**Old Testament Books of the Bible in 10 Words or Less**

**Law (5)**

Genesis – God creates the world and chooses a special people.

Exodus – God delivers His people, the Israelites, from slavery in Egypt.

Leviticus – A holy God explains how to worship Him.

Numbers – Faithless Israelites wander 40 years in the wilderness of Sinai.

Deuteronomy – Moses reminds the Israelites of their history and God’s laws.

**History (12)**

Joshua – The Israelites capture and settle the promised land of Canaan.

Judges – Israel goes through cycles of sin, suffering, and salvation.

Ruth – Loyal daughter-in-law pictures God’s faithfulness, love, and care.

1 Samuel – Israel’s twelve tribes unite under a king.

2 Samuel – David becomes Israel’s greatest king—but with major flaws.

1 Kings – Israel divides into rival northern and southern nations.

2 Kings – Both Jewish nations are destroyed for their disobedience to God.

1 Chronicles – King David’s reign is detailed and analyzed.

2 Chronicles – The history of Israel from Solomon to division to destruction.

Ezra – Spiritual renewal begins after the Jews return from exile.

Nehemiah – Returning Jewish exiles rebuild the broken walls of Jerusalem.

Esther – Beautiful Jewish girl becomes queen, saves fellow Jews from slaughter.

**Poetry (5)**

Job – God allows human suffering for His own purposes.

Psalms – Ancient Jewish songbook showcases prayers, praise—and complaints—to God.

Proverbs – Pithy, memorable sayings encourage people to pursue wisdom.

Ecclesiastes – Apart from God, life is empty and unsatisfying.

Song of Solomon – Married love is a beautiful thing worth celebrating.

**Major Prophets (5)**

Isaiah – A coming Messiah will save people from their sins.

Jeremiah – After years of sinful behavior, Judah will be punished.

Lamentations – A despairing poem about the destruction of Jerusalem.

Ezekiel – Though Israel is in exile, the nation will be restored.

Daniel – Faithful to God in a challenging setting, Daniel is blessed.

**Minor Prophets (12)**

Hosea – Prophet’s marriage to prostitute reflects God’s relationship with Israel.

Joel – Locust plague pictures God’s judgment on His sinful people.

Amos – Real religion isn’t just ritual but treating people with justice.

Obadiah – Edom will suffer for participating in Jerusalem’s destruction.

Jonah – Reluctant prophet, running from God, is swallowed by giant fish.

Micah – Israel and Judah will suffer for their idolatry and injustice.

Nahum – Powerful, wicked Nineveh will fall before God’s judgment.

Habakkuk – Trust God even when He seems unresponsive or unfair.

Zephaniah – A coming “day of the Lord” promises heavy judgment.

Haggai – Jews returning from exile need to rebuild God’s temple.

Zechariah – Jewish exiles should rebuild their temple—and anticipate their Messiah.

Malachi – The Jews have become careless in their attitude toward God.

**Books of the Bible in 10 Words or Less**

**New Testament**

**Gospels (4)**

Matthew – Jesus fulfills the Old Testament prophecies of a coming Messiah.

Mark – Jesus is God’s Son, a suffering servant of all people.

Luke – Jesus is Savior of all people, whether Jew or Gentile.

John – Jesus is God Himself, the only Savior of the world.

**History (1)**

Acts – The Holy Spirit’s arrival heralds the beginning of Christian church.

**Paul’s Letters (13)**

Romans – Sinners are saved only by faith in Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians – An apostle tackles sin problems in the church at Corinth.

2 Corinthians – Paul defends his ministry to the troubled Corinthian church.

Galatians – Christians are free from restrictive Jewish laws.

Ephesians – Christians are all members of Jesus’ “body”, the church.

Philippians – “Friendship letter” between the apostle Paul and a beloved church.

Colossians – Jesus Christ is supreme—over everyone and everything.

1 Thessalonians – Jesus will return to gather His followers to Him.

2 Thessalonians – Christians should work until Jesus returns.

1 Timothy – Pastors are taught how to conduct their lives and churches.

2 Timothy – The apostle Paul’s final words to a beloved coworker.

Titus – Church leaders are instructed on their lives and teaching.

Philemon – Paul begs mercy for a runaway slave converted to Christianity.

**General Letters (8)**

Hebrews – Jesus is better than any Old Testament person or sacrifice.

James – Real Christian faith is shown by one’s good works.

1 Peter – Suffering for the sake of Jesus is noble and good.

2 Peter – Beware of false teachers within the church.

1 John – Jesus was real man just as He is real God.

2 John – Beware false teachers who deny Jesus’ physical life on earth.

3 John – Church leaders must be humble, not proud.

Jude – Beware of heretical teachers and their dangerous doctrines.

**Prophecy (1)**

Revelation – God will judge evil and reward His saints.