

Search Dialog Box Help

Select Books to Scan Combo Box

Select the Bible book(s) where the search engine is going to look for the text you type. To increase search speed, limit the search scope to fewer books or a single book at a time, e.g., instead of searching in all Old Testament books at once, select a smaller range of books or a single book from the book(s) to scan combo box. As this is a 32-bit application, neither you nor Windows have to wait until search is complete. You can freely switch to other applications (press Ctrl + Esc) at any time while search is running; search will continue in the background.

Match Whole Word(s) Only Check Box

To search for entire word(s) only (no partial words), check the Whole Word(s) Only check box. **Examples:** When Whole Word(s) Only is checked, "love" can *only* match "love" and "fish" can *only* match "fish." With Whole Word(s) Only unchecked, "love" will also match "beloved" and "fish" will also match "fishes," "fishers," "fishermen," etc.

Boolean Operators: Definition and Examples

The term "Boolean" comes from George Boole, a prominent 19th-century British mathematician.

Using Boolean operators, you can refine your search by joining more than one search expression and setting tighter search conditions. This allows you to get exactly the information you need, filtering out redundant and inaccurate results. Boolean operators are logical operators, namely **And**, **Or**, and **Not**. They work as follows:

- **And:** Combines two search expressions (e.g., Mary **and** Joseph); each expression must be true for the entire expression to be true. In the previous example, a verse containing *both* "Mary" and "Joseph" will be selected, but one containing only "Mary" or only "Joseph" will not be considered.
- **Or:** Combines two search expressions (e.g., Mary **or** Joseph); either expression (or both expressions) must be true for the entire expression to be true. In the previous example, any verse containing *either* "Mary" or "Joseph" or both will be selected.
- **Not:** Negates a single expression (e.g., Mary **not** Joseph). Only verses containing "Mary" *and not containing* "Joseph" will be selected. A verse containing "Joseph" will be ignored even if it also contains "Mary."

Search Text Boxes

This is where you type the text you want to search for. The search engine is case insensitive (e.g., searching for **cross** yields the same results as searching for **CROSS** or **Cross**). Please note that searching for "Jesus Christ" is not the same as searching for "Jesus" **and** "Christ." "Jesus Christ" will be treated as a phrase and will *not* match verses that contain the words "Jesus" and "Christ" separated by other words like this verse:

Mt:1:16: And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born **Jesus**, who is called **Christ**. (KJV)

You can also type the following character wild cards within the search text as placeholders for other characters when you:

- Know only part of the text (e.g., when you are not sure of the proper spelling); or you
- Want to find word(s) or part of word(s) that start or end with a specific letter or match a certain pattern.

A **question mark ?** to match any *single* character and an **asterisk *** to match *zero or more*

characters. Type the question mark at any location in the search text, e.g., typing "s?n" will match "sin," "son" and "sun," *but not* "seen." Typing "?ast" will match "cast," "east," "fast," "past," and "last." Type the asterisk (at the beginning or end of the search text) while the Match Whole Word(s) Only check box is checked, e.g., typing "wh*" will match "what," "white," and "why," and typing "*loved" will match "beloved," and "loved."

You can also use the **square brackets []**, **exclamation mark !**, and **hyphen -** as follows:

- []** s[iu]n finds "sin" and "sun."
- [-]** [r-t]ight finds "right," "sight," and "tight." Ranges must be in ascending order.
- [!]** l[!a]st finds "list," "lost," and "lust," *but not* "last."
t[!ou]ck finds "tack" and "tick," *but not* "tock" or "tuck."
- [!x-z]** t[!a-m]ck finds "tock" and "tuck," *but not* "tack" or "tick."

The wildcard characters can match themselves only if enclosed in brackets. For example, to search for a question mark, you would enter **[?]** in the Search dialog box.

