

What's in the Old Testament  
Anyways?

# What's in the Old Testament Anyways?

## Hebrew Bible (**TaNaKh**)

### **Torah**

Instruction; to teach/guide

The five books of the Torah are identified by the first prominent word in each book

### **Nevi'im**

Prophets

### **Ketuvim**

Writings

Tanakh – Miqra – that which is read

The books of the Tanakh were passed on by each generation with the accompanying oral tradition, called the Oral Torah.

# What's in the Old Testament Anyways?

Torah - Instruction; to teach/guide

Genesis

'bereshith' 'reshiyth' – in the beginning

Genesis 1 : 1

Greek meaning – Origin, Beginning

Exodus

'shemot' 'shem' – names

Exodus 1 : 1

Greek meaning – Exit, Departure

Leviticus

'vayikra' 'qara' – and he called

Leviticus 1 : 1

Greek meaning – Law of the Priests

# What's in the Old Testament Anyways?

Torah - Instruction; to teach/guide

Numbers

'bemidbar' 'midbar' – in the desert (of)

Numbers 1 : 1

Greek meaning - Numbers

Deuteronomy

'dəvrīm' 'debar' – spoken words

Deuteronomy 1 : 1

Greek meaning – This Second Law (in the idea of the second time they have heard it.)

From their very title, we can see that the Torah, given by God is a section on Instruction and Guidance to His people.

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## Nevi'im – Prophets

### Former

Joshua, Judges, I & II Samuel, I & II Kings

Joshua 1 : 1 – 10

Joshua succeeds Moses – Israel enters the promised land

Judges 1 : 1 – 2

The death of Joshua – possessing of Canaan

I Samuel 8 : 1 – 5

The era of Judges ends – Israel requests a king

I & II Kings

The continual conquests - Captivity

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## Nevi'im – Prophets

### Latter

Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and The Twelve (Trei Asar)

Isaiah

'yeshayah' – Jah (Jehovah God) has saved

Jeremiah

'yirmeyah' – Jah will rise

Ezekiel

'yechezqel' – God will strengthen

The Twelve

Cover a multitude of arenas from the Captivity of Israel and Judah to the coming Messiah, the Christ

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## Ketuvim – Writings

### 'Sifrei Emet' "Books of Truth"

#### Psalms

150 Psalms written in praise to God. The breadth of the Psalms covers jubilation, war, peace, praise, lament, etc.

#### Proverbs

"Sepher Kokhmah' (rabbinical writings) – "Book of Wisdom"

Written as instruction passed down by generations

#### Job

Ask – Answer book. The common question/theme – "why does the righteous suffer?" The book culminates when God begins to question Job, and then his friends. In the end, faithfulness to God triumphs all physical strife.

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## Ketuvim – Writings

### 'Five Megillot' "Five Scrolls"

Song of Songs (Solomon)

Love story between a man and his bride.

Ruth 1 : 16 – 17

The book tells of Ruth's accepting the God of the Israelites as her God and the Israelite people as her own.

Lamentations

Latin title Threni – Tears – Destruction of a City (Jerusalem)

Ecclesiastes

An autobiography where the writer denotes his investigation on the meaning of life.

Esther

God worked through His servant to save His people



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## Ketuvim – Writings

### “Writings”

Daniel

Captivity (Babylon – Medes/Persians)

Apocalyptic Vision

Ezra-Nehemiah

One book detailing the efforts to rebuild the temple, and worship re-established.

I & II Chronicles

“The Matters of the Days” – Begins with Adam and detail chronologically the history of Israel leading up to Captivity.

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### Torah

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### Nevi'im

Prophets

### Ketuvim

Writings

All writings tell one central theme:

God's love for His people, His desire for them to come to Him, His anger towards sin, His enduring mercy, longsuffering, and compassion towards those who are His

Romans 15 : 4