

Class 1 - Overview

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The Holy Bible is the Word of God

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- ¹⁶ **All Scripture is given by inspiration of God**, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

- Hebrews 4:12

- ¹² For the **word** of God is **living and powerful**, and sharper than any two-edged **sword**, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

LOGOS in
Greek



- Jeremiah 23:29

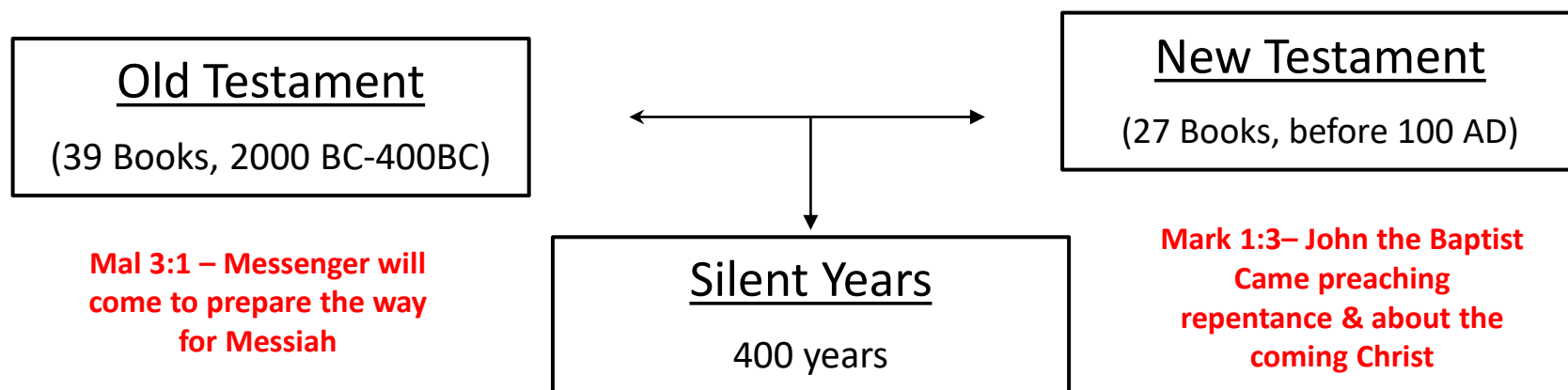
- ²⁹ “Is not My word like a **fire**?” says the LORD, “And like a **hammer** that breaks the rock in pieces?”

**All Scripture is the inspired Word of God, and is
Powerful like a
“FIRE”, a “HAMMER” and a “SWORD”**

What Famous People Said of the Bible

- The **Bible** is no mere book, but a Living Creature, with a power that conquers all that oppose it. **Napoleon**
- I believe the **Bible** is the best gift God has ever given to man. **Abraham Lincoln**
- A thorough knowledge of the **Bible** is worth more than a college education. It is necessary for the welfare of the nation that men's lives be based on the principles of the Bible. No man, educated or uneducated, can afford to be ignorant of the Bible. **Theodore Roosevelt**
- A man has deprived himself of the best there is in the world who has deprived himself of a knowledge of the **Bible**. **Woodrow Wilson**
- There are more sure marks of authenticity in the **Bible** than in any profane history. All my discoveries have been made in answer to prayer...I have a fundamental belief in the Bible as the Word of God, written by men who were inspired. I study the Bible daily” **Sir Isaac Newton** (1642-1727)
- It is clear that there must be difficulties for us in a revelation such as the **Bible**. ... There must be, in any complete revelation of God's mind and will and character and being, things hard for the beginner to understand; and the wisest and best of us are but beginners. **R.A. Torrey**

The Holy Bible – Context Overview



- **The entire Bible has one great theme, the Person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ**, who is God revealed in the flesh (1 Timothy 3:16), and whose sacrificial death and resurrection to save mankind from judgement and the penalty of sin, constitutes the Gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-4).
- Over the period of 2,000 years before Jesus, the OT prophets promised a Rescuer, the Christ, the Anointed Messiah who would save the world from the slavery of sin and final judgement.
- In the OT, sin was atoned for (satisfied God) by animal sacrifices, but the final eternal redemptive act of God to save mankind would be provided by the shed blood of the sinless “Lamb of God” which would be Christ. **Salvation is by Faith in the Crucified Christ.**
- There are over 300 prophecies of Christ’s first coming in the OT that were fulfilled, from Genesis 3:15 to Malachi 4:5, (and over 1,800 prophecies on **His Second Coming which are still to be fulfilled!**).
- **Christ was prophesied as both a Royal & Priestly Messiah from the line of David (Psalm 110:1; Jer. 33:14-16) and as a Suffering Servant. (Isaiah 53).**

God's Dispensations of Time

In-break of the Kingdom
"the time is fulfilled" Mark 1:15

The End of the Age;
Day of the Lord,
Second Coming

The Age to Come, →

Age of the Law

(Period from Moses to Pentecost)

Church Age

(Dispensation of the Holy Spirit or of Grace – New Covenant)

1st the Suffering & the Cross

Millennial Age

(after rapture, The Second Coming of Christ)

2nd the Glory & the Throne

Time of sin & longing for the fulness of the Spirit; temple worship; prophets; overlap with Church Age

Holy Spirit permanently indwells believers, and are justified by Faith in Jesus Christ

Jesus will rule as King on physical earth on David's throne. Satan will no longer be ruler, 1,000 years

1st – Evangelization of Gentiles (Acts 15:14)

2nd – Restoration of Israel

2500 years from Adam to Moses

1500 years from Moses to Jesus

2,000 years from Jesus to the Current Time

1,000 years reign of Jesus Christ after His return – then Eternity in Heaven – Rev. 21

4,000 years = 4 days

2,000 years = 2 days

1,000 years = 1 days

7 days is God's Perfect Number (creation)

Context in the Whole Bible

- The story so far is that God created a good world, but Adam & Eve (mankind), tempted by Satan, rebelled against God and was thrown under curse. However, God deferred ultimate judgement of death and promised that the “seed of woman” would defeat Satan. God then promised that this world rescue would happen through one nation, Israel.
- When God rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt (Exodus) this revealed how the world would be rescued (saved by faith in the blood-Red Sea Crossing, journey through the Wilderness - Crossing the Jordon - to the Promised Land).
- Israel remained sinful and was eventually punished by being sent into exile in Babylon, like that in Egypt.
- The Old Testament prophets promised a Redeemer, the Christ who would save the world from final judgement which must inevitably come. By the end of the OT, this Rescuer had not yet appeared.
- Christ is the judge and redeemer of the true Exodus from sin, and it's no accident He was crucified during Passover & that the first Communion at the Last Supper is the inauguration of the **New Covenant** (Jer. 31:31-34; Mark 14:24; Heb 8:6-13).
- Passover is to remember how God rescued the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. Just as physical Israel was saved from death in Egypt by the death of lambs (Ex. 12), Jesus is the true, sinless (unblemished) Passover Lamb who saves us from death.

Jesus Prophecies in Old Testament

There are over 300 prophecies of Christ in the Old Testament that were fulfilled (and over 1,800 prophecies on His Second Coming which is still to be fulfilled!). **Christ was prophesied as both a **Royal & Priestly Messiah** from the line of David and as a **Suffering Servant**.**

Royal & Priestly Messiah

Isaiah 7:14 ¹⁴Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

Isaiah 9:6 ⁶For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Jeremiah 33:15 ¹⁵'In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David A Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.

Isaiah 53 – The Suffering Servant - ³He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief... ⁵But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. ⁷He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter,... Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put *Him* to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin,

Old Covenant (The “Law”)

- In the Mosaic covenant (Sinai Covenant), the blessing or lack thereof was a direct result of the obedience or disobedience to the Laws given to Moses by God (**10 Commandments** plus the 613 laws in Leviticus).
- The purpose of the Law was to **reveal the character of God**, and the effect of the Law was to make people aware of their inability to keep it and reveal their sin, so that when Christ came, they would recognize their need for Him (Gal. 3:24-25). Christ fulfilled the Law (Matt. 5:17-18).
- The sacrificial system of the Mosaic Covenant did not really take away sins (Heb. 10:1-4); it simply foreshadowed the bearing of sin by Christ, the perfect high priest Who was also the perfect sacrifice (Heb 9:11-28).
- Hebrews 9 calls it the First Covenant and it involved sacrifices, the tabernacle, the Holy of Holies, and the Old Testament regulations of divine worship.
- Jesus was the last sacrificial lamb, and since Pentecost, as John the Baptist preached, believers were baptised in the Holy Spirit, forgiven of their sin (justified or declared righteous) and given eternal life.
- **Jesus came to fulfill the Law and Righteousness.** Matthew 5:17; 3:15

New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34 (also Heb. 8:6-13; Ezek. 36:25-27; Mark 14:24)

- ³¹ “**Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah
- ³² not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD.
- ³³ But this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: **I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts**; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.
- ³⁴ No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. **For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”**

John's Purpose

John 20:31

“these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”

John – Word Stats

- **Believe** - is mentioned 100 X
- **Love** – is mentioned 80 X
- **Truth** - is mentioned 25 X

- John wants us to **believe the truth** so we can enter into a **love** relationship with God.