

Origins of The Bible/Old Testament

Part IV – Versions & Canonization of the Bible



A leaf from the Masoretic Text



The Vulgate



A page from The Septuagint



11th Century CE manuscript of the Hebrew Bible with Targum



1611 King James Bible (RSV)

<http://en.wikipedia.org>

Wikipedia – the free encyclopedia

<http://www.bible-researcher.com>

Bible Research-Internet Resources for Students of Scripture

Versions & Canonization of the Old Testament

From <http://www.bible-researcher.com/index.html>

Bible Research

Internet Resources for Students of Scripture

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Welcome to **Bible Research!**

This site is for Bible students who are looking for detailed information on the history of the canon, texts, and versions of Scripture. Choose a link from the menu at left, or explore with the [site map](#).

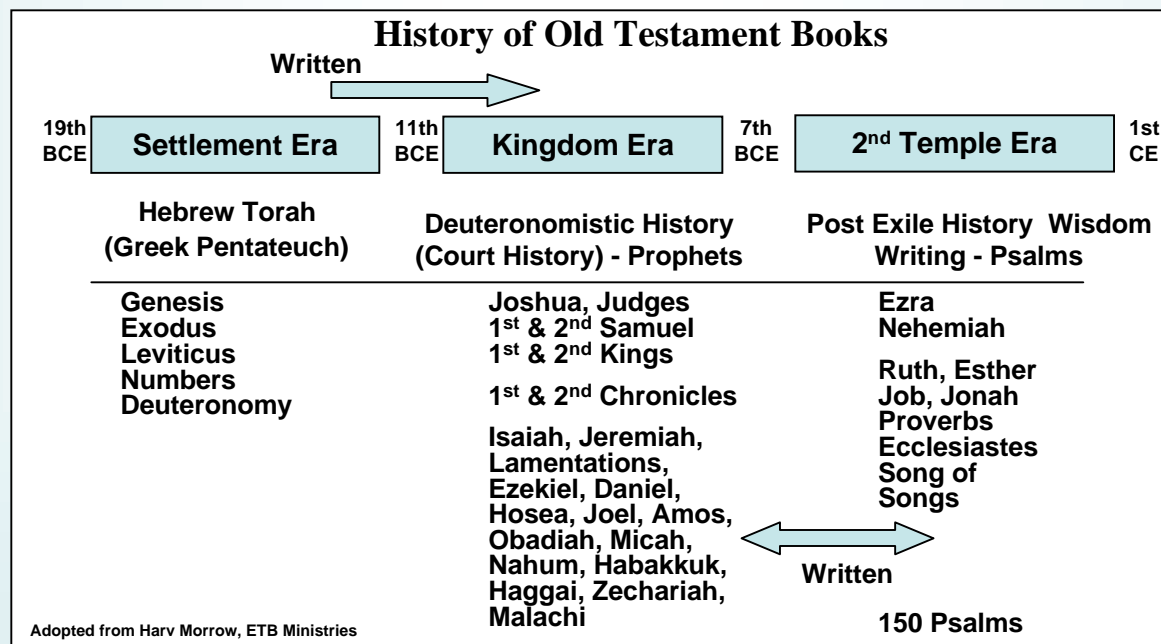
Origins of the Bible/Old Testament

• 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)
 - Post Exile History Wisdom writings - Psalms



11th Century CE manuscript of the Hebrew Bible with Targum

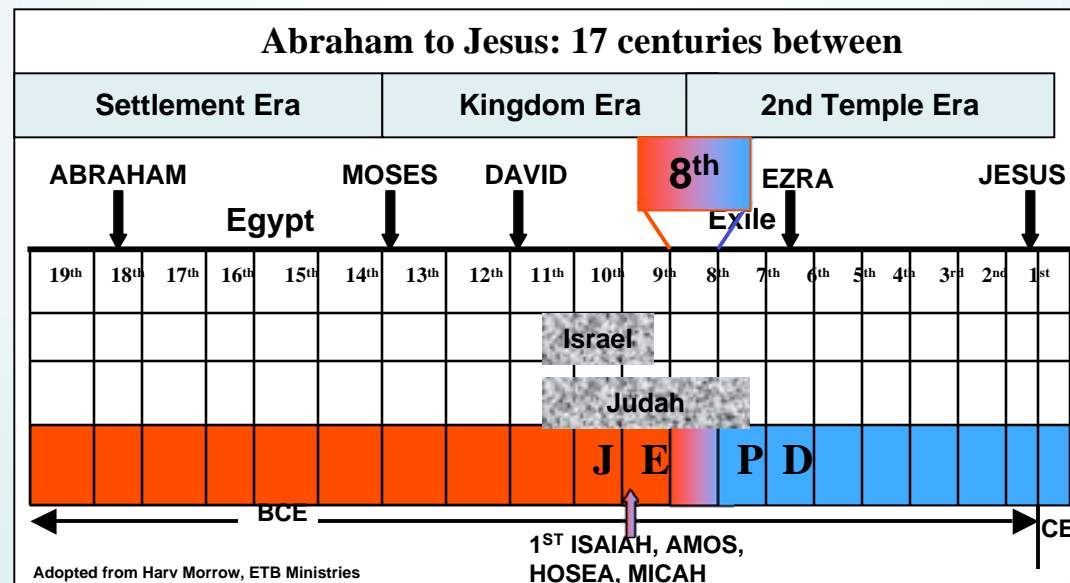


Origins of the Bible/Old Testament

• 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*

– Which proposes that Moses did NOT write the Torah (or Pentateuch) as Jewish tradition had stated, but rather a redactor (R) combined four earlier source texts written by multiple authors.

➤ The **J** – Yahwist about 975 BCE,

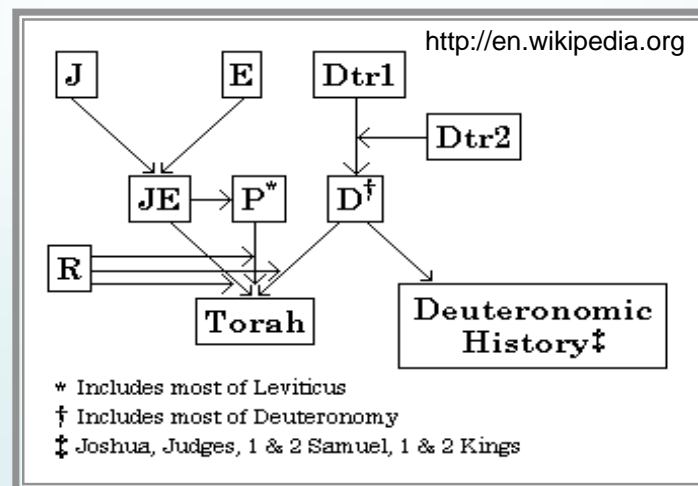
➤ The **D** – Deuteronomist about 625 BCE,

➤ The **E** – Elohist about 750 BCE,

➤ The **P** – the Priestly source about 450 BCE

– The “clues” which led to this discovery:

- “Doublets” - Events reported in one section of the Torah were later reported differently, or contradicted the earlier stories; e.g. 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.” (Num. 12-3)



* “Who Wrote the Bible” by Richard E. Friedman
“How the Bible Became the Bible” by Don O’Dell

Origins of the Bible/Old Testament

• Part III - The Documentary Hypothesis (cont.)*

Key
Idea

- The term "documentary hypothesis" does not refer to one specific hypothesis. Rather, this name applies to any understanding of the origin of the *Torah* that recognizes (basically) four sources [**J**, **E**, **D** & **P** were] somehow redacted together into a final version.
- It is not "known" whether one redactor wove together four specific texts, or whether the entire nation of Israel slowly created a consensus work based on various strands of the Israelite tradition, or anything in between.
- Professor Gerald Larue (Biblical Archaeology, University of Southern California) writes;
 - "Back of each of the four sources lie traditions that may have been both oral and written. Some may have been preserved in the songs, ballads, and folktales of different tribal groups, some in written form in sanctuaries. The so-called 'documents' should not be considered as mutually exclusive writings, completely independent of one another, but rather as a continual stream of literature representing a pattern of progressive interpretation of traditions and history" (*Old Testament Life and Literature* 1968).
- **NOTE:** I failed to mention that there is a great debate about whether **J** was a male or female.
 - Authors David Rosenberg & Harold Bloom in their book "*The Book of J*" argue that **J** was a female.
 - Richard Friedman argues that it cannot be determined but is a possibility that **J** was in fact an upper-class woman in Judah.
- Additional research has led to the discovery of the sources/writers of the other books of the Old Testament.
 - R.E. Friedman and Don O'Dell have a lot to say about this.
 - For example, R.E. Friedman in his book "*The Hidden Book in the Bible*" claims that sections of Judges, Joshua and 1 & 2 Samuel were written by **J**, which Bloom and earlier Biblical scholars attribute to another source.

Origins of the Bible/Old Testament

- **Part IV – Canonization of the Old Testament**
 - Will first look at a comparison table of Old Testament Canons that includes:
 - The *Hebrew Bible*,
 - The *Greek Septuagint*,
 - The *Latin Vulgate*, and
 - The *King James Version* of the Bible.
 - **We will then look at each of these important Ancient Canons**
 - We will also look at important Versions of the Bible and see how they were developed
 - **NOTE:** we need to recognize that for over 500 years, the Jewish Sacred Texts (the Torah or Pentateuch, as well as the other books of the Old Testament) were “the Bible”
 - The Catholic or “Christian” Old Testament did not exist for at least 100 years after Jesus was crucified – they used the Hebrew Bible.
 - The Protestant Bible did not exist for several hundred years after that.
 - **We will then look at a list of 17 different Ancient Canons – post the Hebrew canon, dating from c. 170 CE through c. 730 CE**
 - Melito (c. 170), Origen (c. 240), Cyril of Jerusalem (c. 350), Hilary of Poitiers (c. 360). . . .

The Old Testament Canons*

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/vulgate.html>

- The table below shows the names and order of books included in the Old Testament of the *Hebrew Bible*, the *Greek Septuagint*, the *Latin Vulgate*, and the *King James Version* (1611) of the Bible. Names of Apocryphal books are *italicized*. The books enclosed in square brackets in the Greek Septuagint column are books that appear in only some copies of that version.

Hebrew Bible	Greek Septuagint	Latin Vulgate	King James Version
<i>The Law (5 books)</i>	Genesis	Genesis	Genesis
Genesis	Exodus	Exodus	Exodus
Exodus	Leviticus	Leviticus	Leviticus
Leviticus	Numbers	Numbers	Numbers
Numbers	Deuteronomy	Deuteronomy	Deuteronomy
Deuteronomy	Joshua	Joshua	Joshua
<i>The Prophets (10 books)</i>	Judges	Judges	Judges
Joshua	Ruth	Ruth	Ruth
Judges	1 Samuel	1 Samuel	1 Samuel
1 Samuel	2 Samuel	2 Samuel	2 Samuel
2 Samuel	1 Kings	1 Kings	1 Kings
1 Kings	2 Kings	2 Kings	2 Kings
2 Kings	1 Chronicles	1 Chronicles	1 Chronicles
Isaiah	2 Chronicles	2 Chronicles	2 Chronicles
Jeremiah	<i>[Prayer of Manasseh]</i>	<i>Prayer of Manasseh</i>	Ezra
Ezekiel	<i>1 Esdras</i>	<i>1 Esdras</i>	Nehemiah
Hosea	Ezra	<i>2 Esdras</i>	Esther (Hebrew)*
Joel	Nehemiah	Ezra	Job
Amos	<i>Tobit</i>	Nehemiah	Psalms
Obadiah	<i>Judith</i>	<i>Tobit</i>	Proverbs
		<i>Judith</i>	Ecclesiastes

The Old Testament Canon*

•<http://www.bible-researcher.com/vulgate.html>

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Hebrew Bible	Greek Septuagint	Latin Vulgate	King James Version
Jonah	Esther (with insertions)*	Esther (with insertions)*	Song of Songs
Micah	<i>1 Maccabees</i>	<i>1 Maccabees</i>	Isaiah
Nahum	<i>2 Maccabees</i>	<i>2 Maccabees</i>	Jeremiah
Habakkuk	<i>[3 Maccabees]</i>		Lamentations
Zephaniah	<i>[4 Maccabees]</i>		Ezekiel
Haggai	Job	Job	Daniel (Hebrew)**
Zechariah	Psalms	Psalms	Hosea
Malachi	<i>[Psalm #151]</i>		Joel
<i>The Writings (13 books)</i>	<i>[Odes]</i>		Amos
Psalms	Proverbs	Proverbs	Obadiah
Proverbs	Ecclesiastes	Ecclesiastes	Jonah
Job	Song of Songs	Song of Songs	Micah
Song of Songs	<i>Wisdom of Solomon</i>	<i>Wisdom of Solomon</i>	Nahum
Ruth	<i>Ecclesiasticus</i>	<i>Ecclesiasticus</i>	Habakkuk
Lamentations	<i>[Psalms of Solomon]</i>		Zephaniah
Ecclesiastes	Isaiah	Isaiah	Haggai
Esther	Jeremiah	Jeremiah	Zechariah
Daniel	Lamentations	Lamentations	Malachi
Ezra	<i>Baruch</i>	<i>Baruch</i>	
Nehemiah	<i>Epistle of Jeremiah</i>	<i>Epistle of Jeremiah</i>	
1 Chronicles	Ezekiel	Ezekiel	
2 Chronicles	Daniel (with insertions)**	Daniel (with insertions)**	
	Hosea	Hosea	
	Joel	Joel	
	Amos	Amos	
	Obadiah	Obadiah	

12 Minor Prophets
counted as one

The Old Testament Canon*

•<http://www.bible-researcher.com/vulgate.html>

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Hebrew Bible	Greek Septuagint	Latin Vulgate	King James Version
	Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi	Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi	The Apocrypha <i>1 Esdras</i> <i>2 Esdras</i> <i>Tobit</i> <i>Judith</i> <i>Additions to Esther*</i> <i>Wisdom of Solomon</i> <i>Ecclesiasticus or Sirach</i> <i>Baruch</i> <i>Epistle of Jeremiah</i> <i>Song of the Three Children**</i> <i>Story of Susanna**</i> <i>Bel and the Dragon**</i> <i>Prayer of Manasseh</i> <i>1 Maccabees</i> <i>2 Maccabees</i>

* Esther in the Septuagint has six extra paragraphs inserted at various places. In the Vulgate, these are all removed to the end of the book. English versions omit them entirely, or remove them to an Apocrypha section.

** Daniel in the Septuagint has *The Story of Susanna* inserted at the beginning, the *Song of The Three Children* inserted in Chapter 3, and the story of *Bell and the Dragon* added to the end. In the Vulgate, *Susanna* is moved to before *Bel*. English versions omit them entirely, or remove them to an Apocrypha section.

*The Hebrew Canon**

- **The Hebrew Bible** - A collection of 28* books, which constitute *The Holy Scriptures* of Judaism.

- Originally there were 24 books but Samuel, Kings, Ezra-Nehemiah, and Chronicles were sub-divided (1st and 2nd Samuel, etc.) into 2 volumes in the 16th Century CE.



11th Century CE manuscript of the Hebrew Bible with Targum

- The ***Holy Scriptures*** include:
 - ***The Law or Torah*** – Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy (The first 5 books of the Catholic & Protestant Bible).
 - ***The Prophets or Nevi'im*** – includes *The Early Prophets*; Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings and *The Latter Prophets*; Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel, as well as the 12 (so called) minor prophets (Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi), which are grouped together as 1 book and included in the Latter Prophets section (8 books; actually 21).
 - ***The Writings or Ketuvim*** – Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Esther, Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah, 1 Chronicles, and 2 Chronicles. (13 books)

* “Outline of the Bible – Book by Book”
<http://www.bible-researcher.com>

*The Hebrew Canon**

• **The Hebrew/Jewish Canon***

- Evidence suggests that the process of canonization of the *Tanakh* occurred between 200 BCE and 200 CE.
 - The first suggestion of a Jewish canon comes in the 2nd century BCE.
 - In Maccabees¹ 2:13-15, it describes Nehemiah (c. 400 BCE) as having "founded a library and collected books about the kings and prophets, and the writings of David, and letters of kings about votive offerings."
 - The Book of Nehemiah suggests that *Ezra* brought the Torah back from Babylon to Jerusalem and the Second Temple.
 - Both 1st & 2nd Maccabees suggest that Judas Maccabeus likewise collected sacred books (such as 1 Macc 3:42-50, 2 Macc 15:6-9). They do not, however, suggest that the canon was at that time closed; moreover, it is not clear that these sacred books were identical to those that later became part of the canon.
- **Additional evidence** of a collection of sacred scripture similar to portions of the Hebrew Bible comes from the book of *Sirach (44-49)* (dating from 180 BCE), which includes a list of names of great men in the same order as is found in the *Torah* and the *Nevi'im* (Prophets), and which includes the names of some men mentioned in the *Ketuvim* (Writings).

* http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biblical_Canon

¹ A deuterocanonical book of the Jewish Bible which focuses on the Jews' revolt against Antiochus and concludes with the defeat of the Syrian general Nicanor in 161 BC by Judas Maccabeus, the hero of the

*The Hebrew Canon**

- **Variations in the Hebrew/Jewish Canon***
 - **Josephus** mentioned an unspecified organization into 22 books, possibly identical with the later scheme of **Athanasius** which combines Lamentations with Jeremiah and omits Esther.
 - Some scholars propose an alternate scheme for Josephus which either retains Esther and combines Ruth with Judges, or omits both Esther and Ecclesiastes.
 - Alternatively, Theodore of Mopsuestia omitted Song of Songs, Ecclesiastes, Job, and Ezra-Nehemiah to obtain a listing of 22 books.
 - The 22 book canon has one book for each letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
 - The **Dead Sea scrolls** discovered at caves near Qumran [in 1947] refer to the **Torah** and the **Nevi'im** and suggest that these portions of the Bible had already been canonized before 68 CE.
 - A scroll that contains all or parts of 41 biblical psalms, although not in the same order as in the current Book of Psalms, and which includes eight texts not found in the Book of Psalms, suggests that the Book of Psalms had not yet been canonized.
 - The first reference to a 24-book Jewish canon is found in 2 Esdras¹ 14:45-46, which was probably written in the first half of the 2nd Century CE.

* http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protocanonical_books

¹ Esdras is Greek for Ezra

*The Masoretic Text**

- Other than the Dead Sea Scrolls, the ***Masoretic Text*** is the only existing representation of the Old Testament in Hebrew.



A leaf from the Masoretic Text



11th Century CE manuscript of the Hebrew Bible with Targum

- The oldest fragments date from the 9th Century CE, but the oldest complete texts come from the 10th & 11th Centuries CE.
- The Masoretic Text does not present the original Hebrew form, nor even the Hebrew that was in use in the 1st Century CE, but a text which within a certain period was fixed by Jewish scholars as the correct and only authoritative one.
- The Hebrew of the 1st Century CE was closely akin to the Greek Septuagint that we have today....
- The Septuagint often makes word-divisions different from those of the Masoretic text
- The Buxtorfs¹, a famous father and son team, held to the absolute completeness and infallibility, and hence the exclusive value, of the Masoretic text. They attributed it to Ezra and the men of the Great Synagogue.
- Jean Mori and Louis Cappel refuted this view, claiming that it was a text of a much later time [than Ezra] and could not be considered infallible.

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/hebrewtext1.html>

¹Johannes Buxtorf (1564-1629) was a celebrated Hebraist and professor of Hebrew for thirty-nine years at the University of Basel and was known by the title, "Master of the Rabbis". His massive tome, *Synagoga Judaica* (1st. ed. 1603), scrupulously documents the customs and society of German Jewry in the early modern period. His son Johannes Buxtorf, Jr (1599-1664) was a brilliant young man who matriculated from the University of Basel at age 13 and like his father became a famous Hebraist, although he was a Protestant Christian.

The Greek Septuagint*

- **The Greek Septuagint***

- The name **Septuagint** means "seventy" in Latin and derives from a tradition that seventy-two Jewish scholars (LXX being the nearest round number) were conscripted and forced/bribed to translate the Pentateuch (or Torah) from Hebrew into Greek for Ptolemy II Philadelphus around 285-247 BCE.



The Septuagint:

A page from Codex Vaticanus Graece 1209, B/03; the basis of Sir Launcelot Lee Brenton's English translation.

- Over time, additional books were added to the **Septuagint** produced by the original Jewish scholars, until the **Septuagint** was completed around 1st Century CE.
- It was through the **Septuagint** translation of the Old Testament that the great truths of revelation first became known to the Greek and Roman world.
 - The **Septuagint** was the Old Testament that Paul used. Of 168 direct quotations from the Old Testament in the New, nearly all are from the Greek version-translation, not from the original [Hebrew].

ASIDE NOTE: The Bible Research web site points out that Jesus' name is a Greek translation of his Hebrew name, which was Joshua. It further states that his words [spoken in Aramaic] were translated by his disciples into the Greek, in which the New Testament was originally written.

* http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canon_of_the_Old_Testament

The Greek Septuagint*

- **The LXX** was held with great respect in ancient times; Philo and Josephus ascribed divine inspiration to its authors. It formed the basis of the Old Latin versions and is still used intact within Eastern Orthodoxy.
 - Besides the Old Latin versions, the LXX is also the basis for Gothic, Slavonic, old Syriac (but not the Peshitta), old Armenian, and Coptic versions of the Old Testament.
- The **Septuagint** (LXX) translation of the Hebrew language Bible into Koine Greek, which was carried out in stages between the 3rd to 1st century BC in Alexandria, Egypt, provided a text for the Greek-speaking world.
 - In this text (actually scrolls rather than a book) the **Torah** and **Nevi'im** are established as canonical, but again, [the] **Ketuvim** has not yet been definitively canonized;
 - Some editions of the **Septuagint** include, for instance 2-4 Maccabees or the 151st Psalm, while others do not include them. Also there are the **Septuagint** additions to Esther, Jeremiah, and Daniel, and 1 Esdras

Duke Papyrus 740.
Fragment of a 4th
century Septuagint
manuscript. Psalm
89:4-7.



...I will establish thy
seed forever, and build
up thy throne to all
generations. Pause.
The heavens shall
declare thy wonders, O
Lord; and thy truth in
the assembly of the
saints. For who in the
heavens shall be
compared to the Lord?
And who shall be
likened to the Lord
among the sons of
God? God is glorified...

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/lxx.html>

The Latin Vulgate*



- The **Vulgate Bible** is an early 6th Century CE version of the Bible translated into **Latin** from the Old Testament Classical Hebrew in 382 CE by **St. Jerome** on the orders of **Pope Damasus I**.
 - The **Vulgate** takes its name from the phrase “versio vulgata,” (i.e., the translation made public), and was written in a common 4th Century CE style of literary Latin in conscious distinction to the more elegant Ciceronian Latin.
- Jerome chose to use the Hebrew Old Testament instead of the **Greek Septuagint** in spite of direct pleadings of other Christians including **Augustine of Hippo** himself.
 - Jerome undertook the revision of the text in order to put an end to the marked divergences in the existing western texts. He labored 14 years in doing so.
- Prior to Jerome's translation, all Old Testament translations were based on the **Greek Septuagint**.

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/vulgate.html>

The Latin Vulgate*

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- The **Vulgate** was the standard version of the Bible for Roman Catholics for over one and a half millennia.
 - It improved upon several translations then in use, and became the definitive and officially promulgated Bible version of the Roman Catholic Church.
 - Its Old Testament is the first Latin version translated directly from the Hebrew Tanakh rather than from the Greek Septuagint.
- In 405 CE, Jerome completed the translation of the books of the Old Testament from the Hebrew, and the books of Tobias and Judith from Aramaic.
- The remainder of the version and the Psalter (or book of Psalms) were translated from the Greek.
- Over 1,000 years later, in 1450 CE, Gutenberg printed the Vulgate – his first book.

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

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/vulgate.html>

The Latin Vulgate*

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- Since the *Council of Trent*, which was convened three times between 1545 and 1563 CE in the city of Trento, Italy as a response to the theological and ecclesiological challenges of the Protestant Reformation, the Latin *Vulgate* has been the official bible of the Roman Catholic Church.
 - The *Council of Trent* is considered one of the most important councils in the history of the Catholic Church, clearly specifying Catholic doctrines on salvation, the sacraments, the Biblical canon and standardizing the Mass throughout the church, largely by abolishing local variations. This became known as the "Tridentine Mass", from the city's Latin name *Tridentum*.
 - The Council specified (Canonized) the 76 books in the Clementine edition of the *Vulgate Bible*;
 - 46 books in the Old Testament, 27 books in the New Testament, and 3 books in the Apocrypha.

Canonization of the Old Testament

- **Important Ancient versions***

- Following the “publication” of the **Septuagint** in 3rd to 1st Century BCE several Jewish scholars carried out their own translations. The following are three important/significant translations.

- ***Aquila of Sinope Translation*** (Greek) – early 2nd Century CE
 - A native of Pontus (a Roman province in what is now Northeastern Turkey). He is celebrated for a very literal and accurate translation of the Old Testament from Hebrew into Greek.
- ***Theodotion Translation*** (Greek) – mid 2nd Century CE
 - A Hellenistic Jewish scholar, perhaps working in Ephesus, who translated the Hebrew Bible into Greek. Whether he was revising the Septuagint, as most readers think, or was working from manuscripts that represented a parallel tradition that has not survived, is debated.
- ***Symmachus the Ebionite Translation*** (Greek) – late 2nd Century CE
 - It is noted that some fragments of Symmachus' version that survive in what remains of the Hexapla inspire scholars to remark on the purity and idiomatic elegance of Symmachus' Greek, which was admired by Jerome, who used it freely in composing the **Vulgate**.

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com>, and <http://en.wikipedia.org>

Canonization of the Old Testament

- **Important Ancient versions:**

- ***The Hexapla of Origen*** (Hebrew & Greek) – 3rd Century CE.

- **Origen** (185-254 CE) is considered one of the most distinguished of the early fathers of the Christian Church.
- He devoted 28 years, collecting materials from all parts of the Christian world to create the ***Hexapla***, in which he arranged his texts in six columns to create a ***side-by-side comparison*** of various translations of the Old Testament. His list included:
 1. The Hebrew text in Hebrew characters,
 2. The Hebrew text transliterated into Greek characters,
 3. The version of Aquila (Greek),
 4. The version of Symmachus (Greek),
 5. The Septuagint (Greek), and
 6. The version of Theodotion (Greek)
- The resulting work was deposited in the library at Cæsarea (in Palestine), was never transcribed, and perished, probably in the 7th century.

- ***Latin Bible*** (before Jerome) – many versions, dates unknown

- ***The Vulgate*** (The Bible of Jerome; 382 CE) – a Latin translation from the ***Septuagint***.

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com>, and
<http://en.wikipedia.org/oigen>

Canonization of the Old Testament

Early English Versions of the Old Testament*

- The efforts of translating the Bible from its original languages into over 2,000 other languages have spanned more than two millennia.
 - Partial translations of the Bible into English can be traced back to the end of the 7th Century CE. Over *450 versions* have been created over time.
- **Translations are categorized into:**
 - *Old English translations* (pre 1066 CE),
 - *Middle English translations* (1066–1500 CE), and
 - *Early Modern English translations* (1500-1800 CE).
- **Old English Translations** (pre 1066 CE)
 - **The Bible in Song** – Prior to 700 CE a peasant or herdsman named *Caedon* began singing the scriptures after being told to do so in a dream. Although he was not a learned man, the Monks of his abbey (Whitby Abbey) translated bits of the Bible from Latin and he simply put the words to song.
 - He became known as “the father of English sacred song” is considered one of the earliest English (actually Anglo-Saxon) singers of scriptures.



Folio 30v from the
Vespasian Psalter

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/canon9.html>, **and**
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_English_Bible_translations

Early English Version of the Old Testament *

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– **Old English Translations** (pre 1066 CE – cont.)

- **About 850 CE.** The *Vespasian Psalter*, an interlinear gloss found in a manuscript of the Book of Psalms. The gloss is in the Mercian dialect.
- **King Alfred** had a number of passages (the Ten Commandments and the Pentateuch) of the Bible circulated in the vernacular in around 900 CE.
- Alfred is also said to have directed the Book of Psalms to have been translated into Old English, which many scholars believe are found in the *Paris Psalter*.

– **Middle English Translations** (1066–1500 CE)

- **Wycliffe Bible** – 1384 CE; First Complete English version of the Bible
- **John Wycliffe**** (1320-1384 CE) was an Oxford professor who trained a cadre of Bible teachers and under his direction they translated the entire Latin Vulgate into English between the years 1380 and 1384 CE.
 - Followers of Wycliffe who then preached this word to the masses were called Lollards. In 1521 five hundred Lollards were arrested by the bishop for “preaching to the masses in a common language.”

** Wyclif, Wycliff, or Wickliffe, Czech Jan Viklef)

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/canon9.html>, and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_English_Bible_translations

Early English Version of the Old Testament *

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– **Middle English Translations** (1066–1500 CE – cont.)

- **Wycliffe Bible** – 1384 CE; First Complete English version of the Bible. “It constitutes the standard of Middle English.”
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 - Followers of Wycliffe who then preached this word to the masses were called Lollards. In 1521 five hundred Lollards were arrested by the bishop for preaching to the masses in a common language.
 - Some scholars say that “it was the secret reading of the scripture [Wycliffe’s bible] over the whole of the country” that contributed mostly to the English Reformation.
- **Gutenberg Bible** – An edition of the **Vulgate** printed by Gutenberg in 1455 (his first book). It was also know as the **Mazarin Bible** and **The 42-Line Bible** (refers to the # of lines on each page – there was also a 36-Line Bible).

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/canon9.html>, and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_English_Bible_translations

Early English Version of the Old Testament *

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– *Early Modern English Translations* (1500–1800 CE)

- ***Tyndale's Bible*** – The original *Tyndale Bible* was published in Cologne in 1526 CE, and the final revision was published in 1534 CE.
 - Tyndale was arrested in 1535 at Brussels, and the next year was condemned to death on charges of teaching Lutheranism. He was tied to a stake, strangled, and his body was burned.
- ***The Great Bible*** - The Great Bible or *Coverdale Bible* was published in 1539 CE. Coverdale took Tyndale's New Testament and the portions of the Old Testament available before he was jailed, and produced the *Great Bible* in 1535 CE.
 - Scholars say that he probably translated the remainder of the Old Testament himself from Latin and German versions.
 - The *Great Bible* was issued to meet a decree that each church should make available in some convenient place the largest possible copy of the whole Bible, where all the parishioners could have access to it and read it at their will.

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/canon9.html>, and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_English_Bible_translations

Early English Version of the Old Testament *

-- continued --

- **Early Modern English Translations** (1500–1800 CE)
 - **Matthew's Bible** – Produced by John Rogers, working under the pseudonym Thomas Matthew for safety, in 1537 CE.
 - Based on Tyndale's previously published version with the addition of the text Tyndale produced in prison. The remainder used Coverdale's translation. This version received the approval of *Henry VIII* who had previously banned Tyndale's work.
 - The *Great Bible* which appeared first in 1539 CE became the authorized version in Britain.
 - A minor revision of Matthew's Bible edited by Richard Taverner and published in 1539 became known as *Taverner's Bible*.
 - **The Geneva Bible** – This bible was produced in 1560 by William Whittingham, pastor of the English Protestant congregation in Geneva, Switzerland.
 - The *Genevan Bible* was the first to include the familiar division into verses. The chapter division was made three centuries earlier.

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/canon9.html>, and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_English_Bible_translations

Early English Version of the Old Testament *

-- continued --

- ***The Geneva Bible (cont.)***

- The verse divisions were taken in large part from the work of Robert Stephens, who had divided the Greek Testament into verses ten years earlier.
- The *Genevan Bible* was printed in both Roman type, with which we are all familiar, and in the older type face, black letter.
 - It had full notes on hard passages, some of which eventually proved controversial to King James, and were thus a prompt to a new translation: the King James version.

- ***The Bishops' Bible*** – An Anglican revision of the *Great Bible* produced by nine bishops in a response to the rising popularity of the Geneva Bible. It was produced in 1568 and revised in 1572.
 - The *Bishops' Bible* shows influence of the *Geneva Bible* in many ways, though it gives no credit for that. Only its official standing gave it life, and after forty years, in nineteen editions, it was no longer published.

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/canon9.html>, and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_English_Bible_translations

Early English Version of the Old Testament *

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- ***Douai-Rheims Bible*** - The Douai version was the work of English Catholic scholars connected with the University of Douai in France.
 - The New Testament was issued at Rheims in 1582 CE.
 - The Old Testament in 1609 CE, just before the King James version. It was made, not from the Hebrew and the Greek, though it refers to both, but from the ***Vulgate***. The result is that the Old Testament of the ***Douai-Rheims Bible*** is a translation into English from the Latin.
 - Thus, in large part, it is a translation into Latin from the Greek Septuagint, which in turn is a translation from the Hebrew.
 - Its notes were strongly anti-Protestant, and in its preface it explains its existence by saying that Protestants have been guilty of "casting the holy to dogs and pearls to hogs."
 - The version is not in the direct line of the ascent of the familiar version—its English was not colloquial, but ecclesiastical.
 - The ***Douai-Rheims*** translation was updated in 1750 by Bishop Challoner.
 - This version remained the standard Catholic English-language Bible until **1941**.

* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/canon9.html>, and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_English_Bible_translations

*The King James Version**

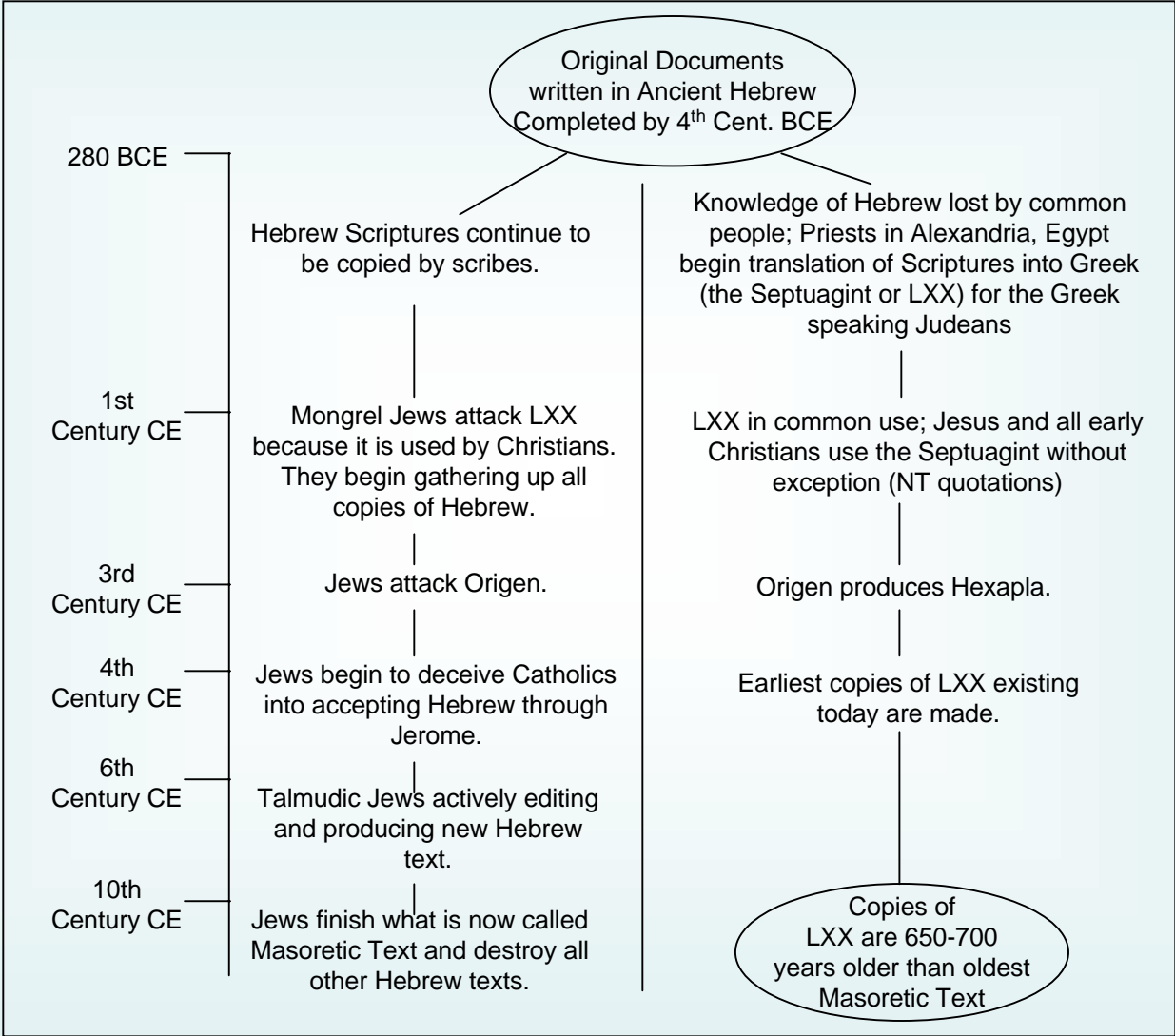
- **King James or Authorized Version Bible** - First published in 1611 CE
 - It was commissioned for the benefit of the Church of England at the behest of King James I of England (reign 1603-1625).
 - Translated by the largest group of translators, around 50, and using the widest range of source texts, it became the "*Authorized Version*" in Britain and the most widely used of the Early Modern English Bible translations.
 - Its use has continued in some traditions up to the present. Even though modern scholarship has shown problems with some of the translation, it is widely admired for its style and use of language
 - It has had a profound impact not only on most English translations that have followed it, but also on English literature as a whole.
 - Its use has continued in some traditions up to the present. Even though modern scholarship has shown problems with some of the translation, it is widely admired for its style and use of language.



* <http://www.bible-researcher.com/canon9.html>, and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_English_Bible_translations

Versions & Canonization of the Old Testament

-- Bible History* --



From ?????? documented at

Versions & Canonization of the Old Testament

Ancient Canon Lists

Taken from <http://www.bible-researcher.com/canon8.html>

1. Melito (c. 170 CE)

- Bishop of the church in Sardis, Turkey. He lists **22 books** of the Hebrew canon (Old Testament) minus Esther. Also lists New Testament books. He does not list New Testament books.

2. Origen (c. 240 CE)

- An early Christian Scholar born in Alexandria, Egypt. He created a catalog of the Sacred Scriptures listing **22 books** of the Old Testament. Also lists New Testament books.

3. Cyril of Jerusalem (c. 350 CE)

- Bishop of Jerusalem. His list includes **22 books** of the Old Testament. Also lists New Testament books.

4. Hilary of Poitiers (c. 360 CE)

- Bishop of Poitiers, France (in Gaul). He lists only the **22 books** of the Hebrew canon (Old Testament), but mentions that some add *Tobit* and *Judith*. He does not list New Testament books.

5. The Cheltenham List (c. 360 CE)

- A catalog that lists **25 books** of the Old Testament. A list of New Testament books is also included.

6. Letter of Athanasius (367 CE)

- Bishop of Alexandria, Egypt. His list of **22 books** of the Old Testament list was published as part of his *Easter Letter*. Also lists New Testament books.

7. Gregory of Nazianzus (c. 380 CE)

- Bishop of Constantinople, Turkey. His list follows the names of the **22 books** of the Old Testament, arranged as in Cyril of Jerusalem, but omitting Esther and Baruch. Also lists New Testament books.

8. Amphilocius of Iconium (c. 380 CE)

- Bishop of Iconium in Galatia, Turkey. He states “follow the names of the [**21 books**] of the Old Testament as in Gregory of Nazianzus, but concluding with some add Esther.” Also lists New Testament books.

Versions & Canonization of the Old Testament

Ancient Canon Lists

Taken from <http://www.bible-researcher.com/canon8.html>

9. The "Apostolic Canons" – Canon 85 (c. 380 CE)

- A list that includes **31 books** of the Old Testament books. Also lists New Testament books.

10. Rufinus of Aquileia (c. 380 CE)

- An elder in the church in Aquileia, Italy and friend of Jerome. A list of **22 books** of the Old Testament. Also lists New Testament books.

11. Epiphanius (c. 385 CE)

- Bishop of Salamis (isle of Cyprus). A list of **27 books** of the Old Testament. Also lists New Testament books.

12. Jerome (c. 390 CE)

- Bishop of Aquileia, Italy. A list of **22 books** of the Old Testament. Also lists New Testament books.

13. Augustine (c. 397 CE)

- Bishop of Hippo Regius, Algeria. A list of **44 books** of the Old Testament. Also lists New Testament books.

14. Third Council of Carthage – Canon 24 (397 CE)

- Bishop of A list of **22 books** of the Old Testament. Also lists New Testament books.

14. Letter of Innocent I (405 CE)

- Bishop of A list of **25 books** of the Old Testament. Also lists New Testament books.

15. Codex Claromontanus (c. 400 CE)

- Bishop of A list of **39 books** of the Old Testament. Also lists New Testament books.

16. Decree of Gelasius (c. 550 CE)

- Bishop of A list of **39 books** of the Old Testament. Also lists New Testament books.

17. John of Damascus (c. 730 CE)

- An eminent theologian of the Eastern Church. A list of **22 books** of the Old Testament. Also lists New Testament books.

Studying the Bible

Bible Versions*

- **The Catholic Bible** - A collection of 46 Old Testament books, including 16 Apocryphal books.
 - Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings, 1&2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, *Tobit*, *Judith*, Esther, *1&2 Maccabees*, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, *Wisdom of Solomon*, *Sirach or Ecclesiasticus*, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, *Baruch*, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi
- **The Protestant Bible** - A collection of 39 Old Testament books
 - Seven (7) books of the Catholic Old Testament (*Tobit*, *Judith*, *1&2 Maccabees*, *Wisdom of Solomon*, *Sirach or Ecclesiasticus*, and *Baruch*) are relegated to The Appendix (or Apocrypha) of the Protestant Bible.

Studying the Bible

Bible Versions*

- **Apocryphal Books:**

- Dr. Landis¹ says that the Apocryphal Books can be divided into the following categories:

- ***History*** – 1 & 2 Maccabees and 1 Esdras
 - ***Reflection*** – The Wisdom of Solomon and Ecclesiasticus (or the Wisdom of Jesus - the Son of Sirach)
 - ***Legends*** – Tobit, Judith, the Rest of Esther, the Song of the Three Children, Story of Susanna, and Bel and the Dragon
 - ***Prophecy*** – Baruch, including the Epistle of Jeremiah (sometimes printed separately) and 2 Esdras
 - ***Prayer*** – The Prayer of Manasseh

¹ *Outline of the Bible – Book by Book*



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

Origins of the Bible

Composition & Arrangement of Old Testament

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Genesis [1:1 – 50:26] | 21. Ecclesiastes [1:1 – 12:14] |
| 2. Exodus [1:1 – 40:38] | 22. The Song of Solomon [1:1 – 8:14] |
| 3. Leviticus [1:1 – 27:34] | 23. Isaiah [1:1 – 66:24] |
| 4. Numbers [1:1 – 36:13] | 24. Jeremiah [1:1 – 52:34] |
| 5. Deuteronomy [1:1 – 34:12] | 25. Lamentations [1:1 – 5:22] |
| 6. Joshua [1:1 – 24:33] | 26. Ezekiel [1:1 – 48:35] |
| 7. Judges [1:1 – 21:25] | 27. Daniel [1:1 – 12:13] |
| 8. Ruth [1:1 – 4:22] | 28. Hosea [1:1 – 14:9] |
| 9. 1 st Samuel [1:1 – 31:13] | 29. Joel [1:1 – 3:21] |
| 10. 2 nd Samuel [1:1 – 24:25] | 30. Amos [1:1 – 9:15] |
| 11. 1 st Kings [1:1 – 22:53] | 31. Obadiah [1:1 – 1:21] |
| 12. 2 nd Kings [1:1 – 25:30] | 32. Jonah [1:1 – 4:11] |
| 13. 1 st Chronicles [1:1 – 29:30] | 33. Micah [1:1 – 7:20] |
| 14. 2 nd Chronicles [1:1 – 36:23] | 34. Nahum [1:1 – 3:19] |
| 15. Ezra [1:1 – 10:44] | 35. Habakkuk [1:1 – 3:19] |
| 16. Nehemiah [1:1 – 13:31] | 36. Zephaniah [1:1 – 3:20] |
| 17. Esther [1:1 – 10:3] | 37. Haggai [1:1 – 2:23] |
| 18. Job [1:1 – 42:17] | 38. Zechariah [1:1 – 14:21] |
| 19. Psalms [1:1 – 150:6] | 39. Malachi [1:1 – 4:6] |
| 20. Proverbs [1:1 – 31:31] | |

Origins of the Bible/Old Testament

Listing the ancient versions of Scripture

Taken from <http://www.bible-researcher.com/history1.html>

- BCE Dates

1520 *Book of Job* written (?)

1470 *Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers* probably written by now.

1451 *Deuteronomy* written. Death of Moses.

1426 *Joshua* written. Death of Joshua.

925 *First and Second Samuel* written about now.

855 *Lamentations* written.

550 *First and Second Kings* written about now.

460 *Esther* written.

440 *First and Second Chronicles* and *Ezra* written.

432 *Nehemiah* written.

250 *Septuagint version* of the Pentateuch published.

200 *Tobit, Epistle of Jeremiah* and *Ecclesiasticus* written.

190 *First Esdras* written.

170 *Additions to Esther* written.

Origins of the Bible/Old Testament

Listing the ancient versions of Scripture

Taken from <http://www.bible-researcher.com/history1.html>

- BCE Dates

- 150 *Judith* and *Baruch* written. Septuagint version of Hebrew canon now complete.
- 143 *Book of Jubilees* written.
- 120 *Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs* and *Assumption of Moses* written.
- 100 *Wisdom of Solomon* and *First Maccabees* written.
- 75 Additions to *Daniel* (*Song of the Three Children*, *Story of Susanna*, and *Bel and the Dragon*) written.
- 70 *Second Maccabees* and *Prayer of Manasseh* written. *Book of Enoch* compiled.
- 63 *Third Maccabees* written.
- 37 *Psalms of Solomon* written.
- 19 *Fourth Maccabees* written.
- 5 Birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem.
- 4 Death of Herod the Great.