

Introduction to the Old Testament

The Old Testament

What is it?

- ❖ The Old Testament is a collection of 39 Books describing, teaching and explaining events starting with the Creation of the world until the coming of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ.

Ways to Remember Old and New Testament

Old Testament

❖ 1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

3 9

THERE ARE 39 BOOKS
IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

New Testament

❖ 1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

3 x 9 = 27

THERE ARE 27 BOOKS
IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

The Old Testament contains 4 Sections

- ❖ **Section 1: Law – The Foundation of God & His People**
- ❖ It includes the 1st 5 Books of the Bible from Genesis – Deuteronomy
- ❖ **5 Books** (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy)
- ❖ **Jewish people call these the Pentateuch – these books were written by Moses**

The Old Testament contains 4 Sections

- ❖ **Section 2: History – The Explanation & description of Events**
- ❖ These books share a prophetic view of history describing how the obedience or disobedience of God's people is directly tied to the blessings and curses of the covenant God made with His People. A significant point in Israel's History is God's Covenant with David blessing him and his house as well as building God's House for his people to worship Him in. (2 Samuel 7)
- ❖ **12 Books** (Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther)

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❖ **Section 3: Poetry – The Aspiration, Wisdom and Worship in the days of Israel**

❖ These books explain the aspiration, wisdom and worship of God's people during their days in Israel. Describing their ways of life, decisions they made and their thoughts and emotions

❖ **5 Books** (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon)

The Old Testament contains 4 Sections

- ❖ **Section 4: Prophecy – God’s Expectation of His people.**
- ❖ The prophets applied the Pentateuch to the daily lives of the people, in particular revealing how blessing or destruction would come to God's people as a reward for their obedience/disobedience.
- ❖ **5 Major Prophets** – Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel
- ❖ (Major because the amount of text in it.)
- ❖ **12 Minor Prophets** – Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah,
- ❖ Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

Old Testament Apocrypha Books

- ❖ Apocrypha means “hidden” in Greek.
- ❖ These books were written in Greek, Coptic, Arabic & Latin not found in the original Hebrew Scriptures.

There 10 additional books and 1 Psalm that are accepted by the Orthodox Church

- ❖ + Additions to the Book of Esther
- ❖ + Tobit
- ❖ + Judith
- ❖ + 1 Maccabees
- ❖ + 2 Maccabees
- ❖ + Psalm 151
- ❖ + Wisdom of Solomon
- ❖ + Ecclesiasticus, or the Wisdom of Jesus Son of Sirach
- ❖ + Baruch
- ❖ + 3 Additions to the Book of Daniel
- ❖ + Letter of Jeremiah

Old Testament Outline of Events

- ❖ Creation,
- ❖ Fall of Man,
- ❖ Flood,
- ❖ Tower of Babel,
- ❖ Patriarchs,
- ❖ Sojour,
- ❖ Exodus,
- ❖ Wilderness,
- ❖ Conquest,
- ❖ Judges,
- ❖ United Kingdom,
- ❖ Divided Kingdom,
- ❖ Exile,
- ❖ Return

The Relationship Between the Old Testament and the New Testament

- ❖ Both the Old and The New Testament are essential in Christianity and for salvation. (Jews only believe in the Old Testament because they rejected Our Lord Jesus Christ As the Messiah and Savior)
- ❖ The Old Testament describes the human need for God and the New Testament is the divine supply for human need. Our Lord Jesus Christ in the New Testament has come to heal those who are sick and in need of Him.
- ❖ The Old Testament concealed the New Testament and the New Testament can be uncovered in the Old Testament. The Old Testament layed the foundation of events & teachings found and described much later in the New Testament

The Relationship Between the Old Testament and the New Testament

- ❖ The Old Testament reveals the heart of humanity while the New Testament reveals the heart of God. Old Testament explains how man separated from God because of sin and selfishness. New Testament Our Lord Jesus Christ accepts and welcomes us back to Him and shows us the way of Salvation through repentance and prayer
- ❖ The New Testament reveals the message of the Old Testament
- ❖ + The essential message of both testaments is the salvation of humanity in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.