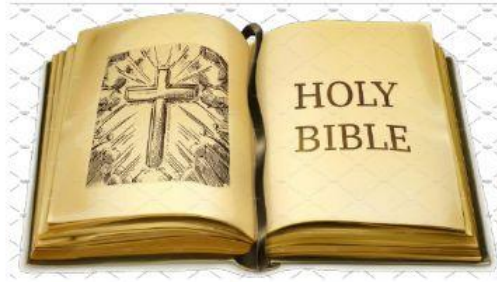


# The Nature of God: The Bible



The Bible is a collection of sixty-six books. There are 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament. It is filled with many kinds of language.

## Bible Genres

Bible genres include: Law, History, Wisdom, Poetry, Gospel, Parables, Epistles and Prophecy.

**Law:** Rules and guidelines to follow

**History:** Stories about the past

**Wisdom:** Wise sayings, advice

**Poetry:** Rhymes and Songs

**Gospel:** Describes Jesus' life on the earth

**Parables:** Stories told by Jesus with a lesson

**Epistles:** Letters written to certain people or groups

**Prophecy:** These make reference to future events

## Proverbs, Psalms & Parables

A **proverb** is a well-known saying that states a truth or a profound saying that requires interpretation. In Proverbs 16:1-11, we learn the following things about God: He judges our motives, directs our actions, hates those who are proud and requires honesty and fairness.

A **psalm** is a religious song, hymn or prayer. David and others used psalms to describe and praise the wonderful attributes of God. (e.g. Psalm 27)

A **parable** is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. It uses typical, everyday situations to teach important truths. Jesus told parables to teach about God's love for mankind and his power to forgive. Some parables are: The Parable of the Sower, The Parable of the Lost Son and the Parable of the Lost Coin.