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## The Bible

The word "Bible" simply means *books* and comes from the Greek "ta biblia". The word is derived from a root designating the inner bark of the linden tree, on which the ancients wrote their books. The application of the word "Bible" to the collected books of the Old and New Testaments is not to be traced farther back than the fifth century of our era.

### ***LANGUAGES—AUTHORS***

There are at least 36 different authors, who wrote in 3 continents, in many countries, in 3 languages (Hebrew, Aramic, and Koine Greek), and from every possible human standpoint. Among these authors were kings, farmers, mechanics, scientific men, lawyers, generals, fishermen, ministers and priests, a tax-collector, a doctor, some rich, some poor, some city bred, some country born.

### ***WHEN WRITTEN?***

The 39 books of the Old Testament were written between 1400 BC and 400 BC and the 27 books of the New Testament were written between 50 AD and 100 AD.

### ***BEST SELLING BOOK***

The Bible is the best selling book of all time and it was the first book ever printed. In 1454, Johannes Gutenberg invented the "type mold" print press and began to print the Bible. Life Magazine called this "*the single most important event of the second millennium.*"

#### **NOTE**

The entire Bible, divided into chapters and verses, first appeared in 1560 AD as the Geneva Bible.

### INTERESTING FACTS

- The Bible contains 1,189 chapters (by Stephen Langton about 1228 AD), over 31,000 verses, 773,693 words, and 3,566,480 letters.
  - 929 chapters in the Old Testament (23,214 verses KJV) by R. Nathan in 1448.
  - 260 chapters in the New Testament. (7,959 verses KJV) by Robert Stephanus in 1551.
- The book of Isaiah is constructed much like the entire Bible:

Bible	Isaiah
66 books	66 chapters
First 39 books mainly concern Israel	First 39 chapters mainly concern Israel
Last 27 books concern the life and coming of Jesus Christ	Last 27 chapters concern the life and coming of Jesus Christ

- The longest and shortest of the bible (King James Version):

Longest	Shortest
<b>Book:</b> Psalms	<b>Book:</b> 3 John
<b>Chapter:</b> Psalm 117	<b>Chapter:</b> Psalm 119
<i><b>Note:</b> Psalm 118 is between the shortest and longest chapters of the Bible and Psalm 118:8 is the Bible's center verse. "It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man."</i>	
<b>Verse:</b> Esther 8:9	<b>Verse:</b> John 11:35
<b>King's Reign:</b>	<b>King's Reign:</b> King Zimri (1 Kings 16:15); 7 days.
<b>Longest Word:</b> Mahershalalhashbaz, 18 letters long [Isaiah 8:1,3]; it means "quick to the plunder, swift to the spoil."	

- The middle books and chapters of the Bible:
  - Old Testament is Proverbs; middle chapter is Job 29.
  - New Testament is 2 Thessalonians; middle chapter is Romans 13.
- The first American printing was in an Indian language in 1663.
- It takes about 70 hours to read the entire Bible. By reading 2 chapters per day and 5 on Sundays, you can complete reading the Bible in 1 year. If you were to read about 14 chapters per day you could complete the reading in 3 months.
- About 170,000 Bibles are distributed each day in the United States.
- The first ever radio broadcast on December 24, 1906 consisted of a reading from Luke 2.
- Almonds and pistachios are the only nuts mentioned in the Bible.
- Gabriel, Michael, and Lucifer are the only 3 angels mentioned by name in the Bible.
- Salt is mentioned more than 30 times in the Bible.

STUDY LITERATURE  
About the Bible

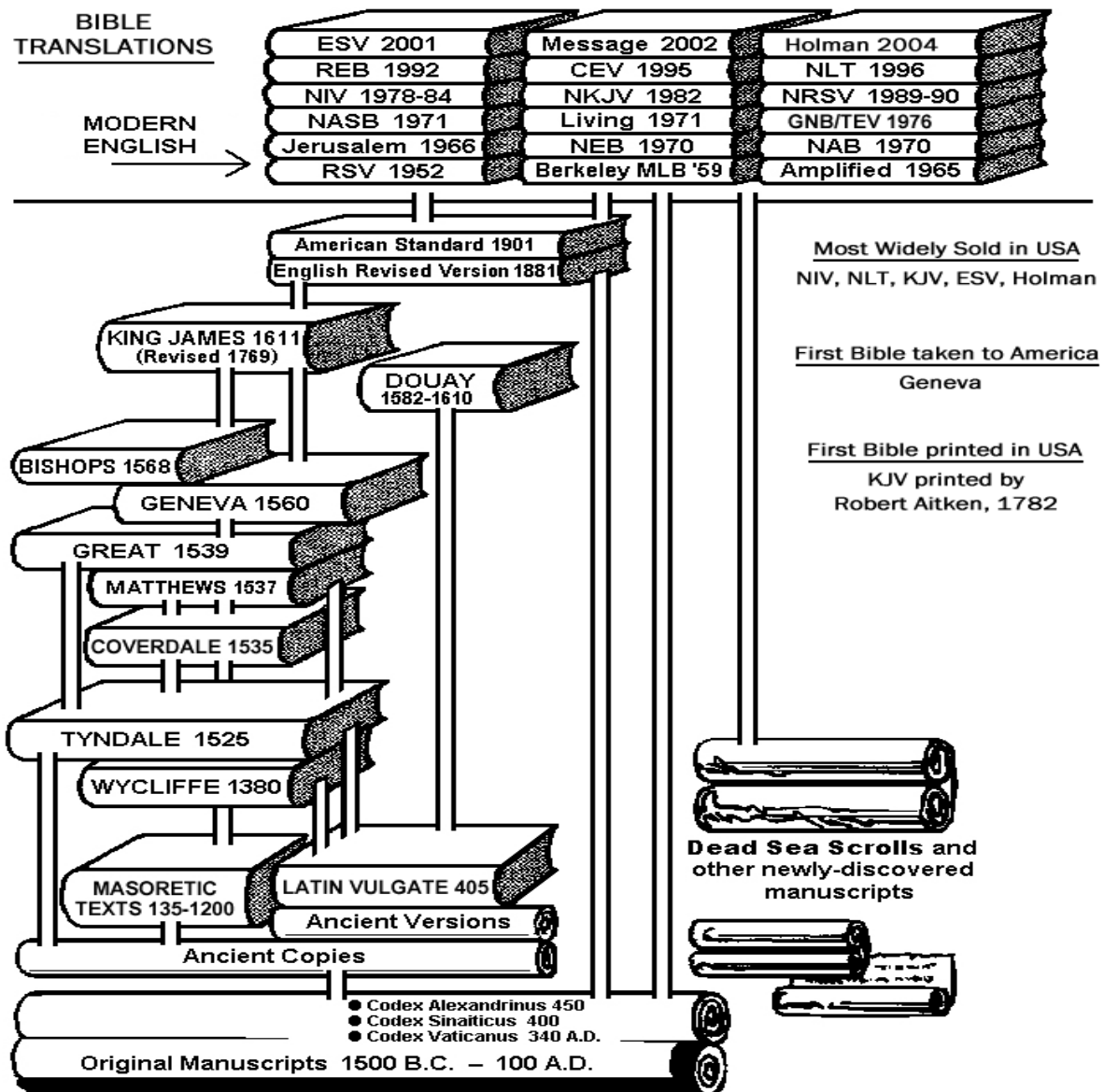
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- The 4 horsemen of the apocalypse, named in the Book of Revelation: Conquest, Slaughter, Famine, and Death.
- The 7 deadly sins: Lust, pride, anger, envy, sloth, avarice, and gluttony.
- There are 49 different foods mentioned in the Bible.
- Ezra 7:21 contains all the letters of the alphabet except the letter "J."
- Daniel 4:37 contains all the letters of the alphabet except the letter "Q."
- According to Zephaniah 3:17, God sings.
- Three words that only occur once in the Bible are eternity, grandmother, and gnat.
- The word "hate" is used 83 times in the Bible whereas the word "love" is used 262.

## Bible Versions/Translations

The Bible has been translated into over 1,200 languages and dialects — The first English Bible translation was initiated by John Wycliff in 1382 and completed by John Purvey in 1388. The next was the Geneva Bible in 1560. For “detailed” look at translations, see section titled **History of the Bible**.

### *ORIGINS & GROWTH OF THE ENGLISH BIBLE<sup>1</sup>*



<sup>1</sup> Chart updated from Thompson Chain Reference Study Bible, 5th Improved Edition, Copyright © 1988, p.1585 by David Ahl in 2015 ([www.BibleStudyMen.com](http://www.BibleStudyMen.com)).

## STUDY LITERATURE About the Bible

### ***PUBLIC DOMAIN BIBLE VERSIONS<sup>2</sup>***

Bible Version	Public Domain or Copyright Information
<b>American Standard Version (ASV)</b>	Thomas Nelson & Sons first published the American Standard Version in 1901. This translation of the Bible is in the public domain.
<b>The Darby Translation (Darby)</b>	J. N. Darby translated the Bible in 1890. This translation of the Bible is in the public domain.
<b>Hebrew Names Version (HNV)</b>	Is based off the World English Bible, an update of the American Standard Version of 1901. This version of the Bible is in the public domain.
<b>King James Version (KJV)</b>	Outside of the United Kingdom (England), the KJV is in the public domain. Within the United Kingdom, the rights to the KJV are vested in the Crown.
<b>The Latin Vulgate (Vulgate)</b>	The Latin Vulgate was translated from the original languages into Latin by Jerome in A.D. 405. For over a millennium, it remained as the preferred translation of the church. This version of the Bible is in the public domain.
<b>Revised Standard Version (RSV)</b>	Downloaded from the Oxford Text Archive and used with permission. The following header is required to be posted on our website: Source: Transcribed from: The Holy Bible: Revised Standard Version containing the Old and New Testaments, translated from the original tongues: being the version set forth A.D. 1611, revised A.D. 1881-1885 and A.D. 1901: compared with the most ancient authorities and revised A.D. 1946-52. — 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed. of New Testament A.D. 1971. There should be enough in the rest of the description to identify the text. Language: English. Availability: <b>Freely available for non-commercial use</b> provided that this header is included in its entirety with any copy distributed.
<b>The Webster Bible (Webster's)</b>	The Webster Bible was translated by Noah Webster in 1833 in order to bring the language of the Bible up to date. This version of the Bible is in the public domain.
<b>Young's Literal Translation (Young's)</b>	The Young's Literal Translation was translated by Robert Young, who believed in a strictly literal translation of God's word. This version of the Bible is in the public domain.

### ***HISTORY OF THE BIBLE***

On 12-15-2007, the following information was taken from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bible> and formatted into a table format (sorted by **Bible Name**) for the purposes of use on Grace School of the Bible's website:

**Legend**

<b>C</b> = Complete or Entire Bible	<b>P</b> = Paraphrase
<b>I</b> = Incomplete or Partial Bible	<b>R</b> = Revision
<b>NT</b> = New Testament	<b>S</b> = Standardize
<b>OT</b> = Old Testament	<b>T</b> = Translation

Abbreviation	Bible Name	Author /Translator	Status /Ver.	Section(s) Covered	Language Style	Date	Taken From
KJ21	21 <sup>st</sup> Century KJV		C/P		Modern English	1991 AD	
ACV	A Conservative Version	OT & NT Internet versions	C/T	NT	Modern English	2005 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
MNT	A New Translation	James Moffatt	C/T			1926 AD	
VW	A Voice In The Wilderness Holy Scriptures		C/T		Modern English	2003 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek?

<sup>2</sup> Blue Letter Bible website; Copyright Information on Various Bible Versions ([www.blueletterbible.org/versions.html#web](http://www.blueletterbible.org/versions.html#web)).

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	Ælfric		I/T	Pentateuch, Book of Joshua, Judges	Old English	0990 AD	Vulgate
	Aldhelm		I/T	Psalms (existence disputed)	Old English	1680's – 1700's AD	Vulgate
	Aldred		I/T	Northumbrian interlinear gloss on the Gospels in Lindisfarne Gospels	Old English	0950 to 0970 AD	Vulgate
AKJV	American King James Version		C/R		Modern English	1999 AD	KJV
ASV	American Standard Version	Published by Jehovah's Witness	C/T		Modern English	1901 AD	Masoretic Text, Textus Receptus?
AMP	Amplified Bible		C/R		Modern English	1965 AD	ASAV
AAT	An American Translation	J. M. Powis Smith and Edgar J. Goodspeed	C/T		Modern English	1935 AD	Masoretic Text, various Greek texts
BECK	An American Translation	William F. Beck	C/T		Modern English	1976 AD	Masoretic Text, various Greek texts
ALT	Analytical-Literal Translation		C/T	NT only	Modern English		Original Hebrew Aramaic, Majority Text
ARTB	Ancient Roots Translinear Bible		I/T	OT only		2006 AD	
AB	Apostles' Bible		I/T	OT	Modern English	2004 AD	Septuagint
	ArtScroll Tanakh (Old Testament)		C/T		Modern English	1996 AD	Masoretic Text
	Authentic New Testament	Hugh Schonfield				1955 AD	
	Bede		I/T	Gospel of John (lost)	Old English	0735 AD	Vulgate
BV	Berkeley Version		C/T		Modern English	1958 AD	Original languages diligently compared with previous translations
BBE	Bible in Basic English		C/P		Basic Modern English	1949 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek?

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LivEng	Bible in Living English	Published by Jehovah's Witness	C/T		Modern English	1972 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek?
BWE	Bible in Worldwide English		I/P	NT	Modern English	1969 AD	Original Greek
	Bishops' Bible	Queen Elizabeth's archbishop, Parker	C/T		Modern English	1568 AD	Masoretic Text, Textus Receptus; followed The Great Bible
	Brenton's English Translation of the Septuagint	Sir Lancelot Charles Lee Brenton	I/T	OT	Modern English	1851 AD	Septuagint
	Caedmon manuscript		I/T	A few English Bible verses	Old English	0700 & 1000 AD	Vulgate
	Catholic New Testament	Roman Catholic Translation	I/T		Middle English	1400 AD	Vulgate
CPDV	Catholic Public Domain Version	Roman Catholic Translation	C		Modern English	In Progress AD	?
	Caxton		I/T	Various Passages published in <i>Golden Legend</i> (1483) <i>The Book of the Knight in the Tower</i> (1484)	Middle English	1483 & 1484 AD	French translation
	Centenary New Testament	Helen Barrett Montgomery		NT		1924 AD	
	Challoner Revision of Douay-Rheims Bible	Gregory Martin + several others	C/T		Modern English	1752 AD	Vulgate
CKJV	Children's King James Version	Jay P. Green	C/R		Modern English	1960 AD	KJV
CCB	Christian Community Bible	Roman Catholic Translation	C/T		Modern English	1986 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
	Clear Word Bible, The	Jack Blanco, Ph.D. (7 <sup>th</sup> Day Adventist paraphrase)	C/P		Modern English	1994 AD	
	Codex Amiatinus		C/T		Latin	0700 AD	Earliest surviving manuscript of the complete Bible in the Latin Vulgate version
	Codex Fuldensis				Latin	0541-0546 AD	Manuscript based on the Latin Vulgate

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	Codex Sinaiticus		I/Orig	Greek NT			One of the most valuable of ancient MSS. of the Greek New Testament.
	Codex Vaticanus (Codex B)		I/Orig	Greek NT		0300 AD	The oldest extant vellum manuscript; it and Codex Sinaiticus are 2 oldest uncial manuscripts.
CKJV	Comfortable KJV		C		Modern English	2003 AD	KJV
CAB	Complete Apostles' Bible		C/T		Modern English	2005 AD	?
CJB	Complete Jewish Bible		C/P		Modern English	1998 AD	Jewish Publication Society of America Version (OT), Original Greek (NT)
CFY	Confraternity Bible	Roman Catholic Translation	I/T			1941-1970 AD	Confraternity Douay-Rheims New American Bible
CEV	Contemporary English Version		C/T		Modern English	1995 AD	Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
COG	Cotton Patch Gospel		I/P	NT, 4 volumes	Modern English	1968-1973 AD	Original Greek
	Coverdale Bible <sup>3</sup>	Myles Coverdale	C/T		Modern English	1535 AD	Masoretic Text, Greek NT Of Erasmus, Vulgate, German & Swiss-German Bibles
	Darby Bible	John Nelson Darby	C/T		Modern English	1890 AD	Masoretic Text, Textus Receptus?
DRO	David Robert Palmer Translation		C/T		Modern English	2007 AD	?
	Dead Sea Scrolls <sup>4</sup>					0335 – 0107 BC	Consist of roughly 900 documents, including texts from the Hebrew Bible

<sup>3</sup> First complete Bible in Modern English and first Bible printed in English.

<sup>4</sup> Discovered between 1947 and 1956 in 11 caves in and around the Wadi Qumran (near the ruins of the ancient settlement of Khirbet Qumran, on the northwest shore of the Dead Sea) in the West Bank.



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	Diatessaron	Tatian, an Assyrian who was a pupil of Justin Martyr in Rome.		Most prominent of a harmonies of the 4 Gospels	Latin	0175 AD	Syriac The Peshitta OT
	Douay-Rheims Bible <sup>5</sup>	English Catholic scholars at Univ. of Douai in France	C/T	NT in 1582 AD OT in 1609 AD	Modern English	1582 & 1609 AD	Vulgate
EOB	Eastern Orthodox Bible		C		Modern English	2007 AD	
EEB	Easy English Bible		C/P		Basic Modern English	2001 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek?
ERV	Easy-to-Read Version <sup>6</sup>		C/P		Basic Modern English	1989 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek?
Diaglot	Emphatic Diaglott	Benjamin Wilson				1964 AD	
	Emphatic Diaglott, The		I/T	NT	Modern English	1864 AD	Original Greek?
Jubilee 2000	English Jubilee 2000 Bible		C/P		Modern English	2000 AD	Reina-Valera, 1602 Edition
ESV	English Standard Version		C/T		Modern English	2001 AD	Masoretic Text, critical Greek NT text
	Farman		I/T	Gloss on the Gospel of Matthew in Rushworth Gospels	Old English	0950-0970 AD	Vulgate
	Ferrar Fenton Bible	Ferrar Fenton	C/T		Modern English	1903 AD	Masoretic Text, Westcott and Hort Greek text
	Four Gospels, The	E. V. Rieu				1952 AD	
	Four Gospels, The	Norman Marrow				1977 AD	
	Geneva Bible <sup>7</sup>	William Whittingham	C/T		Modern English	1557 (NT) 1560 AD (Complete Bible)	Masoretic Text and Textus Receptus
	God's New Covenant	Heinz Cassirer	I/T	NT	Modern English	1989 AD	Original Greek

<sup>5</sup> Douai translation was updated in 1750 AD by Bishop Challoner.

<sup>6</sup> Previously English Version for the deaf.

<sup>7</sup> First English Bible with whole of Old Testament translated direct from Hebrew; first to show division into verses (chapter division had been made 1227-1248 by Archbishop Stephen Langton).

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GW	God's Word		C/T		Modern English	1995 AD	Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
GNB	Good News Bible		C/P		Modern English	1976 AD	Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
GNT	Good News Translation		C/T		Modern English	2001 AD	Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
	Great Bible	Myles Coverdale	C/T	7 editions in 2 years	Modern English	1539 AD	Masoretic Text, Greek NT of Erasmus, Vulgate, Luther Bible
LITV	Green's Literal Translation	Jay P. Green	C/T		Modern English		Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
HCSB	Holman Christian Standard Bible		C/T		Modern English	2004 AD	Critical version of Masoretic Text, Nestle-Aland Text
HSV	Holy Scriptures Version		C		Modern English	2001 AD	?
ISV	International Standard Version		I/T	NT with OT in translation	Modern English	In Progress AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
Murdock	James Murdock's Translation of the Syriac Peshitta	James Murdock	C/T		Modern English		Peshitta
JB	Jerusalem Bible	Roman Catholic Translation	C/T		Modern English	1966 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek, with influence French <i>La Bible de Jérusalem</i>
JPS	Jewish Publication Society of America Version	Jewish Translation	C/T		Modern English	1917 AD	Masoretic Text, Tanakh (OT)
	Joseph Smith Translation of the Bible called: Inspired Version of the Bible	Joseph Smith	I/R		Modern English	1830 AD	KJV
	Judaica Press	Jewish Translation	C/T		Modern English	1963 AD	Masoretic Text, Tanakh (OT)
	Julia E Smith Parker Translation <sup>8</sup>	Julia E. Smith Parker	C/T		Modern English	1876 AD	Masoretic Text, Textus Receptus?

<sup>8</sup> Considered the first complete translation of the Bible into English by a woman (1855).

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	King Alfred		I/T	Pentateuch, including the Ten Commandments; possibly also the Psalms	Old English	0900 AD	Vulgate
KJV2000	King James 2000 Version		C/R		Modern English	2000 AD	KJV
KJV	King James Bible	Requested by King James I of England; 50 translators using variety of source texts	C/T		Early Modern English	1611 AD	Masoretic Text, Textus Receptus
KLNT	Kleist-Lilly New Testament	Roman Catholic Version	I/T	NT	Modern English	1956 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek?
Knox	Knox's Translation of the Vulgate	Roman Catholic Translation	C/T		Modern English	1955 AD	Vulgate, with influence Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
Lamsa	Lamsa Bible	George Lamsa	C/T		Modern English	1933 AD	Peshitta
	Leeser Bible		C/T		Modern English	1994 AD	Masoretic Text, Tanakh (OT)
	Living Nach, The	Jewish Translation, Yaakov Elman	C/T		Modern English	1983 AD	Masoretic Text; Tanakh (OT)
	Living Torah, The	Jewish Translation; Aryeh Kaplan	C/T		Contemporary, Colloquial English	1981 AD	Masoretic Text; Tanakh (OT)
MGB	Magna Bible, The	Akin Siku	C/T	NT in 2007 OT in progress	Modern English	2007 AD	
	Masoretic Text					0600–0900 AD	Hebrew text of Jewish Bible (Tanakh).
	Matthew's Bible	John Rogers (pseudonym "Thomas Matthew")	C/T		Modern English	1537 AD	Masoretic Text, Greek NT of Erasmus, Vulgate, Luther Bible, and French version
	McCord's New Testament Translation of the Everlasting Gospel	Hugo McCord	I/T	NT	Modern English	1988 AD	Original Greek?
MASV	Modern ASV		C		Modern English	In Progress AD	ASV

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MKJV	Modern King James Version	Jay P. Green Sr	C/P		Modern English	1999 AD	KJV
MLB	Modern Language Bible (New Berkeley Version)		C/T		Modern English	1969 AD	Original languages
	Moffatt, New Translation		C/T		Modern English	1926 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
NETS	NET of Septuagint		C		Modern English	2007 AD	Septuagint
NAB	New American Bible	Roman Catholic Translation	C/T		Modern English	1970 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
NASB	New American Standard Bible		C/T		Modern English	1971 AD	Critical version of the Masoretic Text, Nestle-Aland Text
NASU	New American Standard Bible – Updated		C		Modern English	1995 AD	Critical version of the Masoretic Text, Nestle-Aland Text
AV7	New Authorized Version		C		Modern English	2006 AD	?
	New Authorized Version, The		I/R	NT and parts of the OT	Modern English	1998 AD	KJV
NCPB	New Cambridge Paragraph Bible		C		Modern English	2005 AD	?
NCV	New Century Version		C/P		Basic Modern English	1991 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek?
NEB	New English Bible		C/T		Modern English	1970 AD	Critical versions of the Masoretic Text, Greek NT
NET	New English Translation (Internet)		C/T		Modern English	2005 AD	Critical versions of Masoretic Text, Greek NT
NirV	New International Reader's Version		C/P		Modern English	1998 AD	NIV
NIV	New International Version		C/T		Modern English	1978 AD	Critical versions of Masoretic Text, the Greek NT
NIVI	New International Version Inclusive Language Edition		C/R		Modern English	1996 AD	NIV

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NJB	New Jerusalem Bible	Roman Catholic Translation	C/T		Modern English	1985 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek, with influence French <i>La Bible de Jérusalem</i>
NJPS	New Jewish Publication Society of America Version	Jewish Translation	C/T		Modern English	1985 AD	Masoretic Text, Tanakh (OT)
NKJV	New King James Version	68 scholars (mostly Baptist and some conservative Presbyterians)	C/T		Modern English	1982 AD	Masoretic Text, Textus Receptus
NLV	New Life Version	Gleason Ledyard	C/T		Modern English	1986 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek?
NLT	New Living Translation, The		C/T		Modern English	1996, 2004 AD	Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
NRSV	New Revised Standard Version		C/R		Modern English	1989 AD	RSV
NRSV-CE	New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition	Roman Catholic Translation	C/R		Modern English	1989 AD	RSV
	New Testament in Modern English, The	The Reverend Canon John Bertram Phillips	I/P		Modern English	1958 AD	
	New Testament, Confraternity Version, The		I/R	NT	Modern English	1941 AD	Challoner Revision of Rheims NT
	New Testament, The	Richmond		NT		1996 AD	
NWT	New World Translation	Published by Jehovah's Witness	C/T		Modern English	1950 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
TEB	Original Bible Project (OBP), The Transparent English Bible (TEB)					In Progress AD	
	Original New Testament, The	Hugh Schonfield				1985 AD	
	Ormulum, The		I/T	Passages from 4 Gospels and Acts	Middle English	1150 AD	Vulgate
Orthodox	Orthodox Study Bible						

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	Peshitta, The				Syriac; simple, common	0800 AD	The standard version of the Christian Bible in the Syriac language
Phi/PME	Phillips New Testament in Modern English	J. B. Phillips	I/T	NT	Modern English	1958 AD	Original English
	Quaker Bible	Anthony Purver	C/T		Modern English	1764 AD	Masoretic Text, Textus Receptus?
RcV	Recovery Version of the Bible		C/R		Modern English	1985 AD	ASV
RBKJV	Restored Name KJV (Internet only)		C		Modern English		
	Revelation		I/T		Middle English	1300's AD	French translation
REB	Revised English Bible		C/R		Modern English	1987 AD	New English Bible
RSV	Revised Standard Version		C/T		Modern English	1952 AD	Critical version of Masoretic Text, Nestle-Aland Greek NT
RSV-CE	Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition	Roman Catholic Translation	C/R		Modern English	1966-1966 AD	RSV
	Revised Version	British theologians	C/R		Modern English	1885 AD	KJV with critical NT Text
	Rolle		I/T	Various Passages, includes some Psalms	Middle English	1300's AD	Vulgate
	Rotherham's Emphasized Bible	Joseph Bryant Rotherham	C/T			1902 AD	Added emphasis to further explain hidden riches of Original language
SEB	Simple English Bible	Dr. Stanley Morris	C		Basic Modern English	1978 AD	
	Simplified English Bible		C/P		Basic Modern English		Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek?
	Simplified New Testament, The	Olaf M. Norlie		NT		1961 AD	
	Sinai & Comparative New Testament	Edwin Leigh		NT		1881 AD	
SCM	Spencer New Testament	Roman Catholic Translation	I/T	NT	Modern English	1941 AD	Vulgate

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Abbreviation	Bible Name	Author /Translator	Status /Ver.	Section(s) Covered	Language Style	Date	Taken From
Artscroll	Stone Edition	Jewish Translation				1996 AD	?
TSB	Story Bible, The		C/T		Modern English	1971 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek?
	Tanakh				Biblical Hebrew with Daniel & Ezra in Aramaic	0100-0200 BC	
	Taverner's Bible	Richard Taverner	C/R		Modern English	1539 AD	Minor revision of Matthew's Bible
TCE	The Common Edition New Testament		I/S	NT	Modern English	1999 AD	English wording compared to United Bible Societies 4 <sup>th</sup> edition Greek NT
TFB	The Free Bible (Internet)		I/R	Only Ruth, few NT books		In Progress AD	
TLB	The Living Bible	Kenneth Nathaniel Taylor	C/P		Modern English	1971 AD	ASV 1901
MSG	The Message		C/P		Modern English	2002 AD	Original Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
TMB	Third Millennium Bible		C/R		Modern English	1998 AD	KJV
	Thompson's Translation		C/T		Modern English	1808 AD	Septuagint, Textus Receptus
TEV	Today's English Version <sup>9</sup>		C		Modern English	1976 AD	?
TNIV	Today's New International Version		C/R		Modern English	2005 AD	NIV
Twenty	Twentieth Century New Testament		I/T	NT	Modern English		Greek text of Westcott and Hort
	Twentieth Century New Testament, The			NT	Modern Speech	1903 AD	
	Tyndale Bible	William Tyndale	I/T	Tyndale's other OT work went into Matthew's Bible	Current English	1526 AD (NT) 1530 AD Pentateuch	Masoretic Text, the Greek NT of Erasmus, with some influence from other translations
Gaus	Unvarnished New Testament, The		I/T	NT	Modern English	1991 AD	Original Greek?

<sup>9</sup> Renamed in 2001 to the *Good News Translation*.

## STUDY LITERATURE About the Bible

**Legend**

C = Complete or Entire Bible	P = Paraphrase
I = Incomplete or Partial Bible	R = Revision
NT = New Testament	S = Standardize
OT = Old Testament	T = Translation

Abbreviation	Bible Name	Author /Translator	Status /Ver.	Section(s) Covered	Language Style	Date	Taken From
UKJV	Updated King James Version		C/R		Modern English	2004 AD	KJV
	Vulgate	Saint Jerome?	C/T		Classic Latin	0382-0405 AD	Greek Septuagint, Hexaplar Greek text, Hebrew; Codex Amiatinus(700 AD), Codex Fuldensis (545 AD), Diatessaron ().
	Webster's Revision	Noah Webster	C/R		Modern English	1833 AD	
	Wessex Gospels		I/T		Old English	0990 AD	Vulgate
	West Midland Psalms		I/T		Middle English	1300's AD	Vulgate
WVSS	Westminster Bible	Roman Catholic Translation	C/T		Modern English	1936 AD	Vulgate
WEB	World English Bible		I/T	NT, with OT in translation	Modern English	In Progress AD	Majority Text
WET	Wuest Expanded Translation	Kenneth Wuest	I/T	NT	Modern English	1961 AD	Nestle-Aland Text
	Wycliffe Bible <sup>10</sup>	John Wycliffe	C/T	2 versions (much revised) 1388 AD onwards	Middle English	1380 & 1388 AD	Vulgate
	Young's Literal Translation	Robert Young	C/T		Modern English	1862 AD	Masoretic Text, Textus Receptus?

## Manuscripts

### ***OLD TESTAMENT, ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS (1500 BC – 100 AD)***

The earliest surviving complete manuscript of the entire Bible is the **Codex Amiatinus**; a Latin Vulgate edition produced in 8<sup>th</sup> century (700 AD) England at the double monastery of Wearmouth-Jarrow. There are no ancient Hebrew manuscripts older than the tenth century. We know these are correct because we have a translation of the Hebrew into Greek, called the Septuagint, made nearly 300 years before Christ. Our Hebrew Bibles are a reprint from what is called the Masoretic text. The ancient Hebrew had only the consonant printed, and the vowels were vocalized in pronunciation, but were not written. Some Jewish scholars living at Tiberias, and at Sora by the



## STUDY LITERATURE

### About the Bible

Euphrates, from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, punctuated the Hebrew text, and wrote in the vowel points and other tone-marks to aid in the reading of the Hebrew; and these, together with notes of various kinds, they called Masora (tradition), hence the name Masoretic text.

<b>The Tanakh</b>	Consists of 24 books. Tanakh is an acronym for the 3 parts of the Hebrew Bible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Torah ("Teaching/Law" also known as the),</li> <li>• Nevi'im ("Prophets"), and</li> <li>• Ketuvim ("Writings," or Hagiographa)</li> </ul>
	<p>The Tanakh was mainly written in biblical Hebrew, with some portions (notably in Daniel and Ezra) in Aramaic. Sometime in the 2nd or 3rd century BC (100 or 200 BC), the Torah was translated into Koine Greek, and over the next century (300 BC), other books were translated (or composed) as well. This translation became known as the Septuagint<sup>11</sup> and was widely used by Greek-speaking Jews, and later by Christians.</p> <p>From the 800s to the 1400s, Jewish scholars today known as Masoretes compared the text of all known biblical manuscripts in an effort to create a unified, standardized text. A series of highly similar texts eventually emerged, and any of these texts are known as Masoretic (400-900 AD) Texts (MT).</p> <p><i><b>Note:</b> Jews also produced non-literal translations or paraphrases known as targums<sup>12</sup>, primarily in Aramaic. They frequently expanded on the text with additional details taken from Rabbinic oral tradition.</i></p>	
<b>The Torah</b> or "Instruction"	Is also known as the "Five Books" of Moses, thus Chumash from Hebrew meaning "fivesome," and Pentateuch from Greek meaning "five scroll-cases." The Torah is comprised of 5 books.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Genesis, <b>Ge</b>—Bereshit (תִּשְׁאָרֵב)</li> <li>2. Exodus, <b>Ex</b>—Shemot (תּוֹמֵשׁ)</li> <li>3. Leviticus, <b>Le</b>—Vayikra (אֶרְקִי)</li> <li>4. Numbers, <b>Nu</b>—Bamidbar (רְבִדְמָב)</li> <li>5. Deuteronomy, <b>Dt</b>—Devarim (מִירְבֵּד)</li> </ol>
<b>The Nevi'im</b> or "Prophets"	Tells the story of the rise of the Hebrew monarchy, its division into 2 kingdoms, and the prophets who, in God's name, warned the kings and the Children of Israel about the punishment of God. It ends with the conquest of the Kingdom of Israel by the Assyrians and the conquest of the Kingdom of Judah by the Babylonians, and the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. The Nevi'im is comprised of 8 books.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Joshua, <b>Js</b>—Yehoshua (עֶשׂוּהָ)</li> <li>7. Judges, <b>Jg</b>—Shoftim (מִשְׁפֹּטִים)</li> <li>8. Samuel, includes First and Second, <b>1Sa–2Sa</b>—Shemuel (לְאוֹמֵשׁ)</li> <li>9. Kings, includes First and Second, <b>1Ki–2Ki</b>—Melakhim (מִיכְלָמ)</li> <li>10. Isaiah, <b>Is</b>—Yeshayahu (וְהִיעֲשִׂי)</li> <li>11. Jeremiah, <b>Je</b>—Yirmiyahu (וְהִימִירִי)</li> <li>12. Ezekiel, <b>Ez</b>—Yekhezkel (לְאִקְזֹחִי)</li> <li>13. Twelve, includes all Minor Prophets—Tre Asar (רֵיט רֶשַׁע)             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Hosea, <b>Ho</b>—Hoshea (עֶשׂוּהָ)</li> <li>b. Joel, <b>Jl</b>—Yoel (לְאוֹי)</li> <li>c. Amos, <b>Am</b>—Amos (סוֹמַע)</li> <li>d. Obadiah, <b>Ob</b>—Ovadyah (הִידְבַּע)</li> <li>e. Jonah, <b>Jh</b>—Yonah (הַנּוֹי)</li> <li>f. Micah, <b>Mi</b>—Mikhah (הַכִּימ)</li> <li>g. Nahum, <b>Na</b>—Nahum (סוֹחֹנ)</li> <li>h. Habakkuk, <b>Hb</b>—Havakuk (קוֹקְבָח)</li> <li>i. Zephaniah, <b>Zp</b>—Tsefanya (הַיִּנְפָצ)</li> <li>j. Haggai, <b>Hg</b>—Khagay (יִגָח)</li> <li>k. Zechariah, <b>Zc</b>—Zekharyah (הִירְכֵז)</li> <li>l. Malachi, <b>Ml</b>—Malakhi (יִכְאַלֵּמ)</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

<sup>11</sup> Septuagint (Greek translation, from Alexandria in Egypt under the Ptolemies) was generally abandoned in favor of the Masoretic text as the basis for translations of the Old Testament into Western languages from Martin Luther's Protestant Bible to the present day; already Jerome's Vulgate was based on the Hebrew.

<sup>12</sup> An Aramaic translation of the Hebrew Bible (Tanakh) written or compiled in Palestine or in Babylonia from the Second Temple period until the early Middle Ages (late first millennium).

## STUDY LITERATURE

### About the Bible

<b>The Ketuvim</b> or "Writings" or "Scriptures"	May have been written during or after the Babylonian Exile but no one can be sure. Five of the books, called "The Five Scrolls" (Megillot), are read on Jewish holidays.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Song of Songs (King Solomon wrote in youth) on Passover;</li> <li>• Book of Ruth (centers on a non-Jew) on Shavuot;</li> <li>• Lamentations on the Ninth of Av;</li> <li>• Ecclesiastes (King Solomon wrote in old age) on Sukkoth; and</li> <li>• Book of Esther on Purim.</li> </ul>
<b>The Ketuvim</b> (continued)	Collectively, the Ketuvim contain lyrical poetry, philosophical reflections on life, and the stories of the prophets and other Jewish leaders during the Babylonian exile. It ends with the Persian decree allowing Jews to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the Temple. The Ketuvim is comprised of 11 books.	14. Psalms (David), <b>Ps</b> —Tehillim (תהילים) 15. Proverbs (King Solomon wrote in prime of life), <b>Pr</b> —Mishlei (משל) 16. Job, <b>Jb</b> —Iyyov (איוב) 17. Song of Songs, <b>So</b> —Shir ha-Shirim (שיר השירים) 18. Ruth, <b>Ru</b> —Rut (רות) 19. Lamentations, <b>La</b> —Eikhah (הכיא), also called Kinot (תנויק) 20. Ecclesiastes, <b>Ec</b> —Kohélet (תלחק) 21. Esther, <b>Es</b> —Ester (רתסא) 22. Daniel, <b>Dn</b> —Daniel (לאינד) 23. Ezra, <b>Ea</b> , includes Nehemiah, <b>Ne</b> —Ezra (ארזע), includes Nehemiah (הימחנ) 24. Chronicles, includes First and Second, <b>1Ch–2Ch</b> —Divrei ha-Yamim (דיברי הירבד), also called Divrei (ירבד)
<b>Deuterocanonical or Apocrypha</b>	Referring to a later secondary (i.e., deuterocanonical) Catholic canon. Most Protestants term these books as apocrypha. Evangelicals and those of the Modern Protestant traditions do not accept the deuterocanonical books as canonical, although Protestant Bibles included them until around the 1820s. However, the Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Oriental Orthodox Churches include these books as part of their Old Testament. The Catholic Church recognizes 7 such books ( <b>Tobit</b> , <b>Judith</b> , <b>1 Maccabees</b> , <b>2 Maccabees</b> , <b>Wisdom of Solomon</b> , <b>Ecclesiasticus</b> , and <b>Baruch</b> ), as well as some passages in Esther and Daniel. Various Orthodox Churches include a few others, typically <b>3 Maccabees</b> , <b>1 Esdras</b> , <b>Odes</b> , <b>Psalms of Solomon</b> , and the <b>Prayer of Manasseh</b> .	

## NEW TESTAMENT

Of the Greek of the New Testament there are a number of ancient manuscripts. They are divided into two kinds: the Uncials, written wholly in capitals, and the Cursives, written in a running hand. The chief of these are: (1) the Alexandrian (codex Alexandrinus, marked A), so named because it was found in Alexandria in Egypt, in 1628. It dates back to A.D. 350, and is now in the British Museum. (2) The Vatican (codex Vaticanus, B), named from the Vatican library at Rome, where it is kept. Its date is A.D. 300 to 325. (3) The Sinaitic (codex Sinaiticus) so called from the convent of St. Catherine on Mount Sinai, there it was discovered by or Tischendorf in 1844. It is now at St. Petersburg Russia. This is one of the earliest best of all the manuscripts.

The New Testament was written primarily in Koine Greek in the early Christian period even though some authors often included translations from Hebrew and Aramaic texts. Certainly the Pauline Epistles were written in Greek for Greek-speaking audiences. Some scholars believe that some books of the Greek New Testament (in particular, the Gospel of Matthew) are actually translations of a Hebrew or Aramaic original. Of these, a small number accept the Syriac Peshitta as representative of the original.

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### About the Bible

The order of the books varies according to Church tradition:

Catholic, most Protestant, Greek Orthodox	Lutheran Protestant Bible	Slavonic Orthodox Bible	Ethiopian Bible
<i>Gospel</i>			
Matthew	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew
Mark	Mark	Mark	Mark
Luke	Luke	Luke	Luke
John	John	John	John
<i>History</i>			
Acts	Acts	Acts	Acts
<i>The Pauline epistles</i>	<i>The Pauline epistles</i>	<i>The General epistles</i>	<i>The Pauline epistles</i>
Romans	Romans	James	Romans
1 Corinthians	1 Corinthians	1 Peter	1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians	2 Corinthians	2 Peter	2 Corinthians
Galatians	Galatians	1 John	Galatians
Ephesians	Ephesians	2 John	Ephesians
Philippians	Philippians	3 John	Philippians
Colossians	Colossians	Jude	Colossians
1 Thessalonians	1 Thessalonians	<i>The Pauline epistles</i>	1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians	2 Thessalonians	Romans	2 Thessalonians
1 Timothy	1 Timothy	1 Corinthians	1 Timothy
2 Timothy	2 Timothy	2 Corinthians	2 Timothy
Titus	Titus	Galatians	Titus
Philemon	Philemon	Ephesians	Philemon
<i>The General epistles</i>	<i>The General epistles</i>	Philippians	<i>The General epistles</i>
Hebrews	1 Peter	Colossians	Hebrews
James	2 Peter	1 Thessalonians	1 Peter
1 Peter	1 John	2 Thessalonians	2 Peter
2 Peter	2 John	1 Timothy	1 John
1 John	3 John	2 Timothy	2 John
2 John	<i>Books questioned by Luther</i>	Titus	3 John
3 John	Hebrews	Philemon	James
Jude	James	Hebrews	Jude
<i>Apocalypse</i>	Jude	<i>Apocalypse</i>	<i>Apocalypse</i>
Revelation of Christ to John	Revelation of Christ to John	Revelation of Christ to John	Revelation of Christ to John