

Bible Basics – Books of the New Testament

Overview

The New Testament has a collection of 27 books and is often called the Christian Scriptures. They were all written in Greek and they proclaim the birth, death, resurrection and teachings of Jesus in addition to the growth of the early Christian Church.



While the Old Testament was written over many centuries before Christ – the New Testament was written during the mid to end of the first century AD. Saint Paul’s letters were amongst the first writings followed by the Gospels. Saint John’s Revelation written around the end of the first century concludes the writings as defined by the Canon of the Bible.

A brief summary of these books is shown in the following table:

Category	Themes	Books
The Gospels	The stories of Jesus from birth, infancy, teachings death and resurrection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mathew ▪ Mark ▪ Luke ▪ John
The Acts	The accounts of the growth of the new religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Acts of the Apostles
The letters of Paul – also called epistles	Written to the various churches to comfort, advise and admonish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Romans ▪ I & II Corinthians ▪ Galatians ▪ Ephesians ▪ Philippians ▪ Colossians ▪ I & II Thessalonians ▪ I & II Timothy ▪ Titus ▪ Philemon
Paul’s other letters – also called epistles	Written to the various churches to comfort, advise and admonish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hebrews ▪ James ▪ I & II Peter ▪ I & II & III John ▪ Jude
Apocalypse	The struggles of the followers of Jesus to the defeat of Satan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revelation