

The Basics About the Bible
Congregational Worksheet – Wednesday, February 20, 2008

This worksheet was created by Pastor Kincaid to help you complete and keep structured notes during the corresponding sermon. To fill in the blanks of this worksheet listen to Pastor Kincaid's sermon from the date noted in the header of this worksheet. The sermon MP3 audio can be streamed or downloaded from the sermons page of the church website at <http://www.goshenfirstag.org/sermons.php>.

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First, let's start with some Fundamental Facts about The Word of God...

1. The Bible was written in ___ major languages.

The Old Testament was written in _____.

The New Testament was written in _____.

2. It was written by approximately _____ different authors.

Most of these men held different _____ and came from different backgrounds.

They even lived on ___ different _____.

Some of these men who even lived during the same time period, never even met each other.

3. It was written over a time period of _____ years.

Dr. Charles Pahlman said that The Bible is amazing in it's unity as a contextual whole because it displays...

One _____, which is sin.

One _____, which is salvation.

One _____, which is Christ.

One _____, which is to glorify God.

The Bible has been proven to be both _____ reliable and _____ accurate.

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****For instance...***

The Bible taught that the earth is a sphere, when science claimed it was flat.

The Bible taught that the ocean floor contains deep valleys and mountains, when science taught that the oceans floor was flat.

In 1929, archaeologist Dr. John Garstang excavated the ruins of ancient city of Jericho. In doing so he found that the walls were built as double walls with houses existing in the middle of them. *This explains how Rahab's house could have been built on a wall.*

He also discovered that the walls of the city were destroyed by some sort of violent convulsion, just as The Bible describes, and that when they fell they fell flat, as if they were pushed down from the inside out, rather than the outside in.

The Bible is broken into _____ major sections, which are called the _____ and _____ testaments.

The _____ given to God's word of "The Bible" came from the Greek words *biblos* and *biblion*, which mean "book" of "little books".

It was given that title because The Bible is a book that is made up of _____ smaller books.

The Old Testament consists of _____ books.

And The New Testament consists of _____ books.

That's why it is sometimes referred to as The Divine _____.

Both The Old Testament has been broken into _____ different sections, and The New Testament has been broken into _____ different sections.

***The Old Testament is divided as follows...**

1. The 5 books of The _____.

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.

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2. The 9 books of _____.
Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Ester.

3. The 5 books of _____.
Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.

4. The 5 books of The _____ Prophets.
Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, and Daniel.

5. The 12 books of The _____ Prophets.
Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkak, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.

***The New Testament is divided as follows...**

1. The 4 books of The _____.
Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

2. The 1 book of _____.
The Acts of The Apostles.

3. The 9 _____ epistles.
Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, and 2 Thessalonians.

4. The 4 _____ epistles.
1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon.

5. The 7 _____ epistles.
James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, and Jude.

6. The book of _____ . *Revelation.*

***Next, lets look at how different books of The Bible were chosen.**

The process by which the different books of The Bible were compiled is termed as the canonization of The Bible.

The word canon means: “A rule, a standard, a means to measure”.

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There were _____ absolute standards that were put in place during this process, which are as follows....

1. Apostolicity. Was the book the product of an _____ or a close associate of an apostle?

2. Universality. Was the book widely _____ and used in the overwhelming majority of Churches?

That means that they were careful to make sure that things such as cultural traditions and personal opinions did not become taught as doctrine.

3. Contents. Did the subject matter of the book appear to be _____ with the whole of scripture?

That means that they made certain that no one part of a given book contradicted with another in any way.

4. Inspiration. Did the book bear the qualities that _____ it being Divinely inspired?

***Those are some very Fundamental Facts about The Word of God...**

But now lets look at 4 other very important things concerning The Bible that are more Theological in nature.

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#1. The Inspiration of The Bible.

The Bible itself directly claims that it is divinely inspired by God.

The term "...and God said" or it's equivalent is used more than 2600 times in The Old Testament alone!

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is given **by inspiration of God**, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

2Pe 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were **moved by the Holy Ghost**.

The word _____ means: To breathe upon.

Webster defines it as "the supernatural divine influence that qualified the writer of The Bible and enabled them to communicate the truth of God"

The word _____ means: To be carried along.

*A good way to illustrate what that definition is speaking of is when you throw an object in a river and it is swept away with the current.

It is being "moved" by another power.

And that is exactly what happened to the human writers of The Bible.

The fact that The Scriptures are inspired by God Himself is absolutely essential to The Christian faith. If they are not Divinely inspired then they are _____ than any other book.

But because they are Divinely inspired, that means that they are... _____ and _____.

Making them the absolute rule for all Christian conduct and making them incapable of any type of error.

They are incapable of misleading, deceiving, or disappointing.

The Bible is the work of God, not the work of man. And this fact can be proven in a number of different ways, such as, through prophecy, through historical accuracy, and through scientific fact.

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#2. The Revelation of The Bible.

In The Book of Romans chapter one, The Bible describes two ways that God has revealed Himself to mankind. It says...

Rom 1:19 Because that which may be known of God is **manifest in them**; for God hath **showed it** unto them.

That means that God has reveal Himself *externally* through _____
and *internally* through _____.

But the most direct way that He has revealed what he desires and expects of man is through His Word. This is referred to theologically as _____
_____.

Through His Word, or His “special revelation”, we find such glorious truths as the redemption of man, divine healing, the rapture of The Church, the millennial reign, and doctrine of heaven.

This “special revelation” given to us in His Word, provides us with written and _____ accounts of His entire plan for mankind.

Through The Bible, God has revealed to us everything that we need to know in order to be found acceptable to Him.

Notice what we are taught in 2 Timothy 3:17...

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

2Ti 3:17 That the man of God **may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.**

That verse is telling us that The Scriptures _____ us with everything we need to live a entirely holy lifestyle.

The word “thoroughly” means: To be complete in *all* aspects.

The word “furnish” means: To equip in *every* detail.

So this verse is saying that by God giving us His Word, He has given us all the principles and provisions that are needed to be found _____
in all every aspect of our spiritual lives.

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#3. The Illumination of The Bible.

Illumination of The Bible is speaking of the act of God that enables the human mind to _____ the truth of God’s Word.

It is the very thing that Luke is speaking of in his gospel when he said,
Luk 24:45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures,

*It was once said by the catholic church that The Bible should never be translated into the common language of the people because it would be grossly misunderstood and left to perverted interpretations.

**For example:*

Mat 5:29 And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell. **Mat 5:30** And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell.

They believed that if _____ would attempt to read these types of verses, they would only harm themselves because their stupidity would not allow them to grasp it’s true meaning.

They maintained that the *only* people that could be capable of interpreting The Bible correctly were their own approved and chosen “learned scholars”.

But what they were _____ to realize is the fact that The Bible teaches that when a person is born again, they become a spiritual being, completely capable within themselves through their _____ relationship with God to read and understand every word of truth that’s found in His Word.

Spiritual Illumination is the work of _____, and is spoken of in,

1Co 2:13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, **but which the Holy Ghost teacheth**; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

1Co 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: **neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.** 1Co 2:15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things...

That word “judgeth” means: To investigate and come to a conclusion.