



# The Bible

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Note: The Scripture references in this hand-out are taken from the New King James Version.

**What is the Bible?**

**How would you answer the question: How was it determined which writings made it into the Bible and which did not?**

**What does 2 Peter 1:21 have to say about how the Bible was given to us?**

2 Peter 1:21 - for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

**What does the term “holy” mean as it applies to “holy men of God” who wrote the Bible?**

**When the Bible talks about prophecy, is it only talking about future events?**

**What does it mean that those who wrote the Bible were moved by the Holy Spirit?**

**What does 2 Timothy 3:16-17 have to say about how we came by the Bible?**

2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

**What does 2 Timothy 3:16-17 have to say about why God gave us the Bible?**

**What does it mean to be complete?**

**How would you summarize our purpose?**

**How does the Bible equip us for every good work?**

**Doctrine:**

**Reproof:**

**Correction**

**Instruction in righteousness:**

**The key element of the Canon of Scripture is that it has to be inspired by God. How can we know if certain writings were inspired by God?**

**What does Ezra 7:10-11 have to say about why Ezra worked on determining what books should make up the Old Testament?**

Ezra 7:10-11 - For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel. This is a copy of the letter that King Artaxerxes gave Ezra the priest, the scribe, expert in the words of the commandments of the LORD, and of His statutes to Israel:

**This also said Ezra was a priest. What does it mean to be a priest?**

**Who are the priests today?**

**How did Ezra serving as a scribe help him to determine what books should be in the Old Testament?**

**What did Jesus have to say in Luke 24:44 that reinforces that the Old Testament is the Word of God?**

Luke 24:44 - Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me."

**How does the Old Testament testify of Jesus?**

**What did Jesus have to do per Luke 24:27 that reinforced that the Old Testament is the Word of God?**

Luke 24:27 - And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

**Can you think of any examples from the Old Testament that indicate that Jesus was the Messiah?**

**How does the New Testament relate to the Old Testament?**

**What does Hebrews 1:1-2 have to say about how the writers of the New Testament are distinguished from the Old Testament?**

Hebrews 1:1-2 - God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;

**What examples can you think of where New Testament writers were a companion to an Apostle?**

**What does 1 Corinthians 9:1 have to say about the key criteria for an Apostle?**

1 Corinthians 9:1 - Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord?

**What does Galatians 1:11-12 have to say about how Paul came to know what he wrote in his epistles?**

Galatians 1:11-12 - But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

**What is meant by the revelation of Jesus Christ? Is there a distinction between revelation and inspiration?**

**Do we have apostles today?**

**What does John 14:25-26 have to say about how Jesus inspired the writing of the New Testament?**

John 14:25-26 - These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

**What does Deuteronomy 18:21-22 have to say about how can we know the true Word of God?**

Deuteronomy 18:21-22 - And if you say in your heart, 'How shall we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?'-- when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.

**What does Deuteronomy Psalm 119:160 have to say about how can we know the true Word of God?**

Psalm 119:160 - The entirety of Your word is truth, and every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.

**What does Deuteronomy Isaiah 55:10-11 have to say about how can we know the true Word of God?**

Isaiah 55:10-11 - For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

**What about the Apocrypha in the Catholic version of the Bible? Why isn't this included in the Bible Protestants use?**

**How would you summarize how the Bible came to be what we have today?**