

The Visigothic-Mozarabic Bible of St. Isidore is considered not only one of the rarest and most valuable of medieval manuscripts but the best documented Mozarabic bible extant. Precisely dated—having been completed on June 19, 960 in the Monastery of Valeránica—and exactly recorded with the names and portraits of its copyists, the miniaturist Florencio and the calligrapher Sancho, this bible contains all the books of the Old and New Testaments, as well as prologues, biblical commentaries and other texts. It is written in lowercase visigothic-mozarabic lettering with initial capital letters in the interlaced Saxon style and decorated with biblical scenes and roundels.

The beauty of its calligraphy, the abundant marginal annotations in Latin and Arabic and the amazing execution of its miniatures have made it a treasure for research and in great demand for international exhibitions. Every aspect is outstanding, whether seen from the perspective of paleography, history, biblical texts, or art. The creative genius of Florencio offered new departures in pictorial art, blending elements originating in Saxon, Visigothic, and Islamic art with new features from Carolingian sources. Mozarabic art takes a new turn in the bible episodes of the Visigothic-Mozarabic Bible of St. Isidore.



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Biblia de León

Codex Biblicus Legionensis: The Visigothic-Mozarabic Bible of St. Isidore, León, 960 A.D.

Complete facsimile reproduction of the manuscript preserved in the Real Colegiata (Royal Collegiate Church) of San Isidoro de León.



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