

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE



THE HEBREW BIBLE

- ▶ 24 books called the TaNaK, which is an acronym for Torah, Nevi'im, & Ketuvim.
 - ▶ Torah >> The first five books of Moses
 - ▶ Nevi'im >> Eight books of the prophets
 - ▶ Ketuvim >> Eleven books of the writings, including the history books
- ▶ Our English translations have all of these books, except that it separates Samuel, Kings, & Chronicles into two books each & the minor prophets into 12 books (24 + 15 = 39).
- ▶ Sections in our modern translations are the Law, History, Writings (Wisdom Literature), Major Prophets, & Minor Prophets.

APOCRYPHA?

- ▶ The Apocrypha is a set of books written between 400 B.C. & the time of Christ.
- ▶ Apocrypha means "things hidden or concealed". These books contain some helpful information about Jewish history between Chronicles & the New Testament. **Jews** reject them as Scriptural as do Protestant Christians.

JOSHUA

Genre: History • Written by Joshua after 1406 BC & before 1043 BC

- ▶ God is the God of the **Promised Land**
- ▶ Summary Verse >> Joshua 1:9 | Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."
- ▶ Joshua (Israel's new leader) leads Israel to **conquer** the Promised Land, then parcels out territories to the twelve tribes of Israel.
- ▶ Joshua chronicles the fulfillment of the promise that God gave to **Abraham** in Genesis 12:7, which said, "Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him."

JUDGES

Genre: History • Written by ??? between 1043-1004 BC

- ▶ God is the God of the **Rebels**
- ▶ Summary Verses
 - ▶ Judges 2:10 | And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know **the LORD** or the work that he had done for Israel.

- ▶ Judges 21:25 | In those days there was no **king** in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.
- ▶ Throughout Judges, the judges' character gets worse & worse. Not to mention they all died. Therefore, the point of Judges is that Israel needs a perfect, eternal **deliverer**.
- ▶ Judges records 7 rebellions, 7 seasons of servitude, & 7 deliverances. Each narrative follows a repeated cycle: Sin, Servitude, Supplication, Salvation, Silence

RUTH

Genre: History • Written by ??? around ???

- ▶ God is the God of **Redemption**
- ▶ This book comes immediately after Judges because of Ruth 1:1, which says, "In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land..."
- ▶ Summary Verse >> Ruth 2:12 | The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!"
- ▶ The name "Ruth" means "friendship". When you think of Ruth, think of the female version of **Job**. It is a story about hopeless Israelite refugees who encounter tragedy & find redemption back in Israel.
- ▶ The significance of the story of Ruth is found in Ruth 4:17, which says, "And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of **David**.

1 SAMUEL

Genre: History • Written by Samuel & others before 930 BC

- ▶ God is the God of the **Heart**
- ▶ Summary Verse >> 1 Samuel 8:19-20 | But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, "No! But there shall be a king over us, that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles."
- ▶ Originally, 1 & 2 Samuel was 1 book. Later, when the OT was being translated into Greek (called the Septuagint), the books were separated at the death of **Saul**.
- ▶ Remember the end of the book of Judges, "In those days there was no king in Israel" (21:25). The book of 1 Samuel records God raising up the last judge, who is also Israel's first **prophet**.

2 SAMUEL

Genre: History • Written by Other Prophets before 930 BC

- ▶ God is the God of the **Throne**
- ▶ Summary Verse >> 2 Samuel 7:12-13 | When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.
- ▶ In 2 Samuel, **David** becomes God's most faithful king, but then rebels, resulting the slow destruction of his family & kingdom.
- ▶ As the central figure of 2 Samuel, David is also the central point of **redemptive** history. He is the halfway point between Abraham & Jesus.

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE



THE HEBREW BIBLE

- ▶ 24 books called the TaNaK, which is an acronym for Torah, Nevi'im, & Ketuvim.
 - ▶ Torah >> The first five books of Moses
 - ▶ Nevi'im >> Eight books of the prophets
 - ▶ Ketuvim >> Eleven books of the writings, including the history books
- ▶ Our English translations have all of these books, except that it separates Samuel, Kings, & Chronicles into two books each & the minor prophets into 12 books (24 + 15 = 39).
- ▶ Sections in our modern translations are the Law, History, Writings (Wisdom Literature), Major Prophets, & Minor Prophets.

APOCRYPHA?

- ▶ The Apocrypha is a set of books written between 400 B.C. & the time of Christ.
- ▶ Apocrypha means "things hidden or concealed". These books contain some helpful information about Jewish history between Chronicles & the New Testament. _____ reject them as Scriptural as do Protestant Christians.

JOSHUA

Genre: History • Written by Joshua after 1406 BC & before 1043 BC

- ▶ God is the God of the _____
- ▶ Summary Verse >> Joshua 1:9 | Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."
- ▶ Joshua (Israel's new leader) leads Israel to _____ the Promised Land, then parcels out territories to the twelve tribes of Israel.
- ▶ Joshua chronicles the fulfillment of the promise that God gave to _____ in Genesis 12:7, which said, "Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him."

JUDGES

Genre: History • Written by ??? between 1043-1004 BC

- ▶ God is the God of the _____
- ▶ Summary Verses
 - ▶ Judges 2:10 | And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know _____ or the work that he had done for Israel.

- ▶ Judges 21:25 | In those days there was no _____ in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.
- ▶ Throughout Judges, the judges' character gets worse & worse. Not to mention they all died. Therefore, the point of Judges is that Israel needs a perfect, eternal _____.
- ▶ Judges records 7 rebellions, 7 seasons of servitude, & 7 deliverances. Each narrative follows a repeated cycle: Sin, Servitude, Supplication, Salvation, Silence

RUTH

Genre: History • Written by ??? around ???

- ▶ God is the God of _____
- ▶ This book comes immediately after Judges because of Ruth 1:1, which says, "In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land..."
- ▶ Summary Verse >> Ruth 2:12 | The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!"
- ▶ The name "Ruth" means "friendship". When you think of Ruth, think of the female version of _____. It is a story about hopeless Israelite refugees who encounter tragedy & find redemption back in Israel.
- ▶ The significance of the story of Ruth is found in Ruth 4:17, which says, "And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of _____.

1 SAMUEL

Genre: History • Written by Samuel & others before 930 BC

- ▶ God is the God of the _____
- ▶ Summary Verse >> 1 Samuel 8:19-20 | But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, "No! But there shall be a king over us, that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles."
- ▶ Originally, 1 & 2 Samuel was 1 book. Later, when the OT was being translated into Greek (called the Septuagint), the books were separated at the death of _____.
- ▶ Remember the end of the book of Judges, "In those days there was no king in Israel" (21:25). The book of 1 Samuel records God raising up the last judge, who is also Israel's first _____.

2 SAMUEL

Genre: History • Written by Other Prophets before 930 BC

- ▶ God is the God of the _____
- ▶ Summary Verse >> 2 Samuel 7:12-13 | When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.
- ▶ In 2 Samuel, _____ becomes God's most faithful king, but then rebels, resulting the slow destruction of his family & kingdom.
- ▶ As the central figure of 2 Samuel, David is also the central point of _____ history. He is the halfway point between Abraham & Jesus.