

Divisions of the Old Testament

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Torah

“Law”

“Books of Moses”

Genesis

Creation to the death of Joseph.

Exodus

Enslavement to construction of the Tabernacle.

Leviticus

Laws for approaching the Lord.

Numbers

Israel’s struggles in the wasteland.

Deuteronomy

Moses’ farewell address.

Nevi'im

“Prophets”

“The Former Prophets”

Joshua

Story of the conquest.

Judges

The Israelite confederation.

***1 & 2 Samuel**

Samuel to David.

***1 & 2 Kings**

Solomon to Jerusalem’s fall.

Ezra

Associated with Return from exile in Babylon

Nehemiah

Associated with rebuilding Jerusalem after exile.

Nevi'im

(Continued)

“The Latter Prophets”

“The Major Prophets”

Isaiah

8th Century Judah.

Jeremiah

7th-6th Century Judah.

Ezekiel

6th Century Babylon.

*“The Minor Prophets”

Hosea

Northern kingdom, 8th Century.

Amos

Northern kingdom, 8th Century.

Micah

Northern kingdom, 8th Century.

Joel

Post-exile Judah, 5th Century.

Obadiah

Judah, 6th Century.

Jonah

Allegory of the Great Fish.

Nahum

Post-exile Judah, 4th Century?

Habakkuk

Judah, 6th Century.

Zephaniah

Judah, 7th Century.

Haggai

Post-exile Judah, 6th Century.

Zechariah

Post-exile Judah, 6th Century.

Malachi

Post exile Judah, 5th Century.

Collectively known as

“The Twelve” in Hebrew.

Kethuvim

“Writings”

***1 & 2 Chronicles**

Retells stories of Samuel and Kings.

Ruth

Ancestor of David

Esther

Delivered the Jews from Haman.

Psalms

Associated with David.

Hymn book of the Second Temple.

The “Wisdom Literature”

Job

Associated with Solomon.

Proverbs

How to Succeed.

Ecclesiastes

What lasts and what doesn’t.

Song of Solomon

What true love looks like.

Lamentations

Associated with Jeremiah and Jerusalem’s Destruction, 587 BC

Daniel

“Apocalyptic” literature.

*Books marked with asterisk are considered as one book in the Hebrew canon.