



FASCINATING FACTS FOR BIBLE SUNDAY

If you have a Bible in your home, you have the oldest and most remarkable book on the planet. Its earliest writings go back over 3500 years and it was written by about 50 different people over a period of 1500 years, yet the message it contains is about us and our world today. It has been translated into over 450 languages, has sold over 6 BILLION copies and is one of the three most looked-for books on Kindle today. Most important of all, it is God's Book, telling us about man's origin, why the world is in such a mess, how we can find happiness now and a part in God's plan for the world in the future and what the God who made us wants from us.

In North Korea possession of a Bible can be punishable by death; yet neighbouring China, once known for its hard-line atheistic communism, is the biggest supplier of Bibles today. Bible Societies report that 34 million copies of the Bible were distributed in 2014. In parts of the world where Bibles were once forbidden, there is a deep desire to read God's Word; in many parts where it is more freely available than ever before, there is a sad neglect.

The Bible has been shown to have been virtually unchanged since it was written - which is not surprising since it tells us that the writers were inspired by God to record its message for every generation. The Dead Sea Scrolls, found by accident by a shepherd boy in 1947 and dating back to about 125 years before Jesus, not only include every book of the Old Testament except Esther and Nehemiah, but also have a complete scroll of Isaiah's prophecy which, on careful examination, has proved to be almost identical to the version we read today. New Testament scholars have established that the earliest New Testament books were written soon after the events they describe and archaeological finds have repeatedly shown the historical accuracy of the Bible. Remarkable Bible prophecies made centuries before the event, such as those predicting the return of the scattered Jewish people to Israel, show that this is no ordinary book.

October

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So this Bible Sunday make a resolution to read it for yourself!

See over the page for some ideas on how to get started >

Tips for new Bible readers...

- 1** Bibles can be bought cheaply at Solihull's Bible Learning Centre.
Please note the Bible Learning Centre has recently moved to 20 Drury Lane (about 50m towards the High Street from the old BHS store.)
- 2** You can collect a free start-anytime Bible Reading Planner from the Solihull Bible Learning Centre or email dorridgehope@gmail.com and we will get one to you.
- 3** It is easy to read the Bible free of charge on the internet, for example, on our website www.dorridgehope.org, where you can also find a yearly Bible reading plan which takes us through the whole Bible, starting each January 1st.
- 4** You can get free introductory courses about the Bible, again either by coming to the Bible Learning Centre or by going online to www.thisisyourBible.com

The Bible message will be explored this Sunday and every Sunday at 10am at Dorridge Village Hall.

Oct 23rd *Want Some Good News? ...Come Hear the Gospel*

Oct 30th *The Sermon on the Mount*

Nov 6th *Earth and You - The Biblical Big Picture*

Nov 13th *The Christian Response to Climate Change*

Nov 20th *You'll Never Walk Alone*

Nov 27th *The Bible and Archaeology*

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