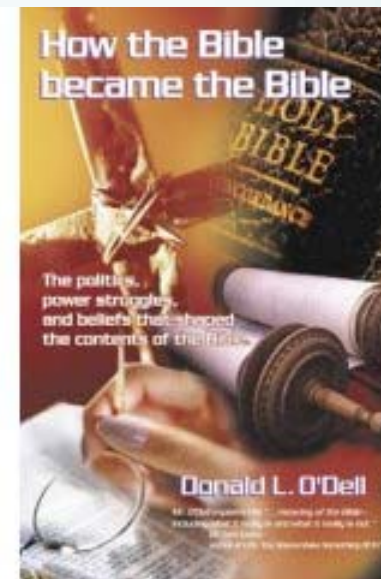
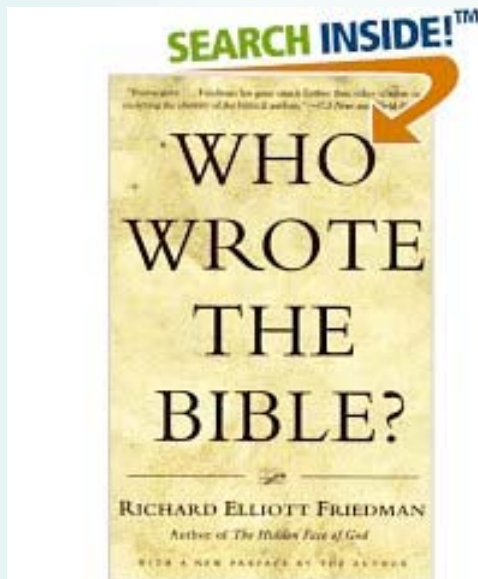


Origins of The Bible/Old Testament **Part III – Documentary Hypothesis***

-- Sources --



- <http://en.wikipedia.org>
Wikipedia – the free encyclopedia
- <http://www.bible-researcher.com>
Bible Research-Internet Resources for Students of Scripture
- <http://www.answers.com>
World's greatest encyclo*diction*almanac*apedia™

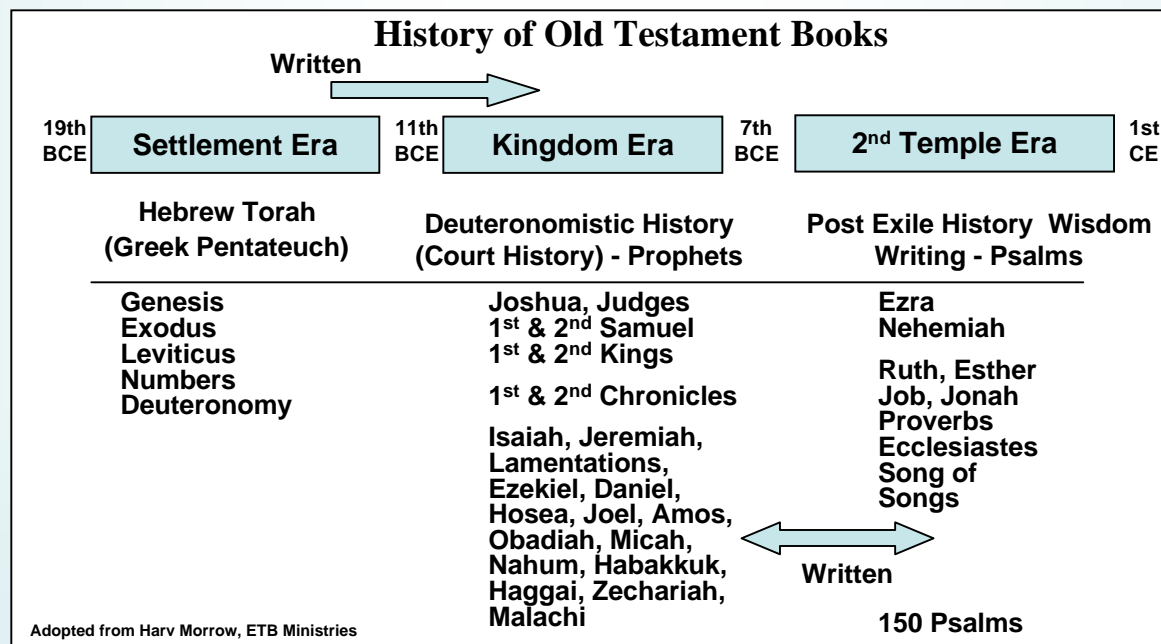
Origins of the Bible/Old Testament

• Part I – Introduction (focus on Old Testament)

- Looked at the Composition & Arrangement of the Bible – list of 39 “books”, which were written in Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic beginning around 1,000 BCE
- Looked at the History of Old Testament books
 - Hebrew Torah/Greek Pentateuch,
 - Deuteronomistic/Court History books (of the prophets)
 - Wisdom writings - Psalms



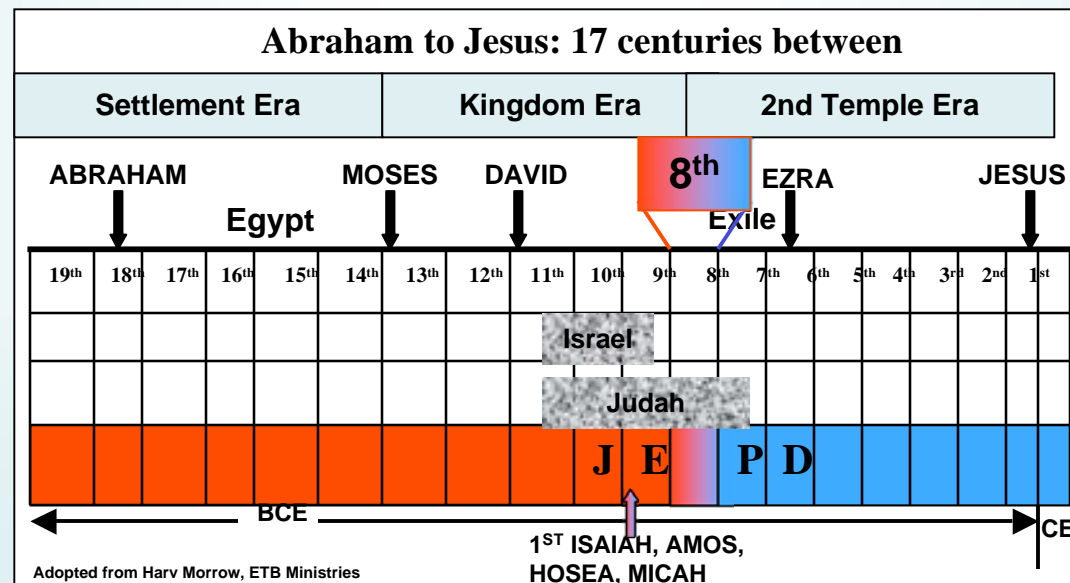
11th Century CE manuscript of the Hebrew Bible with Targum



Origins of the Bible/Old Testament

• Part II – Historical Period of Old Testament Books

- Looked at Hebrew History (c. 1800 BCE – 19th Century BC) to about 550 BCE (mid 6th Century BC) to understand why books were written – what influenced the authors.
- **The Patriarchs Period** - Abraham, Isaac, Jacob (1700-1500 BCE)
- **In Egypt & Exodus Period** - Moses, Miriam (The Prophetess - Exodus 15:1-21), Egyptian Pharaoh Ramesses II (1500-1250 BCE)
- **The Judges & the Conquest Period** - Joshua, Samson, Deborah, the prophet Eli (1250-1020 BCE)
- **The Monarchy Period** - Saul, David, Solomon, Bathsheba, the prophet Samuel, David's unknown court historian, the Yahwist (1020-922 BCE)
- **The Divided Kingdoms Period** - The Elohist; the Prophets Elijah, Elisha, Amos, Isaiah, Mica, Hosea, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, et. al.); Deuteronomic reform (922-586 BCE)



Origins of the Bible/Old Testament

- **Part III - The Documentary Hypothesis***
 - Will examine problems with Biblical text passages which led to the discovery of the **J, E, P & D** writers and the redactor (**R**)
- **Major areas considered by scholars supporting the Documentary Hypothesis include:**
 1. The variations in the divine names of God in Genesis (YHWH and EL or Elohim);
 2. The secondary variations in diction and in style;
 3. The parallel or duplicate accounts (doublets – 2 Creation stories, 2 Flood stories, 2 descriptions of the covenant between God and Abraham, 2 stories about the naming of Isaac, 2 versions of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20 & Deuteronomy 5), etc.
 4. The continuity of the various sources;
 5. The political assumptions implicit in the text;
 6. The interests of the author(s).

* "Who Wrote the Bible" Richard E. Friedman

Documentary Hypothesis*

-- Critical Analysis of the Bible --

- **The Bible may be analyzed from different points of view:**
 1. ***Critically***, as instruments from which to reconstruct the original text,
 2. ***Exegetically***¹, as showing how the Bible was understood in different times and places,
 3. ***Historically***, as documents for showing the extent of the Bible and of its propagation among the nations of the earth, or
 4. ***Philologically*** and from a ***Literary*** standpoint, since Bible versions are often the earliest monument of the respective languages.
- **Scholars consider Bible versions as either primary & direct;**
 - the original Hebrew text or the Septuagint,
- **OR secondary & indirect;**
 - derived versions as the Old Latin.

¹ Critical explanation or interpretation of scripture

•From page 115 of the “Religious Encyclopedia” as documented at
•<http://www.bible-researcher.com/e02-115.html>

Documentary Hypothesis*

-- continued --

- **Traditionally, Moses was believed to be the author of the Pentateuch (1st five books of Bible)**
 - **However, there were/are problems in many of the biblical passages:**
 - Events reported in one section were later reported differently, or contradicted – 2 Creation Stories, 2 Noah & the Flood Stories, etc.
 - Reports of Moses going to the Tabernacle before he built the Tabernacle ????
 - Reports supposedly written by Moses which he could not have known or was not likely to have said – e.g., “humblest man on earth.” ????
- **1st Stage of Investigation**
 - Investigators accepted that Moses wrote the Pentateuch, BUT they “suggested” that a few lines were added here or there.”
 - ***Isaac ibn Yashush*** - In the **11th Century CE**, Isaac ibn Yashush, a Jewish court physician of a ruler in Muslim Spain, pointed out that the list of Edomite kings that appears in Genesis 36 named king s who lived long after Moses was dead. He suggested that the list was written by someone who lived after Moses. He was labeled “Isaac the blunderer”
 - ***Abraham ibn Ezra*** - In the **12th Century CE**, Rabbi Abraham ibn Ezra (ca 1092 - 1167 CE), a Jewish grammarian, commentator, poet, philosopher, and astronomer from Tudela, Spain, noted that several text sequences in the Torah apparently could not have originated in Moses' lifetime.

Documentary Hypothesis*

-- continued --

- **1st Stage of Investigation (cont.)**

- ***Joseph Bonfils*** - In the **14th Century CE**, Rabbi Joseph Bonfils, a French Talmudist and Bible commentator, elucidated on Ibn Ezra's comments in his commentary on Ibn Ezra's work.
- ***Alphonsus Tostatus*** - In the **15th Century CE**, Bishop Alphonsus Tostatus of Avila, Spain noted that Moses could not have written about his own death.

- **2nd Stage of Investigation**

- Investigators suggested that Moses wrote the Pentateuch, BUT that editors went over them later, adding an occasional word or phrase of their own.
- ***Andreas van Maes*** - In **16th Century CE**, Andreas van Maes, a Flemish Catholic and two Jesuit scholars wrote a book in which they “suggested that a later editor inserted phrases or changed the name of a place to its more current name so that readers would understand it better.”
 - Maes’ book was placed on the Catholic Index of Prohibited Books.

Documentary Hypothesis*

-- continued --

- **3rd Stage of Investigation**

- Investigators concluded outright that Moses DID NOT write the majority of the Pentateuch

- ***Thomas Hobbes*** - In ***17th Century CE***, Thomas Hobbes, a British philosopher challenged Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch

- ***Isaac de la Peyrère*** - Four years later Isaac de la Peyrère, a French Calvinist, also wrote explicitly that Moses was not the author of the Pentateuch.

- Peyrère's book was banned and burned. Peyrère was arrested and informed that in order to be released he would have to become Catholic and recant his views to the Pope. He did.

- ***Baruch de Spinoza*** - In Holland, Benedict (Baruch) de Spinoza, considered one of the great rationalists of the ***17th Century CE*** philosophy as well as a founder of modern biblical criticism, wrote "It is....clearer than the sun at noon that the Pentateuch was not written by Moses, but by someone who lived long after Moses."

- Spinoza was excommunicated from Judaism and his work was condemned by both Catholics and Protestants as well.

- An attempt was made on his life

* "Who Wrote the Bible?" – Richard E. Friedman

Documentary Hypothesis*

-- continued --

- **3rd Stage of Investigation (cont.)**

- ***Richard Simon*** – Also in the **17th Century CE**, Richard Simon, a convert from Protestantism who had become a Catholic priest, wrote a work that he intended to be critical of Spinoza.
 - He stated that the core of the Pentateuch was Mosaic but that there were some additions in which scribes (prophets) who collected, arranged, and elaborated upon the old texts.
 - Simon was attacked by other Catholic clergy and expelled from his order. His books were placed on the Index (of prohibited books).
- **18th Century:** Three investigators (***Henning Witter*** – a German Minister, ***Jean Astruc*** – a French Professor of Medicine, and ***Johann Eichhorn*** – a known and respected scholar) independently concluded that doublets in the Torah were written by two different authors.

- **Biblical Clues**

- ***The Doublet*** - A doublet is a story that is described twice. For example, 2 Creation stories, 2 descriptions of the covenant between God and Abraham, 2 stories about the naming of Isaac, 2 stories about the renaming of Jacob, 2 versions of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20 & Deuteronomy 5), etc.
 - These doublets appeared to contradict each other. In most cases, one referred to God as *Yahweh* while the other used the term *Elohim*.

* “Who Wrote the Bible?” – Richard E. Friedman

Documentary Hypothesis*

-- continued --

- **Modern Investigation**

- **19th Century:** Scholars noticed that there were a few triplets in the Torah. This indicated that a third author was involved. Then, they determined that the book of Deuteronomy was written in a different language style from the remaining 4 books in the Pentateuch.
 - Finally, by the end of the 19th Century, liberal scholars reached a consensus that 4 authors and one redactor (editor) had been actively involved in the writing of the Pentateuch.
- **20th Century:** Academics have continued to refine the Documentary Hypothesis by identifying which verses (and parts of verses) were authored by the various writers. They have also attempted to uncover the names of the authors.

Documentary Hypothesis*

-- continued --

- **Modern Investigation (cont.)**

- In 1943, Pope Pius XII issued an encyclical ***Divino Afflante Spiritu*** in which he urged academics to study the sources of Biblical texts.
 - Recent archaeological discoveries and new linguistic analysis tools have facilitated the research into the hypothesis.
 - Belief in the documentary hypothesis was triggered by a number of factors, such as:
 - Anachronisms, like the list of the Edomite kings, Duplicate and triplicate passages. Various passages portrayed God in different ways. The flood story appears to involve the meshing of two separate stories.
 - The belief, centuries ago, by archaeologists and linguists that writing among the ancient Hebrews only developed after the events portrayed in the Pentateuch. Thus, Moses would have been incapable of writing the first five books of the Hebrew Scriptures.
 - These factors led theologians to the conclusion that the Pentateuch is a hybrid document which was written well after Moses' death, and much later than the events portrayed. The authors and redactors are unknown.

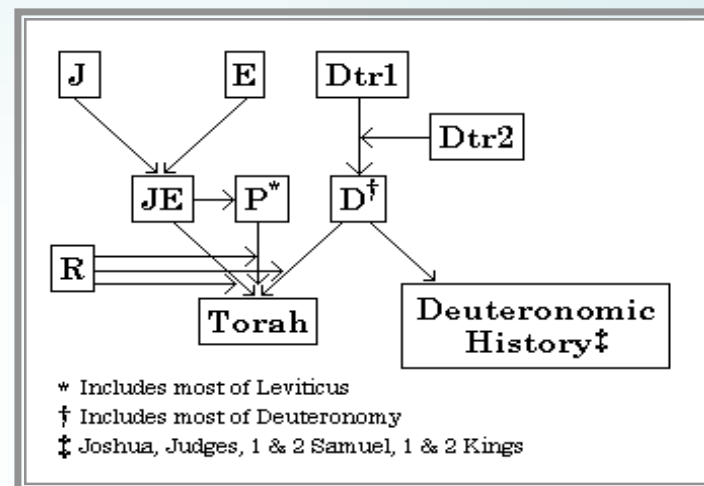
* "Who Wrote the Bible?" – Richard E. Friedman

Documentary Hypothesis ^{1,2}

-- continued --

The hypothesis proposes that a redactor (referred to as R) composed the Torah by combining four earlier source texts

- The **J** – Yahwist about 975 BCE,
 - The **E** – Elohist about 750 BCE,
 - The **D** – Deuteronomist about 625 BCE,
 - The **P** – the Priestly source about 450 BCE
- **J** – *The Jahwist*.
 - **J** describes a human-like God called Yahweh and has a special interest in Judah and in the Aaronid priesthood
 - **J** has an extremely eloquent style
 - **J** uses an earlier form of the Hebrew language than the **P** writer(s) - c. 975-950 BCE
 - **E** – *The Elohist*.
 - **E** describes a human-like God initially called El or Elohim, and called Yahweh subsequent to the incident of the burning bush (Ex 3:2)
 - **E** focuses on biblical Israel and on the Shiloh priesthood
 - **E** has a moderately eloquent style
 - **E** (like the J writer) uses an earlier form of the Hebrew language than the **P** writer(s) - about 750 BCE



A relational diagram describing the various versions postulated by the biblical documentary hypothesis.**

** <http://en.wikipedia.org>

1 "Who Wrote The Bible" – Richard E. Friedman
2 "How The Bible Became The Bible" – Don O'Dell

Documentary Hypothesis

-- continued --

- **The J, E, P, and D Authors^{1,2}**

- **P** – *The Priestly source.*

- **P** describes a distant and unmerciful God, sometimes referred to as Elohim or as El Shaddai.
- **P** partly duplicates **J** and **E**, but alters details to suit **P**'s opinion, and also consists of most of [the book of] Leviticus, which consists of ritual Laws.
- **P** has its main interest in an Aaronid priesthood and in King Hezekiah (reigned c. 715-687 BCE).
- **P** has a low level of literary style, and has an interest in lists and dates. Writer(s) c. 450 BCE

- **D** – *The Deuteronomist.*

- **D** consists of most of Deuteronomy (meaning “second law”)
 - Deuteronomy is made up almost entirely of addresses delivered by Moses, directed not to priests or leaders but to the whole people.
- **D** probably also wrote the Deuteronomistic history (Joshua, Judges, 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings).
- **D** has a particular interests in the Shiloh priesthood and in King Josiah (reigned c. 640-609 BCE).
- **D** uses a form of Hebrew similar to that of **P**, but in a different literary style. Writer comes from about 625 BCE

1 [www. http://en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org)

2 “How the Bible Became The Bible” Don O’Dell

Documentary Hypothesis*

-- continued --

- **Two Creation Stories (Genesis 1:1-2:3 & Genesis 2:4-24)**

Genesis 1; God creates	Genesis 2; God creates
Plants	Man
Animals	Plants
Man & Woman	Animals
	Woman (from man's rib)

- **Two Flood Stories (Genesis 6:5-8:22) written by “J” and “P”**

- **P** always refers to the deity as God, the **J** story always uses the name Yahweh.
- **P** refers to the sex of the animals with the words “male and female” (Gen 6:19; 7:9,16). **J** uses the terms “man and his woman” (Gen 7:2) as well as male and female.
- **P** says that everything “expired” (Gen 6:17; 7:21). **J** says that everything “died” (Gen 7:22)
- **P** has one pair of each kind of animal going into the ark (Gen 6:19). **J** has seven pairs of clean animals and one pair of unclean animals (Gen 7:2-3).
 - “Clean” means fit for sacrifice - Sheep are clean, lions are unclean.
- **P** pictures the flood lasting a year (370 days). **J** says it was forth days and forty nights
- **P** has Noah send out a raven. **J** says it was a dove.
- **P** obviously has a concern for ages, dates, and measurements in cubits. **J** does not.

* “Who Wrote the Bible” Richard E. Friedman

Documentary Hypothesis*

The 1st Creation Story (Genesis 1:1-31, 2:1-3)*

- ***1st Day – God creates***
 - Heaven & Earth (without form and Void and darkness upon the face of the deep)
 - God said let there be light and there was light, and divided the light (day) from the darkness (night)
- ***2nd Day – God creates***
 - Firmament in the midst of the waters and divided the waters under the firmament from the water above it. Firmament called Heaven
- ***3rd Day – God creates***
 - Gathers waters under the heaven together “unto one place” and commands that dry land appear – called Earth, waters called Sea.
 - Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after its kind with its seed in itself.
- ***4th Day – God creates***
 - Lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide day from night – for signs and for seasons, and for days and years and to give light upon the earth.
 - God made two great lights, the greater light [the sun] to rule the day and the lesser light [the moon] to rule the night, and he made stars also.
- ***5th Day – God creates***
 - The waters brought forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, the fowl, great whales, and every living creature that moved, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind and every winged fowl after his kind.
 - God blessed them, saying; Be fruitful and multiply, fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth

* King James Version

Documentary Hypothesis*

The 1st Creation Story (Genesis 1:1-31, 2:1-3)*

6th Day – God creates

- Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind.
- God made the beast after his kind, the cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind.
- God creates man in his own image, after his likeness, and gave him dominion over the fish of the sea, over the fowl of the air, over the cattle, over all the earth, and “over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth”.
- God created man in his own image in the image of God created he him; ***male and female*** created he them (Genesis 1:27)
- God blessed them and said; Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish, the fowl, and every other living thing that moveth upon the earth.
- God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, every tree which bears fruit.....it shall be for meat.
- And to every beast of the earth, every fowl of the air, every thing that creeps on the earth – wherein there is life – I have given every green herb for meat.

7th Day – God rested

- God ended his work and he rested from all his work and God blessed the 7th day and sanctified it.

Documentary Hypothesis*

The 2nd Creation Story (Genesis 2:4-25)*

- ***God creates (2:4)***
 - “These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.”
- ***God creates (2:5-6)***
 - Every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, ***and there as not a man to till the ground.***
 - But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground
- ***God creates (2:7)***
 - The ***Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground*** and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul.
- ***God creates (2:8-9)***
 - The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man who he had formed
 - The Lord God made grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; ***the tree of life*** also in the midst of the garden and ***the tree of knowledge of good and evil.***
- ***God creates (2:10-14)***
 - A river went out of Eden to water the garden and from whence it was parted and became into four heads. The 1st is Pishon, that encompass the whole land of Havilah¹ where there is gold (that is good), and bdellium² and the onyx stone.
 - The name of the 2nd river is Gihon which encompass the whole land of Ethiopia
 - The name of the 3rd river is Hiddekel, which goeth toward the east of Assyria
 - The 4th river is Euphrates.

¹ Havilah is usually associated with northwest Yemen

² an aromatic gum like myrrh that was exuded from a tree

* King James Version

Documentary Hypothesis*

The 2nd Creation Story (Genesis 2:4-25)*

- ***God creates (2:15-17)***

- And the Lord God put man into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.
- The Lord God commanded the man saying: Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it, for the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

- ***God creates (2:18-21)***

- And the Lord God said that it is not good that the man should be alone, I will make him an help meet for him, and out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every fowl of the air, and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them, and whatsoever Adam called every living creature that was the name thereof, and Adam gave names to all cattle and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

- ***God creates (2:22-25)***

- The Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept and he [the Lord God] took one of his [Adam's] ribs and closed up the flesh instead thereof.
- And the rib which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, this is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh, she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.
- Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they shall be one flesh and they were both naked the man and his wife and were not ashamed.

-- NEXT WEEK --

Part IV – Versions & Canonization of the Bible

– Jewish Bible (Torah) – 28 books

- The **Masoretic Text**, which is the Hebrew text of the **Tanakh**, an acronym that identifies the Hebrew Bible, which includes:
 - **Torah** meaning “Instruction.” The five books of Moses – Pentateuch.
 - **Nevi'im** meaning “Prophets.” This term is associated with anything to do with the prophets.
 - **Ketuvim** meaning “Writings.”



11th Century CE manuscript of the Hebrew Bible with Targum

– Roman Catholic Bible – 46 books

- The Vulgate of St. Jerome
- The King James version

– Protestant Bible – 39 books

- Seven books of the Catholic Old Testament are relegated to the Appendix or Apocrypha

– Apocrypha – 15 books

- From the Greek word **ἀπόκρυφα** meaning “those having been hidden away” are texts of uncertain authenticity or writings where the authorship is questioned.



The **Gutenberg Bible** displayed by the United States Library of Congress



OM, Shanti

“Om Shanti, pag ah nam Shanti”

“Oh great Universal Consciousness, bring peace to me and to my fellow man”

* From Steve Marcum – ETB Ministries