

How Did We Get the Bible?

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Worksheets

1. Fill in the Blanks

2Timothy 3: 16 All Scripture is _____ - _____.

Jeremiah is called the _____ prophet.

Valley of dry bones is in the book that bears the name of the prophet _____.

2. Choose the correct answers. There may be more than one for each question.

Tradition tells that Moses wrote down the following books.

- a. Genesis
- b. Leviticus
- c. Zechariah
- d. Deuteronomy
- e. Exodus
- f. Luke
- g. Numbers
- h. All of the above

Moses' successor as leader of Israel was....

- a. Aaron
- b. Jonah
- c. Mordecai
- d. Jeremiah
- e. None of the Above

Samuel was a...

- a. Judge
- b. Tentmaker
- c. Window Washer
- d. Centurion

Nehemiah's life story is told in the following book:

- a. Isaiah
- b. Psalms
- c. Nehemiah
- d. Genesis

King David wrote:

- a. Some of the Psalms
- b. All of the Psalms
- c. Half of the Psalms
- d. None of the Psalms

3. Circle the true statements:

- a. There are 12 minor prophets in the Old Testament.
- b. There are 21 minor prophets in the Old Testament.
- c. The number of minor prophets in the Old Testament is the same as the number of Jesus' Apostles.
- d. Just like in baseball, the prophets usually had to be in the minors before moving to the majors.
- e. Minor prophets in the Old Testament are as important as the major prophets.
- f. Some prophets are called minor prophets because they sing in a minor key, unlike King David who sang in a major key.
- g. Prophets are guys through whom God spoke to His chosen people.
- h. Prophets were school teachers, and the word means professor, just with a different spelling.

4. The first five books of the Old Testament, the Pentateuch, were transcribed by Moses. Transcribed means to write down what someone else has said or written. It was _____ who gave Moses the words to write down.

5. True or False

T F There are no ancient documents existing today with the New Testament written down.

T F The Bible is God's Word.

T F The Babylonian captivity was when the Israelites always had to eat baloney.

T F We can trust the Bible for truth on how to live.

T F The Bible books that Moses wrote down were put into Noah's Ark.

T F Scribes were Jewish men who wrote copies of Scripture.

The Early Church Fathers ...

T F lived in the centuries right after Jesus' resurrection.

T F were church leaders who were fathers and got up early with their children in the morning.

T F were single fathers during their teenage early years of life.

T F wrote documents that help us understand the formation of the the new Christian church.

T F a and d

T F b and c

6. During the early years of the new Christian church, the leaders would come together, talk and make decisions about what were the true ideas that followed exactly what Jesus taught during his lifetime on earth. They helped keep everyone on track, and directed people away from false teachings. What was being said that was false about Jesus is called heresy. What the church believed important and true for believers to know and understand is called doctrine.

The meetings were called councils. One of the important discussions was to decide what to include as God's inspired words in our New Testament. They didn't pick only what they wanted, but through prayer and God's Word decided what to include asking five questions about each of the documents for which a decision needed to be made.

Using pages 74-77, write down the five questions that the Council attendees used to make their decisions.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Extra work: Choose one of the letters of the Apostle Paul in the New Testament and give Scripture verse as to why answers to the five questions make the letter agreeable to being included in the New Testament.

Read pages 81-82. Who really is the one that decided what writings were to be the New Testament that we still study as the Living Word of God today?

The Holy Bible, Old and New Testaments, were written originally in two main languages. The two languages are _____ and _____.

Even before Jesus was born, the main language of all people was Greek, and for this reason the Hebrew was translated into Greek. This translation as a whole was known as the Septuagint, and this is the version from which the **King James Version**, or **KJV**, comes.

When language usage changed, so did the main Bible translation for the church. Next it was translated into Latin, and this is called the Vulgate. Here vulgate doesn't mean vulgar, as in something disgusting, but vulgar or common, as in the common language of all people.

Some church leaders didn't want regular people, the few who could read, to have the Bible in a language that they could understand. There were Christians, however, who risked a lot to put the Holy Bible into the language of the common people. Some of them became martyrs for their faith, for though it was the right thing to do, those in power, including some church leaders, didn't want it to happen.

For his work in translating the Bible into the common language of the people, John Wycliffe in England was named the _____.

Another translator in England, William _____, was martyred for his work.

Name three other early Bible translators.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

All of this happened before the printing press and paper had been invented. To write a whole Bible by hand on parchment made from animal skins it usually took three years of daily work, much of which was done by the monks living in monasteries. It is important to remember that there was no electricity to create bright light or heating

system, and if it was cold outside, it was cold in the buildings. It was not only the press that had to be invented, but a way to print letters from metal type, and also paper.

On the first printing press in the Western World, sometimes called the invention of the millennium, the first book ever printed on a press with movable type by Johann _____ was the Holy Bible. There is an original copy at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C.

Extra work: Why is the **42-line Bible** another name for the Gutenberg Bible?

For centuries, the Bible everyone read was the *King James Version* of the Holy Bible, commissioned by King James I of England. In the last 100 years, new ancient documents have been discovered, allowing for the most accurate translations possible from the original languages.

The Bibles read today usually fit into one of three types. In once sentence for each type, write how close to the original text that each is.

1. Literal or Formal Equivalent
2. Dynamic Equivalent
3. Paraphrase

Extra work: Either through resources online or with three Bibles, compare the text of Matthew 5: 1-12 (the Beatitudes) in different translation. Use the New American Standard Bible (NASB), the English Standard Version (ESV), and The Message. Compare the three translations, each of which is one of the three above. Which is which? Which do you prefer? Why? (a good source online is biblegateway.com)

Now look at an exact word-for-word translation of this passage, such as Young's Literal Translation. Read it out loud. What do you see, hear, and understand?

Ultimately, the best Bible for each person is the one that he or she will read, for to know Scripture is to hear, listen and understand the Living God from His Living Word.

The Bible is called the “inspired” Word of God because ...

- a. The words came through the Holy Spirit
- b. The words were inspired by the beauty of nature.
- c. A pastor gave a sermon and it was so good that the writer was inspired to write a story.

The Apochrypha....

- a. Is about the end of the world.
- b. Are books that are in some Bibles but not all.
- c. are called the “hidden” books
- d. All of the above

Matching: Draw lines to match person to occupation.

FIG FARMER	MOSES
WARRIOR KING	PETER
PHYSICIAN AND HISTORIAN	AMOS
PRIEST	KING DAVID
SHEPHERD	EZRA
TENTMAKER	PAUL
FISHERMAN	LUKE
TAX COLLECTOR	MATTHEW

