



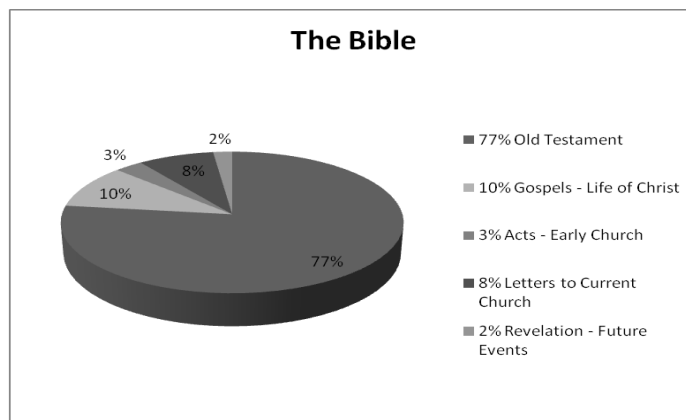
## COMPOSITION OF THE BIBLE

### 1. Overview

- The Bible is the inspired Word of God – 2 Tim 3:16
- it is a collection of 66 spiritual documents
- Translated into more than 3,000 languages.
- It's a mini-library with certified information about God.
- It consists of two major parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament.
- 'Testament' means covenant, contract or agreement.
- The old agreement and the new agreement: The way God used to deal with people, before Christ, and the way God deals with us today.
- Jews, Christians and Muslims all believe in the Old Testament but the New Testament is uniquely Christian.

### 2. Biblical facts

- Its 66 small books bound together, about 1,200 pages in total,
- By number of pages, 77% of the Bible is the 39 books of the Old Testament
- The Old Testament is a history of how God dealt with the Jewish people, before Christ.
- 10% is the four gospels, eye-witness accounts of the life of Christ.
- 3% is the book of Acts, a record of the teachings and growth of the early church.
- 8% is 21 letters of instruction from apostles (those who had been taught by Christ personally) to new churches springing up throughout the Roman Empire.
- 2% is the book of Revelation, the Apostle John's vision about heaven.



### 3. The writers

- Approximately 40 different people, working independently, were used by God to write the Bible.
- They came from different geographic areas, different political systems and different social situations.
- They came from different walks of life –
  - Including king
  - Farmer
  - Shepherd
  - Doctor
  - Fisherman
  - Priest
  - Philosopher
  - Tax collector
- They ranged from educated to uneducated, from rich to poor. They lived on three different continents
- Spanning a period of more than 1,500 years.
- The Bible has been rigorously challenged and investigated with regard to
  - Archaeology
  - Bibliography,
  - Historical accuracy,
  - Fulfilled prophesy,
  - Internal unity,
  - Miraculous preservation
  - Life-changing power.
- Ordinary writers, even if they worked as a team at the same time and place, could not produce a book that would survive such intense scrutiny over the centuries. But the Bible has survived the tests of time and is still the world's most read book. The Bible itself is its own proof, beyond reasonable doubt, that God directed the writing.

### 4. Summary

## **The Bible Stood the Test of Time**