

A Brief Overview of the Bible

The Old Testament

The New Testament

Pentateuch	Historical Books	Poetry & Wisdom Literature	Prophets
Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy	Joshua Judges Ruth 1&2 Samuel 1&2 Kings 1&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
Pentateuch means “five volumes.” These books include mostly narrative stories as well as the Law that God gave Israel.	These books contain narratives that follow Israel’s up-and-down history.	What these works have in Common is their artistic form. They incorporate poetic or proverbial elements.	The prophets lived during Israel’s history. They were God’s Spokespersons who challenged the rebellious people to turn back to God.

Gospels & Acts	Pauline Letters	General Letters	Apocalyptic Literature
Matthew Mark Luke John Acts	Romans 1&2 Corinthians Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians 1&2 Thessalonians 1&2 Timothy Titus Philemon	Hebrews James 1&2 Peter 1,2&3 John Jude	Revelation
These historical accounts follow Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection, and the rise of the early church	Paul’s letters were written to individuals or churches and often explain the nature of the Christian life	These Letters were written by others and often focus on the church in general	Apocalyptic literature uses vivid imagery and cosmic narrative to portray God’s ultimate consummation of history – a vision of the future that gives hope in the present