

Old Testament Apocalyptic Literature (The end of days as the Hebrews knew it!)

Isaiah 24
Ezekiel chapters 38-39
Daniel chapters 1-3, 11, and 56
Zechariah 12-14
Joel 2:28-3:16 (also contains lines Christians interpret as prophecies of Christ's death)
Malachi 2:17 through the end of book

New Testament Apocalyptic Literature (The end of days as the Christians knew it!)

Revelation chapters 1, and 4 through 22 (the most famous and complex account of the last days according to John of Patmos: note how closely he follows in the steps of Daniel in maintaining the Hebrew tradition in Christian teaching)
First Thessalonians chapter 4, verses 13-18
Matthew 24
Mark 13
Luke chapter 21, verses 5-37
Second Peter chapter 3, verses 1-13
First John chapter 2, verses 18-27

Christ's Nativity: (The symbolic basis for Christmas presents as well as the *Second Shepherd's Play*)

Matthew 1:18-2:23
Luke 1:26-2:51, and 15
Gospel of John chapter 15 verses 1-17

Samples of Christian Teaching (A survey of the ethical and eschatological doctrine of the church)

Matthew chapters 4-10, 13, 16:13-16:17, and chapters 22-24.
Mark chapters 4 and 12
Luke 6:27-6:49, and 10:1-10:37

Accounts of John the Baptist (useful as a contrast with Oscar Wilde's *Salome*, a play accounting the same event)

Matthew 3, and 11:1-11:19, and chapter 14.
Mark 1:1-1:12, and chapter 6:14-6:29.
Luke 1:1-1:25
Gospel of John 1:19-1:28

Accounts of the Crucifixion

Matthew 20:17-20:19, 21:1-21:11, and finally 26:1-27:61
Mark 14 and 15
Luke 22:1-23:56
Gospel of John 18:1-19:42

Gathering of the Disciples and the Early Church (from the gospels and letters of Sts. Paul and Peter)

Matthew 3:18-3:22, and 10:1-10:39
Mark 3:13-3:19 and 6:7-6:12
Luke 6:12
Gospel of John 1:35-1:42
Acts 2:1-6:7
Acts 6:8-7:60 (Accounts the first Martyrdom of a Saint and sets a hagiographical trend for the next thousand years)
Acts 22-29
Titus 1:5-1:7 (The first inkling of the Church hierarchy that will dominate Europe for the next 1500 years)

Miscellaneous:

Armor of Faith: Ephesians 5:14-5:18 (After Homer, the most famous arming description in Western Europe)
Mary Magdalen: Luke 7:36-7:50
Lazarus: Gospel of John: 1:35-1:42 (Read it in conjunction with Sylvia Plath's "Lady Lazarus")
The Transfiguration: Mark 9:2-9:12 and Luke 9:28-9:36
Scriptural basis for Protestant doctrine on Faith: Hebrew 11
Scriptural basis for Catholic doctrine on good Deeds: James 2:14 though 2:22

Beware: Avoid confusing the various people with the same first name, such as St. John, John the Baptist, and John of Patmos, or the Virgin Mary with the prostitute Mary Magdalen. Don't confuse the *Ark of the Covenant* (a decorated box holding the fragmented Ten Commandments) with the *Ark* (Noah's big boat). The word *gentiles* refers to everybody in the world except the Hebrews. The Israelites in the Old Testament are divided into 12 tribes (from the twelve grandsons of Abraham), ten of which are "lost" from history during the Babylonian exile in 587 BCE, the other two constitute the Kingdom of Judah in the Old Testament, from which the modern Jews descend. See [The MLA Handbook](#) for how to abbreviate the books of the Bible in citation.