

# BIBLE 101 — INTRODUCTION

The 30,000-Foot Map You Need Before You Start

*Scripture Focus: 2 Timothy 3:16 · 2 Peter 1:21*

## KEY VOCABULARY — scan this before you watch

Term	What It Means
<b>Biblia</b>	Greek word meaning “the _____” (plural, not singular)
<b>Inspiration</b>	The idea that Scripture’s ultimate _____ is God, even though the authors were human
<b>Theopneustos</b>	Greek: “_____ -breathed” — describes how Scripture originated

## I. THE BIGGEST MISUNDERSTANDING

The single biggest mistake people make is treating the Bible like a single \_\_\_\_\_.

The word “Bible” comes from the Greek **biblia**, which is \_\_\_\_\_ — it means “the books.”

That one little “s” changes everything about how we should \_\_\_\_\_ it.

## II. THE BIBLE AS A LIBRARY

The best way to think about the Bible is as a \_\_\_\_\_ — a whole collection of ancient books under one cover.

- \_\_\_\_\_ individual books
- More than \_\_\_\_\_ different authors (shepherds, kings, fishermen, prophets, doctors)
- Written over \_\_\_\_\_ years
- From \_\_\_\_\_ different continents, in \_\_\_\_\_ different languages

Because it’s a library, it contains many different \_\_\_\_\_ of literature.

You would never read poetry the same way you’d read a \_\_\_\_\_.

## III. THE OLD TESTAMENT

The Old Testament contains \_\_\_\_\_ of the 66 books, organized on four main “shelves.”

Shelf	What’s On It
<i>The Law</i>	<i>The first five books that lay the foundation for everything</i>
_____	The epic, sprawling story of the nation of Israel
<i>Wisdom &amp; Poetry</i>	Writings about worship, suffering, love — the deep stuff of the _____
_____	God’s spokespeople, calling the people back to faithfulness

## IV. THE NEW TESTAMENT

The New Testament contains \_\_\_\_\_ books, all written after the life of Jesus.

Section	What It Is
<i>The Gospels</i> _____	Four _____ of Jesus's life <i>A history book about the explosive start of the early church</i>
<i>The Epistles</i> _____	Letters written to teach and _____ early churches and leaders
_____	A book of prophecy about how _____ will come to an end

### II PAUSE & REFLECT

Think about your own Bible reading. Which “wing” of the library — Old Testament or New Testament — have you spent the most time in? Is there a shelf you’ve never really explored?

\_\_\_\_\_

## V. ONE STORY, ONE SOURCE

What’s incredible about this library isn’t just its diversity — it’s that it has a profound, shocking \_\_\_\_\_.

*“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.”*

— 2 Timothy 3:16 (ESV)

The Greek word **theopneustos** literally means “\_\_\_\_\_ -breathed.”

### The Sailboat Analogy (2 Peter 1:21)

The human authors are like \_\_\_\_\_ — each one unique in design.

The Holy Spirit is like the \_\_\_\_\_ that fills the sails and guides the boat.

Result: a collection that is both fully \_\_\_\_\_ and fully \_\_\_\_\_.

## VI. THE FOUR-ACT STORY

The entire Bible tells one cohesive story you can break into four acts:

Act	Title	What Happens
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1	<i>Creation</i>	God creates a _____ world
2	_____	Humanity _____ it all up
3	<i>Redemption</i>	God puts a grand _____ plan into motion, centered on Jesus
4	_____	The promise that God will fix everything and make the world _____

### VII. WHAT'S NEXT: THREE CORE SKILLS

Now that you have the map, you need \_\_\_\_\_ to explore it.

**Observation:** What does the text actually \_\_\_\_\_?

**Interpretation:** What did this \_\_\_\_\_ to the people who first read it?

**Application:** What does this mean for \_\_\_\_\_ right here today?

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How does thinking of the Bible as a library (instead of a single book) change the way you approach reading it?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Which of the four acts of the Bible's story feels most real to your life right now? Why?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Pick one "shelf" of the Bible you've never explored. What's one book from that shelf you could start reading this week?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**NEXT WEEK:** Three Core Skills — Observation, Interpretation, and Application