

THE BIBLE IN ONE SENTENCE

If someone quizzed you: "Please state the message of the entire Bible in one sentence," what would you say? Not an easy job, is it? After all, the Bible comprises 1,189 chapters divided into 66 different sections or "books." How do you cram all that into a single sentence?

You can't fit everything in. But what if all 66 books fit together like chapters in a story? Then you might try to summarize that story. Now we're getting somewhere.

So, what big story does the Bible tell? One way to learn something about a story is to read the beginning and the ending. Stories are like houses: the best way to get in is usually through the front door or the back door.

What do the Bible's beginning (Genesis) and ending (Revelation) reveal about the story of the entire Bible? What connections do you notice (see chart)?

In the beginning God made the world, and he made it all "very good" (Genesis 1:31). But it didn't take long for people to ruin what he had created. But at the end of the story, God will set everything right once more.

IN THE BEGINNING...

DAY & NIGHT ARE CREATED
(Gen. 1:5)

THE WORLD IS MADE
(Gen. 1-2)

TREE OF LIFE MADE
(Gen. 2:9)

GOD DWELLS WITH PEOPLE
(Gen. 3:8)

PEOPLE DISOBEY GOD
(Gen. 3:6)

PEOPLE BEGIN FIGHTING EACH OTHER
(Gen. 3:12)

SICKNESS AND DEATH ENTER THE WORLD
(Gen. 3:19)

SATAN (THE SERPENT) DESTROYS
(Gen. 3:1)

AT THE ENDING...

NO MORE NIGHT
(Rev. 22:5)

THE WORLD IS MADE NEW
(Rev. 21:1)

TREE OF LIFE CONTINUES
(Rev. 22:2)

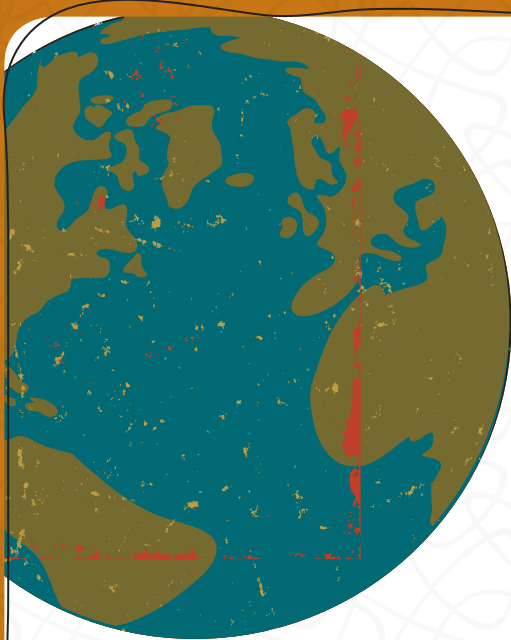
GOD AGAIN DWELLS WITH PEOPLE
(Rev. 21:3)

PEOPLE OBEY GOD
(Rev. 21:27)

PEOPLE STOP FIGHTING EACH OTHER
(Rev. 21:24-26)

SICKNESS AND DEATH CONQUERED
(Rev. 22:4)

SATAN DEFEATED
(Rev. 20:2, 10)



So what connects the start with the finish? The story that fills the middle is all about Jesus. The Old Testament looks ahead and prepares for his coming. The New Testament looks back and explains his coming. The story of the Bible is the story of Jesus and why he came to earth.

“GOD MADE IT, WE BROKE IT, JESUS FIXES IT.”

Michael Williams

How to sum up
the Bible in one
sentence?



The Bible teaches that Jesus came with this mission: to make everything new again. Everything that sin had wrecked, he came to repair.

And that brings us back to where we started. How to sum up the Bible in one sentence? Here's one attempt. The story of the Bible is that . . . **Through Jesus, God is restoring everything that sin ruined.**

Can you think of any areas in your life that seem messed up because of your sin or someone else's sin? The sad truth is that sin touches every part of life, which makes quite a mess. And it's impossible to do much to fix our own lives. But nothing is too hard for Jesus. He loves to fix broken things.

After all, the whole Bible reminds us that Jesus came to restore all things.

MORE TO EXPLORE



If you'd like to learn more about the story of the Bible, you may want to read *Grandpa's Box* by Starr Meade.