Some Introductory Comments

This lesson series is loosely based upon the fourth edition of <u>How to Read the Bible for All its Worth</u> by Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart. It is not intended to replace the reading of this excellent book, but to provide a guide for group or private study and some examples of how to apply the principles taught.

Before you begin a deeper study of how to dig out the precious truths of Scripture, it is useful to have an understanding of the basic terms used to describe the Bible, its structure, and organization. To complete this lesson, read the first lesson in the myBible series, "The Structure and Organization of the Bible" posted at:
www.anchoredresources.org

The myBible lesson will provide you a foundation for going forward in this study. If you want to learn more about the origin, inspiration, transmission, and translation of Scriptures, feel free to continue with the myBible series. However, only the first lesson is necessary to complete this worksheet.

What is the Bible?

Fill in the blanks:

- There are over _____ Bibles in print
- Scripture exists in at least _____ languages.
- The Bible consists of _____ books.

Where did the word, "Bible" come from?

Circle the words that should be capitalized.

- I like to use the dictionary as my bible for word origins.
- I read the bible last night
- The preacher brought a message about the origin of the bible.
- The Fish and Game regulations are the bible for hunters and fishermen in Alaska.

What are the Testaments?

Define the following terms:

<u>Testament</u> –

<u>Covenant</u> –

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What is meant by the "Old Testament"? Provide the Scriptural support for your answer and explain it.

What is meant by the "New Testament"? Provide the Scriptural support for your answer and explain it.

The following passage provides a comparative perspective of both the Old and New "Testaments":

> **Jeremiah 31:31–34** - ""Behold, days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a <u>new covenant</u> with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which <u>they broke</u>, although I was a husband to them," declares the Lord. "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the Lord, "I will <u>put My law within them</u> and <u>on their heart I will write it</u>; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. "They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for <u>they will all know Me</u>, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the Lord, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."" (NASB95)

How do you enter into the "New Testament" today?

The Old Testament

Fill in the blanks:

- The Old Testament has _____ books

- It was written from around _____ BC to around _____ BC

- Historically, it covers the time from creation (around _____ BC) to _____ BC.

What do Jews call the Old Testament?

Describe the four Christian categories of Old Testament scripture. How many books are in each category?

1.

2.

3.

4.

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The Jews have a different order of Old Testament scriptures. Is a specific order divinely inspired? Why or why not?

What is the oldest book of the Old Testament?

List seven writers that God inspired to write the Old Testament.

Where does the Hebrew language come from? Can we trace it back to Babel?

What is the other language used in writing the Old Testament?

The New Testament

Fill in the blanks:

- The New Testament has _____ books.
- It was written from late _____ AD to early _____ AD.
- Historically, it covers from _____ AD through _____ AD.
- Prophetically, it provides a preview God's dealing with man through the _____.

Which five (possibly six) books of the New Testament were not written by an apostle?

What language was used in writing the New Testament?