

# INTRODUCTION TO OLD TESTAMENT

- 1- what does it mean, definitions ...Bible, testament
- 2-who wrote the Bible?
- 3- language (s)
- 4-why do we keep the O.T.?
- 5-canonization of the O.T....
- 6- overview of O.T.
- 7- first 5 books of the O.T.



## 1-DEFINATIONS:

- 1- Bible .....is from a Greek word..Biblia or
- Biblos , means : books or library of books
- 2- Testament ..means
- Covenantat.....so it is a covenant between God and human
- When did we have first covenant in the O.T.?
- Was in the rainbow after Noah's arc
- When was the first covenant in the N.T?...



## 2- WHO WROTE THE HOLY BIBLE?

- 1- the Holy Bible is all inspired by God (the Holy Spirit)
- 2- written by over 40 writers .....over 1500 years
- 3- collection by kings, princes, poets, philosophers, statements,visions
- 4- it has 73 books..46 books in the O.T.....
- And 27 books in the N.T..so there is no changes in the N.T. or differences with everybody except on 1 book.....? About who is the author.
- So why the bible we have has only 39 books of the O.T.?



- Because we have 7 extra books we call them
- Deuterocanonical books, or called apocrypha books which means Hidden and the orthodox and the Catholic approved these books but the protestant after Martin Luther refused these books so the NKJV doesn't have them.
- We agreed on them because we found they talk about God's love and promise to help and saves his people Also we found St.Paul uses them in his epistle to the Hebrews WILL TALK ABOUT IT...
- Also Ezra the priest/prophet during the exile ,he collected the O.T and in his collection was only 39 books



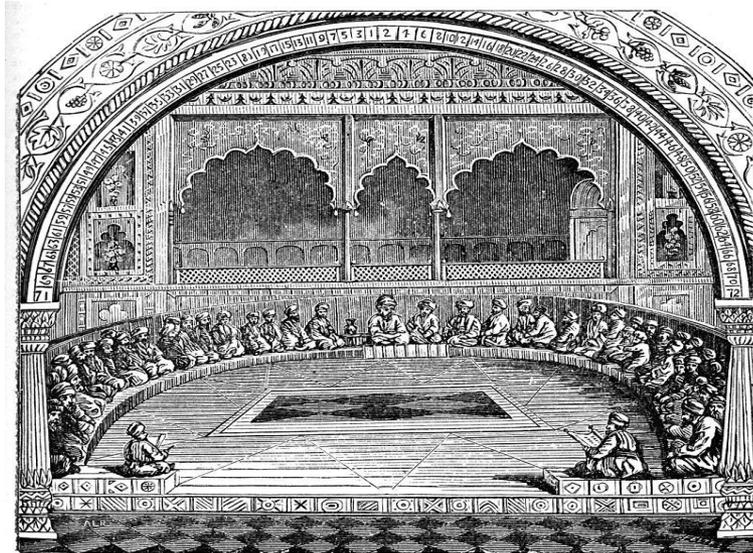
- Because some books were not written yet and the protestant agreed to use those books that is been collected by Ezra as the O.T books only.



### 3- CANONIZATION OF THE O.T.

- 1- as we said how Ezra collected the O.T. books
- 2- after the great destruction of the Jews temple a great rabbi named Yochanan Ben Zakkar obtained a permission from the Romans to reconstitute the Sanhedrin ( council or sitting of 23-71 men in each city of Isral land to judge or decide between issues)

And he he went in debate  
With them on how to  
Choose the O.T.books



The Sanhedrin.



- And finalizes their books to
- The Law books, the Prophets books and the writing books and accepted Ester, Ecclesiastes and the song of songs too as writing books ..and that was the first Jewish canonization to the O.T
- Then in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century the collection of the whole Holy Bible was done in a local council in Carthage in 318 A.D. and in the Pascal letters of St.Athanasius in 367 A.D and the Hippo council.393 A.D.
- Our church approved the translation of the Holy Bible that done by a group of Greek speaking rabbi that did the Greek language translation



- Of the scriptures in Egypt called Septuagint or the LXX.. And that is the most accurate translation
- Example other translations will say “ a young girl will conceive ..” while the LXX says “ a virgin will conceive ....” see the difference.



## 4- THE LANGUAGE

- 1- the main or original language for the O.T. is Hebrew but then after the exile (2 exiles happened the Hebrew language started to vanish and the Aramaic language that they learned in the exile appeared in some of the books.
- 2- is the order of the .O.T, books is correct?
- Actually no ...the book of job should be earlier because job was around the Abraham's time also Ruth and ester are not in the right position BUT the Christian church accept Ruth and ester books in the historical group but the set up of the book meant to be that way according to the structure of the bible.



## 5- WHY DO WE HAVE THE O.T.?

- 1- St. Augustine said...the O.T. Is the N.T. concealed and the N.T. is the O.T. revealed.
- 2- it shows how God created the world for one purpose (to glorify him and enjoy living in it with the Lord)
- 3- it shows how God loves us and plans for the salvation since the beginning
- 4- it connects the N.T. with the O.T., WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND THE N.T. unless we read the O.T. you read St. Paul talks about Abraham..?!
- 5- St. Paul said to St. Timothy “from a child thou hast know the scriptures”(2tim.3:15)



- What kind of scriptures he was talking about here? It must be that he read the O.T. scriptures.
- 6- we learn that keeping God's commandment will make me blessed
- 7- to learn that wage of sin is death AND anyone can sin no matter who he is..king or not king but repentance lift us up
- 8- shows God's promises and help us to hold unto it
- 9- gives us great history of great men and women who loved the lord ,Joseph Abraham, Ruth David, ester ...etc



## 6- PARTS OF THE O.T.

- 1- Penta books or Torah ...first 5 books..written by moses.
- 2- historical books.....12 books
- 3-poetic books.....5 books
- 4-major prophets.....5 books
- 5-minor prophets.....12 books



Law	Historic	Poetry/ Wisdom	Major Prophets	Minor Prophets
Genesis	Joshua	Job	Isaiah	Hosea
Exodus	Judges	Psalms	Jeremiah	Joel
Leviticus	Ruth	Proverbs	Lamentations	Amos
Numbers	1 Samuel	Ecclesiastes	Ezekiel	Obodiah
Deuteronomy	2 Samuel	Song of Songs	Daniel	Jonah
	1 Kings			Micah
	2 Kings			Nahum
	1 Chronicles			Habakkuk
	2 Chronicles			Zephaniah
	Ezra			Haggai
	Nehemiah			Zechariah
	Esther			Malachi

# 1-PENTA (TORAH)

- THE LAW BOOKS: written by Moses (Pentateuch), written from 1500---1400 B.C
- 1-.....Genesis.....talks about the creation, human sin, god's plans for salvation, promise of salvation, great people as Abraham, Noah, Jacob, Joseph
- 2-.....Exodus.....redemption, cleansing from sins, separation of his people from others
- 3-.....Leviticus.....established the rules , what Israel needs to do to approach God, God is going to live among them
- 4-.....Numbers.....God orders Israel to walk with the lord, but Israel disrupts God's order
- 5-.....Deuteronomy....reconstitution of the nation under the lord's leadership, to enter the land through a covenant renewal.

