

# Understanding Christianity

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# Glossary of Terminology

This glossary gives the Chinese translation and a simple explanation for many of the biblical terms used in the Understanding Christianity studies. This is for the benefit of students who are unfamiliar with the Bible, for whom many of these terms are new.

English	Chinese Simplified Script	Chinese Traditional Script	Simple Explanation
Apostle	使徒	使徒	One of the special representatives of Jesus, chosen by Him to take the gospel to the world and inspired by the Holy Spirit to write the New Testament books. They include 11 of the 12 disciples Jesus chose and the Apostle Paul, who was specially called by Jesus when He spoke to him.
Baptism	洗礼	洗禮	The act of putting a person under water. This was used by John the Baptist as a sign of repentance, and commanded by Jesus for Christians as a public sign of their decision to follow Him.
Beliefs	信仰	信仰	The things that a person believes.
Believe	相信	相信	To believe means to accept that something is true. In the Bible the meaning also includes the idea of trusting in that thing. In other words to believe in God is not just to accept that He exists but to base your life on this truth, trusting Him to lead your life.
Bible	圣经	聖經	The book given by God to mankind telling us the story of His love for us and His plan to bring His Kingdom among human beings. It contains 56 books written over a period of around 2000 years. The Bible is the basis for the beliefs of Christians.
Ceremonial Law	礼仪律法	禮儀律法	God's Laws that cover how the people of Israel should worship Him through sacrifices and feast days
Chapter	章、篇	章、篇	A division of the books of the Bible into smaller sections. This division was not made by the writers of the Bible but was added later to help us find parts of the Bible easily.
Christ	基督	基督	The title given to Jesus. It is the Greek word for "Messiah" and means God's chosen or anointed one.
Christian	基督徒	基督徒	A follower of Jesus Christ.
Church	教会	教會	The collected followers of Jesus. This word can mean all Jesus' followers everywhere in the world, or a local collection of his followers. Sometimes it is used to describe the building that a local group of Christians meet in.
Civil Law	人民法	人民法	God's Laws given to Moses that told the nation of Israel how they should judge criminals and look after the poor
Confess	承认	承認	To admit something honestly and openly. We should confess our sins to God by telling Him about them and asking Him to forgive us.
Conquering King	征服国王	征服國王	A person spoken of in the Old Testament prophecies who would be a great King who conquers or defeats God's enemies. These prophecies pointed forward to the Messiah.
Covenant	契约	契約	A special relationship between God and a person or group of people. In a covenant God makes promises to His people and tells them what they should do to keep this relationship. A covenant always has a sign that reminds people of it. There are three important Covenants in the Bible – one made with Noah, one made with Abraham (the Old Covenant) and one made by Jesus with His followers (the New Covenant).

Creation	创造	創造	The act by which God made the Universe from nothing. Mankind was the most important part of God's creation, made in His image. When God made the Universe it was perfect.
Cross	十字架	十字架	A wooden structure used by the Romans to crucify people on. Because Jesus died on a cross it has become a symbol of Christianity.
Crucifixion	钉死在十字架上	釘死在十字架上	The act of executing a person on a cross. This was a very painful death and was only used for the worst criminals. Jesus was executed by crucifixion by the Romans at the request of the Jewish religious leaders.
Deacon	执事	執事	A leader in the Church who is responsible for practical arrangements.
Descendant	后裔	後裔	A person who comes directly from the family line of another person who lived before them.
Disciple	门徒	門徒	A follower (in Bible usage usually a follower of Jesus). A disciple listens to the teachings of his Master and obeys them.
Elder	长老	長老	A leader in the Church who is responsible for teaching the Bible and for caring for the spiritual needs of the members.
Evil spirit (demon)	邪灵	邪靈	A spiritual being which is in rebellion against God. Demons can influence human beings, and will always try to deceive them and stop them from listening to God.
Exile	流放、放逐	流放、放逐	A period of time in the history of the nation of Israel when they were taken away from their own land to live in a foreign country. This happened first to the northern Kingdom of Israel which was exiled to Assyria in 722 BC, and later to the southern Kingdom of Judah which was exiled to Babylon in 586 BC.
Eyewitness	见证人	見證人	A person who speaks about things he or she has actually seen with his or her own eyes. The writers of the four gospel accounts about the life and teachings of Jesus were either eyewitnesses or recorded what other eyewitnesses told them.
Faith	信念、信心	信念、信心	Faith is taking God's word as true and trusting in Him to do what He has said. It is the basis of our relationship with God and leads us to be confident in those things we cannot see.
Fellowship	团契 (noun) (名词) 交通 (verb) (动词)	團契 (noun) (名詞) 交通 (verb) (動詞)	The Christian meaning of fellowship means sharing your life with other Christians. When Christians meet together in churches they want to encourage, serve and help one another by sharing their thoughts, time and effort. This is fellowship.
Forgive	原谅 (as in forgive you) 赦免 (forgive sin)	原諒 (as in forgive you) 赦免 (forgive sin)	To forgive someone means that we do not seek to punish them for something they have done wrong against us. In Biblical usage the word goes further and means that we keep no record of the wrong that was done and refuse to remember it. Forgiveness is very important in the story of the Bible. It teaches us that we have sinned against God by turning away from Him and rejecting Him as our King. We need to ask Him to forgive us for our sin. The Bible also commands us to forgive those who do wrong to us. This is possible because God has forgiven us first.
Gentile	外邦人	外邦人	Any person or nation other than the Jewish nation. The Old Testament divides people into Jews and Gentiles (everyone else) because the Jewish nation was God's chosen nation.
God	神	神	The supreme creator of the Universe who always existed and is not dependent on anyone or anything else for life. The Bible teaches that there is only one true God, although there are many beings and things worshipped

			as gods by human beings. The New Testament reveals that God exists as three persons (see trinity).
God the Father	父神	父神	One of the three persons of the trinity. The Father was active in sending the Son (Jesus) into the world, and during His life on earth Jesus was obedient to the Father. The Father brings Christians into relationship with Himself as a loving Father.
Gospel	福音	福音	The good news about Jesus Christ. The word gospel simply means "good news", but the meaning includes the whole Christian message.
Grace	恩典	恩典	Grace is God's undeserved favour towards human beings. Because of sin we do not deserve any good thing from God, but despite this God still loves us and wants to give us His blessings. Grace is the unconditional love of God in action.
Harmony	和谐	和諧	Harmony is when two or more things or people exist together peacefully. In these studies I talk about the harmony (meaning peaceful co-existence and cooperation) between God and mankind, between human beings and between mankind and creation, all of which have been destroyed by sin but will be restored by Jesus.
Heaven	天堂	天堂	Heaven is where God lives. The Kingdom of Heaven is another Bible term for the Kingdom of God. Christians often use the word Heaven to describe the final destiny of God's people – a place where they will live with Him forever – although Biblically this place is actually the new Universe.
Hell	地獄	地獄	Hell is the final destiny of Satan and the evil spirits. It is also the destiny of all human beings who reject God's rule over them (that is all who have sinned and have not received God's forgiveness through repentance and faith). Hell is a place of eternal punishment and separation from God's blessings, and is described in the Bible with the picture of a lake of burning fire.
Holy	圣洁	聖潔	Anything that is holy is set apart to be separate from sin. God is holy because He is sinless and absolutely pure. Christians are God's holy people because they belong to Him and are set apart from the world to be His people. Christians should also become holy as they grow into the likeness of Christ and gain increasing victory over sin. This victory is possible because of the power of the Holy Spirit.
Holy Spirit	圣灵	聖靈	One of the three persons of God. In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit empowered God's people for special acts of service to Him. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to live with and in His disciples after His death and resurrection. On the day of Pentecost the Spirit came upon the apostles and other Christians. Since then He has been living in every true Christian, helping them to understand and apply God's truth to their lives and giving them power to overcome the sinful nature and to witness for Christ. His goal is to make Christians increasingly like Jesus in their character.
Image	形象	形象	The image is the likeness of – like a reflection. Mankind was created in God's image, meaning that we are like Him in many ways as individuals able to make choices, to create and to have relationships. However, sin has corrupted God's image in us. The Holy Spirit changes Christians so that they are gradually transformed back into the image of Christ. When Jesus comes again Christians will finally be restored to be fully like Jesus in character.

Jehovah's Witnesses	耶和华见证人	耶和華見證人	This is an American cult founded in the 1800s. They teach that Jesus was not truly God and that people are made right with God through doing good deeds. They claim to be true Christians and to teach the Bible but actually distort the Bible's teachings.
Jew	犹太人	猶太人	A Jew is a member of the nation of Israel descended from Abraham. The word also describes the religion of the Jewish people, which is based on the Old Testament.
Judge	审判(verb) (动词)	審判(verb) (動詞)	To judge is to decide what is right and wrong in a situation and to give an appropriate punishment to those who have done wrong. God must judge sin and will punish it. He is an absolutely fair judge since He knows everything and can not be corrupted.
Judgement	判断	判斷	Judgement is the act in which God will judge sin. God has done this in history (e.g. through the Flood), but a final day of judgement is coming when all human beings will stand before Him and answer to Him for how they have lived their lives.
Judges	士师	士師	A group of men and women who were leaders of the nation of Israel after the death of Joshua and before the first King was appointed (BC 1380-1050). There is a book of the Bible with this name which tells the history of this period.
King	国王	國王	A king is an individual who rules over a nation. The nation of Israel was ruled by Kings after 1050 BC – first as one united kingdom under Saul, David and Solomon, and then as two divided kingdoms. The Old Testament contains many prophecies about a great Conquering King descended from King David who would restore God's Kingdom.
Kingdom of God	神的国	神的國	This is a great theme of the Bible. God's Kingdom can be defined as "God's people living under God's rule in God's place enjoying God's blessings". God's Kingdom was destroyed by sin, but the Bible is the story of how God planned to restore His kingdom through Jesus Christ. The Old Testament promises and prefigures this Kingdom (gives us the patterns for it), and the New Testament shows how Jesus rebuilt God's kingdom through His sacrifice for sin and the Church He founded.
Law	律法	律法	A law is a set of rules or principles which shows a group of people how to live and against which they can be judged. God gave His Law to the nation of Israel through Moses. The Law shows us how sinful we are and how much we need God's forgiveness as well as showing us the best way to live together. The Old Testament Law does not apply to Christians, although many of its principles (moral laws) still show us what is right and wrong.
Lord's Supper	主的晚餐 圣餐	主的晚餐 聖餐	This is a special meal which Jesus taught His disciples to have together. It involves taking bread and drinking from a cup together, and is a sign of the New Covenant relationship Christians have with God through Jesus. The bread represents Jesus' body and the wine His blood. Churches practice the Lord's Supper regularly.
Messiah	弥赛亚	彌賽亞	The Old Testament prophesied the coming of a great Saviour who would lead people to know God and restore His Kingdom. The prophecies about the Messiah include prophecies about a Suffering Servant of God and prophecies about a Conquering King.
Ministry	牧师的职责 及工作	牧師的職責 及工作	A ministry is a service for God entrusted to an individual. Jesus' public ministry refers to the three year period when He was publicly telling people about God's Kingdom.

			and calling them to be His disciples. Christians are also called to be involved in ministry in the church.
Miracle	神迹	神蹟	A miracle is a special action of God, often through a human being, in which He does something that is outside the normal rules of nature. Miracles can also be performed by evil spirits to deceive people. Miracles from God are always signs to show people that He is real and that He is active. There are three main periods of miracles in the Bible: during the time of Moses and Aaron, during the time of Elijah and Elisha, and during the time of Jesus and the apostles.
Mission	使命	使命	A mission is a special task given to a person or group of people. In Christian usage mission refers to God's plan to bring knowledge about Him to human beings. Christians are called to share in God's Mission by taking the good news about Jesus across the world to every nation.
Missionary	传道人、宣 教士	傳道人、宣 教士	A missionary is a Christian who has been called by God to reach out to people of another race or culture, often living in their country.
Moral Law	道德律法	道德律法	Some of God's Old Testament Laws given to the nation of Israel tell us what is right and wrong. The standard of right and wrong has not changed, and these Laws still show Christians what things are sinful.
New Testament	新约	新约	The second part of the Bible. It contains 27 books. The New Testament begins with the birth of Jesus and tells the story of His life and death and the growth of the Church. It contains important teaching for Christians and churches and also one book of prophecy about the future.
Old Testament	旧约	舊约	The first part of the Bible. It contains 39 books. The Old Testament begins with creation and tells the story of God's relationship with the nation of Israel. It also contains many prophecies about the Messiah who would come.
Parable	寓言	寓言	A story told by Jesus to teach a spiritual truth. Parables often used everyday characters or events. Some helped to illustrate the truth, while others were designed to make people work to understand the truth (they had to think about its meaning).
Pastor	牧师	牧師	A pastor is a church leader who usually works full time for the church and has a special responsibility to teach the Bible, care for the spiritual needs of Christians and train them to serve in the church.
Prayer	祷告	禱告	Prayer is the act of talking to God.
Priest	祭司	祭司	Priests were spiritual leaders of the nation of Israel in the Old Testament. Their main responsibility was to offer sacrifices to God on behalf of the people and to bring the people before God. In the New Testament there is no need for a priesthood since Jesus has made the final sacrifice for sins forever and all Christians can come directly before God through Jesus.
Priority	居要位、优 先权	居要位、優 先權	A priority is something that is most important to you. Christians are called to make God's will the number one priority in their lives.
Promise	应许	應許	God makes many promises in the Bible. Because He is holy and never fails, He always keeps His promises. The most important promises of God are contained in His covenants with human beings.
Prophecy	预言	預言	A prophecy is a message from God for His people. Prophecies in the Bible often speak about the future, but do not always. They sometimes brought hope and

			encouragement to God's people but often warned of coming judgement and the need to repent. There are many prophecies in the Old Testament about the coming Messiah.
Prophet	先知	先知	A prophet is a person called and gifted by God to speak His words to His people. God sent many prophets to the nation of Israel in the Old Testament, and some of these also wrote Bible books.
Punishment	惩罚	懲罰	Punishment is the repayment for wrong doing. God must punish sin, and this means that sinful human beings deserve to be sent to Hell when God judges them. The only alternative is for our punishment to be taken by a sinless human being dying in our place. Jesus did this when He died on the cross – He took the punishment for our sin. If we repent and trust in Him our sins can therefore be forgiven.
Repent	对所做的感到懊悔	對所做的感到懊悔	To repent means to admit that you are wrong and to ask God for His forgiveness. It means to turn away from living life for yourself under your own leadership and to turn to God, asking Him to lead you and rule over you.
Repentance	悔改	悔改	Repentance is the act in which a person repents.
Resurrection	复活	復活	Resurrection means to bring a dead person back to life. In the Old Testament and during Jesus' life a small number of people were resurrected by God's prophets or by Jesus, but these people later died again. However, after Jesus died He came back to life without any person being involved – God raised Him – and He never died again. His resurrection proves that He had really paid the price for sin and that he was exactly who He claimed to be – God living as a man. In the future all human beings will be resurrected to face God's final judgement.
Sacrifice	祭物	祭物	Sacrifice is an important theme in the Bible. In the Old Testament people sacrificed animals as an offering to God, showing their repentance for their sins and faith in Him. The picture was that the animal was dying in their place, for their sins. These sacrifices were only a picture pointing forward to Jesus. They could never really pay the price for sins, but when Jesus died in our place He really did pay the price, taking our punishment, so that if we trust in Him our sins can be forgiven. Jesus' sacrifice also paid for the sins of all the Old Testament people of faith since the sacrifices they made were fulfilled in Him. Because Jesus' death was the final sacrifice Christians do not need to sacrifice animals. Instead, we offer our lives to God as living sacrifices, serving Him in everything we do.
Salvation	救恩	救恩	Salvation means being saved from the results of sin. It is only possible because Jesus died for us on the cross and is received as a free gift from God through repentance and faith.
Satan	撒但	撒但	Satan is the enemy of God. He is a spiritual being who is in rebellion against God and tries to lead human beings to rebel against God. He is not equal to God, and can only do what God allows him to do. He was defeated when Jesus died on the cross, and will finally be judged by God and punished in Hell. His main methods of attacking human beings are deception (trying to make us believe false things), accusation (telling us we cannot be forgiven by God or that God does not love us) and temptation (trying to make sin seem appealing to us).
Saviour	救主	救主	A saviour is someone who rescues us. The Bible teaches that we all need a Saviour because of our sin. Jesus

			came to be the Saviour for mankind – to rescue us from the results of our sin.
Shepherd	牧羊人	牧羊人	A shepherd is a person who looks after sheep. The Bible uses this picture to describe how God looks after His people and also how leaders of God's people should care for them (both kings in the Old Testament and church leaders in the New Testament). Jesus called Himself the Good Shepherd.
Sin	罪孽	罪孽	Sin is disobedience to God and rebellion against Him. Every human being inherits a sinful nature from Adam, the first man, and this sinful nature makes it impossible for us not to commit sinful acts. The ultimate result of sin is death. By dying in our place Jesus took the punishment for our sin and made it possible for our sinful acts to be forgiven and for us to receive a new spiritual life that is eternal.
Soul	灵魂	靈魂	The souls is the invisible, unseen part of every human being. It includes our emotions and thoughts.
Spirit	精神 or 灵 里面	精神 or 靈 裏面	A spirit is an invisible being. There are evil spirits and angels, who are God's messengers, as well as Satan and the Holy Spirit, who is the invisible God. Human beings are also capable of having spiritual life which makes it possible for them to worship God and to have a relationship with Him. Because of sin we are spiritually dead when born, but when a person becomes a Christian they receive spiritual life as a gift from God. So, Christians can be said to have a spirit which can either be alive or dead.
Suffering Servant	受苦的仆人	受苦的僕人	Many of the Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah speak of Him as a servant of God who dies.
Tabernacle	会幕	會幕	This was a tent in which the people of Israel offered sacrifices to God and worshipped Him. The pattern for the Tabernacle was given to Moses by God. The Tabernacle was replaced by the Temple built by Solomon in Jerusalem.
Temple	圣殿	聖殿	The nation of Israel only ad one Temple in which to worship God. It was the place where the Ark of the Covenant was kept and where the priests offered sacrifices to God for the sins of the people and in thanksgiving to Him. It was first built in Jerusalem by King Solomon in the 10 <sup>th</sup> Century BC and rebuilt twice after being destroyed by the enemies of Israel. It was finally destroyed by the Romans in AD 70, and today a Muslim Mosque stands on its site.
Temptation	诱惑、引诱	誘惑、引誘	Temptation is the experience of having a strong urge to do something, especially if that thing is wrong. Satan tempts human beings to sin by making sin seem like a good thing, or by making it appear that the results of sinning will justify doing wrong.
Trinity	三位一体	三位一體	This is a word used by Christians to describe the truth taught in the Bible that although there is only one God He exists as three persons who relate to one another and relate to human beings in different ways. The three persons are the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Although they have different roles they are equal in power and glory.
Trust	信任	信任	To trust in a person is to believe that their words are true and that they are able to keep their promises to you. Trust in God is essential for Christians both when we first become Christians but also as we live the Christian life, depending on Him to lead us and keep us safe. Trust in

			God brings peace and joy into our lives. God can always be trusted because He is perfectly truthful and all powerful. He never promises what He cannot do and never breaks His promises.
Verse	节	節	A verse is a smaller division of a chapter of the Bible. These divisions were added many years after the Bible was written to help us locate passages in the Bible.
Worship	崇拜、敬拜	崇拜、敬拜	To worship means to give someone or something the position of greatest honour in our minds and lives. Human beings need to worship, and every person worships something. Only God is worthy of worship, because He is the greatest person who exists, but human beings often worship other things including other people (e.g. husband or wife), famous people (e.g. pop or sports stars), other spirits (many evil spirits are worshipped in false religions), money and power, or even themselves. False worship is a form of sin. To worship God we must worship in spirit and truth – in other words sincerely led by the Holy Spirit and responding to the truth about God. Christians seek to worship God in everything they do by giving Him the position of greatest honour.

# Glossary of Names

The following is a list of proper names of people and places in the Bible which are important in the *Understanding Christianity* studies with Chinese translation and a brief overview of the significance of that place or person.

English	Simplified Chinese	Traditional Chinese	Brief overview of significance
Abel	亚伯	亞伯	Second son of Adam and Eve. He was a man of faith whose sacrifice pleased God. He was murdered by his brother, Cain.
Abraham	亚伯拉罕	亞伯拉罕	A man of faith who was called by God in around 2000 BC. God made a covenant with Him to bless all nations through Him and to give Him many descendants and the Land of Canaan. He became the ancestor of the nation of Israel.
Adam	亚当	亞當	The first man, created by God. He became a sinner by disobeying God.
Assyria	亚述	亞述	A nation based in modern day Iraq (its capital city was Nineveh). It was the most powerful nation in the Middle East from 1100-625 BC, and took the northern kingdom of Israel into Exile in 722 BC.
Babylon	巴比伦	巴比倫	A nation based in modern day Iraq (also the name of the capital city of that nation). It defeated the Assyrians in 625 BC and was the dominant nation in the Middle East until 539 BC. Babylon took the southern kingdom of Judah into Exile in 586 BC.
Cain	该隐	該隱	The first son of Adam and Eve. He was disobedient to God and murdered his brother, Abel.
Daniel	但以理	但以理	A great prophet of God who was taken from Jerusalem to live in Exile in Babylon (initially under the rule of the Babylonians and later under the Persians). Lived around 605-536 BC. Wrote the Bible book called Daniel.
David	大卫	大衛	The second and greatest King of Israel. He was from the tribe of Judah and was the ancestor of Jesus. God promised him that his ancestors would be kings forever. Ruled Israel for 40 years from 1010-970 BC. He wrote many of the songs contained in the Bible book called Psalms.
Elijah	以利亚	以利亞	A great prophet of God in the northern Kingdom of Israel around 875-848 BC. He did not write any Bible book but was one of the greatest of all Old Testament prophets. Elijah and his successor, Elisha, performed many miracles.
Eve	夏娃	夏娃	The first woman created by God from the side of the first man, Adam, to be his wife. She tempted Adam to eat the fruit God had forbidden.
Isaac	以撒	以撒	The son of Abraham by his wife Sarah, born when Abraham was 100 years old. He was the son God had promised, and became the ancestor of the nation of Israel.
Isaiah	以赛亚	以賽亞	A great prophet of God who lived in the Southern kingdom of Judah around 740-681 BC. He wrote the Bible book called Isaiah and made many great prophecies about the Messiah.
Israel	以色列	以色列	The new name given by God to Jacob. It became the name by which the nation descended from him was known. Later, when the nation split in two, this name was used to describe the northern kingdom. Today it is still used as the name of a country in the Middle East which is the home land of the Jewish people.
Jacob	雅各	雅各	The son of Jacob, grandson of Abraham. His name was

			changed to Israel when God continued His covenant promises through him. He had 12 sons who became the ancestors of the 12 tribes of the nation of Israel.
Jerusalem	耶路撒冷	耶路撒冷	The capital city of the nation of Israel. It was captured by King David who made it his capital, and Solomon built the Temple of God there.
Jesus	耶穌	耶穌	The Son of God and Son of Man, descended from the Jewish royal line of King David, born in Bethlehem in around 4 BC. He claimed to be the Messiah promised in the Old Testament and performed many great miracles and taught amazing things. He died by crucifixion around the age of 33, but later rose again from the dead. He was the founder of Christianity.
John	約翰	約翰	John the Apostle – one of the 12 disciples of Jesus who wrote the New Testament books called John, I, II, III John and Revelation.
Joseph	约瑟	约瑟	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The son of Jacob who was gifted by God to interpret dreams and became the Prime Minister of Egypt around 1700 BC.</li> <li>2. The husband of Mary, mother of Jesus. He was a carpenter from Nazareth although a descendant of King David.</li> </ol>
Joshua	约书亚	約書亞	The leader of the nation of Israel after the death of Moses. He led the nation around 1406-1380 BC when they entered the Land of Canaan. He was one of only two men who left Egypt and was still alive when they entered Canaan.
John the Baptist	施洗约翰	施洗約翰	John the Baptist – the forerunner of Jesus, born several months before Him and executed by King Herod. He preached repentance from sins and baptised people in the river Jordan.
Judah	犹大	猶大	A son of Jacob who became the ancestor of one of the 12 tribes of the nation of Israel. King David (and Jesus) came from the tribe of Judah. The tribe gave its name to the Southern Kingdom which was formed when Israel split in two after Solomon's death in 930 BC and ceased to exist when Babylon conquered Jerusalem in 586 BC.
Judas Iscariot	加略人犹大	加略人猶大	One of the 12 disciples chosen by Jesus. He was the one who betrayed Jesus and later committed suicide because of his guilt.
Luke	路加	路加	A doctor who wrote one of the four gospels (called Luke) telling the story of Jesus' life and teaching, and the book called Acts, which tells the story of the early Church.
Mary	马利亚	馬利亞	The name of several women in the New Testament. The most famous is the Mary who was chosen by God to be the mother of Jesus.
Moses	摩西	摩西	A great leader of the nation of Israel who lived around 1526-1406 BC. He was raised in the Egyptian royal family, but later became the leader of the Jews when they left Egypt in 1446 BC. God gave the Law to Him, and He wrote parts of the first five books of the Bible. He died outside the promised Land of Canaan because he had been disobedient to God.
Noah	挪亚	挪亞	A man of faith who was saved together with his family from the great Flood by God, who told him to build a huge boat. He also rescued all other species on earth. God made a covenant with all living things in the time of Noah.
Paul	保罗	保羅	A Jewish leader who initially tried to destroy Christianity but later became a Christian himself after Jesus spoke to him. He was a great missionary spreading the gospel to the Gentiles and wrote many books in the New Testament. He died around 64 AD probably executed by

			the Roman Empire.
Persia	波斯	波斯	A nation based in modern day Iran which became the dominant power in the Middle East in 536 BC when it defeated Babylon. The Persian kings allowed the Jews to return to their land in stages in 538, 458 and 432 BC. The Persian Empire was defeated by Alexander the Great in 330 BC.
Saul	扫罗	掃羅	The first king of Israel (ruled 1050-1010 BC). He started out well, but disobeyed God and was rejected as King. He was replaced by David in 1010 BC after dying in battle.
Simon Peter	西门彼得	西門彼得	One of the 12 disciples chosen by Jesus. Jesus changed his name from Simon to Peter, and he became the leader of the apostles. He wrote the New Testament books called I and II Peter, and died around 64 AD, probably executed by the Roman Empire.
Solomon	所罗门	所羅門	The third king of Israel after his father David died in 970 BC until his own death in 930 BC. He was given great wisdom by God, and built the Temple of God in Jerusalem. However, he was distracted by his great wealth and his love for women, and became disobedient to God. After his death the nation of Israel split into two. He wrote large parts of the Old Testament books called Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon.