



*Sacred
Scripture*



*Why do we read
Sacred Scripture?*

Source of Divine Revelation

*A Road Map a Travel
Companion*

*Source of our “heritage
of FAITH*

Deposit of Faith

Divinely Inspired

The Church teaches:

God is the author of the Bible

*The Holy Spirit inspired the writers
of the sacred books*

*The Sacred Scriptures teach the
truth.*

What the Bible is not...

The Bible is not a religion textbook that we study from as if we were learning world history, geography, or languages.

It is a living book!!

A book of Salvation History
Your history...

Just a few facts:

The Books of the Bible

The Old Testament

17 Historical Books

The first five books make up the Pentateuch or Torah.
Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther.

Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

Just a few facts:

The Books of the Bible

The New Testament

The 4 Gospels
Acts of the Apostles

Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John and Jude

Just a few facts:

The Bible Contains 1189 chapters

OT: 929 NT:260

The Bible was written:

- *Over a 1500 year span [1400 B.C. to A.D. 100]*
- *Over 40 generations*
- *Over 40 authors from many walks of life*
- *On three continents: Asia, Africa and Europe*
- *In three languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek*

Just a few facts:

Contains the following types of prayer:

Confession

Praise

Thanksgiving

Petition

Intercession

Commitment

Forgiveness

Confidence


Benediction

The Hebrew Scripture

“The Covenant”

The one true God served as the God of the family of Abraham, and they in turn worshipped the true God as the one and only true God.

 *The sign of the covenant: Circumcision*

 *Pass from Abraham to his son Isaac, his son Jacob, to his twelve sons which became the twelve tribes of Israel.*

 *On Mount Sinai the Covenant took on a new meaning when God gave Moses the Law that would hold a nation together.*

The Hebrew Scripture

The Old Testament is our family history...

The Old Testament also is tied to our future...

The Old Testament was used by many authors of the New Testament to validate Christ as the Messiah...

Gen 3:15 Protoevangelium

The Old Testament is a source of understanding who we are and why we are....

The Old Testament takes us through the history of the "Chosen" up to their fall to Rome, which is the time and situation into which Christ was born...

The New Testament

The New Testament tells the story of God's saving action through His son Jesus Christ and the covenant sealed in His death and Resurrection.

It is the result of the struggle to move from oral tradition to the written message we have today.

Why the move from oral to written?
The people who lived with Jesus were dying and the early Church recognized the need to preserve the message before the last of the witnesses to Jesus' life passed away.

As the message spread farther from the land of its source and began to reach out to territories unfamiliar with Judean ways, the roots had to be protected.

The New Testament

The Gospels

The first Mark was written some years after the Resurrection of Jesus.

Luke and Matthew were written some 50 years after

The Gospel of John was written some 70 years after

The Letters

Written by Paul were some of the first writings of the New Testament some 20 years after the Resurrection.

Made up the letters of Paul as well as letters from James, Peter, John, and Jude.

The New Testament

The Acts of the Apostles

Tells of how the early Church responded to the message of Jesus. Describes the early struggles of the community in trying to understand its own identity.

Also clearly shows us that Jesus is still acting through his followers.

Revelation

A message for Christians undergoing persecution. The literature was basically in code, it was clear to the Christians but not to the Romans.

Apocalyptic literature has the message that evil has power only because God allows such power, but asserts that God will overcome evil and triumph in the end.

How we read Scripture

If the New Testament is the new Covenant...why do we still read the Old Testament?

*Would you believe there was a time when we were **FORBIDDEN** to read scripture?*

Vatican II changed all of that...

How we read Scripture

First and Foremost

*Scripture is the divinely inspired
Word of God: its message is the
absolute TRUTH*

How we read Scripture

Scripture is written in many different styles:

Poetry, Praise, Prayers, Parables, Historical...

In order to read scripture we need to know:

The Author

His Audience

The Time and Historical Environment

The type of Literature

WHY?

Los Angeles Times

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Tuesday, October 14, 2008

DESIGNATED AREAS HIGHER 50¢

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The Dow skyrockets 936 points as the focus shifts from buying bad assets to pouring funds directly into firms.

By MAURA REYNOLDS
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — In a major strategic shift, the Bush administration has decided to pour at least \$250 billion directly into major banks and expand federal insurance protection to encourage financial institutions to resume lending to one another.

Stocks soared on hopes that policymakers had finally hit on the right formula to thaw the frozen credit system and quell the financial calamity that has hammered giant banks and small investors alike. The Dow Jones industrial average rocketed more than 900 points, its biggest one-day point gain ever.

"The history of banking crises suggests very strongly that you need heavy government involvement. Half measures don't work," said Nariman Beh-

Los Angeles Times

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SPORTS

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How we read Scripture

*We are NOT
Fundamentalist*

For instance:

See anything wrong here?

Noah and the Ark

...I, on my part, am about to bring the flood on the earth, to destroy everywhere all creatures in which there is the breath of life; everything on earth shall perish...Of all other living creatures you shall bring two into the ark, one male and one female, that you may keep them alive with you. Of all kind of birds, of all kinds of beasts, and of all kind of creeping things, two of each shall come into the ark... Genesis 6:17-20

...Of every clean animal, take with you seven pairs, a male and its mate; and of the unclean animals, one pair a male and its mate likewise, of every clean bird of the air, seven pairs, a male and a female... Genesis 7:2-5

Which is it?

Genesis Chapter One: The First Creation Story
The traditional seven day story

Genesis Chapter Two: The Second Creation Story
Begins with the Garden of Eden

...a large crowd followed him, and suddenly two blind men sitting by the roadside...moved with compassion Jesus touched their eyes and immediately they could see... Matthew 20:29-34

...As he drew near Jericho a blind man sat at the side of the road begging...Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight. Your faith has healed you."... Luke 19:35-42

How we use Scripture...

Resource

Inspiration

Prayer