

Deep Study Bible Categorization Framework — *A Guide to Help You Study Scripture with Depth, Clarity, and Purpose*


A Compact Printable Guide for New Believers and Seekers: The Books of the Bible (NIV)

— Organized for Clarity. Designed for Growth. Made for You.

1. Meta-Narrative Categories

See how each passage fits into the overarching story of Scripture.

- **Creation** – God's perfect design
(Genesis 1–2)
- **Fall** – Sin enters and fractures creation
(Genesis 3; Romans 5)
- **Covenant** – God initiates redemptive promises
(Genesis 12; Exodus 19; 2 Samuel 7)
- **Redemption** – Jesus fulfills God's plan of salvation
(Matthew–John)
- **Kingdom** – The Church continues Christ's mission
(Acts; Epistles)
- **Restoration** – Full renewal of creation at Christ's return
(Revelation 21–22)

 Use this to understand the Bible as one unified, unfolding narrative.

2. Theological Categories

Group verses by core doctrines to strengthen your understanding of the faith.

- **God (Theology Proper)** – God's nature and attributes
(Exodus 34:6–7; Psalm 90; John 1)
- **Jesus Christ (Christology)** – The divinity and mission of Jesus
(Colossians 1; John 1; Hebrews 1)
- **Holy Spirit (Pneumatology)** – The Spirit's work in believers
(Acts 2; Romans 8; 1 Corinthians 12)
- **Salvation (Soteriology)** – How we are saved by grace through faith
(Romans 3–6; Ephesians 2)
- **Humanity (Anthropology)** – Our identity and purpose
(Genesis 1–3; Psalm 8; Romans 5)
- **Sin (Hamartiology)** – The problem and consequences of sin
(Romans 3; Genesis 6; James 1)
- **Church (Ecclesiology)** – The body and mission of believers
(Acts 2; Ephesians 4)
- **End Times (Eschatology)** – Final things and Christ's return
(1 Thessalonians 4; Revelation)


 Ideal for doctrinal studies or comparing Scripture with systematic theology.

3. Literary & Genre Categories

Interpret Scripture accurately by understanding its literary form.

- **Narrative (History)** – Genesis, Exodus, Acts
- **Law** – Leviticus, Deuteronomy
- **Wisdom** – Proverbs, Ecclesiastes
- **Poetry** – Psalms, Song of Songs
- **Prophecy** – Isaiah, Daniel, Revelation
- **Gospel** – Matthew through John
- **Epistles (Letters)** – Romans through Jude


- **Apocalyptic** – Daniel 7–12, Revelation

 Recognizing the genre helps you interpret the passage correctly—poetry reads differently than law or narrative.

4. Spiritual Formation Categories

Apply Scripture to your personal growth and discipleship journey.

- **Faith & Trust** – Hebrews 11; Psalms; James 1
- **Prayer & Worship** – Matthew 6; Psalms; 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18
- **Obedience & Holiness** – Leviticus; 1 Peter; Romans 12
- **Spiritual Gifts** – 1 Corinthians 12–14; Romans 12
- **Spiritual Warfare** – Ephesians 6; 2 Corinthians 10
- **Fruit of the Spirit** – Galatians 5
- **Suffering & Endurance** – Job; 2 Corinthians 4; 1 Peter 4

 Perfect for journaling, devotionals, mentoring, or lesson preparation.

5. Cross-Covenant Themes

Trace how God's promises unfold across both Testaments.

- **Covenant** – Promise and fulfillment
- **Temple** – God's presence: Eden → Tabernacle → Jesus → Church → New Earth
- **Sacrifice** – From animal offerings to Christ the Lamb
- **Kingdom** – From David to Christ and His Church
- **Exodus Theme** – Deliverance from bondage through God's power

 This reveals Christ throughout Scripture (see Luke 24:27).

6. Chronological / Timeline Categories

Study Scripture in historical sequence to grasp cause and effect.

- **Patriarchs** – Genesis
- **Exodus & Wilderness** – Exodus through Deuteronomy
- **Conquest & Judges** – Joshua, Judges
- **United Monarchy** – 1 Samuel to 1 Kings 11
- **Divided Kingdom** – 1 Kings 12 to 2 Kings 17
- **Exile & Return** – 2 Kings 18–25; Daniel; Ezra; Nehemiah
- **Life of Jesus** – Gospels
- **Early Church** – Acts and the Epistles
- **End Times Revelation** – Revelation



A Bible timeline or Gospel harmony can enrich your chronological study.



Summary Table

Category Type	What It Helps With
Meta-Narrative	Big-picture view of salvation history
Theological	Understanding God and core doctrines
Literary / Genre	Accurate interpretation by literary context
Spiritual Formation	Applying Scripture for life and discipleship
Cross-Covenant Themes	Tracing God's promises across Old and New Testaments
Chronological	Seeing historical flow, development, and cause-effect links

Books of the Bible (NIV) – Organized Table

Old Testament (39 Books)

Section	Books
1. The Pentateuch (Law of Moses)	Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
2. Historical Books	Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther
3. Wisdom & Poetry	Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs
4. Major Prophets	Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel
5. Minor Prophets	Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

New Testament (27 Books)

Section	Books
1. The Gospels	Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
2. Church History	Acts
3. Pauline Epistles	Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon
4. General Epistles	Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude
5. Prophecy	Revelation

Summary Chart

Testament	Category	Book Count
Old Testament	Law, History, Wisdom, Prophets	39
New Testament	Gospels, History, Letters, Prophecy	27
Total Bible		66 Books

♦ **Why This Matters**

The Bible isn't just an ancient book—it's God's living Word, written to reveal His heart, His plan, and His love for you. Every book, from Genesis to Revelation, tells part of the story of God's pursuit of His people.

*You weren't meant to wander through life without direction.
God has spoken—and the Bible is how we hear Him.*

- ➡ Are you ready to discover the story He's written for you?
- ➡ Will you open His Word and let it speak to your heart?

✝ **A Prayer to Begin:**

"God, if You are real, reveal Yourself to me. I want to know the truth. Jesus, if You are God, show me. I am willing to follow if You are the way. Help my unbelief. Amen."

♦ **Next Steps**

- 📖 Read the Gospel of John
 - 👤 Talk to a Christian you trust
 - 🏠 Find a Bible-teaching church
 - 🙏 Keep praying and seeking
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💬 **Want More?**

You're not alone on this journey. Visit <https://storysharing.life> for more resources, free downloads, and encouragement as you explore life's deepest questions through faith and reason.