

Understanding Biblical Christianity

Pastor Robert Hammond

Long Hill Baptist Church

Trumbull, CT

Text 203-543-7456

E-mail: office@LongHillBaptistChurch.com

www.LHBaptist.com

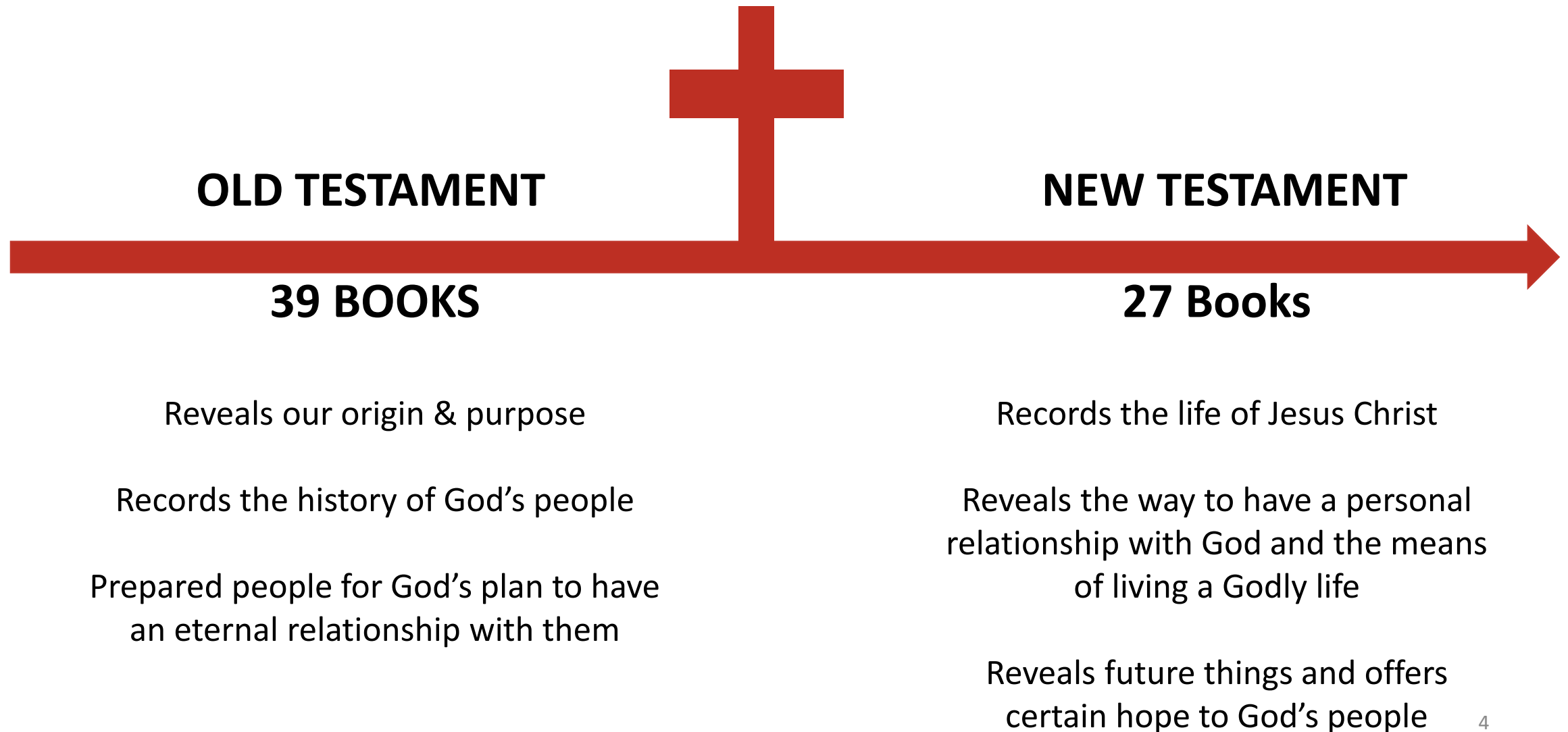
Outline

- What is the Bible?
- Who is our God?
- What is our purpose?
- The problem that prevents men from fulfilling their purpose
- God's solution to our problem

What Is The Bible?

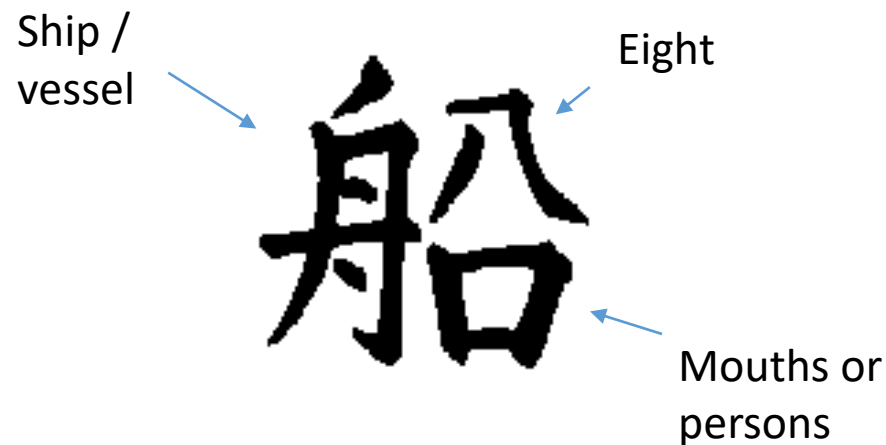
- **We understand that the Bible is God's words**
- **The Bible was written by 40 men over 1,600 years**
 - **The Bible says that its words were “God-breathed” to men**
 - It says, “All scripture is given by **inspiration** of God..” (2 Timothy 3:16)
 - **God has promised to preserve his words**
 - “...my words shall not pass away” (Matthew 24:35)
- **The Bible contains 66 books which are divided into two major sections: (1) Old Testament and (2) New Testament**

Two Major Sections of the Bible



Interestingly, Traditional Chinese Writing Appears to Reflect the Bible

- The Bible records a global flood that God used to judge the world
- According to the Bible, God saved eight members of one family in an ark / boat
- The traditional Chinese symbol for “boat” reflects the Bible account of those eight people



Genesis 7:13 “In the selfsame day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark”

The Bible Reveals The One True God

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Exodus 20:2 *I am* the LORD thy God ...**3** Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Psalms 81:9 There shall no strange god be in thee; neither shalt thou worship any strange god.

Isaiah 42:8 *I am* the LORD: that *is* my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

How does the Bible describe God?

God is...	What does this mean?
Omnipresent	All of God is present in all places at all times.
Omnipotent	God has power that has no limit.
Omniscient	God knows all things.

How does the Bible describe God?

- God is a **Spirit** (John 4:24)
- God created all things including men (Genesis 1-3)
- God is always presented as **male**
- His personal name is **Jehovah (our Bible translates this as “LORD”)**
- God is **eternal** (Genesis 1:1, Rev. 1:8)
- God is **good** and **merciful** (1 Chr 16:34; Ps 86:5, 100:5)
- God is **Holy** (Leviticus 11:44; 1 Peter 1:6)
- God is **loving**- “God is love” (1 John 4:8) (Cf John 3:16; 1 John 10)
- **Truth**– “LORD God of truth” (Psalm 31:5)
- **Just** (Psalm. 98:14; Jeremiah 50:7;)
- **Wrath** (against sin) (Numbers 11:33, 2 Chronicles 28:9, 36:16; Psalm 38:1)
- **Tri-une** – Three persons in one God (1 John 5:7-8; Revelation 1)

How does the Bible describe God?

God is Tri-une (Three co-equal divine persons in one God)



**God the
Father**

**God the
Son**

**God the
Holy Spirit**

1 John 5:7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

How does the Bible describe God?

God is Tri-une (Three persons in one God)



1 John 5:7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

How does the Bible describe God?

- **God is perfectly holy; he has never done anything that is wrong (sinful).**
 - **Leviticus 11:44** “For I *am* the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I *am* holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.”

What is our purpose for living?

- **According to the Bible our purpose is to please God:**

In Revelation 4:11 the Bible states, “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”

There is a problem that prevents us from fulfilling our purpose

- **According to the Bible, our disobedience to God (**sin**) prevents us from having a relationship with God that pleases him.**
 - **Romans 3:23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
 - **Romans 3:10** As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:
- **God's justice and wrath against sin demands punishment of our sin**
 - **Romans 6:23a** "For the wages of **sin** is death..."
 - The Bible reveals a place of "**everlasting punishment**" (Matthew 25:46). This is a place of with "**everlasting fire**" (Mat 18:8) where people are "**tormented day and night for ever and ever**" (Revelation 20:10)

Sin prevents men from having a relationship with God that would please him

Man

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned ..."

**Sin
separates
men
from God**

God

Leviticus 11:44 "For I *am* the LORD your God...I *am* holy"

Jesus Christ Provided The Way for Men to Having a Relationship With God

Man

Jesus Christ

God

Sin

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

What did Jesus accomplish on the Cross?

<p>Christ died for us so that we would not have to experience punishment for our sins; he took our sin upon himself.</p>	<p>Romans 5:8 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."</p>
<p>His blood covers the sins of believers</p>	<p>Hebrews 9:22 ...without shedding of blood is no remission.</p>
<p>Through Christ, believers have been redeemed (bought and released from the penalty of sin)</p>	<p>1 Cor 6:20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.</p>
<p>His righteousness was imputed (paid to) the account of believers</p>	<p>(James 4:6b "...God imputeth righteousness without works")</p>
<p>Believers are now justified (declared righteous / innocent) by God the father</p>	<p>Romans 3:24 (we are) justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus</p>
<p>God the father is satisfied with the payment that Jesus made upon the cross. As such, we may now have a relationship with him that pleases him.</p>	<p>1 John 2:2 And he is the propitiation (satisfaction) for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.</p>

What is Required in Order to Benefit Personally from the Cross?

- **Jesus said that we must be “born again” (spiritually).** In John 3:3 Jesus said, “Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”
- **Understand that God’s plan for having a relationship with us is based upon what Jesus accomplished on the cross. We cannot earn this through good works:**
 - **Ephesians 2:8-9** “For by grace (undeserved favor) are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9. Not of works, lest any man should boast.”
- **In order to be born again, we must only exercise “repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Acts 20:21)**
 - *Repentance* involves a change of MIND that produce a change in direction. In repenting, we TURN TO CHRIST and TRUST his sacrifice on the cross to be the payment due for our sin.
- **Anyone who turns to Christ in faith is forgiven by God and enters into a new relationship with Him.**
 - **Romans 10:13** “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”
 - **1 John 5:13** These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life

How May I Be Certain of Forgiveness?

- **The Bible says that "...Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."** ([Romans 10:13](#))
- "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." ([John 3:16](#)).
- The word *believe* in [John 3:16](#) means to place your trust in Christ. If you will place your trust in Jesus Christ as the one who paid for your sins on the cross of Calvary, and in nothing else, God promises you both forgiveness of sin and eternal life.

Why not repent of sin and turn to Christ today?

Here's a sample prayer you can pray:

Dear Lord Jesus Christ, I acknowledge that I have sinned against a Holy God and my sins have separated me from Him. I believe that you, Jesus, are the Son of God, and I believe that you died and paid for my sins on the cross and that you rose from the dead. Today, I'm choosing to turn away from a life of sin and to turn toward you, Lord. I trust you alone, Lord Jesus, for my eternal salvation.

What's Next?

God desires people to be in a good, Bible-believing church.

- **In 1 Timothy 3:15, Bible calls** “the house of God” “the church of the living God...” And, there, God calls his churches “the pillar and ground of the truth.” Church is where God’s people are instructed in God’s truth.
- **Not surprisingly then, in Hebrews 10:25, God commands us to be** “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together (in church). We are commanded by God to be in church.

Next Steps

- **Find a good, Bible-believing church. See our contact details below.**
- **Have you placed your faith in Christ?** Let us know. We would like to encourage you in the things of God.
- **Do you have questions?** Contact us. We would like to answer your questions.

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