

#4

O. T. Survey

4 - Fold Division

- I Pentateuch - Gen. - Duet.
- II Historical - Josh. - Esther
- III - Poetical - Job - Song of Solomon
- IV - Prophetic - Isaiah - Malachai

I Pentateuch - Edited by Moses. Beginning of creation to Israel's entry to the land - 1390 B.C. Think of word to describe the book.

1. Genesis - "Beginning"

Beginning of Human Race - (1 - 11)

Beginning of Israel - (12 - 50)

Patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob & Joseph

2. Exodus - "Redemption" (to exit)

Brought out of slavery - (Moses) into wilderness - Laws - Taber -
nacle

3. Leviticus "Holiness"

Details of worship - like the constitution - spells out our
ways of living

4. Numbers - "Wandering"

People are assembled & numbered - they fail to enter the land
at Kadesh-Barnea - sent back to wilderness for 40 years.

5. Deuteronomy "Repetition"

(Not history) the saying of Moses as he rehearses all God as
done for the children of Israel - around 1390 B.C.

(means 2nd Law" Jo. 5 - "Moses' writings"

Critical:

Courses of O.T. will say - J,E,P,D authors of Pentateuch -
authored over many years, many errors so why believe it? No spiritual
blessing.

Why does the Pentateuch have such a profound effect on anyone who
reads it spiritually? It's like saying Michelangelos 'David' was
chipped away over the centuries by just anyone - carpenters, housewives,
janitors & lo, and behold it resulted in one of the greatest sculptures
in history. Even more so - the Pentateuch is God's.

II. Historical Books

6. Joshua (means Jesus) "Conquest"

People enter land of Canaan - conquer it - Joshua is a picture of
Jesus - spiritually conquering our lives.

7. Judges "Failure - apostasy"

1360 - 1025 B.C. God tells them to conquer the whole land, eliminate every vestige of idolatry and the people. (Bright)

"The amazing thing about the gods - no moral code - fertility, sex, sexual emphasis - base - with animals, etc." God gave the Canaanites years and then he told the Israelites to execute His judgment. But they didn't do it - read end of book to see how Israel became like Canaanites. Gideon & Samson - sent by God to rescue His people. "right in his own eyes".
8. Ruth - "Romance"

Between a Gentile and a Jew - Ruth & Boaz - ancestors of David and thus Jesus.
9. I Samuel - "Transition"

Events leading to a monarchy. It is not God's will, but He allowed it. "Power corrupts, absolute power corrupts absolutely". God wanted them to trust Him as the Power to lead them. But they wanted a human king with a tight organized govt.

Samuel - last judge - 1st prophet

Saul - failed

David - Goliath - persecuted but he allowed God to replace Saul with himself.
10. II Samuel - "confirmation of monarchy"

David becomes King (1010 - 970) by trusting God and not using world methods. Golden Age of Israel.
11. I Kings - "Disruption"

Solomon - (970 - 930) (~~955~~) Builds a temple

Kingdom splits: Israel - 10 tribes
Rehoboam - Judea or Judah - 2 tribes

Jezebel & Elijah
12. II Kings "Dispersion"

History of 2 Kingdoms - Prophets - Elijah, Elisha

Israel North Kingdom (722 B.C.) Israel goes into captivity by Assyria.

Judah South Kingdom (586 B.C.) Babylonian Captivity.

Hezekiah & Josiah good kings.
13. I Chronicles - "Recapitulation"

Retrace history of II Sam. & II Kings from a different viewpoint. Prophetic (II Sam. II Ki) Priestly (I & II Chron) Emphasizing different viewpoint. i.e. temple, worship & So. Kingdom

Gap of 70 years after these books.

- a) 722 B.C. - No. Kingdom (Israel) Ten lost tribes - but not really lost. The N. T. shows this (Luke 2:36 tribe Asher) one of the 10 northern tribes.
- b) 586 B.C. Judah included emigrants (as well) Judah & Benjamin (Rev. 144,00) from 12 tribes Israel.

British Israelites - moral rearmament - Herbert Armstrong
(Dan - Danube River) Deceiving & wrong

70 years (606 - 586) - (536) Sabbatic years neglected by Israel.
Depopulation - made slaves - way of conquering in ancient days.
Dispersion - began here.

14. II Chron. Same as I Chron.

15. Ezra - "returning"

After 70 years. Godly remnant under Ezra, priest (538-450 B.C.)

16. Nehemiah - "rebuilding"

Helped rebuild in face of opposition (430 B.C.) of Samaritans - half-breeds - brick in one hand, sword in another.

17. Esther - "preservation"

Time of Ezra - preserved Jews through Esther. Persian Queen - Feast of Purim.

1400 - 400 B.C. 1000 years of history of Israel. Nehemiah - chronological end of O.T. (only the middle in O.T. arrangement-400 year gap. History is background of poetic and prophetic books of Scripture.

III. Poetic

18. Job - "suffering"

Debate as to when it occurred - probably patriarchs (1800-1900 B.C.)

Why the godly suffer - What was accomplished by God?

Great literary masterpiece - most profound book.

19. Psalms - "praise"

150, written as far back as Exodus and up to Nehemiah.

Major contributor - David (II Sam.). Hymn book of Israel - sung by Hebrews - real poetry..

20. Proverbs - "wisdom" - practical ethics

21. Ecclesiastes - "vanity"

Discourse on the emptiness of life without God - casting aside belief leads to a life with no direction or meaning.

22. Song of Solomon - "love"

Written by King Solomon (II Sam. I Kings)

Exalts married love, sexual love, love between God and man

Set to music and sung

Value of poetic books - fundamental answers to perplexing problems of life - gives us a deep insight into human experience and reveals the emotional side of life. In the Scripture their emotional life was not starved - they expressed themselves. The Bible meets our emotional needs and our intellectual needs.

IV. Prophetic Books

Start in II Kings and cover to Nehemiah - 17 books, 16 authors. Prophets - spokesman for God, raised up by Him to give His message to each generation. They gave revelation - which became Scripture.

a) Predictive - foretelling smallest part

b) Directed to some people - forthtelling about their own problems and what they could do. Tremendous ethical passages. Great literature.

Organize them in an easy way - 70 years of captivity:

Before: (12) Obadiah, Joel, Jonah, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah,

Pre-exilic: Micah, Nahum, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Zephaniah, Habakkuk,
(Jonah, Amos, Hosea = North Kingdom Israel)

During exilic: (2) Ezekiel, Daniel (586 - 538 B.C.)

After: (3) Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi (Nehemiah) (538 - 400 P.C.)
(post exilic)

(Major & minor - wrong description of them)

Modern critical scholars - presupposition that they are not supernatural, so he has to get rid of predictive parts by date or interpretation.

But - 1. Jesus accepted O.T. as authoritative

2. Septuagint translated in 250 B.C.