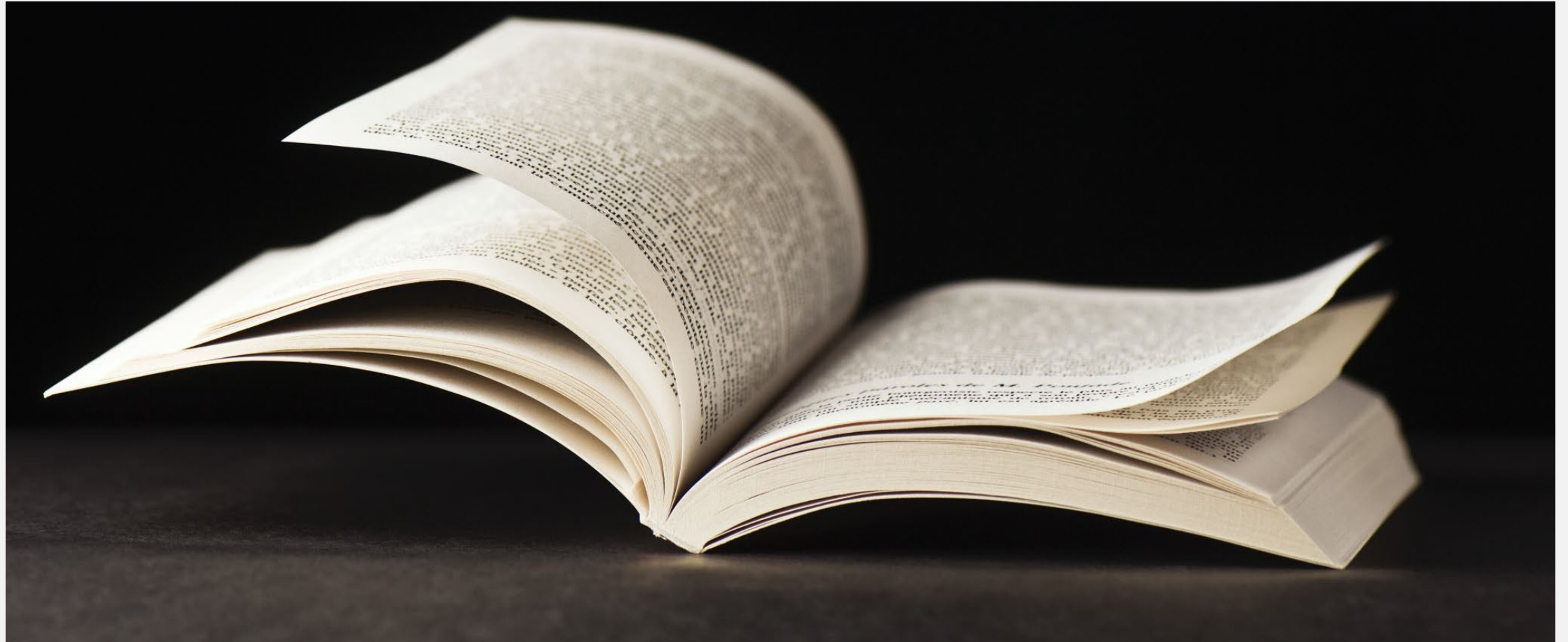


# Documentation: How was the bible written?



- God writes the original Ten Commandments on stone tablets with his finger
- Stone, clay, and leather are used by writers



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Clay

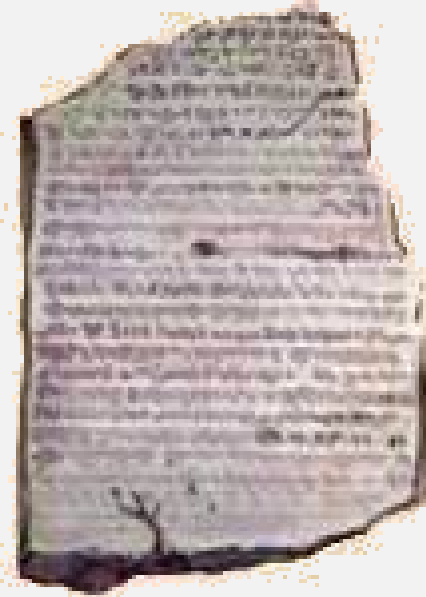
Stone

Leather

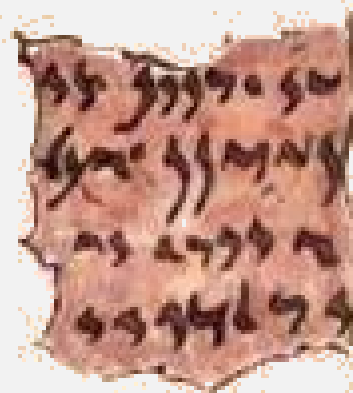


- **Stone, clay, and leather are used by writers inspired by God**

**Stone**



**Clay**



**Leather**



1500-400 BC

# Old Testament

Events are written down in Hebrew (with portions in Aramaic) over many centuries. In Exodus, the LORD tells Moses to write in a book. Other writers, inspired by God, include leaders, kings and prophets. Together, these writings on leather scrolls and other materials are called the Hebrew Scriptures or Old Testament.



1500 BC    500 BC    AD 1    AD 500    AD 1000    AD 1500    AD 1900    AD 2000

200 BC

# Papyrus

The papyrus plant is cut into strips and pressed into sheets of writing material and can be made into a scroll or a codex. The New Testament books were probably first written on papyrus scrolls.

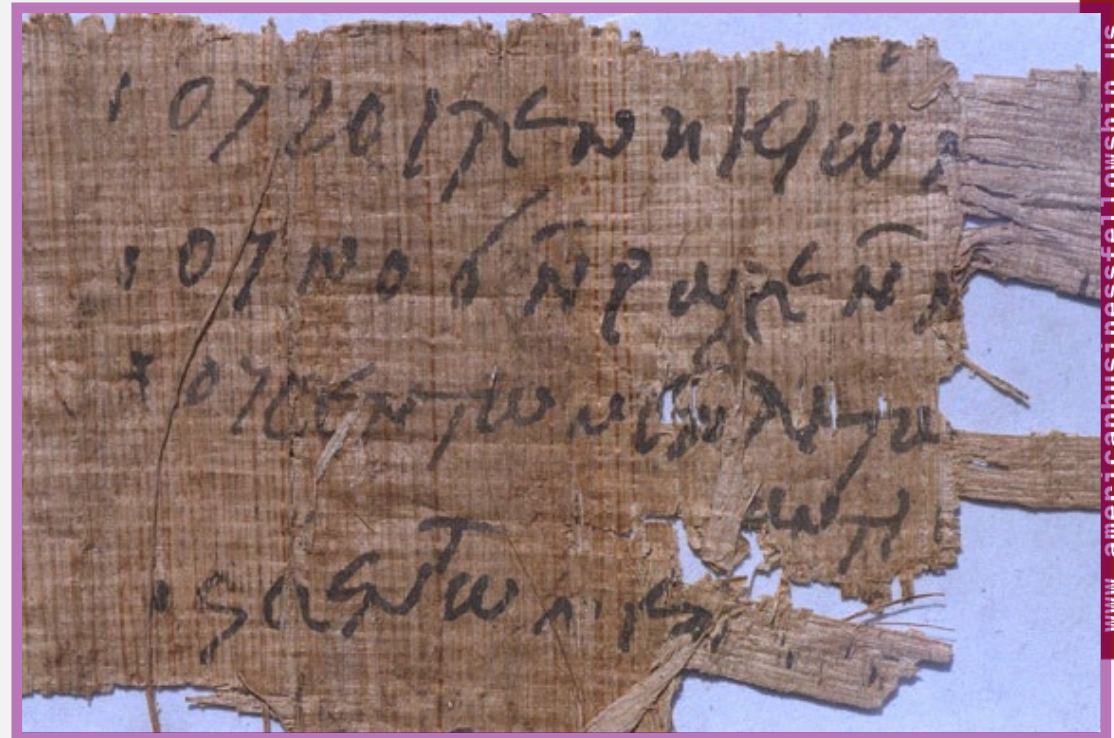


1500 BC    500 BC    AD 1    AD 500    AD 1000    AD 1500    AD 1900    AD 2000

200 BC

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1500 BC    500 BC    AD 1    AD 500    AD 1000    AD 1500    AD 1900    AD 2000

200 BC

# Papyrus

Scrolls of leather, and later of papyrus, are used to make copies of the Scriptures.

A papyrus codex is a bound volume made from sheets folded and sewn together, sometimes with a cover. They are used more than scrolls after AD 1-100.



1500 BC

500 BC

AD 1

AD 500

AD 1000

AD 1500

AD 1900

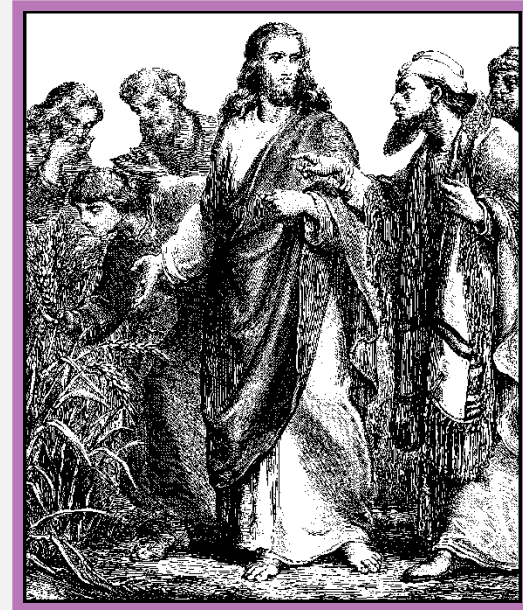
AD 2000

AD 45-100

# Followers of Jesus

Followers of Jesus write eye-witness reports (Gospels), history, letters to other believers, and the Revelation.

- Matthew
- Mark
- Luke
- John
- Paul
- James
- Peter
- Jude



1500 BC

500 BC

AD 1

AD 500

AD 1000

AD 1500

AD 1900

AD 2000

AD 400

# Bible Copies

Fine quality animal skins from calves or antelope (vellum) and sheep or goats (parchment) are used for over 1,000 years to make copies of the Bible. (approximately AD 300-1400)



1500 BC    500 BC    AD 1    AD 500    AD 1000    AD 1500    AD 1900    AD 2000

AD 500

## The Masoretes

Special Jewish scribes (Masoretes) are entrusted with the sacred task of making copies of the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament).

Approximately AD 500-900



1500 BC    500 BC    AD 1    AD 500    AD 1000    AD 1500    AD 1900    AD 2000

AD 500

## The Masoretes

- The Masoretes develop a meticulous system of counting the number of words in each book of the Bible to make sure it was copied accurately.
- Any scroll found to have an error is buried according to Jewish law.



1500 BC    500 BC    AD 1    AD 500    AD 1000    AD 1500    AD 1900    AD 2000

AD 1455

## The Printing Press

The world's first printing press, with moveable metal type, is invented in AD 1455, in Mainz, Germany, by Johann Gutenberg.



Mainz, Germany



AMERICAN  
BUSINESS  
FELLOWSHIP

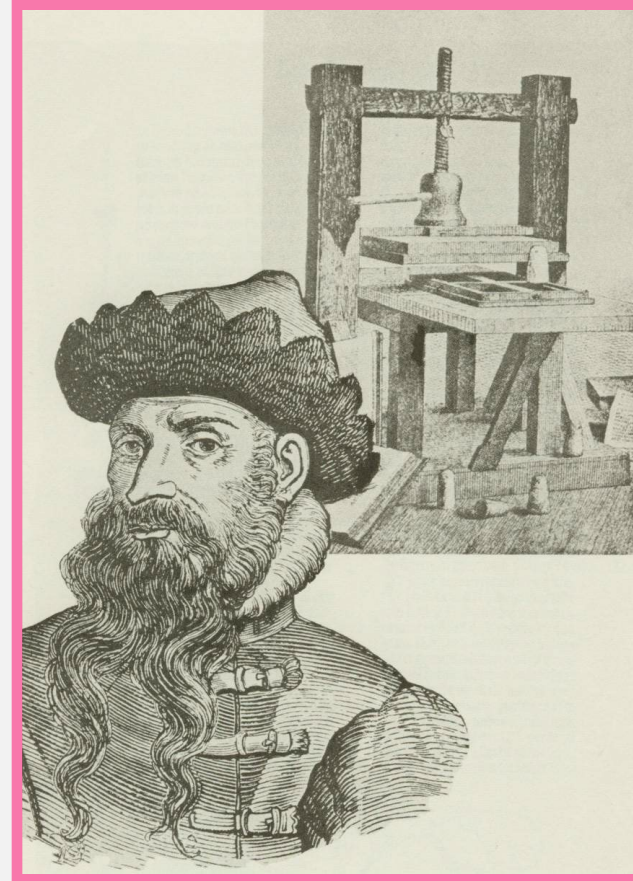
1500 BC    500 BC    AD 1    AD 500    AD 1000    AD 1500    AD 1900    AD 2000

AD 1455

## The Printing Press

This invention is perhaps the single most important event to influence the spread of the Bible.

Gutenberg and The First Printing Press



AMERICAN  
BUSINESS  
FELLOWSHIP

1500 BC    500 BC    AD 1    AD 500    AD 1000    AD 1500    AD 1900    AD 2000

AD 1455

# The Printing Press

The Gutenberg Bible is the first book ever printed with the printing press. This Latin Vulgate version is often illuminated by artists who hand paint letters and ornaments on each page.

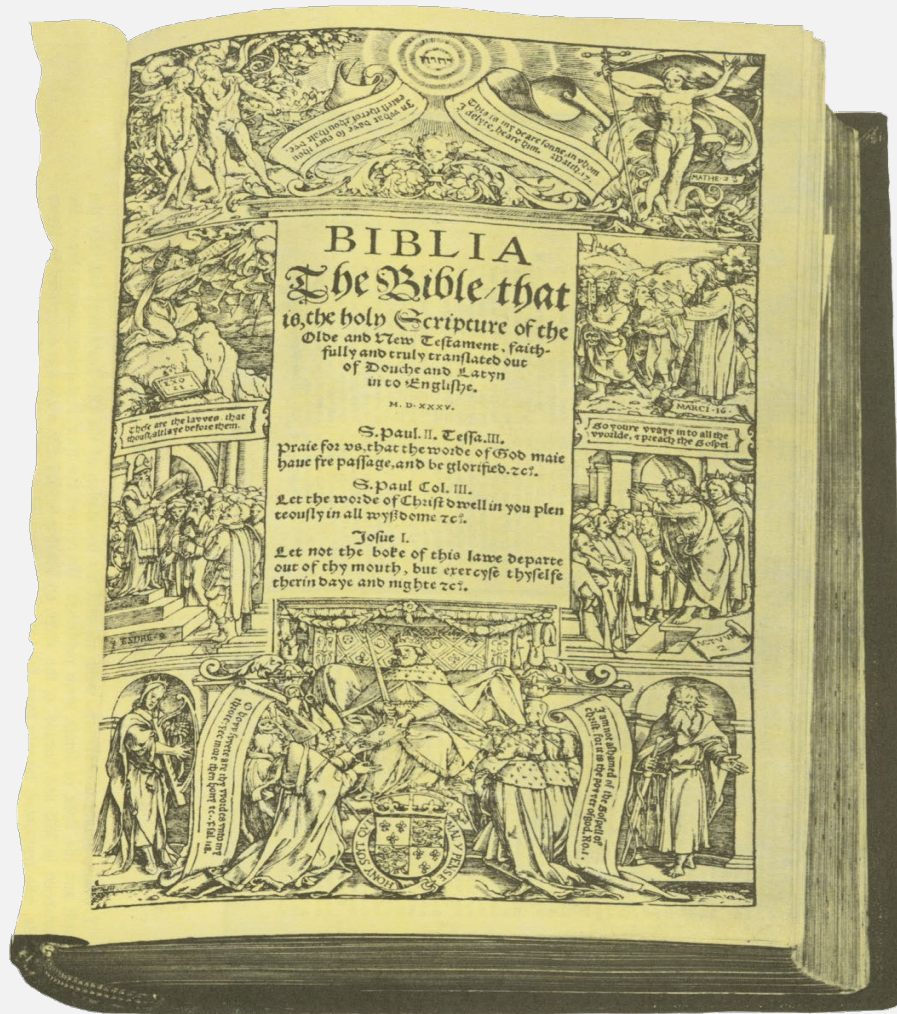


Gutenberg Bible Page



# The First Printed English New Testament AD 1525 (Tyndale's Bible)





The First  
Printed English  
Bible  
AD 1535  
(Coverdale  
Bible)



# Scrolls & scribes to the digital age

- Photocopying
- Word processor
- Computers & printers
- Personal computer
- Digital

