

A Visitor's Guide to the Old Testament

A Quick Review

I. Below are some “made up” quotes. Can you identify from which book of the Bible they might come from or are describing?

- _____ 1. “I won’t be with you much longer, but I want to remind of all the things God has done for you and what he expects of you.”
- _____ 2. “I had such good hopes for Nineveh, but it looks like their repentance was short lived.”
- _____ 3. “We have no king... everyone does what they think is right by their own standards.”
- _____ 4. “40 years... 40 years... you’d think after 40 years we would find a way out of this wilderness.”
- _____ 5. “Oh, you don’t think I’m the wisest person on earth? Here, read this book; it will give you some of my insights into the human condition.”
- _____ 6. “No, we don’t have a Presidential Library, but these books will give you valuable information about our governing history.”
- _____ 7. “This is the account of... this is the account of... this is the account of...!”
- _____ 8. “I love the heart you show me, LORD, in your Word, but here is a book in which I get to open my heart to you, LORD.”
- _____ 9. “I never thought a nation of shepherds could become such a feared nation of warriors – but I guess anything is possible when the LORD is on your side.”
- _____ 10. “I think I liked it better when my friends let me suffer in silence.”

II. Below are the “Minor Prophets” we have covered so far. Can you give at least ONE, perhaps even TWO distinguishing characteristics about each of the prophets?

Joel

- _____
- _____

Jonah

- _____
- _____

Nahum

- _____
- _____

Amos

- _____
- _____

Hosea

- _____
- _____

Micah

- _____
- _____

Zephaniah

- _____
- _____

III. Help me keep these books straight!

1. What is the difference in emphasis between the books of the Kings and the books of Chronicles?
2. How are the first five books of the Bible, all written by Moses, different from one another?
3. What separates the three “wisdom literature” books, authored mainly by Solomon?
4. What is the progression of historical thought from Joshua to Judges to Samuel? ... and why is it important to remember that these (and other books of the Bible) are not the kind of history books an academic would expect to find when searching for the “history of the times”?
5. What do we mean when we speak of Major Prophets and Minor Prophets?

IV. Assess the value

1. What benefit do you find in reading through the Old Testament?
2. What value have you found in reading the books “chronologically”?
3. What has been your favorite book thus far... and why?