

# The Bible

## Introduction - Interesting Facts About The Bible

### Introduction

There are many books which are a mine of information. In them we find the “understood” or “accepted” answers to many of the wonders of creation. However, fascinating as these books are, it is only insofar as they have a spiritual perspective they are of eternal value. In contrast with all the books authored by man, the Bible stands distinct. There is no other secular or religious book that can compare with it, for there is no other book which:

- a) Stimulates faith by the case histories of others. (Heb. 11:4-12:3)
- b) Builds character. (Psa. 19:7)
- c) Gives true perspective on the purpose of life and what true life consists of. (1 Cor. 10:31; Rev. 4:11; Lk. 12:15)
- d) Gives the answer to temptation and reveals its origin and progress. (Gen. 3:1-6; Matt. 4:1-11; Jam. 1:15)
- e) Exhorts to hope (assurance) in life’s darkest moments. (1 Thess. 4:13-18)
- f) Transforms the life. (2 Cor. 3:18)
- g) Reveals the future. (Dan. 2:36-45; 7:9-27; Rev. chs. 4-22)
- h) Reveals the need, way and results of the gospel of power. (Rom. 1:18-8:39) (especially ch. 1:16-17)
- i) Gives moral profit from its guidance and warnings. (Psa. 119:9)
- j) Spiritual profit is derived from its doctrine and experimental truth. (2 Tim. 3:16)

Throughout the centuries man has sought to corrupt it, deny it, mock it, and remove it, yet as the hymn says:

The Bible stands like a rock undaunted  
’Mid the raging storms of time;  
Its pages burn with the truth eternal,  
And they glow with a light sublime.

*Refrain:*

*The Bible stands though the hills may tumble,  
It will firmly stand when the earth shall crumble;  
I will plant my feet on its firm foundation,  
For the Bible stands.*

The Bible stands like a mountain tow’ring  
Far above the works of men;  
Its truth by none ever was refuted,  
And destroy it they never can.

The Bible stands and it will forever  
When the world has passed away;  
By inspiration it has been given,  
All its precepts I will obey.

The Bible stands every test we give it  
For its Author is divine;  
By grace alone I expect to live it,  
And to prove and to make it mine.

. . . . *Haldor Lillenas*

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This wonderful volume contains many interesting facts, some of which are:

**1) The Names of the scriptures in part or the whole:**

Name	Reference	Name	Reference
The Book	Heb. 10:7	The Scripture	Jn. 7:42
The Book of the Law	Josh. 8:34	The Scriptures	Matt. 21:42
The Book of the Lord	Isa. 34:16	The Scripture of truth	Dan. 10:21
The book of the law of Moses	Josh. 8:31	The Scriptures of the Prophets	Rom. 16:26
The Book of the Law of God	Josh. 24:26	The Holy Scriptures	2 Tim. 3:15
The Word of Life	Phil. 2:16	The Oracles of God	Rom. 3:2
The Word of God	Lk. 8:11	The Lively Oracles	Acts 7:38
The Word of the Lord	1 Sam. 3:1	The Testimony of the Lord	Psa. 19:7
The Word of Christ	Col. 3:16	The Statutes of the Lord	Psa. 19:8
The Word of the Gospel	Acts 15:7	The Judgments of the Lord	Psa. 19:9
The Word of this salvation	Acts 13:26	The Law of the Lord	Psa. 19:7
The Word of the Cross (RV, ASV, Dby, YLT)	1 Cor. 1:18	Thy Precepts	Psa. 119:78
The Word of Truth	Psa. 119:43	The Commandments of the Lord	Lev. 4:2
The Word of Life	Phil. 2:16	The Sword of the Spirit	Eph. 6:17
The Word of my patience	Rev. 3:10		

**2) The illustrations used to describe the scriptures:**

God uses word pictures to illustrate what the Scriptures are. They are viewed as:

Descriptive term	Reference	Descriptive term	Reference
A Lamp	Psa. 119:105	A Hammer	Jer. 23:29
A Light	Psa. 119:105	A Sword	Heb. 4:12
A Mirror (Glass)	2 Cor. 3:18	Water	Eph. 5:26
A Seed	Lk. 8:11	Milk	1 Pet. 2:2
A Fire	Jer. 23:29	Meat	Heb. 5:12

**3) The Number of Books:**

The word Bible simply means the book. It is known as the Holy Bible because it is the Word of the Holy God. Within its pages is the foundational teaching for the Christian faith. Therefore, all that we need to know in this lifetime, relative to God, Christ, the Holy Spirit, salvation, creation, sanctification, and the future is derived completely and exclusively from the Bible. If we were to consider nature, telescopically or microscopically, even though marred by sin it still speaks eloquently of God’s glory, power, and other attributes (Rom. 1:20). Wonderful as creation is, it can never bring us to a personal relationship with God, nor can it reveal to us the deep things of God. For such, we need the scriptures which have been made in three stages, revelation, inspiration, and translation. To these must be added compilation, recollection, and enlightenment.

When the Lord spoke to the two people on the Emmaus Road, He spoke saying: “all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.” (Lk. 24:44). That was the threefold division of the Jewish Old Testament books.

- a) The law (called the “Tōrāh”) consisted of five books: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy, the same as we have today.
- b) The prophets (called the Nəbī’im”) contained 8 books which were: Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and one book that incorporated all the minor prophets which is Hosea through to Malachi.
- c) The Psalms (called the “Kethūbīm”) consisted of 11 books: Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Song of Solomon, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastics, Esther, Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah and Chronicles.

The books we have are the same as the ancient Israelites, but instead of one book containing all the minor prophets, we have twelve individual books. The present order was organized in the Septuagint translation and was made in Alexandria by seventy scholars in 285–246. B. C.

**4) The men God used to write the scriptures or record their life experiences:**

Abraham and Job were both sheiks, David was a shepherd king, Peter was a publican (tax collector), Jonah was a rebellious missionary, Moses was an Egyptian Prince, Amos was a herdsman, Daniel was a diplomat, Paul was an intellect, and Luke was a physician.

**5) Biblical Trivia:**

- a) The Bible was written by some 40 plus persons over 1600 years
- b) The Bible is divided into 2 major sections: Old Testament (39 books) and the New Testament (27 books)

	Old Testament	New Testament	Entire Bible
Number of books	39	27	66
Chapters	929	260	1189
Verses in KJV	23,214	79591	31,173
Reading time (10 chapters an hour)	92 hours	26 hours	118 hours

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	Old Testament	New Testament	Entire Bible
Average Chapter Per book	23	9.6	18
Average verses per chapter	24	30	26

- c) Lengths:
- i) The longest book is the Psalms
  - ii) The longest chapter is Psa. 119
  - iii) The longest verse is Est. 8:9
  - iv) The shortest book is 3<sup>rd</sup> John
  - v) The shortest chapter is Psa. 117
  - vi) The shortest verse is Jn. 11:35
  - vii) The middle chapter is Psa. 117
  - viii) The middle verse is Psa. 118:8, and its truth is eternal: "It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man".
  - ix) The longest Name is Maher-shalal-hash-baz (18 letters) Isa. 8:1
- d) Books which have no questions:
- i) Zephaniah, 2 Timothy, Titus, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> John
- e) Books which have no mention of God:
- i) Esther and the Song of Solomon
- f) Books named after a woman:
- i) Ruth and Esther
- g) Books which only have one chapter:
- i) Obadiah, Philemon, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> John, Jude
- h) The oldest man in the Bible is Methuselah who lived 969 years
- i) Chapter and verse divisions:
- i) One opinion is that Cardinal Hugo de S Caro divided the books into chapters in 1238-1240. This is dependent on the testimony of Gilbert Genebrard who died in 1597. However, the more accepted opinion is that Stephen Langton, who was the Archbishop of Canterbury (d. 1228), made the chapter divisions.
  - ii) It seems there were several attempts to divide the Old Testament chapters into verses. The first by Santi Pagnini (1470-1541). Then in 1551 Robert Estienne created an alternate numbering system. This is the division accepted today. The New Testament verse divisions were made by Robertus Stephanus in 1551.
  - iii) The first English New Testament to use the verse divisions was a 1557 translation by William Whittingham (1524-1579).
  - iv) The first complete Bible in English to use both chapters and verses was the published in 1560 called the Geneva Bible.
- j) One verse that starts with the letter "Z"
- i) "Zion heard and was glad" (Psa. 97:8)

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- k) The only book written to a woman
  - i) 2<sup>nd</sup> John, to the elect Lady
- l) There are ten books with over 1000 verses

The Book	Number of verses (KJV)
Psalms	2461
Genesis	1533
Isaiah	1292
Numbers	1288
Jeremiah	1273
Exodus	1213
Luke	1151
Matthew	1071
Job	1070
Acts	1007

May the Lord help us to love His precious Word and treasure its wisdom as choice gold.

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**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.  
John 16:13**

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