

## Overview of the Bible

### Where Did the Bible Come From?

The Bible is the most important and most published book that has ever been possessed by mankind. It is the only book comprised of texts that were given to mankind directly by God. Everything that we need to know about spiritual, familial, and civil institutions as well as how to live a joyful and righteous life is contained within the 66 books of the bible. A huge portion of the bible points to the salvation that would come to humanity through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Below are some interesting biblical statistics.

<b>Bible Statistics (approximate)</b>	<b>Data</b>
Total number of bibles printed	6,001,500,000
Approximate number of languages spoken in the world today.	6,900
Number of translations into new languages currently in progress.	1,300
Number of languages with a translation of the New Testament.	1,185
Number of languages with a translation of the entire Bible. (Protestant Canon)	451
Total Words in the King James Bible	788,258
Number of verses in the King James Bible	31,102
Total Chapters in the King James Bible	1,189
Total Books in the King James Bible	66
Total Number of Authors in the Bible	40
Years it took to write the Bible	1,600
Shortest Chapter	Psalms 117 (2 verses)
Longest Chapter	Psalms 119
Middle Chapter	Psalms 117 (the 595th chapter)
Shortest Verse in the Bible	John 11:35 – “Jesus wept.”
Longest Verse in the Bible	Esther 8:9

**[2 Timothy 3:16-17] All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

What is being referred to here as “Scripture” is the original Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek text that was given to writers by inspiration of God. What this means exactly is difficult to say; however, it was not a trance like thing or a “robotic” writing. God chose specific individuals and gave them inspiration through the Holy Spirit to record certain texts of the bible.

### **Bible Translation Types**

We read translations of the bible which are not exactly the same as inspired scripture; however, they are usually close enough to be doctrinally equivalent. There are good and bad translations.

- 1) **Literal** (Word for word - as close to the original Hebrew & Greek as possible).
- 2) **Dynamic** (thought for thought – each verse is a general meaning of the original text)
- 3) **Free Translation** (Paraphrase – the translator changed the verses into “story like” or “easy reader” form.)

### **Good Bible Translations Include:**

- King James Version (KJV)
- New King James Version (NKJV)
- New American Standard Bible (NASB)
- English Standard Version (ESV)

**Canon** - The word "canon" comes from the Greek "κανών" (Kanon), meaning "rule" or "measuring stick". The current 66 books of the bible are the “canon”. 39 books in the Old Testament (called the Tanakh by Jews) and 27 books in the New Testament.

There have been many important milestones with respect to the transmission, recording, copying, and translating of the bible. Let’s do a quick review of some of the more important ones.

**Approximate Timeline of Bible History**

**1,400 BC:** The Ten Commandments, which was the first written word of God was delivered to Moses.

**500 BC:** Completion of All Original Hebrew Manuscripts which make up The 39 Books of the Old Testament.

**200 BC:** Completion of the Septuagint Greek Manuscripts which contain The 39 Old Testament Books AND 14 Apocrypha Books.

**1st Century AD:** Completion of All Original Greek Manuscripts which make up The 27 Books of the New Testament.

**315 AD:** Athanasius, the Bishop of Alexandria, identifies the 27 books of the New Testament which are today recognized as the canon of scripture.

**382 AD:** Jerome's Latin Vulgate Manuscripts Produced which contain All 80 Books (39 Old Test. + 14 Apocrypha + 27 New Test).

**500 AD:** Some scripture has been translated into over 500 languages.

**600 AD:** LATIN was the Only Language Allowed for Scripture.

**995 AD:** Anglo-Saxon (Early Roots of English Language) Translations of The New Testament Produced.

**1384 AD:** Wycliffe is the First Person to Produce a (Hand-Written) manuscript Copy of the Complete Bible; All 80 Books.

**1455 AD:** Gutenberg Invents the Printing Press; Books May Now be mass-Produced Instead of Individually Hand-Written. The First Book Ever Printed is Gutenberg's Bible in Latin.

**1516 AD:** Erasmus Produces a Greek/Latin Parallel New Testament.

**1522 AD:** Martin Luther's German New Testament.

**1526 AD:** William Tyndale's New Testament; The First New Testament printed in the English Language.

**1535 AD:** Myles Coverdale's Bible; The First Complete Bible printed in the English Language (80 Books: O.T. & N.T. & Apocrypha).

**1537 AD:** Tyndale-Matthews Bible; The Second Complete Bible printed in English. Done by John "Thomas Matthew" Rogers (80 Books).

**1539 AD:** The "Great Bible" Printed; The First English Language Bible Authorized for Public Use (80 Books).

**1560 AD:** The Geneva Bible Printed; The First English Language Bible to add Numbered Verses to Each Chapter (80 Books).

**1568 AD:** The Bishops Bible Printed; The Bible of which the King James was a Revision (80 Books).

**1609 AD:** The Douay Old Testament is added to the Rheims New Testament (of 1582) Making the First Complete English Catholic Bible; Translated from the Latin Vulgate (80 Books).

**1611 AD:** The King James Bible Printed; Originally with All 80 Books. The Apocrypha was Officially Removed in 1885 Leaving Only 66 Books.

**1782 AD:** Robert Aitken's Bible; The First English Language Bible (KJV) Printed in America.

**1791 AD:** Isaac Collins and Isaiah Thomas Respectively Produce the First Family Bible and First Illustrated Bible Printed in America. Both were King James Versions, with All 80 Books.

**1808 AD:** Jane Aitken's Bible (Daughter of Robert Aitken); The First Bible to be Printed by a Woman.

**1833 AD:** Noah Webster's Bible; After Producing his Famous Dictionary, Webster Printed his Own Revision of the King James Bible.

**1841 AD:** English Hexapla New Testament; an Early Textual Comparison showing the Greek and 6 Famous English Translations in Parallel Columns.

**1846 AD:** The Illuminated Bible; The Most Lavishly Illustrated Bible printed in America. A King James Version, with All 80 Books.

**1863 AD:** Robert Young's "Literal" Translation; often criticized for being so literal that it sometimes obscures the contextual English meaning.

**1885 AD:** The "English Revised Version" Bible; The First Major English Revision of the KJV.

**1901 AD:** The "American Standard Version"; The First Major American Revision of the KJV.

**1952 AD:** The "Revised Standard Version" (RSV); said to be a Revision of the 1901 American Standard Version, though more highly criticized.

**1971 AD:** The "New American Standard Bible" (NASB) is Published as a "Modern and Accurate Word for Word English Translation" of the Bible.

**1973 AD:** The "New International Version" (NIV) is Published as a "Modern and Accurate Phrase for Phrase English Translation" of the Bible.

**1982 AD:** The "New King James Version" (NKJV) is Published as a "Modern English Version Maintaining the Original Style of the King James."

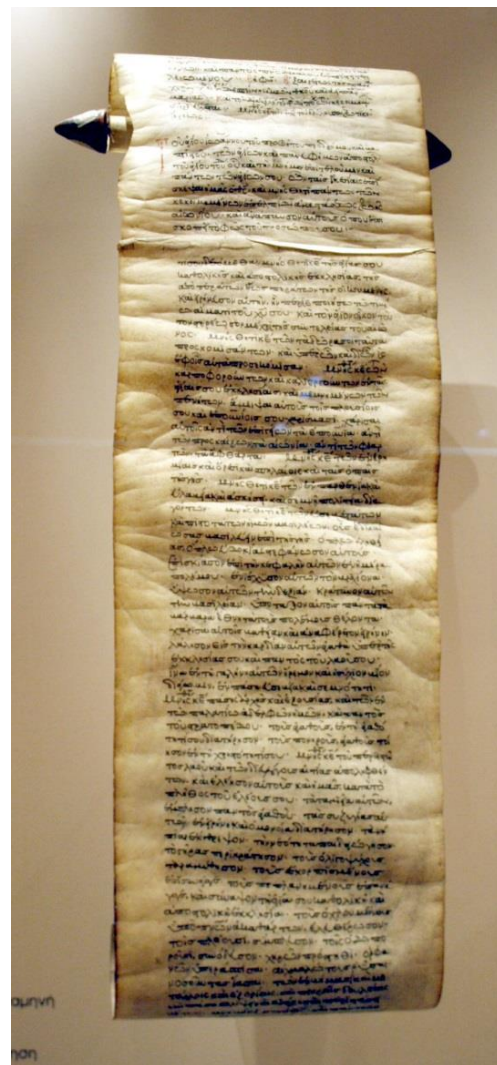
**1990 AD:** The "New Revised Standard Version" (NRSV); further revision of 1952 RSV, (itself a revision of 1901 ASV), criticized for "gender inclusiveness".

**2002 AD:** The English Standard Version (ESV) is Published as a translation to bridge the gap between the accuracy of the NASB and the readability of the NIV.

### **The Old Testament (OT)**

The OT was written over a fairly long period of time. It is estimated that it was written between 1445 B.C. and 424 B.C. by more than 24 different authors. The authorship of several of the OT books is unknown. The OT was written almost entirely in Hebrew with the exception of certain sections of Ezra, Jeremiah, and Daniel which were written in Aramaic. Aramaic was specifically used when the author wanted to impart information to the gentile or non-Hebrew people of the time and area that the book was being written because it was the "common" language.

The texts of the OT were meticulously copied and transmitted from generation to generation by chosen Hebrew scribes in the B.C. time period and Jewish scribe/scholars known as “Masoretes” (which means “tradition keeper”) between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries. All of these scribes took great care in counting letters and words in order to preserve perfect copies. They also had very extreme traditions and methods for their transcriptions which included changing their clothing and bathing before writing the name of God (YHWH). The OT is also referred to as the Masoretic Text. OT manuscripts are written either on single pages of papyri, parchment scrolls (animal hides), or in codex books.



**(papyrus sheet on left and parchment scroll on right)**



**Codex Book (Sinaiticus)**

Version	Examples	Language	Date of Composition	Oldest Copy
Dead Sea Scrolls	Tanakh at Qumran	Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek (Septuagint)	150 BC–70 AD	150 BC–70 AD
Septuagint	Codex Vaticanus, Codex Sinaiticus and other earlier papyri	Greek	300–100 BC	2nd century BC (fragments) 4th century AD (complete)
Peshitta		Syriac		early 5th century AD
Vulgate	Codex Amiatinus	Latin		early 5th century AD early 8th century AD (complete)
Masoretic	Aleppo Codex, Leningrad Codex and others	Hebrew	ca. 100 CE	10th century AD
Samaritan Pentateuch		Samaritan alphabet	200–100 BCE	Oldest 11th century AD; oldest available 16th century AD
Targum		Aramaic	500–1000 CE	5th century AD
Coptic	Crosby-Schøyen Codex	Coptic		3rd or 4th century AD

**Oldest Existing Hebrew Bible (Tanakh) Manuscripts**



## The New Testament (NT)

The NT was written entirely in Koine Greek which was the every day language of the Greeks as well as Eastern parts of Rome and others. The entire NT was written in approximately 50 years between 50 A.D. and 96 A.D. Unlike the Old Testament, we know all of the authors of the NT texts except for the book of Hebrews. The sentence structure is actually similar to that of Hebrew or Aramaic showing that the authors were more used to or comfortable with these languages. Jews of this time period used Aramaic for most of their everyday communication; however, they would normally know Greek and Latin as well.

The NT was also transmitted to us through scribes who used very precise letter-by-letter checks to assure accuracy. There are both manuscripts and lectionaries available. A manuscript is any document that is written by hand while a lectionary is a book that contains a collection of particular scripture readings.

Parts of the New Testament have been preserved in more manuscripts than any other ancient work, having over 5,800 complete or fragmented Greek manuscripts, 10,000 Latin manuscripts and 9,300 manuscripts in various other ancient languages including Syriac, Slavic, Gothic, Ethiopic, Coptic and Armenian.

The various manuscripts are written in three major forms:

- 1) **Papyri** – a copy of a portion of the NT made on papyrus.
- 2) **Uncials** – a portion of the NT written using a type of script (written entirely in capital letters) commonly used from the 4th to 8th centuries AD by Latin and Greek scribes.
- 3) **Minuscules** - a copy of a portion of the NT written in a small, cursive Greek script.



**European Scribe**

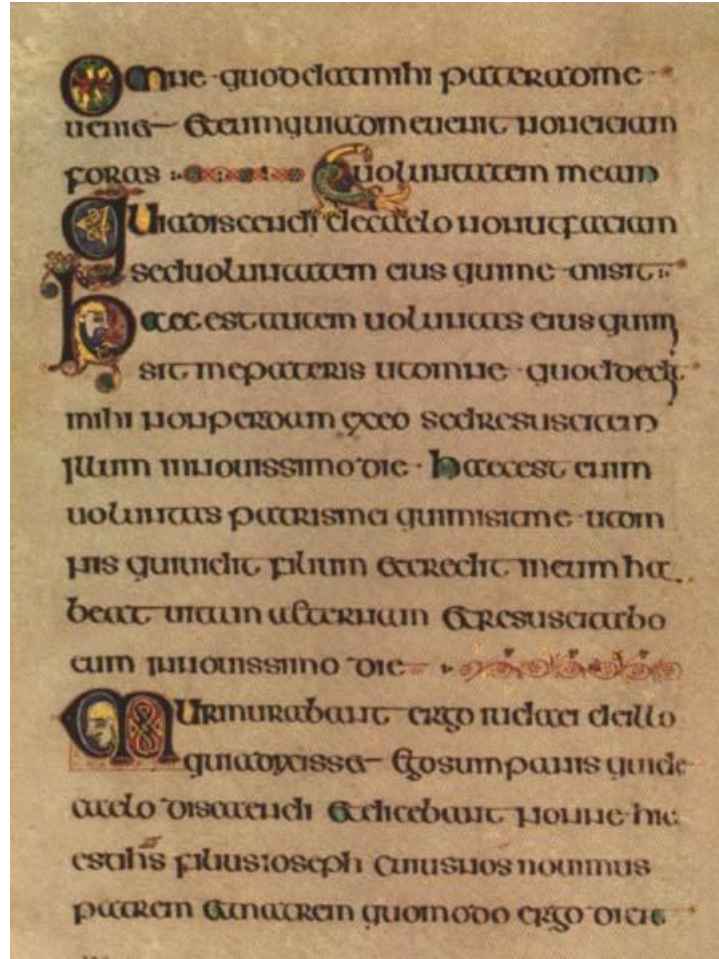


Greek - New Testament Manuscripts				Lectionaries	
Century	Papyri	Uncials	Minuscules	Uncials	Minuscules
2nd/3rd	7	1	-	-	-
3rd/4th	36	4	-	-	-
4th/5th	22	22	-	1	-
5th/6th	6	46	-	1	-
6th/7th	12	56	-	4	-
7th/8th	11	32	-	4	-
8th/9th	2	33	-	27	-
9th/10th	-	54	17	113	6
10th/11th	-	20	132	111	42
11th/12th	-	1	462	15	240
12th/13th	-	-	581	6	503
13th/14th	-	-	575	4	411
14th/15th	-	-	519	-	310
15th/16th	-	-	381	-	367

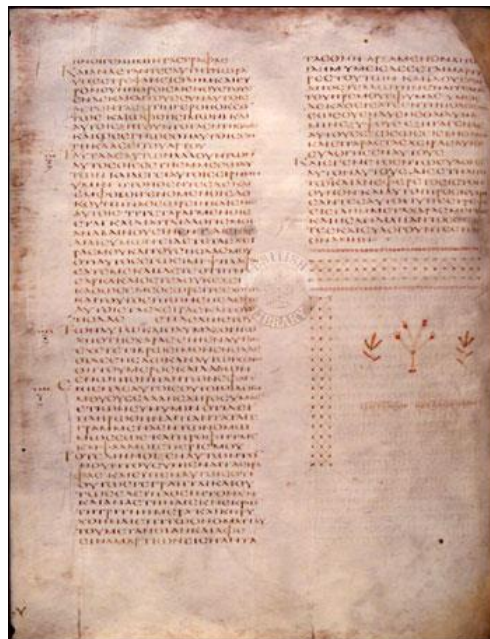
**Total: 96 Papyri, 555 Uncials, 4546 Minuscules**

Πίστις αὐτὸν ἔκτισεν ἐκείνους  
 περὶ αὐτοῦ παρὰ θεοῦ, ὁμομασίαν  
 αὐτῶν οὐκ ἔλαβον μαρτυρίαν, ἵνα  
 μαρτυρήσῃ περὶ τοῦ φωτός· ἵνα πάν-  
 τες, πιστεύσαντες ἐν τῷ ἔκτισ-  
 τῷ φῶσι, ἀλλ' ἵνα μαρτυρήσῃ πρὸς τὸ φῶς  
 τὸς ἡμῶν δὲ φῶς δὲ ἀνθρώπων, ὁ φῶς τὸ  
 πάντα ἀπὸν ὄντων ἄς δὲ κόσμος ἦ  
 ἐκ τῆς ἰσότητος αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὁ κόσμος οὐκ ἔγνω  
 τὸν θεόν, καὶ ὁ κόσμος οὐκ ἔγνω

**Codex Ebnerianus (Minuscules of John 1:5-10)**



Book of Kells (Uncials–All Capitals)



Codex Alexandrinus (Gospel of Luke)

<b>Book</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Condition</b>
Matthew	c. 200	Fragments
Mark	c. 250	Large Fragments
Luke	c. 200	Fragment
John	<b>c. 125-160 (Oldest)</b>	Fragment
Acts	early 3rd century	Fragment
Romans	c. 175-225	Fragments
1 Corinthians	c. 175-225	Fragments
2 Corinthians	c. 175-225	Fragments
Galatians	c. 175-225	Fragments
Ephesians	c. 175-225	Fragments
Philippians	c. 175-225	Fragments
Colossians	c. 175-225	Fragments
1 Thessalonians	c. 175-225	Fragments
2 Thessalonians	3rd/4th century	Fragment
1 Timothy	c. 350	Complete
2 Timothy	c. 350	Complete
Titus	c. 200	Fragment
Philemon	3rd century	Fragment
Hebrews	c. 175-225	Fragments
James	3rd century	Fragment
1 Peter	3rd century	Fragments
2 Peter	3rd/4th century	Fragments
1 John	3rd century	Fragment
2 John	3rd/4th century	Fragment
3 John	c. 350	Complete
Jude	3rd/4th century	Fragments
Revelation	2nd century	Fragment

**Earliest Known Manuscripts**

### Overall Manuscript Reliability

Manuscripts do differ slightly but it is only in spelling and punctuation and not in doctrine. Occasionally, certain words or passages are missing from certain manuscripts (Examples: Matthew 5:22 and Mark 16:9-20); however, they do not change anything that is doctrinally important.

The bible is the best preserved ancient book by far when compared to other well known manuscripts (see table below). Most of these non-biblical manuscripts are just “philosophical” writings of the author.

Author	Date Written	Earliest Copy	Years between original & copy	# of Copies
Lucretius	55 or 53 B.C.		1100	2
Pliny	61-113 A.D.	850 A.D.	750	7
Plato	427-347 B.C.	900 A.D.	1200	7
Demosthenes	4th Cent. B.C.	1100 A.D.	800	8
Herodotus	480-425 B.C.	900 A.D.	1300	8
Suetonius	75-160 A.D.	950 A.D.	800	8
Thucydides	460-400 B.C.	900 A.D.	1300	8
Euripides	480-406 B.C.	1100 A.D.	1300	9
Aristophanes	450-385 B.C.	900 A.D.	1200	10
Caesar	100-44 B.C.	900 A.D.	1000	10
Tacitus	circa 100 A.D.	1100 A.D.	1000	20
Aristotle	384-322 B.C.	1100 A.D.	1400	49
Sophocles	496-406 B.C.	1000 A.D.	1400	193
Homer (Iliad)	900 B.C.	400 B.C.	500	643
New Testament	50-100 A.D.	130 A.D.	less than 100	5600

The original scripture as well as original translations such as the Authorized King James Version did not have chapter and verse divisions. These were added between 1250 A.D. (chapters divisions added) and 1500 A.D. (verse divisions added) to make reference and reading easier. There are also words that show up in *italics* that indicate that they were added by the translators to make the verse more “readable” in English.

When determining how to interpret a verse or verses, you must always:

- 1) Take it in context to surrounding verses.
- 2) Always find support elsewhere in the bible “let scripture interpret scripture”.
- 3) Determine whether it is literal or figurative.

**Hermeneutics** - The study of the way in which you interpret the bible. There are dozens of different techniques applied to the analysis of scripture; however, for the typical reader, they can be condensed to two.

- 1) **Literal Interpretation** – This is the most common way to interpret the majority of the bible. “It means exactly what it says”.
- 2) **Figurative Interpretation** – This is the second most common way to interpret scripture. Figurative language is whenever you describe something by comparing it to something else. This can be done in several ways (i.e. a simile using “like” or “as”, metaphors-direct simile’s, personification, onomatopoeia (describing sounds), or hyperbole (exaggeration))

**Bible Text** - There are 2 thoughts behind what was the best original text.

- 1) The oldest text is the most reliable (ex. Septuagint or Latin Vulgate)
- 2) the most common text is the most reliable. (ex. Masoretic Texts)

OT scripture translating has been ongoing since around 300 B.C. when 70 Jewish scholars were ordered by Ptolemy II to provide a Greek translation of the Old Testament for Alexandrian Jews because they had gradually lost touch with the Hebrew language. The word “Septuagint” means seventy (LXX) which stands for the 70 Jewish scholars who made the translation. The Septuagint is the first attempt to translate the Hebrew Old Testament into another language and is based on Hebrew manuscripts 1,000 years older than the Hebrew of the Masoretic text on which our Bibles are based.

Another well known and influential translation was the fourth century Latin Vulgate. This was an entire Bible that was translated by Eusebius Hieronymus who is also known as Jerome. The Latin Vulgate was based on the Hebrew and it became the standard of the Roman Catholic Church.

Most modern bible translations are based on the Textus Receptus or the “received text”. This is an edition of the Greek New Testament that is based on Byzantine manuscripts and was published by Desiderius Erasmus in 1516 or a newer version of the Westcott-Hort text of 1881.

The key differences between translations is the choice of the original source. Typically, Orthodox churches favor the Septuagint for the Old

Testament and the Roman Catholic Church prefers the Latin Vulgate. For the New Testament, conservative Protestant denominations tend toward Byzantine manuscripts (i.e. Textus Receptus). The KJV came from the Textus Receptus manuscripts. Biblical researchers typically go with the oldest manuscripts that are verifiable. These include Alexandrian-type manuscripts for the NT and working from a mixture of Masoretic, Qumran, and Septuagint (LXX) texts for the OT.

One final note about gender before moving on. Greek and Hebrew mark all nouns just like Spanish and French do. Several new translations including the latest version of the New International Version (NIV) have been removing gender and thus changing the original and intended meaning of scripture. For example, they are changing the word “man” to “person”.

### **Concordances**

A word reference index for every word in the bible. You can search for a particular word and it will tell you every instance of that word in the bible. “Strong’s” (James Strong) concordance is one of the most popular.

**Word (English) concordance** – Also called an “exhaustive concordance” Lists typical definitions of a particular word and all of the verses that the word is used in.

**Hebrew Concordance** – A number is assigned to every unique Hebrew word in the bible as it was translated and the concordance lists the original Hebrew definition as well as all the places the word is used.

**Greek Concordance** – A number is assigned to every unique Greek word in the bible as it was translated and the concordance lists the original Greek definition as well as all the places the word is used.

There are also other important scriptural resources such as:

- Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words
- Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon
- Bauer-Arndt-Gingrich-Danker Dictionary
- Theological Workbook of the Old testament

## Bible Book Summary

Order	Testament	Book Title	Chapters	Author	Language	Book Type	Date Written
1	Old	Genesis	50	Moses	Hebrew	Law-Pentateuch	1445-1405 BC
2	Old	Exodus	40	Moses	Hebrew	Law-Pentateuch	1445-1405 BC
3	Old	Leviticus	27	Moses	Hebrew	Law-Pentateuch	1445-1405 BC
4	Old	Numbers	36	Moses	Hebrew	Law-Pentateuch	1445-1405 BC
5	Old	Deuteronomy	34	Moses	Hebrew	Law-Pentateuch	1445-1405 BC
6	Old	Joshua	24	Joshua?	Hebrew	History-Narrative	1405-1385 BC
7	Old	Judges	21	Samuel	Hebrew	History-Narrative	1043 BC
8	Old	Ruth	4	Samuel?	Hebrew	History-Narrative	1030-1010 BC
9	Old	1st Samuel	31	Unknown	Hebrew	History-Narrative	931-722 BC
10	Old	2nd Samuel	24	Unknown	Hebrew	History-Narrative	931-722 BC
11	Old	1st Kings	22	Unknown	Hebrew	History-Narrative	561-538 BC
12	Old	2nd Kings	25	Unknown	Hebrew	History-Narrative	561-538 BC
13	Old	1st Chronicles	29	Ezra?	Hebrew	History-Narrative	450-430 BC
14	Old	2nd Chronicles	36	Ezra?	Hebrew	History-Narrative	450-430 BC
15	Old	Ezra	10	Ezra	Hebrew & Aramaic	History-Narrative	457-444 BC
16	Old	Nehemiah	13	Ezra	Hebrew	History-Narrative	424-440 BC
17	Old	Esther	10	Unknown	Hebrew	History-Narrative	450-331 BC
18	Old	Job	42	Unknown	Hebrew	Poetry-Wisdom	Unknown
19	Old	Psalms	150	Multiple	Hebrew	Poetry-Wisdom	1410-450 BC
20	Old	Proverbs	31	Solomon?	Hebrew	Poetry-Wisdom	971-686 BC
21	Old	Ecclesiastes	12	Solomon	Hebrew	Poetry-Wisdom	940-931 BC
22	Old	Song of Solomon	8	Solomon	Hebrew	Poetry-Wisdom	971-965 BC
23	Old	Isaiah	66	Isaiah	Hebrew	Major Prophet	700-681 BC
24	Old	Jeremiah	52	Jeremiah	Hebrew & Aramaic	Major Prophet	586-570 BC
25	Old	Lamentations	5	Jeremiah	Hebrew	Major Prophet	586 BC
26	Old	Ezekiel	48	Ezekiel	Hebrew	Major Prophet	590-570 BC
27	Old	Daniel	12	Daniel	Hebrew & Aramaic	Major Prophet	536-530 BC
28	Old	Hosea	14	Hosea	Hebrew	Minor Prophet	755-710 BC
29	Old	Joel	3	Joel	Hebrew	Minor Prophet	835-796 BC
30	Old	Amos	9	Amos	Hebrew	Minor Prophet	755 BC
31	Old	Obadiah	1	Obadiah	Hebrew	Minor Prophet	850-840 BC
32	Old	Jonah	4	Jonah	Hebrew	Minor Prophet	760 BC
33	Old	Micah	7	Micah	Hebrew	Minor Prophet	735-710 BC
34	Old	Nahum	3	Nahum	Hebrew	Minor Prophet	650 BC
35	Old	Habakkuk	3	Habakkuk	Hebrew	Minor Prophet	615-605 BC
36	Old	Zephaniah	3	Zephaniah	Hebrew	Minor Prophet	635-625 BC
37	Old	Haggai	2	Haggai	Hebrew	Minor Prophet	520 BC
38	Old	Zechariah	14	Zechariah	Hebrew	Minor Prophet	480-470 BC
39	Old	Malachi	4	Malachi	Hebrew	Minor Prophet	433-424 BC
40	New	Matthew	28	Matthew	Greek	History-Narrative	50-60 AD
41	New	Mark	16	Mark	Greek	History-Narrative	50-60 AD
42	New	Luke	24	Luke	Greek	History-Narrative	60-61 AD
43	New	John	21	John	Greek	History-Narrative	80-90 AD
44	New	Acts	28	Luke	Greek	History-Narrative	62 AD
45	New	Romans	16	Paul	Greek	Epistle	56 AD
46	New	1st Corinthians	16	Paul	Greek	Epistle	55 AD
47	New	2nd Corinthians	13	Paul	Greek	Epistle	55-56 AD
48	New	Galatians	6	Paul	Greek	Epistle	49-50 AD
49	New	Ephesians	6	Paul	Greek	Epistle	60-62 AD
50	New	Philippians	4	Paul	Greek	Epistle	60-62 AD
51	New	Colossians	4	Paul	Greek	Epistle	60-62 AD
52	New	1st Thessalonians	5	Paul	Greek	Epistle	51 AD
53	New	2nd Thessalonians	3	Paul	Greek	Epistle	51-52 AD
54	New	1st Timothy	6	Paul	Greek	Epistle	62-64 AD
55	New	2nd Timothy	4	Paul	Greek	Epistle	66-67 AD
56	New	Titus	3	Paul	Greek	Epistle	62-64 AD
57	New	Philemon	1	Paul	Greek	Epistle	60-62 AD
58	New	Hebrews	13	Unknown	Greek	Epistle	67-69 AD
59	New	James	5	James	Greek	Epistle	44-49 AD
60	New	1st Peter	5	Peter	Greek	Epistle	64-65 AD
61	New	2nd Peter	3	Peter	Greek	Epistle	67-68 AD
62	New	1st John	5	John	Greek	Epistle	90-95 AD
63	New	2nd John	1	John	Greek	Epistle	90-95 AD
64	New	3rd John	1	John	Greek	Epistle	90-95 AD
65	New	Jude	1	Jude	Greek	Epistle	68-70 AD
66	New	Revelation	22	John	Greek	Epistle	94-96 AD



## Deuterocanonical Books

“Second Canon” There are 23 books mentioned or quoted from in the bible that are not part of the bible. These books played a very important role at particular points in history and were allowed to be lost after their usefulness was completed.

It is important to realize that because the Holy spirit moved the authors of particular books to refer to these “lost” books as an “expert witness”, there was a very important reason for it. In all cases, the books were referenced or quoted in such a way that it was obvious people of that time were very familiar with the quote and/or the entire book. The book of Enoch is particularly interesting because it says in the beginning of the book that it is meant for a future generation and not for the generation of the time it was written. It was found in Ethiopia at the turn of the century and also recently discovered with the Dead Sea Scrolls.

- 1) Book of the Covenant (Exodus 24:)
- 2) Book of the Wars of the Lord (Numbers 21:14)
- 3) Book of Jasher (Joshua 10:13) and (2 Samuel 1:18)
- 4) The Manner of the Kingdom / Book of Statutes (1 Samuel 10:25)
- 5) Book of Samuel the Seer (1 Chronicles 29:29)
- 6) Nathan the Prophet (1 Chronicles 29:29) and (2 Chronicles 9:29)
- 7) Acts of Solomon (1 Kings 11:41)
- 8) Shemaiah the Prophet (2 Chronicles 12:15)
- 9) Prophecy of Abijah (2 Chronicles 9:29)
- 10) Story of Prophet Iddo (2 Chronicles 13:22)
- 11) Visions of Iddo the Seer (2 Chronicles 9:29)
- 12) Iddo Genealogies (2 Chronicles 12:15)
- 13) Book of Jehu (2 Chronicles 20:34)
- 14) Sayings of the Seers (2 Chronicles 33:19)
- 15) Book of Enoch (Jude 1:14) – **AVAILABLE**
- 16) Book of Gad the Seer (1 Chronicles 29:29)
- 17) Epistle to Corinth (1 Corinthians 5:9)
- 18) Epistle to the Ephesians (Ephesians 3:3)
- 19) Epistle from Laodicea to the Colossians (Colossians 4:16)
- 20) Nazarene Prophecy Source (Matthew 2:23)
- 21) Acts of Uziah (2 Chronicles 26:22)
- 22) The Annals of King David (1 Chronicles 27:24)
- 23) Jude, the Missing Epistle (Jude 1:3)

### **Apocryphal Books**

Non-Canon books. These books are not mentioned in the bible. Referred to as “secret” or “hidden” books. Accepted by Roman Catholics. There were 14 apocryphal books that were originally part of the KJV but were removed in 1885 because they were deemed to be “not inspired”.

1. 1st Esdras (Vulgate 3rd Esdras)
2. 2nd Esdras (Vulgate 4th Esdras)
3. Tobit
4. Judith ("Judeth" in The Geneva Bible)
5. The Rest of Esther (Vulgate Esther 10:4-16:24)
6. Wisdom (of Solomon)
7. Ecclesiasticus (also known as Sirach)
8. Baruch (Vulgate) and the Epistle of Jeremy ("Jeremiah" in Geneva)
9. Song of the Three Children (Vulgate Daniel 3:24-90)
10. Story of Susanna (Vulgate Daniel 13)
11. The Idol Bel and the Dragon (Vulgate Daniel 14)
12. Prayer of Manasses (follows 2 Chronicles in Geneva)
13. 1st Maccabees
14. 2nd Maccabees

### **Bible Commentaries**

Godly men (theologians) have written explanations of what the verses/passages of the bible mean. This is usually at the bottom of each page. These are the words and opinions of men...not God. Always use more than one commentary if you are researching a difficult topic.

#### **Some good commentaries are:**

E.W. Bullinger (The Companion Bible)  
Charles Ryrie  
Believer's Bible Commentary (BBC)

### **Bible Software**

Software that can be used to read the bible electronically. Usually contains one or more versions of the bible, one or more commentaries, and a concordance. The best free software I have found is called “e-Sword” (www.e-sword.net).