

# **Christianity**

## **101**

**What is the Bible?**  
**What is God Like?**  
**What is man?**  
**Who is Jesus?**  
**What did Jesus do?**  
**How can I know God?**  
**What is Baptism?**

# Lesson 1

## WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

### OVERVIEW OF THE BIBLE

The Bible is a **library** of 66 individual books written by 40 different men over a period of 1,500 years. This library is separated into two major divisions: The Old Testament and the New Testament. Each division contains four sections.

### THE OLD TESTAMENT

contains four sections: The Law, History, Poetry, Prophets

**The Law** covers the history of the Jews from Creation until the death of Moses in 1450 BC. It was written by Moses.

Genesis	Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers	Deuteronomy
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**History** describes the history of Israel from Joshua through the Kings through Captivity to the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem. It covers the period of 1450 to 440 BC.

Josh	Jdgs	Ruth	1 Kgs.	2 Kgs.	1 Sam	2 Sam.	1 Chr	2 Chr	Ezra	Neh.	Esther.
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**Poetry** includes the ancient writings of Job 1500 BC, David 1000 BC, and Solomon 950 BC.

Job	Psalms	Proverbs	Ecclesiastes	Song of Solomon
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**Prophecy: Major Prophets** were written by four men from 750 -550 BC.

Isaiah	Jeremiah	Lamentations	Ezekiel	Daniel
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**Minor prophets** were written by various prophets from 800-400 BC.

Hosea	Joel	Amos	Obad.	Jonah	Micah	Nahum	Habk.	Zeph.	Haggai	Zech.	Malac.
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### THE NEW TESTAMENT

.contains four sections: Gospels, History, Letters (Epistles), Prophecy

**The Gospels** ("Good news") are about the life of Jesus 4BC - 30 AD and were written by four men to four audiences from 45-70 AD.

Matthew/Jews	Mark/Romans	Luke/Gentiles	John/non believers
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The **History** book is called "Acts", describing the activities of the church. 30 AD - 63 AD; written by Luke in 63 AD.

Acts
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The Epistles or **Letters** were written from leaders to churches or individuals from 55-65 AD.

The first thirteen were written by the Apostle Paul.

Romans	1 Corinthians	2 Corinthians	Galatians	Ephesians	Philippians	Colossians
1 Thess.	2 Thess.	1 Timothy	2 Timothy	Titus	Philemon	

The others were written by various men.

Hebrews	James	1 Peter	2 Peter	1 John	2 John	3 John	Jude
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The **Prophecy** book is a revelation of Jesus to the disciple John depicting primarily the future; written in 95 AD

Revelation
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## THE BIBLE IS ALSO . . .

- the most sold book in the world
- the most read, studied, and memorized book in the world
- the most published book in the world. (1,500 languages)
- the most quoted book in the world
- the most cussed and discussed book in the world
- the most influential book in the world
- the most inspiring book in the world
- the most reliable ancient book in the world
- the most accurate book in the world
- the most honest book in the world
- the most unstoppable, indestructible book in the world
- the most unique book in the world
- the most interesting book in the world
- the most important book in the world

## HOW TO FIND THINGS IN THE BIBLE

1. To find the books of the Bible use the Table of Contents. *"The table of contents is my friend"*.
2. To find a specific chapter and verse, think of an address. Example: 2 Timothy 3:16; John 3:16; Psalm 23:1

city	book	2 Timothy	John	Psalm
street	chapter	3	3	23
house number	verse	16	16	1

*2 Timothy 3:16*

*"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."*

## HOW TO INTERPRET THE BIBLE

The main rule: When the plain sense makes common sense, seek no other sense.

## APPLICATION

Tell one thing you liked or learned from this class session.

## Lesson #2 WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

*"What comes to mind when we think of God is the most important thing about us." A.W. Tozer*

An accurate view of God is essential for success in any area of life. A small view of God limits His ability to work in our lives. An inaccurate view of God is little more than idolatry.

### GOD IS . . .

1. LIVING. *John 5:26; Joshua 3:10; Ps. 84:2; Daniel 6:27*
2. PERSONAL. *Genesis 1:26,27; Psalm 34:18; John 1:14*
3. SPIRIT. *John 4:24; Acts 7:48-50; 2 Corinthians 3:17.*
4. TRIUNE. *Deut. 6:4; James 2:19; John 6:27; John 20:28; John 1:1; Acts 5:3-4; John 14:16-17; Matt. 28:19; Gen. 1:26; Matt. 3:16*

Fact: The Bible clearly states that there is one God. He is a unity. *Deut. 6:4; James 2:19*

Fact: Three different persons are identified as God.

- The Father is called God. *Jn. 6:27*
- The Son is called God. *Jn. 20:28; Jn. 1:1,14*
- The Spirit is called God. *Acts 5:3-4*

Fact: Therefore, God must exist as a triunity or trinity.

### THE GREATNESS OF GOD

**God possesses several attributes or characteristics that are true only of Him. He is . . .**

1. INFINITE. God has no limitations. His only bounds are of His own choosing. *Job 11:7-9; 1 Kings 8:22,23,27; Psalm 113:4-5; 145:3; Romans 11:33.*
2. ETERNAL. God is limitless in reference to time. He always has been and always will be. He exists outside of the realm of space and time. *Psalm 90:2; Gen. 21:33; Dt. 33:27; Psalm 102:11,12,27; John 8:56-58; Rev. 1:8; 4:8; 21:6; 1 Tim. 6:16.*
3. OMNIPRESENT. God is limitless in reference to space. He is everywhere present at the same time. *Psalm 139:7-12; Jer. 23:24; Amos 9:2.*
4. OMNIPOTENT. God is limitless in reference to energy, strength, and power. *Jer. 32:17,27; Gen. 18:14; Psalm 115:3; Rev. 19:6.*
5. OMNISCIENT. God is limitless in reference to knowledge. God knows everything past, present and future. *Psalm 147:5; Acts 15:18; Isaiah 40:13-14.*
6. SELF-EXISTENT. God has no source, He is the source. *Exodus 3:13-14; Isaiah 41:4; Rev. 1:4,8; Gen. 1:1; John 5:26.*
7. SELF-SUFFICIENT. God never has had, does have or will have a need. *Psalm 50:10-12; John 5:26; Acts 17: 24-26.*
8. INCOMPREHENSIBLE. God is beyond the grasp of our limited understanding. *Romans 11:33-36; Ecclesiastes 11:5; Isaiah 55:8-9; Job 36:26; 37:5.*

9. PERFECT. Everything God does is without error and fits with His ultimate plan for the universe. Psalm 18:30
10. IMMUTABLE. Because He is infinitely perfect, God does not change. *Hebrews 13:8*; James 1:17; Malachi 3:6
11. SOVEREIGN. God is the absolute, ultimate, and sole ruler of the universe. Deuteronomy 10:17; Nehemiah 9:6; *Psalm 22:28*; *Revelation 19:6*.
12. UNIQUE. God is unlike any other being in the universe. *Psalm 86:8*; *89:6*; Exodus 15:11; 1 Kings 8:60; Isaiah 44:6-8; 45:5-6; *46:9*; 1 Timothy 2:5.

## THE GOODNESS OF GOD

**God possesses attributes that others may possess and that we should strive after. Yet, none but God possesses these attributes in a perfect and unlimited degree. He is perfectly and infinitely . . .**

13. HOLY. God is absolutely separate from any and all sin. *Isaiah 6:1-4*; Habakkuk 1:13; Isaiah 59:2; Psalm 66:18; Hebrews 12:28-29.
14. TRUTH. God's declarations and representations conform to reality. God is truthful and cannot lie. *John 14:6*.; Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18; 1 Samuel 15:20.
15. FAITHFUL. God always does what God promises. *Lamentations 3:23*; Psalm 9:10; 119:90.
16. JUST AND RIGHTEOUS. *Nehemiah 9:8*; Exodus 9:27; Psalm 67:4; Revelation 16:5-7.
17. GOOD. God, in and of Himself, is good. Therefore all He does is good. *Psalm 34:8*; Psalm 33:5; 119:68; 107:8.
18. MERCIFUL. God directs His mercy to those who are distressed or needy. He also chooses to withhold the judgment we deserve. *Psalm 103:8-17*; Hebrews 8:12; 1 Timothy 1:13,16.
19. GRACIOUS. God chooses to bestow favor even though we don't deserve it. *Ephesians 2:8-9*; Psalm 116:5; 1 Peter 2:3.
20. LOVE. God actively, voluntarily, unselfishly, reaches out in concern seeking the highest good of others. *1 John 4:7-11*; Deut. 7:7,8; John 3:16; Romans 8:35-39.
21. PATIENT. God will endure pain for long periods of time because He loves us. *2 Peter 3:9,15*; 1 Peter 3:18-20; Exodus 34:5-7.

## APPLICATION

**Which of the following best describes the response prompted in you by studying these attributes of God?**

1. praise and worship.
2. trust and confidence.
3. thanksgiving and gratitude.
4. desire to know Him more.
5. other: \_\_\_\_\_