

In this study we learn about the writing of the Old Testament, and Israel's response to God's love.





"The Bible is the most ancient and the most comprehensive history that men possess. It came fresh from the fountain of eternal truth, and throughout the ages a divine hand has preserved its purity." – Education, p. 173



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# Messengers to God's People

#### DAILY DEVOTIONAL 71



LET'S PRAY Thank You, dear God, for always having a remnant of faithful people who kept Your word safe. Please help me to obey Your word today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

God had chosen to bless Abraham's family so He could come into the world through them. This way He would bless the whole world. When Satan realised God's plans for Abraham's family, he worked very hard to stop God. He knew that he had to deceive them to disobey God, or destroy them.

Satan was almost successful. Almost, but not quite. For thousands of years, he did everything to deceive the Israelites. Nearly everyone believed his lies. But there were always a few people, called a remnant, who stayed true to God. From this remnant, the Holy Spirit chose people to work for Him, and gave them spiritual gifts to do their special work. Some He called to be prophets. God worked through them to help the Israelites turn back to God.

### MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 36:15

"And the LORD God of their fathers sent warnings to them by His messengers, rising up early and sending them, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place."

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

#### LET'S READ:

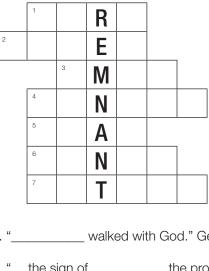
Judges 2:7–12; 21:25; 1 Kings 19:18; Jeremiah 23:3.

#### **KEY TEXT:** Romans 11:5

"Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace."

# **GOD'S REMNANT**

Complete the Remnant acrostic about some people that were faithful to God.



1. "For	had prepared his
heart to	seek the Law of the Lord." Ezra
7:10	

2. "But My servant	;	,
Numbers 14:24		

3. "The words of,
which he saw concerning Israel." Amos
1:1

4. " spoken of by	the
prophet." Mark 13:14	

- 5. " walked with God." Genesis 6:9
- 6. "... the sign of the prophet." Luke 11:29
- 7. "Then the Lord sent to David." 2 Samuel 12:1





**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father, thank You for Your wise laws. Please help me to be true to You today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

God had called Abraham's family to be different to all the other people on Earth. Other nations were worshipping idols, which meant they actually were worshipping Satan and his evil angels. Because of that, they were copying Satan and doing what he wanted them to. God's plan was that Israel would be different, because they would be obeying His laws.

But the Israelites developed the bad habit of looking at what the other nations were doing, and copying them. As they did that, they began to forget about God and what He had done for them in the past. They also began to forget about His plan for them, and promise to send Jesus. God needed people from His faithful remnant to write down the truth about His acts in the past (history) and His plans for the future (prophecy). The writings of many of these faithful people became our Holy Bible—God's written Word.

#### MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 36:15

"And the LORD \_\_\_\_\_ of their fathers sent \_\_\_\_\_\_ to them by His messengers, rising up early and sending them, because He had compassion on His \_\_\_\_\_\_ and on His dwelling place."

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

#### LET'S READ:

Exodus 19:3-6; Deuteronomy 12:29-32.

#### KEY TEXT: Psalm 77:11

"I will remember the works of the LORD; surely I will remember Your wonders of old."

### AND THE REAL AUTHOR IS...

The Bible is a very special book, unlike any other, because it is not just the words of people. Complete the blanks below to discover who really wrote the Bible.

'And the	said to Moses		down this	song	for
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yourselves, and teach it to the children of Israel." Deuteronomy 31:16,19.

"The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah....to whom the word of the

\_\_\_\_\_ came in the days of Josiah." Jeremiah 1:1,2.

"The word of the \_\_\_\_\_\_ that came to Micah." Micah 1:1.

"For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the \_\_\_\_\_\_ 2 Peter 1:21.

The real Author of all Scripture is \_





**LET'S PRAY** Dear God, thank You for preserving the Bible so we have it today. I ask for the Holy Spirit to help me understand it. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Yesterday we learned that God is the ultimate Author of the Bible. But, He did so by the hand of around 40 different men over 1500 years or so. 2 Timothy 3:16–17 says that those who wrote the Bible were inspired by God in what they wrote. 1 Thessalonians 2:13 tells us that the Bible is indeed the word of God—not the word of men. 1 Corinthians 10:11 says that the Bible contains special messages from God for the people right at the end of time—that includes us! Jesus sent the Holy Spirit with messages to His prophets so that we, living today, would know the truth that we need to know in order to be saved. Although the prophets mostly wrote the messages in their own words, the Holy Spirit impressed truth into their minds so that they would know what to record for us.

#### **MORE THAN JUST WRITERS**

#### MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 36:15

"And the LORD of their fathers sent	to them by
His messengers, rising up early and	them,
He had compassion on His	and on His
dwelling place."	

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

#### LET'S READ:

2 Timothy 3:16,17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13.

#### KEY TEXT: 1 Corinthians 10:11

"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." We know that the Holy Spirit chose prophets and the Bible writers. What were the Bible writers like? What did they do? Read the verses below and write the name of each Bible writer mentioned and the work (or occupation) that each did.

Bible Verse	Bible Writer	Occupation
Ezra 7:11		
Nehemiah 1:11		
Proverbs 1:1		
Daniel 6:2		
Amos 7:14,15		
Colossians 4:14		
Acts 18:1–3		
	990 90 9-0	





**LET'S PRAY** Thank You, God, for the hope and comfort of Your word. Please help me to trust and obey You today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

God's prophets were often given *revelations* of truths they couldn't work out themselves. The Bible uses a different word to describe how the prophets shared those messages and recorded them for us in the Bible. That word is *INSPIRATION*. 1 Corinthians 2:13 promises us that, because of the Holy Spirit, the messages that have been recorded for us in the Bible are not just people's thoughts. They are actually *God's* thoughts, expressed in *people's* words, and that the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, will help us understand ALL the truth of God.

Much of the Bible is history, while some parts are records that prophets have made of the visions and other messages they received from God. This is not the only source of Bible information. Some parts are what other trustworthy people said. For example, King Solomon used wise sayings written by other people. But because the Holy Spirit inspired *all* of the Bible writers, we know that the WHOLE Bible is true and that God wants us to know and understand it.

#### MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 36:15

to them by His
them,
and on His

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

### LET'S READ:

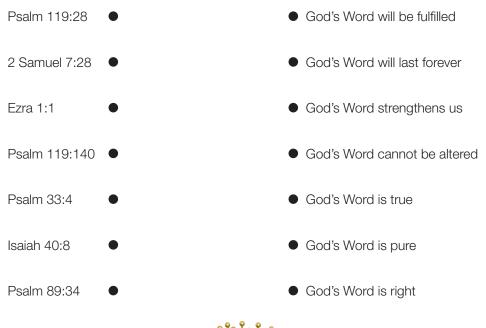
1 Corinthians 2:9-13; John 16:13; 2 Peter 1:19.

#### KEY TEXT: Romans 15:4

"For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."

# GOD'S WORD...

Match the verses below to the correct description of God's word.







**LET'S PRAY** Dear God, thank You for the promise of the Holy Spirit. Help me to understand Your word. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

When we read the Bible, it is just like hearing God's voice speaking directly to us. We know that the Holy Spirit is the member of the Godhead that especially inspired the Bible writers. And today, Jesus has promised that the Holy Spirit will to help US understand the words of the Bible writers! That's why it's important to always pray before reading the Bible. Otherwise, Satan and his evil angels will twist the words of the Bible in our minds, so we won't understand it, believer it, or obey God.

2 Peter 1:20 tells us that we should not interpret the Bible to suit ourselves, but we must let the Holy Spirit lead us. If one part is difficult to understand, another part will explain it. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and obey His leading.

#### **GENESIS IS TRUE**

#### MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 36:15

"And the	of their		to
by His	s messengers,	up	and
the	em, He	had compar	ssion on His
	and on His dwe	elling	

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

#### LET'S READ:

Psalm 119:18; 2 Peter 1:19-21; John 7:17.

#### KEY TEXT: John 16:13

"However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come." Some people today wonder whether Bible history is really reliable. Circle whether these verses say that the stories are true or made-up fables.

Cain and Abel (Hebrews 11:4)	True	False
Enoch (Hebrews 11:5)	True	False
Noah (Hebrews 11:7; Matthew 24:37)	True	False
What does the fourth commandment say about creation? Ho	w long did it	take?

Exodus 20:11

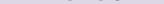
"For in \_\_\_\_\_ days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the \_\_\_\_\_ day."

Who wrote the Ten Commandments? Exodus 31:18

Do you believe the whole of the Bible is true?	Yes	No
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Do you want to study the Bible daily to be ready for Jesus' Yes No return?







LET'S PRAY Dear Father in Heaven, thank You for Your mercy. Please help me to know You better. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 36:15

"And the	of their		to
by His	,	up	and
	_ them,	He had comp	bassion on His
	and on His _		.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

#### LET'S READ:

Exodus 24:7; Joshua 21:43,45; 2 Kings 17:9; Nehemiah 9:26; Judges 10:16.

#### KEY TEXT: Psalm 107:8

"Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!"

### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

While the Israelites were in Egypt, they began to worship idols and forget God. When they cried out to Him for help, God worked many mighty miracles to save them. He fulfilled all His promises to them by bringing them into the land of Canaan.

But sadly, the Israelites didn't keep their promises to God. They first tried to hide the evil things they were doing. But God knew that the Israelites would destroy themselves if they continued to sin. In His great love for them He sent His prophets to warn them. Finally, they had been wicked for so long that, in the days of Jeremiah, they even accused the prophet of lying when he gave them God's messages! So, they had to go into captivity in Babylon for 70 years. Even after that they didn't really change—they didn't accept Jesus. But God is merciful, and gave them another 490 years to decide if they would obey Him or not.

### **GOD IS LOVE**

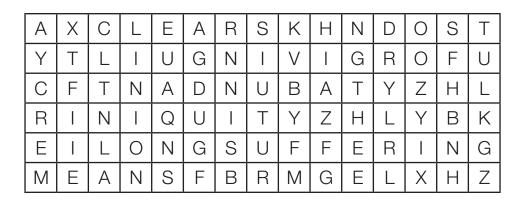
Look up the reference and complete the Bible verse about God's character. Then find the missing words in the Word Search.

"	is	and	in,

and transgression; \_\_\_\_\_ He by no

the

." Numbers 14:18.





### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

This week we have covered another huge sweep of history, this time almost 1500 years from Moses to Malachi, the last of the Old Testament authors. He was God's last prophet for several hundred years, until a very special prophet came along. We will study about him next week. But for now, let's add what we have learned to our saga of The Great Controversy.

LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You for the history recorded in Your word. Please help me to understand Your truth today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 2 CHRONICLES 36:15

"And the \_\_\_\_\_ of their \_\_\_\_\_ up \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ by His \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ up \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ them, \_\_\_\_\_ He had \_\_\_\_\_ on His \_\_\_\_\_ and on His \_\_\_\_\_ ."

#### PART 4: REBELLION VS FAITHFULNESS

visions	prophecy	true	Spirit	Israel	inspiration	preserved			
remnant	lies	reliat	ble	Satan	history	accurate			
	God had chosen Abraham's family, the nation of, to receive His blessings so they could share them with others. When								
realised God's plans for Israel, he worked really hard to deceive them, and nearly									
succeeded. Almost all the Israelites listened to Satan's But God									
always ha	d a faithful		wł	no remained	true to Him.				
From the remnant, God chose different people to do different jobs, and gave them									

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

### LET'S READ:

Nehemiah 9:18-33.

#### KEY TEXT: Psalm 107:2

"Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy."

# jobs was to make an \_\_\_\_\_\_ record of God's acts in the past (\_\_\_\_\_\_) and His plans for the future (\_\_\_\_\_\_). The Holy Spirit gave \_\_\_\_\_\_ to some people. Others collected historical information from \_\_\_\_\_\_sources. All of the Bible was written by the \_\_\_\_\_\_

of the Holy Spirit. That means the Bible is \_\_\_\_\_\_ from beginning to end.

God has taken care of His word and \_\_\_\_\_\_ it right to our time.

special abilities through the Holy \_\_\_\_\_. One of the most important

