The Old Testament

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The Old Testament is the first section of the Christian Bible, based primarily upon the Hebrew Bible, a collection of religious writings by ancient Israelites. This course examines the Old Testament Hebrew Bible as an expression of the religious life and thought of ancient Israel, and a foundational document of the New Testament.


The Old Testament, a name coined by Melito of Sardis in the 2nd century AD, is longer than the Hebrew Bible, in part because Christian editors adopted and edited many of the religious sources of the ancient Hebrews.

Behind the Name: Old Testament

The Old Testament God was, in the words of N.T. Wright, “not a nice guy.” From a moral perspective, the Old Testament God can be perceived as a tyrant. However, understanding the Old Testament helps us to see the development of God’s character.

The Old Testament Gateway

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Questions about the factuality of its colorful stories of heroes, such as Moses, David, and Solomon, have been raised over the reliability of the Old Testament. However, the Old Testament contains the legends, histories, laws, and prophecies of the ancient Hebrews. It was written between the 12th century BC and the time of Malachi c. 400 BC. Moses, writing about 1450 BCE, says that the Old Testament God was, in his words, “not a nice guy.” From a moral perspective, the Old Testament God can be perceived as a tyrant.


How Did We Get the Old Testament? - True Life Answers


The Old Testament is a collection of selected writings composed and edited by members of the Hebrew-Jewish community between the twelfth century BC and the time of Malachi c. 400 BC. The Old Testament is the first section of the Christian Bible.