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The Bible- what's in it

- The Bible is divided into two main sections. The first is what is commonly known as the Old Testament, but should rightly be called the Jewish Scriptures. While the second is the New Testament, or the Christian Scriptures.
- The words of Old and New have fallen out of favor amongst Biblical scholars because they seem to suggest that Judaism is no longer relevant. CCC 123

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The Bible- what's in it

- We can further divide the Scriptures-
 - Jewish Scriptures
 - Torah (also known as the Pentateuch)
 - History
 - Prophets
 - Wisdom

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The Bible- what's in it

- The Torah (also know by its Greek name: Pentateuch)
 - Genesis
 - Exodus
 - Leviticus
 - Numbers
 - Deuteronomy

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The Bible- what's in it

The Historical books-	The Historical books-
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joshua• Judges• Ruth• 1st & 2nd Samuel• 1st & 2nd Kings• 1st & 2nd Chronicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ezra• Nehemiah• Tobit• Judith• Esther• 1st & 2nd Maccabees

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The Bible- what's in it

The Wisdom Books

- Job
- Psalms
- Proverbs
- Ecclesiastes
- Song of Songs
- Wisdom
- Sirach

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The Bible- what's in it

The Prophetic Books	The Prophetic Books
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Isaiah• Jeremiah• Lamentations• Baruch• Ezekial• Daniel• Hosea• Joel• Amos	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Obadiah• Jonah• Micah• Nahum• Habakkuk• Zephaniah• Haggai• Zechariah• Malachi

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- Genesis

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- The Bible starts out with a contradiction
- Why and what does this teach us?
- Two stories- two authors- two points of view

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- Table discussion- Have you ever noticed the two different stories?
- What are some differences?
- Does the difference matter?

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- Noah

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- Abraham and Isaac

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- Joesph

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?
• Moses and the burning bush

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?
• Parting of the Red Sea

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?
• Giving of the Ten Commandments

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- Leviticus- lots of rules and regulations

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- The Book of Numbers- (38 years summed up)

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- The Book of Deuteronomy- let's hear it all again! Just from a different point of view!
- The Book of Joshua- the conquering of the Promised Land
- The Book of Judges- 12 military leaders, not magistrates, who are brought up from among the people to lead
- The Book of Ruth- a tale of conversion about the great-grandmother of David

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- 1st & 2nd Samuel- The last of the judges, King Saul, King David and his reign

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- 1st and 2nd Kings- Solomon and the building of the 1st Temple
- The separation of Israel into two kingdoms, Israel in the north and Judah to the south
- Conquering of Israel by the Assyrians in 720 BC
- Conquering of Judah by Babylon in 586 BC and the destruction of Jerusalem

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- 1st and 2nd Chronicles- see four books before, but told with a slightly more religious tract
- The books of Ezra and Nehemiah- Israel returns to the kingdom and begins to rebuild the temple and the city walls

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- The Book of Tobit- a devout Israelite living in captivity prays to God, who sends the angel Raphael to assist his son, Tobiah and also to assist another asking for intercession, Sarah. Raphael helps the two of them, reveals that he is angel, and departs. Tobiah then soon after buries his parents who have died from old age.

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- The Book of Judith has as its theme fidelity to the Mosaic law as well as placing trust in the Lord. Judith, upset that her countrymen feel as if they are doomed when an invading army appears, gets into the enemy camp, and slays the enemy general as he was passed out.

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- The Book of Esther- she is presented before the King of Persia, who takes her as his wife. She learns of a plot to wipe out the Jews in Persia by one of the king's advisor, but convinces the King to allow the Jews to defend themselves. This starts the observance of the Jewish holiday of Purim.

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- 1st Maccabees- tells the story of a devout Jewish family who overthrows their Greek overlord Antiochus IV ordered a statue of Zeus to be erected in the Holy of Holies and for pigs to be slaughtered in the temple. A miracle then occurs in the temple where there is only enough oil for one day, but it lasts for eight days.

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- 2nd Maccabees- covers a smaller timeframe than 1st Maccabees. God has a much larger role in this book as well. It also contains some doctrinal issues: prayers for the dead, resurrection of the dead (12:39-46), merits of martyrs, intercession from the saints (15:11-17), and *creatio ex nihilo* (7:28).

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- Wisdom books- the Book of Job
- Psalms
- Proverbs- traditionally attributed to Solomon
- Ecclesiastes- themes of fearing God, keeping the commandments, there is a divine plan.
- Song of Songs- allegorically represents the love of God to the people.

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- The Book of Wisdom- last book composed of the Jewish Scriptures.
- The Book of Sirach- covers a wide range of subjects dealing with moral matters.

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- The Prophetic books are divided between the Major and Minor Prophets
- The terms refer to the book's length
- Major- Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, and Daniel
- Minor- everyone else

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- The Book of Isaiah- has three distinct parts from pre-exile, during the exile, and post-exile. This great prophet appeared during a time of great need for Judah. Chapters 40-55 contain prophecies about the Messiah and are used in the Christian Scriptures.

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- The Book of Jeremiah- contains history, biography and prophecy. He lived during the destruction of Jerusalem (586 BC) by the Babylonians, after warning the people about not being faithful to the Lord. He also speaks of a new covenant in 31:31-34.

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- The Book of Lamentations- five laments composed about the destruction of Jerusalem.
- The Book of Baruch- concerns repentance after the destruction of Jerusalem.
- The Book of Ezekiel- reflection on Israel's sins in exile, then hopes of Israel's restoration, and finally Israel receiving a new covenant.
- The Book of Daniel- a tale of how faith and trust in the Lord can overcome temptation. He also refers to the Son of Man in chapter 7.

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- The minor prophets-
- Hosea- people undesired
- Joel- Greed refuted
- Amos- Israel uprooted
- Obadiah- doom arranged
- Jonah- Nineveh changed
- Michah-prophet's might

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The Bible- come on... what's really in it?

- Nahum- locusts' flight
- Habakkuk- Silence kept
- Zephaniah- Threshold swept
- Haggai- Temple treasured
- Zechariah- Jerusalem measured
- Malachi- Unpaid tithes

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Why does this new Catholic Bible have more books than my old Bible at home?

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Why does this new Catholic Bible have more books than my old Bible at home?

- Tobit
- Judith
- Wisdom
- Sirach
- Baruch
- 1st & 2nd Maccabees
- Additions to Esther and Daniel

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Why does this new Catholic Bible have more books than my old Bible at home?

- The early Christian community had great debates on what books should be included in the canon of scriptures.
- At the time of Jesus, there were two versions of the Jewish Scriptures: The Greek Septuagint and the Hebrew books.
- According to tradition, the Bible was translated into Greek in Alexandria around the 200's BC.

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Why does this new Catholic Bible have more books than my old Bible at home?

- The Septuagint, so called because 70 scholars translated it from Hebrew to Greek, was then brought back to Judah.
- Any time you see LXX in Biblical commentary or comments, it is referring to the Septuagint (see Mat 17:4 in the NAB).
- The LXX included the Deutro-canonical books, those that later were rejected by Luther.

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Why does this new Catholic Bible have more books than my old Bible at home?

- Jesus more than likely was aware of the LXX and perhaps even quoted from the deutro-canonical books.
- From the Lord's prayer in Matthew-6:12, 14-15"Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; if you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, neither will your heavenly father forgive your transgressions".
- From Sirach 28:2 "Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven."

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Why does this new Catholic Bible have more books than my old Bible at home?

- As Christianity and Judaism separated after 70 AD, the books of the Jewish Scriptures became one area of difference.
- The Early Church almost universally accepted the LXX as their version of the Jewish Scriptures.
- Jewish scholars and rabbis decided that since the LXX was in Greek and not Hebrew; it was not an inspired text, especially the Deutrocanonical books because they thought that they were written in Greek, not Hebrew.

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Why does this new Catholic Bible have more books than my old Bible at home?

- Fast forward 1400 years to the Reformation...
- Luther and other reformers know that these books are not included by the Jewish people and perhaps is one reason why he left them out of his 1532 Old Testament, while two years later declaring them not equal to scripture, but good to read.
- The Catholic response is to emphasize these books more following the Council of Trent 1545-60.

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Why does this new Catholic Bible have more books than my old Bible at home?

- However, most modern Protestant translations do place them as "apocrypha" in a section between the Jewish and Christian Scriptures .
- Some of these books were found, in Hebrew, among the Dead Sea Scrolls.
- It has also been suggested that 1 Maccabees was also written in Hebrew. Language scholars identified multiple Hebrew idioms translated into Greek.

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Why does this new Catholic Bible have more books than my old Bible at home?

- It has always been the Catholic point of view that Jesus and those contemporary to Him knew them, used them in worship, and considered them as inspired texts. Thus, they are included in the Catholic Jewish Scriptures.
- This view is shared by the Orthodox as well, who continue to use the actual LXX in their services.

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Conclusion

- The Jewish Scriptures prefigure the Christian Scriptures. Remember Isaac?
- The Jewish Scriptures tell the story of the Jewish people from the start of history, through slavery, foundation of a country, then losing that country and finally returning from exile.
- Throughout that history, the Jewish people stay faithful to God and lay the foundation for the savior.
