

THE BIBLE AND ITS GLOBAL OUTREACH

PURPOSE/SCOPE: This five-frame **topical** exhibit shows the Bible through the display of postage stamps and a wide variety of other philatelic items. All items depict the Bible (or graphic representations of the Bible), the Hebrew Bible, (*which contains the same texts* as the Protestant Old Testament), portions of the Bible (e.g., frontispiece, Title Page), Biblical scrolls/manuscripts, and related texts such as the Book of Hours (Christian prayer book). The exhibit *excludes* stamps with biblical quotes or biblical stories and images that do not also depict the Bible itself.

BACKGROUND: The Bible is rooted in antiquity. Manuscripts gave way to the printed Bible with the invention of movable type and printing of the “Gutenberg Bible.” The Protestant Reformation spurred the translation of the Bible from Latin into local languages (*vernacular*). Bible translations often represented the first printed book in that language. Bible Societies and missionaries have continued to translate and disseminate the Bible, which has been integrated into many aspects of our culture. The Bible has been globally recognized philatelically in stamp issues.

EXHIBIT PLAN:

Title Page

1. The Hebrew Bible/Old Testament

- 1.1 Torah
- 1.2 Ten Commandments
- 1.3 The Dead Sea Scrolls
- 1.4 Tanakh

2. Biblical Manuscripts

- 2.1. Autographa – New Testament
- 2.2 Illuminated Manuscripts
- 2.3 Codices
- 2.4 Byzantine Manuscripts

3. Printed Bible/Reformation

- 3.1 Gutenberg Bible
- 3.2 Reformation

3.3 The Luther Bible

3.4 Printed Hebrew Bible

4. Bible Translations

- 4.1 Germanic
- 4.2 Celtic
- 4.3 Finno-Ugrian
- 4.4 Slavonic
- 4.5 English
- 4.6 Italic/Romance
- 4.7 Armenian

5. Bible Societies

- 5.1 American Bible Society
- 5.2 European Bible Societies
- 5.3 South Asia
- 5.4 Asia Pacific
- 5.5 South America/Africa

6. Sharing the Bible

- 6.1 Evangelism
- 6.2 Missionary Translations
- 6.3 Teaching
- 6.4 Bible Exhibitions
- 6.5 Events, Radio, Conferences
- 6.6 Commercial Distribution

7. The Bible in Modern Culture

- 7.1 National Recognition
- 7.2 Bible in the Arts
- 7.3 The Bible and Christmas
- 7.4 Government Ceremonies
- 7.5 Civic Ceremonies
- 7.6 Bible as Symbol

8. Epilogue

EXHIBIT KEY:

Rare/ items of
importance
bordered in red

Biblical information in maroon
Arial font

Philatelic information in
Times New Roman italic font

Research / Personal study
New discoveries

