

The Israelites and the Bible

Religion and Society: Fall, 2009

- I. Structure of the Hebrew Bible
- II. History of the Israelites
- III. Origins and Sources of the Torah
- IV. Authority and Audience in Texts

Structure of the Hebrew Bible

1. Torah (Pentateuch) – The Books of Moses

**Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers,
Deuteronomy**

2. Nevi'im – Prophets

A. Prophets

**Joshua, Judges, I Samuel, II Samuel, I Kings,
II Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel**

B. Twelve Minor Prophets*

**Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah,
Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai,
Zechariah, Malachi**

3. Kethuvim – Writings*

**Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Song of Songs, Ruth,
Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Esther, Daniel,
Ezra, Nehemiah, I Chronicles, II Chronicles**

Events in the History of the Israelites

ca. 1750 BCE: Abraham leaves Ur

ca. 1250: Moses leads Israelites out of Egypt

ca. 1200: Joshua victorious over Canaanites

Above are legendary – cf. Homeric legends

ca. 1000-970: Reign of David

ca. 970-930: Reign of Solomon

ca. 930: Division of Kingdom into Israel (N) and Judah (S)

722: Israel conquered by Assyria, ten northern tribes
integrated into Assyrian Empire (“ten lost tribes”)

622: Discovery of “a scroll of the teaching” (II Kings 22:8)

597: First deportation from Judah to Babylon

587: Babylon conquers Judah, destroys the Temple,
second deportation

597-539: Babylonian captivity

539: Cyrus of Persia conquers Babylon, allows Israelites
(Judah-ists) to return to Jerusalem – building of the
Second Temple

Origin of the Torah

Four Main Sources:

J (Jahwist)

Variously dated:

- Reigns of David and Solomon?
- 8th century southern kingdom?

Associated with Jerusalem

Probably not one author

Gen. 2 through 5, mostly

E (Elohist)

Probably later than J – 750-700

Associated with Northern Kingdom

Probably not one author

Ex. 20 (Decalogue)

D (Deuteronomist)

Dated more exactly: 622

“Scroll of the teaching” found under Josiah

Deut. 5-26

P (Priestly)

Dates from Babylonian Captivity: ca. 590-70

Emphasis on ritual, Tabernacle

Ex. 25-31

Textual Sources

Historical Events

Tradition & Legend

1600 BCE

*1750: Abraham
leaves Ur*

1300

*1250: Moses leads
Israelites to Canaan*

1000-950: J source?

1000

1000-970: David

**800-750: J source?
(Judah)**

970-930: Solomon

**ca. 930: Division between Israel (N)
& Judah (S)**

**750-700: E source
(Israel)**

**722: Israel conquered by
Assyria**

c. 740-700: Isaiah

700

c. 623: Deuteronomy

597: 1st Deportation to Babylon

590-570: P source

587-538: Babylonian Captivity

c. 540: 2nd Isaiah

400 BCE

A.

BECAUSE I could not stop for Death,
He kindly stopped for me;
The carriage held but just ourselves
And Immortality.

We slowly drove, he knew no haste,
And I had put away
My labor, and my leisure too,
For his civility.

We passed the school where children played
At wrestling in a ring;
We passed the fields of gazing grain,
We passed the setting sun.

We paused before a house that seemed
A swelling of the ground;
The roof was scarcely visible,
The cornice but a mound.

Since then 't is centuries; but each
Feels shorter than the day
I first surmised the horses' heads
Were toward eternity.

B.

Installing the drum unit and toner cartridge assembly

1. Open the front cover.
2. Unpack the drum unit and toner cartridge assembly.
3. Rock it from side to side several times to distribute the toner evenly inside the assembly.
4. Put the drum unit and toner cartridge assembly into the drawer.
5. Close the front cover of the printer.

C.

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

D.

“I, Sarah, take you, James, to be my husband, to have and behold from this day on, for better or for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish; until death do us part.”

E.

Spoil Her

This Mother's Day!

Send your Mom or Wife a

PajamaGram

she'll LOVE it!

FREE

with every order

- Organza hatbox
- Lavender-scented sachet
- Do Not Disturb sign
- Personalized gift card

Mother's Day is May 11th

Overnight Delivery Guaranteed!

F.

Sight is a complex process that results when visible light, a narrow band of the electromagnetic spectrum between 400 and 700 nanometers (nm), is converted into signals that can be interpreted by the brain. This process involves special light-sensitive cells called photoreceptors that are located in the retina, a thin structure that lines the inside of the eye. These cells capture packets of light, called photons, and transform their energy into signals that are transported from the eye to the occipital cortex, the portion of the brain that allows us to interpret these signals as sight.

Normal human color vision is trichromatic (based on the perception of three primary colors) and requires three types of photoreceptor cells, called cones, each of which contains a different photopigment. Each photopigment absorbs particular wavelengths of light in the short (blue, 440-nm), middle (green, 545-nm), or long (red, 560-nm) wavelength region of the visible spectrum. About 7 percent of all cones are blue-sensitive, 37 percent are green-sensitive, and 56 percent are red-sensitive. These cones are the basic mediators of color vision.