



LESSON 1

God's Miracle Book

VOCABULARY

Doctrine: the principles or teachings of a belief or religion

Rebuke or reprove: to criticize or find fault

Seldom does any book have the name of more than one or two authors. But the Bible was written by dozens of authors over a period of 1,600 years. The authors were poets, educators, singers, princes, kings, fishermen, and statesmen. Some were great scholars, while others were unlearned and ignorant men.



Each author wrote material that perfectly fits into one book—one story. Why is this true according to 2 Peter 1:21?

This means that God planned how to make the Bible fit together to tell the big story that He wanted to tell, even though the human authors may have only seen small pieces of that story.

How long will the Bible last?



Isaiah 40:8



Matthew 24:35



1 Peter 1:23

Life Principle: The Bible, penned by many authors over a period of many centuries, is a miracle book because it was truly written by God Himself.

It is more important than any book you will ever own because after all other books have been destroyed, the Word of God will continue to exist. Never take your Bible for granted because it is God's Word to man in written form. Your Bible is truly the Word of God!

Who Teaches Our Hearts?

Since the Bible is God's Word, it needs to be in the center of our lives. Its teachings are more important than anything else we will ever learn.



As we read and study the Bible, who is it that teaches our hearts the truths of the Bible? See John 14:26.



Read 1 Corinthians 2:10–13 to learn more about the Holy Spirit. Find the answers to the following questions:



How do we learn the things of God?



Where does the Holy Spirit live?



Can any man know or understand the things of God without the Holy Spirit?



How do we receive the Holy Spirit? See Romans 8:9 and 1 Corinthians 3:16.

The Purposes Of God's Word



The Bible contains precisely the things God wants us to know in exactly the words He wanted to say. What was God's primary purpose in giving us the Bible? See John 20:30–31.



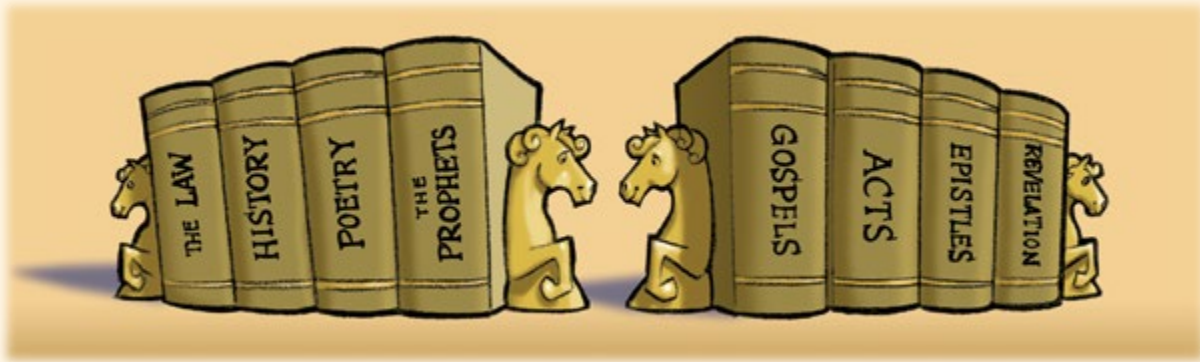
Read 2 Timothy 3:15–17. List below some of God's purposes for His Word in your own life.



Look at the words “doctrine” and “rebuke” in the vocabulary list and write their meanings below. Always be sure you understand what God is saying.

- Doctrine:
- Rebuke:

The Beginning And The End



We have learned that the Bible is all one story. The last book of the Bible, which is named , is like the close of the story that was begun in the first book of the Bible, which is named .

Revelation tells the final story of some of the same things that were first told about in Genesis. Find the final story in the following examples:



Genesis 1:1 says that God created the heavens and the earth in the beginning. Revelation 21:1 says there will be a .



Genesis 1:5 says that God called the darkness “night.” Revelation 21:25 says that .



Genesis 1:16 says that God made two great lights (the sun and the moon). Revelation 21:23 says that there will be no need for the or the because the will be our light.



Genesis 2:17 says that if Adam ate of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, he would surely die. Revelation 21:4 says that there will be no more .



Genesis 3:16 says that He would greatly increase the woman’s pains. Revelation 21:4 says that there will be no more .



Genesis 3:1–5 says that Satan appears as a deceiver of mankind. Revelation 20:10 describes Satan as the who them and says that he will be thrown into



Genesis 3:24 tells us that Adam and Eve were driven from God’s presence because of their sin. Revelation 22:4 says that we shall .

Genesis can be seen, then, as the book of beginnings because it describes the earth God created and man’s life on earth as the result of sin. In the verses you read, Revelation is describing what it will be like in heaven one day. Therefore, from Genesis to Revelation, the Bible is one continuous story. This year, we will be studying the Old Testament to see how God’s story unfolds before the birth of Christ. You will learn many important truths for your life as you study.