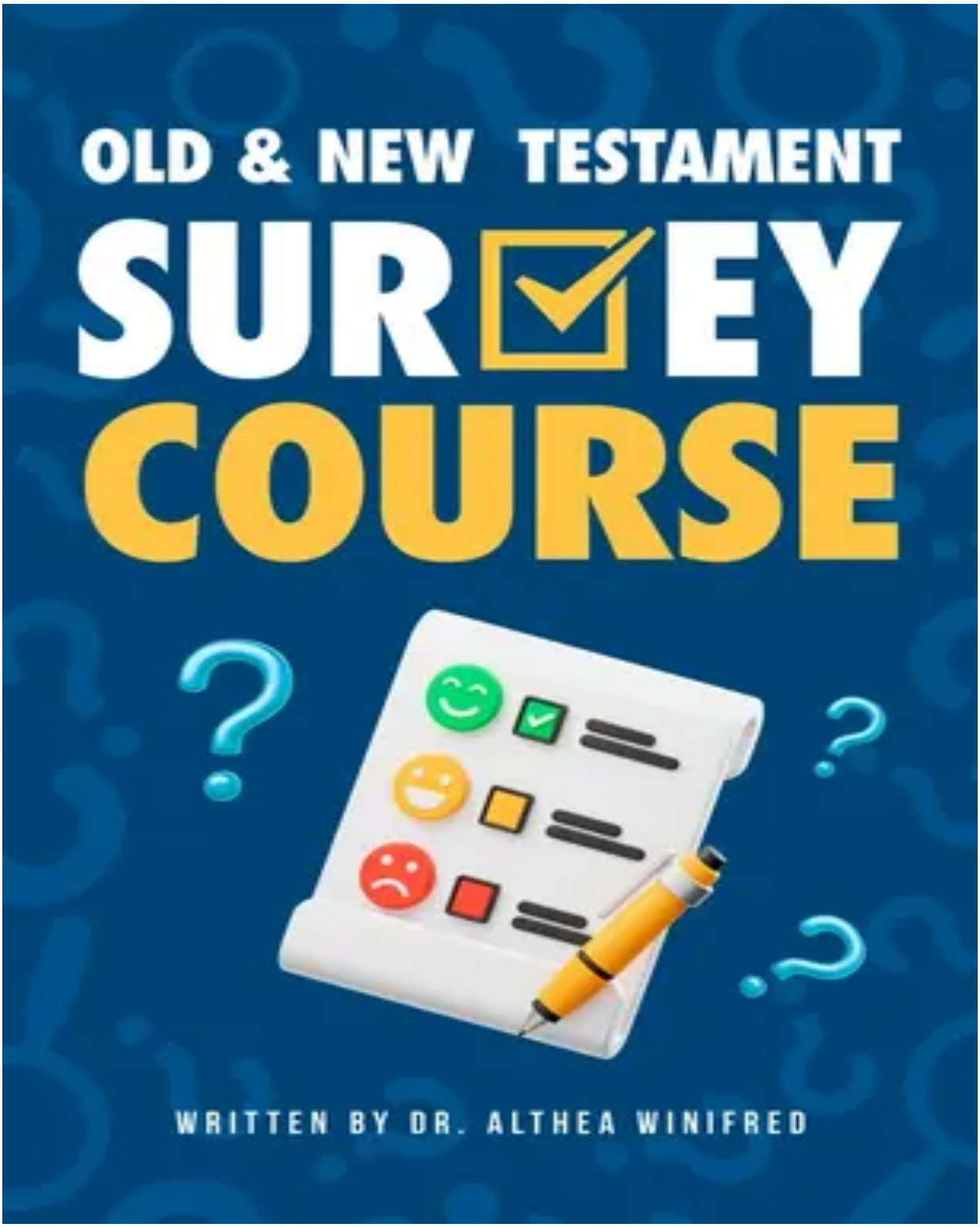
OLD & NEW TESTAMENT
SURVEY
COURSE
WRITTEN BY DR. ALTHEA WINIFRED

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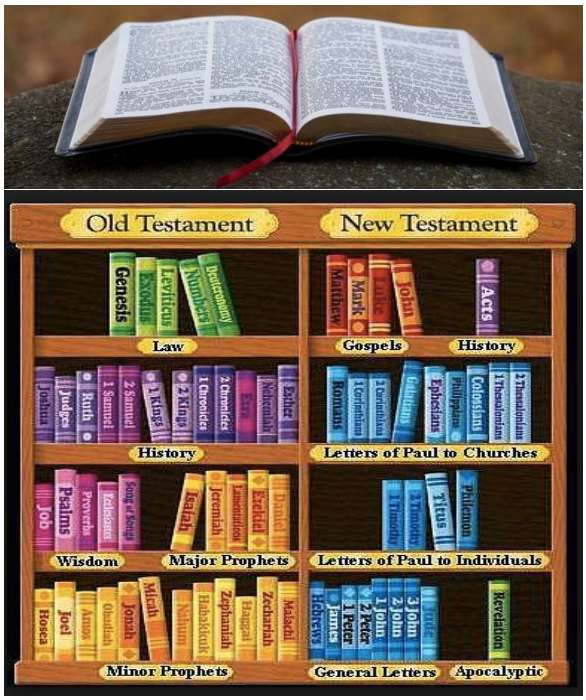

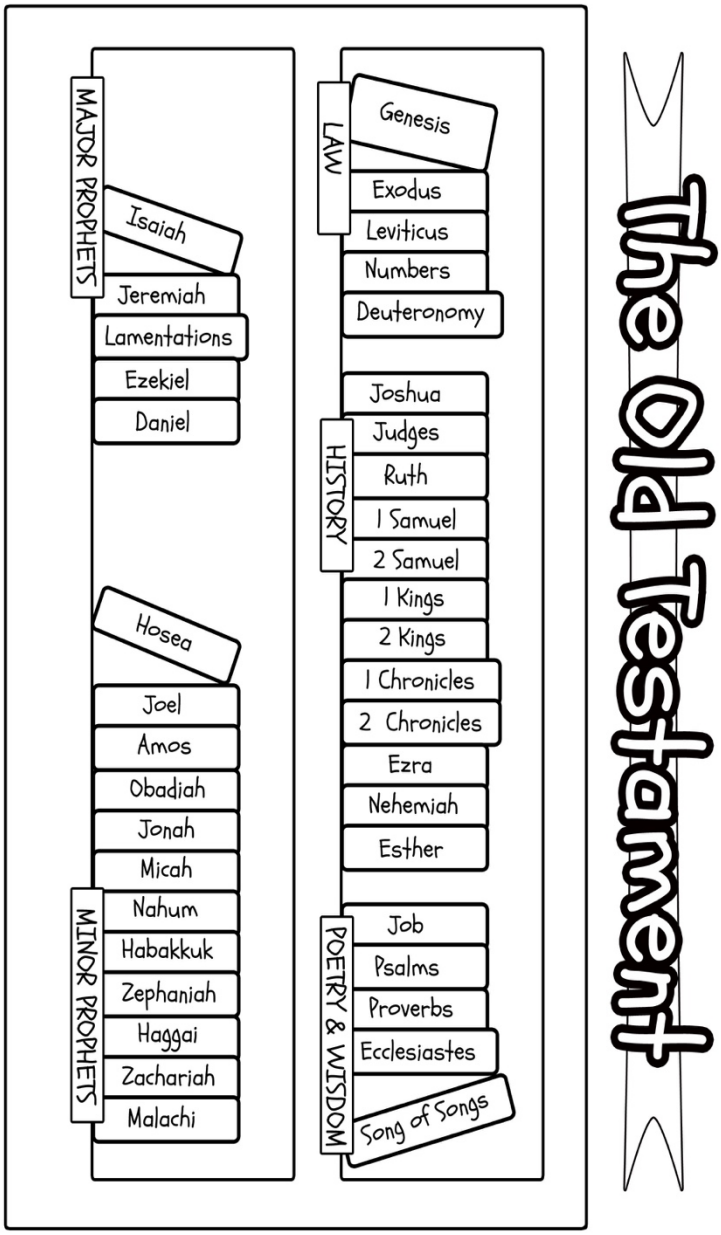

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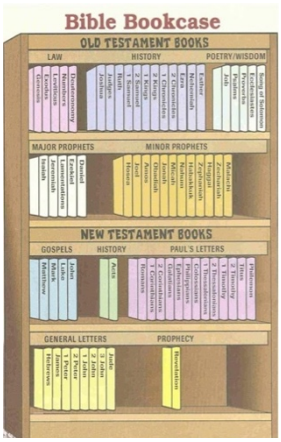
Foundational Faith Framework

List of the books of the Old Testament:

1. Genesis
2. Exodus
3. Leviticus
4. Numbers
5. Deuteronomy
6. Joshua
7. Judges
8. Ruth
9. 1 Samuel
10. 2 Samuel
11. 1 Kings
12. 2 Kings
13. 1 Chronicles
14. 2 Chronicles
15. Ezra
16. Nehemiah
17. Esther
18. Job
19. Psalms
20. Proverbs
21. Ecclesiastes
22. Song of Solomon
23. Isaiah
24. Jeremiah
25. Lamentations
26. Ezekiel
27. Daniel
28. Hosea
29. Joel
30. Amos
31. Obadiah
32. Jonah
33. Micah
34. Nahum
35. Habakkuk
36. Zephaniah
37. Haggai
38. Zechariah
39. Malachi



Week 1: Introduction to the Bible and the Old Testament

In this first week, student will lay a strong foundation for understanding the Bible by studying its structure, purpose, and historical context.

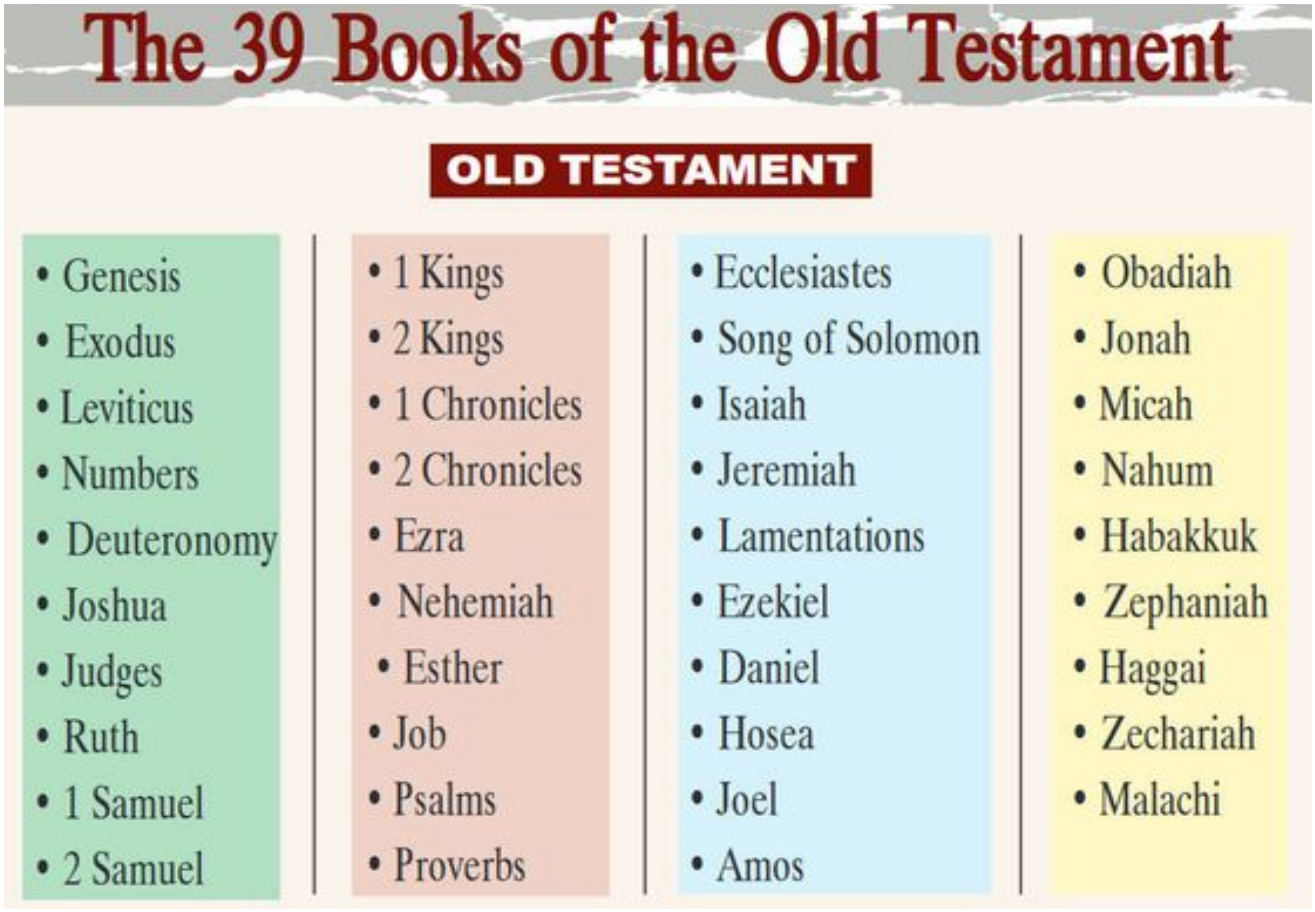
The focus on the Pentateuch will provide insight into the creation of the world, the establishment of the covenant with Israel, and the beginnings of God's plan of redemption.

Through readings, reflections, and assessments, students will begin to appreciate the depth and interconnectedness of the Bible's message, preparing them for deeper exploration in the coming weeks.

God's Library

Four Sub-Divisions of the Old Testament

1. Law	2. History	3. Poetry	4. Maj. Pro.	4. Min. Pro.
Genesis	Joshua	Job	Isaiah	Hosea
Exodus	Judges	Psalms	Jeremiah	Joel
Leviticus	Ruth	Proverbs	Lamentations	Amos
Numbers	1 Samuel	Ecclesiastes	Ezekiel	Obadiah
Deuteronomy	2 Samuel	Song of Sol.	Daniel	Jonah
	1 Kings			Micah
	2 Kings			Nahum
	1 Chronicles			Habakkuk
	2 Chronicles			Zephaniah
	Ezra			Haggai
	Nehemiah			Zechariah
	Esther			Malachi


The 39 Books of the Old Testament
OLD TESTAMENT
• Genesis
• Exodus
• Leviticus
• Numbers
• Deuteronomy
• Joshua
• Judges
• Ruth
• 1 Samuel
• 2 Samuel
• 1 Kings
• 2 Kings
• 1 Chronicles
• 2 Chronicles
• Ezra
• Nehemiah
• Esther
• Job
• Psalms
• Proverbs
• Ecclesiastes
• Song of Solomon
• Isaiah
• Jeremiah
• Lamentations
• Ezekiel
• Daniel
• Hosea
• Joel
• Amos
• Obadiah
• Jonah
• Micah
• Nahum
• Habakkuk
• Zephaniah
• Haggai
• Zechariah
• Malachi

Topics Covered

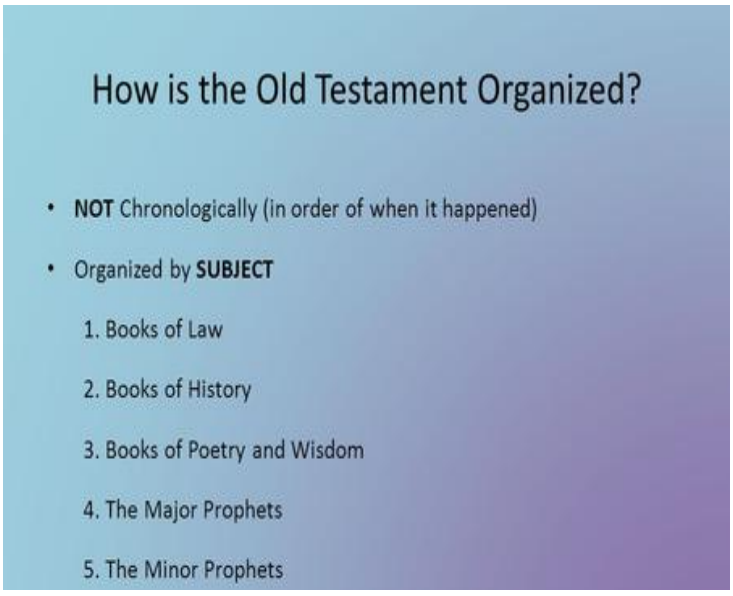
Overview of the Bible's Structure and Purpose

The Bible is a unified, divinely inspired collection of 66 books, divided into two main sections: the Old Testament (39 books) and the New Testament (27 books).

It serves as God's revelation to humanity, presenting His character, purposes, and redemptive plan for the world.

The Old Testament lays the foundation for understanding the narrative of God's relationship with His people, focusing on creation, the fall, God's covenant with Israel, and the promises that lead to the coming Messiah.

The New Testament fulfills these promises, primarily focusing on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the spread of the early church.
The Bible's structure consists of different literary genres, including:



Historical Books (e.g., Genesis, Kings)

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Poetry and Wisdom Literature (e.g., Psalms, Proverbs)

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Prophetic Books (e.g., Isaiah, Jeremiah)

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Gospels and Epistles (in the New Testament)

Understanding the structure of the Bible allows students to recognize its thematic unity while appreciating the diversity of genres and purposes within the text.

_____

_____

Historical and Cultural Context

The Old Testament spans from the creation of the world to the period just before the intertestamental period.

_____

_____

_____

Historical Context:

The events of the Old Testament take place over thousands of years and are influenced by the cultures and nations surrounding Israel, such as Egypt, Babylon, Assyria, and Persia.

_____

_____

Cultural Context:

The Old Testament world was shaped by ancient Near Eastern customs, including sacrificial systems, covenant-making rituals, and societal laws.

_____

_____

Key periods covered include:

1. Creation and the Patriarchal Period (Genesis)

2. Exodus and Wilderness Wanderings (Exodus, Numbers)

3. The Kingdoms of Israel and Judah

4. The Babylonian Exile and subsequent return (Ezra, Nehemiah)

5. The Pentateuch (Genesis to Deuteronomy)
   The first five books of the Bible, also known as the Torah or Pentateuch, are foundational to understanding the entire Bible.

   1. Genesis: _____
   2. Exodus: _____
   3. Leviticus: _____
   4. Numbers: _____
   5. Deuteronomy: _____

Jesus in Luke 24:44

".. which were written ... concerning Me."

Old Testament Books Arrangement in the Hebrew Bible

in the Law of Moses, and the Prophets, and the Psalms

The Law (Torah)

1. Genesis
2. Exodus
3. Leviticus
4. Numbers
5. Deuteronomy

The Prophets (Nebhim)

A. Former Prophets
1. Joshua
2. Judges
3. Samuel
4. Kings

B. Latter Prophets
1. Isaiah
2. Jeremiah
3. Ezekiel
4. The Twelve

The Writings (Kethubhim or Hagiographa)

A. Poetical Books
1. Psalms
2. Proverbs
3. Job

B. Five Rolls (Megilloth)
1. Song of Songs
2. Ruth
3. Lamentations
4. Esther
5. Ecclesiastes

C. Historical Books
1. Daniel
2. Ezra-Nehemiah
3. Chronicles

The Law (Torah or Pentateuch) in the Hebrew Bible

The **Torah**, also known as the **Pentateuch** or the **Five Books of Moses**, is the foundational section of the Hebrew Bible and is central to both Jewish and Christian religious traditions. The word "Torah" in Hebrew (תּוֹרָה) means "instruction" or "law," and it encompasses the first five books of the Bible:

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and **Deuteronomy**. These books outline the creation of the world, the origins of the nation of Israel, God's covenant with His people, and the laws and commandments given to guide their lives.

Overview and Structure

1. **Genesis (Bereshit)**: The Book of Beginnings

   Content: Genesis covers the creation of the world, the fall of humanity, the flood, and the formation of the nations.
   Creation and Fall: _____
   Covenant: _____
   Family and Faith: _____

2. **Exodus (Shemot):** The Book of Redemption

   Content: Exodus narrates the enslavement of the Israelites in Egypt, their miraculous deliverance under Moses' leadership, the giving of the Ten Commandments, and the establishment of the covenant at Mount Sinai.
   Deliverance: _____
   Covenant and Law: _____
   Family and Faith: _____

3. **Leviticus (Vayikra)**: The Book of Holiness

   Content: Leviticus focuses on the laws related to worship, sacrifices, and rituals that enable the Israelites to live in holiness and maintain a relationship with God.
   Holiness and Purity: _____
   Sacrifice and Atonement:_____
   Priesthood: _____

4. **Numbers (Bamidbar)**: The Book of Wanderings

   Content: Numbers chronicles the Israelites' journey from Mount Sinai to the borders of the Promised Land.
   Faith and Rebellion: _____
   Leadership and Guidance:_____
   God's Faithfulness: _____

5. **Deuteronomy (Devarim)**: The Book of Covenant Renewal

   Content: Deuteronomy is a series of speeches given by Moses before the Israelites enter the Promised Land.
   Covenant Renewal: _____
   Love and Obedience:_____
   Blessings and Curses: _____

Themes and Theological Significance

1. **Covenant Relationship**:

   The Torah establishes the covenant relationship between God and the people of Israel.

   _____

   _____

   _____

2. **Law and Holiness**:

   The detailed laws and commandments in the Torah are meant to guide the Israelites in living as a holy people set apart for God.

   _____

   _____

   _____

3. **Redemption and Deliverance**:

   The story of the Exodus and the giving of the Law illustrate God's power to redeem His people and establish them as a nation under His rule.

   _____

   _____

   _____

4. **The Promised Land**:

   The promise of land to Abraham and his descendants is a recurring theme in the Torah.

   _____

   _____

   _____

5. **Human Failure and Divine Faithfulness**:

   The Torah also highlights human frailty and failure, as seen in the repeated disobedience and rebellion of the Israelites.

   _____

   _____

   _____

Role in Jewish and Christian Traditions

1. **Jewish Tradition**:

   The Torah is the most sacred text in Judaism, forming the basis of Jewish law (Halakha) and identity

   _____

   _____

   _____

2. **Christian Tradition**:

   While Christians do not observe the laws of the Torah in the same way, the Pentateuch is foundational for understanding the rest of the Bible.

   _____

   _____

   _____

The **Torah** serves as the foundation for both the Jewish and Christian faiths, providing the historical and theological framework for God's relationship with humanity.

_____

_____

THE MINOR PROPHETS (Update)

Prophet	Date (B.C.) Approx	Name Meaning	Prophesies To/About	King at Time (assumption)
Obadiah	845-750	'Servant of the Lord'	Israel/Edom	Jehoram (Ju) Joram (Is)
Joel	835-796	'Yahweh is God'	Judah	Joash (Ju) Jehu/Jehoahaz(Is)
Jonah	793-753	'Dove'	Nineveh	Jeroboam 11 (Is) Amaziah/(Ju)
Hosea	753-715	'Salvation'	Israel	Jotham/Ahaz (Ju) Jeroboam/Pekah/Hoshea (Is)
Amos	760-755	'Burden-bearer'	Israel/Judah	Jotham/Uzziah (Ju) Jeroboam/Pekah (Is)
Micah	770-710	'Who is like unto the Lord'	Israel/Judah	Jotham/Ahaz/Hezekiah(Ju) Zechariah – Hoshea (Is)
Nahum	655	'Consolation'	Nineveh	Manasseh (Ju) *
Zephaniah	625	'Yahweh hides'	Judah/Assyria. And Nations	Josiah (Ju)
Habakkuk	610	'Clings to'	Judah/Nations	Josiah/Jehoahaz/Jehoiakim
Haggai	520	'My Feast'	Judah	N/A
Zechariah	520	'Yahweh has remembered'	Judah	N/A
Malachi	460 - 420	'My Messenger'	Judah	N/A

The Prophets (Nevi'im) in the Hebrew Bible

The **Nevi'im** (נְבִיאִים), or **Prophets**, is the second section of the Hebrew Bible, also known as the Tanakh. This division follows the Torah and precedes the Writings (Ketuvim).

_____

_____

_____

Overview and Structure

The Nevi'im is divided into two sections: **Former Prophets** and **Latter Prophets**.

Former Prophets (Nevi'im Rishonim)

The Former Prophets consist of the historical books that continue the narrative from the end of the Torah:

1. **Joshua (Yehoshua)**

Content: The book of Joshua recounts the conquest and settlement of the Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua, Moses' successor.

God's Faithfulness: _____
Obedience and Covenant:_____

2. **Judges (Shoftim)**:

Content: Judges describes the turbulent period between Joshua's death and the establishment of the monarchy.
Cycle of Sin and Redemption: _____
Leadership and Chaos: _____

3. **1 & 2 Samuel (Shmuel Aleph & Bet)**:

Content: Judges describes the turbulent period between Joshua's death and the establishment of the monarchy.
Kingship and Covenant: _____
Faith and Failure: _____

4. **1 & 2 Kings (Melakhim Aleph & Bet):**

Content: These books continue the history of Israel and Judah from the death of David to the Babylonian exile.
Faithfulness vs. Idolatry: _____
Prophetic Voices: _____

Latter Prophets (Nevi'im Aharonim)

The Latter Prophets are divided into **Major Prophets** and **Minor Prophets** based on the length of their writings, not their importance.

Major Prophets

1. **Isaiah (Yeshayahu)**:
Content: Isaiah spans a broad range of prophetic themes, including judgment against Judah and the nations, visions of the coming Messiah, and promises of future restoration.
Messianic Prophecies: _____
Judgment and Hope: _____

2. **Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu)**:
Content: Jeremiah prophesied during the final years of Judah before the Babylonian exile.
Judgment and Exile: _____
The New Covenant: _____

3. **Ezekiel (Yechezkel)**:
Content: Ezekiel, a prophet during the Babylonian exile, uses vivid imagery and symbolic acts to convey his messages.
God's Presence and Glory:_____
Restoration and Resurrection: _____

Minor Prophets (Trei Asar)

The Minor Prophets are shorter books that contain profound messages relevant to both their time and future events. There are 12 Minor Prophets:

1. **Hosea**: _____.
2. **Joel**: _____
3. **Amos**: _____
4. **Obadiah**: _____
5. **Jonah**: _____
6. **Micah**: _____
7. **Nahum**: _____
8. **Habakkuk**: _____
9. **Zephaniah**: _____
10. **Haggai**: _____
11. **Zechariah**: _____
12. **Malachi**: _____

Themes and Theological Significance

1. **Covenant and Obedience**:

   The Prophets emphasize the importance of Israel's adherence to the covenant established with God.

   _____

   _____

2. **Social Justice and Righteousness**:

   These messages highlight the ethical dimensions of the covenant.

   _____

   _____

3. **Messianic Hope**:

   The prophets contain numerous references to a future Messiah, a descendant of David who will establish a righteous and eternal kingdom.

   _____

   _____

4. **Judgment and Restoration**

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

5. **The Day of the Lord**:
   It is both a warning and a promise of hope.

   _____

   _____

Role in Jewish and Christian Traditions

1. **Jewish Tradition**:

   The Prophets are read and studied intensively in Jewish tradition.

   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____

2. **Christian Tradition**:

   The Prophets are central to Christian theology, especially in their messianic prophecies. Christians see the fulfillment of these prophecies in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

   _____
   _____

The **Nevi'im** or **Prophets** provide a complex and multifaceted view of Israel's history, relationship with God, and future hope.

Writings (Ketuvim)

Description:
The Writings include a diverse collection of books such as Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, and historical accounts like Ezra-Nehemiah.

_____
_____

The Writings (Ketuvim) in the Hebrew Bible

The **Writings**, or **Ketuvim** (כְּתוּבִים) in Hebrew, form the third and final section of the **Tanakh**, the Hebrew Bible.

_____
_____

Overview and Structure

The Ketuvim is divided into three general subcategories:

1. **Poetic Books**:
    - **Psalms (Tehillim)**: _____
    - **Proverbs (Mishlei)**: _____
    - **Job (Iyov)**: _____
2. **Five Scrolls (Megillot)**:
    - **Song of Songs (Shir HaShirim)**: _____
    - **Ruth (Rut)**: _____
    - **Lamentations (Eikhah)**: _____
    - **Ecclesiastes (Kohelet)**: _____
    - **Esther (Ester)**: _____
3. **Historical and Other Writings**:
    - **Daniel (Daniyel)**: _____
    - **Ezra-Nehemiah (Ezra v'Nehemiah)**: _____
    - **Chronicles (Divrei HaYamim)**: _____

Themes and Theological Significance

1. **Wisdom and Human Experience**: _____
2. **Covenant and Divine Providence**: _____
3. **Worship and Lament**: _____
4. **Restoration and Renewal**: _____

Role in Jewish and Christian Traditions

In Jewish tradition, the Ketuvim is often read during specific liturgical seasons and festivals. For example:

- **Psalms** _____
- **Song of Songs** _____
- **Ruth** _____
- **Ecclesiastes** _____
- **Lamentations** _____

In Christian tradition, the Ketuvim's wisdom literature and poetic books, especially Psalms and Proverbs, are frequently used in worship, personal devotion, and ethical instruction. The prophetic and apocalyptic elements in Daniel are often studied in relation to New Testament eschatology.

Homework

Readings

Genesis 1–3: This passage covers the creation of the world, humanity's place in creation, and the fall into sin. These chapters introduce key themes like the image of God, human responsibility, sin, and redemption.

Exodus 12: This chapter focuses on the Passover, a pivotal event in Israel's deliverance from Egypt. The Passover marks God's protection of Israel's firstborns and the beginning of their journey toward freedom. It also foreshadows Christ's sacrificial role in the New Testament.

Deuteronomy 6: Known as the **Shema**, this passage emphasizes Israel's responsibility to love and obey God. It introduces the core concept of loving God with all one's heart, soul, and strength, and passing this faith down to future generations.

Assignments

Reflection Tips:

1. As you reflect on these passages, consider how they reveal **God's character** (as Creator, Redeemer, and Covenant-keeper).

2. Think about the **connection between creation and covenant**: creation reflects God's original plan for humanity, while the covenant with Israel marks His steps toward restoring that plan after the fall.

3. Use specific examples from **Genesis 1–3** and **Exodus 12** to illustrate your points.

Purpose of the Assignment:

This reflection will help you engage with the Bible's foundational themes of creation and covenant, both of which are essential to understanding the entire biblical narrative.

By exploring these key moments, you will gain deeper insight into God's redemptive work and how it unfolds throughout Scripture.

Assessment - Quiz Overview:

This quiz will cover the structure of the Old Testament, asking students to identify its major divisions (Law, Prophets, Writings) and the specific roles they play in the biblical narrative. Key themes such as creation, the fall, covenant, and deliverance will also be tested, particularly focusing on their introduction in Genesis and Exodus.

This quiz assesses your understanding of the **structure of the Old Testament** and the **key theological themes** introduced in **Genesis** and **Exodus**. You will be asked to identify the major divisions of the Old Testament, their significance, and demonstrate knowledge of foundational themes such as creation, the fall, the covenant, and deliverance.

Reflection on Creation and the Covenant with Israel:

1. **Write a brief reflection exploring the significance of God's creation of the world and His covenant relationship with Israel. Consider how these foundational moments in Genesis and Exodus set the stage for the rest of the Bible's narrative.**

Reflect on the theological importance of creation (Genesis 1-3) in understanding humanity's role in God's plan and how the covenant in Exodus 12 points to God's redemptive nature.

2. **Instructions:** Write a **brief reflection** (300-500 words) exploring the significance of two foundational moments in Scripture: **God's creation of the world** (Genesis 1–3) and His **covenant relationship with Israel** (Exodus 12). This reflection should help you connect these critical events to the broader biblical narrative and understand their theological importance in the unfolding of God's plan.

3. What are the 12 Minor Prophets and give a one fact about each one?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

Key Points to Address

The Significance of Creation (Genesis 1–3)

1. **Reflect on the theological importance of God creating the world and humanity in His image.**

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

2. **How does this shape our understanding of humanity's role in God's plan?**

3. **Consider the implications of the fall of humanity (Genesis 3) and its effects on the relationship between God and creation.**

4. **What does this tell us about the need for redemption and restoration?**

The Covenant with Israel (Exodus 12)

1. **Reflect on the significance of the Passover and God's covenant with Israel.**

2. **How does the deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt symbolize God's redemptive nature and foreshadow future redemption in the Bible?**

3. **How does God's covenant with Israel in Exodus 12 establish Israel as His chosen people, and what does this reveal about God's faithfulness and promise-keeping?**

Connecting These Foundational Moments to the Rest of the Bible

1. **Discuss how both creation and the covenant with Israel set the stage for the rest of the Bible's narrative.**

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

2. **In what ways do these events point forward to the coming of Christ and the fulfillment of God's redemptive plan?**

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Part 1: Structure of the Old Testament (10 points)

1. **Identify the three major divisions of the Old Testament and briefly describe their role in the biblical narrative (6 points).**

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

2. **Law (Torah or Pentateuch) - What ate the 5 Books**:
   1) _____
   2) _____
   3) _____
   4) _____
   5) _____

   Role: _____
   _____

3. **Prophets (Nevi'im) - What ate the 6 Books:**
   1) _____
   2) _____
   3) _____
   4) _____
   5) _____
   6) _____

   Role: _____
   _____

   Writings (Ketuvim) - What ate the 13 Books:
   1) _____
   2) _____
   3) _____
   4) _____
   5) _____
   6) _____
   7) _____
   8) _____
   9) _____
   10) _____
   11) _____
   12) _____
   13) _____

Role: _____

_____

4. **Which books are included in the Torah, and what is their significance in understanding the foundation of Israel's relationship with God? (4 points)**

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Part 2: Key Themes in Genesis (10 points)

1. **Creation (Genesis 1–2): What does it mean that humanity was created in the "image of God," and how does this shape our understanding of humanity's role in creation? (2 points)**

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. **The Fall (Genesis 3): What was the significance of the fall of humanity in Genesis 3, and how did it affect the relationship between God and His creation? (2 points)**

_____

_____

_____

_____

3. **The Covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12): What is the nature of God's covenant with Abraham, and how does this promise set the stage for the entire biblical narrative? (2 points)**

4. **What are the consequences of Adam and Eve's disobedience, and how does this introduce the need for redemption in the Bible? (2 points)**

5. **How does the story of Noah's flood (Genesis 6–9) serve as a reflection of both God's judgment and mercy? (2 points)**

Part 3: Key Themes in Exodus (10 points)

1. **The Passover (Exodus 12): - What is the significance of the Passover in the deliverance of Israel from Egypt, and how does it foreshadow future themes of redemption in the Bible? (3 points)**

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2. **Moses and the Covenant at Sinai (Exodus 19–20): - What is the significance of the Ten Commandments and the giving of the Law at Sinai in the context of God's covenant with Israel? (3 points)**

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3. **Explain how the Exodus event (the Israelites' deliverance from Egypt) represents both a physical and spiritual act of redemption. (2 points)**

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4. **Why is the covenant with Israel at Sinai a turning point in their identity as God's chosen people? (2 points)**

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Total: 100 Points

Optional Homework (10 Points)

Write the names of the books of the Old Testament in their correct order.

1 Chronicles	Job
1 Kings	Joel
1 Samuel	Jonah
2 Chronicles	Joshua
2 Kings	Judges
2 Samuel	Lamentations
Amos	Leviticus
Daniel	Malachi
Deuteronomy	Micah
Ecclesiastes	Nahum
Esther	Nehemiah
Exodus	Numbers
Ezekiel	Obadiah
Ezra	Proverbs
Genesis	Psalms
Habakkuk	Ruth
Haggai	Song of Songs
Hosea	Zechariah
Isaiah	Zephaniah
Jeremiah I	

1. _____	21. _____
2. _____	22. _____
3. _____	23. _____
4. _____	24. _____
5_____	25. _____
6_____	26. _____
7. _____	27. _____
8. _____	28. _____
9. _____	29. _____
10. _____	30. _____
11. _____	31_____
12. _____	32. _____
13. _____	33. _____
14. _____	34. _____
15. _____	35. _____
16. _____	36. _____
17. _____	37. _____
18. _____	38. _____
19. _____	39. _____
20. _____	