



## Bible Class With Dr. Ricky Temple

### Session 1: How the Bible Fits

#### 1. How the Bible Is Organized

The Bible is organized into two main divisions, then grouped by type of writing, not by strict chronology.

#### Old Testament (39 Books)

1. Law (5 books)  
Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
2. Historical Books (12 books)  
Joshua through Esther
3. Wisdom & Poetry (5 books)  
Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs
4. Major Prophets (5 books)  
Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel
5. Minor Prophets (12 books)  
Hosea through Malachi

#### New Testament (27 Books)

1. Gospels (4 books)  
Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
2. History (1 book)  
Acts
3. Epistles / Letters (21 books)  
Romans through Jude



4. Prophecy (1 book)  
Revelation

## 2. The Historical Books of the Old Testament (Listed)

The twelve Historical Books record Israel's national history:

1. Joshua – Conquest of Canaan
2. Judges – Tribal leadership and repeated decline
3. Ruth – A family story during the Judges period
4. 1 Samuel – Transition from judges to kings
5. 2 Samuel – Establishment of David's kingdom
6. 1 Kings – Solomon and the divided kingdom
7. 2 Kings – Decline and exile of Israel and Judah
8. 1 Chronicles – Priestly retelling with a Davidic focus
9. 2 Chronicles – Kings of Judah and temple history
10. Ezra – Return from exile and rebuilding the temple
11. Nehemiah – Rebuilding Jerusalem's walls and community
12. Esther – God preserving His people in exile

## 3. Where Samuel Fits in the Story

- Samuel follows Judges
- Samuel precedes Kings
- It marks the transition from:
  - Tribal judges → National monarchy
  - Spiritual chaos → Centralized leadership



## 4. Time Period Covered by Samuel

- Approximate Dates: 1105 BC – 971 BC
- Covers the end of the Judges, the rise of Saul, and the reign of David.

## 5. One-Sentence Class Summary

- The books of Samuel record Israel's shift from tribal judges to kings and reveal that leadership success is shaped by obedience to God, not position or power.