



# From the Epic of Gilgamesh to the King James Version: The History and Development of the Bible OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS AND APOCHRYPHA

Presented by: Norm Cohen

Four Fridays: Oct. 27, Nov. 3, 10, and 17, 2023  
9:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Venue to be announced later

805-967-6030

vistas@vistaslifelonglearning.org

Who wrote, edited, and compiled the books of the Old and New Testaments, and when? What were their original languages? How did our present texts get finalized and by whom? What were the social and religious considerations that affected those decisions? What were the roles of the early Church fathers and their Rabbinical contemporaries in establishing the texts?

This class will look at the origins and evolution of the books of the Old and New Testaments and the Apocrypha starting from their origins in oral tales, songs, and myths and through a long succession of written versions and translations.

Hebrew Bible, Portugal, late 15th century



PLEASE REVIEW THE STATEMENT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS FLYER REGARDING VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS.

Preferred registration deadline\*: October 20, 2023

\*Early enrollment helps us with our planning; also, those who register by the preferred deadline will be given priority in case of over-enrollment.

## Enrollment form: History and Development of the Bible

Four Fridays: October 27, November 3, 10, and 17, 2023

VISTAS members \$50; non-members \$75

➤ EITHER pay online on our website by secure credit card through PayPal:  
<https://www.vistaslifelonglearning.org/current-courses>

➤ OR mail this form and your check to: VISTAS Lifelong Learning, Inc.  
P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara CA 93121

Number of persons \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

It is understood that attendance is limited to those who are fully vaccinated against Covid-19.



Book of Revelation, Italy, 9th c.

*Norm Cohen's professional career as a research chemist included M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at U.C. Berkeley, followed by 33 years working at Aerospace Corporation in El Segundo, and then 15 years teaching freshman chemistry and environmental science at several colleges and universities in Portland, OR.*



*His avocational interest in American traditional music has resulted in half a dozen books, more than 50 journal articles, and some two dozen music albums. He has also offered a dozen seminars on various aspects of the Old and New Testaments. This will be his third VISTAS presentation. Norm and his wife, Verni, divide their time between Santa Barbara and Green Valley, Arizona.*

### IMPORTANT COVID-19 POLICY

The health and safety of our attendees and their families are of utmost importance to us. **Accordingly, we are limiting attendance to those who are fully vaccinated.** Proof of vaccinations and boosters (digital Covid-19 Vaccination Card or a photo of your printed card) must be sent to our business manager via email ([vistas@vistaslifelonglearning.org](mailto:vistas@vistaslifelonglearning.org)) or text (805-967-6030). Participants may also be asked to show vaccination status on the first day of each course in case our records are incomplete. This needs to be done only once—your proof of vaccination will remain valid for all VISTAS events. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

## VISTAS Fall 2023 Calendar

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE; for up-to-date information, visit our website ([VistasLifelongLearning.org](http://VistasLifelongLearning.org)) frequently!**

Course / Event	Date(s)	Time	Venue
Annual Fall Picnic	Saturday, September 9	12:30 pm	Tucker's Grove
Fiction Book Club / Sharon Alvarado	3rd Thursday monthly	10:00 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Monday Nonfiction Book Club / Dawn McGrew	4th Monday monthly	1:30 pm	Via Zoom
Flight—Ups and Downs of Aviation / Bruce Phillips	Mon. Sep. 11 and 18	1:00 pm	Bethany Congreg. Church
Impact of Railroads on Am. Music / Norm Cohen	Wed. Sep. 13, 20, 27, Oct. 4	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Legendary Foods of France and Italy / Larry Canepa	Fri. Sep. 15 and 22	10:00 am	Via Zoom
Women behind Walls / Bee Bloeser	Thur. Sep. 28	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Rethinking Obesity / Dr. Fima Lifshitz	Tues. Oct. 3	9:30 am	Valle Verde
Money in America's Political System / Ted Anagnoson	Mon. Oct. 16, 23, 30	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
The Nature of Time / Jim Hemmer	Wed. Oct. 18	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Pirates! / Peter Beuret	Thur. Oct. 26	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
<b>History and Development of the Bible / Norm Cohen</b>	<b>Fri. Oct. 27, Nov. 3, 10, 17</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Venue TBD</b>
The US in the World: A Top-10 Summary / D. Stowell	Tues. Oct. 31	10:00 am	Via Zoom
Thirty-Six Years in the CIA / Heidi August	Mon. Nov. 6	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
<i>Sitting Bull: In His Own Words</i> / J. Ferry & G. DeSoto	Wed. Nov. 8	9:30 am	Valle Verde Theater
Church Music in the 16th Century / Henry Michaels	Mon. Nov. 13, 20, 27	10:00 am	Via Zoom
"The Opulent Summer" Mural / C. Garfinkle	Wed. Nov. 15	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Combating Human Trafficking / Florrie Burke	Fri. Dec. 1	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Women Architects of S.B. / Rose Thomas	Mon. Dec. 4, 11	1:00 pm	Bethany Congreg. Church
Science Behind the Botanic Garden / S. Windhager	Wed. Dec. 6	1:00 pm	Santa Barbara Botanic Garden