

The Bible At-A-Glance

Everything in the Old Testament points to Jesus' coming and our reconciliation to God.

	Genre/Era	Book	Author	Key Points
Old Testament	The Pentateuch The Torah Mosaic Books Historical Books	Genesis	Moses	Creation; Garden; Fall; Banishment; Evil; Noah; Abraham; Isaac; Jacob; Joseph; Slavery
		Exodus		Moses birth, life, banishment and return; Plagues; Freedom from bondage in Egypt; Mount Sinai; The 10 Commandments; Wandering in the wilderness.
		Leviticus		The Law given to Moses
		Numbers		Preparations for promised land living
		Deuteronomy		Recitation and expansion of The Law given to Moses; Moses death
	Historical Books & Books of Faith	Joshua	Joshua	Moses' successor; present when Moses met with God; was one of the spies who were faithful to God and therefore only 1 of 2 allowed to enter the promised land; led Israelites across the Jordan River into the Promised Land; Rahab; Jericho; Ai...
		Judges	Samuel?	Period of Judges over Israel; Deborah; Sampson; Gideon
		Ruth	Unknown	Ruth and Naomi; Ruth is the great-grandmother of king David
		1 Samuel	Samuel, Nathan, Gad	Samuel (mother was Hannah); Saul's reign; David's reign; Bathsheba; Tamar & David's sons.
		2 Samuel	Nathan, Gad	Samuel and David; Solomon;
		1 Kings	Jeremiah?	Kings of Israel and Judah; conquests; divided kingdoms: Israel (10 tribes, north) and Judah (2 tribes, southern)
		2 Kings	Jeremiah?	
		1 Chronicles	Ezra	Chronicles of the Kings of Israel and Judah and their eventual captivity.
		2 Chronicles	Jeremiah?	
		Ezra	Ezra	Returning to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple.
		Nehemiah	Nehemiah	Returning to Jerusalem to rebuild the city and wall.
		Esther	Mordecai, Ezra or Nehemiah	Saved the Jews in captivity; brave and bold; honorable; uncle is Mordecai.
	Job	Job? Elihu?	Contemporary of Abraham; faithful but then attacks God's character; forgiven and given double-blessing	
	Poetic	Psalms	Various	Songs & poems of worship and lament by David & others
		Proverbs	King Solomon	Wisdom teachings and sayings
		Ecclesiastes		A search for meaning and answers in this life.
		Song of Solomon		Love story of Solomon and a Shulamite bride; image of the love God has for His people.
	Major Prophets	Isaiah	Isaiah	Prophet to Judah; glimpse of heaven; Jesus' commissioning call
		Jeremiah	Jeremiah	Prophet to Judah; the weeping prophet; laments Israel's moral decline and falling away from following The Lord; contemporary of Habakkuk.
		Lamentations		
		Ezekiel	Ezekiel	Written to Jews in captivity in Babylonia.
		Daniel	Daniel	Probably the most prophetic book; written in exile.
	Minor Prophets	Hosea	Hosea	Told by God to marry a prostitute as an allegory of Israel's infidelity.
		Joel	Joel	Warnings to Israel to turn back to God and be faithful or face God's discipline. Warnings of coming captivity and a call for repentance.
		Amos	Amos	
		Obadiah	Obadiah	
		Jonah	Jonah	Sent to Nineveh; Defies God; Spends 3 days in the belly of a fish; shortest sermon yet very powerful; Jonah sulks.
		Micah	Micah	Warnings to Israel to turn back to God and be faithful or face God's discipline. Warnings of coming captivity and a call for repentance.
Nahum		Nahum		
Habakkuk		Habakkuk	A cry to God, lamenting circumstances, beautiful submission.	
Zephaniah		Zephaniah	Warnings to Israel to turn back to God and be faithful or face God's discipline. Warnings of coming captivity and a call for repentance.	
Haggai		Haggai		
Zechariah		Zechariah		
Malachi	Malachi			

Genre/Era		Book	Author	Key Points	
New Testament	The Gospels (The Good News)		Matthew	Matthew	A disciple
			Mark	Mark	Not a direct disciple; was a companion of Paul but witnessed much of Jesus' ministry first-hand
			Luke	Dr. Luke	A doctor; not a direct disciple; was a close companion of Paul; most detailed account
			John	John	A disciple; possibly Jesus' cousin (their mothers may have been sisters); focus is on the deity of Jesus.
	Historical		Acts	Dr. Luke	The ascension of Jesus; formation and spread of the church
	Pauline Epistles	Letters to Churches	Romans	Paul	Theology on faith, sin, and salvation
			1 Corinthians		Addresses issues arising in the churches; provides guidance and instruction for living; theology; evidence; guidance for churches and church leaders
			2 Corinthians		
			Galatians		
			Ephesians		
			Philippians		
			Colossians		
			1 Thessalonians		
		2 Thessalonians			
		Letters to Individuals	1 Timothy	Paul	Letter to Pau's spiritual son; encouragement in faith
	2 Timothy		Paul's last letter written		
	Titus		Advice for proper church oversight		
	Philemon		Intercedes for Onesimus, Philemon's runaway slave.		
			Hebrews	Unknown	Presentation on the sufficiency & supremacy of Christ
	Writings of Apostles and Jesus' Brothers		James	James, Jesus' oldest half-brother	Encouragement for believer's; addressing false teachings popping up in the churches; teaching right behavior and building up the body of Christ; encouragement to Christians who were suffering.
1 Peter			Peter		
2 Peter					
1 John			John		
2 John					
3 John					
Jude			Jude, Jesus' half-brother		
Revelation	John	Dreams and visions of the end of the earth; beautiful glimpse into Jesus' glory and the majesty to come!			

Keys to Reading and Understanding the Old Testament:

- The Bible was written over a span of about 1,500 years.
- The Christian, protestant Old Testament is not arranged chronologically.
- The kingdom of Israel was a united kingdom of 12 tribes during the reign of Saul, David, and Solomon; thereafter it was divided into the Northern kingdom of Israel (made up of 10 tribes) and the southern kingdom of Judah (made up of the two tribes of Benjamin and Judah).
- The Old Testament often describes periods of time in the historical record based on who was ruling Israel and/or Judah at the time. (In the third year of the reign of king X in Israel, king Y became ruler of Judah.)
- Many key women, including: Rahab, Tamar, Ruth, Deborah, Jael, Bathsheba. God has a very special and culturally shocking view of women, which is displayed in both the Old and New Testaments.

THE DISCIPLES OF JESUS

	Name	Interesting facts	Death
1	Peter	Simon, son of Jonah, Andrew's brother; a fisherman and partner of James and John and his brother, Jesus gave him the name Cephas (Peter) which means "rock".	Crucified upside down in Rome
2	Andrew	Peter's brother; disciple of John the Baptist; introduced Peter to Jesus	Bound to a cross and left to die
3	James	son of Zebedee and brother of John, possibly a cousin of Jesus	Beheaded in Jerusalem
4	John	"the disciple whom Jesus loves" and brother of James; son of Zebedee; possibly a cousin of Jesus	Tortured and then exiled to the island of Patmos
5	Philip		Hung on a pillar in Heiropolis then stoned
6	Bartholomew		Fileted alive
7	Thomas	Known for doubting, but actually demonstrated great faith, got to touch Jesus' side and hands after the resurrection	Speared through in SE India
8	Matthew	tax collector, also known as Levi	Slain with an ax in Ethiopia
9	James	Known as the "less" and was the son of Alphaeus	Thrown from a pinnacle of the temple and then stoned
10	Thaddaeus		
11	Simon	The Zealot (a political faction)	
12	Judas Iscariot	Jesus' betrayer; the treasurer of the group	Committed suicide
13	Mattias	Chosen after Judas committed suicide	Stoned and then beheaded
14	Paul	Formerly Saul; a Roman citizen and a Jew, a Pharisee, studied under Gamaliel, oversaw the killing of Stephen, the first martyr; commissioned later	Beheaded in Rome, after numerous tortures and imprisonments

- Luke was hung to death in Greece.
- Mark died from being brutally dragged through the streets of Alexandria, Egypt.
- Jude was shot to death with arrows.