

Genesis

Author Moses

Key Characters Adam, Eve, Cain, Abel, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Joseph

Some Key Stories Creation, Adam & Eve, Noah's Ark, Father Abraham, Joseph & the Colorful Coat

Exodus

Author Moses

Key Characters Moses, Miriam, Pharaoh, Aaron, Joshua

Some Key Stories Baby Moses, The Plagues, The Passover, Crossing the Red Sea, 10 Commandments, Building the Tabernacle

Leviticus

Author Moses

Key Characters Moses, Aaron,

Some Key Stories Instructions for God's people, 10 Commandments

Numbers

Author Moses

Key Characters Moses, Aaron, Miriam, Joshua, Caleb, Balaam

Some Key Stories Journey to the Promised Land, Israelites struggle with a Lack of Faith, Water from the Rock, Balaam's talking Donkey

Deuteronomy

Author MOSES (and a bit by Joshua at the end)

Key Characters Moses, Joshua

Some Key Stories 10 Commandments, Entering the Promised Land, Love the Lord Your God, Laws for God's People, Moses Dies

Joshua

Author Joshua (mostly)

Key Characters Joshua, Rahab

Some Key Stories Rahab & the Spies, Joshua Fights the Battle of Jericho

Judges

Author Samuel (possibly)

Key Characters Deborah, Gideon, Samson, Delilah

Some Key Stories Deborah-the only female Judge, Gideon's Battle, Samson & Delilah

Ruth

Author Unknown (maybe Samuel)

Key Characters Ruth, Naomi, Boaz

Some Key Stories Ruth, Naomi & Boaz

1 Samuel

Author Unknown (possibly Samuel & Prophets)

Key Characters Eli, Hannah, Samuel, Saul, Jonathan, David, Goliath

Some Key Stories Eli & Samuel, Saul Becomes King, Samuel Anoints David, David & Goliath, Saul tries to Kill David, Jonathan & David's

2 Samuel

Author Unknown

Key Characters David

Some Key Stories David Becomes King, David's Sin, Nathan the Prophet

1 Kings

Author Unknown

Key Characters David, Solomon, Elijah

Some Key Stories Solomon Becomes King, Solomon's Wisdom, Solomon Builds the Temple, Elijah the Prophet

2 Kings

Author Unknown

Key Characters Elijah, Elisha

Some Key Stories Elijah taken up to Heaven, Young King Josiah

1 Chronicles

Author Ezra

Key Characters David, Solomon

Some Key Stories David Becomes King (this book tells more about the book of 2 Samuel)

2 Chronicles

Author Ezra

Key Characters Solomon, Josiah

Some Key Stories This book tells more about 1 & 2 Kings

Ezra

Author Probably Ezra

Key Characters Ezra, Darius

Some Key Stories King Darius

Nehemiah

Author Nehemiah & Ezra

Key Characters Nehemiah, Ezra

Some Key Stories Rebuilding of Jerusalem's Walls

Esther

Author Unknown (possibly Mordecai)

Key Characters Esther, Mordecai, Haman

Some Key Stories Queen Esther

Job

Author Unknown (possibly Job)

Key Characters Job

Some Key Stories Job's Suffering

Psalms

Author David (73), Asaph (12), sons of Korah (9), Solomon (2), Ethan (1), Moses (1), Unknown (51)

Key Characters David

Some Key Stories Poetry, Praise, Songs for God

Proverbs

Author Solomon (mostly)

Key Characters

Some Key Stories Wisdom for our Lives

Ecclesiastes

Author Solomon

Key Characters

Some Key Stories Learning from our own experiences to keep God at the center, A Time for Everything,

Song of Solomon

Author Solomon

Key Characters King Solomon, the Shulammite woman

Some Key Stories Tells of a love between a husband and wife, importance of marriage, God's love for His people.

Isaiah

Author Isaiah the Prophet

Key Characters Isaiah

Some Key Stories contains many prophecies

Jeremiah

Author Jeremiah

Key Characters Judah's Kings, King Nebuchadnezzar

Some Key Stories Jeremiah the prophet

Lamentations

Author Jeremiah

Key Characters Jeremiah, the people of Jerusalem

Some Key Stories a "book of tears," written for the fallen city of Jerusalem

Ezekiel

Author Ezekiel

Key Characters Ezekiel, Nebuchadnezzar

Some Key Stories Ezekiel's life and ministry

Daniel

Author Daniel

Key Characters Daniel, Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, Belshazzar, Darius

Some Key Stories Daniel in the Lion's Den

Hosea

Author Hosea

Key Characters Hosea, Gomer, their children

Some Key Stories the marriage of Gomer and Hosea

Joel

Author Joel

Key Characters Joel, the people of Judah

Some Key Stories The Locust Plague, The day of the Lord-turn back to God

Amos

Author Amos

Key Characters Amos, Jeroboam II

Some Key Stories the message of Amos-who was a layman

Obadiah

Author Obadiah

Key Characters The Edomites

Some Key Stories shortest book of the Old Testament, message to Edom

Jonah

Author Jonah

Key Characters Jonah

Some Key Stories Jonah and the big fish

Micah

Author Micah

Key Characters The People of Samaria and Jerusalem

Some Key Stories Micah presents this true picture of God-the almighty Lord who hates sin and loves the sinner.

Nahum

Author Nahum

Key Characters the People of Nineveh and Judah

Some Key Stories Nahum's ministry

Habakkuk

Author Habakkuk

Key Characters Habakkuk, the Babylonians

Some Key Stories Habakkuk's ministry

Zephaniah

Author Zephaniah

Key Characters people of Judah

Some Key Stories Zephaniah's prophecy

Haggai

Author Haggai

Key Characters Haggai, Zerubbabel, Joshua

Some Key Stories Haggai's urging the people of Jerusalem to get back to God's work

Zechariah

Author Zechariah

Key Characters Zerubbabel, Joshua

Some Key Stories Zechariah's prophecy, which was very Messianic.

Malachi

Author Malachi

Key Characters Malachi, the priests

Some Key Stories tithing, Malachi forms a bridge from the Old Testament to the New Testament

Matthew

Author Matthew

Key Characters Jesus, Mary, Joseph, John the Baptist, the disciples, Caiaphas, Pilate, Mary Magdalene

Some Key Stories The gospel of Matthew focuses on proving that Jesus is the Messiah—the eternal King.

Mark

Author John Mark

Key Characters Jesus, disciples, Pilate, Jewish religious teachers

Some Key Stories the gospel of Mark presents the person, work and teachings of Jesus

Luke

Author Luke

Key Characters Jesus, Elizabeth, Zechariah, John the Baptist, Mary, the disciples, Herod, Pilate, Mary Magdalene

Some Key Stories the gospel of Luke presents an accurate account of the life of Christ and Jesus as the perfect human and savior

John

Author John the apostle

Key Characters Jesus, John the Baptist, the disciples, Mary, Martha, Lazarus, Jesus' mother, Pilate, Mary Magdalene

Some Key Stories this gospel proves that Jesus is the son of God

Acts

Author Luke

Key Characters Peter, John, James, Stephen, Philip, Paul, Barnabas, Cornelius, James, Timothy, Lydia, Silas, Titus

Some Key Stories the Holy Spirit, Peter's ministry, Paul's ministry, growth of the church,

Romans

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Phoebe

Some Key Stories Paul's message to the Romans: what we as Christians believe and how we should behave

1 Corinthians

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Timothy, members of Chloe's household

Some Key Stories Paul's help to the people in the Corinthian church-teaching believers how to live for Christ in a corrupt society

2 Corinthians

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Timothy, Titus, false teachers

Some Key Stories Paul's letter to the Corinthians, affirming who he is as an apostle, and to refute the false teachers

Galatians

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Peter, Barnabas, Titus, Abraham, false teachers

Some Key Stories Paul's letter to the churches in Galatia

Ephesians

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Tychicus

Some Key Stories Paul's letter to the believers in Ephesus

Philippians

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Timothy

Some Key Stories Paul's letter to thank the Philippians for the gift they sent to him, and to encourage them as believers

Colossians

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Timothy, Tychicus, Onesimus

Some Key Stories Paul's letter to the church at Colosse

1 Thessalonians

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Timothy, Silas

Some Key Stories Paul's letter to the church at Thessalonica

2 Thessalonians

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Silas, Timothy

Some Key Stories Paul's letter to the church at Thessalonica

1 Timothy

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Timothy

Some Key Stories Paul's letter to Timothy, a young leader

2 Timothy

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Timothy, Luke Mark

Some Key Stories Paul's last letter written to Timothy and all Christians everywhere

Titus

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Titus

Some Key Stories Instructions to church leaders

Philemon

Author Paul

Key Characters Paul, Philemon, Onesimus

Some Key Stories a private personal letter to a friend-Philemon

Hebrews

Author Paul, Luke, Barnabas, Apollos, Silas, Philip, Priscilla, and others

Key Characters Old Testament men and women of the faith

Some Key Stories a sermon, or letter written to Hebrew Christians

James

Author James

Key Characters

Some Key Stories written to help teach right Christian behavior

1 Peter

Author Peter

Key Characters Peter, Silas, Mark

Some Key Stories offers encouragement to suffering Christians

2 Peter

Author Peter

Key Characters Peter, Paul

Some Key Stories a warning to Christians about false teachers and to encourage their growth in faith and knowledge of Christ

1 John

Author John

Key Characters John, Jesus

Some Key Stories reassures Christians in their faith

2 John

Author John

Key Characters John, the chosen lady and her children

Some Key Stories emphasizes the basics of following Christ

3 John

Author John

Key Characters John, Gaius, Diotrefes, Demetrius

Some Key Stories a letter to Gaius to commend his hospitality and encourage him in his Christian life

Jude

Author Jude

Key Characters Jude, James, Jesus

Some Key Stories reminds the church of the need to stay strong in the faith.

Revelation

Author John

Key Characters John, Jesus

Some Key Stories Reveals the full identity of Christ and gives warning and hope to believers.