

Sayings from the Bible which have become commonplace in the English Language

These phrases have entered everyday speech and many people use them without thinking about them. But the reason these phrases stuck in people's minds was also because they came from stories which once everybody knew but many of which are now less well known or forgotten. Why would Jesus talk about 'pearls and swine' or 'the blind leading the blind?' If you use the references below you can find out the story behind the phrase.

Sweat of your brow	Genesis 3:19
My brother's keeper	Genesis 4:9
Dust of the earth	Genesis 13:16
Eye for an eye Deuteronomy 19:21 Matthew 5:38	Exodus 21:24, Leviticus 24:20,
Apple of my eye	Deuteronomy 2:10, Zechariah 2.8
Man shall not live by bread alone	Deuteronomy 8:3, Matthew 4:4
A man after his own heart	1 Samuel 13:14
How are the mighty fallen	1 Samuel 1:19-27
Put your house in order	2 Kings 20:1, Isaiah 38:1
By the skin of our teeth	Job 19:20
Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings	Psalm 8:2
At my wits end	Psalm 107:27
Soft word turns away wrath	Proverbs 15:1
Pride goes before a fall	Proverbs 16:19
There's nothing new under the sun	Ecclesiastes 1:9
To everything there is a season	Ecclesiastes 3:1
Eat, drink, and be merry	Ecclesiastes 8:15

Hammer swords into ploughshares	Isaiah 2:4
Drop in the bucket	Isaiah 40:15
No peace for the wicked	Isaiah 48:22, Isaiah 57:21
Can a leopard change his spots?	Jeremiah 13:23
Writing on the wall	Daniel 5:5
Weighed in the balance and found wanting	Daniel 5:5
Salt of the earth	Matthew 5:13
Don't cast your pearls before swine	Matthew 7:6
Strait and narrow	Matthew 7:14
Fell on stony ground	Matthew 13:5
Blind leading the blind	Matthew 15:14, Luke 6:39
Signs of the times	Matthew 16:3
Many are called, but few are chosen	Matthew 22:14
Wolf in sheep's clothing	Matthew 24:24, Mark 13:22
Wars and rumours of wars	Matthew 24:26, Mark 13:7
Good Samaritan	Luke 10:25-37
He gave up the ghost	Luke 23:46
Cast the first stone	John 8:7
The truth shall make you free	John 8:32
More blessed to give than to receive	Acts 20:35
A law unto themselves	Romans 2:14
Twinkling of an eye	1 Corinthians 15:52
Letter of the law	2 Corinthians 3:6
Suffer fools gladly	2 Corinthians 11:19
Thorn in the flesh	2 Corinthians 12:7

Labour of love

1 Thessalonians 1:3

The root of all evil

1 Timothy 6:10

Fight the good fight

1 Timothy 6:12