



# How to Study the Bible

Introduction

# How to Study the Bible

- **What** is Bible study?
- **Why** study the Bible?

# What is Bible Study?

- Reading the Bible?
- Reading and discussing the Bible?
- Carefully examining the Bible so as to arrive at its meaning?
- Carefully reading the Bible with comprehension of its meaning and applying its significance to your life.

# Why Study the Bible?

- To be transformed by Scripture
- To be equipped for ministry

# How to Study the Bible

Foundations

# Bible Study Foundations

- The Authority of the Bible
- The Big Story of the Bible
- The Language of the Bible
- The Literature of the Bible

# The Authority of the Bible

- Is the Bible the only absolute final authority in matters of Christian life and doctrine?
- **Why** is the Bible the only absolute final authority in matters of Christian life and doctrine?
- The Self-Attestation of Scripture

All Scripture is breathed out  
by God and profitable for  
teaching, for reproof, for  
correction, and for training in  
righteousness. -2 Tim 3:16



For no prophecy was ever  
produced by the will of man,  
but men spoke from God as  
they were carried along by  
the Holy Spirit. -2 Pet 1:21

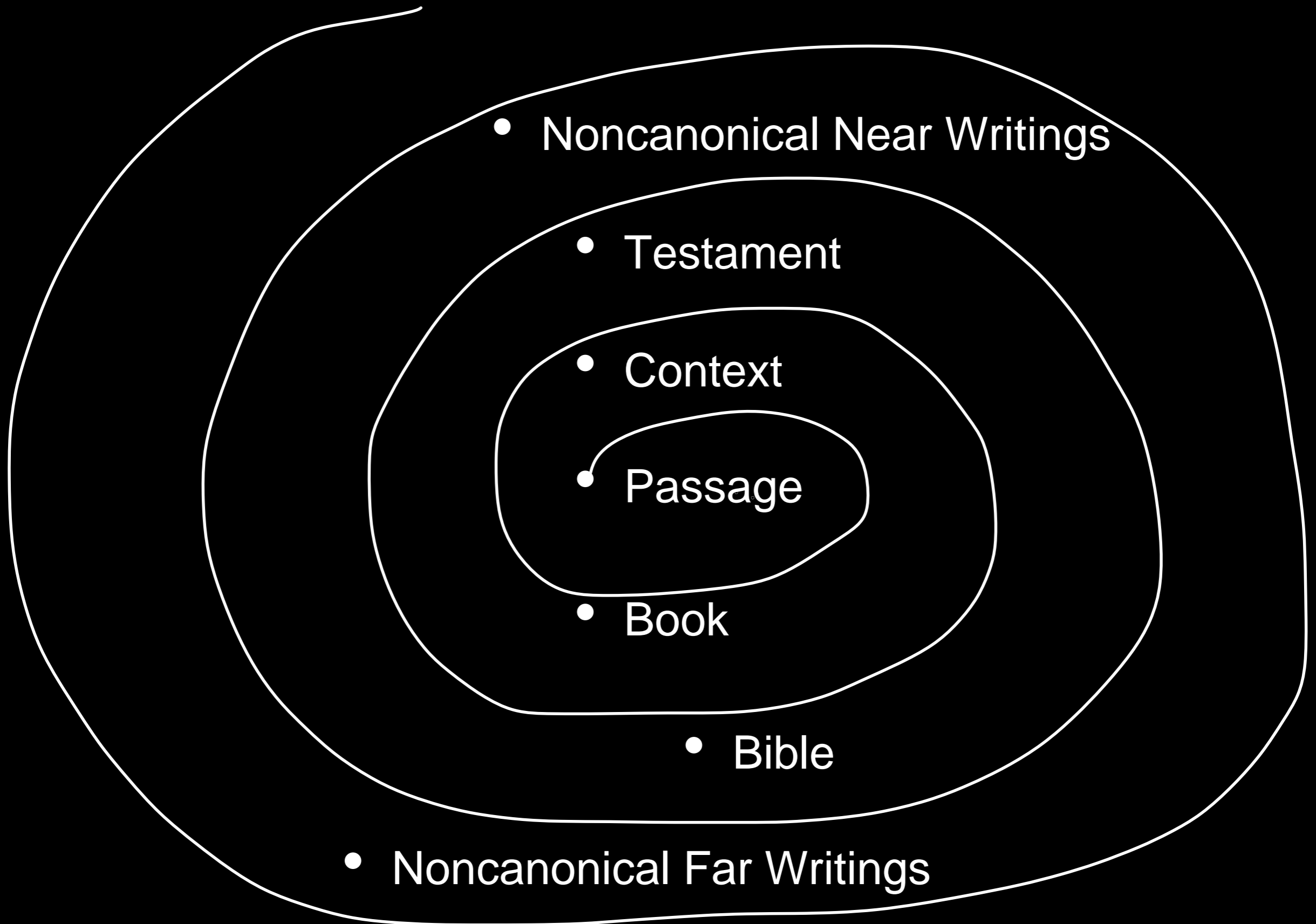
... our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.

~2 Pet 3:15-16

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# The Big Story of the Bible



# The Big Story of the Bible



- Creation | Fall | Promise | Birth | Life | Death | Resurrection | Ascension | Return

# Canon

- Old Testament Canon
- New Testament Canon

# Old Testament Canon

- Hebrew OT Canon versus Greek OT Canon
- Deuterocanonical Books versus Apocryphal Books

# Greek versus Hebrew OT Canon Order

- Greek (LXX) Order

- Pentateuch
- Joshua
- Judges
- Ruth
- Samuel
- Kings
- Chronicles
- Ezra
- Nehemiah
- Esther
- Job
- Psalms
- Proverbs
- Ecclesiastes
- Song of Songs
- Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Lamentations
- Ezekiel
- Daniel
- The Twelve

- Hebrew Order

- Pentateuch
- Joshua
- Judges
- Samuel
- Kings
- Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Ezekiel
- The Twelve
- Psalms
- Job
- Proverbs
- Ruth
- Song of Songs
- Ecclesiastes
- Lamentations
- Esther
- Daniel
- Ezra-Nehemiah
- Chronicles



# Deuterocanonical Books versus Apocryphal Books

- 1 Maccabees
- 2 Maccabees
- Tobit
- Wisdom
- Esdras
- Bel and the Dragon
- Judith
- The Epistle of Jeremiah
- Baruch
- The Prayer of Manassas
- The History of Susanna

# New Testament Canon

- General Acceptance
  - 4 Gospels
  - Acts
  - 13 Pauline Letters
  - Hebrews
  - 1 Peter
  - 1 John
  - Revelation
- Questions
  - Jude
  - James
  - 2 Peter
  - 2,3 John
- Disputed
  - Acts of Paul
  - Shepherd of Hermas
  - The Apocalypse of Peter
  - The Epistle of Barnabas
  - The Didache

# The Language of the Bible

- Translations
- Grammar
- Syntax
- Words

# The Literature of the Bible

- **Old Testament Narratives**
- **Prophecy**
- **Psalms**
- **Wisdom Literature**
- **Apocalyptic**
- **Gospels**
- **Epistles**



# Future Sunday School Lessons

- The Big Story of the Bible
- The Language of the Bible
- Studying OT Narratives
- Studying Prophecy
- Studying Psalms
- Studying Wisdom Literature
- Studying Apocalyptic Literature
- Studying the Gospels
- Studying the Epistles, Part 1
- Studying the Epistles, Part 2
- Intertextuality