

# Bible's Arrangement for Understanding

*David Rountree*

1. **Why we trust and love the Bible: 1 Cor. 2:11-16.**

2. **What are the books of the Bible and how were they compiled?**

- There are 66 Bible books: 39 O.T. and 27 N.T. books.
- The O.T. books were agreed upon by time of Christ and the OT at the **Council of Carthage in A.D.397.**

3. **Why don't we include the Apocryphal books in the Bible?** At the Council of Trent in AD 1546, the Roman Catholic Church declared the apocryphal books canonical. None of these books are not found in the original Hebrew Old Testament or quoted by Christ. These books are contrary to: **Rev. 22:18-19; Deut. 4:2; 12:32; Prov. 30:6.**

4. **How have Bible-books been arranged?**

A. By **Language and Covenant** (OT & NT; all the Hebrew/Aramaic then all the Greek)

B. By **Subject Matter**—It is a reasonable structure we can grasp!

1. The Old Testament Arrangement (39 books): Historical (17); Poetical (5); Prophetical (17)
2. The New Testament Arrangement (27 books): Historical (5); Epistolary (21); Prophetical (1)
3. Recognize the oversimplification of the above arrangement—primary structure only.

5. **Time Line of the Old Testament: Historical books have the chronological story.**

**Poetical Books—the songs**

Job						Psalms	Proverbs Ecclesiastes Songs			
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**Historical Books –the story**

Genesis	Exodus Leviticus	Numbers Deuteronomy	Joshua	Judges Ruth	1 Samuel	1 Chronicles 2 Samuel	2 Chronicles 1 Kings	2 Kings		Ezra Nehemiah Esther
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**Prophetical Books—the sermon**

							<b>To Israel:</b> Hosea Amos <b>To Judah:</b> Habakkuk Isaiah Jeremiah Micah Zephaniah Lamentations <b>To Assyria:</b> Jonah Nahum <b>To Edom:</b> Obadiah	Ezekiel Daniel	Haggai Zechariah Malachi Joel
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6. **How are the Bible-books to be interpreted?** Scripture is its own best interpreter (2 Pet.1:20-21; 3:15-18).

**Applications:**

1. What is said of someone does not love and trust the Bible regularly?
2. What practical matters are affected by our view of scripture?
3. What is the most important hermeneutical (interpretation) rule we should employ when reading and using the Bible? Why?