What is the Bible?

By Samuel Green

What is the Bible?

The Bible is the holy book of Christians. The word 'Bible' comes from the Greek word 'biblia' which means 'books'.

The Bible is not one book but a collection of many books from many prophets. It contains the Law of Moses (Torah), the Psalms of David (Zabur), the books of Solomon, the books of the prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi, and others. It has the Gospel (Injeel) of Jesus recorded by Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, and the writings of the apostles of Jesus.

THE BIBLE			
Old Testament			New Testament
Law of Moses	The Books of the Prophets	The Psalms	The Gospel & Apostles
<---------- c. 1500 years ---------->			

There is no other book like the Bible. It is amazing and unique.

Why do Christians have all these books in the Bible?

Christians accept all the prophets and make no distinction between them, therefore, they have all these books in the Bible so they can read them. God has spoken to us through many prophets. Their books build on each other and they are meant to be read together, and together they give us God's complete message. What Christians believe about God comes from reading all of the books of the prophets.

When Jesus and his disciples taught the Gospel they also taught from the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.

When the first people from many nations became Christians they too started to read the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms as well as the Gospel. Even today, when someone becomes a Christian they are taught to read all of the prophets along with the Gospel. In Christian churches, the books of the prophets are publicly read and taught. Wherever Christianity has gone it has taken the books of the prophets and translated them so that their message can be known in all the world.

Honouring the Prophets

Do you want to honour and love the prophets? The most important way to honour a prophet is to listen to them. You may say you believe all the prophets but if you don't read them you don't honour them. It is not what you say that matters, it is what you do.

Do you want to know God's message? If so, then learn from all of the books of the prophets. Do not let anyone mislead you and turn you away from the books of the prophets of God. Do not listen to anyone who says, "Don't read the prophets, just listen to me."

These prophets are available for you to read today in your language. Ask a Christian for a copy of the Bible or search for it online.

Would you like to say this prayer to God?

Almighty God, thank you for speaking to us through your prophets. Please help me to listen to all of them.

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