


# WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES

EDITED BY  
WILLIAM MACDONALD




*Developed as a study course by Emmaus Correspondence School, founded in 1942.*



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Many Bible study courses may also be taken via smart phones, tablets, and computers. For more information, visit the ECS website [www.ecsministries.org](http://www.ecsministries.org).

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Edited by William MacDonald

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# STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS

This course is written to help you understand what the Bible teaches about many important subjects of eternal significance. As you study, you will discover what the God of the Bible is like, what separates men and women from God, the value of Christ's death and resurrection, and how you can have a personal relationship with God.

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## **Course Components**

This course has two parts: this study course and the exam booklet.

## **How To Study**

This study has twelve chapters, and each chapter has its own exam. Begin by asking God to help you understand the material. Read the chapter through at least twice, once to get a general idea of its contents and then again, slowly, looking up any Bible references given.

Begin studying immediately, or if you are in a group, as soon as the group begins. We suggest that you keep a regular schedule by trying to complete at least one chapter per week.

## **Exams**

In the exam booklet there is one exam for each chapter (exam 1 covers chapter 1 of the course). Do not answer the questions by what you think or have always believed. The questions are designed to find out if you understand the material given in the course.

After you have completed each chapter, review the related exam and see how well you know the answers. If you find that you are having difficulty answering the questions, review the material until you think you can answer the questions. It is important that you read the Bible passages referenced as some questions may be based on the Bible text.

## **How Your Exams Are Graded**

Your instructor will mark any incorrectly answered questions. You will be referred back to the place in the course where the correct answer is to be found. After finishing this course with a passing average, you will be awarded a certificate.

If you enrolled in a class, submit your exam papers to the leader or secretary of the class who will send them for the entire group to the Correspondence School.

See the back of the exam booklet for more information on returning the exams for grading.

# 1

## THE BIBLE

### Introduction

The Bible is different from all other books. When you see it, it looks like one book. But it is made up of sixty-six separate books, beginning with the book of Genesis and ending with the book of Revelation.

The sixty-six books of the Bible are divided into two groups. The first part is called the Old Testament and there are thirty-nine books in it. The second part is called the New Testament and there are twenty-seven books in it.

Near the beginning of each Bible you will find a list of the names of all the books in the Bible. It tells you the number of the page where each book begins.

### Who Wrote the Bible?

At least forty men had a part in writing the Bible. It was about fifteen hundred years from the time the first man wrote until the last man finished. But there is an important thing to remember. The Bible is inspired by *God*. What do we mean by the inspiration of the Bible? We mean that men wrote under the direct control of God. God guided them

so that they wrote the very words He wanted them to write. The following verses from the Bible clearly teach us that the writers of the Bible were inspired by God.

————— ❧ —————  
**Men wrote under  
the direct control of  
God. God guided  
them so that they  
wrote the very  
words He wanted  
them to write.**  
————— ❧ —————

*Prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. (2 Peter 1:21)*

*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

So we see that the Bible itself claims to be the written Word of God. Some people say the Bible only *contains* the word of God. This could mean that some parts of the Bible are inspired and other parts are not. But *every part of the Bible is inspired*. “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.”

There is another important thing to remember. God has not given any other message to men. The Bible is the only written communication or revelation that God has given to us. In the last chapter of the Bible, God warns us that we should not add anything to the prophecy of the book and we should not take anything away from it.

*For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. (Revelation 22:18-19)*

## **What Does the Bible Tell Us About?**

The Bible has one main subject, even though it is made up of sixty-six books. The Bible tells us about Christ. The Old Testament told of many things that would happen when Christ would come. It told ahead of time something about His birth, life, and death. The New Testament tells us about what did happen when Christ came into the world. It also tells us about what will happen when Christ returns to this earth.

————— ❧ —————  
**The Old Testament told ahead of time about Christ’s birth, life, and death. The New Testament tells us about what did happen when Christ came into the world.**  
————— ❧ —————

## What Is in the Bible?

The Bible tells us about the world from the beginning of time until the future when there will be a new heaven and a new earth.

The book of Genesis tells about the creation of the world, about how sin entered the world, about the flood, and about the beginning of the nation of Israel. The books from Exodus to Esther give us the history of the nation of Israel, up to about 400 years before Christ was born. The books from Job to Song of Solomon are full of wonderful poetry and wise sayings. The other books of the Old Testament, from Isaiah to Malachi, contain many prophecies, including things that would happen in the future. These books have messages from God to the people of Israel. God told them about their condition at that time and about what would happen to them in the future.

————— ❧ —————  
**Read the Bible**  
**slowly. Read it often.**  
**Read it prayerfully.**  
 ————— ❧ —————

At the beginning of the New Testament there are four books which are called the Gospels. Each one of these books tells about the life that the Lord Jesus Christ lived when He was in the world. The book of Acts tells the story about the first Christians and about

the life of the great apostle Paul. The books from Romans to Jude are letters that were written to church groups or to individual men. These letters explain the great truths about the Christian faith and give us clear teaching about how we should live as Christians. The book of Revelation shows us the future. It tells us about the events that will take place in heaven, on earth, and in hell.

## Conclusion

The following is what someone has said about the Bible:

This book contains the mind of God, the condition of man, the way of salvation, the judgment of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its teachings are holy, its laws are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are unchangeable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be saved, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. . . . Christ is its grand subject. Our good is its design. The glory of God is its end. Read it slowly. Read it often. Read it prayerfully. . . . It is the Book of books. It is the way God makes Himself known to man.

### GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Test your Bible knowledge. How many books are in the Bible? in the Old Testament? in the New Testament?
2. What is meant by 'inspiration' of the Bible? Look at 2 Peter 1:21 and 2 Timothy 3:17. Why is it important?
3. Describe some of the basic differences between the Old and New Testaments.
4. What are some of the general subjects that are dealt with in the Scriptures?



# WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES

## EXAM BOOKLET AK '15 (1 UNIT) WBT

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STUDENT NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

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ADDRESS

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CITY, STATE, ZIP

COURSE GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

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INSTRUCTOR



*Exam developed by Emmas Correspondence School, founded in 1942.*

## A NOTE ON THE EXAMS

The exams are designed to check your knowledge of the course material and the Scriptures. After you have studied a chapter, review the exam questions for that lesson. If you have difficulty in answering the questions, re-read the material. If questions contain a Scripture reference, you may use your Bible to help you answer them. If your instructor has provided a Single Page Answer Sheet, record your answer on that sheet. This exam contains the following types of questions:

### MULTIPLE CHOICE

You will be asked to write in the letter of the correct answer at the space on the right. Here is an example:

The color of grass is

- A. blue                                  C. yellow  
B. green                                 D. orange

     **B**     

### WHAT DO YOU SAY?

Under this heading we invite you to put into words something you have learned from that chapter, and to share that with us.

### RETURNING THE EXAM

See the back of this exam booklet for instructions on returning your exam for grading.

**DO NOT PHOTOCOPY THESE EXAM PAGES**

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# CHAPTER 1 EXAM

## THE BIBLE

### EXAM GRADE

***Before starting this exam, write your name and address on the front of this Exam Booklet.***

*Directions: Read each question carefully and write the letter of the correct answer in the blank space on the right. Use the separate answer sheet if provided.*

1. Who wrote the Bible?
  - A. Thirty-six authors
  - B. Human authors under God's direct control
  - C. King James
  - D. The apostle Paul

\_\_\_\_\_
  
2. What does *inspiration* mean when it refers to the Bible?
  - A. Everyone who reads the Bible is inspired.
  - B. God guided men in writing the very words.
  - C. The Bible contains the word(s) of God.
  - D. The ideas were God's, but not the words.

\_\_\_\_\_
  
3. Which verses in the Bible tell us that "men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit"?
  - A. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
  - B. Acts 4:10
  - C. 2 Peter 1:21
  - D. Revelation 22:18-19

\_\_\_\_\_
  
4. God warns against adding to or taking away from the Bible
  - A. in its very first chapter.
  - B. in its very last chapter.
  - C. in its middle chapter.
  - D. in every chapter.

\_\_\_\_\_
  
5. What is the main subject of the Bible?
 

A. The Jew	C. The church
B. The nations	D. Jesus Christ

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Which of the following is **NOT** found in the Old Testament?

- A. The creation of the world
- B. How sin entered the world
- C. The history of Israel
- D. The church

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What parts of the Bible are mostly prophetic?

- A. Exodus to Esther
- B. Job to Song of Solomon
- C. Romans to Jude
- D. Isaiah to Malachi

\_\_\_\_\_

8. We can read about the life of the Lord Jesus in

- A. the four Gospels.
- B. the book of Acts.
- C. the letters of Paul.
- D. the letters of Peter.

\_\_\_\_\_

9. What do the letters of the New Testament give us?

- A. Clear teaching for Christian living
- B. The history of Israel
- C. Poetry and prophecy
- D. The history of the church

\_\_\_\_\_

10. What is the best thing to do with the Bible?

- A. Regard it as another religious book.
- B. Read it, believe it, and practice it.
- C. Receive it only when we can understand it.
- D. Honor it and read parts of it.

\_\_\_\_\_

### WHAT DO YOU SAY?

How important is the Bible to you, and why?

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