

Quotations from the Old Testament in the New Testament

The close connection between the Old and New Testament is shown by the number of times the Old Testament is quoted in the New Testament. Bagster's Bible gives 889 quotations and allusions. George F. Pentecost gives the number at 885, a few of the allusions given by Bagster's Bible being disputed. This includes 224 direct citations and ~70 indirect citations. Every book of the Old Testament is quoted except Obadiah, Nahum, Zephaniah, and Esther. There is only one quotation from the Song of Solomon. According to Dr. Pentecost the number of the Old Testament quotations and allusions in each New Testament book is as follows:

New Testament Book	Old Testament Verse Occurrence
The Gospel of Matthew	96
The Gospel of Mark	34
The Gospel of Luke	58
The Gospel of John	40
Acts of the Apostles	57
Romans	74
1 Corinthians	41
2 Corinthians	13
Galatians	16
Ephesians	11
Philippians	3
Colossians	3
1 Thessalonians	2
2 Thessalonians	2
1 Timothy	6
2 Timothy	2
Hebrews	86
James	16
1 Peter	20
2 Peter	10
1 John	6
Revelation	249
Total	855 Times

<http://blueletterbible.org/study/pnt/pnt08.cfm>

For a list of OT passages in NT (direct or indirect quotes, and allusions) see:

<http://www.blueletterbible.org/study/misc/quotes.cfm>

Cross-reference visualization: <http://www.chrisharrison.net/projects/bibleviz/index.html>

Jesus, like all the Jews of the first century, divided the Old Testament into three "collections": the law, the prophets, the psalms.

When reading the N.T., how do you know if it is O.T. text?

Correlation: The Role of a Coordinator

Correlation - Relating what is being studied with other portions of Scripture and within the section itself.

One dictionary defines correlation as: "To bring two or more things into relation with one another; the act of relating." This is an exciting and highly rewarding aspect of Bible study. In scope it will range from relating one verse to another, to relating one paragraph to another, and to relating the various chapters of a book to one another.

Since the Bible is truth, and all truth due to its divine origin is unified, it is important to relate various truths to one another. It makes the Scriptures coherent and helps the student to be consistent with what the rest of the Bible says on any given subject.

Some basic ways of correlating your study are through cross-references, paraphrases, outlines, and charts.

Cross-References

This expression of correlation is to compare word, verse, idea, event, or story with another portion of Scripture. Often the content of one passage will help to clarify the content of another. At times you will want to cross-reference the thought with another thought found within the passage you are studying. At other times you will look for the cross-reference outside the passage, but within the book. Then too, there will be times when you will want to go outside the book you are studying into another portion of the Bible.

Several types of cross-references are available for your use.

1. Word cross-references—

At times in your study you will discover an important word that you may want to cross-reference. It may appear important to the passage and you may want to investigate it further. The person Melchizedek is such an example (Hebrews 5:6). Cross-referencing from within Hebrews, you find him discussed at some length in chapter 7. Outside of Hebrews, he is introduced in Genesis 14:18 and briefly mentioned in Psalm 110:4.

This kind of cross-reference becomes strategically important in your topical and biographical studies.

2. Parallel cross-references—

These are verses or thoughts that say virtually the same thing. Often the wording and context are slightly different, giving you fresh insight on the subject you are studying. The Gospels and some of Paul's epistles are places where this type of cross-reference is readily used. Paul wrote to the Ephesians, "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19).

You may cross-reference that with his exhortation to the Colossians: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and counsel one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God" (Colossians 3:16). Comparing the context of these two statements is a fascinating study in itself. The parable of the sower in Matthew 13:3-23 may be cross referenced with the parallel accounts in Mark 4:3-20 and Luke 8:4-15.

3. Corresponding cross-references—

The New Testament writers frequently quote from the Old Testament. A study of the context of the passage quoted is often helpful in understanding the point the author is making. When Jesus was in Nazareth, the town in which He was raised, He read from the Scroll of Isaiah in the local synagogue (see

Luke 4:16-30). When you cross reference Luke 4:18 with Isaiah 61;1-2, you note that Jesus ends His quotation of Isaiah halfway through verse 2. Why does He do this? He does this because the Isaiah passage includes both of His comings—the first in humility and the second in glory—and He was at that time in Nazareth only in His first advent.

Another type of corresponding cross-reference is where another portion of Scripture refers to the same event. For example, Paul said, “You know, brothers, that our visit to you was not a failure” (1 Thessalonians 2:1). When did this occur? Luke tells in the Book of Acts (see Acts 17:1-10).

4. Idea cross-references—

These are the most helpful cross references in the analytical study. Here you endeavor to capture the thought elsewhere in the Bible. The key thought of 1 Peter 1:23, for example, is that a person needs to be born again by the eternal Word of God. When cross referenced with John 3:1-8, you find Jesus saying that a person needs to be born again by the Holy Spirit. Why the difference? That is, why does Peter say it is by the Word and Jesus by the Spirit? Because you cannot know the living God apart from the Bible and you cannot know the Bible apart from the Spirit of the Living God. The two are inseparable, and for this reason may be interchanged (see Hebrews 4:12-13).

5. Contrast cross-references—

Contrasting examples in the Bible help you to pinpoint proper action as well as bringing into balance a proper understanding of what the Bible teaches on a subject. Perhaps it will be helpful to illustrate both.

Contrast how Jesus handled temptation in Matthew 4 at the beginning of His ministry with how Adam handled it in Genesis 3. The “first Adam” met Satan and was defeated; the “second Adam” met Satan and was victorious.

In Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians he makes an interesting comment. “I say this as a concession, not as a command” (1 Corinthians 7:6). Some may conclude that what follows was Paul’s idea, and not from the Lord. A contrasting cross-reference brings important balance to this statement. Paul had previously told them, “This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words” (1 Corinthians 2:13). Here Paul reminds us that even that which is spoken by “concession” is what the Holy Spirit is teaching.

5. Resources—

A number of good sources of cross-references are available to you today. If you are cross-referencing a word, use a good concordance such as *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible* or *NIV Exhaustive Concordance*. Many Bibles have excellent lists of cross-references in the margins next to the verses or in an abbreviated concordance in the back of the Bible. The *Treasury of Scripture Knowledge* is probably the best source of cross-references. It lists 500,000 difficult cross-references and includes every book of the Bible.

Don’t fall into the trap of relying completely on these helps rather than thinking for yourself. Often cross-references that give you the most satisfaction are those you have thought of yourself.