

The Bible

Deine Mutter Ist Ein Geekenwehrmachtsaffel

May 13, 2005

Do not love sleep, or you will become poor

—Proverbs 20:13

Book by Book

The Old Testament

1. **Genesis:** The following is a list of Biblical events, in chronological order. Identify where Genesis leaves off.

- Creation
- The original sin
- Cain kills Abel
- The flood
- Abraham and Sarah are promised a son
- Sodom is destroyed
- Issac is almost sacrificed
- Jacob steals Issac's blessing from Esau
- Joseph interprets the Pharaoh's dream
- Joseph dies

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- Moses is born
 - Moses sees the burning bush
 - Egypt is struck by plagues
 - The Israelites flee Egypt

2. **Exodus:** What sort of idol do the people make while Moses was on Mount Sinai? (*A golden calf*)
3. **Leviticus:** Suppose you're an kosher-keeping Israelite. Can you eat locusts? (*Yes (some of them)*)
4. **Numbers:** "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?" Who is asking the question? (*A donkey.*)
5. **Deuteronomy:** With what event does Deuteronomy end? (*The death of Moses*)
6. **Joshua:** What city was defeated when its walls collapsed at the sound of trumpets? (*Jerico*)
7. **Judges:** The answer to Samson's riddle is a riddle itself, mocking Samson: "What is sweeter than honey? What is stronger than a lion?" What is the answer? (*Love*)

8. **Ruth:** What public figure is named after a misspelling of one of the minor characters in the story of Ruth? (*Oprah Winfrey*)
9. **1 Samuel:** What king was literally caught with his pants down by David? (*Saul*)
10. **2 Samuel:** The ordinarily-pious David winds up breaking the sixth, seventh, ninth, and tenth commandments on account of Bathsheba. How did he first see her? (*She was bathing on the roof.*)
11. **1 Kings:** After seeing a wind strong enough to break rocks, an earthquake and a fire, Elijah hears “a sound of gentle blowing”, according to one modern translation of the Bible, and the sound of “sheer silence” according to another. How does the King James Version render this? (*“a still small voice”*)
12. **2 Kings:** Who sees Elijah get taken up to heaven in a chariot of fire? (*Elisha*)
13. **1 Chronicles:** The first eight chapters of 1 Chronicles are mostly what? (*genealogy*)
14. **2 Chronicles:** The books of Chronicles end with a proclamation by King Cyrus of Persia. What does he declare? (*That the Jews may return to their homeland.*)
15. **Ezra:** Ezra is grievously upset by a certain sin of the people, “left over” from the days of the exile. What were they doing? (*Marrying foreigners.*)
16. **Nehemiah:** While Ezra is primarily concerned with the rebuilding of the temple, he presents the law to the people only after Nehemiah’s pet project is completed. What project? (*Rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem*)
17. **Esther:** The book of Esther is unusual in that it contains no direct references to what human activity? (*religion*)
18. **Job:** The character who questions Job’s faithfulness and is allowed by God to kill off Job’s livestock, servants, and children, destroy his house, give him a nasty skin disease and turn all his friends against him is usually translated as “Satan”. What’s a literal translation? (*“the accuser” or “the adversary”*)
19. **Psalms:** Seven of the psalms have what property which is usually lost in translation? (*They are acrostics (specifically, they are alphabetic acrostics — the first letters of each section (which varies in length from part of a line to a section of eight lines) together spell the Hebrew alphabet.*)
20. **Proverbs:** The majority of the proverbs in Proverbs are delivered by whom to his sons? (*King Solomon*)

21. **Ecclesiastes:** What American folk song, except for the titular refrain, consists almost entirely of quotation from Ecclesiastes? (*“Turn! Turn! Turn!”*)
22. **Song of Solomon:** This book is sometimes called by a different (albeit similar) name. What is that name? (*Song of Songs*)
23. **Isaiah:** Fill in the blank, and heed the warning well:
*Woe to the proud crown of the drunkards of (Ephraim),
 And to the fading flower of its glorious beauty.
 Which is at the head of the fertile valley
 Of those who are overcome with wine!*
24. **Jeremiah:** Many prophets had characteristics that seemed to disqualify them from the job. Moses had trouble speaking, Jonah didn’t want to see the city of Nineveh saved, and Paul was a big fan of stoning Christians. What was Jeremiah’s excuse for not standing up to king Jehoiakim and the immoral majority? (*He was too young.*)
25. **Lamentations:** During the siege of Israel, many people apparently resorted to cannibalism. What type of cannibalism does Lamentations mention, as if it weren’t horrifying enough already? (*Mothers eating their children*)
26. **Ezekiel:** Ezekiel is married, but his wife is mentioned only once. What does she do? (*She dies (on the same day that Jerusalem falls).*)
27. **Daniel:** When Belshazzar, king of Babylon, sees a hand write “MENĒ, MENĒ, TEKĒL, UPHARSIN”, he calls in Daniel to interpret the message. Daniel says they mean that God had numbered his kingdom and put an end to it, that we had been weighed on the scales and found deficient, and that his kingdom had been divided and given over to the Medes and the Persians. But the words don’t mean “measure, measure, count, divide” literally—they’re all nouns. Nouns for what? (*units of money*)

We were considering making you answer a question for each of the minor prophets as well, but how much do you really know about Habakkuk?

The New Testament

28. **Matthew:** Matthew is believed by some to be the primary source used by the authors of Luke and John. It is certain that the the gospels are related. By what name are they known? (*the synoptic gospels*)
29. **Mark:** There are a number of people who handle snakes and drink poisons on the basis of Mark 16:18: *‘...they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them...’* What is very worrisome

about this? (*The section of Mark that it comes from is almost certainly apocryphal*)

30. **Luke:** What is Luke's profession generally assumed to be? (*a doctor*)
31. **John:** Which early Christian heresy is sometimes considered to be associated with the Gospel of John? (*Gnosticism*)
32. **Acts:** Who is generally credited with writing the book of Acts? (*Luke*)

If you thought that the minor prophets were obscure, try distinguishing 1 and 2 Thessalonians — for this reason, we have omitted the epistles.

33. **Revelation:** New Jerusalem bears an eerie resemblance what science-fiction spacecraft (or, more properly, vice versa)? (*The Borg Cube*)

Identification

Identify which book each quotation is from.

34. *Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, / And a branch from his roots will bear fruit.* (*Isaiah*)
35. *"My beloved is mine, and I am his"* (*Song of Solomon*)
36. *He found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, so he reached out and took it and killed a thousand men with it.* (*Judges*)
37. *On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.* (*Revelation*)
38. *"Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher, "Vanity of vanities! All is vanity."* (*Ecclesiastes*)
39. *So the captain approached him and said, "How is it that you are sleeping? Get up, call on your god. Perhaps your god will be concerned about us so that we will not perish."* (*Jonah*)
40. *"Moses My servant is dead; now therefore arise, cross the Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them, the the sons of Israel."* (*Joshua*)
41. *"Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God and die!"* (*Job*)
42. *My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? / Far from my deliverance are the words of my groaning.* (*Psalms*)

43. *But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he did to Your saints at Jerusalem" (Acts)*

(Unless otherwise noted, all quotations are from the New American Standard Bible.)