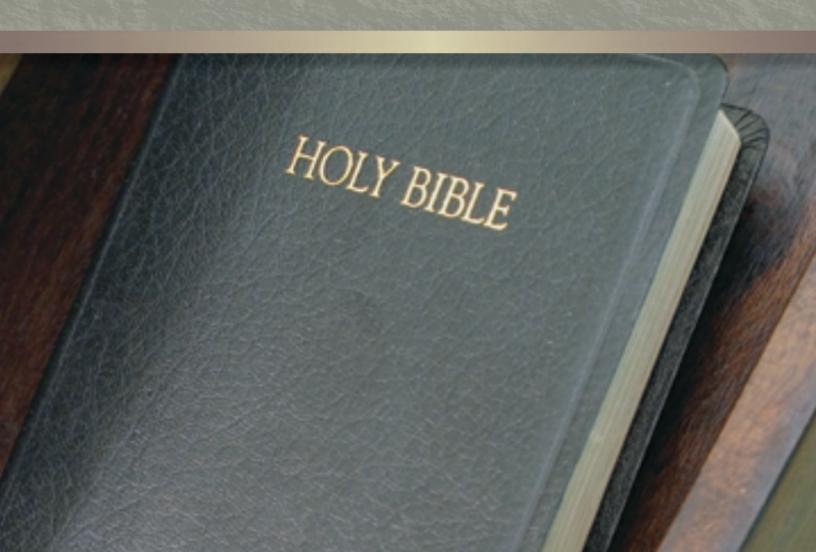
# Overview of The Bible Made Simple

BY SAM HOLLIS



### The Wonder of the Word

#### The Wonder of It's Persecution

The infidels Voltaire and Hume predicted the Bible would be totally discredited and annihilated.

In 303 AD, Diocletian, Emperor of the Roman Empire, decreed every Bible in the world should be destroyed and the people who possessed Bibles should be slain

Some colleges and seminaries have had professors or do have professors that deny or question certain miracles and key passages of Scripture. For example, Adam and Eve were not actual human beings who lived on earth. Jonah was not actually swallowed by a great fish. Hell is not a literal place.

The hammers of men have beat on the anvil of God's Word. The hammers wear-out and the anvil of God's Word stands firm.

For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away: But the Word of the Lord endureth forever.

I Peter 1:24-25a

#### The Wonder of It's Popularity

The Bible is the world's all-time best seller. It is the most influential book of all time. No other book comes close to its circulation figures. According to Russell Ash's, *The Ten of Everything 2002*, the approximate sales of *The Holy Bible* was more than six billion followed by *Quotations from Chairman Mao* (Mao TseTung) at nine hundred million. The Bible is available in 1,800 languages to 98% of the world's population.

#### The Wonder of It's Prophecy

Jeremiah prophesied that Judah would be in Babylonian captivity for seventy years and it was (II Chronicles 36:20-23)

It was prophesied Jesus would:

- A. Be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:22-23)
- B. Be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2, Matthew 2:5)
- C. Speak in parables (Psalm 78:2, Matthew 13:34-35)
- D. Ride a colt, the foal of an ass, into Jerusalem (Zechariah 9:9, Matthew 26:15)

The Bible, the sacred Scriptures of the Christian church, alone contains the element of prophecy, for God alone know the future.

#### The Wonder of It's Power

- To keep from sin, Psalm 119:11
- To give hope, Psalm 119:49
- To give comfort, Psalm 119:50
- To give companions, Psalm 119:63
- To teach truth in time of affliction, Psalm 119:71
- To make me wiser than my enemies, Psalm 119:98
- To give me more understanding than my teachers, Psalm 119:99
- To give me great peace, Psalm 119:165
- To make one wise unto salvation, I Timothy 3:15
- To make the man of God perfect, complete, mature, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

II Timothy 3:16-17

The Word of God is living, powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword. Hebrews 4:12

# The Old Testament Bookshelf

#### The Books of Law

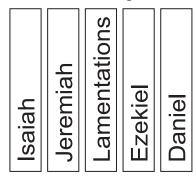
Genesis Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers	Deuteronomy
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#### The Books of History

#### The Books of Poetry

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Joshua	Judges	Ruth	First Samuel	Second Samuel	First Kings	Second Kings	First Chronicles	Second Chronicles	Ezra	Nehemiah	Esther	Job	Psalms	Proverbs	Ecclesiastes	Song of Songs

#### The Books of Major Prophets



#### **The Books of Minor Prophets**

Hosea Joel Jonah Micah Habak Hagga Zecha
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#### **Summary Statement on Each Book of the Bible**

#### Old Testament (39 Books)

- 1. Genesis-the book of beginnings.
- 2. Exodus-records the exit of the children of Israel from out of Egyptian bondage.
- 3. Leviticus-this book is named for the priestly tribe of Levi, and is made up of laws concerning rituals and ceremonies.
- 4. Numbers-the Israelites wandered in the wilderness for 40 years before entering Canaan, the Promised Land. The name of the book comes from two censuses taken during the journey.
- 5. Deuteronomy-series of sermons delivered by Moses prior to his death and the entrance of the children of Israel into the promised land.
- 6. Joshua-records the conquest and division of Canaan.
- Judges-narrates dark days in the Jews history when God gave leaders called Judges.
- 8. Ruth-love and dedication between Ruth and her mother-in-law, Naomi, are the focus of this story.
- 9. I Samuel-Samuel was the leader of Israel between the time of Judges and the time of Saul, the first King of Israel. When Saul's leadership failed, David was anointed by Samuel to be king.
- 10. II Samuel-records the reign of David.
- 11. I Kings-this book starts with stories about Solomon's reign over Israel. Upon the death of Solomon, the kingdom went to war with itself, north against south. The result was two nations, Israel in the north, and Judah in the south.
- 12. Il Kings-Israel was conquered by Assyria in 721 BC. Judah was defeated by Babylon in 586 BC. These events were seen as judgment upon the people because they did not follow the laws of God.
- 13. I Chronicles-gives the reigns of Saul and David.
- 14. Il Chronicles-covers the reign of Solomon and the history of Judah to the return from captivity.
- 15. Ezra-records the return from Babylon and rebuilding of the temple at Jerusalem under Zerubbabel and the religious reforms which Ezra instituted.
- 16. Nehemiah-relates the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem under Nehemiah's leadership. Nehemiah worked with Ezra to restore religious fervor among the people.
- 17. Esther-this book tells the story of the Jewish queen of Persia who exposed a plot to destroy her people and thus saved the Jews in that country from destruction.

Law 5

History 12

## Poetry 5

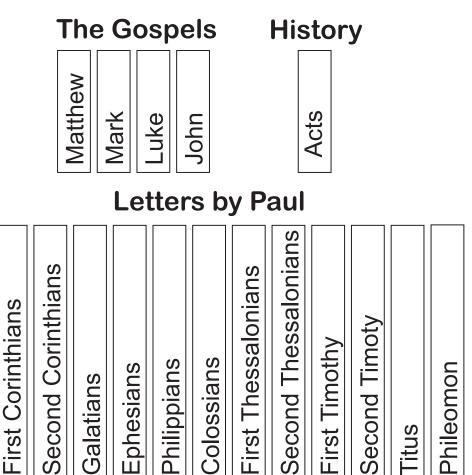
- 18. Job-explores the question "Why do the righteous suffer?"
- 19. Psalms-best loved book of the Old Testament. Main contents of the book are praise, prayer, and worship.
- 20. Proverbs-this is a book of wise sayings and ethical and common sense teachings on how to live a godly life.
- 21. Ecclesiastes-proclaims that life without God is vanity.
- 22. Song of Solomon-love song celebrating the joys of courtship and marriage. Can be symbolically interpreted to describe God's love for Israel and the love of Christ for His bride, the Church.

#### Major Prophets 5

- 23. Isaiah-called the Messianic Prophet because of his emphasis upon the coming Savior in his prophecy.
- 24. Jeremiah-issued God's final warning to Judah, known as the weeping prophet.
- 25. Lamentations-Jeremiah's lament over the destruction of Jerusalem.
- 26. Ezekiel-prophesied in Babylon during the captivity regarding the return of Judah and the final reign of the Messiah.
- 27. Daniel-also prophesied in Babylon during the captivity regarding events in his day and the rise and fall of future world empires.
- 28. Hosea-Hosea used his commitment to his wife, in the face of her unfaithfulness, to illustrate the "adultery" Israel had committed against God, whose faithful love never ceased.
- 29. Joel-prophesied in Judah before fall of Israel-foretold coming invasion of Israel.
- 30. Amos-prophesied to Israel before fall to Assyria.
- 31 . Obadiah-predicted destruction of Edom, the descendants of Esau because Edom took the part of the enemy against Jerusalem.
- 32. Jonah-called to preach to Nineveh, the capital of Assyria, before the fall of Israel.
- 33. Micah-prophesied in Judah. Main message-God will send captivity because of idolatry, righteous remnant will return and the Messiah will come.
- 34. Nahum-prophesied to Nineveh, capital of Assyria, some 150 years after Jonah.
- 35. Habakkuk-prophesied to Judah prior to capture of Jerusalem by Babylon. Questioned how God cold punish His people with a people more wicked than they.
- 36. Zephaniah-prophesied to Judah prior to Babylonian captivity. Main message-wrath of God, return of remnant, reign of the Messiah.
- 37. Haggai-encouraged the exiles who returned to Jerusalem after the Babylonian captivity to rebuild the temple.
- 38. Zechariah-contemporary of Haggai, encourages rebuilding of Temple.
- 39. Malachi-prophesied during Nehemiah's rebuilding of the Jerusalem wall. Rebuked the neglect of God's house, God's law and God's tithe. Contemporary of Haggai and Zechariah.

#### Minor Prophets 12

# **The New Testament Bookshelf**



#### **General Letters**

Hebrews James First Peter
Second Peter First John
Second John
Third John
Jude

#### **Prophecy**

Revelation

Romans

#### New Testament (27 Books)

## Gospels

- 40. Matthew-Matthew presents Christ to the Jews as the King of the Jews.
- 41. Mark-Mark presents Christ to the Romans as the Mighty Miracle Worker.
- 42. Luke-Luke presents Christ to the Greeks as the Son of Man.
- 43. John-John presents Christ to everyone as the Son of God.

#### History 1

44. Acts-When Jesus left His disciples, the Holy Spirit, came to abide with them. Written by Luke as the sequel to his Gospel, Acts records key events in the history of the work of the early Christian Church to spread the Gospel throughout the Mediterranean world.

- 45. Romans-deals with great doctrines of the Christian faith: sin, salvation, sanctification, sovereignty, and service.
- 46. I Corinthians-this letter deals with the problems the church in Corinth were experiencing: dissension, immorality, .public worship, and confusion about spiritual gifts.
- 47. II Corinthians-Paul defends his apostleship.
- 48. Galatians-main message is that salvation is by grace through faith and not by works of the law.
- 49. Ephesians-gives the doctrinal basis of and practical instructions for the conduct of the church. Presents Jews and Gentiles united by Christ in one body, the Church.
- 50. Philippians-this letter emphasizes the joy found in any situation when a person believes in Christ. Paul wrote it while in prison.
- 51. Colossians-theme is the eternal and full deity of Jesus Christ.
- 52. I Thessalonians-principal subject is the return of Christ.
- 53. II Thessalonians-written to correct misunderstanding about the return of Christ.
- 54. I Timothy-this letter served as a guide for Timothy, a young leader in the church. It contains advice about worship, ministry, and relationships within the church.
- 55. Il Timothy-This is Paul's last letter. He offered a final challenge of faith to his coworker.
- 56. Titus-Titus was ministering in Crete. In this letter, Paul gave him advice on how to help Christians follow Christ.
- 57. Philemon-in this letter, Philemon is urged to forgive his runaway slave, Onesimus, and accept him as a friend in Christ.

#### Pauline Epistles 13

- 58. Hebrews-emphasizes the superiority of Jesus Christ over angels, over men and ceremonies.
- 59. James-James advises putting beliefs into practice and offers practical ways for Christians to live out their faith.
- 60. I Peter-designed to give hope to persecuted Christians and those who suffer.
- 61. II Peter-warns against fafse teachers and encourages believers to grow in grace.
- 62. I John--one of the main themes is how the believer can know he is saved. This letter also explains basic truths about the Christian life with an emphasis to love one another
- 63. II John-addressed to an unknown Christian woman. Truth and love are the chief themes.
- 64. III John-written to John's friend, Gaius, who supported the work of the Lord with his financial resources.
- 65. Jude--urges believers to contend for doctrinal truth.



General

**Epistles** 

8

66. Revelation-records Christ's final and complete victory with the creation of a new heaven and a new earth.

#### 66 Books in the entire Bible

# How to Make the Bible the most Preeminent book in your life

#### Read the Bible daily, and through the Bible annually.

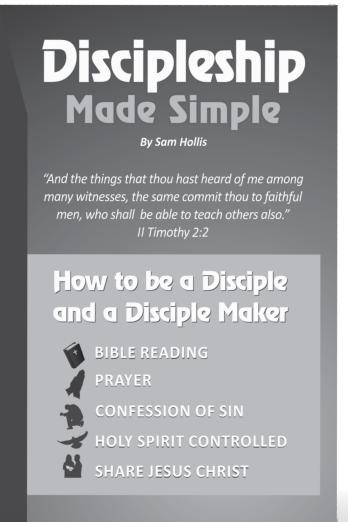
Consistent daily Bible reading will greatly enrich your spiritual life. The maximum benefits will be received from your daily Bible reading when you follow a definite plan and procedure. The "One Year Bible" published by Tyndale House Publishers provides such a plan. Immediately secure a copy of this Bible from a Christian Bookstore. Begin your daily Bible reading the day you purchase the Bible. You may begin with Genesis 1:1, or you may begin with the reading for the date you purchase the Bible. It's also recommended that you secure a copy of "Discipleship Made Simple" by Sam Hollis as a guide and supplement to the "One Year Bible".

You will note the "One Year Bible" is divided into 365 daily readings. For each day there is a reading from the Old Testament, the New

Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs. This gives variety and the increased likelihood of being blessed daily in the Word.

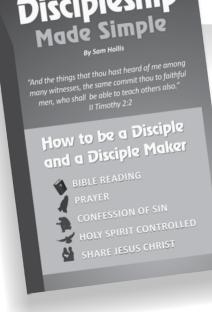
It will take approximately 15 to 30 minutes for each day's reading. If at first this is too challenging, read only the Psalms and Proverbs selections for two weeks, then add the New Testament selection for 2 weeks, then finally add the Old Testament selection. The goal is the daily inflow of the Word of God into your life!

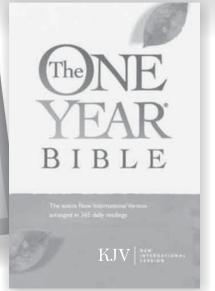
DATE	OLD TESTAMENT	NEW TESTAMENT	PSALMS	PROVERBS
1 January	Genesis 1:1 - 2:25	Matthew 1:1 - 2:12	1:1-6	1:1-6
2	Genesis 3:1 - 4:26	Matthew 2:13 - 3:6	2:1-12	1:7-9 - S
3	Genesis 5:1 - 7:24	Matthew 3:7 - 4:11	3:1-8	1:10-19
4	Genesis 8:1 - 10:32	Matthew 4:12-25	4:1-8	1:20-23
5	Genesis 11:1 - 13:4	Matthew 5:1-26	5:1-12	1:24-28
6	Genesis 13:5 - 15:21	Matthew 5:27-48	6:1-10	1:29-33
7	Genesis 16:1 - 18:19	Matthew 6:1-24	7:1-17	2:1-5
8	Genesis 18:20 - 19:38	Matthew 6:25 - 7:14	8:1-9	2:6-15
9	Genesis 20:1 - 22:24	Matthew 7:15-29	9:1-12	2:16-22
10	Genesis 23:1 - 24:51	Matthew 8:1-17	9:13-20	3:1-6
11	Genesis 24:52 - 26:16	Matthew 8:18-34	10:1-15	3:7-8
12	Genesis 26:17 - 27:46	Matthew 9:1-17	10:16-18	3:9-10
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1011   14.25	Matthew 27-1 20    Matthew 27-1 20   Matthew 27-1 20   Matthew 27-12 1-9-12   Matthew 27-12	20.13 20.11 20	10.1 2 10.2 2 10.1 10.1 10.2 2 10.1 10 10.2 2 10.1 10 10.2 2 10.1 10 10.2 2 10.1 10 10.2 10.1 10.1 10 10.1 10 10.1 10 10.1 10 10.1 10 10.1 10 10.1 10 10.1 1



Your daily Bible reading will be more profitable if you will fill out a Daily Bible Reading Response Form (provided in the book "Discipleship Made Simple"). Keep a pencil handy as you do your daily Bible reading. Underline the scriptures that speak to you. It may be a promise to claim, a sin to avoid, wisdom to apply, truth to share or inspiration to receive. Record this scripture on your Response Form. Repeat this process daily. You can study book-by-book through the Bible utilizing "Journey of a Lifetime" written by Tommy Higle and available at 1-800-635-5346 or order@journeyseries.com. You may also access an overview of each Bible book at GreatCommissionIM.com

DatePassage
God's message to me today: a promise to claim, a sin to
avoid, wisdom to apply, a truth to share, inspiration received.
Daily Bible Reading Response Form
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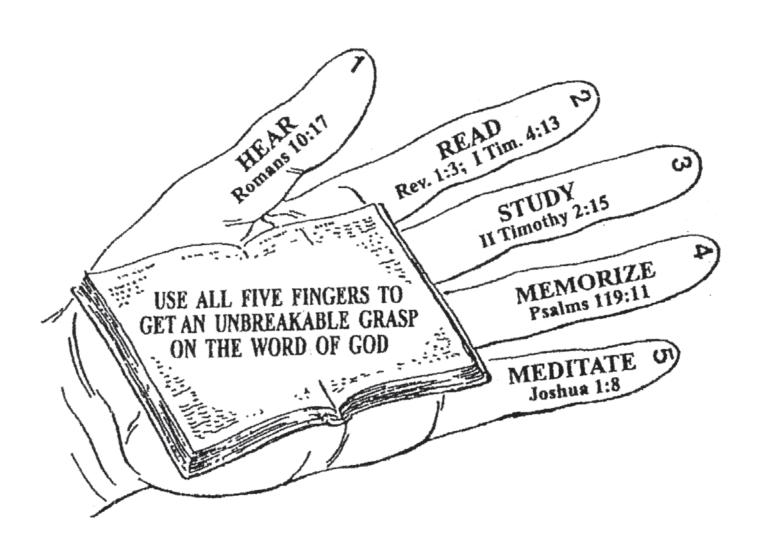




Annually secure a new copy of the "One Year Bible" and continue to live in the word daily. You will never regret it.

The systematic reading of the Bible in its entirety will enable you to learn the ways of God. When you walk in the ways of God, God will open the windows of Heaven and pour out His blessings upon you.

# Apply the Hand Illustration as taught by the Navigators to keep your life saturated with the Word of God.



# About the Author

Sam Hollis is an ordained Southern Baptist Minister.

His entire ministry has been with churches in Central and North Alabama.

He is a graduate of Samford University, Birmingham, and the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He has also completed graduate studies at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.



Sam Hollis

He is the proud parent of a grown son and one granddaughter.

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Every Creature Evangelized / Every Christian Edified

# The Great Commission

Matthew 28:18-20