

# Matthew

*Fortieth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 1st out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 1st of the Gospels*



**Written in:** Greek as *Matthaios*



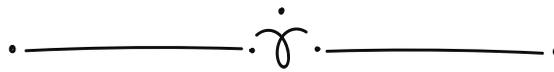
**Time Period of Events:** 7 BC - 26 AD



**Author:** Matthew the Apostle



**Written Around:** 50 - 60 AD



## Significance

The Gospel of Matthew has, for a long time now, been known to be the most important of the four Gospels for it contains all the elements essential to the establishment of the early church, including the story about Jesus' miraculous conception. It provides an explanation of the importance of liturgy, law, discipleship, and teaching; and an account of Jesus' life and death here on Earth.

## Notable Verses

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

-Matthew 11:28-

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

-Matthew 28:19-

"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.'

- Matthew 5:38 -

## Popular Stories

- ✓ Visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus.  
-Matthew 2:1-12-
- ✓ Herod's slaughter of the male infants, and Jesus' family's escape to Egypt.  
-Matthew 2:16-
- ✓ Jesus tells Peter that he will be the foundation of His building of the Church.  
-Matthew 16:18-
- ✓ Jesus pays tax by his disciples finding a fish with a coin in its mouth.  
-Matthew 17:24-27-
- ✓ The story of Judas' betrayal  
-Matthew 27:1-10-



*God of the Romans*

# Mark

*Forty-First Book of the Holy Bible  
The 2nd out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 2nd of the Gospels*



**Written in:** Greek as *Márkou*



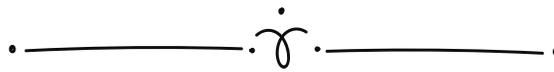
**Time Period of Events:** 7 BC - 26 AD



**Author:** Mark the Evangelist



**Written Around:** 50 - 60 AD



## Significance

The Gospel of Mark depicts Jesus as constantly on the move. The direction of going forward in Mark's writing keeps the intellectual reader looking forward to the crucifixion and the resurrection. Thirty-nine times Mark used the word 'immediately', providing a sense that Jesus' time on Earth was short-lived yet with so much to accomplish in His few years of ministry.

## Notable Verses

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

-Mark 10:45-

"Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

-Mark 8:34-

## Popular Stories

- ✓ Jesus tells Simon Peter and his brother Andrew that He will make them fishers of men.  
-Mark 1:17-
- ✓ Jesus specifically appoints the 12 apostles earlier in His ministry and journey.  
-Mark 3:13-19-
- ✓ Jesus heals a deaf and mute man with his spit.  
-Mark 7:31-37-
- ✓ Jesus heals a blind man who reports that people resemble trees. Jesus prays for him again.  
-Mark 8:22-25-

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

-Mark 11:24-

## God of Romans



# Luke

*Forty-Second Book of the Holy Bible  
The 3rd out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 3rd of the Gospels*



**Written in:** Greek as *Loukas*



**Time Period of Events:** 7 BC - 26 AD



**Author:** Luke the Evangelist



**Written Around:** 60 - 61 AD



## Significance

The significance of Luke's gospel consists of Jesus' many unconventional interactions with sinners, the sick and dying, women, children and outcasts. Luke's account of a woman approaching to pour perfume on Jesus' feet is unique among the others as it was his Gospel that notes she was an immoral woman. Luke's depiction of Jesus in this Gospel shows how our Lord came to show compassion and concern for all people, no matter what they are in life.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ Story of John the Baptist's birth to Elizabeth and Zechariah.  
-Luke 1:5-25-
- ✓ Shepherds watching over their flocks by night and saw the host of angels at the birth of Jesus.  
-Luke 2:8-
- ✓ First miraculous catch and yield of fish on the Lake of Gennesaret.  
-Luke 5:1-
- ✓ Raising of the widow's son from the dead in Nain.  
-Luke 7:11-17-
- ✓ Parable of the Good Samaritan.  
-Luke 10:25-37-
- ✓ The difference of the rich man's death and Lazarus'.  
-Luke 16:19-31-
- ✓ The conversation between Jesus and the thieves with Him at the crosses of Golgotha.  
-Luke 23:39-43-

## Notable Verses

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.

-Luke 19:10-

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

-Luke 23:34-

Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

-Luke 6:37-



*God of the Exiles and the Unwanted*

# John

*Forty-Third Book of the Holy Bible  
The 4th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 4th of the Gospels*



**Written in:** Greek as *Ioannes*



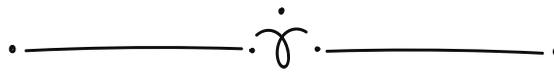
**Time Period of Events:** 7 BC - 26 AD



**Author:** John the Evangelist



**Written Around:** 80 - 90 AD



## Significance

John took a different narrative in his gospel. Foregoing from the nativity story to rewind further back in time, or as he writes "in the beginning. He linked the nature of God and the nature of the incarnated Word, Jesus Christ. The emphasis on the deity of Christ is a striking quality of John's gospel. This made notable with His "I am." statements.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ Jesus turning water into wine  
-John 2:1-11-
- ✓ Healing the nobleman's son who was dying  
-John 4:46-54-
- ✓ Healing of a man at the Pool of Bethesda  
-John 5:2-9-
- ✓ Jesus walking on water  
-John 6:16-21-
- ✓ Feeding of five thousand with five loaves and two fishes  
-John 6:1-14-
- ✓ Healing of the man born blind  
-John 9:1-12-
- ✓ Raising Lazarus from the dead  
-John 11:38-44-

## Notable Verses

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

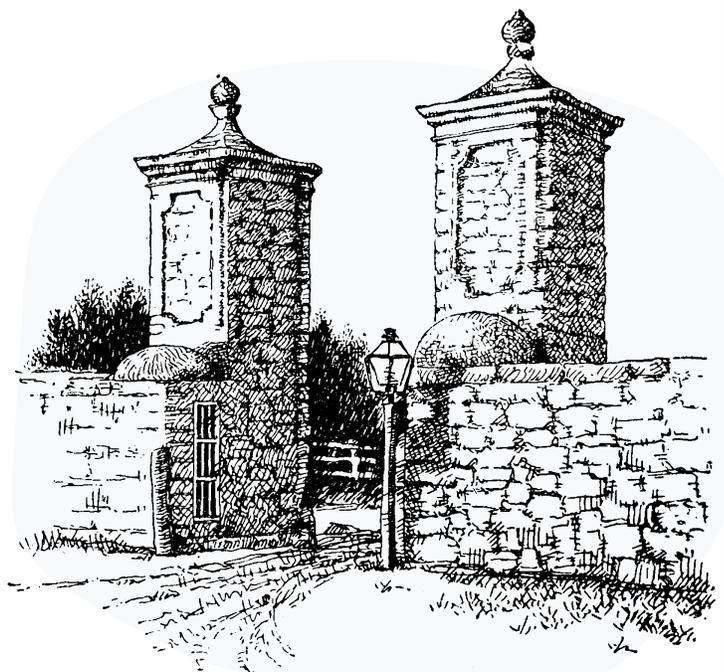
-John 3:16-

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

-John 14:6-

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born again."

-John 3:3-



*God of  
All Existence*

# Acts

*Forty-Fourth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 5th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The Only Book of the Acts of the Apostles*



**Written in:** Greek; Often known as the Gospel of the Holy Spirit



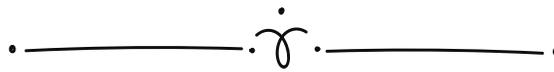
**Time Period of Events:** 30 - 62 AD



**Author:** Luke the Evangelist



**Written Around:** 62 AD



## Significance

Acts is the sole Biblical book that tells the history of the church right after Jesus' ascension to heaven. Providing us with a substantial account of how the Church expanded and grew from Jerusalem into the rest of the Roman Empire. In a third of a century, a small group of terrified believers grew to become what is now more than an empire-wide movement of people who commit their lives to Jesus Christ.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ The Ascension  
-Acts 1:6-11-
- ✓ The Day of Pentecost  
-Acts 2:1-21-
- ✓ Conversion of Saul to the Apostle Paul  
-Acts 9:1-19-
- ✓ Peter's move to preach to the Gentile world and not just the Jews.  
-Acts 10:1-48-
- ✓ Peter and John faced before the Sanhedrin, a tribunal assembly of elders in Ancient Israel  
Acts 4:13-

## Notable Verses

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

-Acts 1:8-

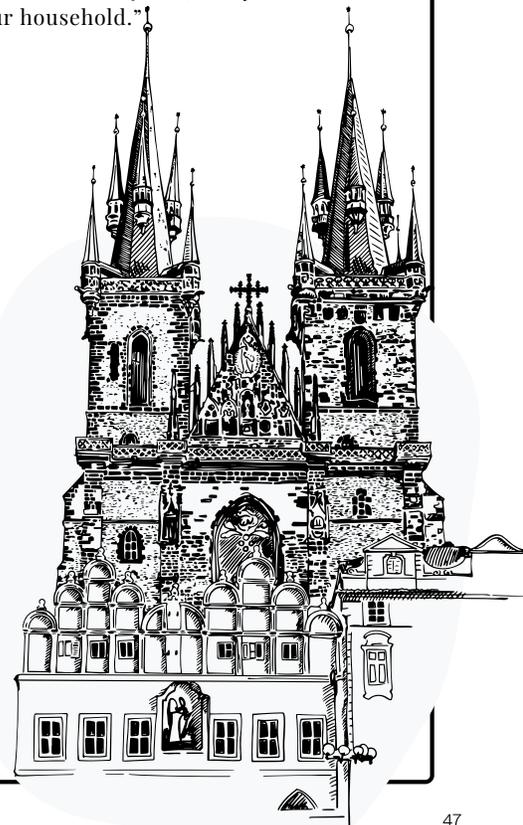
"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name given under heaven by which we must be saved."

-Acts 4:12-

They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

-Acts 16:31-

*The Great  
Power of God*



# Romans

*Forty-Fifth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 6th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 1st of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Romaioi*



**Time Period of Events:** 56 - 57 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 56 - 57 AD

## Significance

Romans emphasizes that the Gospel is God's power and gift of salvation for anyone who believes in Him. Paul reiterates and stands strong on informing the world of how the good news is not the enthronement of a new Roman emperor, but the God-given gift of salvation - to be saved from our sins.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ Paul intended to write to the Christians in Rome. At that time, Nero ruled the Roman Empire and his treatment towards Christians was not kind. Nero was emperor. Paul understood that the people there at the time would have many differences. They could be traders, wealthy nobles, sailors, slaves, and the common people. They were all part of the new Church found in Rome. Paul wanted these individuals to unite in their likeness under one God and being human.

-Romans 3:23-

## Notable Verses

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

-Romans 10:9-

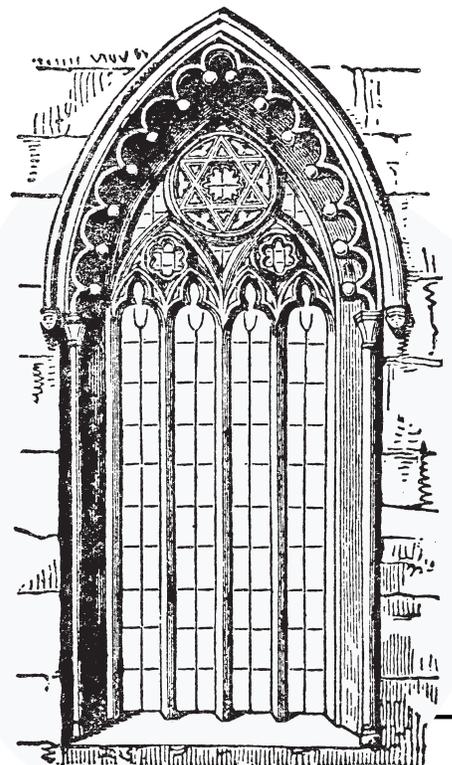
For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

-Romans 6:23-

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

-Romans 12:2-

*God Saves us  
All Sinners*



# 1 Corinthians

*Forty-Sixth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 7th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 2nd of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Korinthiakoi*



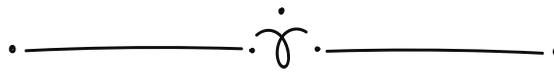
**Time Period of Events:** 55 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 55 AD



## Significance

Saint Paul evaluates the faith the Corinthians, Christians, have and also, his own faith. The book shows how our quarrels as a community can be resolved with wisdom and advice. It exposes the sexual immorality, social injustice, and more immorality present in the Church then. He helps them understand the doctrines of the faith. Most importantly, he teaches us about the Gospel and with the good that truly matters.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ Paul the Apostle overheard a conflict was present in the Church. A problematic situation that disappointed him greatly.  
-1 Corinthians 1:11-
- ✓ For 18 months, Paul was present among the Corinthian Christians. Solving their quarrels and eventually, fulfill his hope for them to do well.  
-1 Corinthians 1:18-31-

## Notable Verses

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud...

-1 Corinthians 13:4-

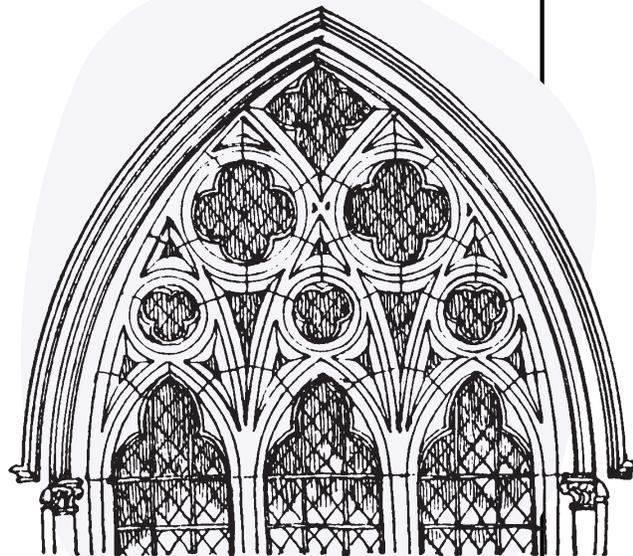
So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

-1 Corinthians 10:31-

I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power

-1 Corinthians 2:3-4-

*God is the Holy,  
Mighty One*



# 2 Corinthians

*Forty-Seven Book of the Holy Bible  
The 8th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 3rd of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Korinthiakoi*



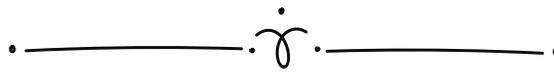
**Time Period of Events:** 55 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 55 - 56 AD



## Significance

Paul's letter here in Second Corinthians also provides us with a deeper perspective into the life of Paul. Moreover, his letter also divulges God's great plan for each of us to be generous among one another amidst our differences. And, support each other in our weaknesses. Giving in this Bible book is encouraged to be a fundamental way of becoming a true person of God.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ Paul has already sent four letters to the Christians here in Second Corinthians. Among these letters, two have been lost through history. Succeeding three reports of their misconduct inspired Paul to finally write a letter to encourage them to a lifestyle that seeks and pursues the kingdom of God.  
-2 Corinthians 3:1-6-

## Notable Verses

Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?  
-2 Corinthians 6:14-

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.  
-2 Corinthians 9:6-

And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.  
-2 Corinthians 12:9-

*God, Strength  
of the Weak*



# Galatians

*Forty-Eighth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 9th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 4th of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Galátai*



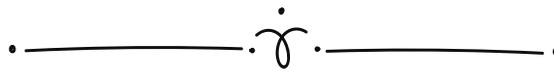
**Time Period of Events:** 49 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 49 - 50 AD



## Significance

Paul's letter to the Galatians was an initiative to inspire clarity with wisdom in the first real issue that corrupted the Church in its early beginnings. This was the undergoing tension and lack of amity between Christian Jews and the Christians Gentiles. Paul's assertion emphasized how significant it was to bring people together in Christ amidst differences. It is only right and just for those who unite in a direction together to consider the differences of each person's path and pace of journey.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ This letter is focused on how the Galatians instructed the Gentile communities to follow and abide by Jewish laws in order to be saved. It brought chaos and a burdening misunderstanding that Paul wanted to resolve and bring clarity.

-Galatians 2:11-14-

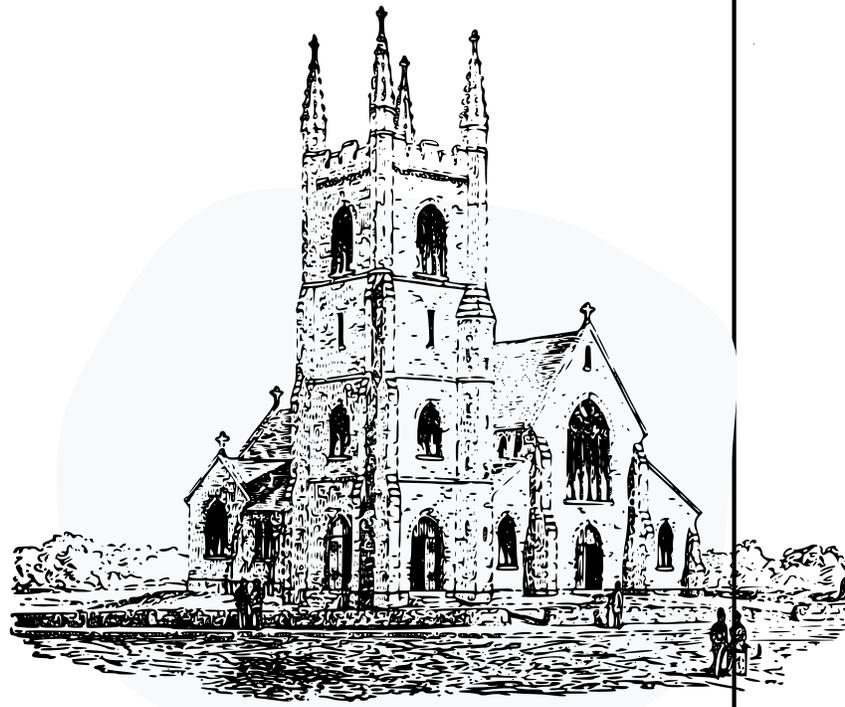
## Notable Verses

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you?  
-Galatians 3:1-

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness.  
-Galatians 5:22-

I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.  
-Galatians 2:20-

*God is Right  
and Just*



# Ephesians

*Forty-Ninth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 10th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 5th of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Ephesioi*



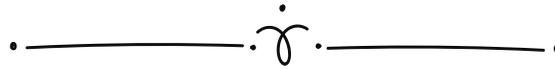
**Time Period of Events:** 60 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 60 - 62 AD



## Significance

In this Bible book, Paul inspires Christians to a level of importance as they are "adopted sons" and daughters of God. That God, Himself, chose His believers before existence. Paul encourages Christians to live a life that allows them to become a better child of God.

## Notable Verses

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.  
-Ephesians 6:12-

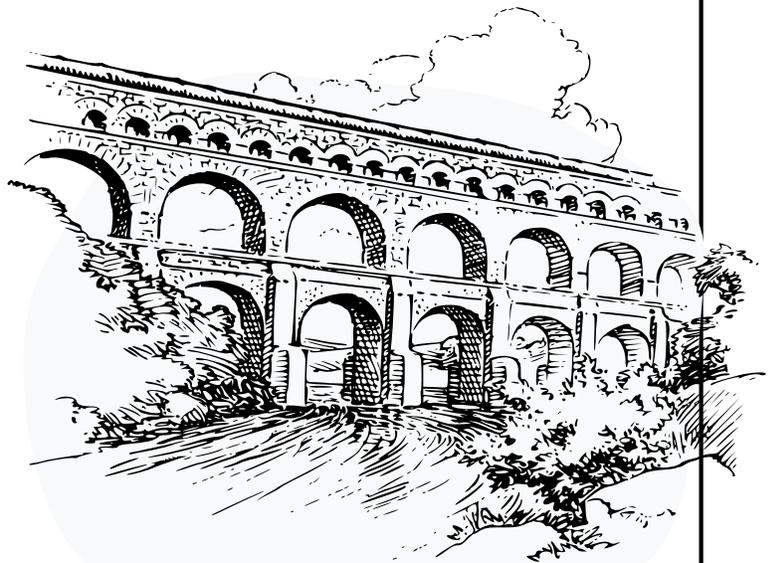
For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.  
-Ephesians 2:10-

And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,  
-Ephesians 4:11-

## Popular Stories

- ✓ On Paul's second visit at Ephesus, a wealthy silver craftsman, Demetrius, discovers his business suffer with the conversion of many to Christianity. His silver craft business was intended for idols, and now, with Christianity, there was no longer a demand for idols. Paul had to leave because of a riot at Ephesus. But, before he did so, he was able to establish a wide Christian community there. More inspiring, he wrote this epistle in prison.  
-Ephesians 3:1-3-

*God, Forever,  
Unites his People*



# Philippians

*Fiftieth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 11th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 6th of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Philippoi*



**Time Period of Events:** 60 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 60 - 62 AD



## Significance

At the beginning of the Bible book, Paul describes his imprisonment and isolation in Rome. Under house arrest, he writes the letter to the Philippians and his three other epistles.

He elaborates on how he believes he will be delivered by God. He encourages the people and Church of Philippi to live lifestyles that reflect Christianity and the teachings and wisdom of the Gospel.

Finally, he tells them that he is delivering Timothy along with his hopes and wishes of peace and enjoyment of God's blessings!

## Notable Verses

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

-Philippians 4:6-

I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

-Philippians 4:13-

"He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus"

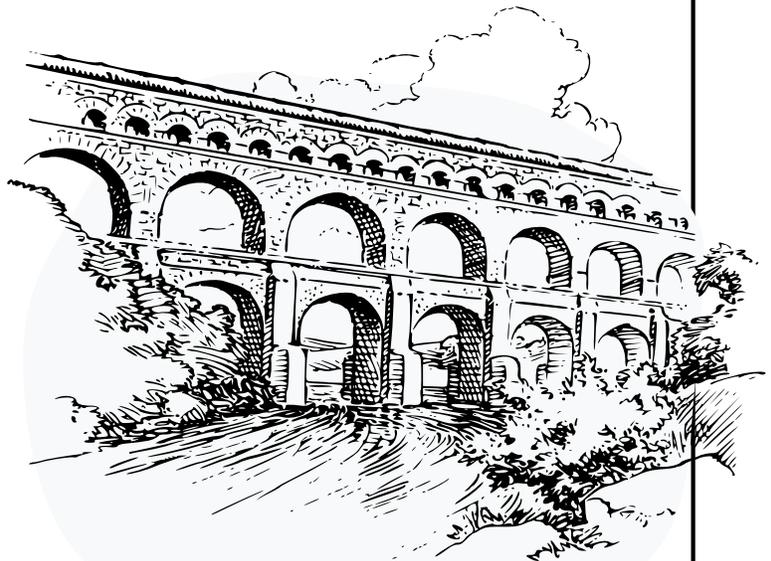
-Philippians 1:6-

## Popular Stories

- ✓ Unlike the other Epistles, Paul wrote to the Philippi out of gratitude and relation to the Church of Philippi. Out of every other church, the Church of Philippi encourages and promotes Paul's ministerial support through donations, comfort, food, and gifts.

-Philippians 4:10-23-

*One of God's  
Gifts is Joy*



# Colossians

*Fifty-First Book of the Holy Bible  
The 12th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 7th of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Kolossaeis*



**Time Period of Events:** 60 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 60 - 62 AD



## Significance

At the start of this Bible book, Paul goes on defending the dignity and deity of Jesus. He warns and discourages the religious practices that are not godly, and even Christian-like. He teaches the people that Jesus Christ is divinity. He was not a mere prophet or teacher. He was the Son of God Our Father.

Moreover, He teaches people about love. The inspiration that comes from the love of Christ will keep them away from false doctrines and practices that will lead them astray from salvation. Included here is the teaching of how to live, commit to the family, and uniting Christian communities.

## Notable Verses

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.

-Colossians 1:16-

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

-Colossians 3:12-

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving;

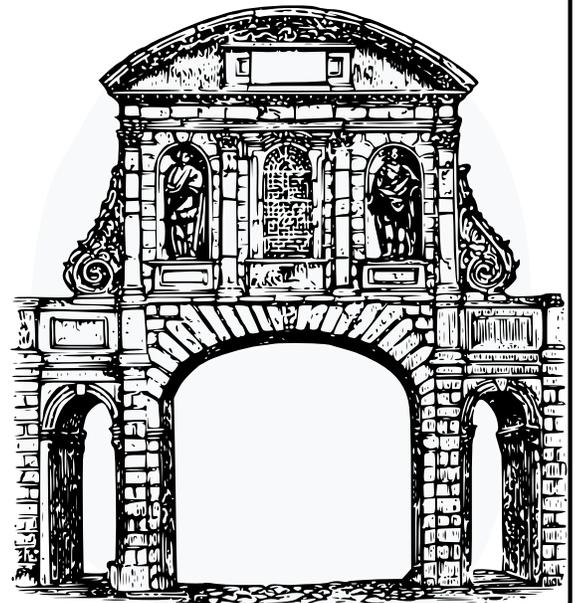
-Colossians 4:2-

## Popular Stories

- ✓ In this Epistle, the issue Paul faced was the Colossian church's blending of Greek philosophy and Christian theology. Out of which became the Gnostic philosophy. It taught believers that the world we are in is presumably evil, and Jesus was a spirit, not man.

-Colossians 1:14-16-

*God is the  
Greatest*



# 1 Thessalonians

*Fifty-Second Book of the Holy Bible  
The 13th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 8th of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Thessalonikeōn*



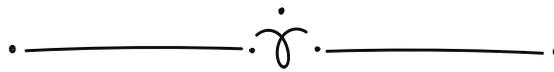
**Time Period of Events:** 51 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 51 AD



## Significance

First Thessalonians provides Christians with a clear Biblical narrative of the rapture of Christians. At the rapture, Christ will return for His people. Those who are dead in Christ will rise first with the living following closely. Every believer will meet Jesus in the heavens to enter paradise together.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ For three months, Paul spent his time at Thessalonica in its earlier church days. His visit was a check up on their faith to see if any false preachers were among them. Sending back Timothy, he got a favorable report that followed his writing to the Thessalonians in encouragement.  
-1 Thessalonians 3:6-

## Notable Verses

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

-1 Thessalonians 5:18-

So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober.

-1 Thessalonians 5:6-

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

-1 Thessalonians 4:16-

*God is the Source  
of All Courage*



# 2 Thessalonians

*Fifty-Second Book of the Holy Bible  
The 14th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 8th of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Thessalonikeōn*



**Time Period of Events:** 51 - 52 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 51 - 52 AD



## Significance

With the motivation to explain to Christians that the return of Jesus is not immediate, Paul explains they must be faithful to their holiness to be ready whenever Jesus arrives.

He adds his explanation on foretelling Jesus' Second Coming including the presence of an earlier Antichrist.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ In this letter, Paul speaks to the Thessalonians again about Christ's Second Coming. This is in light of how some of the believers in Thessalonica presumed that Jesus has returned already. This letter was made to bring peace and understanding among the community.

-2 Thessalonians 2:1-

## Notable Verses

He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

-2 Thessalonians 2:14-

On the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

-2 Thessalonians 1:10-

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us.

-2 Thessalonians 3:6-

*God is the  
Great Counsel*



# 1 Timothy

*Fifty-Fourth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 15th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 10th of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Timótheos*



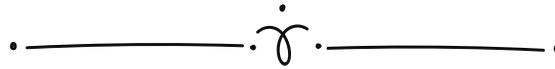
**Time Period of Events:** 62 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 62 - 64 AD



## Significance

First Timothy is a letter of encouragement Paul provides Timothy, his pastoral staff, to persevere and be resilient in serving the Lord. Disallowing his young age be a hindrance to the progress of his admirable pastoral mission.

Paul provides Timothy instruction about leadership in the Church and resolving all varieties of situations he will and might encounter in his service of God.

This very letter has been used as a medium of instruction in leading and training devoted servants of God throughout the ages.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ This letter is addressed to Timothy, Paul's young disciple and confidant who may have been experiencing burnout and exhaustion as most pastoral staff do at times. In this letter, Paul encourages and advises him on his journey of service to God.

*The Only and  
Most Godly is God*

## Notable Verses

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

-1 Timothy 4:12-

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

-1 Timothy 6:10-

It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.

-1 Timothy 1:15-



# 2 Timothy

*Fifty-Fifth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 16th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 11th of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Timótheos*



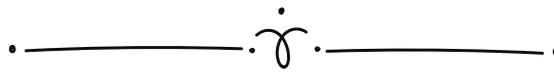
**Time Period of Events:** 66 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 66 to 67 AD



## Significance

Paul encourages Timothy in this letter. His old age is coming to him and wishes to impart final words of wisdom and instruction to guide Timothy's following him. Reminding Timothy to follow his example and to stay faithful for all the challenges that will come in his ministry. Lastly, he asks Timothy if he could visit him as he wants to see him one last time before he dies.

## Notable Verses

For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

-2 Timothy 1:7-

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

-2 Timothy 2:15-

The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

-2 Timothy 2:2-

## Popular Stories

- ✓ This book was the second written to Paul's young disciple Timothy. Given the directness and earnest tone in Paul's writing, it was possible that he was concluding his ministerial work and accepting death with open arms. Paul was arrested during the time by the cruel Roman Emperor Nero. Nero had Paul's head cut off making Paul a martyr, a disciple who died for the life of Christ.

*God Blesses  
the Enduring*



# Titus

*Fifty-Sixth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 17th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 12th of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Títos*



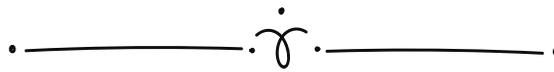
**Time Period of Events:** 62 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 62 to 64 AD



## Significance

The Bible book, Titus, discusses the establishment and organization of the Church. Paul provides instructions about choosing other leaders. Additionally, Paul teaches how 'Titus' believers can lead healthy and holy lives that are inspired and likened to the ways and teachings of Jesus Christ.

## Notable Verses

He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

-Titus 3:5-

It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.

-Titus 2:12-

To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled.

-Titus 1:15-

## Popular Stories

- ✔ Titus was a youthful pastor in charge of the churches there at Crete. Paul wrote to inspire him and brought to light some of the same issues there is when it comes to leading a church. This is another redirection Paul makes similar to his young disciple, Timothy.

*God the Creator  
of All Life*



# Philemon

*Fifty-Seventh Book of the Holy Bible  
The 18th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 13th of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as *Filémonas*



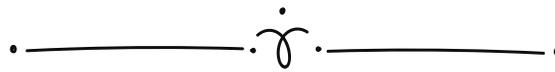
**Time Period of Events:** 60 AD



**Author:** Paul the Apostle



**Written Around:** 60 to 62 AD



## Significance

In this letter, Paul has discovered a slave, whom he is getting back to Philemon, his slave owner. Paul requests that Philemon excuse the slave and return him to Paul since Paul has discovered him valuable in lecturing the gospel.

Paul's message is that despite having slavery as an acknowledged piece of Roman culture, we should treat each other as equals, similar to how he encouraged Philemon to regard his slave as a brother.

## Notable Verses

No longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord.

-Philemon 1:16-

I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ.

-Philemon 1:6-

Yes, brother, let me benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ.

-Philemon 1:20-

## Popular Stories

- ✓ The book was written so that a slave would be accepted as a beloved brother among Christians, and Paul wanted to encourage Christians to not be inclusive and accepting of everyone's differences.

*He is the God  
Who Reconciles*



# Hebrews

*Fifty-Eighth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 19th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 14th of the Pauline Letters or Epistles*



**Written in:** Greek as Ivri



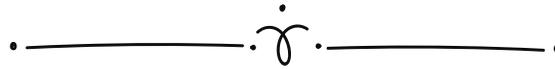
**Time Period of Events:** 66 AD



**Author:** Unkown



**Written Around:** 67 to 69 AD



## Significance

Hebrews clearly templates the holy ministry of Christ in the life of the Christian. Jesus is both the divine Son of God and totally human, and in His priestly duty He makes it possible for people to come to the Father in paradise through prayer and forgiveness. The ministry of Jesus is better than the Old Testament organization of Aaron, on the grounds that just through Jesus do we get endless salvation. Moreover, Jesus turned into the lasting and immaculate High Priest, going past all different clerics by offering Himself as a pure sacrifice in intercession of the sins of the people.

## Notable Verses

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

-Hebrews 11:1-

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us...

-Hebrews 12:1-

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

-Hebrews 13:8-

*God Fulfills All  
His Promises*



# James

*Fifty-Ninth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 20th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The Only Epistle by James*



**Written in:** Greek as *Iakobos*



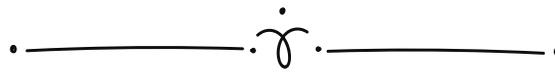
**Time Period of Events:** 49 AD



**Author:** James



**Written Around:** 67 to 69 AD



## Significance

The book of James looks somewhat like the Old Testament book of Proverbs reproduced in line with the New Testament. Its steady action in the life of faith is suggestive of the Wisdom Literature in the Old Testament, urging God's kingdom to act like God's children. The pages of James are packed with direct orders to seek after an existence of blessedness. He comes up with no reasons for the individuals who don't have the goods. In the brain of this early church pioneer, Christians proof their confidence by strolling in specific manners and not others. For James, a confidence that doesn't deliver genuine change is a confidence that is useless.

## Notable Verses

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

-James 1:5-

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if people claim to have faith but have no deeds? Can such faith save them?

-James 2:14-

Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

-James 5:16-

*No Trial is  
Greater than God*



# 1 Peter

*Sixtieth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 21st out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 1st Epistle by Peter*



**Written in:** Greek as *Pétros*



**Time Period of Events:** 62 AD



**Author:** Apostle Peter



**Written Around:** 64 AD



## Significance

Jesus turns into the origin of strength and solidarity when we come into difficulties in life. By allowing God to help you in your diligence and work of Christ, we can continue to have trust in Him amidst our pains and sufferings.

## Notable Verses

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

-1 Peter 5:8-

But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

-1 Peter 3:15 -

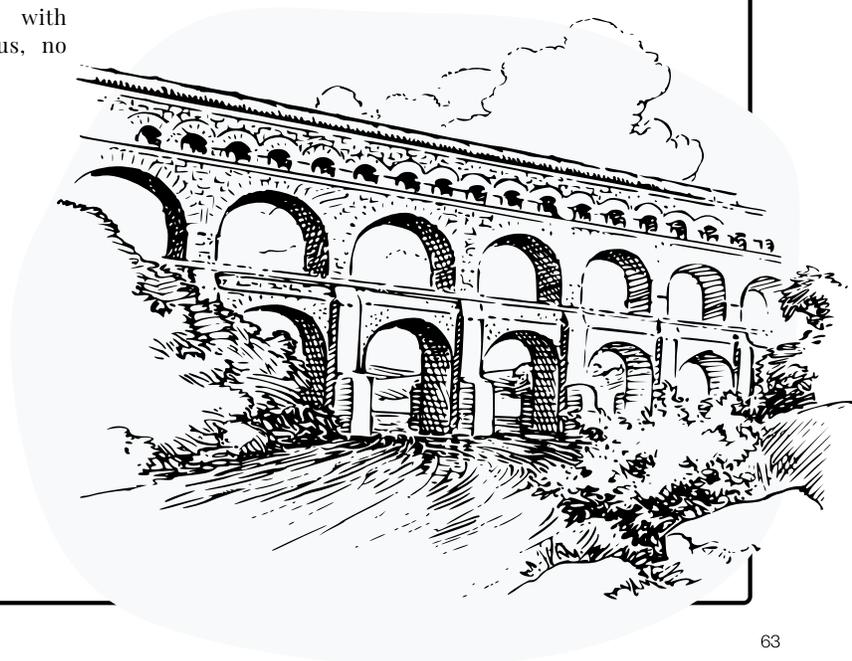
## Popular Stories

- ✓ Peter wrote the letter during Nero's emperorship. Nero was the Roman Emperor during the 60s AD, and he detested Christianity. He eventually did horrible things like throw Christians to lions to be eaten. He was addressing both Jews and Gentiles with encouragement to stay the course with Jesus, no matter what happened.

If you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

-1 Peter 2:3-

*God & Hope of  
the Oppressed*



# 2 Peter

*Sixty-First Book of the Holy Bible*  
*The 22nd out of 27 New Testament Books*  
*The 2nd Epistle by Peter*



**Written in:** Greek as *Pétros*



**Time Period of Events:** 67 AD



**Author:** Apostle Peter



**Written Around:** 67 AD



## Significance

Peter needed to achieve two things in this book. The first was to urge individuals not to tune in to false teachers. The second was to urge them to proceed in the confidence, regardless of what abuse they came into. He gave an incredible picture of the Day of the Lord when he said the paradise untruths would catch fire, however, we would be given another paradise and another earth.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ Peter seemed to have heard reports that false teachers had emerged in Asia Minor. He wrote the book mostly to discourage individuals from listening to them and continue to keep empowering them, in Christ. However, the time under Roman Emperor Nero had become more difficult on Christians. Consequently, he discussed the Lord's return and how amazing it would be if individuals would stay strong.

## Notable Verses

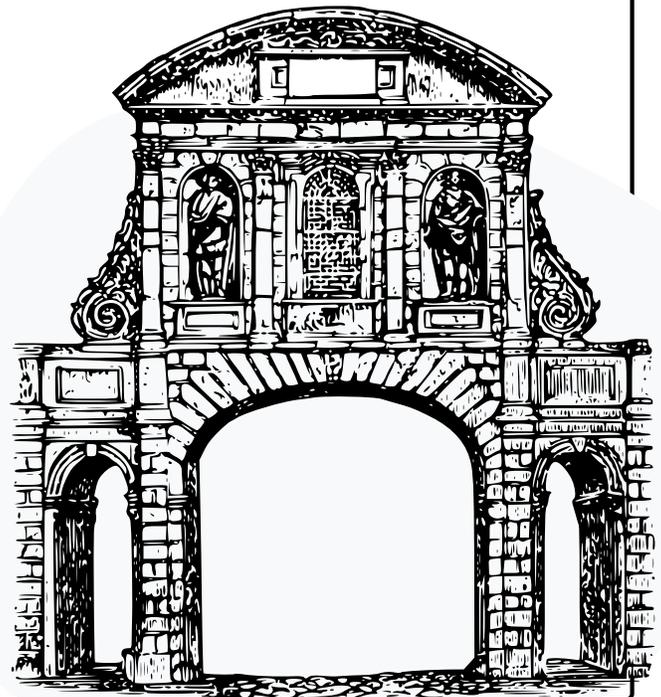
The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

-2 Peter 3:9-

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

-2 Peter 3:10-

*The Virtuous Gift  
of Patience*



# 1 John

*Sixty-Second Book of the Holy Bible  
The 23rd out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 1st Epistle by John*



**Written in:** Greek as *Giánnis*



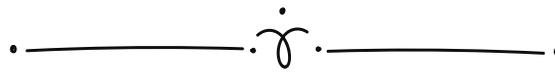
**Time Period of Events:** 90 AD



**Author:** Apostle John



**Written Around:** 90 to 95 AD



## Significance

John needed individuals to realize that adoration is generally significant. Love originates from God. At the point when we feel it, we realize that God is close. He additionally needed individuals to realize that it is significant not to tune in to false educators.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ 1 John was written to battle false teachings called "Gnosticism." Gnostics instructed that Jesus was a soul and never truly had a body and different blunders. Lessons like this made unevenness in devotees that could ruin their confidence.

## Notable Verses

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

-1 John 1:8-9-

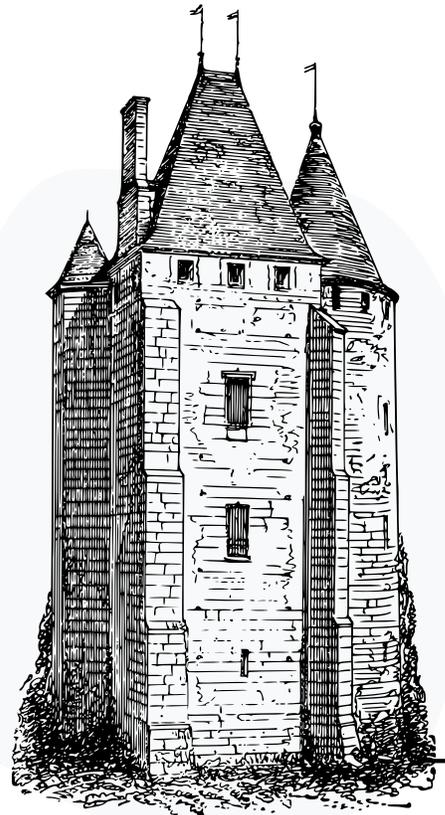
Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

-1 John 4:7-

The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

-1 John 4:8-

*God's Ultimate  
Power is Love*



# 2 John

*Sixty-Third Book of the Holy Bible  
The 24th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 2nd Epistle by John*



**Written in:** Greek as *Giánnis*



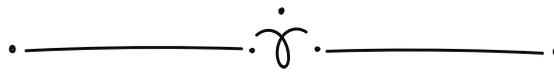
**Time Period of Events:** 90 AD



**Author:** Apostle John



**Written Around:** 90 to 95 AD



## Significance

2 John makes clear what our stand should be concerning the enemies of the truth, liars and escapist of truth. With 1 John focusing on our fellowship with God, 2 John focuses on protecting our fellowship from those who teach falsehood. The apostle committed time and effort to warning his readers against inviting false teachers into the house or even offering them a greeting. Such practices align the believer with the evildoer, and John was keen on keeping the believers pure from the stain of falsehood and heresy.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ In 2 John, he is addressing the same issue as 1 John but not much in detail. The letter's tone suggests that John is writing a letter to someone who wrote to him first. He is encouraging that woman in a general way, saying he hopes to see her soon and give her details in person.

## Notable Verses

And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.

-2 John 1:6-

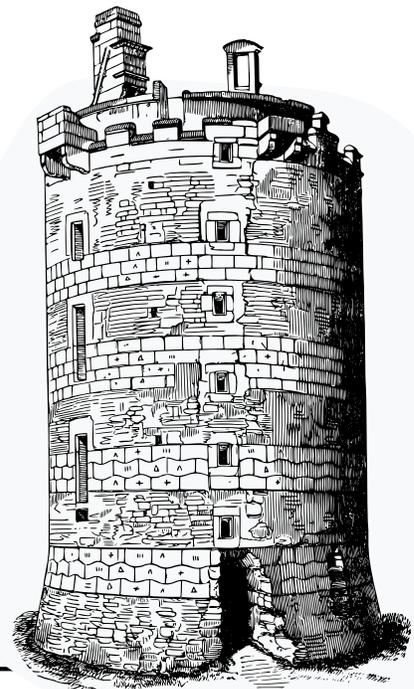
Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist.

-2 John 1:7-

Grace, mercy and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

-2 John 1:3-

*God Speaks  
Only of Truth*



# 3 John

*Sixty-Fourth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 25th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The 3rd Epistle by John*



**Written in:** Greek as *Giánnis*



**Time Period of Events:** 90 AD



**Author:** Apostle John



**Written Around:** 90 to 95 AD



## Significance

This book is a short letter to two individuals named Gaius and Demetrius. They had been loyal. John specifies having sent a past letter, one that isn't in our Bible.

Nonetheless, these wicked Diotrefes dismissed the letter out of pride. He may have made it into ashes and wouldn't leave individuals alone energized by John's message. In any case, John isn't unwavering in faith.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ John scolds a false teacher in this concise letter. He even called him by his name—Diotrefes. He blamed the man for having a major inner self and being a miscreant. The letter gives us that in any event, when the church was under 50 years of age, it had similar sorts of issues we have today with divisions and untruthfulness.

## Notable Verses

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

-3 John 1:4-

Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil but what is good.

-3 John 1:11-

Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.

-3 John 1:2 -

*God of Realization  
and Thinking*



# Jude

*Sixty-Fifth Book of the Holy Bible  
The 26th out of 27 New Testament Books  
The Only Epistle by Jude*



**Written in:** Greek as *Ioudaios*



**Time Period of Events:** 65 AD



**Author:** Jude



**Written Around:** 75 AD



## Significance

Jude's edgy brevity communicates the urgency of his notion that false teachers needed to be condemned and removed from the church. Few words meant that Jude would not waste space dancing around the issue. He saw within the church people and practices that were worthy of condemnation, including rejecting authority and seeking to please themselves. In response to these errors, Jude marshaled much biblical imagery to make clear what he thought of it all—anything from Cain killing his brother Abel to the punishment of the sinful people who populated Sodom and Gomorrah.

## Notable Verses

For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.

-Jude 1:4-

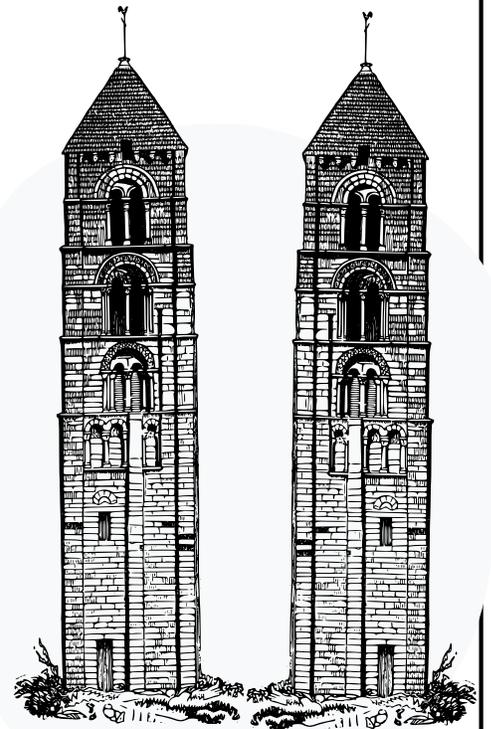
But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not himself dare to condemn him for slander but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

-Jude 1:9-

## Popular Stories

- ✓ The purpose of this book is to address false teachings. He uses the words in verse four, "For certain persons have crept in unnoticed." It is another attempt by an early church leader to keep errors out of believer's thinking.

## He Who Safeguards



# Revelation

*The Sixty-Sixth and Final Book of the Holy Bible  
The Last of All 27 New Testament Books  
The Apocalyptic Prophecy Presented to John*



**Written in:** Greek as *Apokalypsis*



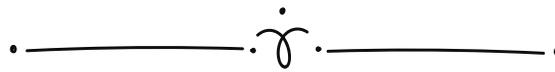
**Time Period of Events:** -



**Author:** Apostle the John



**Written Around:** Approx. 95 AD



## Significance

The book of Revelation provides the clearest biblical portrait of the events of the tribulation, dealing with the specifics of that terrible time. The tribulation will be a time of judgment, a time when those left on the earth after the rapture will suffer deeply for their lack of faith. John pictured this judgment as a series of twenty-one events—inaugurated by the breaking of seven seals, the blowing of seven trumpets, and the pouring out of seven bowls. This grand judgment on the sinfulness of humanity shows the seriousness with which God views sin—payment will be exacted from those not covered by the blood of Jesus Christ.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ The Book of Revelation is primarily addressing the end of times surrounding the coming of Jesus back here on Earth.
- ✓ It was a bible Book filled with extraordinary narratives.

## Notable Verses

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with them, and they with me.

-Revelation 3:20-

Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.

-Revelation 21:1-

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand.

-Revelation 20:1-

*He Who  
Safeguards*



# *Deuterocanonical*

**T**he seven books included in this volume are books from the era of the Old Testament that were not included in the Hebrew canon. The seven books include Tobit, Judith, Baruch, The Wisdom of Solomon, The Wisdom of Ben Sira, and 1 & 2 Maccabees. As mentioned, they are not included in the Hebrew canon or the Protestant Bible. To Protestants, they are considered “apocryphal” which means “hidden, concealed, or false and inauthentic.” Protestants do not consider the books to have the canonical authority or to be divinely inspired literature. Catholic and Orthodox Christians, on the other hand, do consider these books to be divinely inspired and retain them in their canons.

Whatever you feel about the inspiration of these books, they are undoubtedly valuable in the history, wisdom, and insight they provide. Tobit and Judith are fantastic stories that highlight the power and faithfulness of God. The Wisdom of Solomon and Ben Sira is very similar to Proverbs in that they contain nuggets of wisdom, and Baruch and 1 & 2 Maccabees provide valuable history into the intertestamental period of Jewish history.



# Tobit

*First Book of the Seven Deuterocanonical Books  
Found in the Catholic and Orthodox Old Testaments*



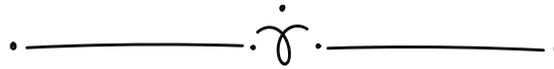
**Author:** Unknown



**Time Period of Events:** 722–700 BC



**Written Around:** 450 BC



## Significance

The story begins with the father of Tobit (whose name also was Tobit) having been exiled to Nineveh around 720 BC. The Assyrians invaded the northern kingdom of Israel in 722 BC and exiled the people to several other countries. The father Tobit had gone blind. In extreme poverty, both father and son continued to serve others and God. The father sent the son to the Media to try to recover a debt from an old friend. If the friend could be found and agreed to pay, the family would have money for food.

Tobit Jr. is accompanied by the angel Raphael, whom he thinks is simply a handsome and kind Ninevite. The angel sees him through many trials on the road, including the taking of a wife whose seven groomsmen had been killed by a demonic force. Raphael shows Tobias how to use fish entrails (guts) to drive away from the dark forces, and upon their successful return to Nineveh, how to use them to cure his father's ailing vision.

The book is great for teaching people how to behave while under stress. Tobit's example, similar to Job's, shows that God comes to the rescue and rewards those who love him and continue serving to share his love, even when trials come our way.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ **TOBIT SECRETLY BURIES BODIES**  
During one of the feast days, Tobit tells his son to go and invite others to the feast. In the process, Tobit Jr. discovers a person that had been murdered, and his body was left in the street. Tobit goes out to the body and gives it a proper burial. Because of this, the Assyrian king marked Tobit for death. However, Tobit continues to find defiled bodies and bury them in secret.
- ✓ **BLINDED BY BIRD POOP**  
After burying several bodies one day, Tobit goes inside, leans against the wall, and falls asleep. While he's sleeping, a swallow bird makes some droppings that fall into his eyes and leaves him blind. Tobit does not let this misfortune turn him away from God, however. He stands strong in his faith.
- ✓ **DEMON HUSBAND KILLERS**  
A woman named Sarah was continually being offered to different husbands, but before she could consummate the marriage with them they would be killed by a demon named Asmodeus. She lost seven husbands in this way. (Tobit 3:7-8)

## Notable Verses

"Then Tobit sighed, and he began to pray with tears, saying, "O Lord, you are just and all your judgments are just, and all your ways are mercy, and truth, and judgment. And now, O Lord, remember me, and do not take vengeance for my sins, and do not call to mind my offenses, nor those of my parents."

Tobit 3:1-3 CPDV

"Confess to the Lord with your good things, and bless the God of all ages, so that he may rebuild his tabernacle in you, and he may recall all the captives to you, and you may be glad in all ages and forever."

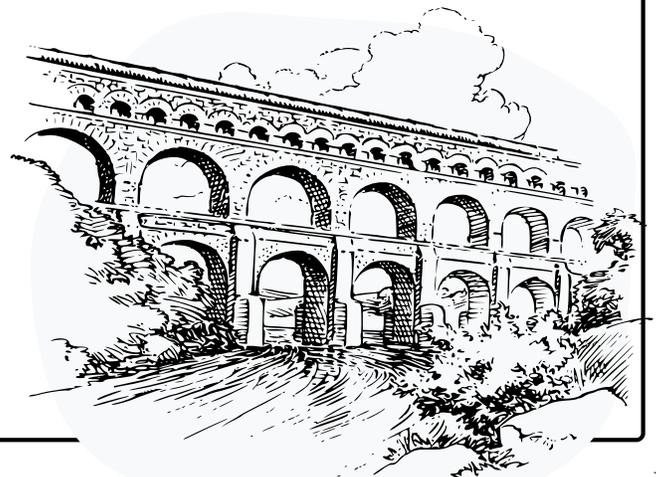
Tobit 13:12 CPDV

"Prayer with fasting is good, and almsgiving is better than hiding away gold in storage. For almsgiving delivers from death, and the same is what purges sins and makes one able to find mercy and everlasting life. But those who commit sin and iniquity are enemies to their own soul."

Tobit 12:8-10 CPDV

## Important Facts

- ✓ The Book of Tobit is also known as the *Book of Tobias*.
- ✓ This book introduces Angel Raphael by name.
- ✓ Five copies of this book were found around the Dead Sea Scrolls in the 1940s



# Judith

*Second Book of the Seven Deuterocanonical Books  
Found in the Catholic Old Testament*



**Author:** Unknown



**Time Period of Events:** 500 BC



**Written Around:** Unknown



## Significance

The book of Judith opens with some war history that is either fictional or poorly translated. In this story, King Nebuchadnezzar is the king of Assyria rather than king of Babylon, as he is in our Old Testament. He defeats many kingdoms. He destroyed countries, their shrines, and their gods, insisting they worship him as a god.

God's people surrounding Jerusalem were terrified. They had just returned from a 70-year exile to Babylon and were struggling to exist as a nation. Israel's leadership ordered people to fast and pray in the temple.

A warrior named Achior told the Assyrian army of the history of the Jews. He suggested they don't invade the Jews if they are innocent, because their God would seek revenge. Achior was ousted, having infuriated the military leaders, who placed him where the army thought Israel would kill him. But the Jews were grateful for his story and continued to pray.

The widow Judith enters the story after Nebuchadnezzar's army had cut off the people's water supply and they were collapsing in the streets. She begged the elders to continue to worship God and suggested that this was a test. She also asked to be released from the town to do something to the enemy she would not speak about. They agreed.

She executed a plan to deceive the Assyrian army commander, Holofernes, into thinking he could seduce her. When he drank so much that he passed out, she stabbed him twice, beheaded him, and sneaked his head out of the camp in a food satchel.

She returned to Judah with the head and told the army to attack the Assyrians. The Israelites drove the enemy back and defeated them. Judith lived long and was remembered fondly.

## Important Facts

- ✓ Many debates whether the story of Judith is factual.
- ✓ Most Catholics believe the story to be true because it was included in the Hebrew Bible that Jesus and his disciples read.
- ✓ Early leaders of the Church quoted the Book of Judith in their writing

## Notable Verses

"For your power, O Lord is not in numbers, nor is your will with the strength of horses, nor from the beginning have the arrogant been pleasing to you. But the pleas of the humble and the meek have always pleased you."

Judith 9:16 CPDV

"Blessed is the Lord, who made heaven and earth, who has guided you in harming the head of the leader of our enemies. For he has so magnified your name this day, that your praise will not retire from the mouth of men, who will be mindful of the power of the Lord forever, because you have risked your life for the sake of the distress and tribulation of your people, and you have prevented our ruin before the sight of our God."

Judith 13:24-25 CPDV

"Enter and awaken him, for the mice have come out of their holes, intending to challenge us to fight."

Judith 14:12 CPDV

## Popular Stories

### ✓ JUDITH SEDUCES TO KILL

Judith uses her feminine wiles to seduce and then destroy the enemy. She dresses herself up with fine clothes and jewels, bathes and washes, and then seduces the general of the Assyrian army. She is invited into his tent and gets him drunk before stabbing him and cutting off his head and delivering it to the king of Judah.

### ✓ ISRAEL'S STORY

An Assyrian warrior named Achior shares the story of Yahweh's intervention in Israel and how if Israel is faithful to Him, no army can overtake him. Nebuchadnezzar didn't like this because it suggested that there was a god more powerful than him. He sought to have Achior executed.

# Wisdom of *Solomon*

*Third Book of the Seven Deuterocanonical Books  
Found in the Catholic Old Testament*



**Author:** Unknown



**Time Period of Events:** Around 50 BC



**Written Around:** Last edits made around 50 BC



## *Significance*

The text divides into two main sections. The first part includes Chapters 1-10 and covers the theme of wisdom in many ways. The first section is written from the perspective of a king writing to other kings and teaches that ungodly living stands in contrast with wisdom.

## *Popular Stories*

- ✓ **No real stories in this book**, just a collection of wisdom sayings. One interesting feature is that there are many parallels within the book to sayings of Jesus in the New Testament, leading many scholars to believe Jesus absolutely had access to the book.

## *Important Facts*

- ✓ It was initially thought that Solomon wrote this book but was later disproven.
- ✓ It is very similar to Proverbs in that it is more a collection of sayings than a narrative.

## *Notable Verses*

“For the spirit of wisdom is benevolent, and will not release the evil speaker from his talk, because God is a witness of his temperament, and a true examiner of his heart, and an auditor of his words.”

Wisdom 1:6 CPDV

“Wisdom is better than power, and a prudent man is better than a powerful one.”

Wisdom 6:1 CPDV

“Though many are strong, you alone always overcome. And who will withstand the strength of your arm? For, like a tiny grain on a scale, just so is the world before you, and like a drop dew before dawn, which descends upon the earth. But you are merciful to all, because you can do all, and you dismiss the sins of man because of repentance. For you love all things that are, and you hate nothing of the things you have made; for you would not have created or established anything that you hated.”

Wisdom 11:22-25 CPDV



# Wisdom of *Ben Sira*

*Fourth Book of the Seven Deuterocanonical Books  
Found in the Catholic Old Testament*



**Author:** Ben Sirach



**Time Period of Events:** 200-180 BC



**Written Around:** 180-175 BC



## *Significance*

The contents of the Wisdom of Ben Sira are not easily divided into separate parts.

Chapters 1-43 deal largely with moral instruction. They sound a bit like Proverbs, only with more poetic sentencings. 44:1-50:24 contain a eulogy of the heroes of Israel, in the spirit of the writer of Hebrews who wrote about faith in Chapter 11. In the end, the author expresses his gratitude to God (51:1-12) and invites the unschooled to acquire true wisdom (51:13-30)

## *Popular Stories*

- ✓ This book is another one that is more a collection of sayings and maxims than a book with stories.
- ✓ The last half of the book recalls stories of famous Old Testament prophets and figures like Elijah, Moses, David, Joshua, etc.

## *Important Facts*

- ✓ This book was written by Ben Sira (Sirach) a wise man in Jerusalem.
- ✓ This book focuses on the value of Wisdom.

## *Notable Verses*

“The Word of God on high is the source of wisdom, whose steps are eternal commandments. To whom has the root of wisdom been revealed, and who has recognized her astuteness? To whom has the discipline of wisdom been revealed and made manifest? And who has understood the multiplicity of her steps? The highest omnipotent Creator is One, and he is the mighty King, and he is exceeding to be feared, sitting upon his throne, and he is the sovereign God.”

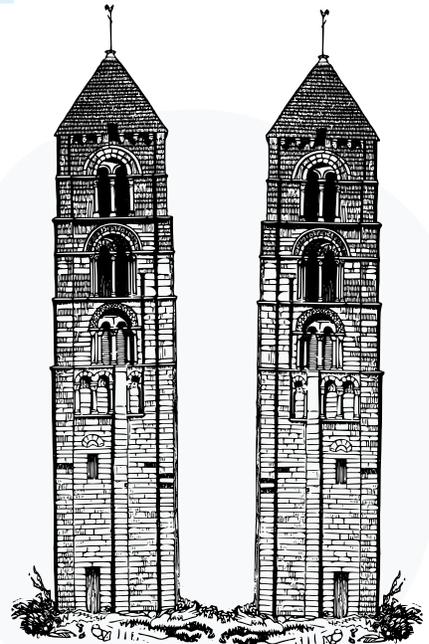
Sirach 1:5-8 CPDV

“Blessed is the man who has not slipped because of a word from his mouth, and who has not been stung by grief because of an offense.”

Sirach 14:1 CPDV

“The bee is small among flying things, but its fruit holds the summit of sweetness.”

Sirach 11:3 CPDV



# Baruch

*Fifth Book of the Seven Deuterocanonical Books  
Found in the Catholic Old Testament*



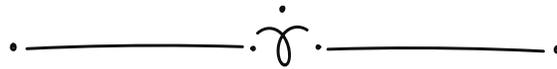
**Author:** Baruch



**Time Period of Events:** 586-582 BC



**Written Around:** 582 BC



## Significance

The work attempts to explain the trauma of the Great Exile in terms of cycles of Israel's sins: punishment, repentance, and return. It is divided into four sections:

- Letter to Jerusalem (1:1 to 3:8)-In this letter, Baruch offers a confession that applies to all the exiled citizens of the southern kingdom of Judah. It is likely that by hearing it and saying it aloud, the people were able to conceive collectively of the weight of their sins.
- Praise of wisdom (3:9 to 4:4)-Baruch starts by saying how much the people have lost by not seeking wisdom and then goes into praise of those who change their ways to seek it.
- A series of addresses meant to console the people, including Baruch addressing the exiles in Babylon; Jerusalem addresses its neighboring countries and then addresses the people in exile, and finally, Baruch addresses those who remain in Jerusalem;
- Letter of Jeremiah (6:1-72), supposedly from the great prophet. The chapter is a fantastic encouragement of why people should not worship other gods.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ This book is another one that is more a collection of sayings and maxims than a book with stories.
- ✓ The last half of the book recalls stories of famous Old Testament prophets and figures like Elijah, Moses, David, Joshua, etc.

## Notable Verses

“And I will establish for them a new and everlasting covenant so that I will be their God and they will be my people. And I will no longer move my people, the sons of Israel, out of the land which I have given them.”

Baruch 2:35 CPDV

“Listen, O Lord, and be merciful, for you are a merciful God, and so be merciful to us, for we have sinned before you. For you are enthroned in eternity, but we will pass away in time.”

Baruch 3:2-3 CPDV

“Arise, O Jerusalem, and stand in exaltation, and look around towards the east, and see your sons, gathering together, from the rising of the sun to the setting of the sun, by the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the remembrance of God.”

Baruch 5:5 CPDV

## Important Facts

- ✓ Baruch was a scribe to Jeremiah, a major prophet in the Old Testament
- ✓ The oldest copies of this book are in Greek since the Hebrew copies were lost

# 1 Maccabees

*Six Book of the Seven Deuterocanonical Books  
Found in the Catholic Old Testament*



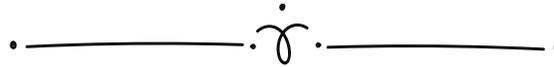
**Author:** Palestinian Jew



**Time Period of Events:** 167 – 142 BC



**Written Around:** 100 BC



## Significance

The book gives an overview of the history behind the revolt. Then, several sections cover the battles of the Maccabean father and his warrior sons Judas, Jonathan, and Simon, each one taking up the cause after the previous was martyred.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ **ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES DEFILES THE TEMPLE**  
One of the precipitating issues of the Maccabean Wars was that Antiochus Epiphanes, the Greek king desecrated the Temple by sacrificing a pig on the altar, erecting an altar to Zeus, and destroying all of the sacred vessels and writings. In the narrative, this was the last straw for Judah Maccabee and his cohorts.
- ✓ The festival of Hanukkah comes from this story. After Judah defeats the Greek army and restores the Temple, he wanted to keep the menorah lit every day. However, even though there was not enough oil to keep it lit, it stayed lit for seven days. This is the origin of the festival of Hanukkah.

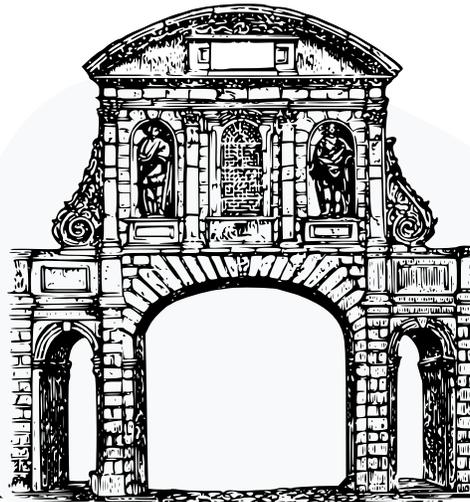
## Notable Verses

“And Mattathias exclaimed with a loud voice in the city, saying, “All who hold zeal for the law, maintaining the covenant, let them follow me.”  
1 Maccabees 2:27 CPDV

“And Judas said: “It is easy for many to be enclosed in the hands of a few, for there is no difference in the sight of the God of heaven to liberate by means of many, or by means of few. For victory in warfare is not in the multitude of the army, but in the strength from heaven.”  
1 Maccabees 3:18-19 CPDV

## Important Facts

- ✓ The book covers the Jewish revolt led by the Maccabee father lasting over 20 years.
- ✓ Although titled 1 Maccabees and 2 Maccabees the books were authored by different people- Five copies of this book were found among the Dead Sea Scrolls in the 1940s.



# II Maccabees

*Seventh Book of the Seven Deuterocanonical Books  
Found in the Catholic Old Testament*



**Author:** An Alexandrian Jewish Pharisee



**Time Period of Events:** ~161 BC



**Written Around:** 123 - 100 BC



## Significance

The book opens with the horrific martyrdom of a woman and her seven sons who refused to eat pork while on display in some sort of pagan court. A scribe name Eleazar had likewise been killed by unspeakable violence for the same reason. The book uses these and other horrific tales to illustrate what faithful Jews were willing to go through to defend their faith. It was meant to serve as an example for suffering Jews in all eras.

## Popular Stories

- ✓ Rather than focusing on the military exploits within the Maccabean revolts, 2 Maccabees focuses on God's intervention. The story is still focused on Judah Maccabees and how God used him to deliver his people.
- ✓ A man named Heliodorus from the king's army occupied the temple and was prepared to remove the sacred vessels. While he was attempting to do this, an angel on a horse appeared in golden armor with two other angels and beat Heliodorus badly. He was later told that his life was spared because of the intercession of Onias, the high priest.
- ✓ A mother with seven sons was captured and forced to eat pork. The sons declared that they would rather die than be defiled in this way. Each of the sons was tortured and killed for their rebellion, concluding with the mother.

## Notable Verses

"So then, I beg those who will read this book, let them not be repelled by these adverse events, but let them consider that these things happened, not for the destruction, but for the correction, of our people."

2 Maccabees 6:12 CPDV

"May God be gracious to you, and may he remember his covenant, which was spoken to Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, his faithful servants. And may he give all of you the heart to worship him, and to do his will, with a great heart and a willing soul. May he throw open your heart with his law and with his precepts, and may he create peace."

2 Maccabees 1:2-4 CPDV

## Important Facts

- ✓ This book was written in Greek-It is not a sequel to 1 Maccabees. Rather, it is a summary of another work by Jason of Cyrene.
- ✓ There was at one time a 3 Maccabees.
- ✓ The Catholic Church has based its doctrines of both purgatory and masses for the dead on the text with 2 Maccabees

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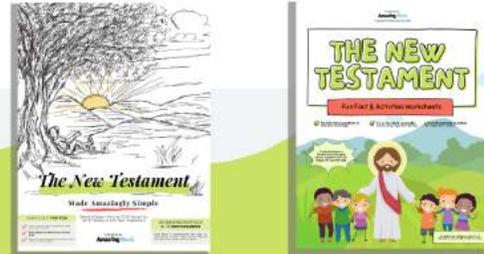


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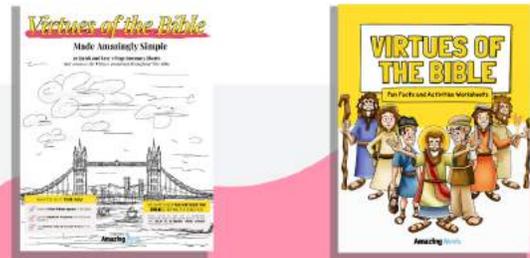


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