

Name: _____

Date: _____

God Reveals: An Introduction to the Bible
Chapter 4: What Is in the Bible
Directed Reading Worksheet

Directions. Read through the chapter and fill in the missing information. All the questions run sequential to the chapter. If a true/false statement is false, correct it. Enter the missing word or words for the fill-in-the-blank questions.

Introduction: *The Two Testaments of the Bible*

1. What is the meaning of the acronym TaNaKh?

2. For the New Testament writers, the Old “Testament” *was* _____. Interestingly, there are approximately four _____ references to the _____ Testament in the _____ Testament, which can be seen each time a phrase like “_____ to the scriptures” or “to fulfill what scripture said” is used. The word “_____” is important as the New Testament writers believed _____ to be the fulfillment of that revelation.

3. St. _____—a Church Father—saw the intimate _____ of the Old Testament with the New Testament: the Old Testament reveals a _____ God preparing humanity for the coming of the _____, Jesus Christ. In doing so, God revealed himself _____ through a series of covenants, the central theme being God’s love for the _____ people.

4. Explain how the expectations of the messiah among the Old Testament writers differed from the writers of the New Testament.

5. True or False? The New Covenant differs from the Old Covenant in this respect: while the Old Covenant was written on their hearts, the New Covenant would be written on stone tablets.

6. True or False? The Prophet Jeremiah maintained that the law of God contained in the Torah would not only be written on everyone’s hearts, but it would also be everlasting.

7. True or False? While the Old Covenant had been sealed with the blood of animals, the New Covenant—initiated at the Last Supper—is sealed by the Blood of Christ shared on the Cross and forevermore in the Mass.

8. The Old Testament books prepare Christians for the _____ of Christ, even as they prepared the Jewish people for his _____. They are divinely _____ because the Old Covenant has never been _____. Consequently, the Church did not _____ these books but included them in the Bible. Thus, the Bible offers a complete _____ of God's Revelation.

9. Explain what it means to say that "Jesus is the New Covenant."

Section 1: Old Testament Categories and Contents

10. True or False? The Old Testament is simply a repetition of the Hebrew Scriptures.

11. What are the four classifications for the Old Testament found in the *New American Bible (Revised Edition)*?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____

12. Overall, _____ read the Scriptures in a different structure and _____ than Catholics. Individual books are _____ differently between the _____ Scriptures and Old Testament. And whereas the Old Testament ends with the _____ books, the TaNaKh places the prophets in its _____ section.

13. True or False? Judaism focuses on the Torah, and each reading is accompanied by a selection from the Prophets, while the Catholic Lectionary for Sundays includes one Old Testament reading which is typically connected by a theme with a Gospel reading.

14. Some important things should be kept in mind about the Bible: The Bible is not necessarily in _____ order. Many books underwent _____ after being first written or were later _____ with other books. Finally, _____ recorded in the _____ books did not necessarily take place _____ events in the later books.
15. The Greek word “_____” refers to the first five books of the Bible. It is called “_____” in the Hebrew Scripture, a word that means “_____.” Nearly all laws—_____, civil, and moral—are _____ in three collections of laws: The Covenant Code in Exodus, the _____ Code in the Book of Deuteronomy, and the _____ Code in Leviticus.
16. True or False? Biblical scholars have been able to identify four main sources woven together in Genesis because each reads very differently.
17. True or False? There are two accounts of creation in the Book of Numbers.
18. *Apply the descriptions on the left to the correct source or sources indicated on the right.*

Sources	Yahw ist	Elohi st	Deuterono mist	Priestl y
Stresses the importance of living morally				
Provides the basic outline for the Pentateuch				
Emphasizes stories of the kings of the northern kingdom				
Uses YHWH when referring to God				
Likely the last of the four sources				
Uses the word “Elohim” for God				
The history of Israel is cyclical: reward and punishment				
Often portrays God with physical traits and human emotions				
Highlights the speeches of Moses				
Includes accounts of the patriarchs, the Exodus, and Sinai Covenant				
Includes genealogies, dates, and census lists				

19. True or False? The historical books of the Bible reveal the events of salvation history and the formation of the Chosen People.
20. Briefly denote the nature of each of these historical books of the Bible:

Joshua and Judges —

1 & 2 Samuel, and 1 & 2 Kings —

1 & 2 Maccabees —

1 & 2 Chronicles —

Ezra and Nehemiah —

Tobit, Judith, and Esther —

21. The majority of the _____ literature was written following the Assyrian and Babylonian _____. It is rational and suggests that _____ and an understanding of God can come from both _____ and rationality. Wisdom literature was very popular during the post-exilic _____ because it could be shared with other _____ and was based on common human _____.
22. True or False? Parents, concerned with their children remaining grounded in their faith, used the prophetic books to train young people.
23. Briefly identify each of the following:
 - Writing prophets —*
 - Major prophets —*
 - Minor prophets —*
24. True or False? The terms “major” and “minor” prophets do not refer to the importance of the prophet or his message.
25. List the names of prophets mentioned in the historical books of the Old Testament.
26. Prophecy in Israel began with the writing of the prophet _____ and ceased in the centuries before _____. The prophecies typically take the form of an _____: brief, poetic declarations followed by a _____ that suggests it is a message from God, such as: “_____.” It’s important to remember that prophecies of the _____ prophets began as _____.

27. True or False? The long span of writing in the Book of Ezekiel indicates that there was more than one author of this book.
28. True or False? The message of the prophet Jeremiah, who remained in Jerusalem during the time of the Exodus, was one of hope to the people living in Babylon and in Egypt.

Section 2: Surveying the Old Testament

29. Jacob was the son of _____ and grandson of Abraham. Jacob deceived his brother _____ out of his father's birthright, a privilege that made him the _____ of the family, the owner of the family's _____, and put him in a special _____ with God. Jacob is given a new name, _____, after he struggles with a _____ of God.
30. How does the story of Joseph and his brothers play a part in the story of Moses and the Exodus?
31. What is the surprising conclusion of the Book of Ruth?
32. Contrary to the warnings of the prophet _____, late in the eleventh century BC, _____ established a monarchy, a unity that lasted just under _____ years. Its first king was _____, who was recognized for his skills as a _____ and who they had hoped would lead them to victory over the _____. He was eventually rejected, and his successor would be _____.
33. _____, a non-writing prophet, symbolized the struggle between the _____ of the Chosen People and the pagan religion of the neighboring _____. Eventually, Elijah dramatically demonstrates that _____ was a false God and that _____ is the one, true God. He holds a place among the greatest _____ of the Old Testament and later appears at the _____ of Jesus along with Moses.
34. Who were the Hasmoneans?

Section 3: *New Testament Categories and Contents*

35. All of the _____ of the New Testament knew and interacted with a number of direct _____ over a period of approximately _____ years, including six Apostles (Matthew, _____, Paul, James, Peter, and _____) and two (Mark and _____) who were in close contact with the Apostles. The _____ and Acts are historical, the epistles are instructional, and _____ is prophetic.
36. True or False? The Gospels form the heart of the New Testament and indeed the entire Bible, three of which—Matthew, Luke, and John—have a parallel storyline and are therefore called the synoptic Gospels.
37. The Acts was authored by _____ and act as a kind of sequel to his _____, relating the work of the early Church. The first part focuses on the establishment of the _____ Church and the second part on the _____ trips of St. Paul to the _____. While traveling, Paul authored _____ in which he promotes essential teachings and addresses _____ in the local churches.
38. Explain the origins and message of the Book of Revelation.
39. Explain why it's improbable that the New Testament authors simply constructed the Gospels and other books to match with Old Testament prophecies about Jesus and his preaching.
40. The word _____ did not originally mean “a _____ of Jesus’s life.” In the New Testament, it refers to the content of what Jesus _____: he “went around all of Galilee ... proclaiming the gospel of the _____.” Thus, Jesus wasn’t preaching about his life at that moment but how _____ was entering the world and how they could _____ to what God was doing in their _____.
41. True or False? Twenty-one of the New Testament documents are epistles, with fourteen of these traditionally attributed to St. Paul, although there’s debate about whether or not he is the direct author of each of these.

42. Paul's letters were organized in a common _____ form with four main sections: a short _____, some words of thanksgiving, the _____ which contained two parts—doctrinal teaching and _____—and a final salutation which includes personal _____ and a short _____. His letters are _____ in the New Testament from the longest to the shortest.
43. There are seven “catholic letters” in the New Testament. Why are they referred to in that way?
44. The Book of Revelation speaks to _____ about the Roman persecutions using a highly symbolic _____ style of writing. It's unclear to scholars whether or not the author—_____—is the Apostle John, although much of the _____ style resembles John's Gospel. The author was _____ to the island of Patmos, where he wrote the book in which he uses _____ such as colors and numbers to convey spiritual _____.

Section 4: Surveying the New Testament

45. True or False? The “Incarnation” describes how the Son of God humbled himself by taking on a human nature in order to accomplish our salvation, somewhat analogous to a human dispossessing himself to become a dog, according to Archbishop Sheen.
46. True or False? The image of a “vine and branches” provides an insight into the importance of remaining attached to Jesus and the Church into which we are “planted” at our Confirmation.
47. True or False? The kind of human love that Jesus desires from Simon Peter is filial love.
48. True or False? Christians are freed from the legal maxims of the Mosaic law but are still in need of direction and judgment on how to make good choices when facing moral decisions of everyday life.
49. True or False? The three theological virtues described by St. Paul—faith, hope, and love—come directly from God and can be attained by our own efforts in establishing good habits in our lives.

50. The Book of Revelation is a kind of _____ to what happens to the _____ of the world and Satan. The _____ in the vision is understood to be Mary, the _____ to be Jesus, and the _____ to be Satan. She is protected by St. Michael the Archangel, the great guardian and champion of _____, who expels Satan to the desert where he wages war on _____.