

Old Testament Revelation

by Wayne Goff

The Scriptures of the Old Testament were written over a period of at least 1,000 years – from 1450 B.C. to 400 B.C.

Moses was the first writer who produced by inspiration “**The Pentateuch**” (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy) around 1450-1400 B.C. The term simply means “five books” and comes from a Greek etymology, even though the Old Testament was written in Hebrew. Several Old Testament books have Greek-derived names once translated from the Hebrew. Another example of this would be “Ecclesiastes.” The Hebrews referred to the first five books of the Old Testament as “**The Torah**” (Law).

Malachi was the last Old Testament writer who wrote about 400 B.C. The period between the last revelation of God to Malachi and the beginning of revelation through John and Jesus is called “The Silent 400 Years.” Imagine not receiving any instruction, rebuke, or admonition from God in that length of time. But the reason for this was Israel was not listening to God through the prophets, so He simply became silent. This silence made more profound the entry of John the Baptist and Jesus into the world. Their first message was “**Repent**, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” “**Repent**” also happened to be the final word of Malachi when he prophesied the coming of the new age of the Messiah: “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And He will **turn the hearts** (repentance) of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse” (4:5-6).

The new dispensation brought a new covenant and new revelation ~ **New Testament**, as **Jeremiah** prophesied, **31:31-34** (Heb. 8:6-13). The Old Testament contains much information, examples, and illustrations of Divine truth, and as such should still be studied today “for our **learning**, so that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope” (**Romans 15:4**). When you pick up your Bible and begin reading the Old Testament, realize that it is an ancient book some of which is more than 3400 years old! And people still need to **REPENT!**

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