

A Basic Bible Reading Introductory Study for Those Not Familiar with the Bible

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Brief Introduction:

What is the “Bible”? And what Bible do you have or what kind of Bible were you given? The “Bible” refers to the Judeo-Christian set of Scriptures. For Jews of Judaism, their Bible is the Hebrew Scriptures which is the Old Testament of the Christian Scriptures. The Christian Scriptures also contain the New Testament.

Some Bibles contain the Apocrapha, a set of writings from 300 B.C. to the early 1st cent. A.D. (also called the Inter-testamental period) such as Catholic Bibles and the Jerusalem Bible. These are additional books that some Christian churches and theologians consider to have secondary status in regard to canonical and divine authority. Most of the Bibles produced in English are the Protestant Bibles which contain the Old Testament and New Testament without the Apocraphal books. The Apocraphal books, however, go back to ancient times before Jesus Christ, and are great literature and even contain much wisdom in the spirit of Solomon including the Wisdom of Ben Sirach. And they contain very important historical books of the Inter-testamental time, namely the books of Maccabees.

But for this Basic Bible Reading introduction, a Protestant Bible is all you need. This basic study involves flipping through many books, chapters, and verses throughout the Bible. A printed Bible on paper facilitates this whereas it will be harder to do this on most electronic devices. It will be helpful that you have several slips of paper as book marks to put in at each passage, so that you can go back and forth to compare. Particularly in going from the Old Testament and related New Testament passages, prophecies and fulfillments and progressions of prophetic motifs and revelation become more pronounced.

Use the Table of Contents of the Bible in your hand or on your computer device to locate each book of the Bible for each passage where you may not know where the book is located.

Chapter and Verse notations:

For example, 1:3 means chapter one (1) and verse three (3). Multiple verses are separated by commons, e.g. 7:14,16 but separate passages are separated by semi-colon ; Move from left to right, from biblical reference on left to reference on right.

Abbreviations

O.T. – Old Testament

N.T. – New Testament

Ps. – Psalm (from Book of Psalms)

The STUDY BEGINS

Genesis 1:1-2 (O.T) John 1:1-5,14 (N.T.) Hebrews 1:1-3 (N.T.)
Genesis 1:3 – 3:24 Romans 5:12-14 (N.T.)
Psalm 1 (O.T) Psalm 2
Compare Ps. 2:7 with Matt. 3:16-17; Luke 1:35, and John 3:16
Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (O.T. God is one)

Isaiah 7:3,10-16 (O.T.) Matthew 1:18-25 (N.T.) The Birth of Jesus
Luke 1:26-38 (N.T.) Gabriel announces Jesus' Birth
Isaiah 9:1-6 Matthew (1:18-25) and 4:12-25
Matthew 5:1-19 John 8:12
Isaiah 11:1-4 Luke 1:32-33; 2:41-51 (N.T.)
Isaiah 42:1-4; 60:1-3; 61:1-3 Luke 4:16-30
Isaiah 53:1-12 Matthew 26:57-68; 27:1-2,26-44

Psalm 22:1 Matthew 27:45-46
Psalm 22:14-18 Matthew 27:26,33-35; Mark 15:27-33
Isaiah 25:6-9; 26:19 Matthew 27:51-54; 57-66; 28:1-10
Luke 24:1-48

Deuteronomy 32:48-52; 33:1 (O.T. Moses)
2 Kings 2:1-14 (O.T.) Elijah Matthew 17:1-9; Luke 9:27-36

Leviticus 16:29-31; 17:11 (O.T.) John 11:45-53
2 Corinthians 5:15,21 (N.T.) Hebrews 2:9-18; 7:22-28

Psalm 110:1-4 Matthew 22:41-46
Hebrews 7:1-2 (c.f. Genesis 14:18-20), 11-22
John 3:16; 10:11-18; 15:13
1 Corinthians (New Testament) ch. 13:1-13 (the
"Love" chapter)

1 Corinthians 15:1-58 (N.T., the "Resurrection theology" chapter)

The Everlasting Kingdom of God in Heaven and on Earth
Isaiah 6:1-4; 2 Samuel 7:1-16; 1 Kings 8:22-27; Psalm 97:1-6; Daniel 7:18,26-27
Revelation 1:18; 19:11-16 (N.T.)

Abram/Abraham Highlights
Genesis 12:1-9; 15:1-6; 17:1-25; 22:1-19
Next, read through the Gospel of Mathew, then the Gospel of Luke. Then read through
the Book of Acts of the Apostles. Then read through the Gospel of John.