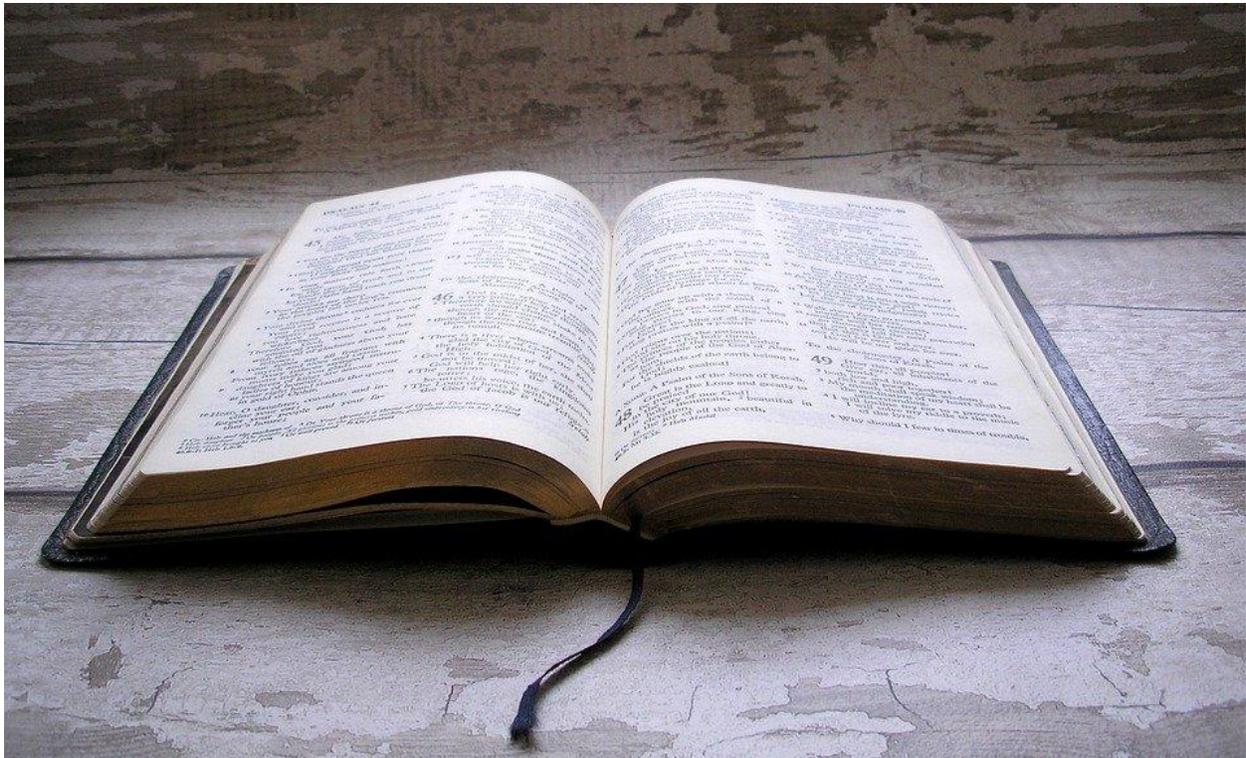


# How did we get the Bible? For Kids By Jonathan Cavalieri



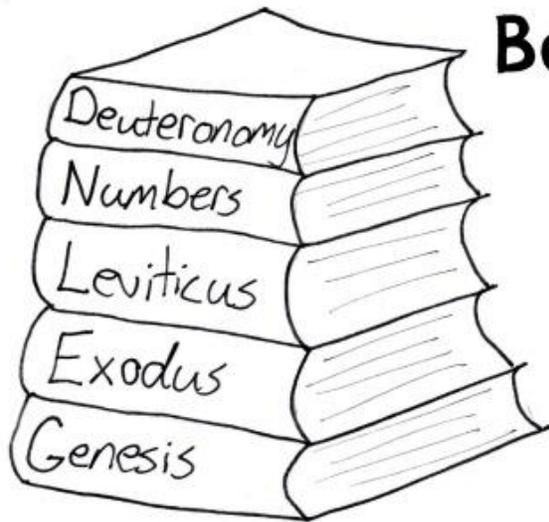
## Introduction:

- The Bible was written over a 1500 year time period by 40 different men. Each of them held different jobs. Some of the authors were shepherds, others accountants, some were prophets, others rulers. Everyone had a part to play.



The first five books were written by Moses. It says in Deuteronomy 31:9, “Moses wrote the Law and gave it to the priests.”

He probably wrote these books while the Israelites were wandering in the desert. These are called the Books of the Law, or Torah, which means Law of God. They are also called the Pentateuch.



## Books of the Law

written by Moses and gives the nation of Israel an identity and sets them apart for God





# Books of History

written by (we think):

Samuel, Ezra, and Nehemiah

tells the history  
of God's people



- We believe that Joshua and Judges were written by Samuel. The Jews treated this as one book.
- 1&2 Samuel and 1&2 Kings was probably written by Elijah. These were also treated as one book by Jewish community.
- 1&2 Chronicles, again 1 book written for the Jewish community, was probably written by Ezra.
- We are not sure who authored Ruth or Esther.



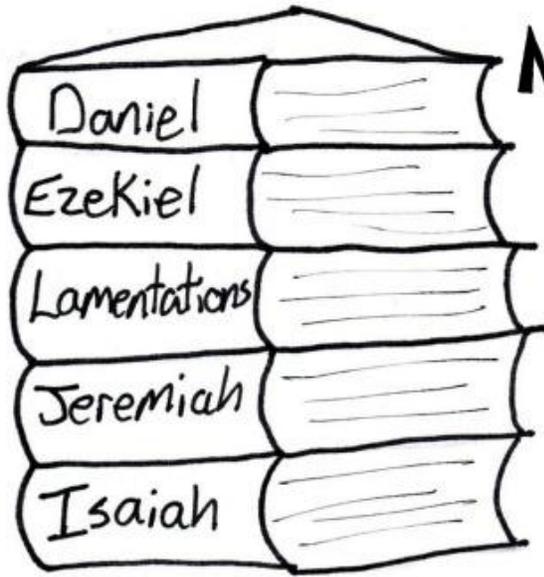
# Wisdom Books

written by: David, Solomon,  
Moses, and Asaph

Books of poetry and wisdom  
written to praise God and  
teach us wiser ways



- We have no clue who wrote the book of Job. Some give credit to Moses.
- King David wrote most of the Psalms, but some were written by his son Solomon, Moses, and a priest named Asaph.
- King Hezekiah was the one who recognized these books as Jewish Scripture.



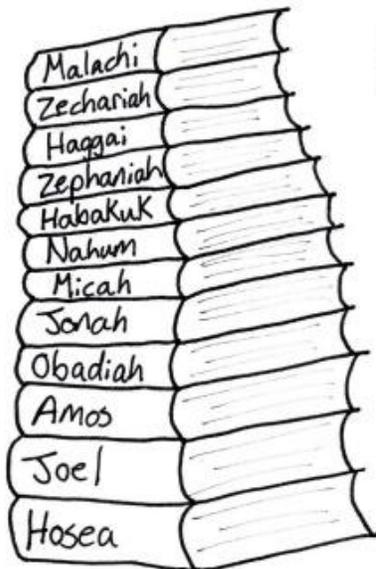
# Major Prophets

written by: Daniel, Ezekiel,  
Lamentations, Jeremiah, Isaiah

Tells what is going to happen  
to the nation of Israel



- All of the Major prophets are named after their author. Other than Lamentations, that was written by Jeremiah.



# Minor Prophets

written by: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah,  
Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakuk, Zephaniah,  
Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi

Short and to the point  
warnings from God's prophets



- All books in the minor prophets are named after their author
- They warned the torn nations of Israel to turn back to God, repent, and that judgment was coming.



# Gospels

written by: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

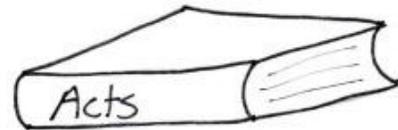
the story of Jesus life on earth



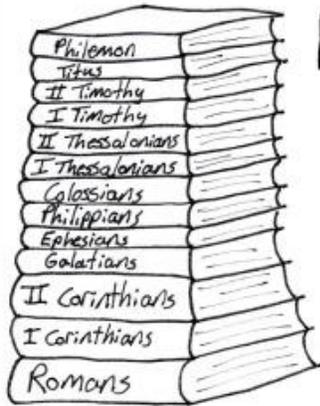
# History

written by: Luke

the story of the  
early church



- Historically, there was a 400 year gap between the Old Testament and the New Testament. This was called the silent years. It was during this time that the OT was formed. Many people thought God had abandoned His people. Rome came to power and took over much of the known world. God was still speaking, but Scripture wasn't being written.
- Then John the Baptist came and began declaring that the Messiah was coming. This paved the way for Jesus' earthly ministry and Scripture began being recorded again.
- The first Gospel recorded is Mark, but all the Gospels were written to show that Jesus was a real person.
- Acts is the only history book in the New Testament. Luke wrote it as a sequel to his Gospel to tell how the church was born.



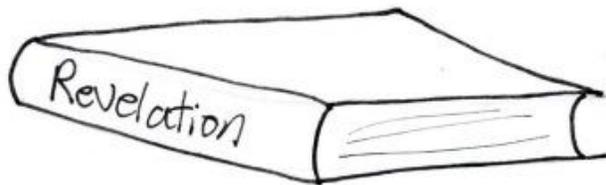
# New Testament Letters

written by: Paul, John, Jude, and Peter

instructions on how to live as a Christian to churches or individuals



- Most of the NT letters are written to churches or people.
- Paul wrote a majority of the NT books, We don't know who wrote Hebrews. Peter and James wrote the books named after themselves. The disciples John wrote 1,2,3 John. And Jesus' brother, Jude wrote Jude.

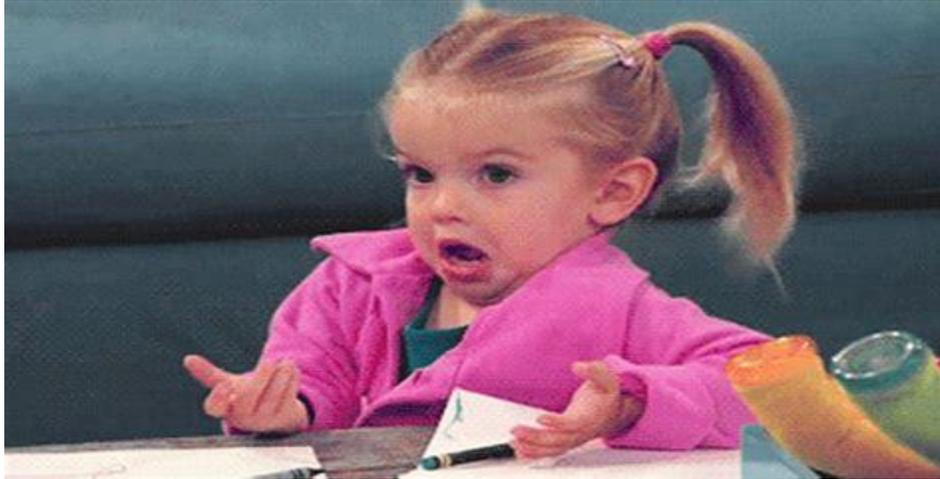


# Prophecy

written by: John

what is going to happen in the future?





### **But how did we get the bible?**

1. **The church Leaders:** got together and came up with a set of rules for deciding which books should be in the New Testament.
  - a. The Author had to know Jesus, or be trained by someone who knew Jesus.
  - b. What did the book say? Did it agree with the rest of the Bible and what Jesus taught?
  - c. Approval by the early church, did the early church agree with it?
  
2. **Prayer:** It took many years of study and prayer for everyone to agree on what books should be in the bible. By 200 AD most of the books were agreed on, the Gospels, Acts, Paul's letters, and 1 John.
  
3. **Council meetings:** Finally by 397 AD at the Council of Hippo, everyone agreed on the 27 books now in the New Testament.
  - a. Bishop Athanasius was the first to issue a list of canonical books for the NT.

## Discussion Questions for Kids

### K-2nd grade Kids

1. Are all the books of the Bible the same?
2. What types of people wrote the Bible?
3. Did God help write the Bible?

### 3rd - 5th grade Kids

1. Who did God use to write Scripture?
2. How did Christians decide what to put in the New Testament?
3. Why was it important that the authors knew Jesus or were trained by people who knew Jesus?

### Teens

1. What does the Bible say about itself?
  - a. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 =
  - b. Hebrews 4:12 =
  - c. Psalms 19:7-11 =
  - d. Matthew 4:4 =
  - e. Joshua 1:8-9 =
2. Read Psalms 119. Why is it important to study God's word?