

## Find Forty-One Books of The Bible

**Well over half the Books of the Bible are in this passage of text**

**Can you find them?**

This is a most remarkable puzzle. I found it, together with a discarded pamphlet on ‘Juju’ describing its dubious business potential, in an airplane seat pocket on a flight from Suez, via Simla, to Honolulu. Keeping me occupied for hours, I enjoyed this puzzle so much I passed it on to some friends. One friend from Israel worked on this while fishing from his john dory dinghy. Another friend, Philipp, studied it in New Orleans while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend from Suez, rated it so highly she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Now also currently in Honolulu, she recently asked me, “Can you recommend a good hairdressing salon?” In the old quarter of Suez, the locals, of course, all know of the “Singing”, or “S”, salon on the corner of Nehemiah and Zechariah Streets with its much admired caged nightingale that regularly and delightfully trills its “song”. (Of songsters in the avian world this one must surely be supreme.) “You probably won’t find the likes of the “S” salon”, I answered her doubtfully. “Over here ones like that seem quite rare, but Philipp,” I answered further, “May know of one as he and his wife are often here.” Earlier Elaine had asked, with more than just passing curiosity it seemed, “Is the ‘Juju’ pamphlet likely to result in profit or loss to an international company trading in Art Deco?” “Loss,” I answered briefly! “Don’t touch it!” I also suggested it was better to watch and learn of the future opportunities: for example, as Simla men ‘tat’ ion supplies in demodulating old amplifier circuit boards so hearing is not impaired. Another friend, while in the midst of a crossword, wondered, “Why is a ‘i’ ahead of ‘a’ in ‘ailurophobia’?” I smiled, “Don’t ask a cat lover.” She judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There was a biscotti moth yesterday in her cookie jar! Notwithstanding this, some names are really easy to spot and that is an undeniable fact! Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalised. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar - who understands alms, historic oil lamps, almsbowls and almsbags and the application of early Persian proverbs - to see some of them at the worst instance. Research has shown that something in our genes issues a check causing the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this passage. During a recent student fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, a Greek booth selling ‘Alpha-Delphi’ Lemonade set a new sales record. With this in mind, the local paper, the Chronicle, surveyed over 200 readers who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As its literary critic, Daniel Humana, humbly puts it, “The books are all right here in plain view hidden from sight.” Those able to find all of them may help those who want to be shown. In this regard one revelation that may help is that two-part books like Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A child-like attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus, there really are forty-one books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this passage waiting to be found.