

THE BIBLE AN OVERVIEW

Lesson 1

I. THE BIBLE GOD'S REVELATION TO MAN (HEBREWS 1:1-2)

- A. Old Testament To Israel to "The Fathers"
- B. New Testament to Christians to us today, "in these last days."

II. HOW WE GOT THE BIBLE:

- A. Original writings
 - 1. 36 40 men inspired by God 2 Tim. 3:16 17
 - 2. Languages originally written in:
 - a. Old Testament Hebrew
 - b. New Testament Koine Greek
- B. Manuscripts copied by hand by "scribes."
 - 1. Old Testament manuscripts
 - a. 10 century "Massoretic" texts
 - b. Dead Sea Scrolls to 200 BC
 - 2. New Testament manuscripts
 - a. Alexandrian mss.
 - b. Vatican mss.
 - c. Sinaitic mss.
 - 3. 4500 mss. of N.T. in the original Greek; 30,000 mss. of N.T. in all languages.
- C. Translations
 - 1. Septuagint (The Seventy) LXX the first - Old Testament translation from Hebrew to Greek. B.C.
 - 2. Early New Testament translations into Latin, Syriac, and Coptic
 - 3. English Translations
 - a. Wycliff Bible - John Wycliff - 1382
 - b. Tyndale William Tyndale 1525
 - c. Coverdale Miles Coverdale 1535
 - d. Geneva Bible Breeches Bible Gen. 3:7 1576
 - e. King James - 1611 Revised 1769
 - f. Revised Version of the King James - 1881-1885
 - g. American Standard Version - 1901
 - h. Revised Standard Version - N.T. 1946 Completed Bible 1952
 - i. The Jerusalem Bible - 1966
 - j. New English Bible - 1970
 - k. New American Standard - Lockman Foundation 1970
 - l. New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures - 1971
 - m. Living Bible Paraphrased - Kenneth N. Taylor - 1971
 - n. The Good News Bible (Today's English Version) - 1966 ABS
 - o. The New International Version - 1974
 - p. The New King James Version - 1982

III. THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE: HISTORY - HISTORY & LAW - PROPHECY

- A. Old Testament Books:
 - 1. 5 books of Law
 - 2. 12 books of History
 - 3. 5 books of Poetry
 - 4. 5 books of Major Prophets
 - 5. 12 books of Minor Prophets
- B. New Testament Books
 - 1. History of life of Christ 4 Books “Gospels”
 - 2. History of the church of Christ 1 Book “Acts”
 - 3. Letters of instructing men and women in the Lord’s church 21 Books “Epistles”
 - 4. Prophecy - The Revelation of Christ - 1 Book

IV. AGES OF BIBLE HISTORY

- A. The Patriarchal Age - 4004 to 1491
- B. The Jewish Age - 1491 to 30AD
- C. The Christian Age 30 AD to ??

V. PERIODS OF OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY

- A. Antediluvian Period - 4004 - 2348. From Creation to the Flood
- B. Post-diluvian - 2348-1921. From the flood to the call of Abraham.
- C. Patriarchal - 1921-1706. From the call of Abraham to the migration to Egypt.
- D. Bondage - 1706 - 1491. From the migration to Egypt to the Exodus.
- E. Wanderings - 1491 - 1451. From the Exodus to the crossing of the Jordan.
- F. Conquest - 1451 - 1400. From the crossing of the Jordan to the death of Joshua.
- G. Judges - 1400 - 1095. From the death of Joshua to the anointing of Saul.
- H. The United Kingdom - 1095-975. From the anointing of Saul to the accession of Rehoboam.
- I. The Double Kingdom - 975-722. From the accession of Rehoboam to the fall of Samaria.
- J. Judah Alone - 722 - 586. From the fall of Samaria to the fall of Jerusalem.
- K. The Exile - 586-536. From the fall of Jerusalem to the return under Zerubbabel.
- M. The Post exile 536 400. From the return to the close of the Old Testament Canon.

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I. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

1. Why Study Bible History? _____
2. How many men wrote the Bible? _____
3. What language was the Old Testament originally written in? _____
4. Why was the Geneva known as the “breeches Bible”? _____
5. Name and explain the three Bible Ages: _____

6. Name and define the 12 periods of Old Testament History: _____
7. Approximately how many years are there from Creation to the call of Abraham? _____

8. How long did the United Kingdom last? _____
9. What year did the fall of Samaria occur? _____

10. When did the Jews return from Exile? _____

II. TRUE OR FALSE

- _____1. Torah means Law and consists of the first 5 books of the Old Testament.
- _____2. The Old Testament was first translated into Latin.
- _____3. The King James version has words in red that were Christ’s actual spoken words.
- _____4. The Bible is in constant need of updating because things change and customs change.
- _____5. There are books mentioned in the Bible that have been lost.

III. RESEARCH

How many years did Saul, David and Solomon each reign? _____

When was the Bible divided into chapter and verses and by whom? _____
