

What is the Bible and why is it important for Christians?

Learning Objective:

To find out how different genres of writing in the Bible show different aspects of God.

What different kinds of books would you find in a library?



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What ideas did you come up with?

Different kinds of books in the library:



When would you read these different types of books?

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The Bible is like a library because it is made up of lots of different books and the books cover a wide range of genres and subjects. There are stories, poems, songs, laws, history, prophecies, letters and many other types of writing.



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The Old Testament

- Genesis
- Exodus
- Leviticus
- Numbers
- Deuteronomy
- Joshua
- Judges
- Ruth
- 1 Samuel
- 2 Samuel
- 1 Kings
- 2 Kings
- 1 Chronicles
- 2 Chronicles
- Ezra
- Nehemiah
- Esther
- Job
- Psalm
- Proverbs
- Ecclesiastes
- Song of Solomon
- Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Lamentations
- Ezekiel
- Daniel
- Hosea
- Joel
- Amos
- Obadiah
- Jonah
- Micah
- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

These are the books of the Bible. They are split into the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The OT was originally written in Hebrew and the NT in Greek.

The New Testament

- Matthew
- Mark
- Luke
- John
- Acts
- Romans
- 1 Corinthians
- 2 Corinthians
- Galatians
- Ephesians
- Philippians
- Colossians
- 1 Thessalonians
- 2 Thessalonians
- 1 Timothy
- 2 Timothy
- Titus
- Philemon
- Hebrews
- James
- 1 Peter
- 2 Peter
- 1 John
- 2 John
- 3 John
- Jude
- Revelation

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Read the Bible passages on the next slides. How do each of these different readings show something different about God?

What picture of God do you get in your mind when you read each one?

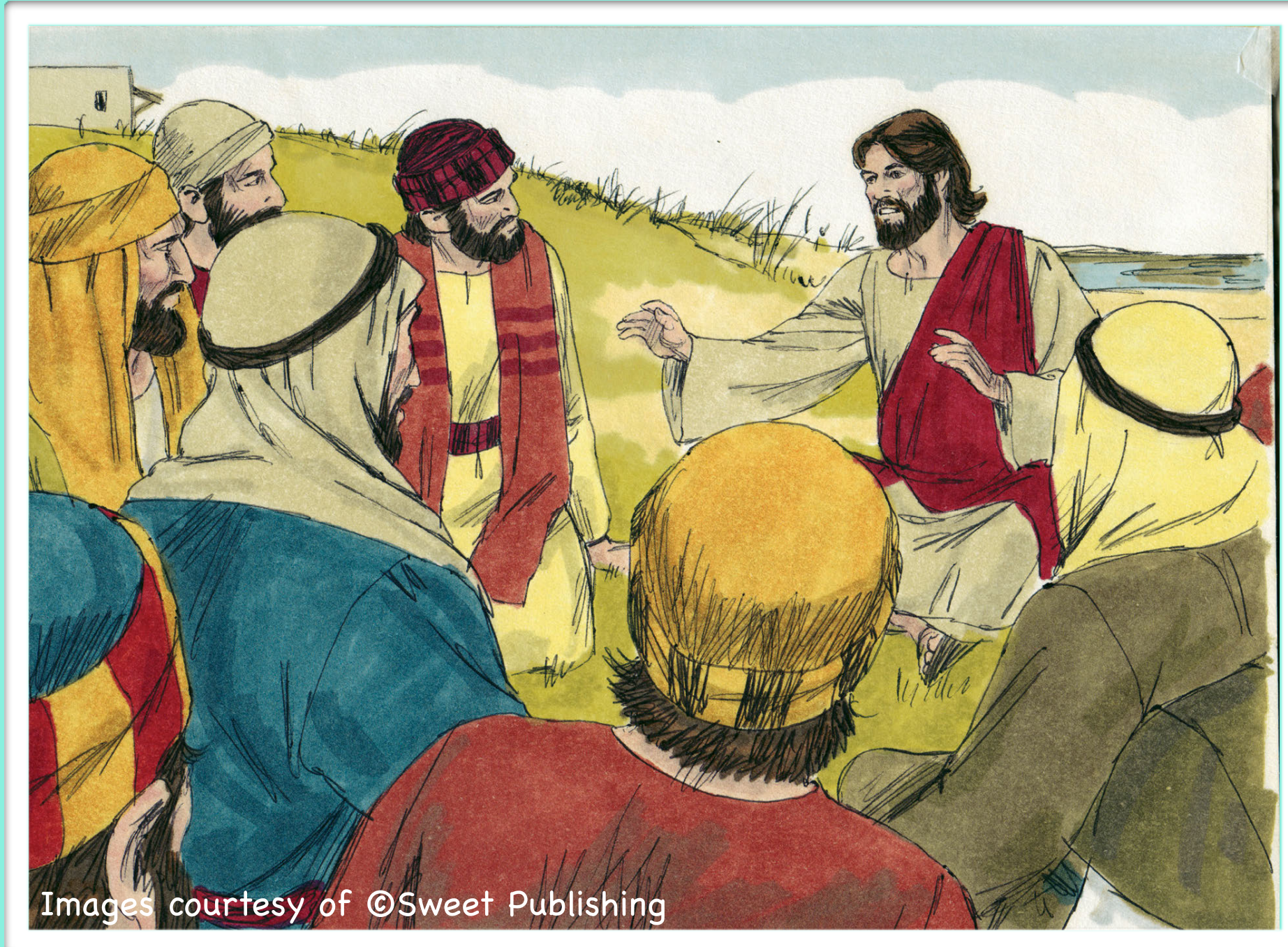
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A parable (Luke 12: 16-21)

Then Jesus told them this parable:

“There was once a rich man who had land which bore good crops. He began to think to himself, ‘I don’t have a place to keep all my crops. What can I do? This is what I will do,’ he told himself; ‘I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, where I will store the grain and all my other goods. Then I will say to myself, Lucky man! You have all the good things you need for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink, and enjoy yourself!



But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night you will have to give up your life; then who will get all these things you have kept for yourself?’ ”

And Jesus concluded,

“This is how it is with those who pile up riches for themselves but are not rich in God’s sight.’ ”

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A prayer (1 Kings 8: 22-30)

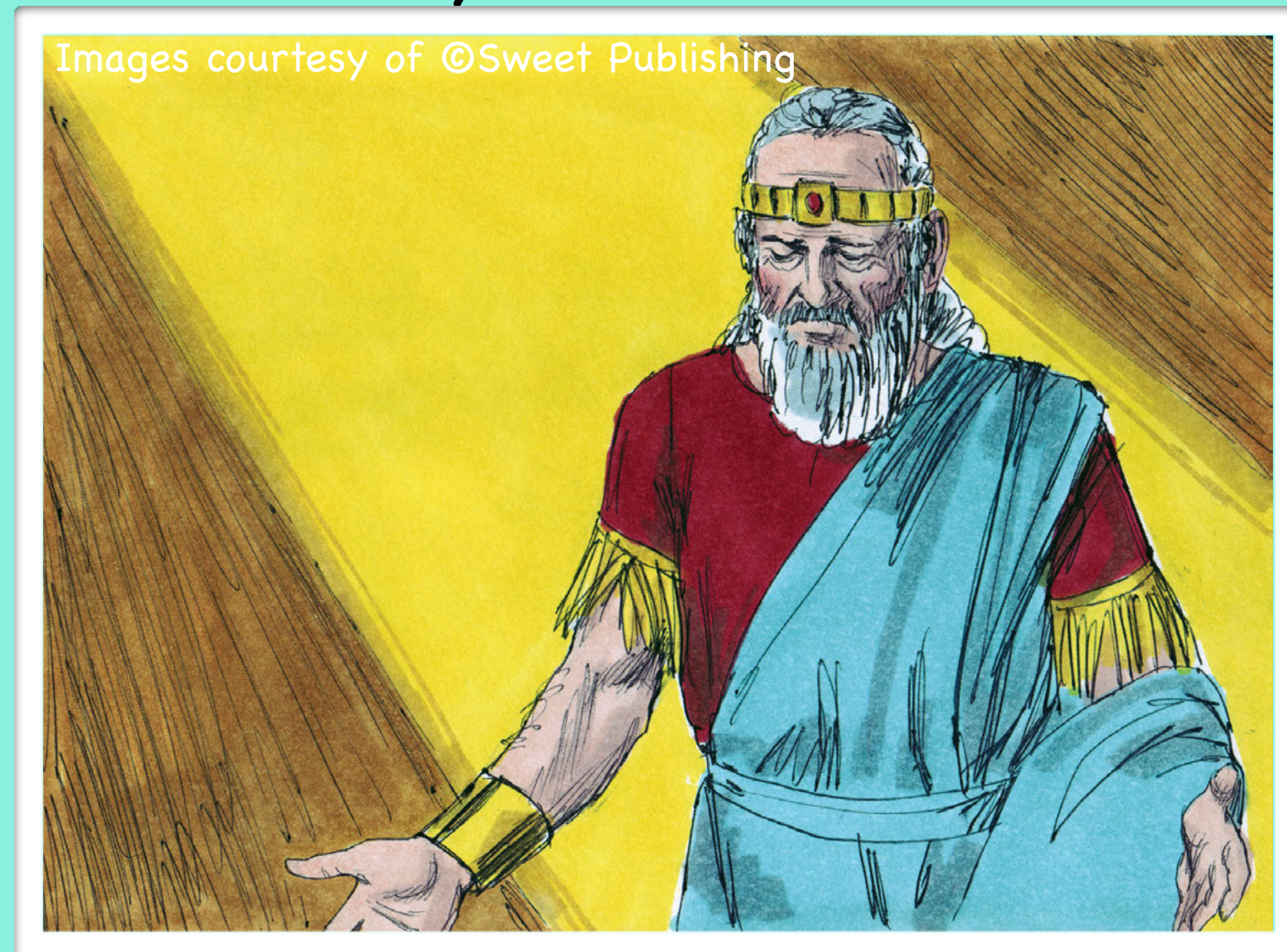
Solomon stood facing the altar with everyone standing behind him. Then he lifted his arms toward heaven and prayed:

LORD God of Israel, no other god in heaven or on earth is like you!

You never forget the agreement you made with your people, and you are loyal to anyone who faithfully obeys your teachings. My father David was your servant, and today you have kept every promise you made to him.

LORD God of Israel, you promised my father that someone from his family would always be king of Israel, if they do their best to obey you, just as he did. Please keep this promise you made to your servant David.

There's not enough room in all of heaven for you, LORD God. How could you possibly live on earth in this temple I have built? But I ask you to answer my prayer. This is the temple where you have chosen to be worshipped. Please watch over it day and night and listen when I turn toward it and pray. I am your servant, and the people of Israel belong to you. So whenever any of us look toward this temple and pray, answer from your home in heaven and forgive our sins.



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A song (Psalm 148)

Shout praises to the LORD!
Shout the LORD's praises
in the highest heavens.
All of you angels,
and all who serve him above,
come and offer praise.
Sun and moon,
and all of you bright stars,
come and offer praise.
Highest heavens,
and the water
above the highest heavens,
come and offer praise.
Let all things praise
the name of the LORD,
because they were created
at his command.



He made them to last forever,
and nothing can change
what he has done.
All creatures on earth,
you obey his commands,
so come praise the LORD!
Sea monsters and the deep sea,
fire and hail,
snow and frost,
and every stormy wind,
come praise the LORD!
All mountains and hills,
fruit trees and cedars,
every wild and tame animal,
all reptiles and birds,
come praise the LORD!

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