

Old Testament Study Guide for Level 2 Entry

General

Books of the Bible: There are 66 books in the Bible. 39 Old Testament books and 27 New Testament books.

Languages: The Old Testament was written in Hebrew. The New Testament was written in Greek.

Luther's Small Catechism: A correct exposition of the primary truths of Scripture written by Martin Luther.

Old Testament

Creation: God made all things in six days. He did this by speaking. Whatever God said, it was so. On the seventh day God rested. Man and woman were made on the sixth day. [Genesis 1-2]

Humanity: Man was made in the image and likeness of God and lived in the Garden of Eden. Humans are the only part of creation that was "God breathed." The first man was made from the dust of the ground and named Adam. Eve was the first woman made from the rib of Adam. They walked with God and lived in the Garden of Eden. [Genesis 1-2]

Angels/Satan: Angels are created beings. Satan is a fallen angel. There are other angels that fell with Satan. They are referred to as demons. Satan is the serpent that tempted Eve to believe she could be like God.

The Fall: Name given to the first sin of disobeying God's law that said to not eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. After this sin, they hid from God. Because God still loved them He promised to send a Seed (Son) to Eve. [Genesis 3]

First Children: Adam and Eve had sons named Cain and Abel. Cain was a farmer. Abel was a herdsman. Cain killed Abel because he was jealous. Adam and Eve had another son named Seth. [Genesis 4]

The Flood: God decided to kill all the people of the world because they were evil. He saved Noah, his wife, his three sons and their wives because they were the only faithful (8 in all). God had Noah build an ark. He then sent animals to Noah in pairs. God then sealed Noah, his family and the animals in the ark. It rained 40 days and 40 nights. The flood covered the entire earth. God has given us the sign of the rainbow promising to never flood the entire earth again. [Genesis 6-9]

Abraham and covenant: Abraham was very faithful in doing what God told him to do. Because he believed God counted him as righteous. Abraham was told that he would have as many children as stars in the heavens or sands on the seashore. Abraham was given the covenantal sign of circumcision. This was to show that God would bring salvation through their children. His only son was named Isaac (he laughs) and born to Abraham and Sarah when they were very old. Abraham was told by God to sacrifice Isaac as an offering to the Lord. This was a test for Abraham. He was about to do it when an angel stopped him and provided a ram. [Genesis 12-22] "*And [Abraham] believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.*" (Genesis 15:6, ESV)

Israel: Jacob and Esau were sons of Isaac. Jacob was the younger and took Esau's birthright (for a bowl of stew) and blessing (by tricking Isaac). He ran away from home because his brother wanted to kill him. While away he has 12 sons. His name is changed to Israel by God after he wrestles with the Lord all night. He ends up in Egypt because of God's work through his son Joseph. [Genesis 25-33]

Joseph and Egypt: Joseph is one of Jacob's (Israel) twelve sons. Joseph is sold into slavery by his brothers because they did not like his dreams about them bowing down to him. In Egypt he has trouble and is blessed. One of God's gifts to Joseph is dream interpretation. When he interprets the Pharaoh's dream he becomes the second most powerful person in Egypt. When the Israelites (His father and brothers) run out of food they come and bow down to Joseph in need of help. They did not know it was him. His dream as a youth had come true. Joseph loves them then when he could have gotten even. Instead he makes a place for them to live in Egypt and they survive the famine. [Genesis 37-49]

Moses: Was born as an Israelite in Egypt when they were slaves. He was supposed to be killed but God saved him through Pharaoh's daughter. She found him in a basket in the river where they had hid him. Moses later flees from Egypt after he murders an Egyptian who was beating an Israelite. God calls Moses back to Egypt by talking to him through a burning bush. Moses and Aaron go before Pharaoh provide the miracles of God to convince him to let God's people go. There are 10 plagues in all. The last one being the death of the first born in every household. [Exodus 1-10]

Passover: The Israelites were saved from the Angel of Death by putting the blood of the lamb over their doorposts. The angel would then pass over them. [Exodus 11-13]

Red Sea Crossing: The Israelites were led by God to the edge of the Red Sea. When they thought they were going to die by the Egyptians, because they were trapped by the sea, God had Moses put his staff over the water and God divided the waters with wind so that the Israelites could walk through on dry ground. Then the waters came together and drowned the whole Egyptian army. [Exodus 14-15]

God's Law: God had His people stop at the base of Mount Sinai. There He gave Moses the 10 Commandments that were written on two stone tablets. Mount Sinai was also the place where the people sinned against God and worshiped a golden calf. [Exodus 19-20]

Promised Land: This was the place that God promised to give to His people. It was a land "flowing with milk and honey." That meant it was a very good land.

Desert Wandering: The people of God feared the men in Promised Land more than they trusted God. He made them wander the desert for 40 years. During that time, God fed them with Manna. It was a bread-like substance that would come from the morning dew. He also gave them quail to eat at night.

Bronze Serpent: Once, when the people were complaining to God, He sent serpents to bite and kill the people. Then He had Moses make a bronze serpent on a pole. If they looked to the serpent they would live. [Numbers 20-21]

The Fall of Jericho: The Israelites going into the Promised Land encountered the unbeatable walls of Jericho. God had them march around the city once for six days. Then on the seventh day God had them march around it seven times and on the seventh they blew horns and shouted. The walls of Jericho fell outward and the Israelites defeated the people of Jericho. [Joshua 6, 24]

Samson: The people of Israel were captured by the Philistines for 40 years. Samson was a Nazarene and granted great strength as long as he trusted the Lord. God told him to never shave his head. He told his wife Delilah the secret of strength. She cut his hair and called his enemies. Even though he had killed thousands before with the strength of the Lord, now that his hair was gone, he had no strength. They took him captive, took out his eyes and put him on display in front of the people. When all the people were gathered in a great

house to see his weakness he prayed to the Lord for strength to have victory over them this one time. God granted it to Sampson. He pulled the pillars down and the house fell on all who were gathered. [Judges 13,15-16]

David and Goliath: David was the youngest son of eight. He was anointed by the prophet Samuel to lead the people of Israel. When he was just a young shepherd boy he took food to his brother who were at war with the Philistines. He heard the philistines mocking God. He went and challenged their greatest warrior the giant Goliath. All he took was his sling and 5 smooth stones. He defeated Goliath by sinking a stone into his skull. [1 Samuel 17]

Elijah: Elijah was a great prophet who preached God's word and preached against the false prophets. God performed many miracles through him. It was told that he would return. Jesus says that John the Baptist is the returned Elijah. He was taken to heaven in a fiery chariot. [1 Kings 18]

Naaman and Elisha: Naaman was a commander of one of Israel's enemy's armies. He also suffered from leprosy. One of his slaves (an Israelite) told him that Elisha the prophet could heal him. Naaman went to Elisha expecting him to come and wave over him and do something fancy. When he only told him to dip in the Jordan River seven times he got mad and was about to leave. Another Israelite slave convinced him to listen to Elisha. When he did his skin was made new like that of a baby. [2 Kings 5]

Jonah: Jonah refused God's command to preach to the Ninevites. God had him swallowed by a great fish and still sent him to Nineveh. He was in the belly of the fish for three days. [Jonah]

Isaiah: Great prophet who had a vision of heaven where an angel touched his lips with a hot coal and gave him a scroll to eat. His is the largest book of prophecy.

The Fiery Furnace: Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were told to bow down to a statue. They refused and made the king of Babylon so mad he threw them into a fiery furnace. They were seen standing in the fire with someone appearing as the "son of god." He called them out and trusted in the true God rather than his false god. [Daniel 3]

The Lion's Den: Daniel was told to bow down to the King of Babylon. He refused and was sent into a den of lions. An angel kept the lion's mouths shut. The next day the King took him and out began to worship the true God. [Daniel 6]

For Reciting

The Ten Commandments

1. You shall have no other God's
2. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God
3. Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy
4. Honor your father and your mother
5. You shall not murder
6. You shall not commit adultery
7. You shall not steal
8. You shall not give false testimony against you neighbor
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor