



## THE BIBLE: OUR BOOK OF FAITH

### What are the Bible's Origins?

Originally, the Old Testament was written almost entirely in Hebrew. Parts of Daniel, Ezra, Jeremiah, Esther, Tobias, Judith, and the Gospel of Saint Matthew were written in Aramaic, the language spoken by Jesus. The book of Wisdom, 2 Maccabees, and the rest of the New Testament were originally written in Greek.

The Bible, as we know it today, is divided into chapters and verses. The chapter divisions were made by the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1228, and the verse divisions were made by a printer in Paris in 1551.

For centuries, the Bible has been translated from its original languages to the languages of the people. Two translations are especially important: the Septuagint and the Vulgate. The Septuagint translation of the Old Testament was made in the third century B.C. to teach Greek Jews living in Alexandria, Egypt. This version gave many Greek-speaking people a knowledge of God and, in this way, prepared them for the preaching of the Gospel. The Vulgate (Latin for “disseminated”) was a Latin version of the New and Old Testaments made by Saint Jerome in the fourth century. At the time, there were several Latin versions of the Bible in use, but because they were unsatisfactory, Pope Damasus asked Jerome to begin work on a revision. Eventually, the Vulgate became the only Latin version of the Bible used in the Western Church. The Council of Trent (1545-1563) declared the Vulgate to be the official version and the one to be used in public.

### “THE INTERPRETATION OF THE HERITAGE OF FAITH

“The task of giving an authentic interpretation of the Word of God, whether in its written form or in the form of Tradition, has been entrusted to the living, teaching office of the Church alone. Its authority in this matter is exercised in the name of Jesus Christ.”<sup>47</sup> This means that the task of interpretation has been entrusted to the bishops in communion with the successor of Peter, the Bishop of Rome.” *Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 85*

<sup>47</sup> DV 10 § 2.

You can learn more about Sacred Scripture in CCC 101-141.

# What Did You Learn About The Bible: Our Book of Faith? for younger saints

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# Quiz Answers

1. How many books are in the Bible?

- a. 66
- b. 73**
- c. 2

2. What are the two main parts of the Bible?

- a. the Gospels and the Epistles
- b. the Bible and the Scriptures
- c. the Old Testament and the New Testament**

3. Where in the Bible can we read about what Jesus said and did?

- a. the Old Testament
- b. the Gospels**
- c. the Pentateuch

4. Who is the “Helper” of all the men who wrote the Bible?

- a. the Holy Spirit**
- b. the computer
- c. the president

5. Which part of the Bible was written first?

- a. the Old Testament**
- b. the New Testament

6. Who is the true author of Scripture?

- a. Moses
- b. Saint Peter
- c. God**

7. Recite your memory verse.

*“All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching.” 2 Timothy 3:16*

# What Did You Learn About The Bible: Our Book of Faith?

for older saints

1. How many books are in the Old Testament?
2. How many books are in the New Testament?
3. Where in the Bible can we read the words of Jesus?
  - a. in the books of Wisdom
  - b. in the Gospels
  - c. in the books of the Prophets
4. What are the two sources that we have for learning the truths that God has revealed to us?
  - a. the priest and our parents
  - b. stories and songs
  - c. Scripture and Tradition

**Where can you find the following books?**

5. The Gospels
  - a. in the Old Testament
  - b. in the New Testament
6. The Pentateuch
  - a. in the Old Testament
  - b. in the New Testament
7. The Prophets
  - a. in the Old Testament
  - b. in the New Testament
8. The Epistles
  - a. in the Old Testament
  - b. in the New Testament
9. The books of Wisdom
  - a. in the Old Testament
  - b. in the New Testament
10. The books of History
  - a. in the Old Testament
  - b. in the New Testament
11. Recite your memory verse.

# What Did You Learn About The Bible: Our Book of Faith?

for older saints

1. How many books are in the Old Testament? **46 books**

2. How many books are in the New Testament? **27 books**

3. Where in the Bible can we read the words of Jesus?

- a. in the books of Wisdom
- b. in the Gospels**
- c. in the books of the Prophets

4. What are the two sources that we have for learning the truths that God has revealed to us?

- a. the priest and our parents
- b. stories and songs
- c. Scripture and Tradition**

Where can you find the following books?

5. The Gospels

- a. in the Old Testament
- b. in the New Testament**

6. The Pentateuch

- a. in the Old Testament**
- b. in the New Testament

7. The Prophets

- a. in the Old Testament**
- b. in the New Testament

8. The Epistles

- a. in the Old Testament
- b. in the New Testament**

9. The books of Wisdom

- a. in the Old Testament**
- b. in the New Testament

10. The books of History

- a. in the Old Testament**
- b. in the New Testament

11. Recite your memory verse.

*“All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:16-17*