm Philemon	
	Hb Hebrews	Ja James	Pe¹ 1 Peter	Pe² 2 Peter
	Jn¹ 1 John	Jn² 2 John	Jn³ 3 John	
		Ju Jude		
		Re Revelation		

 Law	 History	 Poetry & Wisdom	 Major Prophets	 Minor Prophets	 Gospels	 Acts	 Letters of Paul
 General Letters	 Prophecy						

LIFE – Invest into relationships

Session 2 Discussion Questions

Question 1:

Why is it important to know where the Bible came from and why it is reliable?

Question 2:

Think about your opinions, convictions, values, and goals before you began accepting God's Word as true and reliable. How have you seen the truth of God's Word change these areas of your life?

LIFE – Follow the way of Christ

Session 2 Memory Verse

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.”

2 Timothy 3:16

LIFE – Engage with your world

Session 2 Homework

This week we learned about the Bible. There are stories, truth, poems, parables, prophecy and power to be found in how God interacts with His creation for His glory throughout the Bible.

Read 1 Samuel 17. This is the true story of David and Goliath. What giants are you facing in your life? After reading the story, what did the story teach you about how to defeat your giants? Who can you share this with to this week to encourage them in facing their giants?