

Help Me Understand Series

The Bible: Old Testament

The Bible is the most important book a Christ follower could ever read. But it is often confusing. This talk will walk you through the difference between the old testament and the new testament, the types of writing that show up in the scriptures, and the historical timeline before and after Jesus's life.

Hebrews 4:12 – ¹²For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

II Timothy 3:16-17 – ¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

The Bible is divided into two major sections:

1. The Old Testament has ____ books in it and plays out over _____ years.
2. The New Testament has ____ books in it and plays out over ____ years.
3. Jesus is the dividing line between the two testaments.

UNDERSTANDING THE OLD TESTAMENT

The book of _____:

- Tells the story of how the world was created and how people became sinful.
- _____ & _____ are the first people God created.
- Shows us the family line that led to the nation of Israel being created.
- _____ → Isaac → Jacob → 12 sons become the 12 tribes of Israel.
- 12 sons are named Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Ephraim (1/2 tribe), Manasseh (1/2 tribe), Benjamin.

The book of Exodus:

- God delivers the Israelites from Egypt through the leadership of _____.

The books of Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy:

- God gives Moses _____.
- The Law was ONLY for the ancient Israelite people. The *principles* of The Law still apply to us, but the *details* of The Law do not.
- The point of The Law was to show Israel how _____.

The books of 1st & 2nd Samuel, 1st & 2nd Kings, 1st & 2nd Chronicles.

- Tell the story of the lineage of _____ who ruled and the _____ who corrected them.
- The best and most famous king was named _____.
- David wrote most of the book of Psalms.
- Everything ends in 586 B.C. with _____.

The Prophets

- The _____ prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel.
- The _____ prophets: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi.
- Their primary purpose was to call the Israelite people back to God.
- Sometimes they foretold the coming of _____.

The books of Ezra and Nehemiah:

- The Jews are returning to Jerusalem to rebuild the _____ and the _____.

What's the point of the Old Testament?

1. It shows us how God _____ to people.
2. It shows us that God is _____ over history.
3. It shows us our need for a _____.