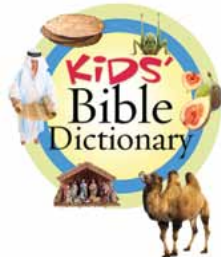


# BIG BIBLE GUIDE

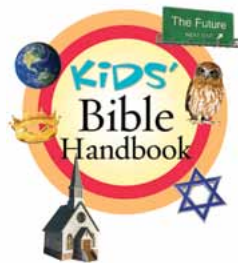
## KIDS' BIBLE DICTIONARY & HANDBOOK

Fun and Fascinating Bible Reference for Kids Ages 8 to 12

JEAN FISCHER  
TRACY M. SUMNER



*starts on page 3!*



*starts on page 163!*

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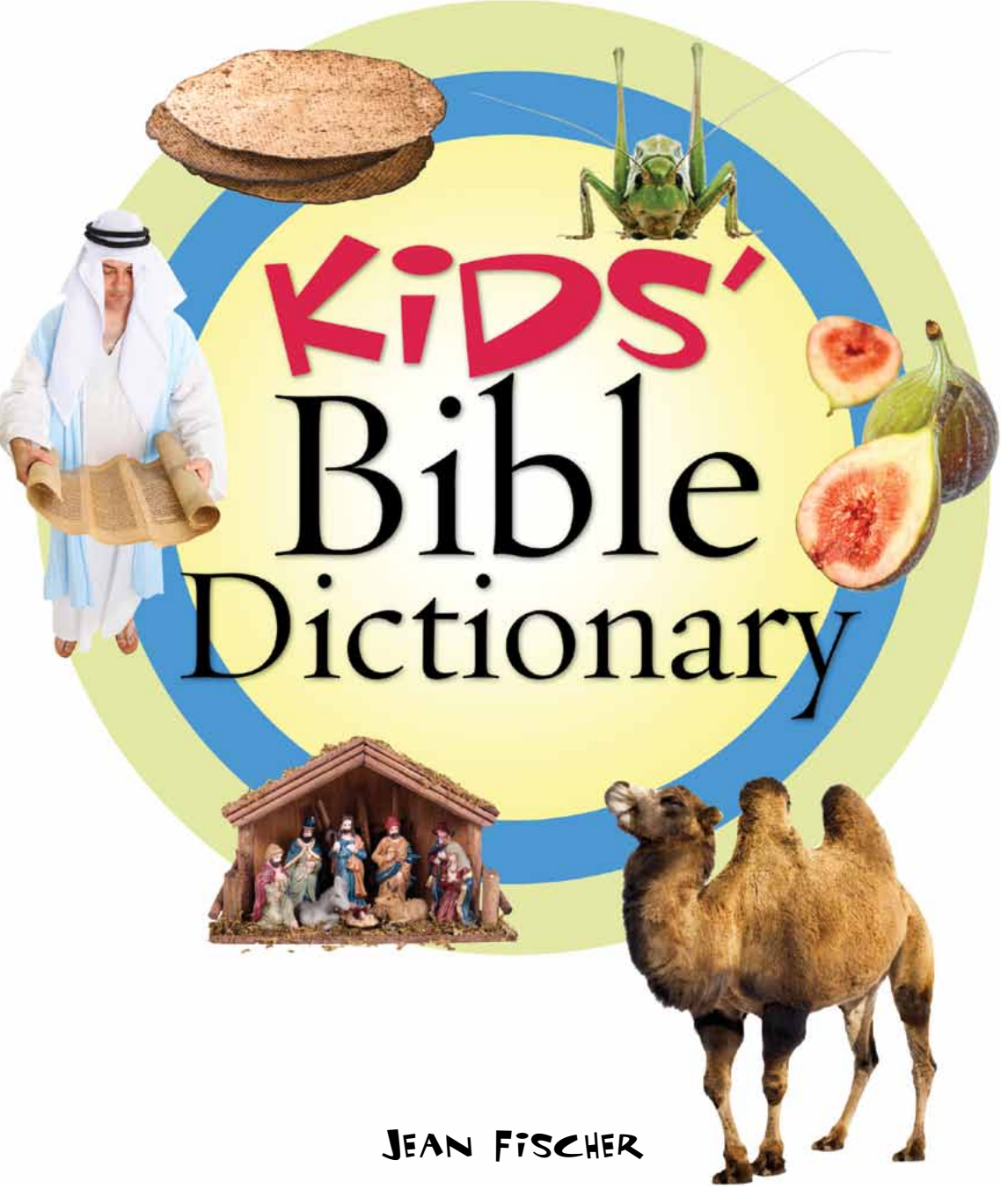
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# KIDS' Bible Dictionary

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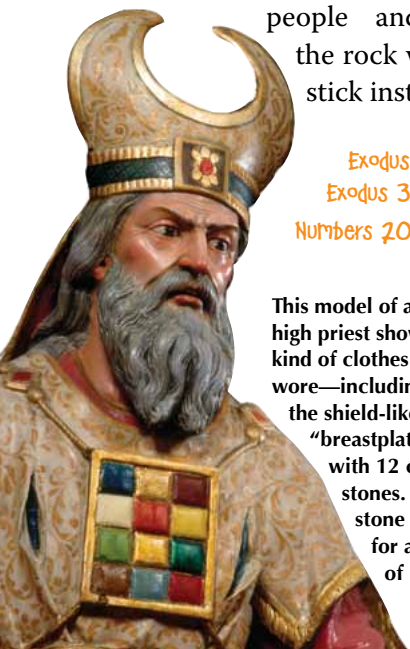


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**AARON.** \_\_\_\_\_

Moses' big brother. Moses wasn't a good speaker. So God told Aaron to speak for him. Aaron did the talking. Moses was the leader. Aaron helped Moses lead the Hebrew slaves out of Egypt. God chose Aaron to be Israel's first high priest. But Aaron wasn't perfect. The people asked him to make a statue of a god they could worship. Aaron agreed and made a golden calf. God forgave Aaron after Moses prayed for him. Neither Aaron nor Moses made it to the Promised Land because they disobeyed God one time at a place called Meribah. They were supposed to speak to a rock to create miracle water in the desert—but Moses was angry with the people and hit the rock with a stick instead.



Exodus 7–12  
Exodus 32:1–4  
Numbers 20:6–12

This model of a Jewish high priest shows the kind of clothes Aaron wore—including the shield-like “breastplate” with 12 colorful stones. Each stone stood for a tribe of Israel.

**ABBA.** \_\_\_\_\_

An Aramaic word meaning “daddy.” (Aramaic is the language that Jesus and His disciples spoke.) Before He was crucified, Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane. When He prayed, He cried out to God: “Abba, Father.” The apostle Paul used the word *Abba*, too. He said when we're saved, God adopts us and we can call him “Daddy.”

Mark 14:36  
Romans 8:15

**ABBADON.** \_\_\_\_\_

A Hebrew word that means “destruction.” Abbadon was also the name given to the angel in charge of the “bottomless pit.”

Revelation 9:11 kjv

**ABEDNEGO.** \_\_\_\_\_

A Hebrew man thrown into a fiery furnace. Abednego and his friends, Shadrach and Meshach, would not worship a golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar made. They refused to bow down to the false god. As punishment, the king had them thrown into a fiery furnace. God protected them. They came out of the fire unhurt. (Read all about it in Daniel 3.)

**ABEL.** \_\_\_\_\_

The second son of Adam and Eve. The New Testament says that Abel was “righteous.” He was faithful and good. Abel always gave his best to God, including his offering. That made his older brother, Cain, very jealous. Cain was unfaithful. He did not give God the offering He desired. Instead of trying to be more like Abel, Cain did an awful thing. In a fit of anger, he murdered his younger brother. Afterward, God sent Cain away from his family. Cain settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

1 John 3:12  
Genesis 4:1–10

**ABIGAIL.** \_\_\_\_\_

Wife of a mean man named Nabal. Nabal was rude to David's servants. That made David angry. Abigail was sorry about her husband's attitude. She packed up a tasty feast for David and his servants. Then she hurried off to find them (1 Samuel 25:14–35). David was kind to Abigail, and he forgave Nabal. Later, after Nabal died, Abigail and David got married.

1 Samuel 25:2–3

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## ABIMELECH. —

A king during Abraham's time. Abimelech was king of an ancient town called Gerar. Gerar was in the southern part of Israel. Abimelech is known for taking Abraham's wife, Sarah, and making her part of his collection of women. After he had a dream in which God told him Sarah was Abraham's wife, Abimelech gave her back to Abraham.

Genesis 20:1–18

## ABNER. —

Commander of King Saul's army. Abner introduced David to Saul. After Saul died, Abner was loyal to David. He convinced the tribes of Israel to follow David's leadership.

2 Samuel 3:17–21

## ABOMINATION. —

A nasty, terrible, disgusting, or wicked act, person, or thing. In Bible times, the Hebrews had a long list of abominations. Back then, it was common for people to kill animals and offer them as a gift to God. If someone offered God an animal that wasn't perfect, that was an abomination. Worshipping statues of gods is an abomination, too. So are witchcraft, magic, and the belief that dead people can communicate with people who are alive. If you want an easier word that means "abomination," try *sin*. Anything that is a sin is an abomination.

Deuteronomy 7:25–26 KJV

Deuteronomy 17:1 KJV

Deuteronomy 18:9–12 KJV

## ABRAHAM. —

A man of great faith. Abraham and his wife, Sarah, had a son named Isaac. They loved him very much. One day, God decided to test Abraham's faith. He asked Abraham to offer Isaac as a sacrifice to Him. That means God wanted Abraham to kill his own son to prove that God was the most important thing in Abraham's life. Abraham was about to do what God asked. Then the angel of the LORD appeared. "Don't hurt the boy!" the angel said. God was totally sure that Abraham would do anything for Him. Because Abraham was so faithful, he was called "the father of us all."

Genesis 22:1–13

Genesis 22:12 CEV

Romans 4:16

## ABRAHAM'S BOSOM. —

A term that refers to the life after this life. The Jews believed that when they died and went to heaven, they joined their ancestors, especially Abraham. (The phrase "Abraham's bosom" is found in Luke 16:22 KJV.)

## ABSALOM. —

King David's badly behaved son. Absalom and his brother, Amnon, had a fight about their sister. Absalom was so mad at Amnon that he had him killed. Afterward, Absalom ran away. King David was angry. He wanted nothing to do with his son. So Absalom got even. He went to war against his dad. At first, it looked like Absalom's army would win. But God helped David win, because he was a godly king. Absalom lost most of his troops. Then he tried to get away riding on a mule. His



An angel stops Abraham from sacrificing his son Isaac in this painting from the 1500s. God sent a ram for the sacrifice instead.

head got caught in some tree branches. While Absalom was hanging from the tree, a soldier named Joab speared him in the heart and killed him. (Check it out in 2 Samuel 18:1–18.)

2 Samuel 13:27–29  
2 Samuel 15:10

### ABSTINENCE. —————

Not doing something. The Bible talks about avoiding food and drinks that are harmful to our bodies. In the New Testament, the apostle Paul tells us that we should abstain from doing anything that will cause other people to sin. “It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother [or sister] to fall.”

Romans 14:21 NIV

### ABYSS. —————

The dark, ugly place where demons live. The word *abyss* means “bottomless pit.”

Revelation 9:1–2, 11 NASB

### ACELDAMA. —————

A field near the city of Jerusalem. Jesus’ disciple Judas was given money to betray Jesus. He used his reward money to buy a field. Afterward, Judas killed himself there. The field was later named Aceldama. This word means “field of blood.” (Find out more in Acts 1:15–19 KJV.)

### ACHAN. —————

A thief. Joshua’s army invaded Jericho. His warriors were not supposed to steal from the city. Everything there belonged to God. But Achan stole gold, silver, and a beautiful robe. He hid them in his tent. Later, Joshua lost a battle in a place called Ai. He thought it was because God was punishing his army. Then he found out what Achan had done. People threw stones at Achan and killed him. Then he and all his things were burned. His ashes were covered up with stones. (Read more about it in Joshua 7:19–26.)

### ACTS OF THE APOSTLES. —————

Another name for the New Testament book called Acts. Acts of the Apostles comes after the four books called the Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Luke wrote the book of Acts. He was the same man who wrote the Gospel of Luke. Acts starts where the Gospels leave off. It begins with the ascension of Christ (Jesus going up into heaven). It tells about the early days of the Christian church. You’ll also learn about the apostle Paul and his ministry. Acts shows Christianity spreading from Jerusalem throughout the world.

Acts 12:25–28:31  
Acts 13–28

### ADAM. —————

The first person on earth. Adam was awesome! He was good and smart, but he wasn’t perfect—because he disobeyed God’s one rule and ate the fruit of a tree God had said to stay away from. Adam was the first worker and the first husband. God made a woman named Eve to be Adam’s wife. Their home was the Garden of Eden, but when Adam and Eve sinned, God sent them away from their perfect home forever.

Genesis 2:8, 15  
Genesis 2:18–25  
Genesis 3:22–24

### ADONAI. —————

A Hebrew word for God. *Adonai* is another way of saying “LORD.”

Ezekiel 11:8 NIV

### ADOPTION. —————

To take someone into your family and make them your own. Sometimes children are not born into a family. Instead, they are adopted by someone who loves them. The apostle Paul talked about a different kind of adoption. It is called *spiritual adoption*. Paul said that all of us can be adopted as God’s children. You can be a child of God if you are sorry for your sins and have faith in Jesus Christ.

Romans 11:1–32;  
Galatians 4:4–7  
Galatians 3:24–26

## ADVENT OF CHRIST.

Another way of saying “the birth of Christ.” Jesus’ birth was the beginning of a wonderful thing. He was God’s only Son. And he was God’s special gift to all humans—then and forever. God sent His Baby to earth to save us from our sins. In Bible times, people gave their best animals to God. They killed them and put them on an altar. It was a sacrifice—a way of telling God that He was more important than anything they owned. When Jesus was born, He was already chosen by God as His sacrifice for us. When Jesus grew up, God allowed Him to be crucified on the cross. God gave us His precious Son to show that He loves us more than anything else! In all of time, there will never be a sacrifice as great as that.

Matthew 1:21  
John 3:16  
Hebrews 10:10

## ADVERSARY.

An opponent. Some are enemies. They are out to get you. The Bible says to watch out for the worst adversary—Satan. “Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”

1 Peter 5:8 NASB

Rough shepherds are the first people to visit the baby Jesus, in this painting from the 1600s.



## ADVERSITY.

Bad times. Adversity is when things go wrong. Adversity can happen when God tests our faith. It might also happen because God punishes sin. The first time a human was punished was when Adam broke God’s rules. God told Adam: “You listened to your wife. You ate the fruit of the tree that I commanded you about. I said, ‘You must not eat its fruit!’ So I am putting a curse on the ground because of what you did. All the days of your life you will have to work hard to get food from the ground.”

1 Peter 1:6–7 NRSV  
Genesis 3:17 NRSV

## ADVOCATE.

A person who supports someone or something. Is there a cause that you really believe in? If you speak up or do something about it, then you are an advocate. An *advocate* is a helper. The Bible says that Jesus is our Advocate: “If you . . . sin, Jesus Christ always does the right thing, and he will speak to the Father for us.”

1 John 2:1 CEV

## AFFLICTION.

Anything that causes pain or suffering. An affliction can affect your body and make you feel hurt or sick. It can also affect your spirit and make you feel sad. People with afflictions came to Jesus. They knew He understood and had power to help.

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Jesus healed a man who was born blind. He also got rid of demons that made men act crazy. Affliction might happen because God is judging sin. We grow stronger in faith as we trust God to help us with our afflictions.

John 9:1–41  
Matthew 8:28–33  
Romans 2:9  
Romans 5:3–5

### AGAPE. —————

To love someone without thinking about yourself. A great example is God's love for us. He loves us so much that He allowed His only Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins. To understand agape love, remember this Bible verse: "God loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die."

John 3:16 CEV

### AHAB. —————

A wicked king of Israel. Ahab was a really bad man. He was married to Jezebel. She was wicked, too. Together they got the people of Israel to worship a false god named Baal.

1 Kings 21:25  
1 Kings 16:30–33

### AIJALON. —————

A town west of Jerusalem. Joshua fought a battle with five kings in Aijalon. During this battle, the sun and moon stood still until Joshua defeated his enemies.

Joshua 10:12–13

### ALEXANDRIA. —————

The capital city of Egypt in New Testament times. Seventy-two wise Jewish men came to this city to translate the Old Testament from Hebrew to Greek. That ancient version of the Bible is called the Septuagint.

### ALIEN. —————

A stranger from a land other than Israel. This kind of alien wasn't from outer space! In Bible times, he or she was a foreigner who did not have the same rights as citizens of Israel.

Deuteronomy 14:21  
Job 19:15

### ALLEGORY. —————

A story that tells an important truth. Allegories often use symbols—one thing stands for something else. The apostle Paul used the births of Ishmael and Isaac as an allegory to explain the difference between God's law and grace.

Galatians 4:22–31

### ALLELUIA. —————

"Praise the Lord!" *Alleluia* is a Greek word used to praise God.

Revelation 19:1–6

### ALLIANCE. —————

An agreement between specific people or nations. Old Testament prophets warned against forming an alliance that would cause people to turn from God.

Jeremiah 2:17–19

### ALMIGHTY. —————

The one with the greatest power. "Almighty" is a title used for God. It shows that He has endless power to do all things. God used "Almighty" to describe Himself. "When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, 'I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless.'"

Genesis 17:1 NKJV

### ALMOND. —————

A kind of nut tree. If you go to Israel, you might see orchards of almond trees. They bloom in January. Then they produce lots of flavorful nuts. In Bible times, almonds were among the best products of the land.



An almond on the tree branch.

Genesis 43:11

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## ALPHA AND OMEGA.

A term that means the beginning and the ending. In the Greek alphabet, *alpha* is the first letter and *omega* is the last. These words are sometimes used to describe God. Alpha and omega remind us that God the Father, His Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are here forever and ever. Jesus promised that it was so when He said, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. . . who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

Revelation 1:8 NKJV

## ALTAR.

A place where sacrifices are made. An altar might be a table, a platform, or another raised surface. In early Bible times, altars were made of rocks or earth. Noah was the first one to build an altar: "Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it."

Exodus 20:24-25  
Genesis 8:20 NIV

## AMALEKITES.

A tribe that was an enemy of the Israelites. For a neat story about how Moses and his friends defeated the Amalekites, read Exodus 17:8-16.

## AMBASSADOR.

A messenger for a ruler, king, or queen. Paul thought of himself as an ambassador for Christ. He said that all believers could be ambassadors for Jesus.

Ephesians 6:20  
2 Corinthians 5:20

## AMEN.

A word that many people use to end a prayer. *Amen* is also used to show approval and to agree with a promise. Jesus is sometimes called "the Amen" because He is good and dependable right to the end.

Psalms 89:52  
Nehemiah 5:13  
Revelation 3:14

## AMMONITES.

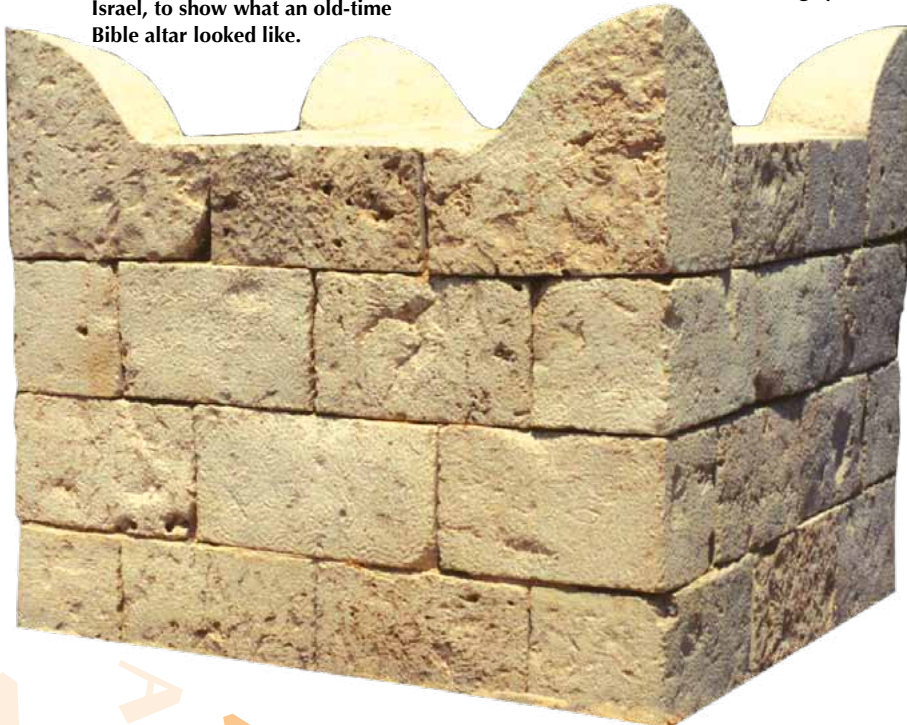
The relatives of Lot's grandson, Ammon. The Ammonites became enemies of the Israelites during the Exodus (a time when the Israelites traveled from Egypt to their homeland). When the Ammonites' country was ruled by an Amorite king, he did not allow the Israelites to cross their land, and the Ammonites did not offer the Israelites food and water when they came out of Egypt.

Numbers 21:21-24  
Deuteronomy 23:3-4

## AMNON.

King David's oldest son. Amnon behaved badly with his half sister, Tamar. When King David found out, he was very upset. But he did not punish Amnon. Amnon's brother Absalom was angry with Amnon, too. He was so angry

This altar was built in Beersheba, Israel, to show what an old-time Bible altar looked like.



that he decided to take matters into his own hands. Absalom told his servants to kill Amnon, which they did. Then Absalom ran away. (Read more about it in 2 Samuel 13.)

2 Samuel 3:2

## AMOS.

A herdsman, farmer, and prophet. He criticized the rich for not helping the poor. He also encouraged people to worship the one true God. Amos thought of himself more as a farmer than a prophet. He said, "I was neither a prophet nor a prophet's son, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees but the LORD took me from tending the flock and said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'" A prophet is someone who speaks for God.

Amos 8:4-6  
Amos 7:14-15 NIV

## ANANIAS.

A man who lied, fell down, and died! Ananias and his wife, Sapphira, belonged to the Christian church in Jerusalem. Many church members were selling their things for money they could give to the poor. Ananias and Sapphira agreed and sold their land. But they kept part of their money for themselves and then lied about it. The apostle Peter scolded Ananias for what he had done. Just then, Ananias dropped dead! Even spookier,

the same thing happened to Sapphira a few hours later.

Acts 4:34-35  
Acts 5:1-10

## ANCIENT OF DAYS.

An Old Testament name for God. The prophet Daniel was the first to use "Ancient of Days." He wrote this awesome description of God in Daniel 7:9: "As I looked, thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze" (NIV).

## ANDREW.

One of Jesus' disciples; also Peter's brother. Andrew was a fisherman from the town of Bethsaida. He was a follower of John the Baptist, and he introduced Peter to Jesus. Andrew was the disciple who brought to Jesus a boy with five loaves of bread and two fishes. Jesus used that small lunch to feed more than five thousand people. (Read all about it in John 6:1-14.)

John 1:44  
John 1:35-42

## ANGEL.

A heavenly being. Angels are sent from heaven to help humans on earth. They are God's special messengers. Angels are not equal to God, because they are made by

God. He tells angels what to do. Some of their jobs are delivering messages for God, protecting God's people, helping the thirsty, and praising God's name. Before the earth was created, some bad angels turned against God. Their leader was Satan. Another one of these bad angels was Abaddon, "the angel of the bottomless pit." These guys were so awful that God kicked them out of heaven.

Psalms 148:2, 5  
Psalm 103:20  
Luke 1:13  
Daniel 3:28  
Genesis 21:17-19  
Psalm 103:20-21  
Revelation 12:7-9  
Revelation 9:11 KJV

## ANGEL OF THE LORD.

A special angel who serves as God's spokesman. This angel stands out from all the rest. He was around a lot in Old Testament times. He was with the Israelites during the Exodus. He was with Hagar in the wilderness and with Moses in the burning bush. The Angel of the LORD appeared to Abraham when he was about to sacrifice his son Isaac. He also appeared to Gideon, Balaam, Elijah, David, and others.

Genesis 16:7-12  
Exodus 3:2-3  
Genesis 22:11-12  
Judges 6:11-12  
Numbers 22:21-35  
2 Kings 1:3  
1 Chronicles 21:16



## ANGER.

A strong unhappy feeling. God gets angry sometimes, but He is slow to anger. You should be slow to anger, too. When you feel angry, take time to listen. Think before you speak. The Bible says, “A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.” Jesus said not to be angry with our brothers or sisters. We shouldn’t let the sun go down while we’re still angry. That means don’t go to sleep feeling angry with someone. Try hard to work out your differences.

Nahum 1:3

James 1:19

Proverbs 15:1 NIJV

Matthew 5:22

Ephesians 4:26

## ANGUISH.

Terrible sadness and pain. Sometimes anguish is caused by a pain in your body. It can also happen when you feel worried, unsettled, or discouraged.

Exodus 6:9

2 Samuel 1:9

Job 7:11

## ANNA.

An old prophetess. Anna was eighty-four years old. She never left the temple. She worshipped there night and day. It was the law, in Bible times, that all boy babies be brought to Jerusalem and blessed in the temple. When Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple, Anna was there.

She praised God and spoke about Jesus.

Luke 2:22–24

Luke 2:36–38

## ANNAS.

Father-in-law of the high priest who ruled at Jesus’ trial. Annas asked Jesus about His disciples and His beliefs. Afterward, he had Jesus tied up and sent away for sentencing.

John 18:19–24

## ANOINT.

To set someone apart as holy or special. In Old Testament times, people were anointed with oil. The oil was poured on their heads. This honored them as God’s special helpers. In New Testament times, people were anointed with oil for healing. You might know the word *anoint* from Psalm 23:5: “You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over” (NKJV).

Exodus 29:7

Mark 6:13

## ANTICHRIST.

Someone who is against Jesus. Many believe an antichrist will appear at the end of time as the enemy of Christ and all Christians. He will be powerful and bad. Another name for this antichrist is the *beast*. He will say that Jesus is not the Christ. He will

brag and go against everything holy. He will even sit on God’s throne and pretend to be God. In the end, the antichrist will die. “The Lord Jesus will kill him simply by breathing on him.”

Revelation 13

1 John 2:22–23

2 Thessalonians 2:3–4

2 Thessalonians 2:8 CEV

## ANTIOCH.

A major city in Syria, north of Israel. Other places were named Antioch, too, so this one was called Antioch of Syria. This is where believers were first called Christians. The apostle Paul used Antioch as his home base for missionary travels.

Acts 11:26

Acts 13:1–4

Acts 15:35–41

## APOCALYPSE.

The unveiling of hidden things known only to God. The last book of the Bible, Revelation, is all about apocalypse. The apostle John wrote the book. It tells about the end of the world as we know it. God’s true message about the end-times is hidden. The book of Revelation uses symbols, visions, and numbers to give us hints about what will happen. The truth about it can only come from God. The Holy Spirit helps us to understand some of the apocalypse. God gave John hints about the end-times through a



messenger angel. Then John shared what he learned by writing his book.

Galatians 1:12  
1 Corinthians 2:11–14  
Revelation 1:1–2

## APOCRYPHA. —————

Books included in the Bibles of some religious groups. These books were written between 150 BC and AD 70. Their names are: Baruch; Bel and the Dragon; the Wisdom of Jesus; the Son of Sirach; the First and Second Books of Esdras; Additions to the Book of Esther; the Epistle of Jeremiah; Judith; First and Second Maccabees; the Prayer of Azariah and the Song of the Three Young Men; the Prayer of Manasseh; Susanna; Tobit; and

the Wisdom of Solomon.

1 Corinthians 3:4–7

## APOLLOS. —————

A disciple of John the Baptist. Apollos was a Jew who became a Christian. Like the apostle Paul, he was a servant of God. He came from Alexandria to Ephesus to teach about Jesus. Apollos was very smart, but his knowledge of Christ was limited. So Priscilla and her husband, Aquila, invited him to their home. They taught him more about the Lord. (Check out Acts 18:24–28.)

## APOSTASY. —————

Falling away from true faith in God. Our worst enemy, Satan, causes apostasy. Sometimes apostasy happens because people

listen to false teachers. These teachers do not teach the true Word of God. Instead, they say what people want to hear. Sometimes, believers fall away from faith during hard times. Love of worldly things can make believers turn away, too. Apostasy won't happen to you if you keep your mind on God's truth, love Him more than the things you own, and have faith that He is the one true God.

Hebrews 3:12  
Luke 22:31–32  
2 Timothy 4:3–5  
Matthew 13:21  
2 Timothy 4:10  
Ephesians 4:13–16



John, holding a pen, writes the vision God gave him on an island called Patmos. Part of his vision was of four horses and their riders, who caused terrible suffering on the earth.

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## APOSTLE.

A disciple; one who is called by Jesus. The original twelve apostles were Peter, Andrew, James the son of Zebedee, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon, and Judas. It was their job to share what Jesus taught. Jesus gave His apostles the power to cast out evil spirits and to heal the sick. Saul, who was later called Paul, became an apostle after he met Jesus on the Damascus Road.

Matthew 10:2–4  
John 15:16  
Matthew 10:1  
Acts 9:1–30

## AQUILA.

A Christian teacher during Paul's time. Aquila and his wife, Priscilla, worked with Paul at Corinth. They continued Paul's work at Ephesus. Aquila was also involved with the church at Rome.

Acts 18:2  
Acts 18:24–26  
Romans 16:3

## ARABIA.

A hot, dry desert area in the Middle East. Arabia is southeast of Palestine. It is about 1,400 miles long and 800 miles wide. The queen of Sheba came from Arabia. She brought gold and precious jewels to King Solomon and tested his wisdom by asking him hard questions.

1 Kings 10:1–15

## ARCHANGEL.

A most powerful angel. Only one archangel, Michael, is mentioned in the Bible. The prophet Daniel described him as “the great prince.” It is the archangel who will announce the return of Jesus. In the end-times, Michael will fight with Satan and win. The Bible tells about it: “A war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels were fighting against the dragon and its angels. But the dragon lost the battle. It and its angels were forced out of their places in heaven and were thrown down to the earth. Yes, that old snake and his angels were thrown out of heaven! That snake, who fools everyone on earth, is known as the devil and Satan.”

Daniel 12:1  
1 Thessalonians 4:16  
Revelation 12:7–9 CEV

## ARK, NOAH'S.

Noah's big wooden boat. Noah, his family, and assorted animals lived on the ark for about a year. The ark saved them from God's big flood. God used the flood as a way to destroy all the rest of the humans because they were wicked. Noah followed God's directions when he built the ark. Then he and his family entered the ark with every kind of animal. Rain fell on the earth for forty days and nights. Before long, the ark floated away. The flood covered the earth for 150 days. Finally, God sent a wind to dry up the water, and He also stopped the rain. The ark ended up on top of the mountains called Ararat. When the water was totally gone, Noah, his family, and all the animals went safely to dry land.

Genesis 6:14–16  
Genesis 6:18–20  
Genesis 7:17  
Genesis 7:24  
Genesis 8:1–4  
Genesis 8:18–19



This model of Noah's ark, with elephants, giraffes, and other animals in front, gives an idea of how big the real thing was!

The gold-plated ark of the covenant had a solid gold top with two big angels called “cherubim.” The whole lid was called the “mercy seat.”



## ARK OF THE COVENANT.

A wooden chest containing the Ten Commandments. The Ten Commandments were carved on two stone tablets. God said to put them into the ark of the covenant. The New Testament book of Hebrews talks about some manna and Aaron’s rod also being in the ark of the covenant. God wanted a jar of manna to be placed before the ark to remind the people that He took care of them in the wilderness. Aaron’s rod or staff was also kept there as a sign to those who rebelled against the Lord. God gave instructions for making the ark. When it was done, the ark was a holy symbol. It showed that God was with His people. At first, the ark was stored in the tabernacle. Then the Israelites took it into battle. The Philistines captured it. Later, it was in the temple in Jerusalem. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon might have stolen it

from there. Some people believe it still exists and is hidden in the Middle East. No one knows for sure what happened to it. It’s one of the world’s great mysteries.

Exodus 34:28  
Deuteronomy 10:3–4  
Hebrews 9:4  
Exodus 16:32–34  
Numbers 17:10  
Exodus 25:10–22  
Exodus 26:33  
1 Samuel 4:1–5  
1 Samuel 4:10–11  
1 Kings 8:1–9  
2 Chronicles 36:7, 18

## ARMAGEDDON.

A name for the valley between Mount Carmel and the city of Jezreel. In Bible times, many battles were fought there. Armageddon is named as the site of the greatest battle of all: In the end-times, good will fight evil at Armageddon. Good will win.

Revelation 16:14–16  
Revelation 17:14

## ARTAXERXES I.

A king of Persia. Artaxerxes followed the reign of King Cyrus. Both Ezra and Nehemiah served in his court. Artaxerxes allowed Ezra to lead a group of Jews back to Jerusalem to settle there. Years later, he allowed Nehemiah to return to Jerusalem to rebuild its walls.

Ezra 7:1–7  
Nehemiah 2:1–10

## ASA.

The third king of Judah. Asa reigned from about 911–869 BC. He destroyed places where people worshipped idols. He also brought a time of peace to Judah. Asa was a faithful and obedient servant of God. Then, one day, he got sick with a foot disease. Because he trusted only in his doctors and not in the Lord, he died. Asa had been king for forty-one years.

2 Chronicles 14:2–8  
2 Chronicles 16:12–14

## ASAPH.

A choir leader and writer of psalms (songs). Asaph was a Levite. He wrote a dozen of the psalms. Take a look at Psalm 50 and Psalms 73–83.

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# Ascension of Christ

## ASCENSION OF CHRIST.

Jesus' return to heaven after He rose from the dead. Jesus was crucified and then buried in a tomb. Three days later, He came to life again. He stayed on earth for forty days. After that, He went up (ascended) into heaven to be with God. Jesus' ascension happened in a place called the Mount of Olives. The apostles were there when it happened. "While they were watching, he was taken up into a cloud. They could not see him, but as he went up, they kept looking up into the sky. Suddenly two men dressed in white clothes were standing there beside them. They said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here and looking up into the sky? Jesus has been taken to heaven. But he will come back in the same way that you have seen him go.'"

Acts 1:3  
 Luke 24:1-51  
 Acts 1:9-11 CEV

## ASHES.

The powder left after something burns. Ashes are a symbol of sadness and of being sorry. In Bible times, people who sinned were sometimes sprinkled with ashes. This was a sign to God that they wanted to be pure enough to worship Him again.

Hebrews 9:13

## ASIA.

In New Testament times, it was a region east of the Aegean Sea. Asia was part of the Roman Empire. Major cities in Asia included Ephesus, Smyrna, and Pergamum. Later, this area of the world was called Asia Minor and then Turkey. The apostle Paul preached in Asia.

Acts 19:10

## ASSEMBLY.

People gathering to worship. Hebrews 10:25 says, "Some people have gotten out of the habit of meeting for worship, but we must not do that. We should keep on encouraging each other, especially since you know that the day of the Lord's coming is getting closer" (CEV).

## ASSURANCE.

Totally believing in God's promises. We can be sure that God will not turn away from us if we seek Him and trust Him. God promised: "I will bless those who trust me. They will be like trees growing beside a stream—trees with roots that reach down to the water, and with leaves that are always green. They bear fruit every year and are never worried by a lack of rain." That's assurance!

Psalms 9:10  
 Jeremiah 17:7-8 CEV

## ASSYRIA.

An ancient kingdom located between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Between 900 and 700 BC, it was a very powerful place. The Assyrian people were mean. They did terrible things to their enemies and worshipped false gods. Old Testament prophets like Isaiah, Ezekiel, and Hosea spoke out against them.

Isaiah 10:5  
 Ezekiel 16:28  
 Hosea 8:9

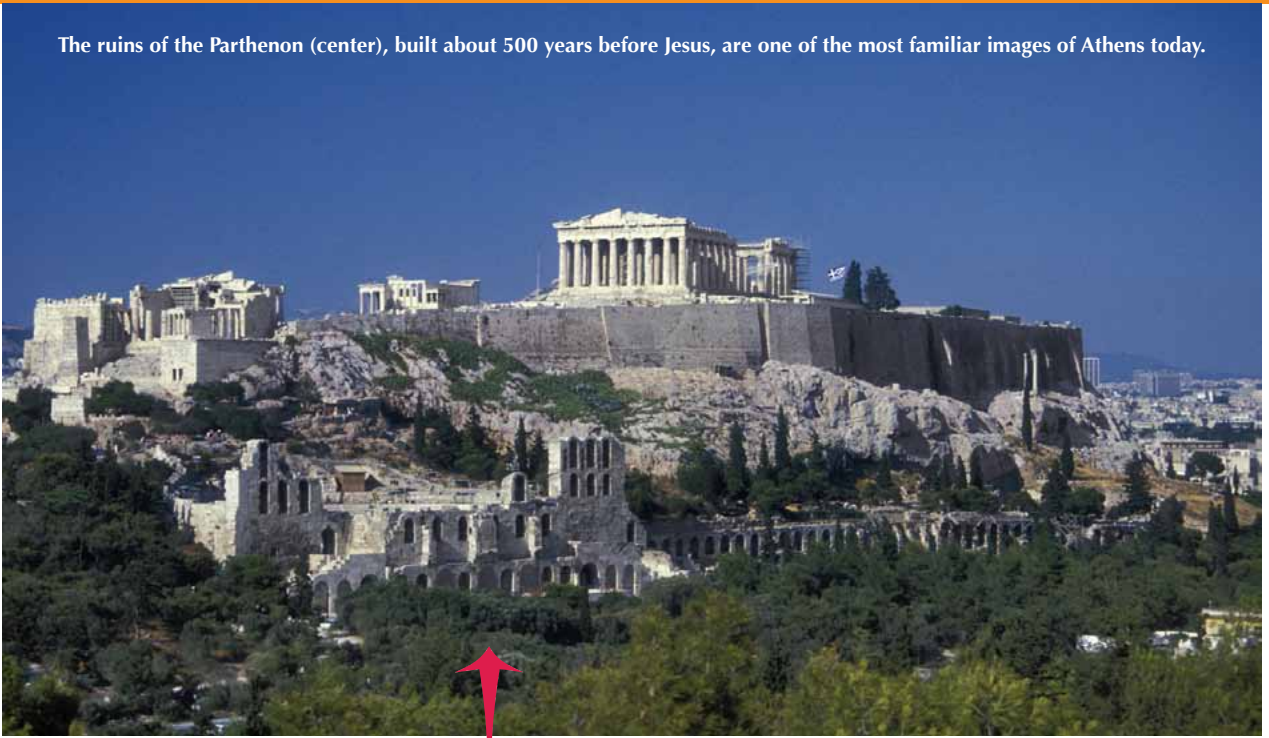


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The ruins of the Parthenon (center), built about 500 years before Jesus, are one of the most familiar images of Athens today.



## ATHALIAH.

The daughter of King Ahab and his wife, Jezebel. Athaliah was queen of Judah from about 841–835 BC. She became queen by murdering all but one of her relatives who were in line to become king.

2 Kings 11:1–3

## ATHEISM.

Refusing to believe that the one true God—or any other god—exists. What does the Bible say about atheism? “Only a fool would say, ‘There is no God!’ People like that are worthless! They are heartless and cruel and never do right.”

Psalms 53:1 CEV

## ATHENS.

An important city of ancient Greece. The apostle Paul traveled to Athens on his second missionary journey. He found it full of idols (statues of false gods). There was even an altar to “the unknown god.” Paul taught and argued with the people of Athens. He wanted to teach them about the real God.

Acts 17:22–23

## ATONEMENT.

Settling differences between God and man through a sacrifice. In Old Testament times, *atonement* meant making animal sacrifices to God. Today, believers don’t make animal sacrifices. When Jesus died on the cross, He was the ultimate sacrifice to God. He died so everyone who believed in Him could

be forgiven for their sins. Christ’s atonement, His dying on the cross, is our foundation for peace.

2 Corinthians 5:21  
Ephesians 2:13–16

## AUGUSTUS.

A title of honor used for emperors of the Roman Empire. The title *Augustus* meant “his reverence.” A well-known Roman emperor named Caesar Augustus wanted to know how many people lived in the Roman Empire. He ordered all the people to go to Bethlehem to be counted. Jesus’ parents went to Bethlehem to be counted. While they were there, Jesus was born.

Luke 2:1–7

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## BAAL.

The main false god of the Canaanites. Baal worship was wicked. The Canaanites believed that Baal made crops grow and livestock reproduce. There were Baal priests and prophets. And some of God's people even worshipped Baal. In doing so they broke the Second Commandment. This made God very angry. He sent His prophet Elijah to prove that there was just one true God. Many of the people turned from their evil ways. The rest of them were killed. (Read more about it in 1 Kings 18:1–40.)

Exodus 20:4–5

## BABYLON.

The capital city of the Babylonian Empire. Nimrod the hunter built Babylon. He was a mighty warrior whose strength came from God. Babylon was on a plain between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. It was where the Tower of Babel was built. In its time, Babylon was a magnificent city with rich and powerful leaders. One of them was King Nebuchadnezzar. His forces attacked Jerusalem in 587 BC. They took the Jewish people captive. Then the Jews were kept as slaves in Babylon. *Babylon* means “gate-



In this ancient idol, Baal holds a blossoming branch.

way of the gods.” Its ruins still exist, not far from Baghdad, Iraq.

Genesis 10:9–10

Genesis 11:1–9

Daniel 4:1–3, 30

2 Chronicles 36:5–21

## BACKBITING.

Saying bad things about others behind their backs. The Bible says that backbiting is not good behavior for anyone, especially Christians.

Romans 1:30

Proverbs 25:23

## BACKSLIDING.

Knowing God, then turning away from Him. Backsliding is bad because it keeps us away from God. Some people backslide because they don't grow in their faith. Others backslide when they lose their faith in bad times. Sometimes people love the things they own more than they love God. That causes backsliding, too.

Isaiah 59:2

2 Peter 1:5–9

Matthew 13:20–21

1 Timothy 6:10

## BALAAM.

A prophet with a talking donkey. Moab's king hired Balaam to curse God's people. But God spoke to Balaam through his donkey, and Balaam blessed the Israelites instead.

Numbers 22–24

## BANQUET.

A totally awesome feast! Imagine long tables filled with mouth-watering treats. That's a banquet. Read what Jesus said about banquets in Luke 14:12–15.





A visitor to the Holy Land is baptized in the Jordan River, the same river that John the Baptist used in the time of Jesus.



## BAPTISM.

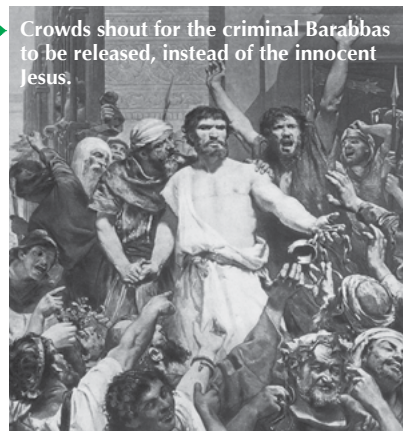
A Christian ceremony of faith where people are dipped in water, or water is poured or sprinkled on their heads. Baptism is a ceremony that proves our faith in Jesus Christ. It is a symbol that we are washed clean of our sins. The word *baptize* comes from the Greek word *baptizo*. It means to dunk, dip, or plunge. In the New Testament, you can read about John the Baptist. He baptized many people, including Jesus. Jesus had no sin, so He really didn't need to be baptized. But He had John baptize Him to set an example for us.

Matthew 3:4–17

## BARABBAS.

A famous criminal. Barabbas was in jail when Jesus was arrested. Barabbas was a murderer. He was sentenced to die for his crime. Jesus was brought to Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor of Judea, to be judged. A great mob of people wanted Barabbas released from jail. So Pilate gave them a choice: Barabbas or Jesus. Barabbas was set free, and Jesus was sent to be crucified.

Mark 15:6–15



## BARNABAS.

A good friend to the apostle Paul. Barnabas's real name was Joses, but the apostles called him Barnabas. The name Barnabas means "one who encourages others." Barnabas was a good man. His friend Paul had not always been a Christian. Paul met Jesus on the road to Damascus. From that day on, Paul believed in Him. Jesus' disciples were not sure about Paul. They didn't trust him. It was Barnabas who convinced them that Paul was a new and true follower of Jesus.

Acts 4:36 CEV  
Acts 9:1–19  
Acts 9:26–28

## BARAK.

A general in the prophetess Deborah's army. Barak and Deborah battled the Canaanites. The Canaanites were fighting with the Israelites after they entered the Promised Land. Who won the battle? Barak and his army did. Read all about it in Judges 4.

## BARBARIAN.

Someone who is wild and ill-mannered. In Bible times, the Greeks called citizens of other nations barbarians.

Romans 1:14 KJV

## BARLEY.

A grain, like oats. Barley was used as food for livestock. Poor people ground up barley and made bread out of it.

1 Kings 4:28  
John 6:9

## BARREN.

Not able to have a child. God sometimes works miracles for women who are barren. In Bible times, He blessed with children several barren women. They were Sarah, Rachel, Hannah, and Elizabeth.

Genesis 29:31  
1 Samuel 1:5, 20  
Luke 1:7, 57–58



**BARTHOLOMEW.** —————  
One of Jesus' disciples. Some people who study the Bible believe that Bartholomew was also called Nathanael.

Mark 3:16, 18  
John 1:45–49

**BARTIMAEUS.** —————  
A blind beggar healed by Jesus. Bartimaeus was sitting on the roadside when Jesus and His disciples walked by. "Have pity on me!" he cried out. A crowd following Jesus told Bartimaeus to be quiet. But he kept calling to the Lord. Jesus stopped. "What do you want?" He asked. "I want to see!" Bartimaeus replied. Because Bartimaeus had faith, Jesus touched his eyes and healed him. (Find out more in Mark 10:46–52.)

**BARUCH.** —————  
A friend of the prophet Jeremiah. Baruch was a scribe. Scribes were like secretaries. The Lord told Jeremiah what to say. Then Jeremiah told Baruch, and Baruch wrote it down.

Jeremiah 36:4–32

**BATHSHEBA.** —————  
King Solomon's mom. King David saw Bathsheba and thought she was beautiful. The problem was that Bathsheba was married to someone else—Uriah, a soldier in David's army. So David did a terrible thing. He made sure that Uriah was killed while

fighting in a battle. Once Uriah was dead, David was free to marry Bathsheba. Bathsheba and David had four sons. One of them was Solomon who grew up to be a king of Israel.

2 Samuel 11:14–17  
2 Samuel 12:24

**BEAR.** —————  
A big, heavy mammal. Bears were well-known in Bible lands and times. David killed a bear to protect his father's sheep.

1 Samuel 17:34–35

**BEARD.** —————  
Hair on a man's face. In Bible times, Jewish men were proud of their beards. If someone shaved his beard, it was a sign of suffering or sadness.

Jeremiah 48:37–38

**BEATITUDES.** —————  
Blessings! When Jesus gave the Sermon on the Mount, He blessed the people. These blessings are called the Beatitudes. Jesus said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers,

for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven".

Matthew 5:1–12 NEW

**BEERSHEBA.** —————  
A well where Abraham and Abimelech sealed a promise. The name means "well of the oath." (An *oath* is a promise.)

Genesis 21:30–32 NEW

**BEGGAR.** —————  
A poor person asking for help. God commanded the Israelites to take care of the poor. There are stories in the Bible about Jesus and His disciples helping beggars. Peter healed a poor beggar who could not walk and was asking for money. Jesus healed Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, on the road to Jericho.

Acts 3:2–3  
Deuteronomy 15:7–11  
Acts 3:6–10  
Luke 18:35–43

**BEGOTTEN.** —————  
A natural child of someone. John 3:16 tells us that Jesus is God's "only begotten Son." That means that He is the one-and-only, one-of-a-kind Son of God. Check out how special Jesus is by reading John 3:16–18.

In this painting, almost 400 years old, King Belshazzar reads “the handwriting on the wall.”



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## BEHEMOTH. —————

A giant Bible beast. The behemoth was a beast that is described in the book of Job. No one knows for sure what the behemoth was. Some people think it might have been an elephant or hippopotamus or even a dinosaur.

Job 40:15–24

## BELIAL. —————

Wicked, or the wicked one. *Belial* can mean “wickedness” or “wicked people”.

1 Kings 21:10 KJV

## BELIEVE. —————

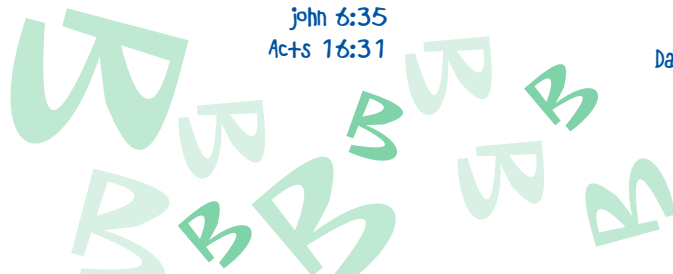
To trust with all your heart that something is real. Jesus said that anything is possible if we believe. Although we can’t see Jesus, we trust that He is real. Believing helps us stay strong when times are bad. Belief in Jesus Christ is what allows us to be saved.

Mark 9:23  
John 20:29  
John 6:35  
Acts 16:31

## BELSHAZZAR. —————

The last king of Babylonia (Daniel 5:1). Belshazzar was a bad guy. He worshipped false gods. He also had wild parties. At one, a mysterious hand appeared in the room. It wrote a message on the wall. The message said that Belshazzar’s reign as king would end soon. It did. That very night the king was killed.

Daniel 5:2–5  
Daniel 5:25–28  
Daniel 5:30





## BENEVOLENCE. —————

Being generous toward others. The apostle Paul said it is good to show benevolence toward the poor and needy. It is also good to be generous to those who serve God. The Bible says we should even show benevolence to our enemies: “If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink.”

*Galatians 2:10*  
*Philippians 4:14–17*  
*Proverbs 25:21* NEW

## BENJAMIN. —————

Joseph’s little brother. Benjamin was the youngest of twelve brothers. His dad was Jacob. Benjamin and Joseph were their dad’s favorites because they were the sons of Rachel, the wife Jacob loved the most. Benjamin’s brothers were jealous of Joseph, so they did a disgusting thing. They sold Joseph as a slave and lied about it. Years later, Joseph saw his brothers again, and he forgave them. He was especially happy to see his baby brother Benjamin. Joseph loved him very much. A tribe of Israel was named after Benjamin. All of its people were his ancestors. They were known as the Benjamites.

*Genesis 37:3; 42:38*  
*Genesis 29:30; 35:24*  
*Genesis 37:28, 31–32*  
*Genesis 45:14*  
*Numbers 1:36–37*  
*Judges 20:15*

## BEREA. —————

A city in Macedonia. Today, Macedonia is called Greece. Paul visited Berea during his second missionary journey. The people there were excited to learn about God and study the scriptures.

*Ac+ts 17:10–11*

## BESIEGE. —————

To surround with soldiers. In Bible times, many cities had walls. When armies went to war with these cities, they surrounded the walls with soldiers or besieged them. When that happened the citizens were trapped inside.

*Deuteronomy 20:12*

## BETHANY. —————

A village at the foot of the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem. Jesus went to Bethany often. His good friends Mary, Martha, and Lazarus lived there. Bethany is where Jesus brought Lazarus back to life after he had been dead for four days. After He died and came back to life, Jesus ascended (went up) into heaven from Bethany.

*Mark 11:1*  
*John 11:1*  
*John 11:17–44*  
*Luke 24:50–51*

## BETHEL. —————

A city about twelve miles north of Jerusalem. Bethel is where Jacob had his famous dream about a ladder that stretched from earth to heaven. Before Jacob’s dream, Bethel was known as Luz. Then Jacob renamed it Bethel. The Israelites often went to this city to talk to and worship God.

*Genesis 28:10–12*  
*Genesis 28:18–19*  
*Judges 20:18; 21:2*

## BETHLEHEM. —————

The place where Jesus was born. Bethlehem is also where King David grew up. Sometimes, it’s called “the city of David.” So why was Jesus born there? Wasn’t He from Nazareth? In Bible times, people had to travel to their hometowns to be counted. It was the only way to know how many lived in a certain region. Jesus’ mom, Mary, and his adopted dad, Joseph, lived in Nazareth. But Joseph’s hometown was Bethlehem. So Joseph and Mary walked from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be counted. When they got there, Jesus was born.

*1 Samuel 16:1–13*  
*2 Samuel 5:7*  
*Luke 2:1–11*

## BETHSAIDA. —————

A fishing village on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. It was the home of Jesus’ disciples Andrew, Peter, and Philip.

*John 1:44*

**BETROTHAL.**

A marriage agreement. In Bible times, the groom made an agreement with the bride's parents. The groom agreed to marry their daughter and take her as his wife. If a couple was betrothed, they were legally married. Mary and Joseph, Jesus' parents, were betrothed.

Matthew 1:18–19

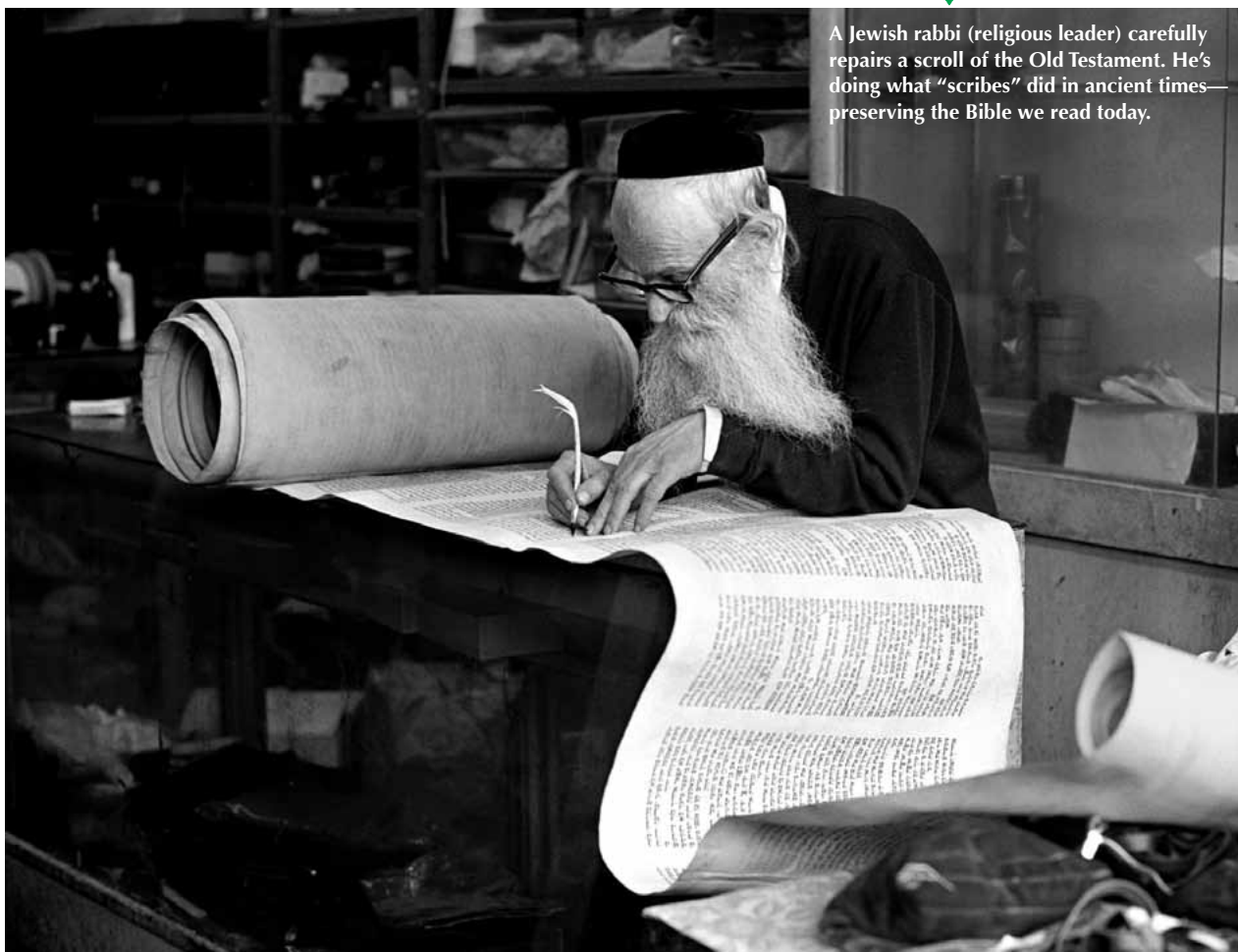
**BIBLE.**

The written Word of God. The Bible is split into two parts, the Old Testament and the New

Testament. The parts are a collection of sixty-six books. They were written by more than forty different authors. The authors weren't all rich or famous. Some were ordinary men. Others were prophets. Some were kings. God inspired the authors to write. The words are His. We can believe everything in the Bible is true. The Bible took a very long time to write—about 1,500 years! The oldest books (from Genesis to Deuteronomy) were probably written between 1446 and 1406 BC. The newest book (Revelation) was written around AD 95.

The Bible begins with the creation of the earth (Genesis 1). It ends with some ideas about how life on earth will end (the book of Revelation). The last spoken words of the Bible are Jesus' promise that He is coming back some day. There are thirty-nine books in the Old Testament and twenty-seven books in the New Testament. All of them were written by hand. Finally, in AD 1454, the Bible was printed on a printing press. It was the first book ever printed.

2 Timothy 3:16  
Revelation 22:20



A Jewish rabbi (religious leader) carefully repairs a scroll of the Old Testament. He's doing what "scribes" did in ancient times—preserving the Bible we read today.



## BILDAD.

One of Job's friends. Bildad was the second friend to comfort Job in his time of trouble. He told Job that all suffering is because of sin. But Bildad was wrong. See what Jesus said about that in John 9:1–3.

Job 2:11  
Job 8; 18; 25

## BIRTHRIGHT.

Wealth for an oldest son. In Bible times, the oldest son was sometimes given many good things. For example, he would get a double share of everything his dad owned when his dad died. Then he would take over as the leader of the family. This was his birthright. If the son behaved badly, his birthright could be taken away. One son who did not respect his birthright was Esau. He sold it to his younger brother, Jacob, for a single bowl of stew!

Deuteronomy 21:17  
Genesis 25:29–34

## BLASPHEME.

To curse or show disrespect toward God. Blasphemy is a very bad sin. In fact, in Bible times if a person blasphemed God, he could be put to death. The Jewish leaders accused Jesus of blasphemy. Jesus said that He was the Son of God. But the leaders believed that He was just an ordinary man. Jesus was crucified on the cross because He claimed to be God's Son. The Bible says there is one sin that will never

be forgiven—to blaspheme the Holy Spirit.

Exodus 22:28  
Leviticus 24:15–16  
Matthew 9:3  
Mark 3:28–29

## BLESS.

To give honor, glory, or favor. God blesses us by giving us His goodness. Jesus said that God blesses those who depend on Him, those who are sad, those who are gentle, and those who obey. People who are kind and have pure hearts are blessed. Peacemakers are blessed, too. So are people who are disappointed of for doing what is right. (Check out Matthew 5:1–10.) As Christians, we should ask God to bless anyone who mistreats us. Jesus blessed kids. And we can bless God by praising His goodness, and others by being kind to them.

Romans 12:14  
Mark 10:16 NEW  
Psalm 103:1

## BLIND.

Not able to see. *Blind* usually means that you can't see with your eyes. But it can also mean that you can't "see" with your spirit. People with blind spirits put their faith in things other than God. They like to go their own way and disobey God's rules. Satan causes spiritual blindness. He loves it when you can't "see" God.

Matthew 9:27  
Ephesians 4:18  
2 Corinthians 4:4

## BLOOD.

The red stuff flowing through your body. In Old Testament times, a person killed a healthy, perfect animal when the person sinned. This was called a sacrifice. The animal's blood was a symbol of the person's blood, or life. Then the person did not have to die for a sin, because the animal took his place. In New Testament times, Jesus sacrificed His own blood and life to pay for *our* sins. Jesus is sometimes called the Lamb of God. He was a perfect sacrifice in every way. Today, when people take communion, they remember that Jesus gave His blood and His life so that God would forgive us for our sins.

Leviticus 17:11  
1 Peter 1:18–19  
Hebrews 9:14  
1 Corinthians 11:25

## BOANERGES.

An Aramaic word that means "Sons of Thunder." Boanerges was the name Jesus gave to his disciples James and John. It isn't clear just what Jesus meant—maybe that James and John were powerful when they preached.

Mark 3:17



## BOAZ. —————

An ancestor of Jesus. Boaz was a rich man from Bethlehem. He married Ruth. Their son was Obed. He had a son named Jesse. Jesse was the father of King David. Boaz, Obed, Jesse, and King David were all ancestors of Jesus Christ.

Ruth 4:17  
Luke 3:23-32

## BODY OF CHRIST. —————

Another name for Christ's church. The apostle Paul called the church Christ's body. Jesus' spirit is always in His body, the church. He rules over it. He is the head of everything in it. The next time you go to church, look around you. All the people there, including you, are members of the body of Christ. Now, imagine all the Christian churches in the whole, wide world. They are members of the body of Christ, too. The Bible says that the members of the body of Christ should

help and care for one another. That means all Christians should look out for one another.

Colossians 1:24  
Ephesians 1:22-23  
1 Corinthians 12:25-27

## BOLDNESS. —————

The ability to be strong in hard situations. Christians should be bold when they honor God. When you pray, ask God to help you speak boldly whenever you tell others about Him. Peter and John were bold when they taught about Jesus. As they faced their enemies, they prayed: "Lord, listen to their threats! We are your servants. So make us brave enough to speak your message."

Ephesians 6:18-20  
Acts 4:13  
Acts 4:29 CEV

## BONDAGE. —————

Being a slave to someone or something. Bondage is when people are held against their

will. When you are in bondage, you are stuck. You can't get out. Bondage can happen to your heart, too. Sin can make your heart feel like a slave. It holds on to you and doesn't leave any room in there for God. The only way out is through Jesus. If you trust in Him, you won't have to worry about sin taking over your heart.

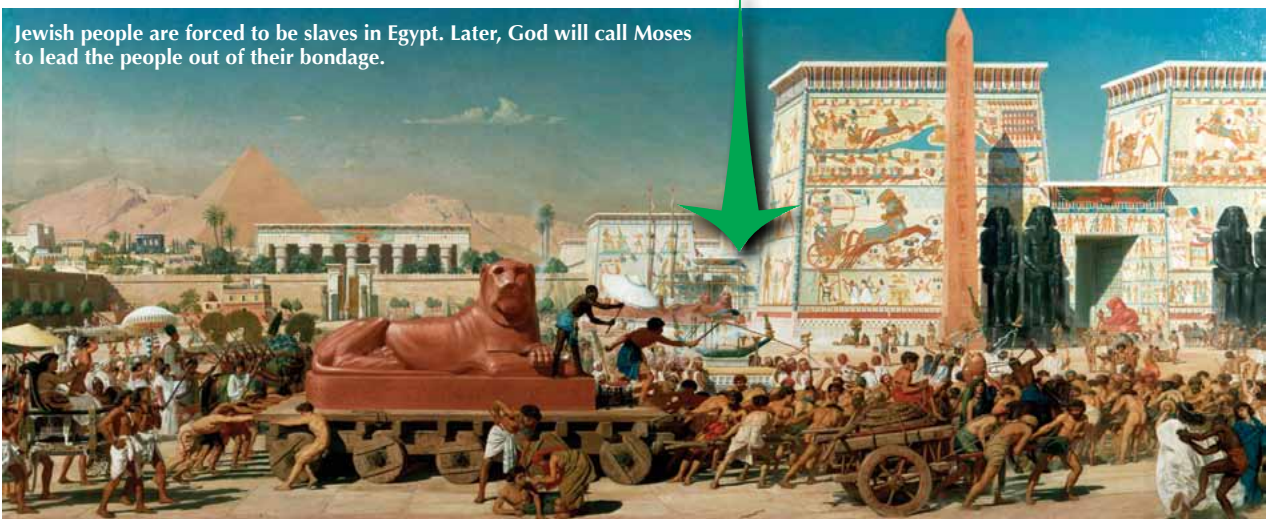
John 8:34  
Romans 6:18

## BOOK OF LIFE. —————

God's list of who's going to heaven. The Book of Life is God's list of people who love Him. Are you on that list? You are if you've asked Jesus to forgive you for your sins and live in your heart. Be very happy that your name is on the list. It means that someday you will live with God in heaven.

Malachi 3:16-18  
Philippians 4:3  
Luke 10:20  
John 6:40

Jewish people are forced to be slaves in Egypt. Later, God will call Moses to lead the people out of their bondage.



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