

## Jewish and Christian Bibles: A Comparative Chart

<b>HEBREW BIBLE</b> (a.k.a. TaNaK/Tanakh or Mikra)	<b>Orthodox Christian OT</b> (based on longer LXX; various editions)	<b>Catholic Christian OT</b> (Alexandrian LXX, with 7 deutero-can. bks)	<b>Protestant Christian OT</b> (Cath. order, but 7 Apocrypha removed)
<b><u>Torah / Books of Moses</u></b> 1) <i>Bereshit</i> / Genesis 2) <i>Shemot</i> / Exodus 3) <i>VaYikra</i> / Leviticus 4) <i>BaMidbar</i> / Numbers 5) <i>Devarim</i> / Deuteronomy	<b><u>Pentateuch</u></b> 1) Genesis 2) Exodus 3) Leviticus 4) Numbers 5) Deuteronomy	<b><u>Pentateuch (Law)</u></b> 1) Genesis 2) Exodus 3) Leviticus 4) Numbers 5) Deuteronomy	<b><u>Law (Pentateuch)</u></b> 1) Genesis 2) Exodus 3) Leviticus 4) Numbers 5) Deuteronomy
<b><u>Nevi'im / Former Prophets</u></b> 6) Joshua 7) Judges 8) Samuel (1&2) 9) Kings (1&2)	<b><u>Historical Books</u></b> 6) Joshua 7) Judges 8) <b>Ruth</b> 9) 1 Kingdoms (= 1 Sam) 10) 2 Kingdoms (= 2 Sam) 11) 3 Kingdoms (= 1 Kings) 12) 4 Kingdoms (= 2 Kings) 13) 1 Chronicles 14) 2 Chronicles 15) 1 <i>Esdras</i> 16) 2 <i>Esdras</i> (= Ezra + Nehemiah) 17) <b>Esther</b> (longer version) 18) JUDITH 19) TOBIT  20) 1 MACCABEES 21) 2 MACCABEES 22) 3 <i>Maccabees</i> 23) 4 <i>Maccabees</i>	<b><u>Historical Books</u></b> 6) Joshua 7) Judges 8) <b>Ruth</b> 9) 1 Samuel 10) 2 Samuel 11) 1 Kings 12) 2 Kings 13) 1 Chronicles 14) 2 Chronicles  15) <b>Ezra</b> 16) <b>Nehemiah</b> 17) TOBIT 18) JUDITH 19) <b>Esther</b> (longer version) 20) 1 MACCABEES 21) 2 MACCABEES	<b><u>Historical Books</u></b> 6) Joshua 7) Judges 8) <b>Ruth</b> 9) 1 Samuel 10) 2 Samuel 11) 1 Kings 12) 2 Kings 13) 1 Chronicles 14) 2 Chronicles  15) <b>Ezra</b> 16) <b>Nehemiah</b>  17) <b>Esther</b> (shorter version)
<b><u>Nevi'im / Latter Prophets</u></b> 10) Isaiah 11) Jeremiah 12) Ezekiel 13) The Book of the Twelve: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi	<b><u>Poetic Books</u></b> 24) Psalms ( <i>151</i> ) 25) <i>Odes</i> (w/ <i>Prayer of Manasseh</i> ) 26) Proverbs 27) Ecclesiastes 28) Song of Solomon 29) Job 30) WISDOM of Solomon 31) SIRACH, a.k.a. Ecclesiasticus 32) <i>Psalms of Solomon</i>	<b><u>Wisdom Books</u></b> 22) Job 23) Psalms (150) 24) Proverbs 25) Ecclesiastes 26) Song of Solomon 27) WISDOM of Solomon 28) SIRACH, a.k.a. Ecclesiasticus	<b><u>Wisdom Books</u></b> 18) Job 19) Psalms (150) 20) Proverbs 21) Ecclesiastes 22) Song of Solomon
<b><u>Khetuvim / Writings</u></b> 14) Psalms (150) 15) Proverbs 16) Job 17) Song of Solomon 18) <b>Ruth</b> 19) Lamentations 20) Ecclesiastes 21) <b>Esther</b> (shorter version) 22) Daniel (12 chapters) 23) <b>Ezra-Nehemiah</b> 24) <b>Chronicles (1&amp;2)</b>	<b><u>Prophets</u></b> 33) Hosea 34) Amos 35) Micah 36) Joel 37) Obadiah 38) Jonah 39) Nahum 40) Habakkuk 41) Zephaniah 42) Haggai 43) Zechariah 44) Malachi  45) Isaiah 46) Jeremiah 47) BARUCH 48) Lamentations 49) LETTER of JEREMIAH 50) Ezekiel 51) Daniel (2 extra chapters separate): 52) SUSANNA 53) BEL and the DRAGON	<b><u>Prophets</u></b> 29) Isaiah 30) Jeremiah 31) Lamentations 32) BARUCH (w/ LETTER of JER.) 33) Ezekiel 34) Daniel (14 chapters)  35) Hosea 36) Joel 37) Amos 38) Obadiah 39) Jonah 40) Micah 41) Nahum 42) Habakkuk 43) Zephaniah 44) Haggai 45) Zechariah 46) Malachi	<b><u>Prophets</u></b> 23) Isaiah 24) Jeremiah 25) Lamentations  26) Ezekiel 27) Daniel (12 chapters)  28) Hosea 29) Joel 30) Amos 31) Obadiah 32) Jonah 33) Micah 34) Nahum 35) Habakkuk 36) Zephaniah 37) Haggai 38) Zechariah 39) Malachi

# Jewish and Christian Bibles: A Comparative Chart

## KEY to the Chart (on the other side):

- **HB** = Hebrew Bible (Jewish); **LXX** = Septuagint (2<sup>nd</sup> cent. BC Greek translation of the HB); **OT** = Old Testament (Christian).
- Books in **CAPITALS** are found in Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic Bibles, but not in most Jewish or Protestant Bibles.
- Books in *Italics* are also in the LXX and considered biblical by Orthodox Christians, but **NOT** by Jews or most Christians.

Although the New Testament contains the same twenty-seven books for almost all Christians, there are some major and important differences between the Hebrew Bible (HB) used by Jews and different versions of the Old Testament (OT) used by various Christian churches:

- **The foundational texts are different:**
  - Jewish Bibles are based on the HB.
  - The OT section in most Christian Bibles is arranged according to the order of books in the “Septuagint” (LXX).
  - However, the translations of individual OT books in Christian Bibles are now usually based on the texts of the HB.
- **The total number of biblical books is different:**
  - Jews count 24, Protestants 39, Catholics 46, Orthodox Christians up to 53.
  - Certain books of the HB are subdivided in the LXX; e.g., “The Twelve” minor prophets are considered one book in the HB, while the LXX and Christian Bibles count these as twelve separate books.
  - The LXX contains several more books not found in the HB; Orthodox and Catholic Christians regard these additional books as part of the OT canon (calling them “Deuterocanonical Books”), while Jews and most Protestants do not (considering them the “Apocrypha”).
- **The arrangement of the categories of books is different:**
  - E.g. “Latter Prophets” come before “Writings” in the HB, but all “Prophets” come after “Wisdom” literature in the Christian OT.
  - The order of the “Prophets” is also different between the LXX and the Catholic and Protestant OT’s.
- **The titles of some of the books are different:**
  - E.g. “Samuel” of the HB is split up into “1 Kingdoms” and “2 Kingdoms” in the LXX, which are renamed “1 Samuel” and “2 Samuel” in most Christian Bibles.
- **The categorization of some books is different:**
  - E.g. several books categorized as “Writings” in HB are placed among “Historical Books” or “Prophets” in LXX and Christian OT; the displacements of **Ruth** and **Esther**, **Ezra-Nehemiah** and **Chronicles (1&2)**, and **Lamentations** and **Daniel** are highlighted in the chart.

## Ancient Jewish Scriptures:

- **Hebrew Bible (HB)** - A collection of 24 “books” (or large “scrolls”), traditionally called the **Mikra** in Hebrew (or *Miqra*, lit. “writings”), now often referred to as the “**TaNak**” or “Tanakh” (from the Hebrew names of its three main sections: *Torah* + *Nevi'im* + *Khetuvim*). It is closely related, but not identical, to what Christians call the “Old Testament.” Most of the books in the HB were composed between the 10th and 6th centuries BCE, although they contain some older source materials. Most were originally written in Hebrew, but a few books (or parts of them) were composed in Aramaic, a closely related ancient language. Throughout history, Jews have used these books as “scriptures,” although many ancient Jews (esp. Greek-speaking Jews living outside of Palestine) had even larger collections of scriptures (some from more recent times, some composed in Greek; see the LXX below). The official “canon” of the HB was not determined until around 90 AD, when the leading Jewish rabbis of the time limited their biblical collection to 24 Hebrew (or partly Aramaic) writings that came from the 6th century BCE or earlier. The HB is divided into the following **three categories** (with the second category frequently sub-divided in two):
  - **Torah** – often translated “Law,” but more accurately meaning “**Teaching**” or “**Instruction**” in Hebrew. Strictly speaking, “Torah” refers to the first five books of the HB (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy), considered the “core” of the Bible by all Jews; they are sometimes also called the “*Five Books of Moses*” (due to the tradition that Moses himself wrote them). More broadly, the word “Torah” is sometimes used to refer to the entire “Tanak.” Many Jews also distinguish between the “Written Torah” (the Bible) and the “Oral Torah” (other instructions given to Moses on Mount Sinai, but not written down until the “rabbinic literature” of 3rd to 7th cent.).
  - **Nevi'im** – meaning “**Prophets**”; subdivided in Jewish Bibles into the “**Former Prophets**” (Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings - which also contain stories of early “prophets” like Elijah, Elisha, Samuel, Nathan, etc.), and the “**Latter Prophets**” (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and “The Twelve” Minor Prophets; note that Jews do not include the Book of Daniel among the “Prophets,” but in the following category).
  - **Ketuvim** (or *Khetuvim*) – meaning “**Writings**”; this “miscellaneous” group includes the books of Psalms, Job, Proverbs, Song of Solomon, and Ecclesiastes (called “*Wisdom Literature*” by Christians), the books of Ruth, Esther, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Chronicles (considered “*Historical Books*” in Christian Bibles), and the books of Daniel and Lamentations (placed among the “*Prophets*” in Christian Bibles).
- **Septuagint (LXX)** - A collection of up to 53 books of ancient Jewish Scriptures written in Greek, including translations of all 24 books of the HB (Daniel, Esther, and Jeremiah are longer in the Greek versions than in the original Hebrew), as well as seven or more additional books (the “Deuterocanonical Books”) that are not found in the HB.
- **Deuterocanonical Books / OT Apocrypha** - seven (or more) books that are in the LXX but not in the HB (Tobit, Judith, 1 & 2 Maccabees, Wisdom, Ecclesiasticus, Baruch”), as well as some additions to the books of *Esther* and *Daniel* (longer in LXX than in HB). These texts are considered biblical by Orthodox and Catholic Christians, but *not* by Jews and most Protestant Christians today.
- **Summary:** *LXX = Ancient Greek translation of HB books + the “Apocrypha” or “Deuterocanonical Books.”*