

The Books of the Bible in One Sentence

Quick descriptions of the bigger themes of books we'll come across in the next few months. They're in no way exhaustive, but they may help give you a start and can serve as a quick reference.



Old Testament

Jeremiah

He was given the tough task of announcing the destruction of Judah, pointing out their sin, preaching for the repentance of the people, and holding out the promise that God's faithfulness would remain.

Job

Job is described as a good man who lost everything, bringing up the question of how God can be just in light of human suffering.

1 & 2 Kings

Follows the line of David and the Kings of Israel and Judah from times of power and prosperity to their Babylonian exile, including the ministries of prophets like Elijah and Elisha.

1 & 2 Chronicles

Another look at the history of God's people, going back further than Kings, focusing on David and Solomon, perhaps with a particular concern for their restored community.

Daniel

A book by the exiled prophet Daniel in Babylonia that through his visions holds up a picture of a God who, even though Babylon has overthrown Jerusalem, is still sovereign over all kingdoms and powers.

Nehemiah

Thought to be written by same person (Ezra) that wrote Chronicles and Ezra, and details post-exilic life, with special attention to the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem.

Ezra

The return from exile and rebuilding of holy structures and restoring holy worship.

New Testament

2 Corinthians

Paul's letter to Corinth and surrounding areas defending his own ministry and calling.

Colossians

Paul's Letter to Colosse refuting heresy that had come into the church, comparing its insufficient philosophy to the complete supremacy and sufficiency of Jesus Christ.

Hebrews

Letter addressed primarily to Jewish believers that teaches that Christ is the full and final revelation of God who surpasses the revelation seen in the Old Testament and fulfills the promises of the Old Testament in his new covenant.

1 John

John, the apostle and author of John and Revelation, writes to battle false teachers and the Gnostic heresies, defending Christ's bodily resurrection, and calling for love to be characteristic of the believers' life.

2 & 3 John

John gives further warnings about false teachers, encourages discernment in giving support, and commends Gaius for his hospitality.

Jude

Another book with warnings for the church in regards to false teachers who have made their way among them.

Matthew

A gospel of Jesus Christ, perhaps mostly written to Jews, as Matthew's gospel purposes to convince the reader of Jesus' fulfillment of Old Testament scriptures and points to him as the Messiah.