

BASIC BIBLE OUTLINE

Book, Chapters	People	Places	Ideas
Genesis 1-4 THE PROBLEM (sin)	God. Adam & Eve. Cain & Abel.	Eden	Creation. Sin.
Genesis 5-9	Noah.		Saving the Righteous. God's Promises.
Genesis 11		Tower of Babel.	God's power over the plans of man. Start of languages.
Genesis 12-22 THE PROMISE (JESUS)	Abraham (Father of Faith), Sarah	Ur. Canaan- Promised Land. Shepherds/tents.	God's promises: many descendents, promised land, the world will be saved through one of Abraham's descendents - Jesus (Jesus was always part of the plan).
Genesis 22-28	Isaac, Rebecah	Shepherds/tents	How to treat others. Passing of promise to Isaac Genesis 26.
Genesis 25-33	Jacob and Esau, Jacobs wife Rachel	Jacob-Canaan, Esau- Edom	Jacob tricked Esau to sell him his birthright. Jacob worked 7 years for Rachel. Jacob dreamed of ladder to heaven.
Genesis 37-50	Joseph (11 brothers became heads of 12 Tribes), Pharaoh	Canaan, Egypt	Sold by brothers. Worked hard as slave, prisoner and king's second-in-command. Forgiveness. Joseph helped save a remnant of God's people by storing grain.
Exodus, Leviticus (laws), Numbers, Deuteronomy (laws)	Moses, Pharaoh, Aaron, Joshua, Caleb	Slavery & rescue from Egypt, desert wanderings, Mt. Sinai. Promised Land	Raised by Pharaoh's daughter, killed an Egyptian and fled, God told him in a burning bush to free the Israelites. 10 plagues convinced Pharaoh. Passover of death angel. Crossed the Red Sea, Ten Commandments, golden calf, bronze serpent, tabernacle (clouds of fire and smoke), manna and water in desert. 40 years' wandering.
Joshua	Joshua, Rahab (helped spies at Jericho), Achan (disobeyed God)	desert wanderings, taking the Promised Land, Jericho, Ai, Gibeon	One of the Twelve Spies. Succeeded Moses as leader. Faith in God's methods at Jericho (walls fell), Ai (battle lost by sin), Gibeon (sun stood still) and other battles to take Promised Land. Divided Promised Land among 12 Tribes.
Judges	Gideon, Samson, Deborah, others	Promised Land (Canaan/Israel)	12 Tribes settle land - each with own leader. People rebelled, God let them suffer then sent Judges to help them.
Ruth	Ruth. Boaz. Naomi.	Moab. Bethlehem.	Ruth cared for Naomi. David and Jesus her descendents.
1,2 Samuel	Samuel, Eli	Israel.	Prophet Samuel led people until they demanded a king. Anointed Saul and later David and advised kings.
1 Samuel, 1 Chronicles	Saul	Israel.	1st King. Led well in battle to take the land. Began to trust in self, not God. Jealous of David. Consulted witch of Endor.
1,2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 1 Chronicles, Psalms	David	Israel.	2nd King. Man after God's own heart. Shepherd who fought Goliath. Sinned with Bathsheba, but asked forgiveness. Also good leader in war, solidifying the country of Israel. Wanted to build Temple for God in Jerusalem.
2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 1 Chronicles, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon	Solomon	Israel.	3rd King. Son of David. Asked God for wisdom to rule. God also gave wealth & power. Built the Temple in Jerusalem and expanded Kingdom of Israel to its largest size. Son Rehoboam and general Jeroboam split the country on his death. Only Judah (Jerusalem) left faithful (sort of).
Jonah	Jonah	Assyria (Ninevah)	Jonah told by God to warn the people in Ninevah (enemies of Israel) to repent or He'd wipe them out.
Job	Job	unknown place or time	This may be time period of Job (rich man who lost everything but kept faith, and was rewarded by God)
1,2 Kings, 2 Chronicles	Jeroboam, Omri, Ahab & Jezebel, Jehu -- Prophets: Elijah, Elisha -- enemies: Tiglath-Pileaser, Shalmaneser	Northern Kingdom called Israel -- Samaria -- enemies: Assyrians (Ninevah)	Jeroboam built temples with golden calves. Omri built walled city of Samaria. Ahab (wife Jezebel) worst king ever, worshiped Baal. Elijah: stopped the rain, contest at Mt Carmel, taken to heaven in flaming chariot. Elisha: told Naaman to dip in Jordan River 7 times to be cured of leprosy. North Kingdom taken to Assyria in 721 BC and Assyrians moved strangers into the land.
Nahum, Amos, Micah, Zephaniah, Hosea, Obadiah, Habbakkuk, Joel?	Prophets from this time period	Northern Kingdom and Southern Kingdom	Prophets encouraged people to repent so God would keep them from captivity. These are among the "minor prophets" - called that because their books are smaller in size.

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1,2 Kings, 2 Chronicles, Isaiah, Jeremiah	Rehoboam, Joash, Ahaz, Josiah, Hezekiah -- Main Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah -- Enemies: Nebuchadnezzar	Southern Kingdom called Judah (included Benjamin) - Jerusalem -- enemies: Egypt, Babylon	Some good kings in the Southern Kingdom. When they die, people revert to evil. Ahaz, Manasseh were evil. Joash and Josiah were child-kings - both reformers who brought people back to God. Hezekiah was best Southern king. When the Assyrians came to take Jerusalem, God struck 185,000 of them dead. Jeremiah warned Judah to repent, but Babylon destroyed Jerusalem in 590 BC - he went with exiles to Egypt.
Ezekiel, Daniel	Ezekiel, Daniel, Meschak, Shadrach, Abednego -- King Nebuchadnezzar, Darius of Babylon	Babylonian captivity. Jerusalem left in ruins with few poorest people there	Ezekiel prophesied that Judah would be wiped out. Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar took people in groups. First group best soldiers, scholars etc. included Daniel & friends. Daniel proved worthy advisor to king, but would not give up praying to God. Put in lions' den. God saved him. Friends put in fiery furnace and God saved them.
Esther	Esther, Mordecai, Haman, King Xerxes	Captivity by Perisa - who took over Babylon	Esther was Jewish neice of Mordecai and was made Queen. Haman was jealous and plotted to kill all the Jews. Esther saved them (good story - read it!).
Ezra, Haggai, Zechariah, Nehemiah	Haggai, Zechariah, Ezra (prophets) Nehemiah (rebuilt wall), King Cyrus of Persia	Persia (had taken over Babylonia) at time Jews were allowed to return to Jerusalem	Jews had gotten comfortable in Babylon and Persia. Not many wanted to go back to Jerusalem. Haggai and Zechariah encouraged people to go and rebuild the temple. Later, Nehemiah returned to rebuild the walls and Ezra to preach repentance to those now living in Jerusalem again.
400 years go by after the Jews returned to Jerusalem. There are no biblical records of this time. The Persians were conquered by the Alexander the Great, a Greek, who built a pagan altar in the temple. That empire was divided and Palestine fell under the rule of Egypt, then Syria. Antiochus Epiphanes enraged the Jews by sacrificing a pig in the Temple and the Jews revolted led by the Maccabees. The Jews in Palestine lived more or less independently while the world powers shifted between Greece, Syria, Egypt and Rome. About forty years before Jesus was born, the Roman Empire under the Caesars became dominant and Herod was appointed ruler of Palestine. The temple is rebuilt by King Herod, who was ruler when Jesus was born. Towns had synagogues, like our churches, for local meeting and study. Several religious groups developed within Judaism, including Sadducees and Pharisees. The Sanhedrin were like our Congress and made up of representatives of the different groups. They were in charge of everyday decisions, and were the group that decided Jesus should die.			
Matthew, Mark, Luke, John -- the Gospels (means "good news")	John the Baptist, Herod, Mary, Joseph, Jesus, Apostles, Pilate	mostly Palestine - Galilee (area included Nazareth and Capernaum), Judea (included Bethlehem and Jerusalem)	These four books tell about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The authors were inspired by God but told the story in their own ways. Many parts are almost identical, and together they tell the whole story of Jesus: his teachings, his miracles, the parables he told - and about the men he chose to lead the church. Matthew is mainly historical, Mark is simple, Luke is very detailed and John more spiritual.
THE VICTORY	Jesus	Jerusalem	Jesus's Resurrection gives us promise of eternal life thru Him
Acts	Mainly Peter and Paul (Saul)	Jerusalem, Judean area, Turkey, Egypt, Greece, Rome	The "Acts of the Apostles" tells of the beginning of the church, from Peter's first sermon (3000 baptisms) through the journeys of Paul to start churches all over the known world. Adventures in every chapter!! Worth reading every year.
Romans, 1/2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, 1/2 Thessalonians, 1/2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews(?)	Letters from Paul	to churches in Asia, Greece, Rome that he had started in his travels with the gospel	Paul's letters are addressed to the churches he had started and dealt with problems they were having. Full of encouragement (and pointing out dangers to the church), these letters have much to offer our churches too. Romans tells of sin and salvation. Corinthians show how to deal with problems in the church. Philippians - how to be content. Timothy's tell much about church organization.
James, 1/2 Peter, 1/2/3 John, Jude	letters from James, Peter, John and Jude	to churches	Encouragement from them to the churches
Revelation	John wrote this about 60 years after Jesus died.	Patmos (prison island), Heaven	Persecution of Christians was starting. John's revelation of the battle of good vs evil and how God triumphs over all. What heaven will be like.