

Books of the Word Flashcards Introduction

THE LORD TEACHES BY HIS WORD

Read: John 1:1-14

Recite: The LORD gave the WORD; great was the company of those who proclaimed it.
(Psalm 68:11)

Important Ideas:

How is it possible for us to come to know about the LORD? How can we learn what He plans for us? How can we come to know about the kingdom of the LORD which is heaven? The answer to these questions is that the LORD tells us. The LORD tells us in His WORD, which contains His love and His wisdom. For the WORD is “God-with-us.” It is the LORD with us telling us about Himself and about His kingdom. This is what is meant in John, that “The Word was God.”

The WORD is written in books: in the 29 books of the OLD TESTAMENT, in the 5 books of the NEW TESTAMENT, and in the 34 books of the HEAVENLY DOCTRINE OF THE NEW JERUSALEM. The Old and New Testament WORD are often called “the SCRIPTURES.” We call the Heavenly Doctrine WORD “the Writings.”

Because the WORD is the LORD with us, we should try to learn the names of *all* the books of the WORD. Learning these names not only tells us where we can go to find out about the LORD and His kingdom, but it also makes it easier to look things up when we want to.



The name “Bible” means a collection of writings or books. The Bible contains all the books of the Old and New Testaments and also other books which are *not* the WORD. Those books in the Bible which are the WORD were written by the LORD. The other books were written by men. The books that are the WORD have an internal sense; the books written by men do not. It is because one set of books has an internal sense that they can contain within them the love and wisdom of the LORD, and for this reason are the LORD with us.

In the work called *The New Jerusalem and its Heavenly Doctrine* no. 266, we are taught: “The books of the WORD are all those which have the internal sense; but those books which have not the internal sense, are not the WORD.”

The books of the WORD, in the Old and New Testaments, are:

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Gen-e-sis | I-sa-iah | Ha-bak-kuk |
| Ex-o-dus | Jer-e-mi-ah | Zeph-a-ni-ah |
| Le-vit-i-cus | Lam-en-ta-tions | Hag-ga-i |
| Num-bers | E-zek-i-el | Zech-a-ri-ah |
| Deu-ter-on-o-my | Dan-iel | Mal-a-chi |
| Josh-u-a | Ho-se-a | Mat-thew |
| Judg-es | Jo-el | Mark |
| I Sam-u-el | A-mos | Luke |
| II Sam-u-el | O-ba-di-ah | John |
| I Kings | Jo-nah | Rev-e-la-tion |
| II Kings | Mi-cah | |
| The Psalms of Da-vid | Na-hum | |

The rest of the books of the Bible do not have an internal sense” (NJHD 266).

The HEAVENLY DOCTRINES, or THE WRITINGS, were given by the LORD by inspiring Emmanuel Swedenborg to write them. In these Writings the LORD makes His second coming. For Swedenborg tells us that he received nothing from any angel or spirit, but all that he wrote came from the LORD ALONE.

You should understand, however, that revelation from the LORD, or the WORD, was not given all at once. It was given a little at a time as people needed it. From the time of the first people to today, the LORD has revealed things from heaven so that men might know the LORD and live the life that leads to heaven.

First there was the WORD for the Most Ancient Church. This was not written, but spoken from time to time by the LORD to the heads of families. Then there was the Ancient WORD. This was written down. A little of it is in the beginning of the book of Genesis, but most of it was lost. The Writings tell us that we may find the lost parts of the Ancient WORD some day. The Old and New Testaments were given one book at a time over a period of some 3,000 years. The Writings, the final revelation, were written over a period of some 24 years.

The Old Testament proclaims the LORD as King in Hebrew; the New Testament in Greek; and the Writings show Him to be the RULER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH in Latin. These sacred languages are of special interest to the church. We should remember, however, that although the WORD was given over many years and although it is made up of many books, it is still ONE WORD—if IS THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WITH US!

Activities:

1. Learn the names of the books of the Word, using the attached books of the Word flashcards or “The Books of the Word” song by Lori Odhner.
2. Practice putting the books of the Word cards in order until you can do it without looking at the list.
3. Try to say (or sing) the names of the books of the Word.

Books of the Word Flashcards

| | | | | |
|----------|--------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Genesis | Exodus | Leviticus | Numbers | Deuteronomy |
| Joshua | Judges | I Samuel | II Samuel | I Kings |
| II Kings | Psalms | Isaiah | Jeremiah | Lamentations |
| Ezekiel | Daniel | Hosea | Joel | Amos |

Books of the Word Flashcards

| | | | | |
|-----------|--------|-----------|---------|------------|
| Obadiah | Jonah | Micah | Nahum | Habakkuk |
| Zephaniah | Haggai | Zechariah | Malachi | |
| Matthew | Mark | Luke | John | Revelation |