

The BIBLE (Part 2)

Lesson 13- Spiritual Discipleship and Growth

Intro: After last week's lesson on the Word of God, I've decided to do a deeper study on His Word. My hope is that at the end of our lessons we will all have a more sure stand on why we use the Bible the way we do. My prayer is that our love for God's Word will continue to grow as we study it.

A. Its Names and Titles:

1. The Books (Mark 12:26, Luke 3:4, 20:42, and Acts 1:20, 7:42)

The word "Bible" comes from the Greek words "biblos" (book) or "biblia" (books). In time, the word came to refer to the sacred Books of scripture.

The Bible is not "a" book, but THE Book!!!

2. The Old and New Testaments: (Luke 22:20, 1 Cor. 11:25, 2 Cor. 3:6,14)

The word "testament" means a "_____ " or an "agreement."

The division of the Bible into the Old and New Testaments is the basic division of the Old Covenant of the LAW and the New Covenant of GRACE.

3. The Scriptures. (2 Timothy 3:15-16)

The word "scripture" is a translation of the Greek word "graphe", (writing). The scriptures are the holy writings.

4. The Word of God (Romans 10:17, Hebrews 4:12)

This is the most significant, pictorial, and complete name. It is a name that causes us to recognize the Bible as God's Book.

5. The Psalteric Titles (Psalm 19:7-9, 119:1, 2, 4-7)

Psalm 119 is the "Word of God Psalm", and it uses a number of names for the Bible:

a. Verse 1 _____

b. Verse 2 _____

c. Verse 4 _____

d. Verse 5 _____

e. Verse 6 _____

f. Verse 7 _____

B. Its Contents:

1. The Old Testament has 39 books.

2. The New Testament has 27 books.

3. Yet the Bible is ONE Book!

a. It bears witness of _____ God.

b. It forms _____ continuous story.

c. It has _____ plan of salvation.

d. It has _____ central theme – Jesus Christ.

Augustine (354-430 A.D.) made at least one true statement: "The NEW is in the OLD concealed, the OLD is in the NEW revealed."

C. Its Composition:

1. Its Writers.

These men were separated by time and their situations in life. The Bible writers included prophets, kings, herdsmen, fisherman, etc.

The BIBLE (Part 2)

Lesson 13- Spiritual Discipleship and Growth

2. Its Period of Writing.

The Bible was written down over a period of approximately _____ years, from Moses (1500 B.C.) to John (100 A.D.)

3. Its Languages:

a. Generally speaking, the Old Testament was written in _____, and the New Testament was in _____.

b. Some parts of Daniel and Jeremiah were written in Syriac. (Jeremiah 10:11, Daniel 2:4-7:28)

3. Some parts of Ezra were written in Aramaic. (Ezra 4:8-6:18, 7:12-26)

D. Its Construction:

The three divisions of the Old Testament are given in Luke 24:44 *“And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the LAW of Moses, and the PROPHETS, and in the PSALMS, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures.”*

1. Moses. “The Torah”

The five Books of the Law: Genesis – Deuteronomy.

2. The Prophets. “Neviim”

a. Former Prophets – What we generally refer to as the historical Books: Joshua – Kings.

b. Latter Prophets – The prophetic Books: Isaiah – Malachi.

3. The Psalms “The Kethubhim”

The poetic books of Scripture: Psalm, Proverbs, Song of Solomon and Ecclesiastes.

In dividing the Books of the Bible in our English Bibles, we generally use the 4x4 construction. This is the construction that we looked at in last week’s lesson.

E. Bible Statistics:

The following statistics apply to the English Authorized, King James Version.

a. There are 1189 chapters in the Bible, 929 in the Old Testaments and 260 in the New Testament.

b. The shortest chapter Psalm 117.

c. The longest chapter is Psalm 119.

The middle chapter of the Bible is Psalm 117. There are 594 chapters before it and 594 chapters after it.

d. There are 31,174 verses in the Bible.

e. The middle verses in the Bible (15,587 & 15,588) are Psalms 118:8-9.

f. The longest verse is Ester 8:9

g. The shortest verse is John 11:35

h. There are 774,746 words in the Bible.

i. The shortest Book in the Bible is 2 John. Obadiah is the shortest book in the Old Testament.