

The Bible said it first!

This leaflet contains 75 commonly used phrases and titles which had their origins in the Bible
The Bible has influenced our daily conversation and is also the source of some book, film and brand titles

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| 'let there be light' | Gen.1:3 |
| 'garden of Eden' | Gen.2:15; Ezek.36:35; Joel 2:3 |
| 'dust and ashes' | Gen.18:27; Job 30:19, 42:6 |
| 'God forbid' | Gen.44:7, 17; Rom.3:4 |
| 'peace offering' | Lev.3:1, 3, 6, 9 |
| 'thanksgiving' | Lev.7:12; Psa.100:4 |
| 'scapegoat' | Lev.16:8, 10, 26 |
| 'stumbling block' | Lev.19:14; 1 Cor.1:23 |
| 'the ten commandments' (1956 film title) | Deut.10:4 |
| 'the apple of his eye' | Deut.32:10; Zech.2:8 |
| 'the pillars of the earth' (2010 TV series) | 1 Sam.2:8 |
| 'God save the king' | 1 Sam.10:24 |
| 'fell on his sword' | 1 Sam.31:5 |
| 'how are the mighty fallen' | 2 Sam.1:19 |
| 'the skin of my teeth' | Job 19:20 |
| 'heart's desire' | Psa.10:3, 21:2; Rom.10:1 |
| 'my rock' | Psa.18:2, 46, 28:1, 42:9 |
| 'the land of the living' | Psa.27:13, 142:5; Isa.53:8 |
| 'broken heart' | Psa.34:18 |
| 'poor and needy' | Psa.70:5 |
| 'from strength to strength' | Psa.84:7 |
| 'wit's end' | Psa.107:27 |
| 'woe is me' | Psa.120:5; Isa.6:5; Jer.4:31 |
| 'for ever and ever' | Psa.145:1-2, 21; Dan.2:20 |
| 'an evil eye' | Prov.23:6, 28:22; Mark 7:22 |

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| 'good news' | Prov.25:25 |
| 'the four corners of the earth' | Isa.11:12; Rev.7:1 |
| 'a drop in a bucket' | Isa.40:15 |
| 'world without end' (2007 novel) | Isa.45:17; Eph.3:21 |
| 'sour grapes' | Ezek.18:2 |
| 'the ends of the earth' | Zech.9:10; Acts 13:47 |
| 'kingdom of heaven' (2005 film title) | Matt.3:2, 4:17 |
| 'the salt of the earth' | Matt.5:13 |
| 'love thy neighbour' | Matt.5:43, 22:39 |
| 'signs of the times' | Matt.16:3 |
| 'physician heal thyself' | Luke 4:23 |
| 'daily bread' | Luke 11:3 |
| 'eat, drink and be merry' | Luke 12:19 |
| 'safe and sound' (popular brand name) | Luke 15:27 |
| 'born again' | John 3:3 |
| 'bear fruit' | John 15:4 |
| 'through a glass darkly' (1961 Swedish film) | 1 Cor.13:12 |
| 'a thorn in the flesh' | 2 Cor.12:7 |
| 'thank God' | Rom.7:21; 1 Cor.1:14 |
| 'labour of love' | 1 Thess.1:3; Heb.6:10 |
| 'busybodies' | 2 Thess.3:11; 1 Tim.5:13 |
| 'the love of money' | 1 Tim.6:10 |
| 'King of Kings' (1923 and 1961 film titles) | 1 Tim.6:15 |
| 'Armageddon' | Rev.16:16 |
| 'tree of life' (popular brand name) | Rev.22:2 |

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| 'forbidden fruit' | Gen.3:3 |
| 'a thorn in the side' | Judges 2:3 |
| 'David and Goliath' (1960 film title) | 1 Sam.ch17 |
| 'chariots of fire' (1981 film title) | 2 Kings 2:11 |
| 'heavy handed' | Job 33:7; Psa.32:4 |
| 'don't fret' | Psa.37:1-2 |
| 'you can't take it with you' | Psa.49:16-17 |
| 'bite the dust' | Psa.72:9 |
| 'pride goes before a fall' | Prov.16:18 |
| 'you reap what you sow' | Prov.22:8; Gal.6:7-8 |
| 'a fly in the ointment' | Eccles.10:1 |
| 'rise and shine' | Isa.60:1 |
| 'their just deserts' | Ezek.7:27 |
| 'the writing's on the wall' | Dan.5:5 |
| 'turn the other cheek' | Matt.5:39; Luke 6:29 |
| 'go the extra mile' | Matt.5:41 |
| 'strait and narrow' | Matt.7:13-14 |
| 'a Judas' | Matt.26;14-16 |
| 'blood money' | Matt.27:6 |
| 'good Samaritan' | Luke 10:25-37 |
| 'divided we fall' | Luke 11:17 |
| 'a cross you have to bear' | Luke 14:27 |
| 'don't judge by appearances' | John 7:24 |
| 'risk your neck' | Rom.16:4 |
| 'fall from grace' | Gal.5:4 |

- The left and centre columns contain phrases that are word for word as they appear in the Authorised Version of the Bible.
- The right hand column of phrases are not word for word, but can easily be identified as coming from the Scripture listed.
- Be sure to look up these phrases in your Bible so that you can read the messages conveyed in their original context.
- Most of these phrases have the same or similar wording in modern translations like the NKJV or the NIV.

Some interesting Bible facts!

The word 'Bible' comes from the Greek word 'biblia', a word of Latin origin and simply meaning, 'books'. This word had its beginnings with the word 'biblos', which referred to any kind of written document, but originally to one written on the inner bark of the papyrus plant that was imported from Egypt.

Did you know that in 1947 a collection of the oldest manuscripts of the Bible were discovered in a cave in Wadi Qumran on the north of the Dead Sea. Among this collection was a 23-foot leather scroll containing the complete book of Isaiah. This copy of Isaiah is unique proof of the reliability of the Holy Scriptures, for the text agrees exactly with what we have in our present day Bible. From a total of 11 caves many more scrolls of different books were discovered. In the early 1960s a special museum in Jerusalem called, the Shrine of the Book, was built to house many of the scrolls.

By 500AD the Bible had been translated into many languages. Not long after this though, the church ruled that all Bibles had to be in Latin, which effectively took the Bible away from the ordinary folk of many countries. An early break from this ruling were the Gospels written in Anglo-Saxon in the 10th century, and known as the 'Wessex Gospels'.

The very first book printed was the Bible at Mentz in Germany, by Johannes Guttenberg who was the inventor of the 'movable type' printing press. By 1455 he had printed the Bible in Latin, the first edition being 180 copies.

The first English translation of the Bible was made and **hand written** in the 1380's by John Wycliffe. It is possible to go back to manuscripts earlier than Wycliffe, but the language is very "Anglo-Saxon", and not very close to today's English.

The Geneva Bible was the first Bible to add verses to chapters for easier reference. This Bible was first published in 1560 and remained the most popular Bible for decades after the 1611 King James version was released. The Geneva Bible was the first Bible taken to America by the Puritans and Pilgrims.

Enquiries overleaf ☐

Any questions?

Contact either of the addresses listed below for a free info guide on the Bible topic of your choice:



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How often do we unknowingly quote the Bible?



A collection of the oldest Bible manuscripts were found in these caves at Wadi Qumran in 1947. See inside for more details.