

When you open the Gospel of John it will look something like this:

## John

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in

the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

When we read from the Bible, the name of the book comes first, then the chapter, and then the verse, as in this example:

*In John 1:4-5 (John chapter 1, verses 4 and 5), the word "light" refers to Christ, because the Bible says in another place that Christ is "the light of the world".*

- ◆ There are many translations and versions of the original text.
- ◆ The section from John's Gospel above, is from the New International Version of the Bible. This is known as the NIV.
- ◆ Most Bibles have two columns on each page.
- ◆ The large number 1 at the beginning means chapter 1.
- ◆ Small numbers (as in <sup>2</sup>, <sup>3</sup> and <sup>4</sup>) are the verse numbers.



***The Bible — God's  
word to all  
people for all times***

***The Bible — God's  
blueprint  
for you and me***

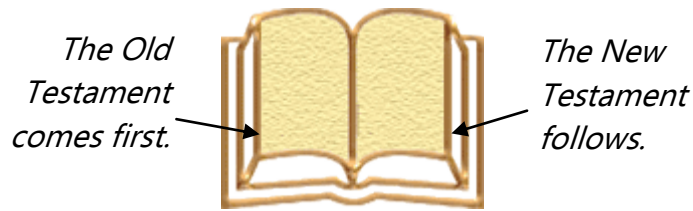
***The Bible —  
a collection of books  
40 inspired writers***

***The Bible —  
without error: it is the  
word of God***

***The Bible —  
written over a period  
of 1500 years***

***The Bible —  
its central theme is  
Jesus Christ***

While the Bible is one book, it has two major divisions. These are called the *Old Testament* and the *New Testament*.



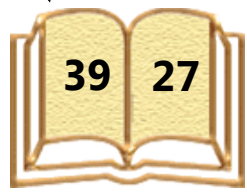
Each testament has divisions also. There are 39 books in the *Old Testament*, and 27 in the *New Testament*.

### OLD TESTAMENT

- Genesis, Exodus
- Leviticus, Numbers
- Deuteronomy
- Joshua, Judges, Ruth
- 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel
- 1 Kings, 2 Kings
- 1 Chronicles
- 2 Chronicles, Ezra
- Nehemiah, Esther
- Job, Psalms,
- Proverbs
- Ecclesiastes
- Song of Songs
- Isaiah, Jeremiah
- Lamentations, Ezekiel
- Daniel, Hosea, Joel
- Amos, Obadiah
- Jonah, Micah, Nahum
- Habakkuk, Zephaniah
- Haggai, Zechariah,
- Malachi

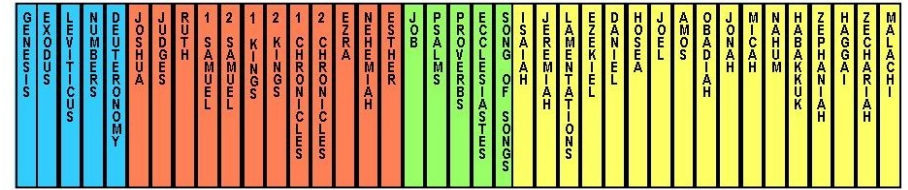
### NEW TESTAMENT

- Matthew, Mark
- Luke, John
- Acts
- Romans
- 1 Corinthians
- 2 Corinthians
- Galatians
- Ephesians
- Philippians
- Colossians
- 1 Thessalonians
- 2 Thessalonians
- 1 Timothy
- 2 Timothy
- Titus, Philemon
- Hebrews, James
- 1 Peter, 2 Peter
- 1 John, 2 John
- 3 John
- Jude
- Revelation



There are **66 books** in the Bible

The *Old Testament* begins with creation and ends four hundred years before Jesus was born. It records God's relationship with the nation of Israel. The books in the *Old Testament* can be grouped in categories:



● Books of Moses ● Books of History ● Books of Poetry ● Books of Prophecy

The *New Testament* begins with the record of the birth of Jesus and finishes with future events. The books in the *New Testament* can also be grouped:



● Gospels ● History ● Letters ● Future

The four Gospels, *Matthew, Mark, Luke* and *John*, record the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, his teaching, and miracles that he did.

The book known as *Acts* tells of the early days of the church. It follows the apostles during a period of about thirty years.

There are twenty-one letters which were written to early churches and believers. They include teaching and practical instructions for daily living.

The final book, *Revelation*, looks to a day when Christ will reign over all. It records events that will take place on earth and in heaven.