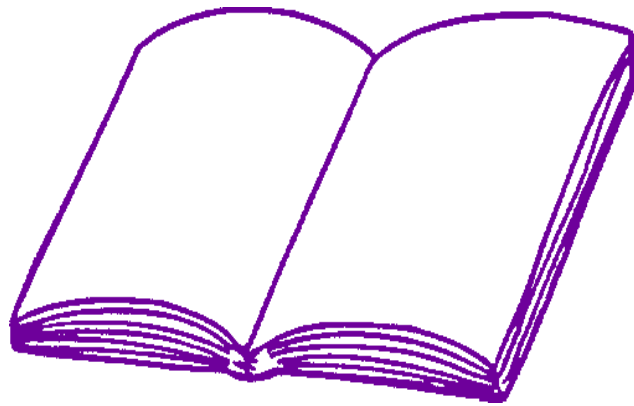


Designing Your
Own School Program

6

Books Full Of Words



A "True Education" Language Series

“Holy men of God spake
as they were moved
by the Holy Ghost.”

II Peter 1:21



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Student Section



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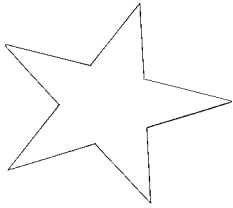
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Long, Long Ago

Long, long ago a wondrous star
Rose over land and sea;
Its beams in splendor shone afar
To guide the wise men three,
O'er desert sands from Eastern lands
Unto that lowly shed,
Where Christ the Lord an infant lay,
A manger for His bed.

A manger for His cradle there,
A shining star on high,
A choir of winging angels fair,
And wondering shepherds nigh;
No palace great in kingly state
Received Him to a throne,
But to the lowly ones of earth
Christ came and found His own.

—*J. Fred Santee*



Books Full of Words

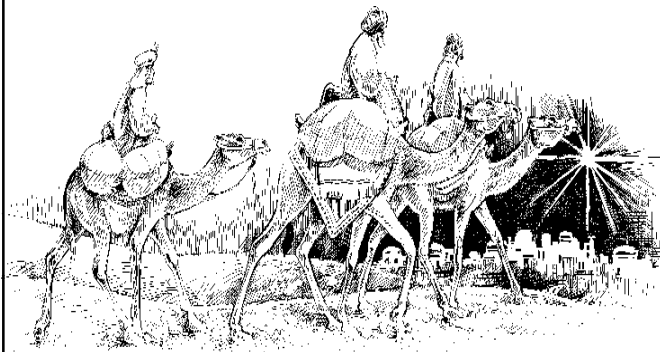
Research

The Book

“Now when Jesus was born
in Bethlehem of Judaea
in the days of Herod the king,
behold, there came wise men
from the east to Jerusalem.”

Matthew 2:1

There are many books today with many words in them written on many subjects and placed in libraries. However, there is **one Book** that stands above all others. The Bible is the Book of books! The wise men, men of **integrity**, valued the parts of that Book that were available in their day. They studied it and it led them to Jesus.



Open Communion

“Before the entrance of sin, Adam enjoyed open communion with his Maker; but since man separated himself from God by transgression, the human race has been cut off from this high privilege. By the plan of redemption, however, a way has been opened whereby the inhabitants of the earth may still have connection with heaven. God has communicated with men by His Spirit, and divine light has been imparted to the world by revelations to His chosen servants....

“And they heard
the voice
of the Lord God
walking in the garden
in the cool
of the day....”
Genesis 3:8

Written Records

“Holy men of God
spake as they were moved
by the Holy Ghost.”

II Peter 1:21

“During the first twenty-five hundred years of human history, there was no written revelation. Those who had been taught of God, communicated their knowledge to others, and it was handed down from father to son, through successive generations. The preparation of the written word began in the time of Moses. Inspired revelations were then embodied in an inspired book. This work continued during the long period of sixteen hundred years—from Moses, the historian of creation and the law, to John, the recorder of the most sublime truths of the gospel.



Author

“The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us....”

John 1:14

“The Bible points to God as its author; yet it was written by human hands. In the varied style of its different books it presents the characteristics of the several writers. The truths revealed are all *‘given by inspiration of God’* (II Timothy 3:16); yet they are expressed in the words of men. The Infinite One by His Holy Spirit has shed light into the minds and hearts of His servants. He has given dreams and visions, symbols and figures; and those to whom the truth was thus revealed have themselves embodied the thought in human language.

“The Ten Commandments were spoken by God Himself, and were written by His own hand. They are of divine, and not of human composition. But the Bible, with its God-given truths expressed in the language of men, presents a union of the divine and the human. Such a union existed in the nature of Christ, who was the Son of God and the Son of man. Thus it is true of the Bible, as it was of Christ, that *‘the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us’* (John 1:14).

“All scripture is given
by inspiration of God,
and is profitable for doctrine,
for reproof,
for correction,
for instruction
in righteousness.”

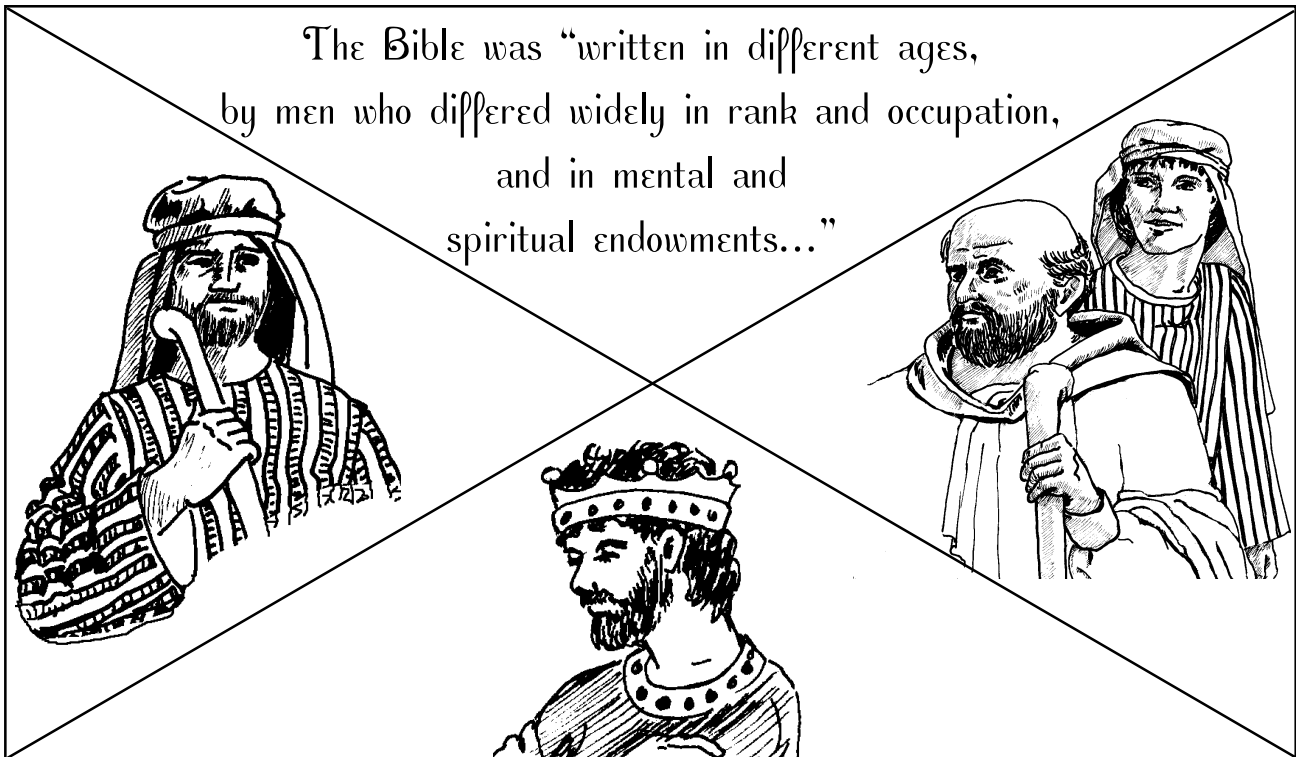
II Timothy 3:16



Different Men

“Written in different ages, by men who differed widely in rank and occupation, and in mental and spiritual endowments, the books of the Bible present a wide contrast in style, as well as a diversity in the nature of the subjects unfolded. Different forms of expression are employed by different writers; often the same truth is more strikingly presented by one than by another. And, as several writers present a subject under varied aspects and relations, there may appear, to the superficial, careless, or prejudiced reader, to be discrepancy or contradiction, where the thoughtful, reverent student, with clearer insight, discerns the underlying harmony.

“As presented through different individuals, the truth is brought out in its varied aspects. One writer is more strongly impressed with one phase of the subject; he grasps those points that harmonize with his experience or with his power of perception and appreciation; another seizes upon a different phase; and each, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, presents what is most forcibly impressed upon his own mind—a different aspect of the truth in each, but a perfect harmony through all. And the truths thus revealed unite to form a perfect whole, adapted to meet the wants of men in all the circumstances and experiences of life.



“God has been pleased to communicate His truth to the world by human agencies, and He Himself, by His Holy Spirit, qualified men and enabled them to do this work. He guided the mind in the selection of what to speak and what to write. The treasure was entrusted to earthen vessels, yet it is, nonetheless, from Heaven. The testimony is conveyed through the imperfect expression of human language, yet it is the testimony of God; and the obedient, believing child of God beholds in it the glory of a divine power, full of grace and truth.

“In His word, God has committed to men the knowledge necessary for salvation. The Holy Scriptures are to be accepted as an authoritative, infallible revelation of His will. They are the standard of character, the revealer of doctrines, and the test of experience. *‘Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness; that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work’* (II Timothy 3:16-17 R.V.).



“The treasure was entrusted to earthen vessels, yet it is, nonetheless, from Heaven. ”

“He [God] guided the mind in the selection of what to speak and what to write. ”



Holy Spirit

“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”

Isaiah 8:20

“Yet the fact that God has revealed His will to men through His Word, has not rendered needless the continued presence and guiding of the Holy Spirit. On the contrary, the Spirit was promised by our Saviour, to open the Word to His servants to illuminate and apply its teachings. And since it was the Spirit of God that inspired the Bible, it is impossible that the teaching of the Spirit should ever be contrary to that of the Word.

“The Spirit was not given—nor can it ever be bestowed—to supersede the Bible; for the Scriptures explicitly state that the Word of God is the standard by which all teaching and experience must be tested. Says the apostle John, *‘Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world’* (I John 4:1). And Isaiah declares, *‘To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them’* (Isaiah 8:20).

“Great reproach has been cast upon the work of the Holy Spirit by the errors of a class that, claiming its enlightenment, profess to have no further need of guidance from the Word of God. They are governed by impressions which they regard as the voice of God in the soul. But the spirit that controls them is not the Spirit of God. This following of impressions, to the neglect of the Scriptures, can lead only to confusion, to deception and ruin. It serves only to further the designs of the evil one. Since the ministry of the Holy Spirit is of vital importance to the church of Christ, it is one of the devices of Satan, through the errors of extremists and fanatics, to cast contempt upon the work of the



Spirit and cause the people of God to neglect this source of strength which our Lord Himself has provided.

“In harmony with the Word of God, His Spirit was to continue its work throughout the period of the gospel dispensation. During the ages while the Scriptures of both the Old and the New Testament were being given, the Holy Spirit did not cease to communicate light to individual minds, apart from the revelations to be embodied in the Sacred Canon. The Bible itself relates how, through the Holy Spirit, men received warning, reproof, counsel, and instruction, in matters in no way relating to the giving of the Scriptures. And mention is made of prophets in different ages, of whose utterances nothing is recorded. In like manner, after the close of the canon of the Scripture, the Holy Spirit was still to continue its work, to enlighten, warn, and comfort the children of God.”*



*The Great Controversy v-viii

Review

Place I - II - III

1. How did Adam talk with God in the beginning?

2. What cut man off from open communion with God?

3. How long was it before God had books written to commune with man?

4. How was the knowledge of God preserved?

5. The Bible was written over a period of _____ years.

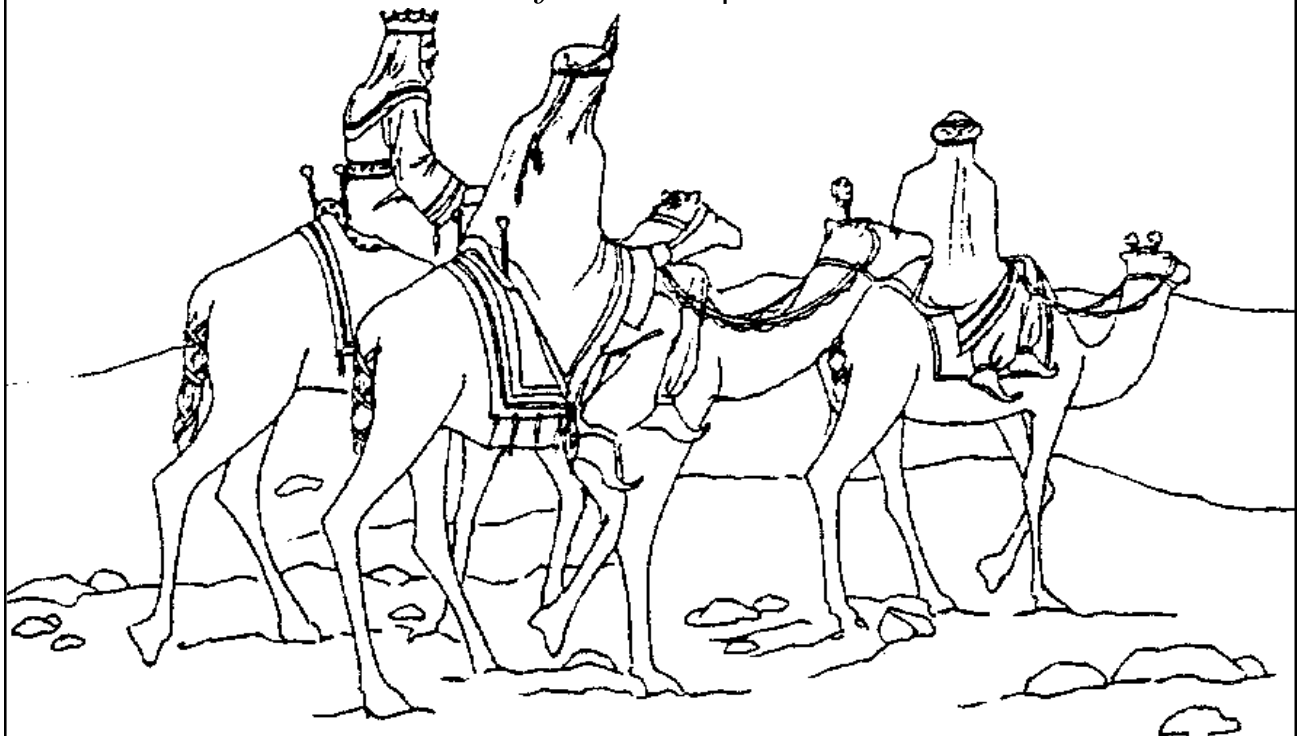
6. Who were the first and last writers of the Bible? _____

Reinforce

Wise Men

Men of integrity, like the wise men, study the Scriptures today.

Are you such a person?



Review

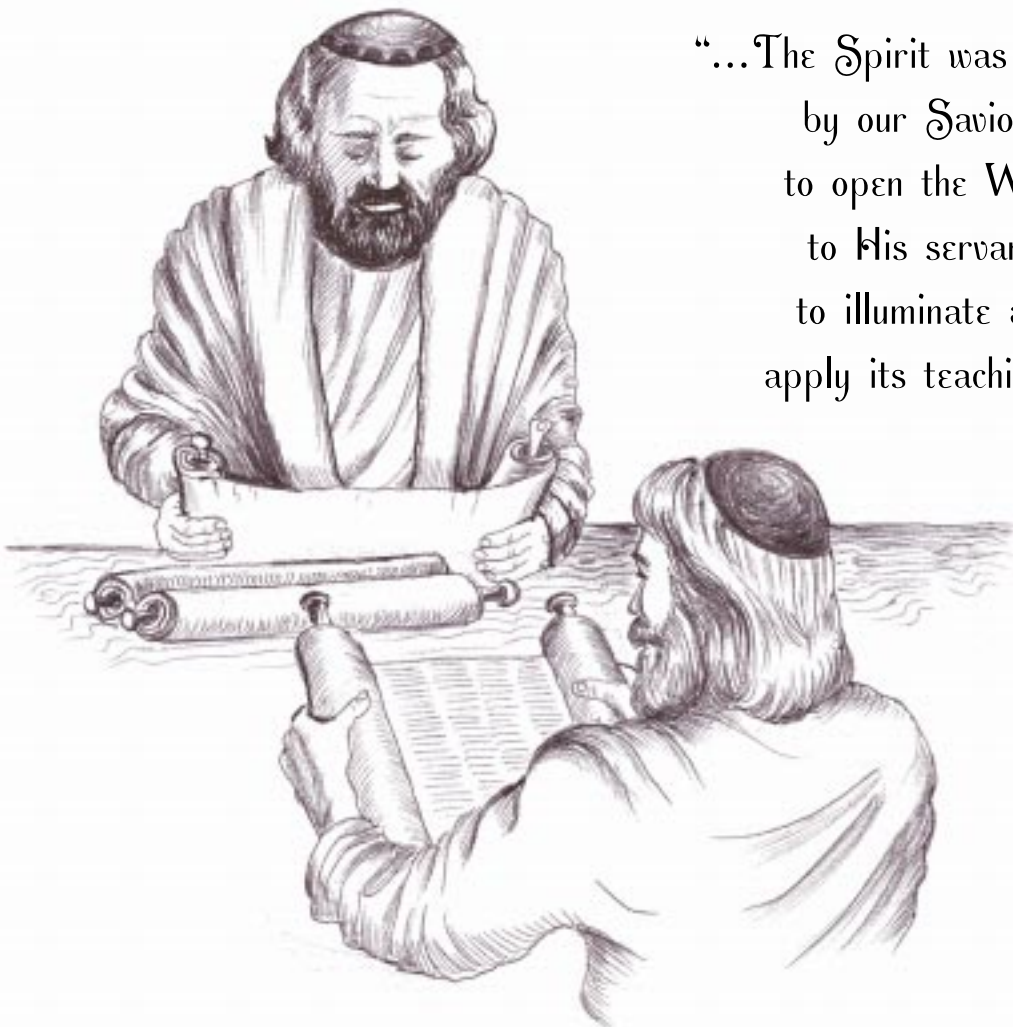
Place II - III

7. Explain how the Bible was accurately written. _____

Reinforce

1. How many books do you have in your house? As you count them, think about how men of **integrity**, like the wise men, can be led to Jesus by good books.

2. Do you have a book signed by an author? If you do, look at it. Does the Bible have a signature? Yes, a living signature of the Holy Spirit.



“...The Spirit was promised
by our Saviour,
to open the Word
to His servants
to illuminate and
apply its teachings.”

Research Libraries

When researching a special subject, it may require going to a public library. A library is where books are stored. The word “library” means “book.” Today libraries also have magazines, newspapers, pamphlets, CD, disk and tape recordings, films, photographs, microreproductions, computerized information, paintings, musical scores, and maps. Besides the regular books, large-type books are available, as well as braille books for the blind.

The word “Bible” means “little books.” It is like a little library with 66 books in it. The book of Isaiah is like a little library within a library. It has 66 chapters just like the Bible has 66 books. It has two major divisions like the Bible. The first division comes after chapter 39 (39 books in the Old Testament). The second division has 27 books (the New Testament has 27 books).

Warning

In visiting a library, it is important to know that there are many items there that are not best for a Christian to read or to even look at. However, there are some good materials there that could be helpful in research.

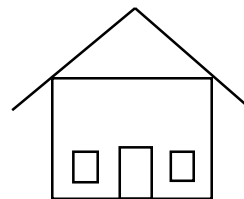
The Old Testament begins with how sin began; Isaiah opens with man and sin. Chapters 34 and 35 are the last part of the first section of Isaiah, and they deal with prophecies of the coming King and the redemption of God’s people.

The last part of the Old Testament tells of the coming King. The second part of Isaiah starts with “*the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness*” (Isaiah 40:3), and early in the New Testament John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus, gives his message.

The New Testament and Isaiah both end with the word pictures of a new heaven and a new earth (Isaiah 65, 66; Revelation 21, 22).

“And they shall build houses,
and inhabit them;
and they shall plant vineyards,
and eat the fruit of them.”

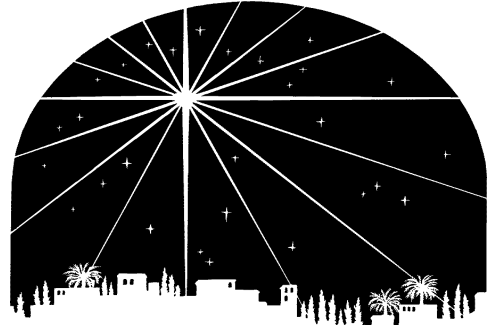
Isaiah 65:21



Service

Librarians will assist you in finding information by teaching you how to use the resources. If the library lacks certain material, they can obtain it through the library's interlibrary loan system or direct the person somewhere where they can obtain it.

“The wise men had seen a mysterious light in the heavens upon the night when the glory of God flooded the hills of Bethlehem. As the light faded, a luminous star appeared, and lingered in the sky. It was not a fixed star nor a planet, and the phenomenon excited the keenest interest. That star was a distant company of shining angels, but of this the wise men were ignorant. Yet they were impressed that the star was of special import to them. They consulted priests and



philosophers, and searched the scrolls of the ancient records. The prophecy of Balaam had declared, *‘There shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel’* (Numbers 24:17). Could this strange star have been sent as a harbinger of the Promised One? The magi had welcomed the light of heaven-sent truth; now it was shed upon them in brighter rays. Through dreams they were instructed to go in search of the newborn Prince.”* The wise men probably consulted the library of their day to read from “the scrolls of the ancient records.”



A Librarian

Some libraries have a question-answering service called a reference service or information service. A reference librarian may be called to answer any kind of question such as: “What is the oldest Bible in the World?” and “Where is it located?” OR they may be asked where is a certain company located that publishes a book someone is looking for. It is good to check with your local library to learn about its services.

**The Desire of Ages 60*

Kinds of Libraries

There are public libraries; school libraries; college, university, and research libraries; government libraries; law libraries; and other special libraries.



Support

Most public schools and public libraries get their funds from taxes which are mostly local and sometimes federal.

Reinforce

1. Write the interesting facts about the book of Isaiah at the beginning of that book in the margins of your Bible. Then you will never forget that it is like a little library within a bigger library, the Bible.
2. Visit a library and look at their collection of old books; especially see if they have any old Bibles.
3. Check with the reference section of a larger library and find out: What is the oldest Bible in the world? Where is it located?

Visiting A Public Library



The Greatest Library



“And there are also many other things which Jesus did,
the which if they should be written every one,
I suppose that even the world itself
could not contain
the books that should be written.”

John 21:25

Just think of that—if everything about Jesus had been written in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, that could have been written, the world itself would not have been a big enough library to have held all the books!

Why then wasn't more written about Him than is written? Because enough was written to tell us about Him, and to show us how much we need Him to be our Saviour.

A great deal of the life of Jesus was told in the other books of the Bible too. We could say these are supplements to the life of Christ as found in the four gospels.

All the books of the Bible work together to help the world understand more about Jesus. We can be living epistles of Christ—that is, breathing books, working letters which everyone will be able to read,

and be able, the more they read us, the more they come to know us, to know more and more of the Saviour. Remember, what Christ wants you to be—each a little supplement to His great life.

How can you do this? By having **integrity** or godly character; being kind and loving; and serving others.

It would be wonderful if the world would be filled with living books, loving books—books that spoke and sang and worked and endured, and showed something about Jesus all the time.

Will you add to heaven's library, children? Then love Jesus, live for Jesus, and men will learn from you the knowledge of Jesus Christ, to know Whom is life eternal.

History of Libraries

The history of libraries parallels the history of writing. As long as men have been writing records, they have had libraries to store them in. "The wise men from the East were philosophers. They belonged to a large and influential class that included men of noble birth, and comprised much of the wealth and learning of their nation. Among these were many who imposed on the credulity of the people. Others were upright men who studied the indications of Providence in nature, and who were honored for their **integrity** and wisdom. Of this character were the wise men who came to Jesus."* They must have often studied in the library where they lived looking for information about the true God.

From the days of Moses people have been writing down ideas and experiences about the world around them. They have written the information on bone, clay, metal, wax, wood, papyrus, silk, leather, parchment, paper, film, plastic, and magnetic tape.

**Mesopotamia
was considered
to be East.**

**The Desire of Ages 59*

Long ago, in Mesopotamia (part of Iraq, Syria, and Turkey), there were libraries containing clay records. The people of Mesopotamia wrote on wet clay tablets then dried and baked them. Many thousands of these clay tablets still exist today.

The Hebrews regarded Mesopotamia as "east." The wise men could have come from there. It is believed by some that they traveled about 400 miles (640 kilometers) to reach Bethlehem. It could take two or three weeks of steady travel if they rode, and up to a month if they walked. Because they traveled only by night, to keep the star in view, it took even more traveling time.

**Do you know
what famous man
in the Bible was called
from Mesopotamia by God?**

(See Genesis 12:1)



Some of the oldest clay tablets found were written more than 3,000 years before Jesus was visited by the wise men of the east. The Sumerians were a people who lived in southern Mesopotamia. A library of 30,000 clay tablets has been found at the ancient city called Nippur. Other libraries of clay tablets were found in ancient cities in Syria and Turkey.

In 1850, British archeologists found many thousands of clay tablets at the site of Nineveh. (Find on a Bible map.) Nineveh used to be the ancient capital of Assyria which took in northern Mesopotamia. These clay tablets were part of a library belonging to King Sennacherib of Assyria (704 to 681 B.C.). In 1853, a much larger library was found near the first.

An archeologist is one who studies past human life and activities as shown by fossils, relics, and monuments left by the people.



**What famous man
in the Bible visited Nineveh
to call that city to repent
of their sins?**

(See Jonah 1:1-2.)

While the people of Mesopotamia were writing on clay tablets, the Egyptians were making records on papyrus. Remember, it was a writing material made from the papyrus reed. (Review from Lesson 3.) Some scrolls were made to be very long. One called the Harris Papyrus I, is 133 feet (41 meters) long. God has preserved some papyrus rolls for records that man can know that the history of the Bible is a true account.

Papyrus was the writing material among the people around the Mediterranean area from about 500 B.C., and was used until about A.D. 300. The Egyptians continued to use it until about 900 A.D.

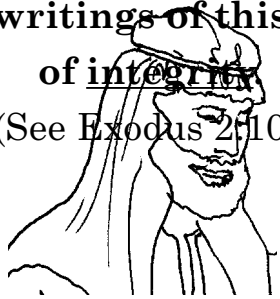
In Europe, the substance most used in early writings was the inner bark of the lime tree. This was written on, of course, with ink. The Latin word for book, "liber," means simply "bark." This word is preserved for us in "library," so that when we speak of a library, we unconsciously recall the time when books were mere rolls of bark.

**What famous man
learned to read and write
in Egypt?**

**He later wrote portions
of the Bible.**

**The wise men read
the writings of this man
of integrity**

(See Exodus 2:10.)



**What famous man
in the Bible rode in a ship
from Alexandria
on his way to Rome?**

(See Acts 28:11.)

The great libraries of ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome had collections of papyrus scrolls. These libraries are gone, but history records information about these great libraries of Amarna in 1300 B.C., and Thebes in 1200 B.C.

One of the most famous libraries of ancient times was the Alexandrian library. It was located in Alexandria, Egypt, founded in 330 B.C. It had the greatest collection of scrolls in the ancient world. It owned more than 400,000 scrolls stored in chests. It is now gone, and it is not known for sure what really happened to it.

While many libraries of the past are gone, God has preserved the most important Library of books called the Bible.

The Greeks also used papyrus. It is thought Pisistratus, a ruler of Athens during the 500's B.C., established the first government-owned library. Most people in ancient times could not read, so "public" libraries were only used by a very few.

**What famous apostle visited
Athens and preached
an important sermon there?**

(See Acts 17:16.)

The most famous library of ancient Greece was founded by Aristotle at his school at Lyceum. It is not known what happened to that library. The things of the world disappear, but the things of God stand forever, like the Bible.

The ancient Romans continued with libraries. The earliest Roman libraries were personal collections. It seemed a status symbol in Rome to own a library.

The Romans encouraged the establishment of libraries throughout their large empire. At one time there were 28 public libraries. The great collections of the papyrus libraries of the Roman empire disappeared. But, one collection belonging to a Roman nobleman (Lucius Calpurnius Piso) was recovered. He lived in a town called Herculaneum which was at the foot of Mount Vesuvius, a volcano. In A.D. 79, Vesuvius erupted, and Herculaneum, Pompeii, and Stabiae were buried. In the 1750's it was uncovered and the library was found. The National Museum in Naples has about 1,800 of the papyrus scrolls.

Scholars of the ancient times wrote on leather—which is made from animal skins—when papyrus was not available. During the 1940's and the early 1950's hundreds of manuscripts, mostly leather scrolls, were found in caves near the shore of the Dead Sea. These Dead Sea Scrolls, as they were called, belonged to the library of a Jewish religious group called the Essenes. The Essenes lived in the highlands near the Dead Sea

from 150 B.C. to A.D. 68. One of the main things they did was to copy parts of the Bible. The Dead Sea Scrolls include the oldest known manuscripts of the Bible. These scrolls included the book of Isaiah which has the beautiful prophecies of Jesus' coming to live on this earth. (See Isaiah 53.)

Parchment is made from thin layers of animal skin; it is better than leather. Because parchment sheets cannot be joined into rolls, as sheets of papyrus, scribes and librarians developed the practice of folding them and sewing them together through the folds (like a signature). This established the current form of books. By A.D. 476, parchment had replaced papyrus in Europe.

During the middle ages, around A.D. 476, there was a decline in all forms of education in Europe and, therefore, many libraries closed. Then in the 1300's, with a renewed interest in learning, libraries began again to appear.

**“Let not the works
of skeptics
appear
on your library shelves...”**

*Fundamentals
of Christian Education 173*

China

In the east, the Chinese also developed libraries which helped preserve their history and learning. Usually only scholars and the more wealthy had access to these libraries.

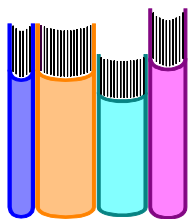


Paper

The Chinese invented paper in A.D. 105. Paper is the best material suited for the printing of books. The making of paper reached Baghdad (Iraq) by 800, Egypt by 900, and Europe by 1100. The use of paper grew quickly in Europe, and, by 1500, paper was the material for reproducing books. Your Bible is printed on paper. Look at it closely. It is amazing how God preserved His words for the wise men on scrolls, and for us on paper. We can have **integrity** like the wise men, and diligently study the words of the prophets.



Once movable type was used in printing, bookmaking became easier. More and more books were printed. The 1600's and 1700's were the golden age for libraries. Some of the libraries started at this time still exist today. With the making of printed books, changes occurred in libraries. Books slowly replaced handwritten manuscripts. The books were put on open shelves, not in chests, as manuscripts had been stored. By 1600, libraries had started to look like what we have today. Shelves of books lined the walls with tables for readers in the middle of the room. Most of the books in libraries are, "...*the wisdom of this world*" and it "*is foolishness with God...*" (I Corinthians 3:19).



"...Of making many books there is no end..."

Ecclesiastes 12:12



Review

Place I - II - III

1. Who studied the verse found in Numbers 24:17?
2. What were some of the materials used to write on by the ancient people?
3. Who were some famous people that came from Mesopotamia?
4. In ancient Mesopotamia, what were the “books” in the libraries like?
5. What did the ancient Egyptians make records on?
6. How were the scrolls stored in the libraries?
7. How is parchment made into books?
8. What country first made paper?

Place II - III

9. Write several paragraphs describing ancient libraries and what the “books” were made out of. Think of spiritual parallels to bring into your information.

Reinforce

1. Organize your books into a library. When anyone removes one to their room for several days, have them check it out. One person in the family can be the librarian. Keep a card file.
2. Write a Bible verse, like one of your memory verses, on a large piece of clay (or cracker-type dough). Then bake it in the oven. Share it with someone.



Research

United States' Libraries

The first permanent English settlement in America was Jamestown, and it was founded in 1607. Thirty-one years later the oldest U.S. Library was started at Harvard University. A gift of money and about 400 books from John Harvard, a Massachusetts clergyman, was given. This donation was so important to the school that this school was named Harvard. It was located in Newtowne, later renamed Cambridge.

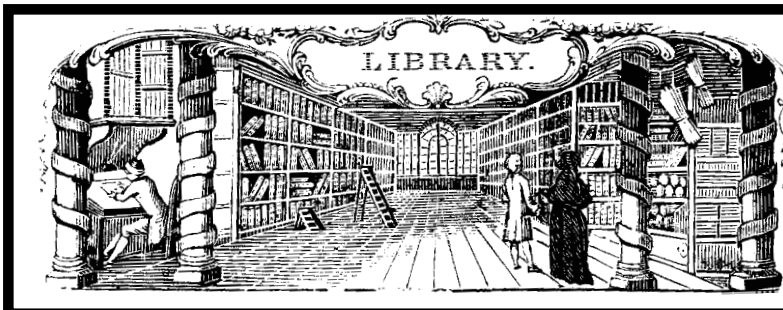
The first lending libraries in the new world were founded by Thomas Bray, an English clergyman. Then in 1731, Benjamin Franklin and friends founded the first subscription library in America called the Library Company of Philadelphia. The dues paid were used to buy books. The members had access to the books free of charge. The Company's original collection of books still exists today. Because of its success, it led to the

foundation of other subscription libraries in the American Colonies.

Some colonial leaders developed their own personal libraries. Some of those collections were developed by William Byrd, Increase Mather, and Thomas Jefferson. In 1815, Congress bought Thomas Jefferson's collection for the Library of Congress.

Because Americans had the idea of free schooling for every child there was also, naturally, a movement for free public libraries.

Melvil Dewey was one of the major people in the history of American libraries. He helped found the American Library Association in 1876. He helped start the Library Journal, a magazine of library news and book reviews. Dewey also published the Dewey Decimal Classification in 1876. Since that time the libraries in America have flourished.



**The oldest U.S. Library
was started
at Harvard University
in about 1638.**

Review

Place I - II - III

1. Teacher, dictate the spelling words. (Use a separate sheet of paper for Place II - III.)

2. Do pages 10-12 in the booklet, *Bible Study*.

Reinforce

1. Often libraries were started by people who served God and desired to educate young people in the reading and understanding of the Scriptures. Choose, as a family, one special book from your library to share with another family.

2. Read the stories on page 22 and 24. Do the "Bible Search."

**Except a living man
there is nothing more wonderful than a book!
A message to us from the dead—from human souls whom we never saw,
who lived, perhaps, thousands of miles away; and yet these,
in those little sheets of paper, speak to us, amuse us, terrify us, teach us,
comfort us, open their hearts to us as brothers.**

—Kingsley

You may gain knowledge
from the great library of nature.

Read the story from the Teacher's Section, "Reading From Nature's Writings."



The Boy and the Circus

A minister of the gospel, in one of the western States, had an interesting little son on whose mind he was daily trying to make impressions that would form his life according to the Bible. He taught his little boy to avoid sin and to keep out of the way of sinners. He carefully guarded him against the popular and fashionable evil customs of the day. Nor did he tire in his work. He knew it was by little steps that he was to make lasting and indelible impressions upon the mind of his son.

A short time later this father left his son with a friend to spend a few weeks. The gentleman with whom he was left was pleased with his charge, and did all he could to make the little fellow happy and contented. One day he took him to a neighboring village to see a circus without telling the child where he was going. The unsuspecting boy went cheerfully along, and was very happy and much pleased with his ride. The gentleman took him into the enclosure under the canopy, and, getting a convenient seat, placed the child by his side. The little fellow looked around upon the crowd of spectators, and gazed upon the big canvas umbrella spread

above him; and then turning to the gentleman he asked, "What is this? Where am I?"

The gentleman replied, "this is a circus."

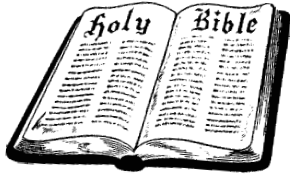
"A circus," said the little boy; "then I must go out; for Father says a circus is a bad place!"

"Wait," said the gentleman, "You will soon see some fine horses and finely-dressed gentlemen and ladies, and you will be delighted with them."

"No, no!" said the noble child, "I cannot stay: I must go out and get away from here; for Father says a circus is a bad place, and not fit for little boys."

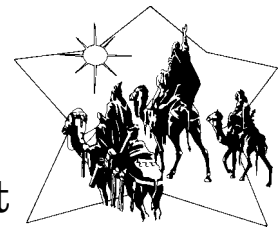
The gentleman tried in vain to satisfy the boy's conscience; but nothing would do, and he was compelled at last to take him home.

This was a boy of **integrity**. The little fellow did exactly right. He determined to obey his father. "*Children, obey your parents in the Lord; for this is right.*"



Bible Search

The Old and New Testament



The New Testament is made up largely from the Old Testament.

Look through the library of books in the Old Testament to find the similar verses listed below in the New Testament books.

1. *“Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel”* (Matthew 1:23).

2. *“Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight”* (Matthew 3:3).

3. *“Behold, I send my messenger before my face, which shall prepare the way before thee”* (Matthew 11:10).

4. *“The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up”* (Matthew 4:16).

5. *“And in his name shall the Gentiles trust”* (Matthew 12:21).

6. *“And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Judea, art not the least among the princes of Judea: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel”* (Matthew 2:6).

7. *“Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him”* (Matthew 2:2).

8. *“And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh”* (Matthew 2:11).

9. *“In Rama there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not”* (Matthew 2:18).

10. *“My house shall be a house of prayer”* (Matthew 21:13).



*“We have seen
his star
in the east”*

Daniel Webster and the Bible

Though Daniel Webster's fame rests chiefly upon his oratorical powers, he was remarkable, too, for his familiarity with the Bible. In fact, his colleagues once nick-named him the "Biblical Concordance of the United States Senate." How he earned this title, and how the Bible's many books influenced his literary style, is told by this story.

While a mere lad he read with such power and expression that the passing teamsters, who stopped to water their horses, used to get "Webster's boy" to come out beneath the shade of the trees and read the Bible to them.

Those who heard Mr. Webster, in latter life, recite passages from the Hebrew prophets and the Psalm, say that he held them spell-bound, while each passage, even the most familiar, came home to them in a new meaning. One gentleman says that he never received such ideas of the majesty of God and the dignity of man as he did one clear night when Mr. Webster, standing in the open air, recited the eighth Psalm. (Read the Psalm.)

Webster's mother observed another old fashion of New England

in training her son. She encouraged him to memorize such Scriptural passages as impressed him. The boy's retentive memory, and his sensitiveness to Bible metaphors and to the rhythm of the English version, stored his mind with Scripture.

On one occasion the teacher of the district school offered a jack-knife to the boy who would recite the greatest number of verses from the Bible. When Webster's turn came, he arose and reeled off so many verses that the master was forced to cry, "Enough!" It was the mother's training, and the boy's delight in the idioms and music of the King James's Version, that made him the "Biblical Concordance of the Senate."

But these two factors made him more than a "concordance." The Hebrew prophets inspired him to eloquent utterances. He listened to them, until their vocabulary and idioms, as expressed in King James's translation, became his mother-tongue. Of his lofty utterance it may be said, as Wordsworth said of Milton's poetry, they are "Hebrew in soul." Therefore they project themselves into the future.

“Let not the works of skeptics
appear on your library shelves...”

Fundamentals of Christian Education 173



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Mark 4:29