

**OCLS APA 7e Guide: Bible and Holy Books
References and In-Text Citations**

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Online Campus Library Services: Indiana Wesleyan University

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Author Note:

This guide is based on the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.).

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MAJOR UPDATE

Change to Bible Title Capitalization – January 2024

Following discussions with the Seminary Librarian/Dean of University Libraries, it has been determined that Bible versions should be capitalized. Online Campus Library Services now treats Bible versions as proper nouns, requiring capitalization in title case.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jay Wise". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a smaller "W".

JAY WISE, MLIS, M.DIV.
DEAN OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
INDIANA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

APA 7e SOURCE LOCATIONS

APA 7e MANUAL

Religious and Classical Works

Page 302, Section 9.42, Religious and Classical Works

APA 7e WEBSITE

Religious Work References

<https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/references/examples/religious-work-references>

Religious Works References – variations

Entry in a mobile app reference work

To cite an entry in a mobile app reference work, follow the format for an edited book chapter.

<https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/references/examples/clinical-practice-references#8>

ACADEMIC WRITER - Reference

When using Academic Writer to create references and citations use the following reference options:

For App Bibles:

References – choose Software: Mobile App

For BibleGateway and Hard Copy Bibles:

References – choose Books, Reference Works, and Book Chapters: Religious Text

On the Religious Text template, you will see the option at the top of the screen for Reference Type – Religious Text. There will be a drop-down menu to the right. By default, it is set to *Special Cases*. Click the drop-down arrow and choose *Republished*. This will allow you to enter the original date of publication.

ACADEMIC WRITER – In-Text Citation : How to Add Book Chapter:Verse

Video: [Citing a Bible Verse in Academic Writer](#)

To enter the Book, Chapter and Verse

Choose Cite

Parenthetical
 Quotation = Yes
 Paragraph
 A section heading is needed

Now you can enter the Book, Chapter, and Verse(s)

Abbreviation

Bible Translation

When you first use a Bible version in the text, present both the full version of the Bible and the abbreviation. After you have defined this abbreviation, you may use only the abbreviation in the rest of your paper.

Example:

“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever” (*New International Version* [NIV], 1978/2011, Psalm 136:1). “Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords, His love endures forever” (NIV, 1978/2011, Psalm 136:2–3).

Books of the Bible

Books of the Bible are *not* abbreviated.

Capitalization

Words to Capitalize:

Bible – capitalize when referring to the Holy Bible

Gospel – capitalize when referring to a specific book of the Bible (Gospel of Mark)

Scripture – capitalize when referring to the books of the Bible

Formal names of Bible sections – Old Testament, New Testament, etc.

Unique theological concepts – the Fall, the Flood, Original Sin, the Nativity, the Holy of Holies, etc.

Numerals

Use Arabic (1, 2, 3) rather than Roman (I, II, III) numerals in all Bible references

Example: 1 Corinthians, not I Corinthians

APP BIBLES

Gideon Bible App

This is considered a Religious Work

Be certain to update the date and which app version you are using

Reference

Gideon Bible. (2021, January 30). *New King James*. In *Gideon Bible* (Version 2.0.1) [Mobile app]. App Store. <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/gideon-bible-app/id1000709020?ls=1>

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (Gideon Bible, 2021, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: Gideon Bible (2021, Psalm 136:1–3)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

Parenthetical: (Gideon Bible, 2021)

Narrative: Gideon Bible (2021)

Tecarta NIV App

This is considered a Religious Work

Be certain to update the date, version of the Bible, and which app version you are using

Reference

Tecarta Bible. (2021) *New International Version (NIV)*. In *Bible translations* (Version 8.0.5) [Mobile app]. App Store. <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/tecarta-bible/id325955298>

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (Tecarta Bible, 2021, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: Tecarta Bible (2021, Psalm 136:1–3)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

Parenthetical: (Tecarta Bible, 2021)

Narrative: Tecarta Bible (2021)

YouVersion App

This is considered a Religious Work

Be certain to update the date, version of the Bible, and which app version you are using

Reference

YouVersion. (2023, December 18). *American Standard Version (ASV)*. In *The Bible* (Version 9.33.3) [Mobile app]. App Store. <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bible/id282935706>

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (YouVersion, 2023, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: YouVersion (2023, Psalm 136:1–3)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

Parenthetical: (YouVersion, 2023)

Narrative: YouVersion (2023)

AUDIOBOOK

This is considered a Religious Work & Audiobook

King James Version

Reference –

Bible-In-a-Year: 365-day reading plan, King James Version (C. Glyn, Narr.). (2014). Blackstone

Audio.

In-Text Citation for Scripture –

Parenthetical: (*Bible-In-A-Year*, 2014, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *Bible-In-A-Year* (2014, Psalm 136:1–3)

BIBLE GATEWAY

This is considered a Religious Work

Amplified Bible (AMP)

Reference

Amplified Bible. (2015). BibleGateway.com. <https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/Amplified->

[Bible-AMP](#) (Original work published 1965)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*Amplified Bible*, 1965/2015, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *Amplified Bible* (1965/2015, Psalm 136:1–3)

English Standard Version (ESV)

Reference

English Standard Version: Holy Bible. (2016). BibleGateway.com.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/English-Standard-Version-ESV-Bible/> (Original

work published 2001)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*English Standard Version*, 2001/2016, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *English Standard Version* (2001/2016, Psalm 136:1–3)

Expanded Bible (EXB)

Reference

Expanded Bible. (2011). BibleGateway.com. <https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/Expanded->

[Bible-EXB/](#)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*Expanded Bible*, 2011, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *Expanded Bible* (2011, Psalm 136:1–3)

Good News Translation (GNT)

Reference

Good News Translation: Holy Bible. (1992). BibleGateway.com.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/Good-News-Translation-GNT-Bible/> (Original

work published 1976)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*Good News Translation*, 1976/1992, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *Good News Translation* (1976/1992, Psalm 136:1–3)

King James Version (KJV)*Reference*

King James Version: Holy Bible. (1987). BibleGateway.com.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/King-James-Version-KJV-Bible/> (Original work published 1611)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*King James Version*, 1611/1987, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *King James Version* (1611/1987, Psalm 136:1–3)

The Message (MSG)*Reference*

Peterson, E. H. (2018). *The Message: The Bible in contemporary language*. BibleGateway.com.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/Message-MSG-Bible/> (Original work published 1993)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (Peterson, 1993/2018, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: Peterson (1993/2018, Psalm 136:1–3)

New American Standard Bible (NASB)*Reference*

New American Standard Bible. (2020). BibleGateway.com.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/New-American-Standard-Bible-NASB/> (Original work published 1971)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New American Standard Bible*, 1971/2020, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New American Standard Bible* (1971/2020, Psalm 136:1–3)

New English Version (NET)

Reference

New English Translation: Holy Bible. (2017). BibleGateway.com.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/New-English-Translation-NET-Bible/> (Original

work published 1996)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New English Translation*, 1996/2017, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New English Translation* (1996/2017, Psalm 136:1–3)

New International Version (NIV)

Reference

New International Version: Holy Bible. (2011). BibleGateway.com.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/New-International-Version-NIV-Bible/> (Original

work published 1978)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New International Version*, 1978/2011, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New International Version* (1978/2011, Psalm 136:1–3)

New King James Version (NKJV)

Reference

New King James Version: Holy Bible. (1982). BibleGateway.com.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/New-King-James-Version-NKJV-Bible/> (Original

work published 1967)

*According to the preface, the NKJV uses the 1967/1977 Stuttgart edition of the *Biblia Hebraica**

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New King James Version*, 1967/1982, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New King James Version* (1967/1982, Psalm 136:1–3)

New Life Version (NLV)

Reference

New Life Version: Holy Bible. (2003). BibleGateway.com.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/New-Life-Version-NLV-Bible> (Original work published 1969)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New Life Version*, 1969/2003, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New Life Version* (1969/2003, Psalm 136:1–3)

New Living Translation (NLT)

Reference

New Living Translation: Holy Bible. (2015). BibleGateway.com.

<https://classic.biblegateway.com/versions/New-Living-Translation-NLT-Bible/> (Original work published 1996)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New Living Translation*, 1996/2015, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New Living Translation* (1996/2015, Psalm 136:1–3)

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVue)

Reference

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition: Holy Bible. (2021). BibleGateway.com.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/New-Revised-Standard-Version-Updated-Edition-NRSVue-Bible/> (Original work published 1996)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*, 1989/2021, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition* (1989/2021, Psalm 136:1–3)

The Living Bible (TLB)

Reference

The Living Bible. (1971). BibleGateway.com. [https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/The-](https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/The-Living-Bible-TLB/)

[Living-Bible-TLB/](#)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*The Living Bible*, 1971, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *The Living Bible* (1971, Psalm 136:1–3)

Hard Copy Bibles

Douay-Rheims 1899 American Edition Bible (DRA)

Reference

Douay-Rheims 1899 American Edition Bible. (2016). CrossReach. (Original work published 1790)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*Douay-Rheims*, 1790/2016, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *Douay-Rheims* (1790/2016, Psalm 136:1–3)

English Standard Version Bible (ESV)

Reference

English Standard Version: Holy Bible. (2016). Crossway. (Original work published 2001)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*English Standard Version*, 2001/2016, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *English Standard Version* (2001/2016, Psalm 136:1–3)

Gideon

Hotel Edition (marbled navy cover)

Reference

New King James Version: Holy Bible. (1985). National Publishing Company. (Original work published 1967)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New King James Version*, 1967/1985, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New King James Version* (1967/1985, Psalm 136:1–3)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

No notes/commentary in this version

New American Standard Bible (NASB)

Reference

New American Standard Bible. (2020). The Lockman Foundation. (Original work published 1971)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New American Standard Bible*, 1971/2020, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New American Standard Bible* (1971/2020, Psalm 136:1–3)

New English Version (NET)

Reference

New English Translation: Holy Bible. (2017). Biblical Studies Press. (Original work published 1996)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New English Translation*, 1996/2017, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New English Translation* (1996/2017, Psalm 136:1–3)

New International Version

Reference

New International Version: Holy Bible. (1984). International Bible Society. (Original work published 1978)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New International Version*, 1978/1984, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New International Version* (1978/1984, Psalm 136:1–3)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

No notes/commentary in this version

New Life Version (NLV)

Reference

New Life Version: Holy Bible. (2003). Barbour. (Original work published 1969)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New Life Version*, 1969/2003, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New Life Version* (1969/2003, Psalm 136:1–3)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

No notes/commentary in this version

New Living Translation Version*Reference*

New Living Translation: Holy Bible. (2006). Tyndale House. (Original work published 1996)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New Living Translation*, 1996/2006, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New Living Translation* (1996/2006, Psalm 136:1–3)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

No notes/commentary in this version

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)*Reference*

New Revised Standard Version: Holy Bible. (1989). National Council of the Churches of Christ.

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*, 1989, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition* (1989, Psalm 136:1–3)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

No notes/commentary in this version

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVue)*Reference*

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition: Holy Bible. (2021). National Council of the

Churches of Christ. (Original work published 1989)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (*New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*, 1989/2021, Psalm 136:1–3)

Narrative: *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition* (1989/2021, Psalm 136:1–3)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

No notes/commentary in this version

HARD COPY BIBLES WITH COMMENTARY/NOTES

The King James Study Bible

Reference

Scofield, C. I. (Ed.). (1998). *The King James Study Bible*. Barbour. (Original work published 1909)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (Scofield, 1909/1998, Psalm 136:1–3)
Narrative: Scofield (1909/1998, Psalm 136:1–3)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

Parenthetical: (Scofield, 1909/1998, p. 665)
Narrative: Scofield (1909/1998, p. 665)

Life Application Study Bible

(Maroon color cover - NIV)

Reference

Beers, R. A. (Ed.). (2005). *Life Application Study Bible: New International Version*. Tyndale House. (Original work published 1978)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (Beers, 1978/2005, Psalm 136:1–3)
Narrative: Beers (1978/2005, Psalm 136:1–3)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

Parenthetical: (Beers, 1978/2005, p. 970)
Narrative: Beers (1978/2005, p. 970)

Life Recovery Bible: Addiction Bible Tied to 12 Steps of Recovery for Help with Drugs, Alcohol, Personal Struggles

Reference

Arterburn, S., & Stoop, D. (Eds.). (2017). *Life Recovery Bible: Addiction Bible tied to 12 steps of recovery for help with drugs, alcohol, personal struggles* (2nd ed.). Tyndale House.
(Original work published 1998)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (Arterburn & Stoop, 1998/2017, Psalm 136:1–3)
Narrative: Arterburn and Stoop (1998/2017, Psalm 136:1–3)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

Parenthetical: (Arterburn & Stoop, 1998/2017, pp. 1693–1694)

Narrative: Arterburn and Stoop (1998/2017, pp. 1693–1694)

Maxwell Leadership Bible**1st Edition (greenish/yellowish cover)***Reference*

Maxwell, J. C. (Ed.). (2002). *The Maxwell Leadership Bible: New King James Version* (1st ed.).

Thomas Nelson. (Original work published 1967)

*According to the preface, the NKJV uses the 1967/1977 Stuttgart edition of the *Biblia Hebraica**

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (Maxwell, 1967/2002, Psalm 137:1-6)

Narrative: Maxwell (1967/2002, Psalm 137:1-6)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

Parenthetical: (Maxwell, 1967/2002, p. 735)

Narrative: Maxwell (1967/2002, p. 735)

2nd Edition (red/black cover)*Reference*

Maxwell, J. C. (Ed.). (2007). *The Maxwell Leadership Bible: New King James Version* (2nd ed.).

Thomas Nelson. (Original work published 1967)

*According to the preface, the NKJV uses the 1967/1977 Stuttgart edition of the *Biblia Hebraica**

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Parenthetical: (Maxwell, 1967/2007, Psalm 137:1-6)

Narrative: Maxwell (1967/2007, Psalm 137:1-6)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

Parenthetical: (Maxwell, 1967/2007, p. 735)

Narrative: Maxwell (1967/2007, p. 735)

3rd Edition (blue cover)*Reference*

Maxwell, J. C. (Ed.). (2018). *The Maxwell Leadership Bible: New King James Version* (3rd ed.).

Thomas Nelson. (Original work published 1978)

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Paranthesis: (Maxwell, 1978/2018, Psalm 137:1-6)

Narrative: Maxwell (1978/2018, Psalm 137:1-6)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

Paranthesis: (Maxwell, 1978/2018, p. 735)

Narrative: Maxwell (1978/2018, p. 735)

eBook Edition (green/white cover)*Reference*

Maxwell, J. C. (Ed.). (2014). *The Maxwell Leadership Bible: New King James Version* Thomas

Nelson. (Original work published 1967)

*According to the preface, the NKJV uses the 1967/1977 Stuttgart edition of the *Biblia Hebraica**

In-Text Citation for Scripture

Paranthesis: (Maxwell, 1967/2014, Psalm 137:1-6)

Narrative: Maxwell (1967/2014, Psalm 137:1-6)

In-Text Citation for Notes/Commentary

Paranthesis: (Maxwell, 1967/2014, p. 735)

Narrative: Maxwell (1967/2014, p. 735)

NIV Leadership Bible: Leading by the Book**Updated Edition***Reference*

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