

Knowing the Word of God - Part Two

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The Old Testament

The Old Testament is made up of 39 books. It was written over a period of 1400 years by 32 writers, (2 Peter 1:21) *For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.* Yet there is only one author, (2 Timothy 3:16) *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.*

The Old Testament consists of:

- Law – 5 books
- History – 12 books
- Poetry – 5 books
- Prophecy – 17 books (5 major books and 12 minor books)

The theme of the Old Testament is “Expectation and Longing”; (Job 23:3) *Oh that I knew where I might find him! that I might come even to his seat!*

The Old Testament points to the coming of the Christ, (Luke 24:45-46) *Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, (46) And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day.*

There are more than 300 prophecies concerning the coming of the Christ.

- Place of birth, (Micah 5:2) *But thou, Beth-lehem Ephrathah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.*
- Born of a virgin, (Isaiah 7:14) *Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.*
- His triumphal entry, (Zechariah 9:9) *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.*
- Betrayed by a friend, (Psalm 41:9) *Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.*
- Sold for 30 pieces of silver, (Zechariah 11:12) *And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver.*
- Hands and feet pierced, (Psalm 22:16) *For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.*
- His ascension, (Psalm 68:18) *Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the Lord God might dwell among them.*

The Old Testament also shows the state of man when he has no faith in God, 1 Corinthians 10:1-11.

The Dead Sea Scrolls proved the fact that the books of the prophets have been preserved over thousands of years.

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The New Testament

The New Testament is made up of 27 books. Eight writers wrote it over a period of 100 years.

The New Testament consists of:

- The Gospels – 4 books
- Church founded – 1 book
- Epistles – 21 books
- Prophecy – 1 book

The Gospels (the life of Christ – He is here)

- Place of birth, Matthew 2:1
- Born of a virgin, Matthew 1:18
- His triumphal entry, John 12:13-14
- Betrayed by a friend, Mark 14:10
- Sold for 30 pieces of silver, Matthew 26:15
- Hands and feet pierced, John 20:27
- His ascension, Luke 24:50-51

Church founded

- (Acts 2:1-4) And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. (2) And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. (3) And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. (4) And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Epistles

- Christ will return, (Titus 2:13) Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.
- The life of the Christian is to be like Jesus, (Philippians 2:5) Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.
- (1 Peter 1:16) Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Prophecy

- A revelation of Jesus, (Revelations 1:1) The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified *it* by his angel unto his servant John.
- He is the One on the throne, (Revelations 4:2, 8) And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and *one* sat on the throne... (8) And the four beasts had each of them six wings about *him*; and *they were* full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.
- Judgement Day, (Revelation 20:11-13) And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. (12) And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. (13) And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which

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were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

- The New Heaven and the New Earth, (Revelations 21:1) And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.
- Jesus the beginning and the end, (Revelations 1:8) I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

The theme of the New Testament is “We have found Him”; (John 1:45) Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

The Church is built on the apostles and prophets, Jesus – the chief cornerstone, (Ephesians 2:20) And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*.

The fact that people are receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost today, just as they did in the days of the first church proves the book of Acts to be a true account of what happened, as well as proving the rest of the Bible.