

What is in the Bible?

What is in the Bible? The answer is "books." Think of the Bible as a small library of books. Some of them the size of a small novel while others only the length of a newspaper article. Biblical Christianity is a reading religion. No other belief encourages as much devotion to its text as Bible believing Christians.

OLD TESTAMENT – KEY WORD: **PREPARATION** (2 Corinthians 3:14) The New Testament Concealed

BHS (4 th ed.) Hebrew	308,690 Words	69.17% of the Bible	52,897 Unique Words
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80,675 - 26.13%	Dates
Genesis	3901-1480
Exodus	1480-1446
Leviticus	1446-1408
Numbers	1446-1408
Deuteronomy	1446-1408

LAW	5 books	18.07% of Bible	Foundations
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- Contents:
 - **Laws:** 613 (248 negative, 365 positive), Largely Legislated.
 - **Sacrificial System:** this is what saves us (Heb 10:4) and intended for people who cannot keep the law.
- Issue between God and man: **Holiness** (has reference to uniqueness; one of a kind). Law's intent is to excite holiness.
- Function for us: to show us the need for a **Perfect Priest** with a **Perfect Sacrifice** (Heb, 7:26-10:18).

108,532 - 35.15%	Dates
Joshua	1408-1368
Judges	1368-1050
Ruth	1368-1050
1-2 Samuel	1050-586
1-2 Kings	1010-586
1-2 Chronicles	1010-586
Ezra	536-458
Nehemiah	444-430
Esther	480

HISTORY	12 books	24.32% of Bible	Post Inheritance
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- Contents:
 - National Inheritance:** how they obtained it and how they forfeited it.
 - Leaders:** how they rose and how they fell.
- Issue between God and man: **Leadership** - God gives a nation the leadership it desires.
- Function for us: to show us the need for a **Perfect King** (Dan. 9:6; Ezra 9:7; Neh. 9:34-35).

39,205 - 12.7%	Dates
Job	1950
Psalms	1020,950/458
Proverbs	972-933
Ecclesiastes	972-933
Song of Solomon	972-933

POETRY	5 books	8.78% of Bible	Relational
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- Contents:
 - **Wisdom**
 - **Worship**
- Issue between God and man: **Heart Attitude**
- Function for us: Illustrates Monarchical Perfection.

80,278 - 26% (תנ"ך)	Dates
Isaiah	S 762-680
Jeremiah	S 627-560
Lamentations	S 586-583
Ezekiel *	S 593-571
Daniel	S 606-535
Hosea	N 738-720
Joel	S 592?
Amos	N 762-761?
Obadiah	S 855-843
Jonah	N 780?
Micah	S 762-680
Nahum	S 633-612
Habakkuk	S 606?
Zephaniah	S 618?
Haggai	S 520
Zechariah	S 520
Malachi	S 450

PROPHETS	17 books	17.99% of Bible	Inheritance Loss/Restoration
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- Contents: **Preaching:** loyalty to God's covenant.
- **Prediction:** Rabbis counted 456 Messianic prophecies.
- Issue between God and man: **Loyalty.**
- Function for us: to show us the need for a **Perfect Prophet.**

Northern/Southern Prophet

The Old Testament is the Preparation for:

The Perfect Man	The Perfect Sacrifice
A Sinless Priest	Unexplained Ceremonies & Laws
An Omnipotent King	Imperfect Offerings
A Prophet Who Does Not Falter	Unfulfilled Prophecies

* = Antilegomena: 7 disputed books that form a part of the so-called deutero-canon.

NEW TESTAMENT – KEY WORD: MANIFESTATION
The Old Testament Revealed

Westcott & Hort Greek NT	137,523 Words / 18,133 Unique Words	30.82% of the Bible
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GOSPELS	4 Books	5 B.C. – 30 A.D. (?)	64,533 Words	46.92% of NT (14.46% of Bible)
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The **Introduction** of the Person and work of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 1:1-15 -- “connector” between the Old and the New Testaments (C. I. Scofield).

The Gospels are a unity – all pertain to one subject.

The Gospels are a duality.

a. The *humanity* of Christ.

67	Matthew	Presents Christ as the Perfect King	Jew	βασιλεία
67	Mark	Presents Christ as the Perfect Servant	Roman	εὐθὺς
67	Luke	Presents Christ as the Perfect Man	Greek	υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου

b. The *Deity* of Christ.

97	John	Presents Christ as God	Mankind	ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ
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The Gospels are a multiplicity.

- Luke was a Greek physician.
- Matthew and John were apostles.
- Matthew, Mark and John were Jews.

ACTS	1 Book	29 – 60 A.D.	18,375 Words	13.36% of NT (4.11% of Bible)
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The **Proclamation** of the Person and work of Jesus Christ.

Thirty year church history to show successive generations what the church is like.

EPISTLES	21 Books	50 – 98 A.D.	44,789 Words	32.56% of NT (10.03% of Bible)
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The **Interpretation** of the Person and work of Jesus Christ.

PAULINE EPISTLES: 13 Books - demonstrate progressive levels of Christian growth.

		PROGRESSION	SYNOPSIS
57	ROMANS	Salvation	Fitly opens the doctrinal series by explaining the first, vital principle.
53-	CORINTHIAN LETTERS	Liberty	To those seeking after wisdom with self-sufficient freedom of thought.
53	GALATIANS	Law	To those returning to willful religious bondage.
62	EPHESIANS & COLOSSIANS	Corporateness	The ideal of the church. Ephesians: the Head; Colossians: the body.
62	PHILIPPIANS & PHILEMON	Individuality	The voice of a friend.
51	THESSALONIAN LETTERS	▼	Fitly the last of the letters to the seven churches – Eschatology.
63	PASTORAL EPISTLES	Leadership	To an office which is both a government to rule and a ministry to serve.

GENERAL EPISTLES: 8 Books

67	HEBREWS	The Jewish mind: The tendency to revert back to the Jewish faith.
	<i>PETRINE EPISTLES</i>	<i>Written to scattered Christians.</i>
64	1 PETER	The tendency to faint under persecution – external threats to the church.
67	2 PETER	The tendency to tolerate heretics – internal threats to the church.
-63	JAMES	The Jewish mind: to be satisfied with an intellectual faith.
	<i>JOHANINE EPISTLES</i>	<i>Written to all Christians.</i>
-98	1 JOHN	Assurance of our fellowship.
-98	2 JOHN	Tendency to include diverse doctrine in our fellowship.
-98	3 JOHN	Tendency not to be hospitable in our fellowship.
67	JUDE	Written to scattered Christians. Looks back at the problem in the Petrine Epistles.

REVELATION	1 Book	c. 98 A.D.	9,826 Words	7.14% of NT (2.20% of Bible)
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The **Consummation** of the Person and work of Jesus Christ.

The New Testament is the Manifestation of:

The Perfect Man	The Perfect Sacrifice
A Priest Without Sin	Explained Ceremonies & Laws
A King with Perfect Power	A Perfect Offering
A Prophet Who Cannot Die	Fulfilled Prophecies

Approximately forty men took 2,000 years (Job, c. 1950 B.C. – John, c. 98 A.D.) to write 446,213 words in 66 books and they do not contradict one another in the original autographs.

Note: dates are approximate encompassing events within each book. They are principally based on the BibleWorks 4 software timeline that is subject to error.