



THE BIBLE

Jewish & Christian

Hebrew Bible

TORAH
Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy
FORMER PROPHETS
Joshua
Judges
I, II Samuel
I, II Kings
LATER PROPHETS
Isaiah
Jeremiah
Ezekiel
The 12: Hosea,
Joel, Amos, Obadiah,
Jonah, Micah, Nehum,
Habakkuk, Zephaniah,
Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi
WRITINGS
Psalms
Proverbs
Job
Song of Solomon
Ruth
Lamentations
Ecclesiastes
Esther [shorter]
Daniel [12 caps]
Ezra-Nehemiah
I, II Chronicles

Protestant OT

PENTATEUCH
Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy
HISTORICAL BOOKS
Joshua
Judges
I, II Samuel
I, II Kings
I, II Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah

Esther [shorter]

WISDOM BOOKS
Job
Psalms
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Solomon

PROPHETS
Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations

Ezekiel
Daniel [12 caps]
Hosea, Joel, Amos,
Obadiah, Jonah, Micah,
Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah,
Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

Catholic OT

PENTATEUCH
Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy
HISTORICAL BOOKS
Joshua
Judges
I, II Samuel
I, II Kings
I, II Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah
Tobit
Judith
Esther [longer]
I, II Maccabees
WISDOM BOOKS
Job
Psalms
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Solomon
Wisdom of Solomon
Ecclesiasticus
PROPHETS
Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Baruch
Ezekiel
Daniel [14 caps]
Hosea, Joel, Amos,
Obadiah, Jonah, Micah,
Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah,
Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

NB: The Apocrypha includes a variety of books, mostly originally written in Greek. Only the five in italics are recognized as part of the OT by the Catholic Church [Deuterocanonical Books]. Orthodox [Eastern] Churches may recognize a few more – see annotated NRSV.

Guide to the Bible

The Bible [Greek: τα βιβλία], meaning 'books'. The Bible is a collection [library] of books.

The Canon [Greek: κανων], meaning 'list'. The Canon [of Scripture] is the official list accepted as inspired Scripture; which for Catholics was defined by the Council of Trent (1545-63).

NT [27 books]

4 Gospels [Matt; Mk; Lk; John] – teachings of Jesus; new Torah

Acts of the Apostles – history of the early Church

Letters & Writings – Paul: Rom; I, II Cor; Gal; I, II Thes; Phile; Eph; Phil; Col

Pastorals – I, II Tim; Titus

Hebrews

James

I, II Pet

I, II, III John

Prophecy – Revelation

Gospels agreed c 200 AD; whole NT by c 400 AD – defined by Trent (1560)

Criteria – apostolic origin, liturgical use, universal acceptability

[see, *Early Christian Writings*, Penguin, for some writings not accepted into the Canon]

OT [full Catholic 46 books; Orthodox varies with up to 53 books; Protestant 39 books]

Pentateuch [Greek: 5 scrolls] – Torah

Historical Books

Wisdom Books

Prophets

Parallel arrangement of OT and NT

Law/Gospel – history – writings – prophecy [pointing to 1st and 2nd coming of Christ]

Septuagint [LXX] – Greek Jewish Scriptures

- still in use today in Orthodox liturgies

Protestant Reformers

- accepted only the books of the Hebrew Bible for the OT while keeping the traditional Christian arrangement