

The Hebrew Prophets

Wisdom Literature

Creation ---Abraham---Exodus---Judges---
Monarchy---Nation Divided---Prophets---
the Exile---the Second Temple---Gospels---
the Church---Jesus' return

I. The Wisdom Literature

A. Job ---suffering

Job 1:6-8 (NIV)

One day the angels came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came with them. ⁷ The LORD said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the LORD, "From roaming through the earth and going back and forth in it." ⁸ Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

Job 42:10-12 (NIV)

After Job had prayed for his friends, the LORD made him prosperous again and gave him twice as much as he had before. ¹¹ All his brothers and sisters and everyone who had known him before came and ate with him in his house. They comforted and consoled him over all the trouble the LORD had brought upon him, and each one gave him a piece of silver and a gold ring. ¹² The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the first. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys.

B. Psalms ---Revelation of God

Psalms 121:1-8 (NIV)

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills-- where does my help come from?
- ² My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.
- ³ He will not let your foot slip-- he who watches over you will not slumber;
- ⁴ indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
- ⁵ The LORD watches over you-- the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
- ⁶ the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.
- ⁷ The LORD will keep you from all harm-- he will watch over your life;
- ⁸ the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

Psalms 130:1-8 (NIV)

- ¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;
- ² O Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.
- ³ If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- ⁴ But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared.
- ⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope.
- ⁶ My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.
- ⁷ O Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.
- ⁸ He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

C. Proverbs ---Pathway to success & contentment

Proverbs 1:7 (NIV)

⁷ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

Proverbs 2:5 (NIV)

⁵ then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

Proverbs 3:7-8 (NIV)

⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil.

⁸ This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.

Proverbs 10:27 (NIV)

²⁷ The fear of the LORD adds length to life, but the years of the wicked are cut short.

Proverbs 15:33 (NIV)

³³ The fear of the LORD teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor.

Proverbs 19:23 (NIV)

²³ The fear of the LORD leads to life: Then one rests content, untouched by trouble.

Proverbs 22:4 (NIV)

⁴ Humility and the fear of the LORD bring wealth and honor and life.

D. Ecclesiastes ---Priority Assessment

Ecclesiastes 2:10-11 (NIV)

¹⁰ I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure. My heart took delight in all my work, and this was the reward for all my labor. ¹¹ Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; **nothing was gained under the sun.**

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 (NIV)

¹³ Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole [duty] of man. ¹⁴ For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, grant me the wisdom to lead a life which is pleasing to you. My soul longs for your presence; open my mind to understand the majesty of Almighty God. Guard my way that I might not live foolishly. Deliver me from the traps and snares of evil. May I thrive in your purposes for my life finding great joy and contentment in serving my Lord and King. In Jesus' name, amen.