

# Bible Introduction Overview

## Comprehension Check Test



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- I. MODIFIED TRUE/FALSE – Write TRUE in the blank if the statement is true. If the statement is false, DO NOT WRITE FALSE. Instead, write the word that best replaces the underlined word in the statement.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1) The word Scripture basically means “collection of books.”
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 2) The Bible is a combination of God’s directions for how we should live, a history of the world, a story with a purpose, and a revelation of God.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Over about one and a half years, God inspired many different people to write down His words into 66 individual books.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 4) During the centuries following Jesus’ ascension into Heaven, these were collected together to form the Bible.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 5) The original texts of the Bible were decided upon with a somewhat final decision being made in 400 AD.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 6) The Bible is also available in English in many different translations.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 7) The Old and New Testament divisions were made to categorize those texts written before Christ with those written after Christ.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 8) The word agreement is the same as *covenant* or *testament*.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 9) Acts stands alone as a history of the early Church.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 10) The Bible as a whole is the Word of God, since there is no one part of the Bible which is more the word of God than other parts.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 11) The Bible has two natures: it is authoritative because it is what God wants, and it is historical because the human influence tied it to specific cultures and times in history.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 12) To understand how to apply God’s Word, you must understand its original meaning and context.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 13) The words, “there is no God,” are found 15 times throughout the Bible (NIV).
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 14) The need for context extends in the Bible to an appreciation of the culture and circumstances of the time.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 15) Concordances *comment* on the culture and circumstance, then focus on the meaning of the passages in the Bible.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 16) The Bible is God’s word to us, and we are supposed to live by it, growing in godliness by obeying it.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 17) The Bible has been translated from its original Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek into more versions than any other book.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 18) Translated four millenia ago, the King James Bible was the product of the professors of Hebrew and Greek at both Cambridge and Oxford at the time.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 19) The KJV uses archaic English (*thous* and *thees* and *forasmuchs* etc), and as such can be pretty hard to read.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 20) The New English Bible was translated from scratch in an effort to get the best translation from the original to the contemporary English, without constant suggestions from previous versions.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 21) The Good News Bible sought to provide the Bible in English to those who had acquired English as a second language.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 22) Using translators from 13 different denominations of the Christian Church, originating from the United States (vast majority), Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, the *New International* version sought to have an interdenominational and international character.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 23) Since *The Message* was translated only by Peterson, many other Biblical scholars were asked to read through his efforts, comparing with the original manuscripts as they went.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 24) The English Standard Version seems to be a solid translation, well-suited to Bible study and memorization, good for serious devotions, and adequate for light devotions.

\_\_\_\_\_ 25) The Contemporary English Version takes into consideration the needs of the hearer, as well as those of the reader.

\_\_\_\_\_ 26) Each book of the Bible was written at least 1,900 years ago, and we do not have the original manuscripts today.

\_\_\_\_\_ 27) There are a multiplicity of copies of the texts of the New Testament that date from within a couple of generations of their writing.

\_\_\_\_\_ 28) The copies of the New Testament came from different geographical locations and have been translated into other languages at a very early time.

\_\_\_\_\_ 29) When we compare a number of manuscripts from a very early time period and different geographical locations, it is easy to see what is accurate and what is not.

\_\_\_\_\_ 30) Including translations of the New Testament, we have over 24,000 copies of the New Testament coming down to us from Antiquity, and that does not include quotes.

\_\_\_\_\_ 31) The great deal of evidence to the authority of the New Testament makes it not only reliable, but by far the most reliable document to come down to us from Antiquity.

\_\_\_\_\_ 32) The types of mistakes encountered from scribal error tend not to influence the message of a text, unless whole lines are skipped inadvertently.

\_\_\_\_\_ 33) All mainstream Bibles were translated from the most authoritative copies of the original Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek available.

\_\_\_\_\_ 34) The discovery of more authoritative texts (as recent as Qumran in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century) teach us more about the original languages of the Bible.

\_\_\_\_\_ 35) Chapter and verse divisions remain the same across all different translations of the Bible.

\_\_\_\_\_ 36) It is not necessary to distinguish between Old and New Testaments when referencing.

\_\_\_\_\_ 37) It is not necessary to identify the author of a book when referring to it.

\_\_\_\_\_ 38) The Jewish Bible (*Tanakh*) is the same as the Christian Old Testament, except for its book arrangements.

\_\_\_\_\_ 39) The historical record of the Jews was written down on leather scrolls and tablets over centuries, and the authors included kings, shepherds, prophets and other leaders.

\_\_\_\_\_ 40) About 500 BC, the Law and other Jewish Scriptures were arranged by councils of rabbis (Jewish teachers), who then recognized the complete set as the inspired and sacred authority of God (Elohim).

\_\_\_\_\_ 41) Beginning as early as 250 BC, the Hebrew Bible was translated into Greek by Jewish scholars in Alexandria, Egypt.

\_\_\_\_\_ 42) After approximately 400 years of scriptural silence, Jesus arrived on the scene in about 4 BC.

\_\_\_\_\_ 43) Throughout his teaching, Jesus often quotes the Old Testament, declaring that he did not come to destroy the Jewish Scriptures, but to fulfill them.

\_\_\_\_\_ 44) The authors of the New Testament quote from 39 books of the Old Testament and widely circulate their material so that by about 150 AD, early Christians were referring to the entire set of writings as the "New Covenant."

\_\_\_\_\_ 45) During the 200s AD, the original writings were translated from Greek into Latin, Coptic (Egypt) and Syriac (Syria), and widely disseminated as "inspired Scripture" through the Roman Empire (and beyond).

\_\_\_\_\_ 46) The Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered in Israel in the 1940's and 50's, also provide astounding evidence for the reliability of the ancient transmission of the Jewish Scripture (Old Testament) in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries BC.

\_\_\_\_\_ 47) Of the approximately 20,000 lines that make up the entire New Testament, only 40 lines are in question.

\_\_\_\_\_ 48) Other than some grammatical and cultural differences, the "Bible manuscripts" are absolutely true to their original form and content, and remarkably well-preserved in their various translations.

\_\_\_\_\_ 49) Isaiah predicted (prophesied) that a man named Cyrus, who would not be born for about a hundred years, would give a decree to rebuild a city and a temple, which were still standing and fully active at the time.

\_\_\_\_\_ 50) The prophets Hosea (748-690 BC) and Micah (738-690 BC) each prophesied the destruction of Samaria, the capital city of the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

\_\_\_\_\_ 51) In 586 BC, Ezekiel predicts the fall of mainland Tyre to the Babylonian armies of Nebuchadnezzar (Ezekiel 26).

\_\_\_\_\_ 52) The text further describes the siege against the island fortress of Tyre (a half mile off the coast of mainland Tyre) hundreds of years later.

\_\_\_\_\_53) In 539 BC, the Babylonian Empire was conquered by the Persians, and a king named Cyrus issued a formal decree that the Jews could return to Jerusalem and rebuild their temple (2Chronicles 36:22-23).

\_\_\_\_\_54) This decree is confirmed by secular archaeology in the form of a stone cylinder that details many events of Cyrus' reign, including the decree to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem.

\_\_\_\_\_55) Ezekiel's prophecy describes how the future invaders would tear down the ruins of mainland Tyre and throw them into the sea.

\_\_\_\_\_56) Secular history records that Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to the great mainland city of Tyre about a decade after Ezekiel's prophecy.

\_\_\_\_\_57) As the Bible was carried from country to country, it was translated into languages that do not necessarily mirror the original languages of Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic.

\_\_\_\_\_58) The mainland city was destroyed in 573 BC (Ezekiel's first prediction), but the city of Tyre on the island remained a powerful city for several hundred years.

\_\_\_\_\_59) Matthew 24:35, Mark 13:31, and Luke 21:33 all repeat the same verse.

\_\_\_\_\_60) Jewish scribal tradition was maintained until the invention of the printing press in the mid-1400's AD.