

THE HOLY TEXTS OF CHRISTIANITY

In addition to the Hebrew Scriptures, Christians rely on the New Testament, the name given to the Christian Scriptures that were written after the birth of Jesus. They considered these writings sacred texts.

Of the books that became part of the *New Testament*, the oldest are the letters of PAUL, usually considered to have been written in the 40s and 50s of the first century. Other letters are thought to have been written over the next couple of decades. Of the four gospels, MARK is considered the earliest at about 68–70 CE, while JOHN is the latest at about 110 CE. ACTS is later than LUKE (around 100), and REVELATION was probably composed in the 90s.

