



TimeWatch – *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12*

THE LEARNING FORUM - Preparing for battle

Biblical Studies Course Outline 1A

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Biblical Literacy - 1A

The Bible is divided into two testaments. Old and New. The Old consists of thirty-nine books, the New consists of twenty-seven, making a total of sixty-six.

The Old Testament, is divided into the following five sections:

-Origins and laws.

1. Genesis
2. Exodus
3. Leviticus
4. Numbers
5. Deuteronomy

-Historical books.

1. Joshua
2. Judges
3. Ruth
4. 1 & 2 Samuel
5. 1 & 2 Kings
6. 1 & 2 Chronicles
7. Ezra
8. Nehemiah
9. Esther

-Poetical Books.

1. Job

-Major Prophets.

1. Isaiah
2. Jeremiah
3. Lamentations
4. Ezekiel
5. Daniel

-Minor Prophets.

1. Hosea
2. Joel
3. Amos
4. Obadiah
5. Jonah
6. Micah
7. Nahum
8. Habakkuk
9. Zephaniah
10. Haggai
11. Zechariah
12. Malachi

2. Psalms
3. Proverbs
4. Ecclesiastes
5. Song Of Solomon

The New Testament is divided into the following five sections.

-Biographical Books.

1. Matthew
2. Mark
3. Luke
4. John

-Historical.

1. Acts

-General Epistles.-

1. James
2. 1 Peter
3. 2 Peter
4. 1 John
5. 2 John
6. 3 John
7. Jude

-Prophetic

1. Revelation.

-Epistles Of Paul

1. Romans
2. 1 Corinthians.
3. 2 Corinthians.
4. Galatians.
5. Ephesians.
6. Philippians.
7. Colossians.
8. 1 Thessalonians.
9. 2 Thessalonians.
10. 1 Timothy.
11. 2 Timothy
12. Titus
13. Philemon
14. Hebrews

Old Testament Condensed Outline

Origins and Laws. 5

Genesis. The origin of the universe, human race etc. Record of the early history of the Chosen family **Author: Moses 50 Chaps.**

Exodus. The bondage, deliverance, and beginnings of the history of Israel on the way to Canaan, under the leadership of Moses. **Author: Moses. 40 Chaps.**

Leviticus. Laws concerning morals cleanliness food etc. **Author: Moses. 27 Chaps.**

Numbers. Pilgrimages of Israel. Forty years in the wilderness. **Author: Moses. 36 Chaps.**

Deuteronomy. A repetition of laws given shortly before entering Canaan.
Author: Moses. 34 Chaps.

Historical Books. 12

Joshua. Conquest of Canaan under the leadership of Joshua and the division of the land among the twelve tribes. **Author: Joshua. 24 Chaps.**

Judges. History of the six servitudes of Israel, and the various deliverances of the land through the fifteen judges. **Author: Samuel. 21 Chaps.**

Ruth. Story of a gentile woman who became one of the ancestors of Christ.
Author: Samuel. 4 Chaps.

1,2 Samuel. History of Samuel. Beginning and early years of the monarchical period in Israel under the reigns of Saul and David. **Author: :** According to Jewish tradition, Samuel composed the first book, as far as the twenty-fifth chapter; and that the prophets Nathan and Gad finished the first, and wrote the second book. See 1 Chronicles 29:29. SDABC Page 447.
1 Samuel **31 Chaps.**
2 Samuel **24 Chaps.**

1,2 Kings. Early history of the kingdom of Israel, and later of the divided Kingdom.
Author: The two books were ascribed by Talmudic scholars to the Hebrew prophet Jeremiah.
1 Kings **Period: 22 Chaps.**
2 Kings **Period: 25 Chaps.**

1,2 Chronicles Largely a record of the reigns of David, Solomon and the kings of Judah up to the time of the captivity.
Author: Jewish scholars attributes authorship of Chronicles to Ezra the scribe and Nehemiah
1 Chronicles **29 Chaps.**
2 Chronicles **36 Chaps.**

Ezra. A record of the return of the Jews from captivity, and the rebuilding of the temple. **Author:** Jewish tradition names Ezra as the chief author and Nehemiah as the one who completed the work. SDABC, Page. 317

10 Chaps.

Nehemiah.

An account of the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem.

Author: In Hebrew Bible manuscripts Ezra and Nehemiah appeared as one volume. SDABC, Page 317

13 Chaps.

Esther.

God uses Queen Esther in the deliverance of the Jews from the plot of Haman, and the establishment of the feast of Purim.

Author: It is possible that the author was Ezra, who led an expedition to Jerusalem in the seventh year of Artaxerxes I (457 b.c.). Ezra was a learned authority on Jewish law (see Ezra 7:1–14), and may have served as a royal clerk, probably as a legal counselor of the king (see PK 607). SDABC Page.

10 Chaps.

Poetical Books. 5

Job.

Affliction and patience of Job, malice of Satan. Human wisdom verses Divine wisdom, final deliverance of the sufferer.

Author: Written by Moses, according to both Jewish and early Christian scholars. Its poetry, language, and style indicate that it was originally written in Hebrew.

42 Chaps

Psalms.

Collection of one hundred and fifty songs poems and prayers, usually attributed to David and others.

Author: David

150 Chaps.

Proverbs.

Collection of moral and religious maxims. Discourses on wisdom, temperance, justice etc. **Author: Solomon.** **31 Chaps.**

Ecclesiastes.

Reflections on the vanity of life, and man's duties and obligations to God.

Author: Solomon. **12 Chaps.**

Songs Of Solomon.

A religious poem symbolizing the mutual love of Christ and the church.

Author: Solomon. **8 Chaps.**

Major Prophets. 5

- Isaiah.** Prophet of the redemption. Prophecies of Christ, mingled with woes pronounced upon sinfulness. **Author: Isaiah.**
66 Chaps.
- Jeremiah.** The weeping prophet deals with the backsliding, bondage and restoration of the Jews. **Author: Jeremiah.**
52 Chaps.
- Lamentations.** A series of dirges by Jeremiah, bewailing the afflictions of Israel. **Author: Jeremiah.**
5 Chaps.
- Ezekiel.** Prophetic Book. Dealing with the apostasy of Judah, and warnings concerning it. **Author: Ezekiel.**
48 Chaps.
- Daniel.** A personal biography, and apocalyptic visions, prophetic messages. **Author: Daniel.**
12 Chaps.

Minor Prophets. 12

- Hosea.** The apostasy of Israel, characterized by spiritual adultery. Contemporary With Isaiah and Micah. **Author: Hosea.**
14 Chaps.
- Joel.** Deals with Divine judgement. Showing how they could be turned into blessings. Prophet of Judah. **Author: Joel.**
3 Chaps.
- Amos.** Contains five visions. Denounces selfishness and sin. A courageous reformer. A herdsman prophet. **Author: Amos.**
9 Chaps.
- Obadiah.** The doom of Edom, and the final deliverance of Israel. **Author: Obadiah**
1 Chap.
- Jonah.** Lesson in obedience and Divine mercy. Story of reluctant missionary.

Author: Jonah.
4 Chaps.

Micah. Picture of the moral condition of Israel and Judah. Foretells the establishment of a Messianic Kingdom in which righteousness shall prevail.
Author: Micah. 7 Chaps.

Nahum. The destruction of Nineveh. Judah is promised deliverance from Assyria.
Author: Nahum
3 Chaps.

Habakkuk. Mysteries of God's providence. How a just God could allow a wicked nation to oppress Israel. Written in the Chaldean period.
Author: Habakkuk
3 Chaps.

Zephaniah. Judgements and a call to repentance. Ends in a vision of the future glory of Israel. **Author: Zephaniah.**
3 Chaps.

Haggai. Reproves the people for slackness in building the second temple. Promises a return of God's glory when the building is completed. Colleague of Zechariah.
Author: Haggai.
2 Chaps.

Zechariah. Helped to arouse the Jews to rebuild the temple. He had a series of eight visions, and saw the ultimate triumph of God's kingdom.
Author: Zechariah.
14 Chaps.

Malachi. Graphic picture of the closing period of Old Testament history. Deals with the necessity of reforms before the coming of the Lord.
Author: Malachi.
4 Chaps.

New Testament Condensed Outline

Biographical.

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- Matthew.** Especially adapted to the Jews. Shows Jesus as kingly messiah of the Jewish prophecy. **Author: Matthew(also called levi) 28 Chaps.**
- Mark.** Emphasizing the supernatural power of Christ, over nature, disease, and demons. All this done for the sake of man.
Author: Mark. 16 Chaps.
- Luke.** Complete biography of Jesus. Portrayed as Son of Man, full of compassion for the sinful and the poor.
Author: Luke. 24 Chaps.
- John.** Unveils Jesus as the Son of God. His person and attributes, His Divinity, His commission etc..**Author: John. 21 Chaps.**

Historical.

- Acts.** A sequel to the Gospels. Deals with the origin and growth of the early church. From the ascension of Christ to the imprisonment of Paul.
Author: Luke. 24 Chaps.

Epistles Of Paul.

- Romans.** Addressed to the Christians at Rome.
Chapters 1-11: The need for and nature of, the plan of salvation.
Chapters 12-16: Exhortations to spiritual, social and civic duties.
16 Chaps.
- I Corinthians.** Addressed to the church at Corinth. Deals with the cleansing of the church from various evils. Also contains doctrinal instruction. **16 Chaps.**
- II Corinthians** Deals with the characteristics of an apostolic ministry. Specifically deals with Paul's apostleship. **13 Chaps.**
- Galatians.** Addressed to the Galatians. Paul's Apostleship. Justification by Faith. Warnings against reverting to Judaism. **6 Chaps.**
- Ephesians.** To the church at Ephesus. An exposition of the Plan of Salvation. Special emphasis is laid upon the fact that all barriers between Jews and Gentiles are broken down. **6 Chaps.**
- Philippians.** Letter to the Philippian Church. Paul's intense devotion to Christ, his

joyful experience in prison, his deep concern that the church should be steadfast in sound doctrine. **4 Chaps.**

- Colossians.** Written to the church at Colosse. Dealing with the transcendent Glory of Christ as the Head of the Church. Calling for the complete abandonment of all worldly philosophy and sin. **4 Chaps.**
- I Thessalonians.** To the church at Thessalonica. It is composed of apostolic commendations, reminiscences, counsel and exhortations. Especial emphasis is laid upon the comforting hope of the future advent of Christ. **5 Chaps.**
- II Thessalonians.** A sequel to the first epistle. Written to enlighten the church concerning the doctrine of Christ's Second Coming and to warn believers against unrest and social disorder. **3 Chaps.**
- I Timothy.** Counsels to a young pastor concerning his conduct and ministerial work. **6 Chaps.**
- II Timothy.** Paul's last letter, written shortly before his death, giving instructions and counsels to his beloved "son in the gospel". **4 Chaps.**
- Titus.** An apostolic letter giving counsels and exhortations to a trusted friend, who was pastor in a hard field. Special emphasis given to the doctrine of good works. **3 Chaps.**
- Philemon.** A private letter written to Philemon, beseeching him to receive and forgive Onesimus, a runaway slave. **1 Chap.**
- Hebrews.** Leading topic: the transcendental glory of Christ, and the blessings of the new dispensation, compared with those of the Old Testament. **13 Chaps.**
- General Epistles.**
- James.** Writer: James the brother of Christ.(Generally accepted.) Deals with practical religion. Manifesting good works, contrasted with a mere profession of faith. **Author: James. 5 Chaps.**
- I Peter.** A letter of encouragement written by the Apostle to the saints scattered in Asia Minor. Leading topic: the privilege of believers following the example of Christ, to have victory in the midst of trials, and to live holy

lives in an unfriendly world. **Author: Peter. 5 Chaps.**

II Peter. Largely a warning against false teachers and scoffers. **Author: Peter. 3 Chaps.**

I John. A deep spiritual message addressed by the apostle John to different classes of believers in the church. It stresses the believer's privilege of spiritual knowledge, the duty of fellowship and brotherly love. **Author: John. 5 Chaps.**

II John. A brief message of John on divine truth and worldly error. Addressed to the "elect lady and her children". A warning against heresy and false teachers. **Author: John. 1 Chap.**

III John. An apostolic letter of commendation written to Gaius containing character sketches of certain persons in the church. **Author: John. 1 Chap.**

Jude. Historical examples of apostasy and divine judgements upon sinners, together with warnings against immoral teachings. **Author: 1 Chap.**

Prophetic.

Revelation. Written by the apostle John. A series of apocalyptic visions dealing with events to come. A battle is portrayed between Divine and satanic powers, ending in the victory of the Lamb. **Author: John. 22 Chaps.**

Interesting Bible Facts

The word "Bible" simply means books.

The Bible was originally made up of books written in three languages; Hebrew, Aramic, and Koine Greek.

The entire Bible was written over a 1500 year span.

The Bible contains 66 books written by over 40 different authors.

The Bible contains 1189 chapters and over 31,00 verses.

The longest book of the Bible is Psalms.

The shortest book is 3 John (Fewest number of words).

The longest verse is Esther 8:9.

The shortest verse is John 11:35.

The shortest chapter is Psalm 117.
Psalm 118 is between the shortest and longest chapters of the Bible
and Psalm 118:8 is the Bible's center verse.
"It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man." (Psalm 118:8)
The longest chapter is Psalm 119.
The Bible's longest word: Mahershalalhashbaz(Isaiah 8:1, 3)
The Bible has been translated into over 1,200 languages.
The Bible is the best selling book of all time.
The Bible was the first book ever printed.
In 1454, Johannes Gutenberg invented the "type mold" print press and began to print the Bible.
Life Magazine called this the single most important event of the second millennium.
Stephen Langton first divided the Bible into chapters in 1228.
The Old Testament was first divided by verses in 1448 and the New Testament in 1551.
The first English Bible translation was initiated by John Wycliff in 1382 and completed by John Purvey in 1388.
It takes about 70 hours to read the entire Bible.
About 170,000 Bibles are distributed each day in the United States.
The book of Isaiah is constructed much like the entire Bible.
****Bible: 66 books.** **Isaiah: 66 chapters.** ****
Bible: First 39 books mainly concern Israel.**
Isaiah: First 39 chapters mainly concern Israel.**
Bible: Last 27 books concern the life and coming of Jesus Christ.**
Isaiah: Last 27 chapters concern the life and coming of Jesus Christ.

1. How many books are in the Bible?

The Bible contains 66 books, divided among the Old and New Testaments.

2. How many books are in the Old Testament?

There are 39 books in the Old Testament.

3. How many books are in the New Testament?

There are 27 books in the New Testament.

4. What does "testament" mean?

Testament means "covenant" or "contract."

5. Who wrote the Bible?

The Bible was written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit by over 40 different authors from all walks of life: shepherds, farmers, tent-makers, physicians, fishermen, priests, philosophers and kings. Despite these differences in occupation and the span of years it took to write it, the Bible is an extremely cohesive and unified book.

6. Which single author contributed the most books to the Old Testament?

Moses. He wrote the first five books of the Bible, referred to as the Pentateuch; the foundation of the Bible.

7. Which single author contributed the most books to the New Testament?

The Apostle Paul, who wrote 14 books (over half) of the New Testament.

8. When was the Bible written?

It was written over a period of some 1,500 years, from around 1450 B.C. (the time of Moses) to about 100 A.D. (following the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ).

9. What is the oldest book in the Old Testament?

Many scholars agree that Job is the oldest book in the Bible, written by an unknown Israelite about 1500 B.C. Others hold that the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible) are the oldest books in the Bible, written between 1446 and 1406 B.C.

10. What is the youngest book in the Old Testament?

The book of Malachi, written about 400 B.C.

11. What is the oldest book of the New Testament?

Probably the book of James, written as early as A.D. 45.

12. What is the youngest book in the New Testament?

The Book of Revelation is the youngest book of the New Testament, written about 95 A.D.

13. What languages was the Bible written in?

The Bible was written in three languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Koine Greek.

14. When was the Bible canonized?

The entire New Testament as we know it today, was canonized before the year 375 A.D.

The Old Testament had previously been canonized long before the advent of Christ.

15. What does "canon" mean?

"Canon" is derived from the Greek word "Kanon," signifying a measuring rod. Thus, to have the Bible "canonized" meant that it had been measured by the standard or test of divine inspiration and authority. It became the collection of books or writings accepted by the apostles and leadership of the early Christian church as a basis for Christian belief. It is the standard by which all Christians throughout the ages live and worship.

16. When was the first translation of the Bible made into English?

1382 A.D., by John Wycliffe.

17. When was the Bible printed?

The Bible was printed in 1454 A.D. by Johannes Gutenberg who invented the "type mold" for the printing press. It was the first book ever printed.

18. What is the oldest almost-complete manuscript of the Bible now in existence?

The Codex Vaticanus, which dates from the first half of the fourth Century. It is located in the library of the Vatican in Rome. There are older fragments of the Bible that are still preserved however-- the oldest being a tiny scrap of the Gospel of John was found in Egypt, dating back to the beginning of the second century. (It is currently in the Rayland's Library in Manchester, England).

19. What is the longest book in the Bible?

The book of Psalms.

20. What is the shortest book in the Bible, by number of verses?

2 John.

21. What is the longest chapter in the Bible?

Psalm 119

22. What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?

Psalm 117

23. What is the longest verse in the Bible?

Esther 8:9

24. What is the shortest verse in the Bible?

John 11:35

25. Which book in the Bible does not mention the word "God?"

The book of Esther

26. Who was the oldest man that ever lived?

Methuselah who lived to be 969 years old (Genesis 5:27)

27. Who were the two men in the Bible who never died but were caught up to heaven?

Enoch, who walked with God and was no more (Genesis 5:22-24)

Elijah, who was caught up by a whirlwind into heaven (II Kings 2:11).

28. Who does the Bible say was the meekest man in the Bible (not including Jesus)?

Moses (Numbers 12:3).

29. How many languages has the Bible been translated into?

The Holy Bible has been translated into 2,018 languages, with countless more partial translations, and audio translations (for unwritten languages). (This is an enormous amount of translations. In comparison, Shakespeare, considered by many to be the master writer of the English language, has only been translated into 50 languages.)

30. Is the Bible still the best-selling book in the world?

Yes, indeed!

The various translations of the Bible made between A.D. 700 & A.D. 1991.

700-1000 Only parts of the Bible translated into "Old English"

1380 John Wycliffe translated the Bible from Latin to Middle English.

1100-1500 Nicholas of Hereford made a translation for Middle English speaking people.

1100-1500 John Purvey revised Nicholas's translation.

1525/6 William Tyndale translated part of the Bible from Greek.

1535 Miles Coverdale published the Bible in English from Tyndale's work, Greek, Hebrew, & other sources.

1537 Matthew's Bible by John Rogers. Received royal sanction of King Henry VIII.

1539 The Great Bible by Coverdale. It was a revision of Matthew's Bible.

1560 The Geneva Bible was produced by Protestant scholars in Geneva.

1568 The Bishop's Bible was a revision of the Great Bible.

1582 & 1609 Rheims/Douai Translation was the Roman Catholic translation from the Latin Vulgate of the Old and New Testaments.

1611 The King James Version(or Authorized Version) was translated by a number of Bible scholars.

1885 The Revised Version was a revision of the Authorized Version.

1901 The American Standard Version is an American Revision of the Authorized Version.

1903 The New Testament in Modern Speech was a translation produced by R.T. Weymouth.

1924 A New Translation of the Bible was translated by James Moffatt.

1927 Centenary Translation of the New Testament was a translation produced by the missionary Helen B. Montgomery.

1937 Williams New Testament was a translated by Charles B. Williams.

1938 The Bible:An American Translation was produced by E.J. Goodspeed and J.M. Powis Smith.

1952 The Revised Standard Version was a revision of the American Standard Version and the King James Version.

1955 The Holy Bible was translated by Ronald Knox.

1958 The New Testament in Modern English was translated by J.B. Phillips.

1965 The Amplified Bible was translated by the Lockman Foundation.

1966 The Jerusalem Bible was originally translated in French by Roman Catholic scholars.

1969 The New Berkeley (Modern Language) Bible was a revision of the Berkeley Version of 1959 by Gerrit Verkuyl.

1970 The New English Bible was translated by certain people of Britain's major churches and Bible societies.

1970 The New American Bible was translated by Roman Catholic scholars.

1971 The New American Standard Bible was a revision of the American Standard Version by the Lockman Foundation.

1976 The Good News Bible(Today's English Version) was translated by the American Bible Society.

1979 The New International Version was translated by evangelical scholars.

1982 The New King James Version was a modernization of the King James Version.

1987 The New Century Version was an update of the International Children's Bible.

1989 The New Revised Standard Version an update of the Revised Standard Version.

1989 The Revised English Bible is a British committee's update of the New English Bible.

1991 The Contemporary English Version (New Testament) was produced by the American Bible Society.

The Ten Plagues of Egypt:

Water to Blood - The waters of the Nile turned to blood.

Frogs - Frogs infested the land of Egypt.

Gnats - Small stinging insects infested in the land of Egypt.

Flies - Swarms of flies, possibly a biting variety, infested the land of Egypt.

Plague on the Cattle - A serious disease, possibly anthrax, infested the cattle belonging to Egyptians.

Boils - A skin disease infected the Egyptians.

Hail - A storm that destroyed the grain fields of Egypt by spared the land of Goshen inhabited by the Israelites.

Locusts - An infestation of locusts stripped the land of Egypt of plant life.

Darkness - A deep darkness covered the land of Egypt for three days.

Death of the Firstborn - The firstborn of every Egyptian family died.