

OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

Table listing Old Testament books and their chapters, such as Genesis (1-2 Creation, 3-4 Fall, 6-9 Noah, 11 Tower of Babel, 12-25 Abraham, 21-27 Isaac, 25-36 Jacob, 37-50 Joseph), Exodus (1 Oppression in Egypt, 2-4 Birth and call of Moses, 7-11 The 10 plagues in Egypt, 12-13 Exodus from Egypt, 14-19 Journey to Mount Sinai, 20 The 10 Commandments, 21-31 Laws and regulations, 32 The Golden Calf, 33-34 Renewal of the covenant, 35-40 The Tabernacle), Leviticus (1-7 Laws regarding offerings, 8-9 Ordination of Aaron, 11-15 Laws of purity, 16 The Day of Atonement, 17-27 Laws and regulations), Numbers (1-10 Census of the people, 11-21 Leaving Sinai, 22-24 Balaam, 25-36 Journey to the area east of Jordan), Deuteronomy (1-4 Historical review and exhortations, 5-11 Reminders about the covenant, 12-26 Various laws, warnings, 27-30 Curses and blessings, 31-34 Moses' final farewell).

Table listing key figures and events in the Old Testament, including Joshua (1-5 Preparations for the conquest, 6-12 Conquest of Canaan, 13-22 Distribution of land, 23-24 Joshua's farewell), Judges (1 The conquest, 2-16 Birth of Judges, 17-21 Religious and moral disorder), Ruth (The story of Ruth), 1 Samuel (1-8 Samuel as judge, 9-15 Saul, 16 David anointed, 17 David and Goliath, 18-30 Saul persecutes David, 28/31 Saul's defeat), 2 Samuel (1-24 David as king, 7 God's covenant with David), 1 Kings (1-2 Death of David, 3-11 Solomon as king, 12-16 Kingdom divided, 17-22 Prophet Elijah), Nehemiah (1-7 Walls rebuilt, 8-13 Renewal of religious life), and Ezra (1 Persian king Cyrus, 2-6 Rebuilding of Temple, 7-10 Ezra's work in Jerusalem).

Table listing the 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles books. 2 Kings (1-2 Elijah, 3-8 Prophet Elisha, 9-16 Short accounts of kings, 17 Israel's fall, 18-23 Kings of Judah, 24-25 Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar conquers Jerusalem). 2 Chronicles (1-9 Reign of Solomon, 10-36 History of kings of Judah), and The EXILE IN BABYLON 587-538 B.C.

Table listing Psalms and other books. Psalms (1-22 Introductory, 23-39 Lamentations, 40-73 Songs of David, 74-89 Psalms of David, 90-106 Royal Psalms, 107-139 Lamentations, 140-150 Prayers). Esther (1-2 Persian queen is deposed, 3-8 Plot to destroy Jews, 9-10 Triumph of Jews). Job (1-2 Prologue, 3-37 Dialogues, 38-41 The Lord speaks, 42 Job's confession). Ecclesiastes (1-12 Introduction to 'everything is meaningless'). Proverbs (A collection of wise sayings).

Table listing major prophets. Jeremiah (1-25 Callings, 26-29 Warnings, 30-35 Sufferings, 36-45 Promises, 46-51 Judgment, 52 Fall of Jerusalem). Lamentations (Written around 587 B.C.). Ezekiel (1-3 Calling, 4-24 Warnings, 25-32 Judgment, 33-39 Consolation, 40-48 Visions). Daniel (1-6 Story, 7-12 Visions).

THE PSALMS. Psalms of praise: 29, 33, 65, 66, 89A, 95A, 100, 103, 111, 113, 117, 135, 136, 144-150. Psalms of creation: 8, 19A, 104, 139, 148. Psalms of trust: 5, 16, 17, 23, 25, 26, 27, 40, 41, 62, 63, 67, 71, 85, 91, 108, 118, 121. Psalms of thanksgiving: 68, 107, 124, 126. Psalms of wisdom and teaching: 1, 19B, 34B, 37, 39A, 49, 50, 52, 53, 58, 73, 75, 81, 82, 90, 101, 112, 115, 119, 127, 133, 139. Psalms of distress and prayer for deliverance: 44, 60, 74, 79, 80, 83, 89B. Psalms of repentance: 6, 32, 38, 51, 130, 143. Psalms used in pilgrimages to Jerusalem: 15, 24, 120, 134. Psalms of Zion (Jerusalem): 46, 48, 76, 84, 87, 122.

If you are unfamiliar with the Old Testament, it might be a good idea to start your reading with these books:

WHAT IS GOD LIKE? HE IS ...

Table describing God's attributes with biblical references: Unchangeable (Hebr 1:10-12), Full of grace (Eph 2:4-10), Near the lowly (Isa 57:15), Performs miracles (Psalm 86:10), Lord of peace (2 Thess 3:16), God of all comfort (2 Cor 1:3-5), A consuming fire (Hebr 12:28f), Immortal and invisible (1 Tim 6:15f), God of history (Dan 2:20-22), Forgives (1 John 1:9), Hates evil (Isa 61:8), Receives our complaints (Psalm 13), Creator (Gen 1), The only God (Isa 43:10-13), Faithful (Ex 34:6), Full of love (Psalm 86:5,15), Our Father (Isa 63:16), Holy (Psalm 99), Eternal (Deut 3:27), Righteous (Psalm 98), Almighty (1 Chron 29:10-13), Beyond comparison (Psalm 139:1-18), Visible in Jesus (John 14:8-11), Full of care (Psalm 23), Judge of all (Isa 33:22), Friend of sinners (Luke 15:10,21-24), Triune (Mat 28:19).

This overview shows only a very small part of what the Bible reveals about God.

WHERE DO I FIND ...?

Table showing where to find specific concepts: The Ten Commandments (Exod 20:1-17), The Priestly Blessing (Num 6:24-26), The Lord is my shepherd (Psalm 23), The Psalm of repentance (Psalm 51), The Suffering Servant (Isaiah 53), The Sermon on the Mount (Mat 5:1-12), Our Lord's Prayer (Mat 6:9-13), The Golden Rule (Mat 7:12), The Great Commission (Mat 28:18-20), The Greatest Commandment (Mark 12:29-31), The Christmas Story (Luke 2:1-20).

LIFE TRANSFORMATION. «The Word of God was not given to us to increase our knowledge, but to transform our lives.» (Unknown)

PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

Table of prophecies about Jesus: Micah 5:1 (Born in Bethlehem), Isaiah 9:6 (Mighty and everlasting), Isaiah 7:14 (Born of a virgin), Genesis 49:10 (From the tribe of Judah), Jeremiah 31:15 (Herod's child murders), Hosea 11:1 (Escape to Egypt), Zechariah 9:9 (Cleansing of the temple), Zechariah 9:9 (Entry into Jerusalem), Zechariah 9:9 (Thirty silver coins), Isaiah 53:7 (Silent before accusers), Isaiah 53:12 (Paying for enemies), Psalm 22:18 (Casting lots for clothing), Isaiah 53:9 (In a rich man's tomb), Isaiah 53:4-12 (Suffered and died for our sins).

OTHER PROPHECIES (see cross-references in the Bible for each verse): Deuteronomy 18:15+18, Isaiah 11:1-5, Isaiah 42:1-4, Isaiah 50:6, Isaiah 61:1f, Jeremiah 23:5f, Zechariah 12:10, Daniel 7:13f

WHO IS JESUS?

Table of titles for Jesus: The Good Shepherd (John 10:11), The Image of God (2 Cor 4:4), Lamb of God (John 1:29), The Way (John 14:6), Prince of Peace (Isa 9:6), The Word (John 1:1+14), Rock (1 Cor 10:4), Lord of Glory (1 Cor 2:8), Mighty God (Isa 9:6), The Holy One (Acts 3:14), The Righteous One (Rom 11:26), Deliverer (Luke 1:32), Our Life (Col 3:4), Redeemer (Job 19:25), Author of Life (Acts 3:15), Alpha and Omega (Rev 22:13), The Life (John 14:6), Light of the World (John 8:12), Bread of Life (John 6:35), The Truth (John 14:6), Wonderful Counsellor (Isa 9:6), The Living One (Rev 5:5), Mediator (1 Tim 2:5), True God (1 John 5:20), King of Israel (John 1:49), Lord and Saviour (2 Pet 2:20), The Cornerstone (Eph 2:20), Word of Life (1 John 1:1), Author and Perfecter of our faith (Heb 12:2).

WELL-KNOWN PARABLES OF JESUS

Table of parables from the Gospels: Matthew (Salt and light, Two house builders, Sower and soils, Mustard seed, Yeast, Treasure and Pearl, Net and fish, Unmerciful servant, Workers in vineyard, Two sons, Tenants, Wedding banquet, Ten virgins, Talents, Sheep and goats). Luke (Money-lender, Good Samaritan, Rich fool, Great banquet, Cost of discipleship, Lost sheep, Lost coin, Lost prodigal son, Shrewd manager, Rich man and Lazarus, Persistent widow, Pharisee and tax collector). John (Good shepherd, Vine and branches).

A GOOD IDEA: You can keep the leaflet permanently in your Bible by sticking the front page of this leaflet to the inside of the cover of the Bible.

WHAT HAPPENED ON THE CROSS?

Table of theological concepts: REDEMPTION (=LIBERATION) - Jesus bought us from slavery to sin and the Devil (1 Cor 6:20, Eph 1:7, 1 Pet 1:18f). SACRIFICE - Jesus was sacrificed for us as the Lamb of God (1 Cor 5:7, Eph 5:2, Heb 9:27f). RECONCILIATION - Friendship with God is restored (Rom 5:10). ADOPTION - God receives us as his children (Rom 8:15-17).

ABBREVIATIONS IN THIS LEAFLET: 7:3f = v. 3+following verse - 7:3ff = v. 3+several verses 19A: First half of chapter 19 - 19B: Second half of chapter 19 Ps: Psalms - Isa: Isaiah - Lam: Lamentations - Mat: Matthew 66 books: 39 in the OT and 27 in the NT - 1189 chapters - 31 173 verses Chapter in the middle of the Bible: Psalm 118 - Shortest verses: John 11:35 - 1 Thess 5:17 Shortest chapter: Psalm 117 - Longest chapter: Psalm 119

