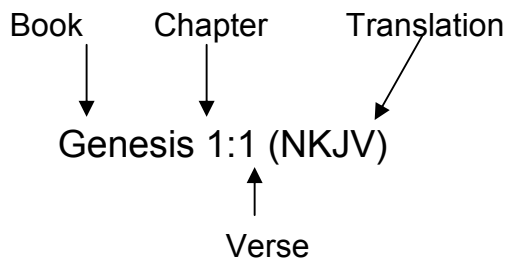


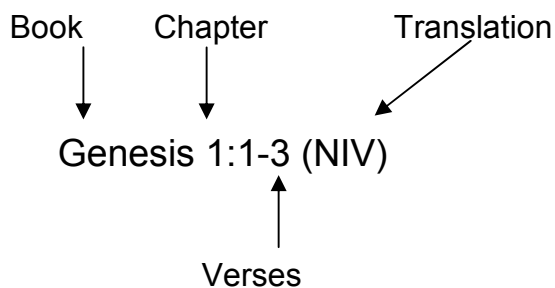
Chapter 8: Bible Basics

We shall now begin to discover the information contained within the Bible. This portion of the book is designed to serve as a self-study guide. Chapter readings will be suggested which you could follow in your own Bible. These readings will be accompanied by study notes as appropriate. These notes will quote verses therefore it is important to understand how the Bible is structured.

The Bible contains many books, which are appropriately named. Each individual book contains many chapters and each chapter contains many verses. A verse is a small division within each chapter, quite similar to numbering each paragraph of a sentence. For example, the first book of the bible is called Genesis. It contains 50 chapters and the first chapter contains 31 verses. Therefore a bible quotation could guide you to the first verse in Genesis Chapter 1. This would be written as follows:



A quote can also contain more than one verse. For example you could be directed to the first 3 verses of Genesis Chapter 1. This would read as follows:



To test your understanding look up Mark 1:10. This should read as follows (from the New King James Version):

"Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

Many people read study bibles, which provide commentary, relevant examples and interpretations. However during your initial reading it is important to understand the texts directly. If you are unsure of a word definition I encourage you to check it using a dictionary. A faster method is to use a tool in Google called 'define'. If you enter into the search box *define:* followed by your word it will search the Internet for definitions. For example: *define: separate* (then press enter)

We will begin our study with the first book and chapter in the Old Testament (you will understand why the Bible is split into Old and New Testaments at the end of the study). Let us now examine Genesis.