



Summary of the Bible

The Inspired Word of God

This information is provided freely to ALL in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

With or Without Jesus Eternity is Forever.

Introduction

Only an all powerful Supreme Being could have accomplished the feat of assembling this book over 1500 years using numerous writers, who spoke different languages, during different time frames and in different geographic locations. Further, our Lord watched over a large number of translators, scribes, copyists and others in involved in transmitting the Word to future generations. God preserved the ancient writing. And finally, God inspired men to invent the printing press and at about the same time to undertake the massive task of translating the entire Bible from the ancient languages into the English language.

This is a summary or overview of God's inspired Word, commonly known as the Bible. We firmly believe that this Divine book has been delivered to us, exactly as God intended without error or contradiction, through the His Supreme Power.

Those who have studied the entire Bible easily see a unity of thought, which indicated that One Mind that is unique and distinctive inspired it. It was written by human authors,

some known and others unknown, who expressed in different ways, lived in different locations and under varying conditions, over several centuries, in ancient languages and yet this Holy Book contains precisely what God wishes mankind to understand and exactly the form He wanted it presented.

If one considers how it was develop, then they would undoubtedly agree that it represents a Miracle of the Ages. All men and women should hold their Bibles as one of their most precious possessions. To give it a central place in their lives and to read it every day. It is the one and only two links to Lord God Almighty, the other being prayer. **It contains the all information required for any man or woman to have hope of receiving Eternal life, the Greatest Gift of all.**

The Bible, which is actually 66 separate Books, bounded into one large Book, which is divided into two sections, the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament tells the history of the world and of the Israelites in detail during the period from the creation of the world until about 400 years before the birth of Christ

Some people like to look for or point out what appears to be contradictions within the Book. In the event, you find or have such pointed out to you, it is up to you to determine why the passage or passages are being interpreted incorrectly and if necessary to change your beliefs to match His Word. It may be helpful to make use of a parallel Bible, which compares the four most popular in parallel columns. If you are still confused, seek the assistance of your Minister or an Elder.

Hopefully, the overview will assist those who are not already familiar with the Greatest Story Ever Told by outlining where certain Bible stories and verses may be found and by making comments regarding the contents of each book and testament.

Important Note: These materials have been prepared in a modified outline form; in order to, quickly convey the concepts, ideas and suggestions in a minimum number of words. For example, whenever possible, short phrases are used in lieu of complete sentences. It is intended as a guide and is not a replacement for reading the Book.

The Old Testament

The History of a Nation and the Old Covenant

1. The Old Testament contains a total of 39 Books, which have been classified, into three groups, as;

A. Historical, the Rise and Fall of the Hebrew Nation, a total of 17 Books. The first book, *Genesis* covers approximately one half of all human history. The first five Books contain the Law of Moses.

B. Poetical, stories of the of the Rise or Golden Age of the Hebrew Nation, a total of 5 Books, including the Books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and the Song of Songs or Song of Solomon.

C. Prophetic, stories of the Fall or the Dark Age of the Hebrew Nation, total of 17 Books, written by a total of 16 Prophets (Jeremiah wrote two, Jeremiah and Lamentations). Bible scholars have divided the Prophets in major and minor. Those considered Major Prophets are Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel, the balance are considered Minor Prophets.

The Old Testament contains Three Major Topics

1. The Promise of God to Abraham.

That through Abraham's seed or family line, that all Nations would be blessed. God founded the Hebrew Nation, as the Messianic Nation to the World. The Nation through which the Gift of Jesus or the Messiah and the New Covenant, would come from God, for the benefit of all peoples until the end of time on earth or the second coming. Many Bible scholars suggest that God's ultimate objective in founding the Hebrew Nation was to bring Jesus Christ into the world.

2. God's Covenant with the Hebrew Nation.

Simply stated God promised the Hebrew Nation, if they would faithfully Serve Him and only Him that they would enjoy great prosperity as a Nation. If they did not faithfully Serve Him and worshipped Idols, they would be destroyed.

At that time in history, most Nations worshipped Idols; their Idols included gods of sun, gods of the sky, gods of the moon etc.

The story of the Old Testament includes God's efforts to discount the existence of these so-called gods and to introduce the concept of the One and only True Living God.

3. God's Promise to David.

That his seed would Reign over God's People for all Eternity! That out of his family would come, in the far future, one Great King, the King of kings, who would live and rule over God's People forever.

As a result of the these Promises and Covenant;

1. The population of the world was blessed through the formation of the Hebrew Nation, which was the Messianic Nation.
2. The through Hebrew Nation, would come the lineage of Jesus through the Family of David, which was Messianic Family
3. The Family of David bought blessings on the whole world through the birth of ONE GREAT KING, the KING of kings, **The MESSIAH, The CHRIST or The ANOINTED ONE**

The CHRIST or MESSIAH;

Suffered and died to make atonement before God for the sins of all humanity, as God's justice requires that all sins be punished,

He serves as a living example of how God expects people to conduct their lives.

He took part in the Creation of the World, is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and he came to earth live as a man. The first chapter of John confirms that; 1. In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. 2. He was with God in the beginning. 14a The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

And much more!

The Prophet Daniel foresaw the Messiah and recounts his vision in Daniel 7:13-14 as follows; In my visualization at night I looked, and there before me was one like a *son of man*, (Jesus often referred to himself as the 'Son of Man' [Mark 14:61-62, Luke 22:66-70] as his image had been transformed from a spiritual to physical form when He came to earth and was born of woman) coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshipped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Before the Beginning of the World

The Bible contains little information regarding Eternity Past, before the formation of the world. As in several other areas, the Bible is silent on this topic. Won't it be wonderful in

the Eternity Future, when we may be able to get some of the answers? In the meantime, we must be content with what is offered. Verses, which refer to the time before creation, include:

Psalms 90:2

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

1 Corinthians 2:7

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

1 Peter 1:20

Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Titus 1:2

In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

The Historical Books of the Old Testament

Genesis

The first Book of the Law of Moses

Meaning of Genesis is birth or Beginning. Written by Moses, probably during the 40 years of wanderings in the wilderness, this single book covers approximately fifty percent of all human history.

Genesis 1

Bible scholars have estimated the world was created between 6000 and 7300 years ago. These may or may not be accurate.

Genesis 2-3

Story of Adam and Eve - First Sin, cast out of the Garden of Eden

Genesis 3

Satan mentioned, it is not stated if Lucifer had fallen at this time or if it had occurred at some earlier time in Eternity Past.

Genesis 6

Story of Noah, the Ark and the Great Flood

Genesis 9

God's Covenant with Noah

God put a bow (many Bible scholars suggest that the bow is actually a rainbow) in the sky and said that it was a sign of His promise to Noah and all living creatures for all time that He would never again destroy all life with a flood. (Genesis 9:13)

Genesis 11

Tower of Babel

Genesis 12

God's call to Abram, who was a faithful and obedience servant God made promises to Abram. A key factor in God's plan was the promise to make Abram the beginning of a great nation.

Estimated Timeline about 2000 BC

Genesis 17

God changed Abram name to Abraham and promised that all nations on the earth would be blessed through him

The second important promise to Abraham was fulfilled in Jesus (Galatians 3:16). He blessed all nations by offering salvation and remission of sins to all who come to Him.

Genesis 19

Story of Lot

Two Angels visited Sodom, Lot met them at the gate, they went to Lot's house, the men of Sodom surrounded Lot's house, demanded that Lot bring out the Angels "that we man know them", Lot went out ask that the men leave his guests alone and offered them his two virgin daughters instead, the men attempted to break in, Lot was pulled into the house by the Angels, who blinded the men who were attempting to enter. This is the first reference to homosexuality in the Bible.

Genesis 22

Story of Abraham and Isaac

Genesis 24

Isaac and Rebekah

Genesis 28

Jacob's Vision of the Ladder

Estimated Timeline about 1900 BC

Genesis 32

Jacob wrestles with Angel.

Genesis 37

Joseph, his brothers and the coat of many colors

Genesis 41

Joseph Interprets Pharaohs Dream

Estimated Timeline about 1700 BC

Exodus

The second Book of the Law of Moses

Exodus means "going out" or the exodus of the children of Israel leaving bondage in Egypt and their pilgrimage to the Promised Land. The Ten Commandments, found in the first 17 verses of Chapter 20, became the basis of the moral codes and laws of the civilized world.

Exodus 2

Story of Baby Moses

Estimated Timeline about 1525 BC

Exodus 3

Burning Bush, God Commissions Moses to lead the Israelites out of bondage in Egypt and guide them to the land of Canaan.

Exodus 7

Aaron's rod becomes snake and swallows magicians snakes

Plague of blood

Estimated Timeline about 1440 BC

Exodus 8

Plague of frogs, gnats, flies

Exodus 9

Plague on livestock, Plague of boils, fire and hail

Exodus 10

Plague of locusts, darkness

Exodus 11

Plague on the firstborn

Exodus 12

First Passover, exodus begins

Exodus 14

Crossing the Red Sea

Exodus 16

Manna and Quail

Exodus 20

Ten Commandments

Exodus 25

The Ark

Leviticus

The third Book of the Law of Moses

Leviticus is derived from Levi, who was one of Jacob's 12 sons. This Book, written by Moses, provides the rituals and ceremonies of the tabernacle services and the duties of the priests, including making sacrifices and teaching the Law of Moses. In chapter nineteen the Lord commanded the people to love their neighbors for the first time.

Leviticus 19:18

Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the Lord.

Numbers

The fourth Book of the Law of Moses

This Book takes its name from the numbering of the children of Israel. It continues the story of the journey of the people to the Promised Land, which was dropped in Exodus 19.

Numbers 20

God provided water from the rock, for people who numbered over 600,000 at that time. Moses disobeyed God when he struck the rock with his rod twice. God punished Moses by not allowing him to enter the Promised Land.

Deuteronomy

The fifth and final Book of the Law of Moses

Deuteronomy is defined as the second law or second giving of the law, which was given for the benefit of the generation born in the wilderness.

Deuteronomy 31

Joshua succeeds Moses

Deuteronomy 34

Death and burial of Moses

Estimated Timeline about 1400 BC

Joshua

Story of Joshua leading the Israelites, across the river Jordan, into Promised Land and the conquering of Canaan. The first five Books of the Bible or the Law of Moses were carried with the people. The last part is Joshua's instructions to honor God and live to high personal standards.

Joshua 6
Battle of Jericho
Joshua 10
The sun stands still

Judges

Beginning of Theocracy in which God ruled directly through Judges.

Estimated Timeline about 1380 BC

Judges 7
The sword of the Lord and Gideon
Judges 15
Exploits of Samson
Judges 16
Samson & Delilah

Ruth

A love story from the time of the Judges

The passage 1:16-17 "And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me." IS ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PASSAGES IN ALL OF LITERATURE. Ruth was the great-grandmother of David, therefore in the human lineage of Jesus.

Estimated Timeline about 1150 BC

Ruth 1
Ruth & Naomi

Ruth 2

Ruth gleanes in the field.

First and Second Samuel

Ending days of the Theocracy, with the Israelites rejecting Jehovah and calling for the rule of an earthly king - the first was Saul, who was a mighty warrior, but was not after God's own heart - After Saul's death, God's choice, David became the King. These Books cover the lives of Saul, David and Samuel, the last of the Judges.

Estimated Timeline about 1043 BC

1 Samuel 11

Saul became King

1 Samuel 17

David's Victory over Goliath

1 Samuel 19

David and Jonathan

1 Samuel 28

Saul Consults with Witch of Endor

1 Samuel 31

Death of Saul

Estimated Timeline about 1011 BC

2 Samuel 2

David Anointed King of Judah

2 Samuel 7

God promises David an Eternal Throne. The promise was that one day the House of David would bless the world through the birth of the King of kings, who would himself live forever and reign over a Kingdom of endless duration.

2 Samuel 11

David and Bathsheba

First and Second Kings

First Kings opens with the Hebrew Nation in its golden age. Second Kings ends with the nation in ruins. Covers the reign of King Solomon, the Temple, the splendor of Solomon Court, the division and decline of the Kingdom, as well as the saga of Elijah

Estimated Timeline about 971 BC

1 Kings 1

Solomon becomes King

1 Kings 3

Solomon's choice of Wisdom

1 Kings 5

Solomon builds the Temple

1 Kings 9

Splendor of the Kingdom

1 Kings 10

The Queen of Sheba visits Solomon

1 Kings 11

Solomon Wives, heathen altars and the beginning of the end of a glorious reign and nation

1 Kings 18

Elijah and the Prophets of Baal

2 Kings 2

Elijah Translation, God sent a deputation of Angelic chariots to bear Elijah to Heaven in triumph.

First and Second Chronicles

In the main, duplicate the writings of the Books of Samuel and Kings.
Emphasize genealogies, the history of Judah and temple worship.

Ezra

An account of the beginning of the return from captivity in Babylon and the rebuilding of the Temple

Ezra 3

Foundation of the Temple

Ezra 5

Temple completed

Ezra 7

Ezra journey to Jerusalem

Ezra 9

Mixed marriages with idolatrous neighbors, which God had forbidden and the cure

Nehemiah

The Wall of Jerusalem rebuilt. Many parts of the Book written in the first person or as a personal history

Nehemiah 6

The completion of the Wall

Nehemiah 8

Ezra reads the Law

Esther

The Jew's deliverance from Extermination This Book is a beautiful example of the Providence of God and how He cares for His true followers. The last of the Historical Books

Estimated Timeline about 525 BC

Esther 1

Queen Vashi rebels and is deposed

Esther 2

The search for a Queen

Esther made Queen of Persia.

Esther 9

Triumph of the Jews

Deliverance! Feast of Purism instituted.

The Poetical Books of the Old Testament

Stories of the Golden Age of the Hebrew Nation

Job

The story of a righteous man who suddenly had his children and possession destroyed.

Job was then plunged into great personal suffering.

A philosophical Book, which is thought, by many Bible scholars, to be one of the oldest pieces of literature in existence

Job 42

Job's prosperity restored

Psalms

This Book is composed of 150 Psalms, of which approximately fifty percent have been ascribed to King David, some of which are quite lyrical with beautiful imagery and expression, including 1, 19, 22, 23, 90, 100 and 103. It served as the national hymnbook of the Jews and as the basis of many modern Christian songs. Called in Hebrew "Book of Praises" Considered to be the most Glorious Accomplishment of Israel's Golden Age. Most quoted Book in the New Testament.

Proverbs

Written by King Solomon with contributions by Agur (Chapter 30) and by Bathsheba, his mother (Chapter 31) - Please note that "King Lemuel" may have been another name for Solomon. A proverb is a brief statement regarding a single moral truth in a pointed, pithy, direct fashion. An ancient oriental method of instructions that was understood by the masses - The basic underlying concept of the Book is that all wisdom is a gift of God - A Book for all ages, as practical today as the time in which it was written should be required reading for all young people as well as their elders. Contains so many gems of useful knowledge that it should be carefully studied - The following is a few samples of what the reader will find:

Proverbs 1

Objective of the Book; to promote Wisdom, Instruction, Understanding, Righteousness, Justice, Equity, Prudence, Knowledge, Discretion, Learning and Sound Counsels

That the beginning point is the Fear of God Instructions to follow parental directives and a strong warning against bad companions

Proverb 2

Wisdom must be sought after. God's Word is the primacy source. Warnings about "strange women", which is repeated numerous times in the Book Interesting in light of the fact that Solomon was involved with no less than 1000 women

Proverb 8

Wisdom, personified as a female and its rewards.

Proverbs 9

Warns that "Stolen waters are sweet" and the reward for partaker is Hell.

Proverbs 12

A worthy woman is the glory of her husband.

Proverbs 13

He that guards his mouth guards his life.

Proverbs 15

A soft answer turns away wrath.

Proverbs 22

A good name is to be chosen over great riches.

Proverbs 27

Boast not yourself of tomorrow.

Proverbs 28

He that hides his eyes from the poor shall have many a curse.

Ecclesiastes

Written by Solomon in his old age - after having everything the world could offer he came to the conclusion that all is "vanity" or regardless of what it is, its beauty or its value that it will pass away and all that is important is the Hope of Immortality. This expressed clearly in Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil."

Song of Solomon or Song of Songs

A glorification of wedded love written by Solomon in the form of a love song with springtime in full blossom, which exhibits Solomon attraction to nature, orchards, gardens, meadows, vineyards and animals. May have been written to celebrate his marriage to his favorite wife or to symbolize the great love of God for His followers - Can be difficult to understand in the King James Version - Is somewhat less difficult in modern translations.

The Prophetic Books of the Old Testament

Stories of the Dark Age of the Hebrew Nation

The mission of the Prophets was to attempt to save the nation from its sins and idolatry. Failing in this, to warn that the nation would be destroyed, but not completely. A small portion would be saved. Out of this portion would come an influence that would spread over the world and bring all nations to God. That influence would be a Great Man, who would arise from the House of David. The once mighty House of David in the later days had all but disappeared, but would continue and make a comeback when out of family stock would come a sprout so great that it was called "The Branch", referring, of course, to Jesus Christ. The Prophets made dozens of accurate predictions in the Old Testament. This guide is limited to those predictions regarding the birth, work, life, death and resurrection of our Lord. Examples of these will be found at the end of this section.

Major Prophets

Isaiah

This Book was written during the fall of the Hebrew Nation. The masses had generally turned away from God. Isaiah prophesied the captivity of both Israel and Judah, as well as, the return of the exiles and the coming of the Messiah. Isaiah was widely quoted in the New Testament.

Isaiah 1

Appalled by Wickedness of Judah

Isaiah 2

Vision of the Christian Age

Isaiah 9, 11, 53

The Prince of Peace

Description of Christ and His kingdom

Jeremiah

This Prophet lived in Jerusalem, during the time prior to and during the period the people of the southern kingdom or Judah were held in captivity in Babylon. Through him God made His final attempt to save the City, which failed. The people refused to obey and were forced to pay the price as

foretold. Written with great authority on the Love of God and the certainty of the final judgment on sinful people

Jeremiah 6

Predicts destruction by northern invaders

Jeremiah 25

Predicts captivity of seventy years

Jeremiah 39

Jerusalem Burned.

Estimated Timeline about 586 BC

Lamentations

This Book is basically a Funeral Dirge over the destruction of Jerusalem. Jeremiah writes of his personal grief over the ruins of Jerusalem and the Temple that he had predicted. The same theme run throughout the Book, different wording, but the same general ideas. The horrors of the attack, the ruins and that it was all due to the sins of the people.

Ezekiel

The major theme of the Book is "They Shall Know that I am God". The mission of Ezekiel to explain the reason for God's causing Israel's captivity. They were Idolaters and the captivity was the cure. Ezekiel was unusual in that he dated most of his writing. He experienced several visions and wrote detailed descriptions. This is a complex, but very interesting Book.

Ezekiel 1

Vision of God, Cherubim

Ezekiel 9

Vision of the Destruction of Jerusalem idolaters, saving of faithful, who bore the mark of the angel-scribe

Ezekiel 10

Vision of Cherubim and Wheels

Ezekiel 11

Vision of future Restoration of Exiles

Ezekiel 15

Parable of the Vine-Tree
Ezekiel 17
Parable of the Two Eagles
Ezekiel 37
Vision of Dry Bones

Daniel

The writer of exciting stories and visions
Carried to captivity while in his youth, become a Hebrew Statesman and
Prophet in Babylon. Had direct contact with Nebuchadnezzar, who built the
famous Hanging Gardens. Very readable history

Estimated Timeline about 538 BC

Daniel 3
The Fiery Furnace
Daniel 5
Writing on the Wall
Daniel 6
Daniel in the Lions Den
Daniel 12
Prediction of events at the end of earthly time

Minor Prophets

The Minor Prophets include Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah,
Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi.

Last Prophetic Book Malachi completed

Estimated Timeline about 400 BC

Hosea 8
Have Sown the Wind; Shall Reap the Whirlwind
Joel 1
Plague of Locusts
Amos 8
The Basket of Summer Fruit
Jonah 1
Jonah and the Large Fish (referred to by Christ, Matthew 12:38-41)

Estimated Timeline of the Bible

BIBLE EVENTS	BC	WORLD EVENTS
Creation	5315	In 2006 the earth would be 7321 years old according to the Septuagint (quoted by Christ), based on manuscript 350 years older than the Massoretic text
First people	?	Adam, Eve, Cain, Abel, Seth.
Flood	?	Noah: Shem, Ham, Japheth. Kish Clay tablet has cuneiform writing.
Septuagint Chronology	3500-2500	Early Sumerians, Early Egyptians. Canaanites in Canaan, Conflicts between Sumer & Akkad, Egyptian pyramids built.
	2000	Amorites, Horites, Hittites, Egyptians trading freely with Mesopotamia. Egyptians make papyrus.
Abraham leaves Ur	2000-1900	12 and 13 th Dynasty of Egypt. Ziggurat of Ur. Babylon becomes capital.
	1800	Hammurabi of Babylon in power. His code of law has been found.
	1720	Hyksos invaders from Asia gain control of Egypt. Introduced horses & chariots.
Joseph in Egypt	1700	16 & 17 Dynasty.
	1600	Hittites conquer Babylon.
Israelite slavery begins	1570-1550	18 Dynasty. Egyptian Empire (New Kingdom) oppressed all Semitic people living in Nile Delta.
	1550	Hyksos rulers driven out of Egypt.
Birth of Moses	1525	

	1500	Thutmose III rules Egypt. Empire reaches its height.
Exodus from Egypt	1440	The Exodus began 480 years before Solomon began to build the Temple (I Kings 6:1).
Conquest of Canaan	1400	Shang Dynasty flourishes in China.
Period of Judges	1380	Assyria strong for a time but didn't directly touch Palestine.
	1300	Colossi built by Rameses II
	1200	Ramses III rules Egypt. Trojan War.
Saul	1043-1011	
David	1011-971	
Solomon	971-930	Assyria rising to power again.
Divided Kingdom	931	
Jehu of Israel pays tribute to Assyria	825	Assyrian empire 824-625 BC. Prevalent language is Aramaic.
	753	City of Rome founded by Romulus who became its first king.
Fall of Samaria	722	Assyrian captivity of Northern Kingdom (Israel).
Assyria invades Judah	701	
	612	Fall of Assyria. Babylon gains control of empire. Nebuchadnezzar leads, first as general, then as king.
Jehoiakim	609	Nebuchadnezzar takes first captives from Jerusalem.
Babylonian Captivity	606-536	First group from Judah taken to Babylon.

Jehoiachin	597	Jerusalem captured by Babylon, more captives taken.
Zedekiah blinded	590/89	On 9 Tamuz, Jerusalem is captured. Zedekiah is taken to Nebuchadnezzar in Riblah and blinded.
	589/88	Gedaliah is assassinated. Jeremiah is taken to Egypt with the refugees.
	588/87	Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dreams.
Fall of Jerusalem	586	Babylon captures Jerusalem. It is burned and plundered. Temple is destroyed. Gedaliah is appointed governor.
	585/84	Conquest of Tyre. Many Jewish refugees taken to Bavel. Astyages becomes king of Media.
	581/80	Nebuchadnezzar conquers Egypt.
	564/63	Nebuchadnezzar dies. Exiled king Jehoiachin released from prison.
	563/62	Era of Evil-Merodach lasts 22 years. Jews are honored and favored.
	559/58	Nirgal Sharetzar (Neriglasser) son-in-law of Nebuchadnezzar.
	555/54	Nabunaid (also calls himself Nebuchadnezzar) adopts Nebuchadnezzar's grandson, Belshazzar, and grants him royal powers.
	541/40	Belshazzar reigns.
	539/38	Belshazzar killed. Nabunaid captured. Cyrus appoints Darius the Mede as acting king of the Chaldeans. He rules for less than one year.
Daniel In Lion's Den	538	
	538/37	Persia gains control. Cyrus issues proclamation for

		Jews to return to their homelands. Sheshbazzar and Zerubbabel.
	539	Fall of Babylon.
Rebuild Temple	536	Samaritans and other enemies conspiring against Judah. First group returned from Babylon to Judah.
	535/34	Cambyses (Ahasuerus) appointed coregent by his father Cyrus. Temple building stopped. Cyrus now also called Artaxerxes (Emperor) revokes proclamation.
	529/28	Cyrus dies. Cambyses becomes sole emperor.
Queen Esther	525	Ahasuerus (Cambyses) conquers Egypt. He rules from India to Ethiopia.
Haman falls, Jews are saved	500-475	Confucious lives in China. Buddha lives in India. Socrates lives in Greece.
	523/22	Purim.
	522/21	Cambyses dies. Persian empire revolts.
	521/20	Darius I.
Building Resumed	520/19	Haggai, Zechariah.
Temple Completed	516	Re-building of Jerusalem wall is begun.
Ezra	515/14	Darius takes Thrace and Macedon.
	487/86	Darius I dies.
Preparing For Return	486/85	Ezra travels to Babylon to organize the exiles.
Mixed Marriages	479/78	Mixed marriages are dissolved.
Enemies burn Jerusalem's walls	466/65	Darius' son Artaxerxes occupies Athens in 480 but then is defeated twice by the Greeks and loses 1/3 of his ships before he dies in 465.

Ezra Restores Worship	458	Second group returns under Ezra.
	449	All Asia Minor was granted freedom from Persian control.
Nehemiah	446/45	Becomes governor.
Malachi, Last Prophet	445-432	Restoration of Judah.
BIBLE EVENTS	BC	WORLD EVENTS
Walls Re-built	433/32	Festive dedication of Jerusalem walls.
	424/23	Darius II (Nothan).
	410	Yeb Temple in Egypt destroyed.
	405/04	Artaxerxes II (Mnemon).
	400	Olympic games began.
	375	Plato and Aristotle. Alexander the Great is educated by Aristotle.
	360/59	Artaxerxes III (Ochus). Greece's power rising.
	353/52	Final temple restoration completed by Shimon Hatzadik (Simon "The Just").
	339/38	Darius III (Codomanus).
	336-323	Alexander the Great defeats Persians. Grecian empire is divided into 3 main parts.
	320/19	Ptolemy Soter conquers Jerusalem.
	318/17	Greek domination of Jewish life starts in Elam (Media). Spreads all over the Jewish world within the next six years and lasts for 180 years.

	316/315	Antifones conquers Jerusalem.
	313/12	Ptolemy 1 reconquers Jerusalem.
	312/11	Battle of Gaza. Ptolemy I (King of South or the Egyptian ruler no longer called pharaoh) and Selucus Nicanor (King of North or the Syrian empire) are in control of most of Alexander's empire including Thrace, Asia Minor, Syria, Babylon, Media and on to India. Power lasted until 64 BC.
	c. 300-100	Jews caught in power struggle between Syria and Egypt. Greek language was prominent. Old cities were renamed: Accho became Ptolemais; Bethshan became Scythopolis; Rabbah became Philadelphia.
	300	Rome rapidly growing in power. Conquering toward north and west first. Temple of Diana in Ephesus. Greek philosophy prevalent.
	280	Ptolemy (Philadelphus) 11 founded the Alexandrian Library. He gathered 72 scholars and translated the Old Testament into Greek-- the Septuagint. Six out of every seven quotes in the Gospels and Acts are direct quotes from the Septuagint rather than the original Hebrew.
	225	Great Wall of China built.
	198	Grecian-Syrian empire defeats Egypt.
	175	Antiochus IV forced the Samaritans to renounce their religion. Went on to Jerusalem setting up a high priest favorable to Hellenistic program. He defiled the altar by offering swine. He outlawed Jewish ceremonies such as circumcision. He forbid observance of the Sabbath. He added the title "Epiphanes" to his name and declared himself to be Zeus forcing his subjects to worship himself and his idols.

	167-161	Jews revolt against Syria under an elderly priest, Matthias Hasmoneas, living in Modein west of Jerusalem. The revolt was carried on by his son, Judas Maccabee. Samaria was conquered and Mt. Gerizim was destroyed.
	164	Judas Maccabee re-took Jerusalem and the temple Mount. He cleansed the sanctuary and re-lit the lamps in the temple. Celebrated as Hanukkah or Feast of Dedication.
	133/37	Beginning of Chashmonaim Era (103 years).
BIBLE EVENTS	BC-AD	WORLD EVENTS
	102- Mar 15,44	Julius Caesar.
	100	Rome growing as a threat to Palestine.
	63	Jerusalem falls to Rome under the Roman general, Pompey. Judea became a province of the Roman Empire.
	47	Julius Caesar appointed Antipater over Judea.
	40-4	Antipater made his son, Phasaelus, governor in Jerusalem and made Herod the Great ruler of Galilee. Herod was then made King of Palestine by Rome's authority.
	35/34	Beginning of the Herodian Era (103 years).
	27	Augustus Caesar born Sept 2, 31 BC. Begins his rule (27 BC- AD 14) Contemporary with Mark Antony & Cleopatra. Reigned when Jesus was born.
	19	Jerusalem was renovated into a city of marble. Herod built a combination palace and fort for himself, which

		he called the Upper Palace. Started to re-build the Temple. It took about 84 years to complete.
Birth of Christ	4-6 BC	Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes, Zealots are major Jewish parties.
	6 AD	Augustus appoints Herod's son, Archelaus, to rule Judea, Samaria and Idumea. Herod Antipas is tetrarch of Galilee and Peraea and Philip ruler of Trachonitis on Herod the Great's death. Archelaus is removed from power in 6 AD because of immense cruelty and Judea is placed under a Roman procurator, Pontius Pilate.
	14	Tiberius begins his reign (14-37) Lk 3:1 Jesus public ministry, resurrection & crucifixion.
Church Established Acts 2	30	10 yr governorship of Pontius Pilate ends.
Church Spreads Acts 8-9	31-37	Caligula becomes emperor (37-41) (Gaius "mad") Birth of Josephus.
	39	Herod Antipas banished to Lyons, Gaul.
Gentiles Converted Acts 10	40	Reign of Claudius. He conquers Britain. Herod Agrippa I appointed king and rules Judea and Samaria.
	41	Claudius succeeds Caligula (41-54) Acts 11:28;8:2.
Persecution Acts 12	44	Agrippa I dies.
Paul's Journey Begins Acts 13-14	45	Aqueduct (Claudia) completed by Claudius in Rome. Herod Agrippa II rules part of Palestine.
Council at Jerusalem Acts 15	50	Reign of Nero.
	51	Antonius Felix appointed Procurator.
	52	Claudius banished all Jews from Rome.

Paul's Second Journey Acts 16	52-54	
1 & 2 Thessalonians	54	Nero becomes emperor (54-68) Could be nominated by armies Acts 25:8; Phil 4:22.
Third Miss Journey Acts 18	54-58	
Gal, 1&2 Cor, Rom	54-58	
Paul in Caesarea Acts 24-25	55	Paul imprisoned.
Paul sails for Rome Acts 27	60	Porcius Festus Procurator of Judea.
James Written	44-62	
Death of James	62	Death of Festus before the death of James the Brother of Jesus.
Paul In Rome	61-63	Nero's persecution of christians begins.
BIBLE EVENTS	AD	WORLD EVENTS
Phil, Eph, Col, Philem		
Paul Released Prison	63	
1 Tim, Titus Written		
	64	City of Rome burned during reign of Nero. The Temple was completely built. It was an enormous complex of buildings in huge, cream-colored stones, marble and gold.
Heb, 1&2 Pet, Jude		
Matt, Mk, Lk Written	c 60-70	Second Imprisonment

2 Tim Written		
Paul & Peter Killed	65	Reigns of Galba, Otho, Vitellius, Vespasian. Birth of Ignatius.
	66	Beginning of great war between Romans & Jews.
	68	Death of Nero. Galba, Otho, Vitellius emperors in same year.
	69	Vespasian becomes sole emperor (69-79).
Jerusalem Destroyed	70	Titus later becomes emperor. Birth of Polycarp
	75	Coliseum built.
	79	Mount Vesuvius erupts, buries Pompeii.
John, 1&2&3 John	c 80-90	
	81	Domitian begins his rule (81-96) Took the title of Lord & God. John exiled to Patmos.
Revelation written	95	Nerva succeeds Domitian (96-98).
	98	Trajan becomes emperor. Roman empire reaches its greatest size.
Death of John	100	Birth of Justin Martyr.
	98-117	Trajan.
	117-138	Hadrian.
	138-161	Antoninus pius. Peace prevailed for Christians.
	161-180	Marcus Aurelius took official action against Christianity. He was responsible for death of Justin Martyr (AD 165).
	180-192	Commodus.

	249-251	Celcius launched attacks against christians and like Nero used them as scapegoats for his own failures.
	303-305	Under Diocletian intense persecution of the church. Many churches were destroyed and Bibles burned.
	313	Constantine reversed the persecution with his edict of Milan making Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire.
	395	Theodosius I.
	476	Germans.
	1453	Turks.

(Loreen Rudd, excerpt from an article entitled "The Bible Timeline of History")

The New Testament

Christ is the Heart of the Bible

The entire New Testament is centered on Jesus and his Teachings.

The Old Testament was an account of the Hebrew Nation. In founding the Hebrew Nation, the apparent ultimate objective of God was to prepare the world to receive the Messiah. The apparent immediate objective of God was to establish firmly, in a world of false Idols, the concept of One Living God. The Hebrew Nation was created, protected, cared for and forgiven for sins that might have resulted in total destruction for other Nations, by God, to bring One Man, God Himself in human form, into the world.

This may have been done so that all men might have a pattern to follow, a tangible concept of the type of person to think of when we try to visualize God. It not within the capabilities of humans to visualize a spirit that they cannot see Jesus was in the likeness of God, as He wished man to see him.

Christ was God's greatest gift to man here on earth. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16) Jesus provided the way to God's greatest gift in Heaven,

which is eternal life. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6)

His arrival was the single most important event in the history of the world, past, current or future.

Christ lived a perfect life, completely free of sin. He was the most patient, sympathetic, kindest, gentlest, forgiving and loving man who ever lived on earth. He is the same today. He knows YOUR name, understands your situation and stands ready to help you just as he helps the countless numbers in the first century. He longs for everyone to understand His teachings, so he taught using parables, so that even the common man could understand. Christ performed numerous miracles and relieved the suffering of many, of which a few are detailed in the New Testament. These were a were performed as additional confirmation to the Jews that Jesus of Nazareth was indeed the long awaited Messiah, the Son of the Living God.

The Teaching of Christ provided everyone with a specific purpose for living. The purpose is not seek those things and pleasures of the world. The following defines the one and only true purpose of your life.

To live a full Christian life and earn your place in Heaven, by expressing your Love for the Lord by praising Him and following His Commandments.

Old Testament Prophecies regarding the Messiah, Jesus Christ, which were all fulfilled.

God, through numerous Holy Men provided prophecies and signs to the Jews regarding the arrival of the Messiah, so that they would know by their fulfillment's, that He had arrived and that they might accept Him. It is one of the great mysteries of life, why, with all the proofs provided, and in addition, the miracles, healing and knowledge of Christ, that this did not happen immediately on a much, much larger scale.

Biblical prophecies of the coming of Jesus Christ (Partial Listing)

The coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, was prophesied in amazing detail over hundreds of years.

A. CONCERNING HIS BIRTH 4 BC		PROPHESED	FULFILLED
1.	Born of the seed of woman	Gen 3:15	Gal 3:16, 4:4
2.	Born of a virgin	Isa 7:14	Mt 1:18-25, LK 1:34
3.	Seed of Abraham	Gen 22:18	Mt 1:1, Gal 3:16
4.	Seed of Isaac	Gen 21:12	Lk 3:23+34
5.	Seed of Jacob	Num 24:17	Lk 3:34
6.	Seed of David	Jer 23:5	Lk 3:31
7.	Tribe of Judah	Gen 49:10	Rev 5:5
8.	Family line of Jesse	Isa 11:1	Lk 3:32
9.	Born in Bethlehem	Mic 5:2	Mt 2:1-6
10.	Herod kills the children	Jer 31:15	Mt 2:16-18
B. CONCERNING HIS NATURE		PROPHESED	FULFILLED
11.	He pre-existed creation	Mic 5:2	1 Pet 1:20
12.	He shall be called Lord	Ps 110:1	Acts 2:36
13.	Called Immanuel (God with us)	Isa 7:14	Mt 1:22-23
14.	Prophet	Deut 18:18-19	Acts 3:18-25
15.	Priest	Ps 110:4	Heb 5:5-6
16.	Judge	Isa 33:22	Jn 5:22-23
17.	King	Ps 2:6	Jn 18:33-37
18.	Anointed by the Spirit	Isa 11:2	Mt 3:16-17

19.	His zeal for God	Ps 69:9	Jn 2:15-17
C. CONCERNING HIS MINISTRY		PROPHESED	FULFILLED
20.	Preceded by a messenger	Isa 40:3	Mt 3:1-3
21.	To begin in Galilee	Isa 9:1-2	Mt 4:12-17
22.	Ministry of Miracles	Isa 35:5-6	Mt 9:35; 11:4
23.	Teacher of parables	Ps 78:1-4	Mt 13:34-35
24.	He was to enter the temple	Mal 3:1	Mt 21:10-12
25.	Enter Jerusalem on donkey	Zech 9:9	Mt 21:1-7
26.	Stone of stumbling to Jews	Isa 28:16; Ps 118:22	1 Pet 2:6-8
27.	Light to Gentiles	Isa 49:6	Acts 13:46-48
D. THE DAY JESUS WAS CRUCIFIED		PROPHESED	FULFILLED
28.	Betrayed by a friend	Ps 41:9	Jn 13:18-27
29.	Sold for 30 pieces of silver	Zech 11:12	Mt 26:14-15
30.	30 pieces thrown in Temple	Zech 11:13	Mt 27:3-5
31.	30 pieces buys potters field	Zech 11:13	Mt 27:6-10
32.	Forsaken by His disciples	Zech 13:7	Mk 14:27+50
33.	Accused by false witnesses	Ps 35:11+20-21	Mt 26:59-61
34.	Silent before accusers	Isa 53:7	Mt 27:12-14
35.	Wounded and bruised	Isa 53:4-6	1 Pet 2:21-25
36.	Beaten and spit upon	Isa 50:6	Mt 26:67-68

37.	Mocked	Ps 22:6-8	Mt 27:27-31
38.	Fell under the cross	Ps 109:24-25	Jn19:17; Lk23:26
39.	Hands and feet pierced	Ps 22:16	Jn 20:24-28
40.	Crucified with thieves	Isa 53:12	Mt 27:38
41.	Prayed for enemies	Isa 53:12	Lk 23:34
42.	Rejected by His own people	Isa 53:3	Jn 19:14-15
43.	Hated without cause	Ps 69:4	Jn 15:25
44.	Friends stood aloof	Ps 38:11	Lk22:54; 23:49
45.	People wag their heads	Ps 22:7;109:25	Mt 27:39
46.	People stared at Him	Ps 22:17	Lk 23:35
47.	Cloths divided and gambled for	Ps 22:18	Jn 19:23-24
48.	Became very thirsty	Ps 22:15	Jn 19:28
49.	Gall and vinegar offered Him	Ps 69:21	Mt 27:34
50.	His forsaken cry	Ps 22:1	Mt 27:46
51.	Committed Himself to God	Ps 31:5	Lk 23:46
52.	Bones not broken	Ps 34:20	Jn 19:32-36
53.	Heart broken	Ps 69:20; 22:14	Jn 19:34
54.	His side pierced	Zech 12:10	Jn 19:34+37
55.	Darkness over the land	Amos 8:9	Lk 23:44-45
56.	Buried in rich man's tomb	Isa 53:9	Mt 27:57-60

E. HIS RESURRECTION & THEREAFTER		PROPHESED	FULFILLED
57.	Raised from the dead	Ps 16:8-11	Acts 2:24-31
58.	Begotten as Son of God	Ps 2:7	Acts 13:32-35
59.	Ascended to God	Ps 68:18	Eph 2:8-10
60.	Seated beside God	Ps 110:1	Heb 1:3+13

(Loreen Rudd, excerpt from an article entitled "The Bible Timeline of History")

God laid the Groundwork for the Spreading of the Word

Not only did God maintain the Jewish Nation through its trials and tribulations, but at the same time was preparing the world prior to the arrival of Jesus, by inspiring men to develop roads, governmental services, use common languages and to live in peace.

During the century prior to the birth of Christ several strong leaders emerged including Pompey, Julius Caesar, Antony, and Octavian. Approximately 37 years before the birth of Christ, the armies of Octavian and Antony defeated those lead by the murderers of Caesar, leaving the western part under the control of Octavian, and Antony holding the eastern part as far as the Euphrates.

Nine years later, Octavian's defeated of Antony's in the battle of Actium, after which Antony and Cleopatra took flight to Egypt, where they either were murdered or committed suicide, leaving Octavian in the position holding vast power. Upon Octavian return to Rome, the Senate promoted him, to supreme commander of the army The Senate conferred additional titles and honors on him.

The Roman Empire was born, approximately 27 years before the birth of Jesus, when Octavian, now called Caesar Augustus, was crowned its first emperor.

Augustus was a superior leader, securing the borders of the empire and building thousands of miles of high-grade roads. These thoroughfares, some of which were used by Jesus and his Apostles, were paved. The first hard surface roads in history In addition, these roads were crowned as they are today or in other words were higher in the middle than on the sides to allow water to run off.

God brought about a time of peace and stability. During which time, Octavian reorganized the provinces to achieve a just administration, instituted tax reform, developed a civil service, and started many public works projects. It was during his reign that Jesus Christ was born.

Augustus' successor was not as capable. Tiberius, though experienced, was not as gifted or as interested in the farewell of his people. However, the period of peace and stability continued. Tiberius spent his last years in a life of debauchery on the island of Capri. Tiberius died in 37 AD. One of Tiberius's appointees was the infamous Pontius Pilate.

Three languages used in the land of Israel during the days of Jesus. Hebrew was the primary language spoken by the Jewish residents at that time. Israel had been under the influence of Greek culture from the time of its conquest by Alexander the Great four hundred years earlier. Latin was also used during the time of Christ. For example, the sign above the cross was written in Hebrew, Latin and Greek. The Romans for matters of military administration generally used Latin. Civil administration was usually conducted in Greek. The vast majority of inscriptions written by non-Jews, which have been found in Israel, are in the Greek language.

The order and organization that prevailed in the empire, the road system, and the use of common languages throughout the area were among the factors, which allowed the rapid spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The New Testament is an Account of Jesus and the New Covenant

1. The New Testament contains a total of 27 Books, which have been classified, into four groups, as:
 - A. A total of 4 Books, the Gospels or the story of Jesus, whom the Hebrew Nation produced
 - B. One Book covering the Acts of the Apostles. The everlasting Reign of Jesus Christ over all peoples and Nations begins.
 - C. 21 Epistles teaching His principles and commandments to the early Churches.
 - D. And the Grand Finale, one Book of Revelation, which reveals the ultimate victory of Jesus Christ.

The New Testament begins just before the birth of Jesus. It is basically the story of His life, His death, His resurrection, and His church. The Old Testament contains many timeless truths and laws, however the vast majority of it was written about and for the Israelites. The New Testament is the story of Christ and recounts His teachings and the Acts of Christ and His Apostles, as well as, details and explanations found in the Epistles. These are the teachings that everyone from the day that Christ died until the end of earthly time is responsible to learn and to obey.

To be perfectly clear, upon the Death of Jesus on the cross, the Old Law or Covenant contained in the Old Testament passed away and was replaced with the New Covenant or New Testament.

The purpose of this guide is to assist you in understanding and unlocking the TRUTH contained in this part of the Holy Bible. It is not difficult, if an individual studies each of its Books.

The Four Gospels

Collectively, the first four books of the New Testament are called the gospel, which means good news. They tell the good news of our savior, Jesus Christ. They recount His birth, life, death, and resurrection. They provide details of what He taught and his actions, while He was on the earth. Each gospel was written by a different individual and therefore is from a slightly different perspective. Therefore, some of the events in the life of Jesus are recounted in two or more gospels, while other events are only covered in one of the gospels.

Matthew

Written by Matthew, one of the twelve Disciples, directly to the Jews presenting Jesus as the promised Messiah from the Old Testament
Probably written prior to the fall of Jerusalem in 70 AD

Mark

Written by Mark, a close companion of Peter during his ministry, to the Romans, prior to 70 AD Mark emphasized the Deeds, Authority and Power of Jesus Christ.

Luke

Luke, who wrote this Gospel and the Book of Acts, was a educated Greek physician. He traveled with Paul during his second missionary journey. Written to the Greeks, presents Jesus as a perfect man, who far surpassed the highest ideals of the Greeks.

John

Written by John, the youngest of the Apostles, after the first three Gospels were written, in order to complete the Message
While Matthew, Mark and Luke present general views of the life and teachings of Jesus, John deals with the deeper questions of living the Christian Life, in a simple, direct style.

The Book of Acts

Written by Luke, the Book of Acts covers the Acts of the Apostles and the early history of the Church.

Includes the beginning and rapid growth during the first years of the Church
In this book we are shown how people were added to the Church and the healing power of the Apostles. Explanations include, how the first congregations were started and that all Nations were offered God's grace through Jesus Christ.

Acts 1:8

The Last Words of Jesus, just before Ascending to Heaven

Acts 2:1-4

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:14-38, 42-47

Peter's Pentecostal Sermon

Acts 3:6-10

Peter Heals the Crippled Beggar

Acts 5:1-10

Ananias and Sapphira

Acts 6:1-7

The Appointment of the Seven

Acts 8:26-39

Phillip and the Ethiopian

Acts 9:1-19

Conversion of Saul

Acts 9:36-41

Tabitha Raised from the Dead

Acts 10:44-48

Gentiles Receive the Holy Spirit

Acts 12:1-3

Herod, Peter Imprisoned, kills James, brother of John

Acts 12:4-11

Peter's Miraculous Escape from Prison

(With assistance of a Angel)

Acts 12:23

King Herod smote (killed) by an Angel

Acts 13:46-48

Jews Oppose, Gentiles accept the Word

Acts 16:1-5

Selection of Timothy

Acts 16:6-10

Macedonian Call

Acts 16:31-33

Conversion of the Philippian Jailer

Acts 19:1-5

Paul rebaptized some Baptized by John

The Epistles

The Epistles, which make up the majority of the New Testament, written primarily by Paul. They are actually letters that were written to individual Christians, local congregations, or to several local congregations in an area. These letters were written to answer questions, give a more detailed guide as to how Christians should live, what the Church should and should not be, as well as, warnings regarding sin and false teachers.

Romans

Written by Paul, while he was in Corinth, in approximately 58 AD, to the Christians in Rome

Book covers two major topics, justification by faith and addresses a controversy between the Jews and the Gentiles.

Some of the Jews felt they should have a higher status than the Gentiles, since they had been the chosen nation under the Old Covenant. Paul points out that God is just and since all have sinned, that there are no preferences in the Eyes of God.

First Corinthians

Written to Corinthians from Ephesus, by Paul, shortly after the establishment of the Church at Corinth

Corinth was a major city at a time when moral restraints were lacking.

Naturally, it was difficult to organize a Church and keep it pure during this period. The purpose of the letter was to direct the Church away from error and disorder and to answer specific questions.

Second Corinthians

Written a few months after the first letter to the Corinthians

Paul had learned from Titus that his first letter had resulted in causing a large number of the members to repent. Paul also was advised of certain false teachers, who were denouncing his authority. He wrote expressing pleasure regarding the reported repentance, to warn against false teachings and to defend his spiritual position.

Galatians

The Church at Galatia was established during Paul's first missionary journey. Some years later, he received word that many members were being led away into Jewish traditions. His letter warns against false teachings and focuses on justification by faith.

Ephesians

Paul's restatement of the basic message: Christ is the Center and that the Church is united in Him.

Philippians

The first Church established in what is now Europe. Paul's discourse on personal conduct and the joys of Christian life

Colossians

Written to the Church at Colossae, a city of Phrygia, a province of Asia Minor
False doctrines were being taught. Paul writes that Christ is everything and real joy can only be obtained by living a Christian life.

First Thessalonians

One of Paul's first epistles, written to the Church at Thessalonica, which had been organized during his second missionary journey
Primarily covers the Second Coming of Christ.

Second Thessalonians

Written a few months after the first to correct some misunderstanding regarding the tribulation prior to the Second Coming of Christ

First Timothy & Second Timothy

Written to Timothy, an individual of Greek and Jewish heritage, who had been a missionary companion of Paul

During this period Timothy served as minister of the Church at Ephesus. Paul wrote to instruct him in spiritual matters and proper behavior.

Titus

Also written by Paul to an individual

At this time Titus, who was a Gentile, was serving as the minister at the Church at Crete. The Church at Crete was in a state of general disorder and Paul wrote to words of encouragement and guidance to Titus.

Philemon

Philemon was a wealthy member of the Church at Colossae. Onesimus, one of his slaves, had stolen from Philemon, his master and fled to Rome. Onesimus had been converted by Paul. He wrote to Philemon requesting that he forgive Onesimus and accept him as a brother in Christ.

Hebrews

Written to a group of Jewish Christians, who were being persecuted, were in a state of despair and were tempted to return to the practice of Judaism. The Writer points out that Christ is greater than Moses, Joshua, and all the Prophets. That is times past; God had spoken through all of these men, but that now He speaks only through His Son, Jesus Christ. The believers were encouraged to maintain the Faith.

James

This Book and Peter, John and Jude are considered general epistles, because they were not addressed to particular Church or individual, but to Churches in a general area or to all Churches. James focuses on morals, ethics and that works and faith are equally important.

First Peter

A general epistle to Christians in Asia Minor
Encourages them to hold fast to their faith, even under persecution.

Second Peter

Another general epistle in which Peter warns of false teachers and a description of the Second Coming of Christ

First John, Second John & Third John

The first two are general epistles. The first is a discourse on doctrine, written to correct errors and to glory in the qualities of the Christian life. The Second was written for Christian women emphasizes the truth of the Gospel and contains warnings of false teachers. The third were addressed to Gaius, which commends him for treatment of other Christians.

Jude

A short, but very powerful general epistle Pleads that Christians earnestly contend for the faith. Points out the reward for the sinful - confirms that Christ is the only way a Believer can only avoid the temptations of life.

The Revelation to John (The Apocalypse)

The Revelation of Jesus Church, which God gave unto John
This Book depicts symbolically the ultimate destruction of evil and the triumph of Christ. A more extensive explanation of things to come that Jesus covered briefly in Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21.

Why it is important to Read and Study the entire Bible

It is important, because it is the inspired Word of God and contains his message for each of us.

Before we discuss the details, take a look at your personal copy of the Bible. Does it fit you? Is it easily read? Read a few new passages. Do you generally understand what you have read? Is the typeface easy to read? Is your Bible easily carried? If you answered no to any of these questions it may be time to shop for one that is more users friendly. Bible dictionaries and concordances can also be very helpful in your studies.

Think of the Bible as not just a large book, but also a library of smaller great books, which have been bounded together for convenience.

As you may have noted from reading this guide and its references, it contains stories of great loves, victories, defeats and renewals, examples of God's all mighty power, love, wrath, mercy, and greatness, as well as, history, prophecy, song, poetry, proverbs, instructions for healthy living, solutions to problems, a view of the end of worldly time and much more.

Suggestion for Reading the Entire Bible

There are many plans and guides to reading through the entire Bible. One that is easy to remember is to bookmark the bible in three places, Genesis, Psalms and Matthew. If you read one chapter from each you will have read through in less than one year or read one chapter a day and you have completely read the Bible in approximately three years.

Sources of further immediate Assistance

Telephone the Minister of your local Church of Christ and tell him you have visited this website and as a result, that you realize that you need to make some changes. That you have decided to take personal control of your Spiritual Life and wish to meet with him as soon as possible.

The telephone number(s) are listed in the white pages under Church of Christ.

The Minister and the Elders of that Church of Christ stand ready to assist you in learning the TRUTH, in any way possible. You are invited to make a complete investigation of the doctrine of Christ or any part thereof and they would be delighted to personally discuss any point or answer any question.

In the event you live in an area not served by His One True Church or would prefer have your questions answered via e-mail, please feel free to forward your question(s) along with your name and e-mail address to answers@seekingthelost.org and we will address your questions and provide answers as soon as humanly possible.

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JOHN 17:17

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth

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Psalms 19:1

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

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ISAIAH 40:31

But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

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This web site was written and designed by James W. Goddard, Ph.D., an active member of the Eufaula Church of Christ
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