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

What is the meaning of the acronym TaNaKh?

1. 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.
2. 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.

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

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.

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.

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.

1. 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.

Explain what it means to say that “Jesus *is* the New Covenant.”

# Section 1: Old Testament Categories and Contents

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

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

1.

2.

3.

4.

1. 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.

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.

1. 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.
2. 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.

True or False? Biblical scholars have been able to identify four main sources woven together in Genesis because each reads very differently.

True or False? There are two accounts of creation in the Book of Numbers.

1. Apply the descriptions on the left to the correct source or sources indicated on the right.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sources** | **Yahwist** | **Elohist** | **Deuteronomist** | **Priestly** |
| 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 |  |  |  |  |

True or False? The historical books of the Bible reveal the events of salvation history and the formation of the Chosen People.

1. 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 —

1. 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 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

True or False? Parents, concerned with their children remaining grounded in their faith, used the prophetic books to train young people.

1. Briefly identify each of the following:

*Writing prophets —*

*Major prophets —*

*Minor prophets —*

True or False? The terms “major” and “minor” prophets do not refer to the importance of the prophet or his message.

List the names of prophets mentioned in the historical books of the Old Testament.

1. 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 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

True or False? The long span of writing in the Book of Ezekiel indicates that there was more than one author of this book.

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

1. 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.

How does the story of Joseph and his brothers play a part in the story of Moses and the Exodus?

What is the surprising conclusion of the Book of Ruth?

1. 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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 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.

Who were the Hasmoneans?

# Section 3: *New Testament Categories and Contents*

1. 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.

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.

1. 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.

Explain the origins and message of the Book of Revelation.

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.

1. 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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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.

1. 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.

There are seven “catholic letters” in the New Testament. Why are they referred to in that way?

1. 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*

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.

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.

True or False? The kind of human love that Jesus desires from Simon Peter is filial love*.*

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.

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.

1. 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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.