CITING SCRIPTURE IN MLA FORMAT

When documenting scripture, whether the Bible, Talmud, or Koran, there are TWO parts:

**PART 1 -THE IN-TEXT CITATION**

The term used to describe the work does not need to be italicized (ie. the Bible) when referred to, however, the full and shortened titles of specific editions *are* italicized. For example, *New Jerusalem Bible.*

When the source of scripture is first used in a paper, refer to the edition being used in parenthetical citation immediately after the reference. You must also provide the divisions of the work rather than the page number. In the Bible, you would give the abbreviated name of the book and chapter and verse numbers.

For example….

….In the Bible, Ezekial saw, “what seemed to be four living creatures,” (*New Jerusalem Bible*, Ezek. 1.5-10). This vision is similar to the one John of Patmos’ has as well (Rev.4.6-8).

As seen above, any subsequent citations of the same edition only require the division numbers.

**PART 2 – THE WORKS CITED PAGE**

As with all the sources used, you must provide an entry for the scriptural reference, which includes the specific edition used in the Works Cited.

A sample entry would look like this:

*The New Jerusalem Bible*. General editor, Henry Wansbrough, Doubleday, 1985