

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Catholic Essentials Reading Guide**

### **Chapter 1: The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture**

1. The apostle \_\_\_\_\_ was the first person recorded in the Gospels to recognize Jesus as God with the words, “My Lord and my God.”
2. By putting his hand into the wounded side of the risen Christ and his fingers into the nail holes in his hands, Thomas was reminded that Jesus was a \_\_\_\_\_ with real flesh and blood.
3. The belief in the \_\_\_\_\_, that God assumed human nature, is a distinctive sign of Christian faith.
4. Human beings are created with a \_\_\_\_\_ or longing for God that can’t be satisfied until we come to know, praise, and love him. God has a similar desire to draw each person to himself.
5. Jesus has blessed our search for him and offered us many ways to know him. These ways to know Jesus are revealed in the \_\_\_\_\_.
6. **St. Augustine** wrote about man’s search for God and said that “our heart is \_\_\_\_\_ until it rests in (God).” (What does Augustine mean by this?)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Write the first statement in the Catholic creeds.  
\_\_\_\_\_.
8. All major religions believe in some invisible, higher reality. Various religions name God differently: Hindus recognize \_\_\_\_\_; Buddhism acknowledges an \_\_\_\_\_ of the universe; Muslims call God \_\_\_\_\_, and Jews name God using the letters \_\_\_\_\_, which cannot be pronounced.
9. The Christian creeds name **five central beliefs about God**.
  - a. There is one God (belief in one God is called \_\_\_\_\_)
    - i. Belief in many gods is called \_\_\_\_\_.
    - ii. Belief in no God is called \_\_\_\_\_.
    - iii. Belief that God and nature are one is called \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. God is Creator, not created—God is the beginning and the end of all things.
  - c. God is \_\_\_\_\_ - he can do all things
  - d. God is \_\_\_\_\_ - if this wasn’t so, people would not spend time trying to find out more about God’s identity. God loves us as a Father loves his children; his love is stronger than a mother’s love for her child.
  - e. God is \_\_\_\_\_ - One God in three Divine Persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
10. Of the major religions, only \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ are monotheistic.

11. **St. Thomas Aquinas**, one of the most important **theologians** (those who study God) in Church history, named nine **attributes of God**:

- a. God is \_\_\_\_\_. He has no beginning and no end. God always was, always is, and always will be.
- b. God is \_\_\_\_\_. God is the fullness of being and perfections. God is one of a kind.
- c. God is \_\_\_\_\_ and **omnipotent**. There are no limits to God. **Omnipotence** denotes that God has supreme power and authority over all of creation. This is the only attribute mentioned in the creeds. Nothing is impossible for God.
- d. God is \_\_\_\_\_. God is everywhere; he has no limitations in time or space. You can never be away from God.
- e. God **contains all things**. All creation is under God's care and jurisdiction.
- f. God is \_\_\_\_\_. God does not evolve; he does not change.
- g. God is **pure spirit**. God is not a material creation. God's image cannot be made. God is a pure spirit who cannot be divided into parts. God is simple but complex.
- h. God is **alive**. God lives and acts in the lives of people. Most concretely, he came to the world in the incarnate form of Jesus Christ.
- i. God is \_\_\_\_\_. God is pure goodness; he is pure love.

12. Through the study of Scripture, we know the following about God the Creator: pp. 22-23

- a. God created from \_\_\_\_\_
- b. God creates \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Everything God made is \_\_\_\_\_
- d. God is \_\_\_\_\_ than his works of creation.
- e. God supports his creation through his \_\_\_\_\_.

13. St. John tells us of the mystery of the Incarnation with the words, "And the Word became \_\_\_\_\_ and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory."

14. God gradually revealed to the early Christians that there is \_\_\_\_\_ God who acts in \_\_\_\_\_ Persons— \_\_\_\_\_, Son, and \_\_\_\_\_.

15. The Trinitarian nature of God was revealed at Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ by John in the River Jordan. (Can you tell how?) \_\_\_\_\_

16. God has freely and fully revealed himself to us in order to \_\_\_\_\_.

17. God offered his \_\_\_\_\_ or knowledge of himself in stages.

18. The "first gospel" or \_\_\_\_\_ is the announcement that God will send a Messiah and Redeemer, who is a descendent of Eve (Gn 3:15).

19. God promised to send a Redeemer; this covenant was passed down through Noah, Abraham, and Moses. Little by little God revealed his plan for redemption of his Chosen People. \_\_\_\_\_ is God's final Revelation. There are no more stages beyond him.

20. In Jesus, God has revealed everything the world needs to know to be made \_\_\_\_\_ and to be \_\_\_\_\_.
21. We, as individuals, united with the \_\_\_\_\_ must continue to search out and understand the full meaning of God's \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ as it applies to our own lives and times.
22. God wants everyone to be saved. Jesus entrusted the good news of the \_\_\_\_\_ to his \_\_\_\_\_. They in turn were to share the Gospel with all people in two specific ways:  
 First, it was transmitted from what they heard and \_\_\_\_\_ directly from Christ or what they learned from the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.  
 Second, it was given to us in \_\_\_\_\_, written by the Apostles (or men associated with them) who were inspired by the Holy Spirit.
23. The Gospel has been preserved in the Bible, the Sacred Scripture. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries, the Church determined which writings to include in the Bible. The complete list of these books is called the \_\_\_\_\_ of Scripture.
24. The on-going teaching of the Church, the pope and bishops united with him, is known as \_\_\_\_\_.
25. Jesus makes himself sacramentally present to us in the \_\_\_\_\_ in the forms of bread and wine. He is also truly present in Sacred Scripture.
26. \_\_\_\_\_ is the wisdom of God revealed to us in words and language we can understand.
27. \_\_\_\_\_ is the author of Scripture. How is this possible? \_\_\_\_\_
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28. The Christian faith is not a "\_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_." Instead, the Bible is the "\_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_" meaning that the words of Scripture must be incarnate and living.
29. The human authors of Scripture were attempting to say what God wanted to reveal by their words. They wrote for the people of their own \_\_\_\_\_.
30. \_\_\_\_\_ is the detailed study or explanation of a biblical book or passage. It is derived from the Greek word that means "\_\_\_\_\_."
31. The three modes of Bible study include the following:
- 1) Pay attention to the Bible as a \_\_\_\_\_, not simply the individual passage or even the individual book of the Bible.
  - 2) Read the Bible in the light of the living \_\_\_\_\_ of the Church; that is, take into account what the Church says about the Scriptures.
  - 3) Be attentive to the analogy of \_\_\_\_\_; that is, look at the Scriptures within the entire plan of God's revelation.

32. There are two main senses of Scripture:
- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ sense refers to what the written words mean as they are written.
  - 2) \_\_\_\_\_ sense looks at what the words signify.
33. Spiritual interpretation of Scripture includes the following: \_\_\_\_\_ (recognizing the significance of Christ in scriptural events), \_\_\_\_\_ (teaching us how to live and act), and \_\_\_\_\_ (looking toward eternal life.)
34. Is the Bible true? \_\_\_\_\_. The Bible contains relational truth, symbolic truth, moral truth, and religious truth.
35. The Bible is composed of \_\_\_\_\_ books divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament. The books are not organized in the order they were written. Most books were not written by a single author. They developed from years of oral sharing.
36. The canon of Scripture refers to the \_\_\_\_\_ books of the New Testament and the \_\_\_\_\_ books of the Old Testament that the Church accepts as inspired books.
37. The first five books of the Bible are known as the \_\_\_\_\_ (Greek for "five books") or the Torah.
38. In the third century BC the Hebrew Scriptures were translated into Greek. This translation is called the \_\_\_\_\_, Latin for "seventy."
39. The Greek version of the Scriptures included new material in the books of \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and the following books: 1 and 2 Maccabees, Judith, Tobit, Baruch, Sirach, and Wisdom, were added to the Old Testament at this time.
40. In 90 AD Jewish rabbis agreed to include only those books found in Hebrew in the Old Testament canon. Catholic Bibles include the seven additional books from the Septuagint but call them \_\_\_\_\_. However, most Protestant Bibles print these seven books in a separate section called " \_\_\_\_\_" which means "hidden."
41. By 367 St. \_\_\_\_\_ fixed the canon of the New Testament at 27 books.
42. The Council of Trent confirmed that the canon was the inspired Word of God based on the following criteria:
1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
43. The New Testament books are grouped into three categories:
1. The \_\_\_\_\_—the principal source of the life and the teachings of Jesus Christ
  2. The letters intended for specific communities or individuals
  3. Letters intended for the entire Church.
- (Many of the letters or \_\_\_\_\_ were written by or attributed to St. Paul.)

44. The Gospels were formed in three stages:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

45. Why was it necessary to write down the Gospels? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

46. The Gospels of Mark, Matthew, and Luke are very much alike; therefore, they are called the \_\_\_\_\_ Gospels from a Greek word which means “\_\_\_\_\_”

47. The Gospel of \_\_\_\_\_ reflects a fuller understanding of Jesus’ divinity.

48. The \_\_\_\_\_ is a sequel to Luke’s Gospel.

49. The Book of \_\_\_\_\_ is written in a particular style of writing known as apocalyptic literature. It centers on visions of events that are to come.

50. In the 1960s the \_\_\_\_\_ greatly contributed to the Church’s renewed interest in the Scriptures.

51. The Church has a \_\_\_\_\_-year cycle of Sunday readings and a two-year cycle of weekday readings. These readings are proclaimed in the \_\_\_\_\_, the common language of the people.

52. For most Catholics, \_\_\_\_\_ is their greatest exposure to the Scriptures.

53. The readings from Scripture used in the Eucharistic Liturgy are collected in a book called a \_\_\_\_\_.

54. Catholics are encouraged to study Scripture under the direction of the teaching office of the Church known as the \_\_\_\_\_.

55. One common form of Scriptural prayer is called \_\_\_\_\_ which means “divine reading.”