THEMES OF THE BIBLE BOOKS MADE EASY Simplified in one or two sentences

God reveals himself through his Word. When he speaks, he teaches us what he is like, how he acts, and how he desires us to respond. As a whole, the Bible is about God. It's about God the Father displaying his glory through God the Son by the power of God the Holy Spirit.

The Bible is one book made up of 66 books. Each book has a major theme that emphasizes an aspect of God's character or a way he is working to carry out his perfect plan. What follows is an attempt to capture these themes. These themes are certainly simplified but I hope you'll be helped by considering them.

For those wanting to dig deeper in Bible Book Theme study go here.

Bible: God of Jesus

Old Testament: Anticipation

· Gospels: Manifestation

Acts: Proclamation

Epistles: Explanation

Revelation: Consummation

OLD TESTAMENT

The Pentateuch

- Genesis: God of Promise Beginnings
 Describes the creation; gives the history of the old world, and of the steps taken by God toward the formation of theocracy.
- <u>Exodus</u>: God of Power Deliverance
 The history of Israel's departure from Egypt; the giving of the law; the tabernacle.
- Leviticus: God of Purity Instruction The ceremonial law.

- <u>Numbers</u>: God of Perseverance Journeys
 The census of the people; the story of the wanderings in the wilderness.
- <u>Deuteronomy</u>: God of Preparation Obedience The law rehearsed; the death of Moses.

History

- <u>Joshua</u>: God of the Land Conquest
 The story of the conquest and partition of Canaan.
- <u>Judges</u>: God of the Rebels Deterioration and Deliverance The history of the nation from Joshua to Samson.
- <u>Ruth</u>: God of Redemption Redemption
 The story of the ancestors of the royal family of Judah
- 1 Samuel: God of the Heart Transition
 The story of the nation during the judgeship of Samuel and the reign of Saul.
- <u>2 Samuel</u>: God of the Throne Unification Story of the reign of David.
- <u>1 Kings</u>: God of Israel Disruption
 1 Kings & 2 Kings contain the history of the nation from David's death and Solomon's accession to the destruction of the kingdom of Judah and the desolation of Jerusalem.
- 2 Kings: God of Israel –Dispersion
- 1 Chronicles: God of Judah Israel's Spiritual History
 1 & 2 Chronicles are so called as being the record made by the appointed historiographers of the kingdoms of Judah and Israel; they are the official histories of those kingdoms.
- 2 Chronicles: God of Judah Israel's Spiritual Heritage
- <u>Ezra</u>: God of the Temple Restoration
 The story of the return of the Jews from the Babylon captivity, and of the rebuilding of the temple.

- Nehemiah: God of the Wall Reconstruction
 A further account of the rebuilding of the temple and city, and of the obstacles encountered and overcome.
- <u>Esther</u>: God of the Gallows Preservation

 The story of a Jewess who becomes queen of Persia and saves the Jewish people from destruction.

Wisdom

- Job: God of Pain Blessings Through Sufferings
 The story of the trials and patience of a holy man of Edom.
- <u>Psalms</u>: God of Praise Praise
 A collection of sacred poems intended for use in the worship of Jehovah.
 Chiefly the productions of David.
- <u>Proverbs</u>: God of Prudence Practical Wisdom The wise sayings of Solomon.
- <u>Ecclesiastes</u>: God of Purpose All is Vanity Apart from God A poem respecting the vanity of earthly things.
- Song of Solomon: God of Passion Love and Marriage An allegory relating to the church.

Major Prophets

- <u>Isaiah</u>: God of Glory Salvation
 Prophecies respecting Christ and his kingdom.
- <u>Jeremiah</u>: God of Weeping Judgment
 Prophecies announcing the captivity of Judah, its sufferings, and the final overthrow of its enemies.
- <u>Lamentations</u>: God of Faithfulness Lament The utterance of Jeremiah's sorrow upon the capture of Jerusalem and the destruction of the temple.
- <u>Ezekiel</u>: God of Visions The Glory of the Lord
 Messages of warning and comfort to the Jews in their captivity.

<u>Daniel</u>: God of History- The Sovereignty of God
 A narrative of some of the occurrences of the captivity, and a series of prophecies concerning Christ.

Minor Prophets

- <u>Hosea</u>: God of the Unfaithful Unfaithfulness
 Prophecies relating to Christ and the latter days
- Joel: God of the Locusts The Day of the Lord
 Prediction of woes upon Judah, and of the favor with which God will receive
 the penitent people.
- Amos: God of the Oppressed Judgment
 Prediction that Israel and other neighboring nations will be punished by conquerors from the north, and of the fulfillment of the Messiah's kingdom.
- <u>Obadiah</u>: God of the Mountain Righteous Judgement Prediction of the desolation of Edom.
- <u>Jonah</u>: God of Compassion God's Grace to All People Prophecies relating to Nineveh.
- <u>Micah</u>: God of Justice Divine Judgment
 Predictions relating to the invasions and the birth of the Messiah in Bethlehem.
- <u>Nahum</u>: God of Wrath Consolation Prediction of the downfall of Assyria.
- <u>Habakkuk</u>: God of Sovereignty Trusting a Sovereign God A prediction of the doom of the Chaldeans.
- Zephaniah: God of Judgment The "Great Day of the Lord"
 A prediction of the overthrow of Judah for its idolatry and wickedness.
- <u>Haggai</u>: God of Renewal Rebuilding the Temple Prophecies concerning the rebuilding of the temple.
- Zechariah: God of Restoration God's Deliverance
 Prophecies relating to the rebuilding of the temple and the Messiah.
- Malachi: God of Worship Formalism Rebuked
 Prophecies relating to the calling of the Gentiles and the coming of Christ.

THE NEW TESTAMENT

Gospels

- <u>Matthew</u>: God of the Jews The Kingdom of God A brief history of the life of Christ.
- Mark: God of the Romans The Suffering Servant
 A brief history of the life of Christ, supplying some incidents omitted by St. Matthew.
- <u>Luke</u>: God of the Outcast The Perfect Man
 The history of the life of Christ, with especial reference to his most important acts and discourses.
- <u>John</u>: God of the World The Son of God
 The life of Christ, giving important discourses not related by the other evangelists.

History

<u>Acts</u>: God of Power – The Spread of the Gospel
 The history of the labors of the apostles and of the foundation of the Christian Church.

Pauline Epistles

- Romans: God of Righteousness The Righteousness of God On the doctrine of justification by Christ.
- <u>1 Corinthians</u>: God of Holiness Christian Conduct
 A letter from St. Paul to the Corinthians, correcting errors into which they had fallen.
- <u>2 Corinthians</u>: God of Weakness Paul's Defense of his Apostleship Paul confirms his disciples in their faith, and vindicates his own character.
- Galatians: God of Justification Freedom in Christ
 Paul maintains that we are justified by faith, and not by rites.

- <u>Ephesians</u>: God of Unity Blessings in Christ On the power of divine grace.
- <u>Philippians</u>: God of Joy The Joy Filled Life
 The beauty of Christian kindness.
- <u>Colossians</u>: God of Preeminence The Supremacy of Christ Paul warns his disciples against errors, and exhorts to certain duties.
- <u>1 Thessalonians</u>: God of Encouragement Concern for the Church Paul exhorts his disciples to continue in the faith and in holy conversation.
- <u>2 Thessalonians</u>: God of Admonishment Living in Hope
 Paul corrects an error concerning the speedy coming of Christ the second time.
- <u>1 Timothy</u>: God of Godliness Instructions for a Young Disciple
 Paul instructs Timothy in the duty of a pastor, and encourages him in the
 work of the ministry in 1 & 2 Timothy.
- 2 Timothy: God of Endurance A Charge to Faithful Ministry
- <u>Titus</u>: God of Works A Manual of Conduct
 Paul encourages Titus in the performance of his ministerial duties.
- <u>Philemon</u>: God of Reconciliation Forgiveness

 An appeal to a converted master to receive a converted escaped slave with kindness.

General Epistles

- Hebrews: God of Fulfillment The Superiority of Christ
 Paul maintains that Christ is the substance of the ceremonial law.
- <u>James</u>: God of Trials Genuine Faith
 A treatise on the efficacy of faith united with good works.
- <u>1 Peter</u>: God of the Persecuted Responding to Suffering
 Exhortations to a Christian life, with various warnings and predictions in 1 & 2 Peter.
- 2 Peter: God of Patience Warning Against False Teachers

- 1 John: God of Love Fellowship with God
 Respecting the person of our Lord, and an exhortation to Christian love and conduct.
- <u>2 John</u>: God of Truth Christian Discernment John warns a converted lady against false teachers.
- <u>3 John</u>: God of Discernment Christian Hospitality A letter to Gaius, praising him for his hospitality.
- <u>Jude</u>: God of Protection Contending for the Faith Warnings against deceivers.

Prophecy

 <u>Revelation</u>: God of Eternity – The Unveiling of Jesus Christ The future of the Church foretold.

Looking for more Theme Bible Book Summary.

Our Theme Bible Book Paragraph Summary of each Bible Book starting at Genesis and finishing at Book of Relation. For those wanting to dig deeper in a theme study go here.

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