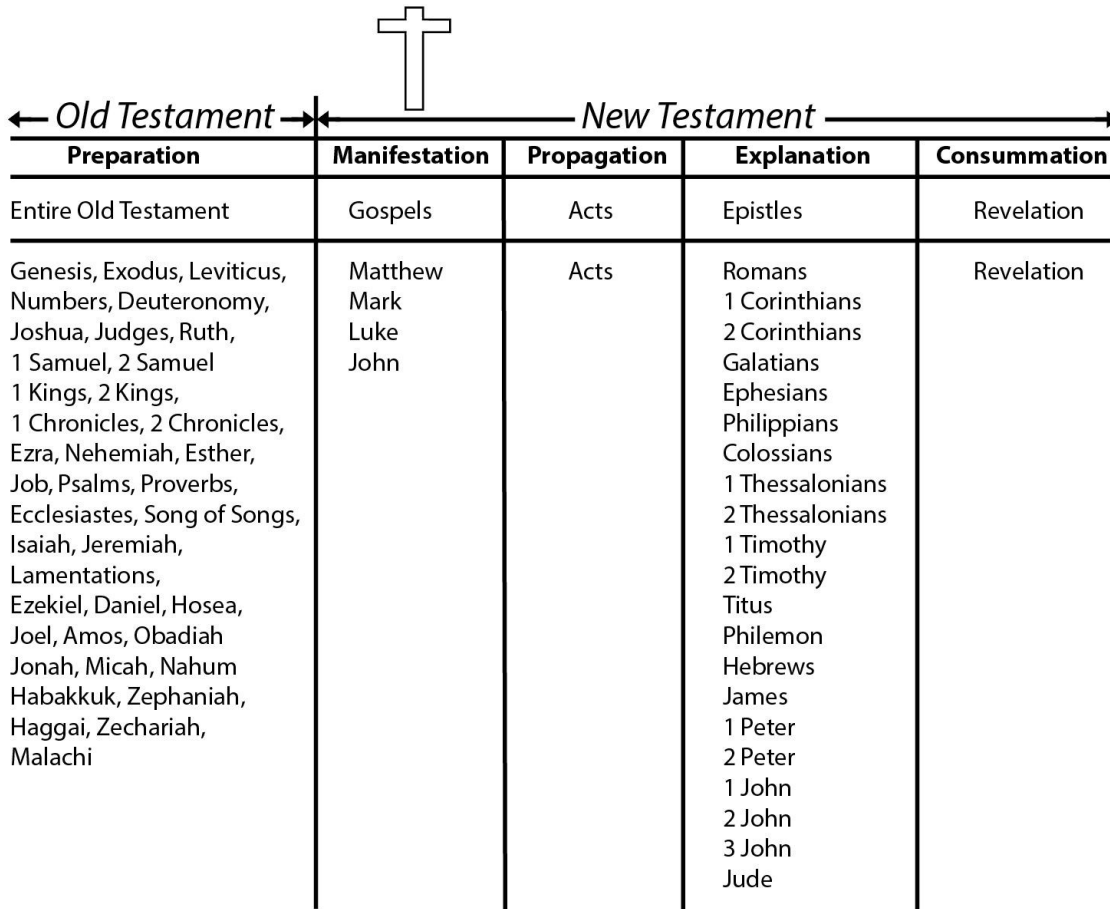


This is an expanded version of Chapter 5 from the First Edition of the book *A Deeper Relationship with Jesus*.

## Chapter 5: Bible Overview



Preparation	Manifestation	Propagation	Explanation	Consummation
Entire Old Testament	Gospels	Acts	Epistles	Revelation
Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi	Matthew Mark Luke John	Acts	Romans 1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians 1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians 1 Timothy 2 Timothy Titus Philemon Hebrews James 1 Peter 2 Peter 1 John 2 John 3 John Jude	Revelation

The purpose of the entire Bible is to lead people to salvation in Jesus Christ.

The entire Old Testament points us to Jesus Christ; who said Himself:

John 5:39–40 “You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is **these that testify about Me**; 40 and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life.

The purpose of the Law in the Old Testament is specifically given to lead us to Jesus:

Galatians 3:24 Therefore the Law has become our tutor **to lead us to Christ**, so that we may be justified by faith.

Romans 6:14 **For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.**

Romans 10:4 **For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.**

The first table conveys that many verses from ANY book of the Old Testament point to Christ; we find news of the manifestation of Christ most predominantly in the Gospels. There are many Old Testament books referenced in Matthew, many referenced in Mark, many in Luke and many in the Gospel of John. Then we find the record of the propagation (spread) of the gospel to all the nations most predominantly in the book of Acts. We can read the Epistles to gain a deeper understanding of what was prophesied in the Old Testament and proclaimed as having happened in the Gospels and was being spread to all the nations in the book of Acts. To help us better understand the meaning of the manifestation of Jesus and the Holy Spirit as proclaimed in the Gospels, just one of many possible examples in the Epistles tells us:

**Galatians 5:18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.**

The above verse is just one example, ANY of the Epistles provide a deeper understanding of the significance of God manifesting in human flesh as proclaimed in the Gospels. Finally, we find out how God's wise plan comes to a climax or consummation, in the book of Revelation. Many of the other books of the Bible in both the Old and New Testaments point to the book of Revelation; for example, Daniel and Ezekiel in the Old Testament point to the book of Revelation in many ways.

The second table shows an example of how the crucifixion of Jesus was prophesied in the Old Testament in Psalms and Genesis, proclaimed as having happened in the Gospels, how that was propagated to all the nations, how we get a deeper understanding of what the crucifixion means in the Epistles, just one of many possible examples is 1 Corinthians 1:23, and finally, in the book of Revelation, we see the consummation of the crucifixion as Jesus returns to judge the unfaithful, including those who pierced Him (crucified Him). So, in the second and third tables I provide just a few of many possible examples of how you can trace a theme horizontally all the way through the Bible to gain a better understanding of God's wise and beautiful plan for humanity.

God has infinite wisdom. He has a wise plan which covers the beginning, middle, and end of everything. God's word, the Bible, lays out his wise plan. All of the pieces of his plan are like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle or a beautiful mosaic.

In the Old Testament, God promised to defeat eternal death; in the New Testament, he explained how he did it through the sinless life, sacrificial death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, who is God in human flesh.

The entire Old Testament prepares us for the coming of Jesus Christ. Jesus himself said:

**John 5:39–40 "You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me; 40 and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life.**

The Gospels tell us God the Son was manifest in the flesh as Jesus Christ.

The book of Acts tells us how the good news of the sinless life, sacrificial death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, which is what "gospel" means, was taken to all nations.


The epistles, which simply means the letters, give us a deeper explanation of what was accomplished through the manifestation of God in human flesh.

The book of Revelation, and yes it is the book of Revelation (singular) and not the book of Revelations (plural), tells us about the consummation of history; it tells us where the faithful who trust in Jesus Christ's

work go for eternity (New Heaven and New Earth) and where the unfaithful who trust in their own works go (Lake of Fire).

The following tables, just a small sample of verses, show how the Bible lays out God’s wise plan for humanity. There are many more examples but, hopefully, this will encourage you to see how each of the sections of the Bible fit together to accomplish God’s purpose for your eternal life through the work of Jesus and not through your own works.

Preparation	Manifestation	Propagation	Explanation	Consummation
Entire Old Testament	Gospels	Acts	Epistles	Revelation
<p>They <b>pierced</b> my hands and my feet. Psalm 22:16. He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel. Genesis 3:15 -- this points forward to Christ's death where Christ injured Satan's head (fatally defeated eternal death) and Satan "bruised" Christ's heel, when Christ died physically.</p>	<p>Christ's hands and feet were nailed (<b>pierced</b>) to the cross thus fulfilling Psalm 22:16.  Christ's sacrificial death on the cross defeated eternal death.</p>	<p>"Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you <b>crucified</b>." Acts 2:36 Peter took the gospel to the Jews. Paul took the gospel to the Gentiles.</p>	<p>knowing this, that our old self was <b>crucified</b> with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; Romans 6:6 but we preach Christ , to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, 1 Corinthians 1:23</p>	<p>BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, <b>even those who pierced Him</b>; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen. Revelation 1:7</p>
<p>One part of the <b>Law</b> specifies a <b>lamb sacrifice</b> to cover sins -- this points forward to Christ's sacrificial death on the cross to take away the sin of the world.</p> <p>One part of the <b>Law</b> specifies the keeping of the sabbath: Remember the <b>sabbath</b> day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work Exodus 20:8-10 -- this points forward to the New Testament, e.g., Galatians and Hebrews, where born again believers are no longer under the Law; they can rest from their works which they mistakenly believed would make themselves acceptable to God.</p>	<p>"You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; <b>it is these that testify about Me</b>; and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life. John 5:39-40 Behold, the <b>Lamb of God</b> who takes away the sin of the world! John 1:29 Therefore they said to Him, "What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent." John 6:28-29 -- this passage clearly shows Christ explaining that you cannot do good works to earn your salvation; instead, you must believe in Christ's fulfillment of the <b>Law and sacrificial death</b> and His resurrection to receive eternal life.</p>	<p>Salvation is through faith not through the <b>Law</b>: and through Him everyone who believes is freed from all things, from which you could not be freed through the <b>Law of Moses</b>. Acts 13:39</p> <p>When they had set a day for Paul, they came to him at his lodging in large numbers; and he was explaining to them by solemnly testifying about the kingdom of God and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus, from both the <b>Law of Moses</b> and from the Prophets, from morning until evening. Acts 28:23</p>	<p>The <b>purpose of the Law</b> is to lead us to Christ: Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. Galatians 3:24 For Christ is the <b>end of the law</b> for righteousness to everyone who believes. Romans 10:4 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? Galatians 3:3 For sin shall not be master over you, for you are <b>not under law</b> but under grace. Romans 6:14  But if you are led by the Spirit, you are <b>not under the Law</b>. Galatians 5:18 Rest from your works: So there remains a <b>Sabbath rest</b> for the people of God. For the one who has entered His rest has himself also <b>rested from his works</b>, as God did from His. Hebrews 4:9-10</p>	<p>And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the <b>Lamb</b>, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever." Revelation 5:13</p> <p>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by <b>His blood</b>— Revelation 1:5 -- <b>His blood</b> refers to His sacrificial death as the <b>Lamb of God</b></p>



← Old Testament →	← New Testament →			
Preparation	Manifestation	Propagation	Explanation	Consummation
Entire Old Testament	Gospels	Acts	Epistles	Revelation
<p>Design of the ark of the covenant: Gold and wood; gold for divinity and wood for humanity. It is a perfect picture of how Christ is <b>fully God and fully man.</b></p>	<p>And the <b>Word became flesh</b> John 1:14            Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."            John 8:58 -- this verse is a direct claim of Jesus being God in human flesh because Jesus applies the name "<b>I AM</b>" to himself as God himself used the name in Exodus: God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM"; and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" Exodus 3:14</p>	<p>he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID <b>His flesh SUFFER DECAY.</b> Acts 2:31</p>	<p>By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that <b>Jesus Christ has come in the flesh</b> is from God; 1 John 4:2</p>	<p>When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, "Do not be afraid; <b>I am the first and the last,</b> and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. Revelation 1:17-18</p>
<p>Regarding Abraham:            Then he <b>believed</b> in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness. Genesis 15:6            In your seed <b>all the nations</b> of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice. Genesis 22:18</p>	<p>For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that <b>whoever</b> believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:16</p>	<p>Salvation by grace alone, through <b>faith alone</b>, in Jesus Christ alone is <b>spread to all nations.</b></p>	<p>Even so <b>Abraham BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS</b> Galatians 3:6 (Genesis 15:6)  <b>The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "ALL THE NATIONS WILL BE BLESSED IN YOU."</b> Galatians 3:8</p>	<p>"Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy; For <b>ALL THE NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU, FOR YOUR RIGHTEOUS ACTS HAVE BEEN REVEALED.</b>" Revelation 15:4</p>

The above three tables give you a simple overview or roadmap showing how God's wise plan is laid out in His Word, the Bible. Truly, all of the pieces of His plan are like the pieces of a beautiful mosaic.