

STUDY THE BIBLE 1 (STB 1)

“The Bible is Factual History”

THE KING JAMES BIBLE IS SIMPLY A 7,000 YEAR HISTORY BOOK OF PURE FACTS.

It begins at creation (4,000 BC) and goes 1,000 years past the rapture (shortly to happen).

It is **written by God** assisted by **44 earthly authors**, over **1600 years** on **three continents**.

The Bible declares **past, present** and **future** history.

One third of the Bible is **prophecy** that fore-tells of events **before** they happen.

It is a book crammed full of **facts** and **figures, dates, times, places, events, names, amounts, quantities, people**. All **factual** and **verifiable**.

In the Bible, God **declares** (states without contradiction) who he **was, is** and **will be**.

In the Bible, God states what he **has done**, what he **is doing** and what **he will do**.

This is despite what anyone thinks or believes.

He was, is, and will be, **judge, jury, executioner** and, of course, **the Saviour of the world**.

The Bible has **two** parts – the **Old Testament** and the **New Testament**. (A “testament” is simply a testifying or **declaration**.)

THE OLD TESTAMENT is about the nation of Israel with **three** basic promises **1. God’s promise to Abraham** that in his seed all nations should be blessed. **2. God’s covenant** (agreement) **with the Hebrew nation**, that if they would faithfully serve him, they would prosper as a nation. If they forsook him and served idols, they would be destroyed as a nation. **3. God’s promise to David** that out of his family would come the great Messiah and Saviour of the world who would establish his universal kingdom without end. THE NEW TESTAMENT is about this Messiah and the world’s Saviour, the man Jesus Christ.

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THE SUBJECT OF THE BIBLE IS JESUS CHRIST

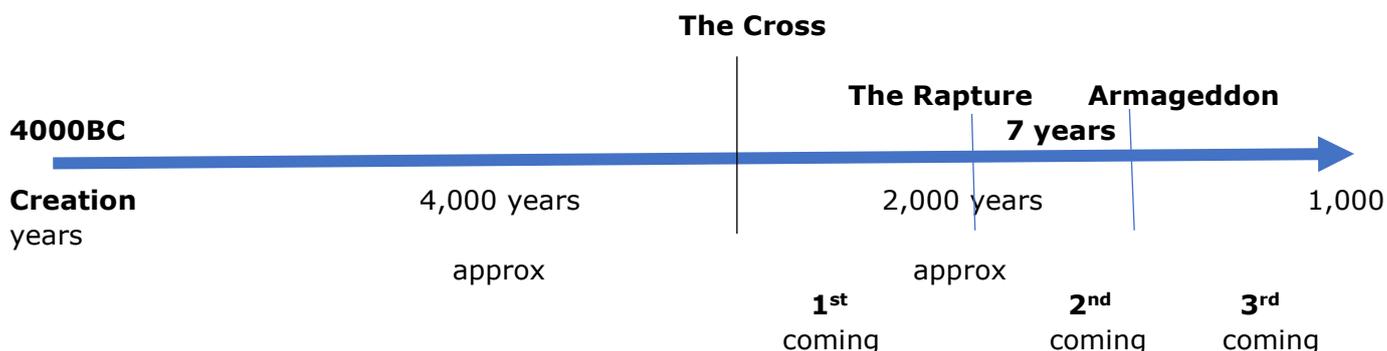
Jesus Christ comes out of heaven **three** times

1. Jesus Christ has **already come the first time** as the Son of man and ending at the **cross**.
2. Jesus Christ will come **the second time** in the air at the **rapture** of all true Christians.
3. Jesus Christ will come **the third time**, at **Armageddon**, as the Son of man.

The **theme** of the Bible is the **return of Jesus Christ to sit on the Jewish throne of David** in Jerusalem. (See Revelation chapter 19)

Between the first and the third comings, there is a section in the middle of about **2,000** years.

This is commonly called the '**church**' age, the end of which, Christ appears at the rapture, with all true Christians being physically caught up to meet the Lord in the air.



Between the rapture and Armageddon, God pours out his wrath on the earth for **seven years**. This is called the time of **great tribulation** ending with the battle of Armageddon on the plain of Megiddo in Northern Israel. This battle has God rescuing Israel from all the attacking nations of the world.

A VERY BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE 7,000 YEARS OF THE BIBLE

God creates man (Adam) and places him in the garden of **Eden** around 4,000BC (BC means before Christ). This is approximately where Kuwait is today and is where the two rivers of the Tigris and Euphrates

flow into the Persian Gulf. Adam and Eve, being real people and the parents of us all, sinned and fell from the perfect creatures God had made them to be. They were cast (removed) out of the garden. The world then becomes dreadfully evil and after 1760 years God destroys the world with **Noah's flood** (2340BC) but eight people are saved in the ark.

God then separates man into the different **races** with different **languages** at the **tower of Babel** and they go in all directions. God then divides the one huge land mass (2,000BC), that existed then, into the various continents we have today, with the various races on each continent.

God starts again and chooses **Abraham** (1876BC) and takes him out of Babylon into the land of **Canaan**. Abraham's descendants migrate down to **Egypt** (1661BC) and grow to become a large nation for 70 years. Then after a further 144 years of brutal slavery, God leads them out of Egypt under **Moses** (the Exodus), where they wander for **forty** years in the desert. They enter their promised land of Canaan (1406BC) and are ruled by a series of **Judges** for a few hundred years while fighting the surrounding nations.

After the reign of the kings of **Saul, David** and **Solomon** (40 years each), the nation is divided (930BC). For the next 324 years, these two kingdoms are ruled by various kings and spoken to by various prophets. These accounts are found in the Old Testament in the books of Samuel, Kings, Chronicles and the 16 prophets. The North part, the ten tribes, called Israel, lasts about 200 years and is taken captive by Assyria in 722BC. The **South** part, called **Judah**, lasts a little longer, and in 606BC, is carried away captive by Babylon. A remnant return in 536BC to re-establish their national life. They build their **temple** under **Haggai** and **Zechariah** (516BC) and Jerusalem's **wall** is completed by **Nehemiah** (430BC). Around 420BC the prophet **Malachi** delivers God's last words to the nation.

Soon after the Old Testament is closed. This completes the first 4,000 years shown on the chart.

After 400 years, **Jesus Christ, the Messiah of Old Testament prophecy, appears**. He lives a sinless life, dies for the sins of man and rises from the dead. He commanded his disciples to preach the story of his life and the **redeeming power of his blood** to all nations.

The gospel of salvation with eternal security is found in the **14 books of the New Testament** in the writings of the apostle **Paul**.

Shortly, there will be **the rapture**, where all true Christians will be taken off the earth to meet the Lord in the air, and a period of **7 years**, called the **Tribulation**, will follow, where God will pour out his wrath upon the earth. This ends at the **battle of Armageddon** in the North of Israel, where God rescues Israel from its enemies - all nations of the earth.

Christ then rules and reigns with all true believers for **1,000** years, after which the universe is **melted** and destroyed, and a **new heaven** and a **new earth**, along with a new universe, is created for ever more and preserved in a sinless state.

STUDY THE BIBLE 2 (STB 2) **“PROPHECY: WHY YOU CAN BELIEVE THE BIBLE”**

Every religion in the world says that they are right and other religions are wrong. How do we know which one is right? Just because you were born into a certain religion does not prove that religion to be the right one, even though you may want it to be.

God challenges all other religions, that claim to be the truth, to prove that if they are from God, they would be able to predict the future. None of us can correctly predict the future on every guess. **Can you tell the future?** Do you know what will happen tomorrow or next week?

The Bible is the only book in the world that correctly predicts the future hundreds of times without making any mistakes. No other book does this. The Buddhist, Hindu and Muslim writings have **no** cases of clearly fulfilled prophecies. This proves they are **not** from God. Any man can write a book with moral teachings. Only God can write a book that always correctly tells

the future, **100% of the time**, and **hundreds of years before it happens**, as the Bible does.

THREE TESTS TO PROVE THAT A PROPHECY IS FROM GOD

1. The prediction **must come true**
2. The prophecy must be given **far enough before** the predicted event, to exclude human guesswork.
3. The prophecy is to **be exact**, and must not be vague, uncertain or have several explanations.

IF THE ABOVE THREE TESTS CAN BE MET, IT PROVES ...

1. **God's existence**, as the infinitely superior mind and intelligence, behind the Bible
2. The Bible is God's **inspired** word and **without error**
3. **Jesus Christ is God** that came in the flesh, as predicted in the Old Testament
4. All other **Bible doctrines are true**.

THE BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE

In **712BC**, **Cyrus**, king of Persia, was **predicted by name** and **what he would do**, in that he would **build the Temple** at Jerusalem.

*"That saith of **Cyrus**, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my (God) pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and **to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid** ...Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to **Cyrus** ... **I** (God) **have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me** (God)."* Isaiah 45:1-4 Isaiah (44:28; 45:1,4)

Now, **148 years later**, in **536BC**, this is what **exactly** happened, the foundation of the temple was laid.

ISRAEL BECOMES A MODERN NATION

In **1406 BC**, God said he would "... **scatter** you (**Israel**) among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen ..." (Deuteronomy 4:27)

And again "And the LORD shall **scatter** thee (**Israel**) among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other..." (Deuteronomy 28:64)

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In **1948 AD** Israel was made an official State in the world by the United Nations. "*For I will take you from among the heathen, and **gather you (Israel) out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.***" (Ezekiel 36:24). There is a gap of **3,354 years** between the prophecy in 1406BC and 1948AD.

A FEW PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS CHRIST IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

PROPHECY	Old Testament	New Testament	TIME GAP
1. Born of a virgin	Genesis 3:15 Isaiah 7:14	Romans 16:20 Matthew 1:18	4,000 years ago 760 years ago
2. Tribe of Judah	Genesis 49:10	Luke 3:33	1640 years ago
3. House of David	Jeremiah 23:5	Matthew 1:1	600 years ago
4. Born at Bethlehem	Micah 5:2	Matthew 2:1	730 years ago
5. Visited by wise men with gifts	Isaiah 60:3,6,9	Matthew 2:7,11	760 years ago
6. Would be in Egypt for a time	Hosea 11:1	Matthew 2:19	750 years ago
7. Infants killed at his birthplace	Jeremiah 31:15	Matthew 2:16	600 years ago
8. Preceded by a messenger	Isaiah 40:3	Matthew 3:1	760 years ago
9. Ministry to begin in Galilee	Isaiah 9:1	Matthew 4:23	760 years ago
10. Perform miracles	Isaiah 35:5,6	Acts 2:22	760 years ago
11. Teach parables	Psalms 78:2	Matthew 13:13	990 years ago
12. Heal many	Isaiah 53:4	Luke 4:18	760 years ago
13. His miracles not believed	Isaiah 53:1	Mark 6:3-4	760 years ago

14. Prays for enemies	Psalms 109:4	Luke 23:34	990 years ago
15. Enter Jerusalem on a donkey	Zechariah 9:9	Matthew 21:5	518 years ago
15. Betrayed for 30 pieces of silver	Zechariah 11:12	Matthew 26:15	518 years ago
16. Hated without a cause	Psalms 69:4	John 15:23-25	990 years ago
17. Died for the sins of others	Isaiah 53:4-5	Romans 4:25	760 years ago
18. Money thrown on Temple floor	Zechariah 11:13	Matthew 27:5	518 years ago
19. Money buys potter's field	Zechariah 11:13	Matthew 27:7	518 years ago
20. Forsaken by his disciples	Zechariah 13:7	Matthew 26:56	518 years ago
21. False witnesses accuse him	Psalms 35:11	Matthew 26:60-61	990 years ago
22. Silent before his accusers	Isaiah 53:7	Matthew 26:63	760 years ago
23. Be scourged and spat upon	Isaiah 50:6	Mark 14:65	760 years ago
24. Crucified between two thieves	Isaiah 53:12	Mark 15:27-28	760 years ago
25. Hands and feet pierced	Psalms 22:16	John 20:27	990 years ago
26. His side pierced	Zechariah 12:10	John 19:34	518 years ago
27. Given vinegar to drink	Psalms 69:21	John 19:29	990 years ago
28. Garments gambled for	Psalms 22:18	Matthew 27:35	990 years ago
29. No bones broken	Psalms 34:20	John 19:34	990 years ago
30. His forsaken cry	Psalms 22:1	Matthew 27:46	990 years ago
31. Darkness over land from noon	Amos 8:9	Matthew 27:45	800 years ago
32. Buried in a rich man's tomb	Isaiah 53:9	Matthew 27:57-60	760 years ago

33. Raised from the dead	Psalm 16:10	Luke 24:36-48	990 years ago
34. Ascend into heaven	Psalm 24:7-10	Luke 24:50-51	990 years ago
35. Gentiles believe on him	Isaiah 60:3	Romans 9:25	760 years ago
36. Messiah would offer himself as Prince and king to Israel	Daniel 9:25	Matthew 21:5	590 years ago
37. Temple & Jerusalem destroyed	Daniel 9:26	Fulfilled 70AD	590 years ago

Dr Peter Stoner, a professor of statistical probability, says that the odds of one man fulfilling all prophecies exactly as they are prophesied in the Bible, is 10^{157} . Now 10 to the 50th power is written 10^{50} , and is considered to be zero, as the probability of any event taking place, that is greater than 10^{50} can't happen, as the total number of electrons in the known universe is only 10^{50} .

Also, there are also hundreds of other prophecies in the Bible regarding other men, places, times and events. **One third of the Bible is prophecy.** Not one prediction has failed. All have been correctly fulfilled. This proves that the author of the Bible is God, not of man or men. **Only God alone knows the future.**

From the table above, we see that the Bible has predicted hundreds of years ago, that God would send His Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. It all happened as God said to the **very exact detail.** So we can thank and praise God for the Bible. It is **100% true** and it tells the future with **100% accuracy.** God cannot lie. Your friends might lie, but the Bible says God cannot lie. The scriptures say "*And now, **O Lord GOD, thou art that God, and thy words be true** ... (2 Samuel 7:28).* In the New Testament, we have "*...hope of eternal life, **which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began***" (Titus 1:2)

The **THREE TESTS** prove the predictions **have come true**, having been given **far enough before** the predicted event, and have been **exact**. Therefore, **God exists**, the King James Bible is **inspired** and **without error**; that **Jesus Christ is God**, and all other **Bible doctrines are true**.

So what's the point for you today? Well, there are two groups of prophecies – the **past** ones that have been fulfilled and the **future** ones, **yet to be fulfilled**. As the Bible has been proven to be 100% accurate so far, then you can be absolutely 100% sure about the prophecies yet to be fulfilled. Very shortly, Jesus Christ will return for the Christians at the rapture. As the Bible says "***For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.***" (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18).

Dear Reader, you want to be in this number. You just don't want to miss it. Why? The seven years after that, will have God pouring his wrath out upon the earth. Read about it in the Book of Revelation and indeed Matthew chapter 23-24. **THESE FORETOLD EVENTS ARE NOT FAIRY TALES**. They will be actual events that have been prophesied and **WILL BE FULFILLED TO THE LETTER**.

STUDY THE BIBLE 3 (STB 3) **"Dispensations"**

What is a dispensation? A **dispensary** used to be attached to a doctor's medical practice and when the diagnosis was given, like "You have the flu", the doctor would recommend and **dispense** (give) some medicine to the patient. If the patient had a wound that had become infected, the doctor would **dispense** and **give** the patient something else. **Different patients with different problems got different treatments**. You can see then, that it would be no good giving a patient with a broken leg some hand cream for a rash.

So today, the chemist or the pharmacist is the place where medicines are **dispensed** or **given out** with **appropriate** instructions. It's no good for the patient to be given some antibiotic tablets to be taken 'three times a day' if the patient decides to only take one tablet every week.

This what God does. Over **different time periods** to **different men**, God **dispenses instructions** on what he wants that particular group to do.

1. GOD STARTS OFF! (God's 1st dispensing (giving) of rules)

Adam in the garden of Eden. God said "Adam you are sinless, and I want you to stay that way. I want you to live forever on the earth. So I don't want you to eat of the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil. If you do, you will die." Adam disobeyed God and sinned. (Here is a simple definition for **sin** - it is **disobeying** God.)

What was God testing? **Obedience!** And this has been man's problem ever since.

THE RESULT? God's judgment! God casts Adam out of the garden

2. SO, GOD STARTS AGAIN! (God's 2nd dispensing (giving) of rules)

God puts up with the sin of the world till it got to much for him. The scriptures say ***And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*** Genesis 6:5. Total disobedience and massive sinning.

THE RESULT? God's judgment! God drowns the whole earth, but eight people are saved.

3. SO, GOD STARTS AGAIN! (God's 3rd dispensing (giving) of rules)

The world knows about God, the garden of Eden, disobedience, sin and the flood. But they disobeyed God and set about building the tower of Babel. ***And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.*** Genesis 11:1 such that

they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. Genesis 11:4.

but the LORD said *Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now **nothing will be restrained** (held back) **from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let us go down, and there confound** (confuse) **their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the LORD scattered them abroad ... upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.*** Genesis 11:6-7.

THE RESULT? God's judgment! Men scattered – different races, different languages, different continents.

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4. SO, GOD STARTS AGAIN! (God's 4th dispensing (giving) of rules)

This time he chooses Abraham to be the father of the Hebrew nation. Famine hits the land, but Abraham disobeys God, and Abraham and his family go down to Egypt for food.

THE RESULT? God's two judgments! 1. The Jews become slaves in Egypt. 2. God destroys Egypt

5. SO GOD STARTS AGAIN! (God's 5th dispensing (giving) of rules)

God gives his laws on Mt Sinai (Arabia). The Jews murmur, fornicate, lust and tempt the Lord so he lets them wander the desert for forty years, after which they enter Canaan. They disobey God and don't wipe out the heathen nations. Furthermore, they want judges to rule over them to be like other nations. God says to Samuel the prophet *... for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.* 1 Samuel 8:7

THE RESULT? God judgment! He gives Israel kings and this ends up in absolute disaster – Saul, David, Solomon plus 19 kings each to both North and South. They both end up **captive** to Assyria and Babylon.

6. SO GOD STARTS AGAIN! (God's 6th dispensing (giving) of rules)

The Southern tribes return from Babylon but will not obey the Lord and rebuild the temple and the wall. They eventually do though. But God has had enough.

THE RESULT? God judgment! God is silent. He stops sending prophets to Israel for 400 years.

7. SO GOD STARTS AGAIN! (God's 7th dispensing (giving) of rules)

Christ the Messiah comes exclusively for the Jew.

He tells them they can have **heaven on earth** (kingdom of heaven) and he gives them the set of **rules**. These rules are **the Sermon on the Mount** (Matthew 5-7). Christ says *But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.* Matthew 6:15. These are extremely strict rules that no-one can keep. But Christ tells them that if they would **constantly believe** he was fulfilling these rules on their behalf, while continuing to go to the temple for their

usual **blood** sacrifices for sins, they would go to Abraham's bosom when they die. But they will **not believe**, and so they crucify Christ.

THE RESULT? God's judgment!. God puts them aside for 2,000 years to be persecuted by the world. Now God allows the world to have even 'easier' salvation. By works? No. Christ fulfilled the works of the law. We now have direct entry into the **kingdom of God in heaven** by Christ's perfect works. No waiting in Abraham's bosom. Do we still need blood for sin? Yes! It is the perfect shed blood of Christ not the on-going daily animal sacrifices as ... **there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, Hebrews 10:26** because **For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. Hebrews 10:14.**

8. SO GOD STARTS AGAIN! (God's 8th dispensing (giving) of rules)

At Pentecost, Peter preaches to the men of Israel with the following **Repent, and be baptized** (water) **every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins** (remission is for sins that are past Rom 3:25) **and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Acts 2:38.**

Now the nation of Jews as a whole disobey what God wants.

THE RESULT? God's judgment! He puts them aside.

NOTE: These are **not** the salvation instructions for today.

1. We do **not** need water baptism to be saved. Paul said **For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: ... lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. 1 Corinthians 1:17**

2. We have **redemption** - past, present & future sins. Peter speaks of **remission** (Rom 3:25).

9. SO GOD STARTS AGAIN! (God's 9th dispensing (giving) of rules)

God chooses Paul and **a dispensation of the gospel is given to Paul** (1Corinthians 9:17).

God makes it **extremely** simple for anyone to get saved today. You don't need faith. You need simply believe the facts like the jailer. What does it mean to believe? It means to be '**fully persuaded**' (Romans 4:20-21). It's the easiest time since creation to be saved. It's not of works as all the work has been done. (Eph 2:8-9).

But men disobey God's instructions.

THE RESULT? God's judgment! He sends them to hell.

10. SO GOD STARTS AGAIN! (coming up in the future) **(God's 10th dispensing (giving) of rules)**

After the rapture, there will **not** be one Christian on earth for seven years. This will be a **Jewish time** or **dispensation**. This means you can lose your salvation. It is also called **Daniel's 70th week** (Daniel 9:27). It is called the time of **the seven year tribulation**. God's instructions to man is to not to take the mark. If you do, you will go to hell (Revelation 14:11).

THE RESULT? God's judgment! Those who take the mark go to hell.

11. SO GOD STARTS AGAIN! (coming up in the future) **(God's 11th dispensing (giving) of rules)**

Christ rules and reigns for 1,000 years with a rod of iron (Revelation 19:15). He demands strict, outward and 100% obedience. It is a time of works. People disobey.

THE RESULT? God's judgment! Disobedience sends them to hell (Rev 19:15)

12. SO GOD STARTS AGAIN! (coming up in the future) **(God's 12th dispensing (giving) of rules)**

This will be the new everlasting heaven and new earth. A new universe without sin.

GOD DISPENSES DIFFERENT INSTRUCTIONS TO DIFFERENT GROUPS AT DIFFERENT TIMES.

Does God **forbid** you to eat of the tree like Adam? Does God want you to **build** an ark? Does God want you to be **circumcised**? Does God want you to believe on **Christ the Messiah** while still going to a Jewish temple for **animal blood** sacrifices? Of course not.

Getting into heaven has always been by **perfect obedient works** For disobedience, getting right (atonement) with God, has always been by **blood**.

Today, in this dispensation, we have Christ's perfect works and his perfect blood.

In this dispensation, what are God's instructions for you and me?

It's never been easier – **"BELIEVE** on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

(STB 4 – "Questions from Muslims")