

## What are the TOP TEN most read books in the world?

[<http://www.businessinsider.com/the-top-10-most-read-books-in-the-world-infographic-2012-12>]

27,000,000 – The Diary of Anne Frank  
33,000,000 – Gone with the Wind  
57,000,000 – The Da Vinci Code  
103,000,000 – The Lord of the Rings  
820,000,000 – Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-Tung  
3,900,000,000 – The Holy Bible

What is significant about these figures?

Some of these books are popular, while others have been required reading.

The most translated book in the world is also the Bible. There are 7,099 languages in the world today.

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The Bible is one of the oldest and most popular books of all time. But is it just a book, or is it much more?

We believe that the Bible is God's Word to us — something that everyone should be able to understand in their own language. But more than 1,600 languages\* around the world are still waiting for a translation project to begin.

When people finally get the Bible in their own language, lives often change in amazing ways. People are transformed as they are led to Jesus Christ and a right relationship with God. [[www.Wycliffe.org](http://www.Wycliffe.org)]

The Bible is sometimes called "God's Love Letter to Man". It was written from about 1500 B.C. to A.D. 100.

*The Bible is unlike any other religious book. Despite forty authors writing from three continents over about fifteen hundred or 1 thousand, five hundred years, it maintains a perfect consistency of message. Its words point unerringly to Christ, whose work on the cross was ordained by God—the true author of the Bible—before the world began.* [[www.AnsweringGenesis.org](http://www.AnsweringGenesis.org)]

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Tonight we are going to start a wonderful study of the Gospel of Matthew.

Author: Matthew, a Jew, writing to the Jews.

Where does this book take place? Israel – home of the Jewish people

When was it written? About 40 A.D