

Christian Doctrine The Bible (Intro)

The Book of All Books

The Bible is no ordinary book. It is the very words of God. The Bible is actually a compilation of 66 individual books (39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament). These books tell us everything God wants us to know. They explain who God is and what He is doing, as well as who we are and why we are here on earth. This study will help us get a better understanding of why the Bible is so important, while answering questions such as: Why did God write it? How did we get it? How do we use it?

What Sets the Bible Apart from Other Books?

Note these aspects about God's Word that make it unique:

- Its unity: The Bible was written by over 40 different authors over a time period of 1,600 years. The authors were from three different continents (Asia, Africa and Europe) and had various occupations (kings, military leaders, philosophers, doctors, fisherman, etc.). The original Bible was written using three different languages (Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek). Yet, despite the many different authors (many of whom had never met each other) and despite being written over such a long period of time, the Bible records one amazing story without contradictions or inconsistencies (Ps. 119:160).
- Its survival: Even after almost 2,000 years since it was finished, it is still read by millions of people and is translated into hundreds of languages. All of this, even despite several attempts to completely destroy it and keep it out of people's hands.
- Its influence: The Bible has changed the lives of countless people and entire communities. Its impact throughout history can be seen in everything from art and architecture to literature and music.
- Its power: Being God's own words, the Bible is full of power and life. It convicts of sin, changes hearts, gives guidance, and brings eternal life (Jn. 6:63; Heb. 4:12; Jer. 23:29, 20:9; Rom 1:16).

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