## ~BIBLE (2424)

[Greek, bi-bli'a, little books]

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- The Holy Scriptures, the inspired Word of Yehowah, acknowledged as the greatest book of all times because of its antiquity, its total circulation, the number of languages into which it has been translated, its surpassing greatness as a literary masterpiece, and its overwhelming importance to all mankind.
- Independent of all other books, it imitates no other. It stands on its own merits, giving credit to its unique Author. The Bible is also distinguished as having survived more violent controversy than any other book, hated as it is by many enemies.

#### ·· Name

- The English word Bible comes through the Latin from the Greek word bi-bli'a, meaning little books. This, in turn, is derived from bi'blos, a word that describes the inner part of the papyrus plant out of which a primitive form of paper was made. The Phoenician city of Gebal, famous for its papyrus papermaking, was called by the Greeks, Byblos.
- And the land of the Gebalites and all of Lebanon toward the rising of the sun, from Baal-gad at the base of Mount Hermon as far as to the entering in of Hamath. (Joshua 13:5) Footnote

- In time *bi-bli'a* came to describe various writings, scrolls, books, and eventually the collection of little books that make up the **Bible**. Jerome called this collection Bibliotheca Divina, the Divine Library.
- Jesus and writers of the Christian Greek Scriptures referred to the collection of sacred writings as the Scriptures, or the holy Scriptures, the holy writings.
- Jesus said to them; Did you never read in the Scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected is the one that has become the chief cornerstone. From Yehowah this has come to be, and it is marvelous in our eyes? (Matthew 21:42)
- Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and yet you did not take me into custody. Nevertheless, it is in order, that the Scriptures may be fulfilled. (Mark 14:49)
- And they said to each other; Were not our hearts burning as he was speaking to us on the road, as he was fully opening up the Scriptures to us? (Luke 24:32)
- You are searching the Scriptures, because you think that by means of them you will have everlasting life, and these are the very ones that bear witness about me. (John 5:39)
- Now a certain Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, an eloquent man, arrived in Ephesus, and he was well versed in the Scriptures. (Acts of Apostles 18:24)
- Which he promised aforetime through his prophets in the holy Scriptures. (Romans 1:2)
- For all the things that were written aforetime were written for our instruction, that through our endurance and through the comfort from the Scriptures we might have hope. (Romans 15:4)
- And that from infancy you have known the holy writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through the faith in connection with Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 3:15)
- All Scripture is inspired of God and beneficial for teaching, for reproving, for setting things straight, for disciplining in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16)

- The collection is the written expression of a communicating God, the Word of God, and this is acknowledged in phrases such as expression of Yehowah's mouth.
- So he humbled you and let you go hungry and fed you with the manna, which neither you had known nor your fathers had known, in order to make you know that not by bread alone does man live but by every expression of Yehowah's mouth does man live. (Deuteronomy 8:3)
- Sayings of Yehowah
- And Joshua went on to say to all the people; Look! This stone is what will serve as a witness against us, because it has itself heard all the sayings of Yehowah that he has spoken with us, and it must serve as a witness against you, that you may not deny your God. (Joshua 24:27)
- Commandments of Yehowah
- And this is a copy of the letter that King Artaxerxes gave Ezra the priest the copyist, a copyist of the words of the commandments of Yehowah and of his regulations toward Israel. (Ezra 7:11)
- Law of Yehowah, reminder of Yehowah, orders from Yehowah
- The Law of Yehowah is perfect, bringing back the soul. The reminder of Yehowah is trustworthy, making the inexperienced one wise. (Psalms 19:7)
- The orders from Yehowah are upright, causing the heart to rejoice, the commandment of Yehowah is clean, making the eyes shine. (Psalms 19:8)
- Word of Yehowah
- And the word of Yehowah now occurred to Isaiah, saying; (Isaiah 38:4)
- Utterance of Yehowah
- But in reply he said; It is written: Man must live, not on bread alone, but on every utterance coming forth through Yehowah's mouth. (Matthew 4:4)

- Yehowah's word
- For this is what we tell you by Yehowah's word, that we the living who survive to the presence of the Lord shall in no way precede those who have fallen asleep in death. (1 Thessalonians 4:15)
- Repeatedly these writings are spoken of as sacred pronouncements of God.
- A great deal in every way. First of all, because they were entrusted with the sacred pronouncements of God. (Romans 3:2)
- This is he that came to be among the congregation in the wilderness with the angel that spoke to him on Mount Sinai and with our forefathers, and he received living sacred pronouncements to give you. (Acts of Apostles 7:38)
- For, indeed, although you ought to be teachers in view of the time, you again need someone to teach you from the beginning the elementary things of the sacred pronouncements of God, and you have become such as need milk, not solid food. (Hebrews 5:12)
- If anyone speaks, let him speak as it were the sacred pronouncements of God. If anyone ministers, let him minister as dependent on the strength that God supplies, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. The glory and the might are his forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 4:11)

#### .. Divisions

- Sixty-six individual books from Genesis to Revelation make up the Bible canon. The choice of these particular books, and the rejection of many others, is evidence that the Divine Author not only inspired their writing but also carefully guarded their collection and preservation within the sacred catalog. Thirty-nine of the 66 books, making up three quarters of the Bible's contents, are known as the Hebrew Scriptures, all having been initially written in that language with the exception of a few small sections written in Aramaic.
- If anyone speaks, let him speak as it were the sacred pronouncements of God. If anyone ministers, let him minister as

dependent on the strength that God supplies, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. The glory and the might are his forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 4:11)

- Artaxerxes, the king of kings, to Ezra the priest, the copyist of the Law of the God of the heavens. Peace be perfected. And now (Ezra 7:12)
- By me an order has been put through that everyone in my realm of the people of Israel and their priests and Levites that is willing to go to Jerusalem with you should go. (Ezra 7:13)
- Inasmuch as from before the king and his seven counselors an order was sent to investigate concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the Law of your God that is in your hand. (Ezra 7:14)
- And to bring the silver and the gold that the king and his counselors have voluntarily given to the God of Israel, whose residence is in Jerusalem. (Ezra 7:15)
- With all the silver and the gold that you find in all the jurisdictional district of Babylon along with the gift of the people and the priests who are voluntarily giving to the house of their God, which is in Jerusalem. (Ezra 7:16)
- Accordingly you will promptly buy with this money bulls, rams, lambs and their grain offerings and their drink offerings and you will present them upon the altar of the house of your God, which is in Jerusalem. (Ezra 7:17)
- And whatever it seems good to you and to your brothers to do with the rest of the silver and gold, according to the will of your God, you men will do. (Ezra 7:18)
- And the vessels that are being given to you for the service of the house of your God deliver in full before God at Jerusalem. (Ezra 7:19)
- And the rest of the necessities of the house of your God that it devolves upon you to give, you will give out of the king's house of treasures. (Ezra 7:20)
- And by me myself, Artaxerxes the king, an order has been put through to all the treasurers that are beyond the River, that

everything that Ezra the priest, the copyist of the Law of the God of the heavens, requests of you men it will be done promptly. (Ezra 7:21)

- Even to a hundred talents of silver and a hundred cor measures of wheat and a hundred bath measures of wine and a hundred bath measures of oil, and salt without limit. (Ezra 7:22)
- Let all that is by the order of the God of the heavens be done with zeal for the house of the God of the heavens, that there may occur no wrath against the kings realm and his sons. (Ezra 7:23)
- And to you men it is being made known that, as respects any of the priests and the Levites, the musicians, the doorkeepers, the Nethinim, and the workers of this house of God, no tax, tribute or toll is allowed to be imposed upon them. (Ezra 7:24)
- And you, Ezra, according to the wisdom of your God that is in your hand appoint magistrates and judges that they may continually judge all the people that are beyond the River, even all those knowing the laws of your God, and anyone that has not known them you men will instruct. (Ezra 7:25)
- And as for everyone that does not become a doer of the Law of your God and the Law of the king, let judgment be promptly executed upon him, whether for death or for banishment, or for money fine or for imprisonment. (Ezra 7:26)
- This is what you men will say to them; The gods that did not make the very heavens and the earth are the ones who will perish from the earth and from under these heavens. (Jeremiah 10:11)
- At that the Chaldeans spoke to the king in the Aramaic language: O king, live on even for times indefinite. Say what the dream is to your servants, and we shall show the very interpretation. (Daniel 2:4)
- Up to this point is the end of the matter. As for me, Daniel, my own thoughts kept frightening me a great deal, so that my very complexion changed in me, but the matter itself I kept in my own heart. (Daniel 7:28)

- By combining some of these books, the Jews had a total of only 22 or 24 books, yet these embraced the same material. It also appears to have been their custom to subdivide the Scriptures into three parts the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms.
- He now said to them; These are my words which I spoke to you while I was yet with you, that all the things written in the Law of Moses and in the Prophets and Psalms about me must be fulfilled. (Luke 24:44)
- The last quarter of the Bible is known as the Christian Greek Scriptures, so designated because the 27 books comprising this section were written in Greek. The writing, collecting, and arrangement of these books within the Bible's canon also demonstrate Yehowah's supervision from start to finish.

See Also CHRISTIAN GREEK SCRIPTURES
See Also APOCRYPHA
See Also CANON
See Also HEBREW SCRIPTURES

- Subdividing the Bible into chapters and verses, KJ has 1,189 chapters and 31,102 verses, was not done by the original writers, but it was a very useful device added centuries later.
- The Masoretes divided the Hebrew Scriptures into verses, then in the 13th Century of our Common Era chapter divisions were added.
- Finally, in 1555 C.E. Robert Estiennes edition of the Latin Vulgate was published as the first complete Bible with the present chapter and verse divisions.
- The 66 Bible books all together form but a single work, a complete whole. As the chapter and verse marks are only convenient aids for Bible study and are not intended to detract from the unity of the whole, so also is the sectioning of the Bible, which is done according to the predominant language in which the manuscripts have come down to us. We, therefore, have both the Hebrew and Greek Scriptures, with Christian added to the latter to distinguish them from the Greek Septuagint, which is the Hebrew portion of the Scriptures translated into Greek.

<sup>··</sup> Old Testament And New Testament

- Today it is a common practice to refer to the Scriptures written in Hebrew and Aramaic as the Old Testament. This is based on the reading in;
- But their mental powers were dulled. For to this present day the same veil remains unlifted at the reading of the old covenant, because it is done away with by means of Christ. (2 Corinthians 3:14)
- In the Latin Vulgate and the King James Version. However, the rendering old testament in this text is incorrect. The Greek word *diathe'kes* here means covenant, as it does in the other 32 places where it occurs in the Greek text. Many modern translations correctly read old covenant. (NE, RS, JB)
- The apostle Paul is not referring to the Hebrew and Aramaic Scriptures in their entirety. Neither does he mean that the inspired Christian writings constitute a new testament or, covenant. The apostle is speaking of the old Law covenant, which was recorded by Moses in the Pentateuch and which makes up only a part of the pre-Christian Scriptures. For this reason he says in the next verse, whenever Moses is read.
- Hence, there is no valid basis for the Hebrew and Aramaic Scriptures to be called the Old Testament and for the Christian Greek Scriptures to be called the New Testament. Jesus Christ himself referred to the collection of sacred writings as the Scriptures.
- Jesus said to them; Did you never read in the Scriptures, The stone that the builders rejected is the one that has become the chief cornerstone. From Yehowah this has come to be, and it is marvelous in our eyes? (Matthew 21:42)
- Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and yet you did not take me into custody. Nevertheless, it is in order, that the Scriptures may be fulfilled. (Mark 14:49)
- You are searching the Scriptures, because you think that by means of them you will have everlasting life, and these are the very ones that bear witness about me. (John 5:39)
- The apostle Paul referred to them as the Holy Scriptures, the Scriptures, and the holy writings.

- Which he promised aforetime through his prophets in the holy Scriptures. (Romans 1:2)
- For all the things that were written aforetime were written for our instruction, that through our endurance and through the comfort from the Scriptures we might have hope. (Romans 15:4)
- And that from infancy you have known the holy writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through the faith in connection with Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 3:15)

### " Authorship

- The accompanying table shows that about 40 human secretaries or scribes were used by the one Author to record the inspired Word of Yehowah. All Scripture is inspired of God, and this includes the writings in the Christian Greek Scriptures along with the rest of the Scriptures.
- All Scripture is inspired of God and beneficial for teaching, for reproving, for setting things straight, for disciplining in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16)
- Furthermore, consider the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul according to the wisdom given him also wrote you. (2 Peter 3:15)
- Speaking about these things as he does also in all his letters. In them, however, are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unsteady are twisting, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction. (2 Peter 3:16)
- This expression inspired of God translated the Greek phrase theo'pneu-stos, meaning God-breathed. By breathing on faithful men, God caused his spirit, or active force, to become operative upon them and directed what he wanted recorded, for, as it is written, prophecy was at no time brought by man's will, but men spoke from God as they were borne along by Holy Spirit.
- For prophecy was at no time brought by man's will, but men spoke from God as they were borne along by Holy Spirit. (2 Peter 1:21)
- Jesus, therefore, said to them again; May you have peace. Just as the Father has sent me forth, I also am sending you. (John

### 20:21)

And after he said this he blew upon them and said to them, Receive Holy Spirit. (John 20:22)

#### See Also INSPIRATION.

- This unseen Holy Spirit of God is his symbolic finger. Therefore, when men saw Moses perform supernatural feats they exclaimed; It is the finger of God!
- And the magic-practicing priests tried to do the same by their secret arts, in order to bring forth gnats, but they were unable. And the gnats came to be on man and beast. (Exodus 8:18)
- Hence the magic-practicing priests said to Pharaoh; It is the finger of God! But Pharaoh's heart continued to be obstinate, and he did not listen to them, just as Yehowah had spoken. (Exodus 8:19)
- With Jesus words at:
- Then they brought him a demon-possessed man, blind and dumb, and he cured him, so that the dumb man spoke and saw.

  (Matthew 12:22)
- But if it is by means of God's spirit that I expel the demons, the kingdom of God has really overtaken you. (Matthew 12:28)
- But if it is by means of God's finger I expel the demons, the kingdom of God has really overtaken you. (Luke 11:20)
- In a similar display of divine power God's finger began the writing of the Bible by carving out the Ten Commandments on stone tablets.
- Now as soon as he had finished speaking with him on Mount Sinai he proceeded to give Moses two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone written on by God's finger. (Exodus 31:18)
- Then Yehowah gave me the two tablets of stone written upon with God's finger, and upon them were all the words that Yehowah had spoken with you in the mountain out of the middle of the fire in the day of the congregation. (Deuteronomy 9:10)

- It would, therefore, be a simple matter for Yehowah to use men as his scribes even though some were unlettered and ordinary in scholastic training.
- Now when they beheld the outspokenness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were men unlettered and ordinary, they got to wondering. And they began to recognize about them that they used to be with Jesus. (Acts of Apostles 4:13)
- And regardless of whether the individual was by trade a shepherd, farmer, tentmaker, fisherman, tax collector, physician, priest, prophet, or king. Yehowah's active force put the thoughts into the writers mind and, in certain instances, allowed him to express the divine thought in his own words, thus permitting personality and individual traits to show through the writing, yet at the same time maintaining a superb oneness in theme and in purpose throughout.
- In this way the resultant Bible, reflecting as it does the mind and will of Yehowah, exceeded in wealth and in scope the writings of mere men. The Almighty God saw to it that his written Word of truth was in language easily understood and easily translated into practically any tongue.
- No other book took so long to complete as the Bible. In 1513 B.C.E. Moses began Bible writing. Other sacred writings were added to the inspired Scriptures until sometime after 443 B.C.E. when Nehemiah and Malachi completed their books.
- Then there was a gap in Bible writing for almost 500 years, until the apostle Matthew penned his historic account. Nearly 60 years later John, the last of the apostles, contributed his Gospel and three letters to complete the Bible's canon. So, all together, a period of some 1,610 years was involved in producing the Bible. All the co-writers were Hebrews and, hence, part of that people entrusted with the sacred pronouncements of God.
- A great deal in every way. First of all, because they were entrusted with the sacred pronouncements of God. (Romans 3:2)
- The Bible is not an unrelated assortment or collection of heterogeneous fragments from Jewish and Christian literature. Rather, it is an organizational book, highly unified and interconnected in its various segments, which indeed reflect the systematic orderliness of

the Creator-Author himself. The Exhaustive Cross-Referenced Bible Using the New World Translation contains over 231,000 cross-references demonstrating its unique internal harmony.

God's dealings with Israel in giving them a comprehensive Law code as well as regulations governing matters even down to small details of camp life things that were later mirrored in the Davidic kingdom as well as in the congregational arrangement among first-century Christians reflect and magnify this organizational aspect of the Bible.

#### ·· Contents

- In contents this **Book of Books** reveals the past, explains the present, and foretells the future. These are matters that only He who knows the end from the beginning could author.
- The One telling from the beginning the finale, and from long ago the things that have not been done, the One saying; My own counsel will stand, and everything that is my delight I shall do. (Isaiah 46:10)
- Starting at the beginning by telling of the creation of heaven and earth, the Bible next gives a sweeping account of the events that prepared the earth for man's habitation. Then the truly scientific explanation of the origin of man is revealed how life comes only from a Life-Giver facts that only the Creator now in the role of Author could explain.
- And God went on to say; Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have in subjection the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of the heavens and the domestic animals and all the earth and every moving animal that is moving upon the earth. (Genesis 1:26)
- And God proceeded to create the man in his image, in God's image he created him, male and female he created them. (Genesis 1:27)
- Further, God blessed them and God said to them; Be fruitful and become many and fill the earth and subdue it, and have in subjection the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of the heavens and every living creature that is moving upon the earth. (Genesis 1:28)

- And Yehowah God proceeded to form the man out of dust from the ground and to blow into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man came to be a living soul. (Genesis 2:7)
- With the account of why men die, the overriding theme that permeates the whole Bible was introduced. This theme, the vindication of Yehowah's sovereignty and the ultimate fulfillment of his purpose for the earth, by means of his Kingdom under Christ, the promised Seed, was wrapped up in the first prophecy concerning the seed of the woman.
- And I shall put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed. He will bruise you in the head and you will bruise him in the heel. (Genesis 3:15)
- More than 2,000 years passed before this promise of a seed was again mentioned, God telling Abraham.
- And by means of your seed all nations of the earth will certainly bless themselves due to the fact that you have listened to my voice. (Genesis 22:18)
- Over 800 years later, renewed assurance was given to Abraham's descendant King David, and with the passing of more time Yehowah's prophets kept this flame of hope burning brightly.
- When your days come to the full, and you must lie down with your forefathers, then I shall certainly raise up your seed after you, which will come out of your inward parts, and I shall indeed firmly establish his kingdom. (2 Samuel 7:12)
- And your house and your kingdom will certainly be steadfast to time indefinite before you, your very throne will become one firmly established to time indefinite. (2 Samuel 7:16)
- For there has been a child born to us, there has been a son given to us, and the princely rule will come to be upon his shoulder.

  And his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)
- To the abundance of the princely rule and to peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and upon his kingdom in order to establish it firmly and to sustain it by means of justice and by

means of righteousness, from now on and to time indefinite. The very zeal of Yehowah of armies will do this. (Isaiah 9:7)

- More than 1,000 years after David and 4,000 years after the original prophecy in Eden, the Promised Seed himself appeared, Jesus Christ, the legal heir to the throne of David his father.
- And, look! You will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and you are to call his name Jesus. (Luke 1:31)
- This one will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and Yehowah God will give him the throne of David his father. (Luke 1:32)
- And he will rule as king over the house of Jacob forever, and there will be no end of his kingdom. (Luke 1:33)
- Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. It says, not; And to seeds. As in the case of many such, but as in the case of one: And to your seed, who is Christ. (Galatians 3:16)
- Bruised in death by the earthly seed of the serpent, this Son of the Most High provided the ransom purchase price for the life rights lost to Adam's offspring, thus providing the only means whereby mankind can get everlasting life. He was then raised on high, there to await the appointed time to hurl the original serpent, the one called Devil and Satan, down to the earth, finally to be destroyed forever.
- Thus the magnificent theme announced in Genesis and developed and enlarged upon throughout the balance of the Bible is, in the closing chapters of Revelation, brought to a glorious climax as Yehowah's grand purpose by means of his Kingdom is made apparent.
- And the seventh angel blew his trumpet. And loud voices occurred in heaven, saying; The kingdom of the world did become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will rule as king forever and ever. (Revelation 11:15)
- And a great sign was seen in heaven, a woman arrayed with the sun, and the moon was beneath her feet, and on her head was a crown of twelve stars. (Revelation 12:1)
- And she was pregnant. And she cries out in her pains and in her agony to give birth. (Revelation 12:2)

- And another sign was seen in heaven, and, look! A great fiery-colored dragon, with seven heads and ten horns and upon its heads seven diadems. (Revelation 12:3)
- And its tail drags a third of the stars of heaven, and it hurled them down to the earth. And the dragon kept standing before the woman who was about to give birth, that, when she did give birth, it might devour her child. (Revelation 12:4)
- And she gave birth to a son, a male, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod. And her child was caught away to God and to his throne. (Revelation 12:5)
- And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and sixty days. (Revelation 12:6)
- And war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels battled with the dragon, and the dragon and its angels battled (Revelation 12:7)
- But it did not prevail, neither was a place found for them any longer in heaven. (Revelation 12:8)
- So down the great dragon was hurled, the original serpent, the one called Devil and Satan, who is misleading the entire inhabited earth, he was hurled down to the earth, and his angels were hurled down with him. (Revelation 12:9)
- And I heard a loud voice in heaven say; Now have come to pass the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ, because the accuser of our brothers has been hurled down, who accuses them day and night before our God! (Revelation 12:10)
- And they conquered him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their witnessing, and they did not love their souls even in the face of death. (Revelation 12:11)
- On this account be glad, you heavens and you who reside in them! Woe for the earth and for the sea, because the Devil has come down to you, having great anger, knowing he has a short period of time. (Revelation 12:12)

- And the dragon grew wrathful at the woman, and went off to wage war with the remaining one's of her seed, who observe the commandments of God and have the work of bearing witness to Jesus. (Revelation 12:17)
- And I saw the heaven opened, and, look! A white horse. And the one seated upon it is called Faithful and True, and he judges and carries on war in righteousness. (Revelation 19:11)
- His eyes are a fiery flame, and upon his head are many diadems. He has a name written that no one knows but he himself. (Revelation 19:12)
- And he is arrayed with an outer garment sprinkled with blood, and the name he is called is The Word of God. (Revelation 19:13)
- Also, the armies that were in heaven were following him on white horses, and they were clothed in white, clean, fine linen. (Revelation 19:14)
- And out of his mouth there protrudes a sharp long sword, that he may strike the nations with it, and he will shepherd them with a rod of iron. He treads too the winepress of the anger of the wrath of God the Almighty. (Revelation 19:15)
- And upon his outer garment, even upon his thigh, he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. (Revelation 19:16)
- And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven with the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. (Revelation 20:1)
- And he seized the dragon, the original serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. (Revelation 20:2)
- And he hurled him into the abyss and shut it and sealed it over him, that he might not mislead the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After these things he must be let loose for a little while. (Revelation 20:3)
- Now as soon as the thousand years have been ended, Satan will be let loose out of his prison. (Revelation 20:7)

- And he will go out to mislead those nations in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war. The number of these is as the sand of the sea. (Revelation 20:8)
- And they advanced over the breadth of the earth and encircled the camp of the holy one's and the beloved city. But fire came down out of heaven and devoured them. (Revelation 20:9)
- And the Devil who was misleading them was hurled into the lake of fire and sulphur, where both the wild beast and the false prophet already were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (Revelation 20:10)
- And I saw a new heaven and a new earth. For the former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea is no more. (Revelation 21:1)
- I saw also the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God and prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. (Revelation 21:2)
- With that I heard a loud voice from the throne say; Look! The tent of God is with mankind, and he will reside with them, and they will be his peoples. And God himself will be with them. (Revelation 21:3)
- And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away. (Revelation 21:4)
- And the One seated on the throne said; Look! I am making all things new. Also, he says; Write, because these words are faithful and true. (Revelation 21:5)
- And no more will there be any curse. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his slaves will render him sacred service. (Revelation 22:3)
- And they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. (Revelation 22:4)
- Also, night will be no more, and they have no need of lamplight nor do they have sunlight, because Yehowah God will shed light upon them, and they will rule as kings forever and ever.

### (Revelation 22:5)

- This Kingdom under Christ the Promised Seed is the means by which the vindication of Yehowah's name will be accomplished. Following through on this theme, the Bible magnifies God's personal name to a greater extent than any other book, the name occurs 6,973 times in the Hebrew Scripture portion of the New World Translation.
- That is in addition to the use of the shorter form Yah and the scores of instances where it combines to form other names like Jehoshua, meaning, Yehowah Is Salvation.
- We would not know the Creators name, the great issue raised by the Edenic rebellion involving this name, or God's purpose to sanctify and vindicate that name before all creation if these things were not revealed in the Bible.

## **See Also YEHOWAH [Importance of the Name]**

- In this library of 66 little books the theme of the Kingdom and Yehowah's name are closely interwoven with information on many subjects. Its reference to fields of knowledge such as agriculture, architecture, astronomy, chemistry, commerce, engineering, ethnology, government, hygiene, music, poetry, philology, and tactical warfare is only incidental to development of the theme, not as a treatise. Nevertheless, it contains a veritable treasure-house of information for the archaeologists and paleographers.
- As an accurate historical work and one that penetrates the past to great depths, the Bible far surpasses all other books. However, it is of much greater value in the field of prophecy, foretelling as it does the future that only the King of Eternity can reveal with accuracy.
- The march of world powers down through the centuries, even to the rise and ultimate demise of present-day institutions, was prophetically related in the Bible's long-range prophecies.
- God's Word of truth in a very practical way sets men free from ignorance, superstitions, human philosophies, and senseless traditions of men.
- And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. (John 8:32)

- The word of God is alive and exerts power.
- For the word of God is alive and exerts power and is sharper than any two-edged sword and pierces even to the dividing of soul and spirit, and of joints and their marrow, and is able to discern thoughts and intentions of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12)
- Without the Bible we would not know Yehowah, would not know the wonderful benefits resulting from Christ's ransom sacrifice, and would not understand the requirements that must be met in order to get everlasting life in or under God's righteous Kingdom.
- The Bible is a most practical book in other ways too, for it gives sound counsel to Christians on how to live now, how to carry on their ministry, and how to survive this anti-God, pleasure-seeking system of things. Christians are told to quit being fashioned after this system of things by making their minds over from worldly thinking, and this they can do by having the same mental attitude of humility that was also in Christ Jesus and by stripping off the old personality and putting on the new one.
- And quit being fashioned after this system of things, but be transformed by making your mind over, that you may prove to yourselves the good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (Romans 12:2)
- Keep this mental attitude in you that was also in Christ Jesus.(Philippians 2:5)
- Who, although he was existing in God's form, gave no consideration to a seizure, namely, that he should be equal to God. (Philippians 2:6)
- No, but he emptied himself and took a slaves form and came to be in the likeness of men. (Philippians 2:7)
- More than that, when he found himself in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient as far as death, yes, death on a torture stake. (Philippians 2:8)
- But that you should be made new in the force actuating your mind. (Ephesians 4:23)
- And should put on the new personality which was created

according to God's will in true righteousness and loyalty. (Ephesians 4:24)

- Deaden, therefore, your body members that are upon the earth as respects fornication, uncleanness, sexual appetite, hurtful desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. (Colossians 3:5)
- On account of those things the wrath of God is coming. (Colossians 3:6)
- In those very things you, too, once walked when you used to live in them. (Colossians 3:7)
- But now really put them all away from you, wrath, anger,
   badness, abusive speech, and obscene talk out of your mouth.
   (Colossians 3:8)
- Do not be lying to one another. Strip off the old personality with its practices. (Colossians 3:9)
- And clothe yourselves with the new personality, which through accurate knowledge is being made new according to the image of the One who created it. (Colossians 3:10)
- This means displaying the fruitage of God's spirit, love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith, mildness, self-control, subjects on which so much is written throughout the Bible.
- On the other hand, the fruitage of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith. (Galatians 5:22)
- Mildness, self-control. Against such things there is no law.
   (Galatians 5:23)
- Accordingly, as God's chosen ones, holy and loved, clothe yourselves with the tender affections of compassion, kindness, lowliness of mind, mildness, and long-suffering. (Colossians 3:12)
- Continue putting up with one another and forgiving one another freely if anyone has a cause for complaint against another. Even as Yehowah freely forgave you, so do you also. (Colossians 3:13)
- But, besides all these things, clothe yourselves with love, for it is

a perfect bond of union. (Colossians 3:14)

# · · Authenticity

The veracity of the **Bible** has been assailed from many quarters, but none of these efforts has undermined or weakened its position in the least.

# · · Bible history

- Sir Isaac Newton once said; I find more sure marks of authenticity in the Bible than in any profane history whatsoever. [Two Apologies, by R. Watson, London, 1820, p. 57]
- Its integrity to truth proves sound on any point that might be tested. Its history is accurate and can be relied upon. For example, what it says about the fall of Babylon to the Medes and Persians cannot be successfully contradicted
- Polish the arrows. Fill the circular shields, O men. Yehowah has aroused the spirit of the kings of the Medes, because it is against Babylon that his idea is, in order to bring her to ruin. For it is the vengeance of Yehowah, the vengeance for his temple. (Jeremiah 51:11)
- Against the walls of Babylon lift up a signal. Make strong the watch. Post the watchmen. Make ready those lying in ambush. For Yehowah both has formed the idea and will certainly do what he has spoken against the inhabitants of Babylon. (Jeremiah 51:12)
- Sanctify against her the nations, the kings of Media, its governor's and all its deputy rulers and all the land of each one's dominion. (Jeremiah 51:28)
- Peres, your kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and the Persians. (Daniel 5:28)
- Neither can what it says about people like Babylonian Nebuchadnezzar
- That Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had not taken when he carried Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, the king of Judah, into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon, together with all the nobles of

Judah and Jerusalem. (Jeremiah 27:20)

In the third year of the kingship of Jehoiakim the king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and proceeded to lay siege to it. (Daniel 1:1)

# Egyptian King Shishak

- And it came about in the fifth year of King Rehoboam that Shishak the king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem. (1 Kings 14:25)
- And it came about in the fifth year of King Rehoboam that Shishak the king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem. For they had behaved unfaithfully toward Yehowah. (2 Chronicles 12:2)

# Assyrians Tiglath-pileser III and Sennacherib

- In the days of Pekah the king of Israel, Tiglath-pileser the king of Assyria came in and proceeded to take Ijon and Abel-bethmaacah and Janoah and Kedesh and Hazor and Gilead and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and to carry them into exile in Assyria. (2 Kings 15:29)
- So Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath-pileser the king of Assyria, saying, I am your servant and your son. Come up and save me out of the palm of the king of Syria and out of the palm of the king of Israel, who are rising up against me. (2 Kings 16:7)
- And in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib the king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and proceeded to seize them. (2 Kings 18:13)
- The Roman emperors Augustus, Tiberius, and Claudius.
- Now in those days a decree went forth from Caesar Augustus for all the inhabited earth to be registered. (Luke 2:1)
- In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was district ruler of Galilee, but Philip his brother was district ruler of the country of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was district ruler of Abilene. (Luke 3:1)

- And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus who had recently come from Italy, and Priscilla his wife, because of the fact that Claudius had ordered all the Jews to depart from Rome. So he went to them (Acts of Apostles 18:2)
- Romans such as Pilate, Felix, and Festus.
- Even so, both Herod and Pontius Pilate with men of nations and with peoples of Israel were in actuality gathered together in this city against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. (Acts of Apostles 4:27)
- Claudius Lysias to his excellency, Governor Felix. Greetings!
   (Acts of Apostles 23:26)
- But, when two years had elapsed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus, and because Felix desired to gain favor with the Jews, he left Paul bound. (Acts of Apostles 24:27)
- Nor what it says about the temple of Artemis at Ephesus and the Areopagus at Athens
- When, finally, the city recorder had quieted the crowd, he said, Men of Ephesus, who really is there of mankind that does not know that the city of the Ephesians is the temple keeper of the great Artemis and of the image that fell from heaven? (Acts of Apostles 19:35)
- So they laid hold of him and led him to the Areopagus, saying, Can we get to know what this new teaching is which is spoken by you? (Acts of Apostles 17:19)
- For you are introducing some things that are strange to our ears. Therefore we desire to get to know what these things purport to be. (Acts of Apostles 17:20)
- In fact, all Athenians and the foreigners sojourning there would spend their leisure time at nothing but telling something or listening to something new. (Acts of Apostles 17:21)
- Paul now stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said; Men of Athens, I behold that in all things you seem to be more given to the fear of the deities than others are. (Acts of Apostles 17:22)

- For instance, while passing along and carefully observing your objects of veneration I also found an altar on which had been inscribed, To an Unknown God. Therefore what you are unknowingly giving godly devotion to, this I am publishing to you. (Acts of Apostles 17:23)
- The God that made the world and all the things in it, being, as this One is, Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in handmade temples. (Acts of Apostles 17:24)
- Neither is he attended to by human hands as if he needed anything, because he himself gives to all persons life and breath and all things. (Acts of Apostles 17:25)
- And he made out of one man every nation of men, to dwell upon the entire surface of the earth, and he decreed the appointed times and the set limits of the dwelling of men. (Acts of Apostles 17:26)
- For them to seek God, if they might grope for him and really find him, although, in fact, he is not far off from each one of us. (Acts of Apostles 17:27)
- For by him we have life and move and exist, even as certain one's of the poets among you have said; For we are also his progeny. (Acts of Apostles 17:28)
- Seeing, therefore, that we are the progeny of God, we ought not to imagine that the Divine Being is like gold or silver or stone, like something sculptured by the art and contrivance of man. (Acts of Apostles 17:29)
- True, God has overlooked the times of such ignorance, yet now he is telling mankind that they should all everywhere repent. (Acts of Apostles 17:30)
- Because he has set a day in which he purposes to judge the inhabited earth in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and he has furnished a guarantee to all men in that he has resurrected him from the dead. (Acts of Apostles 17:31)
- Well, when they heard of a resurrection of the dead, some began to mock, while others said; We will hear you about this even another time. (Acts of Apostles 17:32)

- Thus Paul went out from their midst. (Acts of Apostles 17:33)
- But some men joined themselves to him and became believers, among whom also were Dionysius, a judge of the court of the Areopagus, and a woman named Damaris, and others besides them. (Acts of Apostles 17:34)
- What the **Bible** says about these or any other places, people, or events is historically accurate in every detail.

#### See Also ARCHAEOLOGY

- What the Bible says about races and languages of mankind is also true. All peoples, regardless of stature, culture, color, or language, are members of one human family. The threefold division of the human family into the Japhetic, Hamitic, and Semitic races, all descending from Adam through Noah, cannot be successfully disputed.
- And Noah's sons who came out of the ark were Shem and Ham and Japheth. Later Ham was the father of Canaan. (Genesis 9:18)
- These three were Noah's sons, and from these was all the earth's population spread abroad. (Genesis 9:19)
- And he made out of one man every nation of men, to dwell upon the entire surface of the earth, and he decreed the appointed times and the set limits of the dwelling of men. (Acts of Apostles 17:26)
- Says Sir Henry Rawlinson; If we were to be guided by the mere intersection of linguistic paths, and independently of all reference to the Scriptural record, we should still be led to fix on the plains of Shinar, as the focus from which the various lines had radiated. [The Historical Evidences of the Truth of the Scripture Records, by G. Rawlinson, 1862, p. 287]
- And it came about that in their journeying eastward they eventually discovered a valley plain in the land of Shinar, and they took up dwelling there. (Genesis 11:2)
- And they began to say, each one to the other; Come on! Let us make bricks and bake them with a burning process. So brick served as stone for them, but bitumen served as mortar for them.

### (**Genesis 11:3**)

- They now said; Come on! Let us build ourselves a city and also a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a celebrated name for ourselves, for fear we may be scattered over all the surface of the earth. (Genesis 11:4)
- And Yehowah proceeded to go down to see the city and the tower that the sons of men had built. (Genesis 11:5)
- After that Yehowah said; Look! They are one people and there is one language for them all, and this is what they start to do. Why, now there is nothing that they may have in mind to do that will be unattainable for them. (Genesis 11:6)
- Come now! Let us go down and there confuse their language that they may not listen to one another's language. (Genesis 11:7)
- Accordingly Yehowah scattered them from there over all the surface of the earth, and they gradually left off building the city. (Genesis 11:8)
- That is why its name was called Babel, because there Yehowah had confused the language of all the earth, and Yehowah had scattered them from there over all the surface of the earth. (Genesis 11:9)

## · · Practicality

- The Bible's teachings, examples, and doctrines are most practical for modern man. The righteous principles and high moral standards contained in this book set it apart as far above all other books. Not only does the Bible answer important questions but it also provides many practical suggestions which, if followed, would do much to raise the physical and mental health of earth's population. The Bible lays down principles of right and wrong that serve as a straightedge for just business dealings
- All things, therefore, that you want men to do to you, you also must likewise do to them, this, in fact, is what the Law and the Prophets mean. (Matthew 7:12)
- You must not commit injustice in judging, in measuring, in

weighing or in measuring liquids. (Leviticus 19:35)

- You should prove to have accurate scales, accurate weights, an accurate ephah and an accurate hin. Yehowah your God I am, who have brought you out of the land of Egypt. (Leviticus 19:36)
- Two sorts of weights and two sorts of ephah measures, they are both of them together something detestable to Yehowah. (Proverbs 20:10)
- Do not rob the lowly one because he is lowly, and do not crush the afflicted one in the gate. (Proverbs 22:22)
- For Yehowah himself will plead their cause, and he will certainly rob of soul those robbing them. (Proverbs 22:23)

#### Industriousness

- Let the stealer steal no more, but rather let him do hard work, doing with his hands what is good work, that he may have something to distribute to someone in need. (Ephesians 4:28)
- Whatever you are doing, work at it whole-souled as to Yehowah, and not to men. (Colossians 3:23)
- And to make it your aim to live quietly and to mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we ordered you. (1 Thessalonians 4:11)
- So that you may be walking decently as regards people outside and not be needing anything. (1 Thessalonians 4:12)
- In fact, also, when we were with you, we used to give you this order; If anyone does not want to work, neither let him eat. (2 Thessalonians 3:10)
- For we hear certain one's are walking disorderly among you, not working at all but meddling with what does not concern them. (2 Thessalonians 3:11)
- To such persons we give the order and exhortation in the Lord Jesus Christ that by working with quietness they should eat food they themselves earn. (2 Thessalonians 3:12)

- Clean moral conduct,
- Now the works of the flesh are manifest, and they are fornication, uncleanness, loose conduct. (Galatians 5:19)
- Idolatry, practice of spiritism, enmities, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, contentions, divisions, sects. (Galatians 5:20)
- Envies, drunken bouts, revelries, and things like these. As to these things I am forewarning you, the same way as I did forewarn you, that those who practice such things will not inherit God's kingdom. (Galatians 5:21)
- On the other hand, the fruitage of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith. (Galatians 5:22)
- Mildness, self-control. Against such things there is no law.
   (Galatians 5:23)
- For this is what God wills, the sanctifying of you, that you abstain from fornication. (1 Thessalonians 4:3)
- That each one of you should know how to get possession of his own vessel in sanctification and honor. (1 Thessalonians 4:4)
- Not in covetous sexual appetite such as also those nations have which do not know God. (1 Thessalonians 4:5)
- That no one go to the point of harming and encroach upon the rights of his brother in this matter, because Yehowah is one who exacts punishment for all these things, just as we told you beforehand and also gave you a thorough witness. (1 Thessalonians 4:6)
- For God called us, not with allowance for uncleanness, but in connection with sanctification. (1 Thessalonians 4:7)
- So, then, the man that shows disregard is disregarding, not man, but God, who puts his Holy Spirit in you. (1 Thessalonians 4:8)
- You must not commit adultery. (Exodus 20:14)
- You must not steal. (Exodus 20:15)

- You must not testify falsely as a witness against your fellowman. (Exodus 20:16)
- You must not desire your fellowman's house. You must not desire your fellowman's wife, nor his slave man nor his slave girl nor his bull nor his ass nor anything that belongs to your fellowman. (Exodus 20:17)
- Now a man who commits adultery with another man's wife is one who commits adultery with the wife of his fellowman. He should be put to death without fail, the adulterer and the adulteress as well. (Leviticus 20:10)
- And a man who lies down with his father's wife has laid bare the nakedness of his father. Both of them should be put to death without fail. Their own blood is upon them. (Leviticus 20:11)
- And where a man lies down with his daughter-in-law, both of them should be put to death without fail. They have committed a violation of what is natural. Their own blood is upon them. (Leviticus 20:12)
- And when a man lies down with a male the same as one lies down with a woman, both of them have done a detestable thing. They should be put to death without fail. Their own blood is upon them. (Leviticus 20:13)
- And where a man takes a woman and her mother, it is loose conduct. They should burn him and them in the fire, in order, that loose conduct may not continue in your midst. (Leviticus 20:14)
- And where a man gives his seminal emission to a beast, he should be put to death without fail, and you should kill the beast. (Leviticus 20:15)
- And where a woman approaches any beast to have a connection with it, you must kill the woman and the beast. They should be put to death without fail. Their own blood is upon them. (Leviticus 20:16)
- Upbuilding associations
- Do not be misled. Bad associations spoil useful habits. (1

## **Corinthians 15:33)**

- And let us consider one another to incite to love and fine works. (Hebrews 10:24)
- Not forsaking the gathering of ourselves together, as some have the custom, but encouraging one another, and all the more so as you behold the day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:25)
- For as a honeycomb the lips of a strange woman keep dripping, and her palate is smoother than oil. (Proverbs 5:3)
- But the aftereffect from her is as bitter as wormwood, it is as sharp as a two-edged sword. (Proverbs 5:4)
- Her feet are descending to death. Her very steps take hold on Sheol itself. (Proverbs 5:5)
- The path of life she does not contemplate. Her tracks have wandered she does not know where. (Proverbs 5:6)
- So now, O sons, listen to me and do not turn away from the sayings of my mouth. (Proverbs 5:7)
- Keep your way far off from alongside her, and do not get near to the entrance of her house. (Proverbs 5:8)
- That you may not give to others your dignity, nor your years to what is cruel. (Proverbs 5:9)
- That strangers may not satisfy themselves with your power, nor the things you got by pain be in the house of a foreigner. (Proverbs 5:10)
- Nor you have to groan in your future when your flesh and your organism come to an end. (Proverbs 5:11)
- He that is walking with wise persons will become wise, but he that is having dealings with the stupid one's will fare badly. (Proverbs 13:20)
- Good family relationships
- Be in subjection to one another in fear of Christ. (Ephesians 5:21)

- Let wives be in subjection to their husbands as to the Lord. (Ephesians 5:22)
- Because a husband is head of his wife as the Christ also is head of the congregation, he being a savior of this body. (Ephesians 5:23)
- In fact, as the congregation is in subjection to the Christ, so let wives also be to their husbands in everything. (Ephesians 5:24)
- Husbands, continue loving your wives, just as the Christ also loved the congregation and delivered up himself for it. (Ephesians 5:25)
- That he might sanctify it, cleansing it with the bath of water by means of the word. (Ephesians 5:26)
- That he might present the congregation to himself in its splendor, not having a spot or a wrinkle or any of such things, but that it should be holy and without blemish. (Ephesians 5:27)
- In this way husbands ought to be loving their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. (Ephesians 5:28)
- For no man ever hated his own flesh, but he feeds and cherishes it, as the Christ also does the congregation. (Ephesians 5:29)
- Because we are members of his body. (Ephesians 5:30)
- For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother and he will stick to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. (Ephesians 5:31)
- This sacred secret is great. Now I am speaking with respect to Christ and the congregation. (Ephesians 5:32)
- Nevertheless, also, let each one of you individually so love his wife as he does himself, on the other hand, the wife should have deep respect for her husband. (Ephesians 5:33)
- Children, be obedient to your parents in union with the Lord, for this is righteous. (Ephesians 6:1)

- Honor your father and your mother, which is the first command with a promise. (Ephesians 6:2)
- That it may go well with you and you may endure a long time on the earth. (Ephesians 6:3)
- And you, fathers, do not be irritating your children, but go on bringing them up in the discipline and mental-regulating of Yehowah. (Ephesians 6:4)
- You wives, be in subjection to your husbands, as it is becoming in the Lord. (Colossians 3:18)
- You husbands, keep on loving your wives and do not be bitterly angry with them. (Colossians 3:19)
- You children, be obedient to your parents in everything, for this is well-pleasing in the Lord. (Colossians 3:20)
- You fathers, do not be exasperating your children, so that they do not become downhearted. (Colossians 3:21)
- Listen, O Israel. Yehowah our God is one Yehowah. (Deuteronomy 6:4)
- And you must love Yehowah your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your vital force. (Deuteronomy 6:5)
- And these words that I am commanding you today must prove to be on your heart. (Deuteronomy 6:6)
- And you must inculcate them in your son and speak of them when you sit in your house and when you walk on the road and when you lie down and when you get up. (Deuteronomy 6:7)
- And you must tie them as a sign upon your hand, and they must serve as a frontlet band between your eyes. (Deuteronomy 6:8)
- And you must write them upon the doorposts of your house and on your gates. (Deuteronomy 6:9)
- The one holding back his rod is hating his son, but the one loving him is he that does look for him with discipline. (Proverbs 13:24)

- As the famous educator William Lyon Phelps once said; I believe a knowledge of the Bible without a college course is more valuable than a college course without a Bible. [The New Dictionary of Thoughts, p. 46]
- Regarding the Bible, John Quincy Adam's wrote; It is of all books in the world, that which contributes most to make men good, wise, and happy. [Letters of John Quincy Adam's to His Son, 1849, p. 9]

### .. Scientific Accuracy

- When it comes to scientific accuracy the **Bible** is not lacking. Whether describing the progressive order of earth's preparation for human habitation.
- In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1)
- Now the earth proved to be formless and waste and there was darkness upon the surface of the watery deep, and God's active force was moving to and fro over the surface of the waters. (Genesis 1:2)
- And God proceeded to say; Let light come to be. Then there came to be light. (Genesis 1:3)
- After that God saw that the light was good, and God brought about a division between the light and the darkness. (Genesis 1:4)
- And God began calling the light Day, but the darkness he called Night. And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, a first day. (Genesis 1:5)
- And God went on to say; Let an expanse come to be in between the waters and let a dividing occur between the waters and the waters. (Genesis 1:6)
- Then God proceeded to make the expanse and to make a division between the waters that should be beneath the expanse and the waters that should be above the expanse. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:7)
- And God began to call the expanse Heaven. And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, a second day.

# (Genesis 1:8)

- And God went on to say; Let the waters under the heavens be brought together into one place and let the dry land appear. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:9)
- And God began calling the dry land Earth, but the bringing together of the waters he called Seas. Further, God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:10)
- And God went on to say; Let the earth cause grass to shoot forth, vegetation bearing seed, fruit trees yielding fruit according to their kinds, the seed of which is in it, upon the earth. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:11)
- And the earth began to put forth grass, vegetation bearing seed according to its kind and trees yielding fruit, the seed of which is in it according to its kind. Then God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:12)
- And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, a third day. (Genesis 1:13)
- And God went on to say; Let luminaries come to be in the expanse of the heavens to make a division between the day and the night, and they must serve as signs and for seasons and for days and years. (Genesis 1:14)
- And they must serve as luminaries in the expanse of the heavens to shine upon the earth. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:15)
- And God proceeded to make the two great luminaries, the greater luminary for dominating the day and the lesser luminary for dominating the night, and also the stars. (Genesis 1:16)
- Thus God put them in the expanse of the heavens to shine upon the earth. (Genesis 1:17)
- And to dominate by day and by night and to make a division between the light and the darkness. Then God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:18)
- And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, a fourth day. (Genesis 1:19)

- And God went on to say; Let the waters swarm forth a swarm of living souls and let flying creatures fly over the earth upon the face of the expanse of the heavens. (Genesis 1:20)
- And God proceeded to create the great sea monsters and every living soul that moves about, which the waters swarmed forth according to their kinds, and every winged flying creature according to its kind. And God got to see that it was good. (Genesis 1:21)
- With that God blessed them, saying; Be fruitful and become many and fill the waters in the sea basins, and let the flying creatures become many in the earth. (Genesis 1:22)
- And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, a fifth day. (Genesis 1:23)
- And God went on to say; Let the earth put forth living souls according to their kinds, domestic animal and moving animal and wild beast of the earth according to its kind. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:24)
- And God proceeded to make the wild beast of the earth according to its kind and the domestic animal according to its kind and every moving animal of the ground according to its kind. And God got to see that it was good. (Genesis 1:25)
- And God went on to say; Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have in subjection the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of the heavens and the domestic animals and all the earth and every moving animal that is moving upon the earth. (Genesis 1:26)
- And God proceeded to create the man in his image, in God's image he created him, male and female he created them. (Genesis 1:27)
- Further, God blessed them and God said to them; Be fruitful and become many and fill the earth and subdue it, and have in subjection the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of the heavens and every living creature that is moving upon the earth. (Genesis 1:28)

- And God went on to say; Here I have given to you all vegetation bearing seed which is on the surface of the whole earth and every tree on which there is the fruit of a tree bearing seed. To you let it serve as food. (Genesis 1:29)
- And to every wild beast of the earth and to every flying creature of the heavens and to everything moving upon the earth in which there is life as a soul I have given all green vegetation for food. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:30)
- After that God saw everything he had made and, look! It was very good. And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, a sixth day. (Genesis 1:31)
- Speaking of the earth as being spherical and hung on nothing.
- He is stretching out the north over the empty place, hanging the earth upon nothing. (Job 26:7)
- There is One who is dwelling above the circle of the earth, the dwellers in which are as grasshoppers, the One who is stretching out the heavens just as a fine gauze, who spreads them out like a tent in which to dwell. (Isaiah 40:22)
- Classifying the hare as a cud chewer.
- Also the hare, because it is a chewer of the cud but it does not have the hoof split. It is unclean for you. (Leviticus 11:6)
- Or declaring, the soul of the flesh is in the blood.
- For the soul of the flesh is in the blood, and I myself have put it upon the altar for you to make atonement for your souls, because it is the blood that makes atonement by the soul in it. (Leviticus 17:11)
- That is why I have said to the sons of Israel; No soul of you must eat blood and no alien resident who is residing as an alien in your midst should eat blood. (Leviticus 17:12)
- As for any man of the sons of Israel or some alien resident who is residing as an alien in your midst who in hunting catches a wild beast or a fowl that may be eaten, he must in that case pour its blood out and cover it with dust. (Leviticus 17:13)

- For the soul of every sort of flesh is its blood by the soul in it. Consequently I said to the sons of Israel; You must not eat the blood of any sort of flesh, because the soul of every sort of flesh is its blood. Anyone eating it will be cut off. (Leviticus 17:14)
- The **Bible** is scientifically sound.

### ·· Cultures And Customs

- On points relating to cultures and customs, in no regard is the Bible found to be wrong. In political matters, the Bible always speaks of a ruler by the proper title that he bore at the time of the writing. For example, Herod Antipas and Lysanias are referred to as district rulers, or tetrarchs, Herod Agrippa II as king, and Gallio as proconsul.
- In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was district ruler of Galilee, but Philip his brother was district ruler of the country of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was district ruler of Abilene. (Luke 3:1)
- Now when some days had passed, Agrippa the king and Bernice arrived in Caesarea for a visit of courtesy to Festus. (Acts of Apostles 25:13)
- Now while Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews rose up with one accord against Paul and led him to the judgment seat. (Acts of Apostles 18:12)
- Triumphal marches of victorious armies, together with their captives, were common during Roman times.
- But thanks be to God who always leads us in a triumphal procession in company with the Christ and makes the odor of the knowledge of him perceptible through us in every place! (2 Corinthians 2:14)
- The hospitality shown to strangers, the Oriental way of life, the manner of purchasing property, legal procedures in making contracts, and the practice of circumcision among the Hebrews and other peoples are referred to in the Bible, and in all these details the Bible is accurate.

- Afterward Yehowah appeared to him among the big trees of Mamre, while he was sitting at the entrance of the tent about the heat of the day. (Genesis 18:1)
- When he raised his eyes, then he looked and there three men were standing some distance from him. When he caught sight of them he began running to meet them from the entrance of the tent and proceeded to bow down to the earth. (Genesis 18:2)
- Then he said, Yehowah, if, now, I have found favor in your eyes, please do not pass by your servant. (Genesis 18:3)
- Let a little water be taken, please, and you must have your feet washed. Then recline under the tree. (Genesis 18:4)
- And let me get a piece of bread, and refresh your hearts. Following that, you can pass on, because that is why you have passed this way to your servant. At this they said; All right. You may do just as you have spoken. (Genesis 18:5)
- So Abraham went hurrying to the tent to Sarah and said; Hurry! Get three seah measures of fine flour, knead the dough and make round cakes. (Genesis 18:6)
- Next Abraham ran to the herd and proceeded to get a tender and good young bull and to give it to the attendant, and he went hurrying to get it ready. (Genesis 18:7)
- He then took butter and milk and the young bull that he had got ready and set it before them. Then he himself kept standing by them under the tree as they were eating. (Genesis 18:8)
- Thereupon Abraham got up and bowed down to the natives, to the sons of Heth. (Genesis 23:7)
- And spoke with them, saying; If your souls agree to bury my dead out of my sight, listen to me and urge Ephron the son of Zohar for me, (Genesis 23:8)
- That he may give me the cave of Machpelah, which is his, which is at the extremity of his field. For the full amount of silver let him give it to me in the midst of you for the possession of a burial place. (Genesis 23:9)

- As it was, Ephron was sitting among the sons of Heth. So Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the sons of Heth with all those entering the gate of his city, saying; (Genesis 23:10)
- No, my lord! Listen to me. The field I do give to you, and the cave that is in it to you I do give it. Before the eyes of the sons of my people I do give it to you. Bury your dead. (Genesis 23:11)
- At that Abraham bowed down before the natives. (Genesis 23:12)
- And spoke to Ephron in the hearing of the natives, saying; Only if you, no, listen to me! I will give you the amount of silver for the field. Take it from me, that I may bury my dead there. (Genesis 23:13)
- Then Ephron answered Abraham, saying to him. (Genesis 23:14)
- My lord, listen to me. A land plot worth four hundred silver shekels, what is that between me and you? So bury your dead. (Genesis 23:15)
- Accordingly Abraham listened to Ephron, and Abraham weighed out to Ephron the amount of silver that he had spoken in the hearing of the sons of Heth, four hundred silver shekels current with the merchants. (Genesis 23:16)
- Thus the field of Ephron that was in Machpelah, which is in front of Mamre, the field and the cave that was in it and all the trees that were in the field, which were within all its boundaries round about, became confirmed (Genesis 23:17)
- To Abraham as his purchased property before the eyes of the sons of Heth among all those entering the gate of his city. (Genesis 23:18)
- This is my covenant that you men will keep, between me and you men, even your seed after you; Every male of yours must get circumcised. (Genesis 17:10)
- And you must get circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it must serve as a sign of the covenant between me and you.

# (Genesis 17:11)

- And every male of yours eight days old must be circumcised, according to your generations, anyone born in the house and anyone purchased with money from any foreigner who is not from your seed. (Genesis 17:12)
- Every man born in your house and every man purchased with money of yours must without fail get circumcised, and my covenant in the flesh of you men must serve as a covenant to time indefinite. (Genesis 17:13)
- And an uncircumcised male who will not get the flesh of his foreskin circumcised, even that soul must be cut off from his people. He has broken my covenant. (Genesis 17:14)
- Look! Days are coming, is the utterance of Yehowah, and I will hold an accounting with everyone circumcised but still in uncircumcision. (Jeremiah 9:25)
- Upon Egypt and upon Judah and upon Edom and upon the sons of Ammon and upon Moab and upon all those with hair clipped at the temples who are dwelling in the wilderness, for all the nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in heart. (Jeremiah 9:26)

### ·· Candor

- Bible writers displayed a candor that is not found among other ancient writers. From the very outset, Moses frankly reported his own sins as well as the sins and errors of his people, a policy followed by the other Hebrew writers.
- And they proceeded to say to Moses; Is it because there are no burial places at all in Egypt that you have taken us here to die in the wilderness? What is this that you have done to us in leading us out of Egypt? (Exodus 14:11)
- Is this not the word we spoke to you in Egypt, saying; Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it is better for us to serve the Egyptians than for us to die in the wilderness. (Exodus 14:12)
- Meanwhile the people got to see that Moses was taking a long

time about coming down from the mountain. So the people congregated themselves about Aaron and said to him; Get up, make for us a god who will go ahead of us, because as regards this Moses, the man who led us up out of the land of Egypt, we certainly do not know what has happened to him. (Exodus 32:1)

- At this Aaron said to them; Tear off the gold earrings that are in the ears of your wives, of your sons and of your daughters and bring them to me. (Exodus 32:2)
- And all the people began tearing off the gold earrings that were in their ears and bringing them to Aaron. (Exodus 32:3)
- Then he took the gold from their hands, and he formed it with a graving tool and proceeded to make it into a molten statue of a calf. And they began to say; This is your God, O Israel, who led you up out of the land of Egypt. (Exodus 32:4)
- When Aaron got to see this, he went to building an altar before it. Finally Aaron called out and said; There is a festival to Yehowah tomorrow. (Exodus 32:5)
- So on the next day they were early in rising, and they began offering up burnt offerings and presenting communion sacrifices. After that the people sat down to eat and drink. Then they got up to have a good time. (Exodus 32:6)
- Then all the assembly raised their voice, and the people continued giving vent to their voice and weeping all through that night. (Numbers 14:1)
- And all the sons of Israel began to murmur against Moses and Aaron, and all the assembly began to say against them; If only we had died in the land of Egypt, or if only we had died in this wilderness! (Numbers 14:2)
- Our wives and our little one's will become plunder. Is it not better for us to return to Egypt? (Numbers 14:3)
- They even went to saying to one another; Let us appoint a head, and let us return to Egypt! (Numbers 14:4)
- At this Moses and Aaron fell upon their faces before all the

congregation of the assembly of the sons of Israel. (Numbers 14:5)

- And Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were of those who spied out the land, ripped their garments apart. (Numbers 14:6)
- And they proceeded to say this to all the assembly of the sons of Israel; The land that we passed through to spy it out is a very, very good land. (Numbers 14:7)
- If Yehowah has found delight in us, then he will certainly bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that is flowing with milk and honey. (Numbers 14:8)
- Only against Yehowah do not rebel, and you, do not you fear the people of the land, for they are bread to us. Their shelter has turned away from over them, and Yehowah is with us. Do not fear them. (Numbers 14:9)
- So Moses took the rod from before Yehowah, just as he had commanded him. (Numbers 20:9)
- After that Moses and Aaron called the congregation together before the crag, and he proceeded to say to them; Hear, now, you rebels! Is it from this crag that we shall bring out water for you? (Numbers 20:10)
- With that Moses lifted his hand up and struck the crag with his rod twice, and much water began to come out, and the assembly and their beasts of burden began to drink. (Numbers 20:11)
- Later Yehowah said to Moses and Aaron; Because you did not show faith in me to sanctify me before the eyes of the sons of Israel, therefore you will not bring this congregation into the land that I shall certainly give them. (Numbers 20:12)
- Subsequently Yehowah said to Moses; Go up into this mountain of Abarim and see the land that I shall certainly give the sons of Israel. (Numbers 27:12)
- When you have seen it, then you must be gathered to your people, yes, you, just as Aaron your brother was gathered. (Numbers 27:13)

- Inasmuch as you men rebelled against my order in the wilderness of Zin at the quarreling of the assembly, in relation to sanctifying me by the waters before their eyes. These are the waters of Meribah at Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin. (Numbers 27:14)
- And Yehowah got incensed at me on your account, so that he swore that I should not cross the Jordan or go into the good land that Yehowah your God is giving you as an inheritance.

  (Deuteronomy 4:21)
- The sins of great one's such as David and Solomon were not covered over but were reported.
- And it came about at the time of evening that David proceeded to rise from his bed and walk about on the rooftop of the king's house, and from the rooftop he caught sight of a woman bathing herself, and the woman was very good in appearance. (2 Samuel 11:2)
- Then David sent and inquired about the woman and someone said; Is this not Bath-sheba the daughter of Eliam the wife of Uriah the Hittite? (2 Samuel 11:3)
- After that David sent messengers that he might take her. So she came in to him and he lay down with her, while she was sanctifying herself from her uncleanness. Later she returned to her house. (2 Samuel 11:4)
- And the woman became pregnant. Consequently she sent and told David and said; I am pregnant. (2 Samuel 11:5)
- At this David sent to Joab, saying; Send to me Uriah the Hittite. So Joab sent Uriah to David. (2 Samuel 11:6)
- When Uriah came to him, David began to ask how Joab was getting along and how the people were getting along and how the war was getting along. (2 Samuel 11:7)
- Finally David said to Uriah; Go down to your house and bathe your feet. Accordingly Uriah went out from the king's house, and the kings courtesy gift went out following him. (2 Samuel 11:8)

- However, Uriah lay down at the entrance of the king's house with all the other servants of his lord, and he did not go down to his own house. (2 Samuel 11:9)
- So they told David, saying; Uriah did not go down to his own house. Upon that David said to Uriah; It is from a journey that you have come in, is it not? Why have you not gone down to your own house? (2 Samuel 11:10)
- At this Uriah said to David; The Ark and Israel and Judah are dwelling in booths, and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping on the face of the field, and I, shall I go into my own house to eat and drink and to lie down with my wife? As you are living and as your soul is living, I shall not do this thing! (2 Samuel 11:11)
- Then David said to Uriah; Dwell here also today, and tomorrow I shall send you away. Therefore Uriah kept dwelling in Jerusalem on that day and the day following. (2 Samuel 11:12)
- Further, David called him that he might eat before him and drink. So he got him drunk. Nevertheless, he went out in the evening to lie down on his bed with the servants of his lord, and to his own house he did not go down. (2 Samuel 11:13)
- And it came about in the morning that David proceeded to write a letter to Joab and send it by the hand of Uriah. (2 Samuel 11:14)
- So he wrote in the letter, saying; Put Uriah in front of the heaviest battle charges, and you men must retreat from behind him, and he must be struck down and die. (2 Samuel 11:15)
- And it came about that while Joab was keeping guard over the city he kept Uriah put in the place where he knew that there were valiant men. (2 Samuel 11:16)
- When the men of the city came on out and went fighting against Joab, then some of the people, the servants of David, fell and Uriah the Hittite also died. (2 Samuel 11:17)
- Joab now sent that he might report to David all the matters of the war. (2 Samuel 11:18)

- And he went on to command the messenger, saying; As soon as you finish speaking to the king about all the matters of the war. (2 Samuel 11:19)
- Then it must occur that if the rage of the king comes up and he does say to you; Why did you have to go so near to the city to fight? Did you men not know that they would shoot from on top of the wall? (2 Samuel 11:20)
- Who was it that struck down Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? Was it not a woman that pitched an upper millstone upon him from on top of the wall so that he died at Thebez? Why did you men have to go so close to the wall? You must also say; Your servant Uriah the Hittite died too. (2 Samuel 11:21)
- So the messenger went and came and told David all about which Joab had sent him. (2 Samuel 11:22)
- And the messenger went on to say to David; The men proved superior to us, so that they came out against us into the field, but we kept pressing them right up to the entrance of the gate. (2 Samuel 11:23)
- And the shooters kept shooting at your servants from on top of the wall, so that some of the servants of the king died, and your servant Uriah the Hittite also died. (2 Samuel 11:24)
- At that David said to the messenger; This is what you will say to Joab; Do not let this matter appear bad in your eyes, for the sword eats up one as well as another. Intensify your battle against the city and throw it down. And encourage him. (2 Samuel 11:25)
- And the wife of Uriah got to hear that Uriah her husband had died, and she began to wail over her owner. (2 Samuel 11:26)
- When the mourning period was past, David immediately sent and took her home to his house, and she came to be his wife. In time she bore to him a son, but the thing that David had done appeared bad in the eyes of Yehowah. (2 Samuel 11:27)
- And King Solomon himself loved many foreign wives along with the daughter of Pharaoh, Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian and Hittite women. (1 Kings 11:1)

- From the nations of whom Yehowah had said to the sons of Israel; You must not go in among them, and they themselves should not come in among you. Truly they will incline your heart to follow their gods. It was to them that Solomon clung to love them. (1 Kings 11:2)
- And he came to have seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines, and his wives gradually inclined his heart. (1 Kings 11:3)
- And it came about in the time of Solomon's growing old that his wives themselves had inclined his heart to follow other gods, and his heart did not prove to be complete with Yehowah his God like the heart of David his father. (1 Kings 11:4)
- And Solomon began going after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians and after Milcom the disgusting thing of the Ammonites. (1 Kings 11:5)
- And Solomon began to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, and he did not follow Yehowah fully like David his father. (1 Kings 11:6)
- It was then that Solomon proceeded to build a high place to Chemosh the disgusting thing of Moab on the mountain that was in front of Jerusalem, and to Molech the disgusting thing of the sons of Ammon. (1 Kings 11:7)
- And that was the way he did for all his foreign wives who were making sacrificial smoke and sacrificing to their gods. (1 Kings 11:8)
- And Yehowah came to be incensed at Solomon, because his heart had inclined away from Yehowah the God of Israel, the one appearing to him twice. (1 Kings 11:9)
- And respecting this thing he commanded him not to go after other gods, but he had not kept that which Yehowah had commanded. (1 Kings 11:10)
- Yehowah now said to Solomon; For the reason that this has taken place with you and you have not kept my covenant and my statutes that I laid in command upon you, I shall without fail rip

- the kingdom away from off you, and I shall certainly give it to your servant. (1 Kings 11:11)
- However, in your days I shall not do it, for the sake of David your father. Out of the hand of your son I shall rip it away. (1 Kings 11:12)
- Only it will not be all the kingdom that I shall rip away. One tribe I shall give to your son, for the sake of David my servant and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen. (1 Kings 11:13)
- Jonah told of his own disobedience.
- And the word of Yehowah began to occur to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying; (Jonah 1:1)
- Get up, go to Nineveh the great city, and proclaim against her that their badness has come up before me. (Jonah 1:2)
- And Jonah proceeded to get up and run away to Tarshish from before Yehowah, and he finally came down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid its fare and went down into it, in order to go with them to Tarshish from before Yehowah.

  (Jonah 1:3)
- To Jonah, though, it was highly displeasing, and he got to be hot with anger. (Jonah 4:1)
- The other prophets likewise displayed this same straightforward, candid quality. Writers of the Christian Greek Scriptures showed the same regard for truthful reporting as that displayed in the Hebrew Scriptures. Paul tells of his former sinful course in life. Mark's failure to stick to the missionary work, and also the apostle Peter's errors are related.
- And I said; Lord, they themselves well know that I used to imprison and flog in one synagogue after another those believing upon you. (Acts of Apostles 22:19)
- And when the blood of Stephen your witness was being spilled, I myself was also standing by and approving and guarding the outer garments of those doing away with him. (Acts of Apostles 22:20)

- For his part, Barnabas was determined to take along also John, who was called Mark. (Acts of Apostles 15:37)
- But Paul did not think it proper to be taking this one along with them, seeing that he had departed from them from Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. (Acts of Apostles 15:38)
- At this there occurred a sharp burst of anger, so that they separated from each other, and Barnabas took Mark along and sailed away to Cyprus. (Acts of Apostles 15:39)
- However, when Cephas came to Antioch, I resisted him face to face, because he stood condemned. (Galatians 2:11)
- For before the arrival of certain men from James, he used to eat with people of the nations, but when they arrived, he went withdrawing and separating himself, in fear of those of the circumcised class. (Galatians 2:12)
- The rest of the Jews also joined him in putting on this pretense, so that even Barnabas was led along with them in their pretense. (Galatians 2:13)
- But when I saw they were not walking straight according to the truth of the Good News, I said to Cephas before them all; If you, though you are a Jew, live as the nations do, and not as Jews do, how is it that you are compelling people of the nations to live according to Jewish practice? (Galatians 2:14)
- Such frank, open reporting builds confidence in the Bible's claim to honesty and truthfulness.

# ·· Integrity

- Facts testify to the integrity of the Bible. The Bible narrative is inseparably interwoven with the history of the times. It gives straightforward, truthful instruction in the simplest manner. The guileless earnestness and fidelity of its writers, their burning zeal for truth, and their painstaking effort to attain accuracy in details are what we would expect in God's Word of truth.
- Sanctify them by means of the truth, your word is truth. (John 17:17)

# ·· Prophecy

If there is a single point that alone proves the Bible to be the inspired Word of Yehowah it is the matter of prophecy. There are scores of long-range prophecies in the Bible that have been fulfilled. For a partial listing, see the book, [See Also You Must Worship With Spirit And Truth, under Messianic Prophecies]

## ·· Preservation

- Today none of the original writings of the Holy Scriptures are known to exist. Yehowah, however, saw to it that copies were made to replace the aging originals. Also, from and after the Babylonian exile, with the growth of many Jewish communities outside Palestine, there was an increasing demand for more copies of the Scriptures. This demand was met by professional copyists who made extraordinary efforts to see that accuracy was attained in their handwritten manuscripts. Ezra was just such a man, a skilled copyist in the Law of Moses, which Yehowah the God of Israel had given.
- The said Ezra himself went up from Babylon, and he was a skilled copyist in the Law of Moses, which Yehowah the God of Israel had given, so that the king granted him, according to the hand of Yehowah his God upon him, all his request. (Ezra 7:6)
- For hundreds of years handwritten copies of the Scriptures continued to be made, during which period the Bible was expanded with the addition of the Christian Greek Scriptures.
- Translations or versions of these Holy Writings also appeared in other languages. Indeed, the Hebrew Scriptures are honored as the first book of note to be translated into another language. Extant today are thousands of these Bible manuscripts and versions.

# See Also MANUSCRIPTS OF THE BIBLE See Also VERSIONS

- The first printed Bible, the Gutenberg Bible, came off the press in 1456 C.E. Today distribution of the Bible, the whole or in part, has reached over two billion copies in upwards of 1,800 languages.
- But this has not been accomplished without great opposition
   from many quarters. Indeed, the Bible has had more enemies than any

other book, popes and councils even prohibited the reading of the Bible under penalty of excommunication.

- Thousands of Bible lovers lost their lives, and thousands of copies of the Bible were committed to the flames. One of the victims in the Bible's fight to live was translator William Tyndale, who once declared in a discussion with a cleric:
- If God spare my life ere many years, I will cause a boy that driveth the plough shall know more of the Scripture than thou doest. [Actes and Monuments, by John Foxe, London, 1563, p. 514]
- · All credit and thanksgiving for the Bible's survival in view of such violent opposition is due Yehowah, the Preserver of his Word. This fact gives added meaning to the apostle Peter's quotation from the prophet Isaiah: All flesh is like grass, and all its glory is like a blossom of grass, the grass becomes withered, and the flower falls off, but the saying of Yehowah endures forever.
- For all flesh is like grass, and all its glory is like a blossom of grass, the grass becomes withered, and the flower falls off. (1 Peter 1:24)
- But the saying of Yehowah endures forever. Well, this is the saying; this which has been declared to you as Good News. (1 Peter 1:25)
- Listen! Someone is saying; Call out! And one said; What shall I call out? All flesh is green grass, and all their loving-kindness is like the blossom of the field. (Isaiah 40:6)
- The green grass has dried up, the blossom has withered, because the very spirit of Yehowah has blown upon it. Surely the people are green grass. (Isaiah 40:7)
- The green grass has dried up, the blossom has withered, but as for the word of our God, it will last to time indefinite. (Isaiah 40:8)
- We, therefore, do well to pay attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dark place in this 20th century.
- Consequently we have the prophetic word made more sure, and you are doing well in paying attention to it as to a lamp shining

- in a dark place, until day dawns and a daystar rises, in your hearts. (2 Peter 1:19)
- Your word is a lamp to my foot, and a light to my roadway. (Psalms 119:105)
- The man whose delight is in the Law of Yehowah, and in his Law he reads in an undertone day and night and who puts in practice the things he reads is the one who prospers and is happy.
- Happy is the man that has not walked in the counsel of the wicked ones, and in the way of sinners has not stood, and in the seat of ridiculers has not sat. (Psalms 1:1)
- But his delight is in the Law of Yehowah, and in his Law he reads in an undertone day and night. (Psalms 1:2)
- This book of the Law should not depart from your mouth, and you must in an undertone read in it day and night, in order, that you may take care to do according to all that is written in it, for then you will make your way successful and then you will act wisely. (Joshua 1:8)
- To him Yehowah's Laws, reminders, orders, commandments, and judicial decisions contained in the Bible are sweeter than honey, and the wisdom derived therefrom is more to be desired than gold, yes, than much refined gold, for it means his very life.
- The Law of Yehowah is perfect, bringing back the soul. The reminder of Yehowah is trustworthy, making the inexperienced one wise. (Psalms 19:7)
- The orders from Yehowah are upright, causing the heart to rejoice, the commandment of Yehowah is clean, making the eyes shine. (Psalms 19:8)
- The fear of Yehowah is pure, standing forever. The judicial decisions of Yehowah are true, they have proved altogether righteous. (Psalms 19:9)
- They are more to be desired than gold, yes, than much refined gold, and sweeter than honey and the flowing honey of the combs. (Psalms 19:10)

- Happy is the man that has found wisdom, and the man that gets discernment. (Proverbs 3:13)
- Length of days is in its right hand, in its left hand there are riches and glory. (Proverbs 3:16)
- Its ways are ways of pleasantness, and all its roadways are peace. (Proverbs 3:17)
- It is a tree of life to those taking hold of it, and those keeping fast hold of it are to be called happy. (Proverbs 3:18)

## **See Also CANON**

- ... Bible Books In Order Of Completion
- The order in which the **Bible** books were written and where each stands in relation to the others is approximate, some dates, and places written, are uncertain.

Table Of the Books Of The Bible

Book	Writer (s)	Place	Completed	Period
		Written	By B.C.E.	Covered B.C.E.
Genesis	Moses	Wilderness	1513	Creation till 1657
Exodus	Moses	Wilderness	1512	1657-1512
Leviticus	Moses	Wilderness	1512	1 month 1512
Numbers	Moses	Wilderness and Plains of Moab	1473	1512-1473
Deuteronomy	Moses	Plains of Moab	1473	2 months in 1473
Joshua	Joshua	Canaan	c. 1450	1473- c. 1450
Judges	Samuel	Israel	c. 1100	c. 1450 – c. 1120
Ruth	Samuel	Israel	1090	11 years of judges rule
1 Samuel	Samuel, Gad, Nathan	Israel	с. 1078	c. 1180- 1078

2 Samuel	Gad, Nathan	Israel	c. 1040	1077-1040
1 Kings	Jeremiah	Judah and Egypt	580	1040-580
2 Kings	Jeremiah	Judah and Egypt	580	1040-580
1 Chronicles	Ezra	Jerusalem?	460	1077-537
2 Chronicles	Ezra	Jerusalem?	460	1077-537
Ezra	Ezra	Jerusalem?	460	537-467
Nehemiah	Nehemiah	Jerusalem	443	456-443
Esther	Mordecai	Shushan, Elam	475	493-475
Job	Moses	Wilderness	1473	1657-1473
Psalms	David and others		460	
Proverbs	Solomon, Agur, Lemuel	Jerusalem	717	
<b>Ecclesiastes</b>	Solomon	Jerusalem	1000	
Song of Solomon	Solomon	Jerusalem	1020	
Isaiah	Isaiah	Jerusalem	732	
Jeremiah	Jeremiah	Jerusalem, Judah and Egypt	580	647-580
Lamentations	Jeremiah	Jerusalem	607	
Ezekiel	Ezekiel	Babylon	591	613-591
Daniel	Daniel	Babylon	536	618-536
Hosea	Hosea	Samaria (District of)	745	804-745
Joel	Joel	Judah	820	
Amos	Amos	Judah	804	
Obadiah	Obadiah		607	
Jonah	Jonah		844	
Micah	Micah	Judah	717	777-717
Nahum	Nahum	Judah	632	
Habakkuk	Habakkuk	Judah	628?	
Zephaniah	Zephaniah	Judah	648	
Haggai	Haggai	Jerusalem rebuilt	520	112 days in 520
Zechariah	Zechariah	Jerusalem Rebuilt	518	520-518
Malachi	Malachi	Jerusalem	443	

		Rebuilt		
Book	Writer	Place	Completed	Covered
			_	Dates C.E.
Matthew	Matthew	Palestine	41	2 BCE - 33
Mark	Mark	Rome	60-65	29-33
Luke	Luke	Caesarea	56-58	3 BCE - 33
John	John	Ephesus	98	29-33
<b>Acts of Apostles</b>	Luke	Rome	61	
Romans	Paul	Corinth	56	
1 Corinthians	Paul	Ephesus	55	
2 Corinthians	Paul	Macedonia	55	
Galatians	Paul	Corinth or	50-52	
		Syrian		
		Antioch		
<b>Ephesians</b>	Paul	Rome	60-61	
Philippians	Paul	Rome	60-61	
Colossians	Paul	Rome	60-61	
1 Thessalonians	Paul	Corinth	50	
2 Thessalonians	Paul	Corinth	51	
1 Timothy	Paul	Macedonia	61-64	
2 Timothy	Paul	Rome	65	
Titus	Paul	Macedonia?	61-64	
Philemon	Paul	Rome	60-61	
Hebrews	Paul	Rome	61	
James	James	Jerusalem	62	
1 Peter	Peter	Babylon	62-64	
2 Peter	Peter	Babylon ?	64	
1 John	John	Ephesus	98	
2 John	John	Ephesus	98	
3 John	John	Ephesus	98	
Jude	Jude	Palestine ?	65	
Revelation	John	Patmos	96	