

## NEW TESTAMENT

0 TO 100 A.D.

BIRTH OF JESUS TO ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

### ERA SUMMARY – NEW TESTAMENT

While the Old Testament is composed of many stories and characters that are easily simplified for younger children, the New Testament focuses on the life of Christ and his apostles, and is more challenging to translate into a child-friendly narrative. The gospels themselves are full of fascinating stories and parables, but most of the epistles are not easy to represent in story-based form.

The Heritage History Library currently contains nine Children's Bibles but only four are simplified enough to be included in the Young Readers collection. And of these only Steedman's [\*Nursery Book of Bible Stories\*](#), and Kelman's [\*Stories from the Life of Christ\*](#), cover the New Testament, including stories about the apostles as well as the parables of Jesus. Both these books provide an excellent introduction to the Gospels and there are many more choices available for advanced students.

In addition to the Gospels, the stories of certain saints and Christian heroes, such as [\*St. Francis of Assisi\*](#) and [\*St. Christopher\*](#) are included in this category because they tend to emphasize spiritual rather than political history. Like the stories of the Bible, the stories of saints emphasize the manner in which God continues to work in the lives of his people and they are of great interest to students with a Christian worldview.



HE TAUGHT THEM MANY THINGS BY PARABLES.

## CHARACTERS – NEW TESTAMENT

### APOSTLES

<b>Saint John</b>	d. 101	Long-living apostle who preached in Asia Minor. Authored the Gospel of John and Revelation.
<b>Saint James the Greater</b>	d. 44	Apostle who preached in Spain before being beheaded by Herod. Patron Saint of Spain.
<b>Saint Peter</b>	d. 64	Leader of the Apostles and first Pope of the Roman Catholic Church.
<b>Saint Paul</b>	3–67	Apostle who traveled throughout the Eastern Roman Empire spreading Gospels. Wrote Epistles.

### LEGENDARY SAINTS

<b>Saint Christopher</b>	d. 250	Early Christian saint whose name means "bearer". Said to have born the burdens of the Christ child."
<b>Saint George</b>	275–303	Patron saint of England. Soldier who killed a dragon and died a martyr's death.
<b>Saint Nicholas</b>	d. 343	Bishop in fourth century Asia Minor, known for his generosity.
<b>Saint Patrick</b>	389–461	Kidnapped as a child and brought to Ireland, returned later to spread Christianity.
<b>Saint Augustine</b>	354–430	Greatest Christian theologian of the Middle Ages. Wrote <i>Confessions</i> and <i>City of God</i> .
<b>Saint Benedict</b>	480–547	Established the Benedictine order of monks. Founded the monastic movement in Europe.
<b>Saint Francis of Assisi</b>	1182–1226	Founded the Franciscan order of indigent Friars.

## TIMELINE – NEW TESTAMENT

- 0 Birth of Christ
- 30-33 Christ's Mission on Earth
- 33 The Crucifixion and Death of Christ
- 34-60 [Saint Paul's](#) Missionary Journeys
- 50-70 Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are written.
- 70 Destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem
- 90 [Saint John](#) writes **Revelation**, the last of the holy scriptures.

## RECOMMENDED READING – NEW TESTAMENT

- Steedman - [Nursery Book of Bible Stories](#) [The Messenger of the King](#) to [St. John Beloved Disciple](#) (11)
- Kelman - [Stories from the Life of Christ](#) *entire book*
- Jewett - [God's Troubadour](#) *entire book*
- Steedman - [In God's Garden](#) *entire book*
- Brown - [Saints and Friendly Beasts](#) *entire book*
- Macgregor - [Saint Christopher](#) *entire book*