

Old Testament Structure

HISTORY	WRITINGS/WISDOM					PROPHECY			
GENESIS (1)	JOB			PROVERBS	ECCLESIASTES	SONG OF SONGS	ISAIAH (D)		
EXODUS (2)							JEREMIAH (I)		
LEVITICUS (3)		PSALMS					LAMENTATIONS (I)		
NUMBERS (4)							EZEKIEL (K)		
DEUTERONOMY (5)							DANIEL (L)		
Joshua (6)	17 Books of History [Chronological Order 1 to 17]							Hosea (C)	
Judges (7)	5 Books of Wisdom							Joel	(?)
Ruth (8)	17 Books of Prophecy [Probable Chronological Order A to O]							Amos (A)	
1 Samuel (9)	(Joel is difficult to date with many respectable scholars giving widely variant dates from 9th to 5th C BC)							Obadiah (J)	
2 Samuel (10)	Note the overall structure:							Jonah (B)	
1 Kings (12)	5 x Books of the Pentateuch 12 x Books of History - 5 x Books of Writings/Wisdom -							Micah (E)	
2 Kings (13)	5 x 'Major' Prophecies 12 x 'Minor' Prophecies							Nahum (F)	
1 Chronicles (11)	In the Bible, "major" and "minor" prophets are categories based mainly on the length of their books, not on how important their messages are. So, "minor" does not mean less authoritative or less significant.							Habakkuk (H)	
2 Chronicles (14)								Zephania (G)	
Ezra (16)	Some traditions list only Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel, because Lamentations consists of dirges and complaints concerning the fall of Jerusalem in 586BC. Also, in the Hebrew Bible, Lamentations and Daniel are placed among the Writings, not among the Prophets.							Haggai (M)	
Nehemia (17)								Zecharia (N)	
Esther (15)	Joel. Joel does not name a king or clearly identify a datable historical event. Many modern scholars favour a post-exilic setting, - though an earlier pre-exile date is also defended.							Malachi (O)	

Legend:	Pentateuch Creation to c1405BC	Pre Babylonian Exile c1405 to 560BC	Babylonian Exile c605 to 536 BC	Post Babylonian Exile c538 to 425BC
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