

WHEN DOES THE NEW COVENANT BEGIN?



When you know a pretty story
don't you let it go unsaid
You tell it to your children
as you tuck them into bed

When you know a wonderful secret
you can tell it to your friends
you tell them that a lifetime
filled with Jesus
is like a street that never ends

Chorus

So sing that, sweet song of salvation
let your laughter fill the air
sing that, sweet song of salvation
let the people know that Jesus cares
sing that, sweet song of salvation
to every man and every nation
sing that, sweet song of salvation
and let the people know that Jesus cares

**A Look around you, as you sing it
there are people everywhere
and each time they stop to listen
each song, becomes a prayer**

**When you know a wonderful secret
you can tell it to your friends
you tell them that a lifetime
filled with Jesus
is like a street that never ends**

Chorus

So sing that, sweet song of salvation
let your laughter fill the air
sing that, sweet song of salvation
let the people know that Jesus cares
sing that, sweet song of salvation
to every man and every nation
sing that, sweet song of salvation
and let the people know that Jesus cares
O that sweet, song of salvation
and let the people know that Jesus cares

Study to show yourself approved unto God.

2 Timothy 2:15; “Work hard so God can say to you, “Well done.” Be a good workman, one who does not need to be ashamed when God examines your work. Know what His Word says and means.” Living Bible

**Just as Prayer is man speaking to God,
So Bible Study is God speaking to man.
The Bible contains the full and complete
revelation of God to man.**

**If we would know God & know His will for us,
we must know our Bible.**

LAYING THE FOUNDATION.

Like most things, Bible study involves understanding basic principles before we can move on to detailed application.

It is no use trying to study Revelation, if we do not know the difference between **the Old Testament** and **the New Testament**.

Many mistakes are made in understanding the Bible because **we 'rush' into a deep study** without first **'laying the foundation'**.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION.

**If we are to read the Bible with understanding
we must know what we are reading.**

This involves knowing

something about the Bible as a whole

before we can understand it's different parts.

Where do we begin? What is in the Bible?

It is as easy as “one, two, three...”

ONE major theme:-

(Jesus the Saviour of All Mankind.)

TWO major divisions:-

(Old Testament and New Testament.)

THREE major periods:-

(Patriarchal, Mosaical, Christian.)

God's Library:- Sixty-Six Books in Two Major Divisions

Old Testament:-39 Books

5 books of..... **Law**

12 books of..... **History**

5 books of..... **Poetry**

17 books of **Prophecy**

(5 Major and 12 Minor)

New Testament:- 27 Books

4 Books **The Gospels**

1 Book of..... **History**

21 books **Letters**

(13–Paul, 8–General)

1 Book of **Prophecy**

The word **“testament,”** as used in **“Old Testament”** and **“New Testament,”** means **“covenant.”**

(solemn agreement or contract.)

It contains God's **“Will and Testament.”**

GODS COVENANT WITH HIS PEOPLE.



**Two Major Divisions, But Still One Theme:
“Jesus the Saviour of All Mankind.”**

New Covenant Promised

**Jeremiah 31:31;
Hebrews 8:7,13;**

“31 The day will come, says the Lord, when I will make a **new contract (covenant)** with the people of Israel and Judah. 32 It won't be like the one I made with their fathers when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt -- **a contract (covenant) they broke**, forcing me to reject them, says the Lord.”

“33 But **this is the new contract** I will make with them: I will inscribe my laws upon their hearts, so that **they shall want to honour me; then they shall truly be my people and I will be their God.**

34 No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, **"Know the Lord,"** for **they shall all know me**, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for **I will forgive their evil doing, and remember their sin no more.**”

New Covenant Promised

Jeremiah 31:31
Hebrews 8:7,13

7. “The **old agreement (Covenant)** didn't even work. If it had, there would have been no need for another to replace it.
13. God speaks of these **new promises**, of this **new agreement, (covenant)** as taking the place of the old one; for **the old one is out of date now and has been put aside forever.**”



**Old Covenant Passed
Eph. 2:13-14; Col. 2:14;**

13. “But now you belong to Christ Jesus, and though you once were far away from God, now you have been brought very near to Him because of what Jesus Christ has done for you with His blood.”

14. “For Christ himself is our way of peace. He has made peace between us Jews and you Gentiles by making us all one family, breaking down the wall of contempt that used to separate us.”

**Two Major Divisions, But Still One Theme:
“Jesus the Saviour of All Mankind.”**



**Old Covenant Passed
Eph 2:14; Col 2:13-14;**

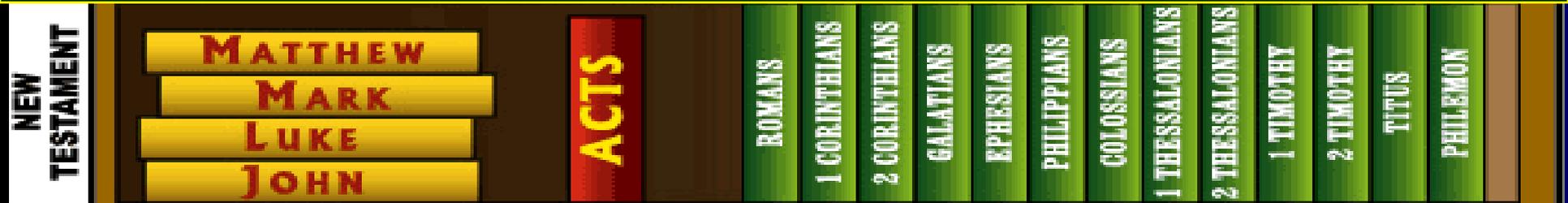
- 13.** “You were dead because of your sins, and your sinful desires were not yet cut away. Then He gave you a share in the very life of Christ, for He forgave all your sins,
- 14.** and blotted out the charges proved against you, the list of his commandments which you had not obeyed. He took this list of sins and destroyed it by nailing it to Christ's cross.

**Two Major Divisions, But Still One Theme:
“Jesus the Saviour of All Mankind.”**



The first **39** books, **Genesis-Malachi** make up what is commonly known as the **OLD TESTAMENT**.

The last **27** books, **Matthew-Revelation** make up what is commonly known as the **NEW TESTAMENT**.



(The Gospels)



Patriarchal



EDEN

Cain
and
Abel

Gen. 12:1-3
-Abraham
-Isaac
-Jacob
-Joseph

slavery
Israel
in
Egypt

Moses

Flood

Mosaic Dispensation

Mt.

Sinai

wilderness
40
years

Judges

PROPHETS

KINGS

~~ISRAEL~~
Divided
Kingdom
JUDAH

Saul
David
Solomon

C
H
R
I
S
T

B
O
R
N

Christ's
Personal
Ministry

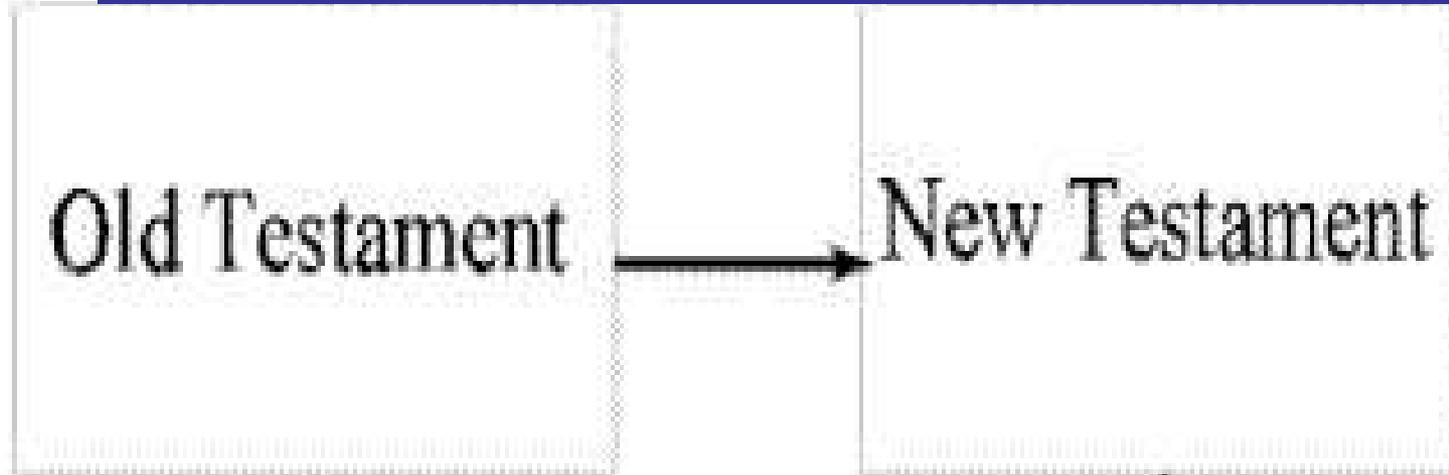
14 PERIODS OF BIBLE HISTORY

Date*	2085 BC	1870 BC	1440 BC	1400 BC	1390 BC	1045 BC
Books of the Bible	Genesis		Exodus	Numbers Leviticus Deuteronomy	Joshua	Ruth 1 Samuel Judges
Key Figures	Adam Eve Cain Abel Noah	Abraham Sarah Lot Isaac Ishmael Jacob Joseph	Moses Miriam	Moses Aaron Miriam Joshua Caleb	Joshua Caleb	Deborah Gideon Samson Eli Samuel Boaz Ruth
Biblical Period	Beginnings	Abraham's Family	Egyptian Bondage	Wilderness Wanderings	Conquest of Canaan	Judges
	Creation	God Calls Abraham	Jacob Settles in Egypt	The Exodus	Death of Moses	Death of Joshua Saul Made King

14 PERIODS OF BIBLE HISTORY

Date	1045 BC	925 BC	722 BC	586 BC	536 BC	425 BC	4 BC					
Books of the Bible	1 & 2 Samuel	1 & 2 Kings	1 & 2 Chronicles	Isaiah	Jeremiah	Ezekiel	Daniel	Esther*	Ezra	Nehemiah	There are no Biblical events for this period of time.	
Key Figures	Samuel Saul Jonathan David Solomon	Ahab Jezebel Elijah Elisha Amos Hosea Jonah Micah Isaiah	Hozekiah Josiah Isaiah Jeremiah Nahum Zephaniah Habakkuk Joel(?)	Obadiah Ezekiel Daniel Esther*	Ezra Zerubbabel Nehemiah Zechariah Haggai Malachi							
Biblical Period	United Kingdom	Divided Kingdom	Judah Alone	Babylonian Exile	Restoration of Jerusalem	Between the Testaments						
	Saul Made King	Jereboam Made King	Samaria Overthrown	Jerusalem Destroyed	Return to Jerusalem	End of Old Testament	Birth of Jesus					

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.



**So if I were to ask you where
the OLD COVENANT ENDS
And the NEW COVENANT BEGINS?**

Israel

The NT Church

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

WHAT WOULD YOUR ANSWER WOULD BE?

You could give AT LEAST three answers.

- 1) The book of Malachi.**
- 2) The CROSS.**
- 3) Acts chapter 2.**

God's Library

Sixty-Six Books in Two Major Divisions

39 Books of the
"Old Covenant."
(Old Testament.)
Genesis to Malachi.
(2 Cor. 3:14; Heb. 9:16;)

27 Books of the
"New Covenant."
(New Testament.)
Matthew to Revelation.
(Lk. 22:20; 2 Cor. 3:6;)

We will try to clarify and avoid confusion!!
If you said **MALACHI** you would be **CORRECT**
as far as our **modern Bible division** is concerned.

But INCORRECT as far as
Gods Real Covenant and Will are concerned.

God's Library

Sixty-Six Books in Two Major Divisions.

When the Scriptures were made into the Bible we have today. **The distinction** was made between the **Jewish writings** and the **Christian writings**.

The **O.T.** being the Jewish the **NT** the Christian.

This means as far as the **Jewish writings** are concerned with God's **Covenant (Will-Agreement.)** **Malachi IS** the **LAST** book in the Hebrew scriptures.

But this is not Where
The Real Old Covenant / New Covenant
change takes place!

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

**IF YOU SAID THE CROSS:- You would be RIGHT
for AS FAR AS GOD IS CONCERNED**

**The Old Covenant ended and the New Covenant
began at the Cross when the Blood was shed
as the acceptable sacrifice
for mans sin and Gods forgiveness.**

**15 “For this reason He is the mediator of a new
covenant, so that Those who are called may receive
the promised eternal inheritance, because a death
has occurred that redeems them from the
transgressions under the first covenant. {The Greek
word used here means both [covenant] and [will]}**

**16 Where a will [covenant] is involved, the death
of the one who made it must be established.”**

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

“17. For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive.

18. Hence not even the first covenant was INAUGURATED without blood.”

Heb 9:15-18;

As far as God is concerned everything He has revealed and accomplished has been leading up to this point. His Sons SACRIFICE. – The CROSS. The DEATH. The BLOOD BEING SHED.

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

And as we have seen from Hebrews 9 it is **the blood that brings us the opportunity for forgiveness.**
The same passage says even **the First covenant** could not be **inaugurated** without blood.
Implying the Second Covenant was inaugurated by the shedding of blood.

Heb 9:17; **"The New Testament Covenant strictly and formally began on that day of inauguration."**

James Fausset Brown

Inaugurate Means “ Admit (a person) to office, begin (an undertaking) initiate public use (building etc) with ceremony, begin, introduce.

The Oxford dictionary

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

John 18:30; “Therefore **when Jesus** had received the sour wine, He said, **"It is finished!"**

And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.”

When Jesus said, It is finished, the Greek words mean, “It is accomplished! I have done the job that I came to do. Yes, it is accomplished.

God’s will has been accomplished in my life.”

Jesus was the lamb of God who came to be slain for the sins of the world and through that sacrifice when His blood was shed, gave the opportunity of salvation for all those who want to respond to the gospel message.

On the day Jesus died on the cross nobody knew the significance of the death. Also death had to be seen to be conquered, Jesus had to rise from the grave because that to was part of God plan and purpose.

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

Paul says in **1 Cor 15:3-4**; “For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that **Christ died for our sins** according to the Scriptures, **4. and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day** according to the Scriptures.”

The **gospel message** is not just about the **death of Jesus** it includes the **resurrection**. Paul continues in 14. “and if **Christ has not been raised**, then **our preaching** is vain, **your faith** also is vain.”

The **Old covenant relationship** with the **Jewish people** could not end until they had the opportunity of a **New covenant relationship**.

That could not begin until the **purpose of the cross and the resurrection** had been **accomplished and established and proclaimed**.

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

We are familiar with the law of probate in this country.

When someone dies leaving assets over £5,000, the bank accounts are frozen and a formal 'grant' must be obtained from a court to enable their estate to be collected in and divided between their beneficiaries.

So it is with the New Covenant as far as God is concerned salvation through the blood of Christ is now available

But the apostles had to wait in Jerusalem for the power of the Holy Spirit to enable them and guide them into all the truth about the death burial and resurrection.

But it could not be accessed until the apostles were given the go ahead in Acts two to proclaim the new covenant relationship can now be offered the salvation opportunity can now be accepted.

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

**So As far as God is concerned
The New Covenant
begins with His Son's blood on the Cross.**

BUT AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED

our answer CAN be ACTS 2

**Because if Jesus had ONLY been one of three men
who died on a Cross that day.**

We would be no better off than before.

**The Hebrew writer then goes on to say Heb 9:16;
“Where a will [covenant] is involved, the death
of the one who made it must be ESTABLISHED.”**

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.
The new Covenant is not based
on the death of just any man
but on the death of Jesus.

“Therefore let the entire house of Israel
KNOW WITH CERTAINTY that God
has made HIM both Lord and Messiah,
(The Christ) this JESUS whom YOU crucified.”
Acts 2:36;

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By His great mercy He has given us a NEW BIRTH into a living hope THROUGH the RESURRECTION of Jesus Christ from the dead.” 1Pet 1:3;

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

Acts 2:34;

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

**“The gospel concerning His Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh
4 and was DECLARED to be SON OF GOD with
POWER according to the Spirit of holiness
BY RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD,
Jesus Christ our Lord.”**

**“5. through whom we have received grace and
apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith
among all the Gentiles for the sake of His name.”**

Rom 1:3-5;

**It is NOT just the DEATH but
Also HIS RESURRECTION.**

**That PROVES that Jesus is the Acceptable Sacrifice.
The BASIS for our sins to be forgiven.**

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

Jesus lived and died under the OLD TESTAMENT.

BEFORE:-

The understanding of the Resurrection begins.

Matt 28:1; Mark 16:1; Luke 24:1; John 20:1;

Therefore the majority of the
FOUR GOSPEL Writings are **STILL**
 under the **Old Testament (covenant).**

	Patriarchal Age <i>No written Law</i>		Mosaic Age <i>Law of Moses</i>		Christian Age <i>Gospel of Christ</i>	
	Noah Abraham Jacob		David Isaiah John the Baptist		Apostles	
Adam		Moses		Christ		Second Coming
Eden		Sinai		Calvary		Judgment

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

Simon Peter answered, "You are the **Messiah**, or **(the Christ) the Son of the living God.**" 17. And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. 18. And I tell you, you are Peter, {Gk [**Petros "a rock"**]}, and on this **rock** {Gk [**Petra "mass of Rock"**]} **I will build my church**, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. 19. **I will give you the keys of the kingdom** of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Mat 16 16-18;

“And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here **who will not taste death until THEY SEE that the kingdom of God HAS COME with, or [in] power.**" Mark 9:1;

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

WHEN was the church built?

WHEN did Peter use the Keys
and establish the kingdom?

WHEN and **WHERE** did the Witnesses
first gather and proclaim the gospel.?

WHEN was the **POWER** Demonstrated
that
God's Kingdom might be established?

**When for the first time as well
as receiving forgiveness of sins
Was Forgiveness Available
IN THE NAME OF JESUS?**

**When for the first time
Was Forgiveness Available
THROUGH THE BLOOD
THAT HAD BEEN SHED?**

**When for the first time
As well as Forgiveness, could Christians
receive the GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

Acts 2:38; “Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 2:41; “Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church- about three thousand in all.”

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

WHAT Were people who were **saved**
being added to?

**The church /the family /the kingdom,
/the New Covenant Relationship.**

After Jesus DEATH and RESURRECTION
Christ blood had been shed
and Salvation was now available.
/ Had now been made known.
/ Had now become a reality.

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

Peter stood up and read the **new will of God**
the **first gospel message**,
and 3000 became disciples. (Christians.)
Under the NEW Testament / Covenant
/ Will / God's New Agreement.

So if someone were to ask you where
the **OLD TESTAMENT ENDS**
And the **NEW TESTAMENT BEGINS?**

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

We would **NOT** say **MALACHI**.
That would be the answer
from **a JEWISH PERSPECTIVE**.

We MIGHT say **the CROSS** but that
would be from **GOD'S PERSPECTIVE?**

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

**WE ought to be able to say
the New Covenant Begins In Acts chapter 2.**

**Because that was WHEN we begin
to understand the SIGNIFICANCE
of Christ's DEATH on the Cross and
the SIGNIFICANCE of the BLOOD being shed.**

**It was WHEN the church was established.
WHEN Peter used the Keys
by preaching the gospel and
the new Kingdom of God was established.**

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

**It was WHEN and WHERE
the Witnesses To the Resurrection
first gathered & proclaimed the gospel.**

**It was WHEN people could have
their sins forgiven IN
and THROUGH THE NAME OF JESUS.**

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

**It was WHEN the POWER
was Demonstrated.**

**It was WHEN the Holy Spirit
came for the first time to indwell
those who obeyed the gospel.**

God's Library Sixty-Six Books = One Theme.

“Jesus the Saviour of All Mankind.”

The Unfolding of God's Plan to Save Mankind.

39 Old Testament Books

“Jesus Is Coming.”

Genesis (3:15;)

to

Malachi (3:1; 4-5;)

Note

Lk. 24:44; Jn. 5:39;

27 New Testament Books

“Jesus Has Come.”

Matthew (1:23;)

to

John (20:30-31; 21:25;)

“Jesus is Coming Again.”

Acts (1:9-11;)

to

Revelation. (22:12,22;)

The Old Testament is the New Testament Concealed.

The New Testament is the Old Testament Revealed.

RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH

(2 Tim. 2:15)

The Old Testament

- Thirty-nine books
- Thirty different writers
- Over 1400 years in writing
- Covering over 4,000 years of history

Five Divisions

- Law (5)
- History (12)
- Poetry (5)
- Major Prophets (5)
- Minor Prophets (12)

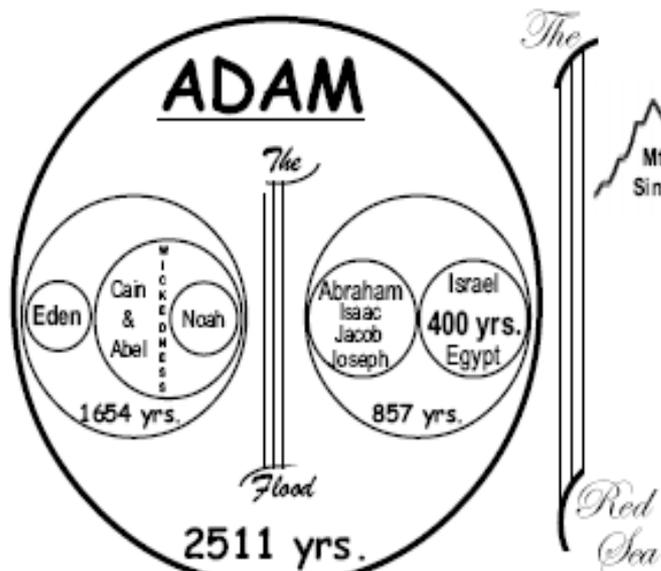
The New Testament

- Twenty-seven books
- At least 8 different writers
- Less than 100 years in writing

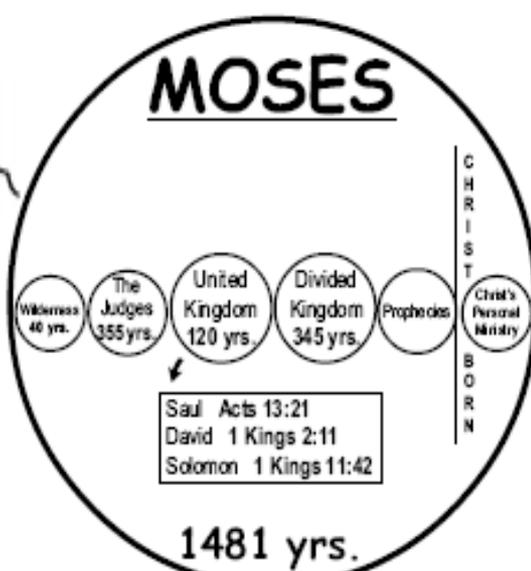
Four Divisions

- Biography (4)
- History (1)
- Letters (21)
- Prophecy (1)

PATRIARCHAL



MOSAICAL



Heb. 9:15-17



CHRISTIAN





TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

The New Testament developed from the promises and actions of God in Old Testament times.

The Old Testament was intended to be a temporary arrangement to be replaced by a New Testament when the time was right. It was given ONLY to a special nation, the Jews. (Deuteronomy 5:1-3;)

As the New Testament has replaced the Old, so a new Nation, a spiritual one, the Church, the Kingdom, God's new family, One NEW BODY, (Eph 2:10ff;) has taken the place of the Jews, as God's Chosen People and Holy Nation.

(1 Peter 2:9-10;)

TWO MAJOR DIVISIONS of the Bible.

**Just because we say
the New Covenant Begins In Acts chapter 2.**

**We need to remember the Apostles were to be guided into
all truth and part of that truth was the fact that it would be
brought to their remembrance all that Jesus had taught them.**

**This would include some of the teaching
that Jesus taught earlier in the gospel accounts**

**We need to be careful with the context to see
what is now to be included in the New Covenant.**

**We are not saying we can ignore Jesus
teaching in the gospels we are identifying
WHEN the New Covenant BEGAN
Acts chapter 2.**

We are building a foundation.

**God and His Word are the tools that WE USE,
to dig the foundation.**

**It is the steel bar that WE sink into OUR life
to give added strength.**

**It is the concrete that WE and God
WORKING TOGETHER pour into our soul.**

It's worth the effort.

**Once the foundation is set,
the building goes up FASTER!**

History

Poetry

GODS NEW COVENANT BEGINS

OLD TESTAMENT

- Gen
- Exod
- Levit
- Num
- Deuter
- Josh
- Judg
- Rut
- 1 Sam
- 2 Sam
- 1 Ki
- 2 Ki
- 1 Chro
- 2 Chro
- EZR
- NEHEM
- ESTR
- J
- Psc
- Pro
- Eccle
- Songs of

Laws of Moses

Prophecy

- ISAIAH
- JEREMIAH
- LAMENTATIONS
- EZEKIEL

- DANIEL
- HOSEA
- JOEL
- AMOS
- OBADIAH
- JONAH
- MICAH
- NAHUM
- HABAKKUK
- ZEPHANIAH
- HAGGAI
- ZECHARIAH
- MALACHI

Major Prophets

Minor Prophets

Biography History

Paul's Letters

- MATTHEW
- MARK
- LUKE
- JOHN

ACTS

- ROMANS
- 1 CORINTHIANS
- 2 CORINTHIANS
- GALATIANS
- EPHESIANS
- PHILIPPIANS
- COLOSSIANS
- 1 THESSALONIANS
- 2 THESSALONIANS
- 1 TIMOTHY
- 2 TIMOTHY
- TITUS
- PHILEMON

(The Gospels)

Other Letters

Prophecy

- Hebrews
- James
- 1 Peter
- 2 Peter
- 1 John
- 2 John
- 3 John
- Jude

REVELATION

NEW TESTAMENT



**Wonderful Grace of Jesus
greater than all my sin
HOW shall my tongue describe it
How shall my praise begin**

**Taking away my burden
setting my spirit free
and the wonderful GRACE of JESUS
reaches me**

**Wonderful the MATCHLESS Grace of Jesus
Deeper than the mighty rolling sea
Higher than a mountain
Sparkling like a fountain
all sufficient grace for even me**

(for even Me)

**broader than the scope of my transgression
(sing it) deeper far than all my sin and
shame /my sin and shame**

**O! magnify the precious name of Jesus
Praise His name**

NEW COVENANT BEGINS!

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**Next in the series:-
We can understand the Bible?**