

Introduction to Bibliology

1. Key Terms

a. Bible —

This comes from the Greek βιβλος word. It was the name given to the outer coat of the papyrus reed in Egypt around 1100 B.C. *Biblia* was the 2nd century term for “writing.” It came from the Latin, to French and then into the English language.

b. Testament —

- 1) The Hebrew word for testament בְּרִית (b^erît) *berith* means “Covenant.” A covenant is a pact arranged between two parties.
- 2) The Greek word for testament διαθήκη *diatheke* also means “Covenant.”

2. The Great Divisions of the Bible

a. The Old Testament

- 1) The basic difference between the Hebrew Old Testament and the Protestant Old Testament is the order in which they are arranged.
- 2) The Hebrew distinction is confirmed by Jesus in Luke 24:44. Note the three aspects that Jesus mentions: — the Law of Moses; the Prophets, and Psalms. (Writings). See the chart on the next page.

b. The New Testament (to be discussed later)

c. Christ is the theme in both covenants as may be seen in the chart below:

| In the Old Testament Christ is: | In the New Testament Christ is: |
|---|---|
| in shadows in pictures in type in ritual latent prophesied implicitly related | in substance in person in truth in reality patent present explicitly revealed |

| The Hebrew Old Testament Arrangement | | |
|---|--|--|
| The Law (Torah) | The Prophets (Nebhiim) | The Writings (Kethubhim) |
| 1. Genesis 2. Exodus 3. Leviticus 4. Numbers 5. Deuteronomy | A. Former Prophets: 1. Joshua 2. Judges 3. Samuel 4. Kings B. Latter Prophets: 1. Isaiah 2. Jeremiah 3. Ezekiel 4. The Twelve | A. Poetical Books 1. Psalms 2. Proverbs 3. Job B. Five Rolls: (Megilloth) 1. Song of Songs 2. Ruth 3. Lamentations 4. Esther 5. Ecclesiastes C. Historical Books: 1. Daniel 2. Ezra-Nehemiah 3. Chronicles |

3. The Main Divisions of Bibliology

Bibliology falls naturally into seven divisions, namely, (1) revelation, (2) inspiration, (3) authority, (4) illumination, (5) interpretation, (6) animation, and (7) preservation.