

BACK TO BASICS CLASS

01 Meet Your Bible

I. What is the Bible?

- A. The word “Bible” comes from a Latin word that simply means a collection of writings
- B. The Bible is a collection of 66 separate “books” divided into 2 parts: *The Old and New Testaments*
- C. Christians see the Bible as the only basis of authority in understanding the Christian faith & practice
- D. In this session we want you to meet the Bible and discover how to find verses, and to learn a little about it

II. Basic Divisions of the Bible - Find the following in your Bible:

- A. Old and New Testaments
- B. Books / Chapters / Verses
- C. Table of Contents / Tables / Maps / Glossary / Various Helps

III. The Old Testament (39 Books)

- A. Explains the RESTORED RELATIONSHIP God established with His people through a substitutionary sacrifice - a picture of Jesus’ later sacrifice to bring restored relationship.
- B. Contains the story of the people of God from the time of creation until about 300 years before Christ.
- C. It’s writing covers a span of over 900 years
- D. Represents over 30 different authors from a wide spectrum of vocation and social status
- E. It’s Division is into FOUR thematic, rather than chronological, sections

Look up each of the following examples to better acquaint yourself with finding Bible passages

The Books of Moses (or “The Law”) - *Genesis to Deuteronomy*

EXAMPLE: The Ten Commandments - Exodus 20:1-17

The Books of History - *Joshua to Esther*

EXAMPLE: David & Goliath - 1 Samuel 17:42-50

The Books of Poetry - *Job to Song of Solomon*

EXAMPLE: The Shepherd Psalm - Psalm 23

The Books of Prophecy - *Isaiah to Malachi*

EXAMPLE: The Prophecy of the Christ’s Birth - Isaiah 9:6-7

IV. The New Testament (27 Books)

A. A. Explains the contractual relationship God established with His people through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ. This “New” covenant (through Jesus’ sacrifice) replaced the “Old” (through animal sacrifice).

- **see 1 Cor. 10:16; Eph. 2:13; 1 Pet. 1:18-19; Hebrews 10:1-14; 13:11-12**

B. It’s writing covered a span of over 50 years

C. Represents 9 different authors

D. It’s Division

1. **The Life of Christ** - “Gospels” - **Matthew to John**

a. *EXAMPLE:* John 3:16

2. **The History of the Early Church** - **Acts**

a. *EXAMPLE:* *The conversion of the Apostle Paul* - Acts 9:1-6

3. **Letters of the Apostles** - **Romans to 3rd John**

a. *EXAMPLE:* *The Love Chapter* - 1 Cor. 13

4. **Prophecy** - **Revelation**

a. *EXAMPLE:* *The Return of Jesus* - Revelation 19:11-16

V. Exploring The Bible On Your Own - Look up the following verses and jot down what it says:

A. Ps. 119:130 -

B. Isa. 55:11 -

C. Eph. 6:17 -

D. James 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:23 -

E. John 15:3 -

F. Rom. 10:17 -
