

LESSON #3: THE OLD TESTAMENT CANON
A STUDY IN BIBLIOLOGY

NO ONE LIKE HIM

*"FOR I AM GOD, AND THERE IS NO OTHER;
I AM GOD, AND THERE IS NO ONE LIKE ME" - ISA 46:9*

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6/3/15

KEY TERM: Canon – The list of all the books that belong in the Bible.

KEY CONCEPT: The OT was already recognized as a _____ before the NT was written.

The following are seven reasons the Old Testament is the Word of God.

1. **God _____.**

- The Ten Commandments: "And the tables were the work of God, and *the writing was the writing of God* graven upon the tables" (Ex. 32:16; cf. Deut. 4:13; 10:4).

2. **God _____ through others.**

- Moses wrote additional words (Deut 31:24-26); Joshua "wrote these words" (Josh 24:26); Samuel, David, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Daniel, Ezra, etc. were all used by God to compose His Holy Word.

3. **God _____ over a period of time, then stopped.**

- The content grew until the time of the end of the writing process.
 - o After 435 BC, there were no further additions to the OT canon.

4. **_____ recognizes it.**

- "God says" & "Scripture says" are used interchangeably.
 - o Rom 9:15, 17 quotes Exod 33:19, 9:16.

5. **The _____ stands as a witness to it.**

- 3-fold division in Lk 24:44: "Law of Moses, and the Prophets, and the Psalms."
 - i. Jesus references the beginning of OT Scripture to its end (Matt 23:35).
 - ii. Jesus and NT authors quote various parts of the OT as divinely authoritative over 295 times!
 - iii. New Testament authors cited the OT as "Scripture."

6. _____ **recognized it.**

- Josephus (37 AD – c.100) – A Roman Historian: Head of Jewish forces in Galilee fighting against Rome.
- Philo (20 BC – 50 AD) – Jewish philosopher. A contemporary to Jesus and the Apostles.

7. **The** _____ **confirm what was known.**

- 981 texts were discovered in 11 caves between 1946-1956.
- Cites a three-fold division of the OT: “The Law, the Prophets, and David” – 4QMMT

The Hebrew Arrangement of the Old Testament (24 books)

LAW <i>Torah</i>	PROPHETS <i>Nebiim</i>		WRITINGS <i>Ketubim</i>
	FORMER	LATTER	
Genesis			Psalms
Exodus	Joshua	Isaiah	Job
Leviticus	Judges	Jeremiah	Proverbs
Numbers	Samuel	Ezekiel	Ruth
Deuteronomy	Kings	The Twelve	Song of Songs
			Ecclesiastes
			Lamentations
			Esther
			Daniel
			Ezra/Nehemiah
			Chronicles
OT 26.3% (1/4 of OT)	46.2%		27.5%
OT & NT 20.5% (1/5 of Bible)	36%		21.5%