**1. Genesis**

- **DATE OF CONTENT:** c. Prehistory – 1800 BC
- **DATE WRITTEN:** c. 1440 BC
- **AUTHOR:** Anon but probably Moses
- **GENRE:** Hebrew narrative
- **KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:** Creation, Noah/Flood, Abraham, Isaac & Jacob
- **KEY THEMES:** Creation, God's choice of people through whom He will bless the nations
- **RECIPIENTS:** Israelites in Egypt and in the wilderness

**3. Leviticus**

- **DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 1440 – 1400 BC
- **DATE WRITTEN:** c. 1400 BC
- **AUTHOR:** Moses
- **GENRE:** Law
- **KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:** The Law, Tabernacle
- **KEY THEMES:** How to worship – both people and priests, Establishment of priesthood, Laws protecting ritual cleanness, Day of Atonement, Laws about daily life and festivals
- **RECIPIENTS:** The Israelites in the wilderness and their descendants, especially the Israelite priests and Levites

**4. Numbers**

- **DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 1400-1400 BC
- **DATE WRITTEN:** c. 1400 BC
- **AUTHOR:** Moses
- **GENRE:** Hebrew narrative
- **KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:** Wandering, Tabernacle
- **KEY THEMES:** God's covenant loyalty toward Israel, Israel's repeated failure to keep covenant with God, God's leadership of His people, Preparation for entering and worshipping in Promised Land
- **RECIPIENTS:** The Israelites in the wilderness and their descendants

**5. Deuteronomy Cont.**

- **AUTHOR:** Moses
- **GENRE:** Law
- **KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:** The Law, Tabernacle
- **KEY THEMES:** The uniqueness of Yahweh, Israel's God, Yahweh is God over all other gods, Yahweh's covenant love for His people, Israel as Yahweh's model for the nations, Yahweh's concern for justice, Significance of sanctuary of worship
- **RECIPIENTS:** Israelites who would soon enter Canaan (the Promised Land)

**2. Exodus**

- **DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 1526-1440 BC
- **DATE WRITTEN:** c. 1400 BC
- **AUTHOR:** Moses
- **GENRE:** Hebrew narrative/Law
- **KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:** Moses, Egypt, The Law, Tabernacle
- **KEY THEMES:** Deliverance of Israelites from Egypt, Covenant law given at Mt Sinai, Tabernacle as place of God's presence, God's judgement and mercy toward his people when they rebel
- **RECIPIENTS:** The Israelites in the wilderness and their descendants

**6. Joshua**

- **DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 1400-1375 BC
- **DATE WRITTEN:** Unknown, Perhaps as late as 586 BC
- **AUTHOR:** Unknown
- **GENRE:** Hebrew narrative
- **KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:** Promised Land
- **KEY THEMES:** God, the great warrior, God's faithfulness in fulfilling His covenant promise to the patriarchs
- **RECIPIENTS:** Israelites born after the conquest of Canaan (the Promised Land)

**7. Judges**

- **DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 1406-1055 BC
- **DATE WRITTEN:** c. 1000 BC
- **AUTHOR:** Unknown
- **GENRE:** Hebrew narrative
- **KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:** Judges
- **KEY THEMES:** God's constant rescue of His people, despite their failure to keep covenant with Him, The need for a good king
- **RECIPIENTS:** Israelites after the time of the judges

**8. Ruth**

- **DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 1100 BC
- **DATE WRITTEN:** c. 925 BC
- **AUTHOR:** Unknown
- **GENRE:** Hebrew narrative
- **KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:** Judges
- **KEY THEMES:** Life in a village that remains loyal to Yahweh, Welcoming of a foreign woman, God's care that provides Israel with its king
- **RECIPIENTS:** Israelites after the time of the judges

**9. 1 Samuel**

- **DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 1105-1010 BC
- **DATE WRITTEN:** c. 925 BC
- **AUTHOR:** Unknown
- **GENRE:** Hebrew narrative
- **KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:** Saul, David
- **KEY THEMES:** Establishment of kingship, The concern over kingship and covenant loyalty
- **RECIPIENTS:** Israelites during the reign of David and Solomon

**10. 2 Samuel**

- **DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 1010 BC – 970 BC
- **DATE WRITTEN:** c. 925 BC
- **AUTHOR:** Unknown
- **GENRE:** Hebrew narrative
- **KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:** David
- **KEY THEMES:** The Davidic covenant – Messianic hope, Consequences of sin, Abuses of power, Ark of the covenant representing God's presence, Choice of Jerusalem as 'the City of David', Consequences of sin; Hospitable welcome by Jonathan, Division of the Kingdom
- **RECIPIENTS:** Israelites during the reigns of David and Solomon

**11. 1 Kings**

- **DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 970-797 BC
- **DATE WRITTEN:** c. 560 BC
- **AUTHOR:** Unknown
- **GENRE:** Hebrew narrative
- **KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:** Solomon/ Temple, Divided Kingdom
- **KEY THEMES:** Division of the Kingdom, Civil wars between northern and southern kingdoms, Yahweh's covenants with Israel
- **RECIPIENTS:** People of Judah in exile in Babylon
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book</th>
<th>Date of Content</th>
<th>Date Written</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 12 2 Kings | c. 875-722 BC | c. 560-550 BC | Unknown | Hebrew narrative | - Divided Kingdom  
- Fall of Samaria  
- Assyrian exile | - The role of the prophets who speak for God in Israel's national life  
- Demise of the two kingdoms resulting in exile | People of Judah in exile in Babylon | |
| 13 Joel | c. 835-796 BC | c. 835-400 BC | Joel | Prophesy | - Divided Kingdom | - The impending day of the Lord  
- Call to repentance  
- Israel's God keeps covenant by showing mercy to His people  
- Israel's God is sovereign over all the nations | Southern kingdom of Judah |  
| 14 Jonah | c. 785-775 BC | c. 785-750 BC | Unknown but probably Jonah | Hebrew narrative | - Divided Kingdom | - God's care for Jews in exile  
- God's sovereignty over all nations and their rulers  
- God's execution of justice against cruelty  | People of Nineveh (capital of Assyria)  
Southern kingdom of Judah |  
| 15 Amos | c. 760-750 BC | c. 760-750 BC | Amos | Prophesy | - Divided Kingdom | - Israel's God is God over all the nations  
- God will bring ruin to Israel for breaking covenant  
- God requires justice for the innocent and mercy for the poor  
- Religious observances are no substitute for doing good and showing mercy | Northern kingdom of Israel during reign of Jeroboam II |  
| 16 Hosea | c. 753-715 BC | c. 715 BC | Hosea | Prophesy | - Divided Kingdom | - God's faithfulness, mercy and unfaithing love  
- Judgement against oppressors  
- Restitution and restoration | Northern kingdom of Israel during reign of Jeroboam II |  
| 17 Micah | c. 742-687 BC | c. 740-710 BC | Micah | Prophesy | - Divided Kingdom | - Justice and power of God  
- The stance of righteousness is faithfulness and trust in God  
- God's assurance that the wicked will be punished | Southern kingdom of Judah |  
| 18 Isaiah | c. 740-681 BC | c. 700-680 BC | Isaiah | Prophesy | - Divided Kingdom | - Judgement for breaking covenant with Yahweh  
- Yahweh as a God of justice and mercy - requires His people to be the same  
- Yahweh will restore Jerusalem as God of all the nations | Southern kingdom of Judah |  
| 19 Nahum | c. 663-612 BC | c. 663-609 BC | Nahum | Prophesy | - Divided Kingdom | - Yahweh's sovereignty over all nations  
- Yahweh's execution of justice against cruelty | People of Nineveh |  
| 20 Zephaniah | c. 640-621 BC | c. 635-630 BC | Zephaniah | Prophesy | - Divided Kingdom  
- Threat of Babylonian invasion | - The coming day of the Lord  
- Judgement against Judah  
- Yahweh as God over all nations  
- Judgement against the nations  
- Eventual salvation of Judah | Southern kingdom of Judah |  
| 21 Jeremiah | c. 626-588 BC | c. 626-585 BC | Jeremiah | Prophesy | - Divided Kingdom  
- Threat of Babylonian invasion  
- Fall of Jerusalem  
- Babylonian exile | Southern kingdom of Judah and people of Jerusalem, its capital city |  
| 22 Habakkuk | c. 612-588 BC | c. 610-605 BC | Habakkuk | Prophesy | - Divided Kingdom  
- Threat of Babylonian invasion | - Justice and power of God  
- The stance of the righteous is faithfulness and trust in God  
- God's assurance that the wicked will be punished | Southern kingdom of Judah |  
| 23 Daniel | c. 605-536 BC | c. 536-530 BC | Daniel | Apocalyptic | - Fall of Jerusalem  
- Babylonian exile | - God's sovereignty over all nations and their rulers  
- God's care for Jews in exile  
- God's present overruling of and final victory over human evil | People of Judah in exile in Babylon |
24 **EZRA**

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 593-571 BC
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 593-571 BC
**AUTHOR:** Ezekiel
**GENRE:** Prophesy
**KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:**
- Rebuilding
- Return from exile

**KEY THEMES:**
- God is in control of history
- The purpose of sacrifice

**RECIPIENTS:**
- The Jewish people living under Persian occupation in Jerusalem

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 586-586 BC
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 586-586 BC
**AUTHOR:** Jeremiah
**GENRE:** Writings/Psalms
**KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:**
- Fall of Jerusalem
- Babylonian exile

**KEY THEMES:**
- God’s care for His people
- The king of Babylon

**RECIPIENTS:**
- The Jewish people living in Babylon

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 520-480 BC
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 520 BC
**AUTHOR:** Haggai
**GENRE:** Prophesy
**KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:**
- Return from exile
- Rebuilding

**KEY THEMES:**
- God’s commitment to His people
- The temple being a symbol of God’s presence

**RECIPIENTS:**
- The Jewish people returning to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 538-536 BC
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 538-536 BC
**AUTHOR:** Obadiah
**GENRE:** Prophesy
**KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:**
- Return from exile

**KEY THEMES:**
- God’s promises to His people
- The future of the land

**RECIPIENTS:**
- Southern kingdom of Judah

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 486-479 BC
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 480-350 BC
**AUTHOR:** Unknown
**GENRE:** Hebrew narrative
**KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:**
- Return from exile

**KEY THEMES:**
- God’s care for the Jews under Persian rule
- The fall of Jericho

**RECIPIENTS:**
- The Jewish people living under Persian occupation in Jerusalem

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 445 BC
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 445 BC
**AUTHOR:** Ezra
**GENRE:** Hebrew narrative
**KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:**
- Return from exile
- Rebuilding

**KEY THEMES:**
- God is with the community of people who have returned from exile
- God will prosper Israel’s leaders

**RECIPIENTS:**
- The Jewish people living under Persian occupation in Jerusalem

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 440 BC
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 440 BC
**AUTHOR:** Ezra
**GENRE:** Hebrew narrative
**KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:**
- Return from exile
- Rebuilding

**KEY THEMES:**
- God’s care for His people
- The king of Babylon

**RECIPIENTS:**
- The Jewish people living under Persian occupation in Jerusalem

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 440-430 BC
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 430 BC
**AUTHOR:** Malachi
**GENRE:** Prophesy
**KEY EVENTS/PEOPLE:**
- Return from exile
- Rebuilding

**KEY THEMES:**
- Yahweh is a covenant-keeping God and requires the same of His people
- Israel’s unfaithfulness
- God will judge His people for their treatment of poor and their half-hearted disobedience

**RECIPIENTS:**
- The Jewish people living under Persian occupation in Jerusalem
**1 THESSALONIANS**

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 51-52 AD  
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 51-52 AD  
**AUTHOR:** Paul  
**GENRE:** Epistle  
**KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:**  
- Gospel mission  
- Apostle Paul  

**KEY THEMES:**  
- The sure salvation of Thessalonian believers and the judgement of their persecutors;  
- The day of the Lord is still ahead and will be preceded by ‘the rebellion’;  
- Those who are idle and disruptive should work for their food

**RECIPIENTS:** The new converts in Thessalonica - mostly Gentiles

**1 CORINTHIANS**

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 54-55 AD  
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 54-55 AD  
**AUTHOR:** Paul  
**GENRE:** Epistle  
**KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:**  
- Gospel mission  
- Apostle Paul  

**KEY THEMES:**  
- A crucified Messiah as the central message of the gospel;  
- The cross as God’s wisdom and power;  
- Christian behaviour that conforms to the gospel;  
- The true nature of life in the Spirit;  
- The future bodily resurrection of the Christian dead

**RECIPIENTS:** The church in Corinth - mostly Gentiles

**2 CORINTHIANS**

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 55 AD  
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 55 AD  
**AUTHOR:** Paul  
**GENRE:** Epistle  
**KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:**  
- Gospel mission  
- Apostle Paul  

**KEY THEMES:**  
- Christian ministry as servanthood, reflecting that of Christ;  
- The greater glory of the new covenant in contrast to the old;  
- The grace of God in the weakness of its ministers;  
- The gospel as reconciliation;  
- Giving to the poor as an expression of generosity, not of obligation

**RECIPIENTS:** The church in Corinth - mostly Gentiles

**3 JAMES**

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 40-50 AD  
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 40-50 AD  
**AUTHOR:** James, brother of Jesus  
**GENRE:** Epistle  
**KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:**  
- Gospel mission  

**KEY THEMES:**  
- Practical faith on the part of believers;  
- Joy and patience in the midst of trials;  
- The nature of true (Christian) wisdom;  
- Attitudes of the rich toward the poor;  
- Proper use of the tongues

**RECIPIENTS:** Believers among the Jewish Diaspora

**PHILEMON**

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 60-61 AD  
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 60-61 AD  
**AUTHOR:** Paul  
**GENRE:** Epistle  
**KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:**  
- Apostle Paul  

**KEY THEMES:**  
- The absolute supremacy and all-sufficiency of Christ, the Son of God;  
- That Christ both forgives sin and removes on from the terror of ‘the powers’;  
- Religious rules and regulations count for nothing, but ethical life that bears God’s own image counts for everything;  
- Christlike living affects relationships of all kinds

**RECIPIENTS:** The church in Colosse - mostly Gentiles

**COLOSSIANS**

**DATE OF CONTENT:** c. 57 AD  
**DATE WRITTEN:** c. 57 AD  
**AUTHOR:** Paul  
**GENRE:** Epistle  
**KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:**  
- Apostle Paul  

**KEY THEMES:**  
- The gospel reconciles people to one another, not only Jew and Gentile, but also slave and master, making them all brothers

**RECIPIENTS:** Philemon, a Gentile believer in Colosse who would have shared the letter with the church in Colosse
54 EPHESIANS
DATE OF CONTENT: c. 61-62 AD
DATE WRITTEN: c. 61-62 AD
AUTHOR: Paul
GENRE: Epistle
KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:
- Gospel mission
- Apostle Paul

KEY THEMES:
- The cosmic scope of the work of Christ;
- Christ’s reconciliation of Jew and Gentile through the cross;
- Christ’s supremacy over ‘the powers’ for the sake of the church;
- Christian behaviour that reflects the unity of the church;
- Christ’s suffering and triumph for the church.

RECIPIENTS: Believers in many churches in the province of Asia, of which Ephesus is the capital city.

55 PHILIPPIANS
DATE OF CONTENT: c. 62 AD
DATE WRITTEN: c. 62 AD
AUTHOR: Paul
GENRE: Epistle
KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:
- Gospel mission
- Apostle Paul

KEY THEMES:
- Paul’s and the Philippian’s partnership in the gospel;
- Christ as the key to all of life, from the beginning to the end;
- Knowing Christ, by becoming like him in his death (sacrificing oneself for others);
- Resisting sin in Christ even in suffering;
- Unity through humility and love;
- The certainly and pursuit of the final prize.

RECIPIENTS: The church in Philippi – mostly Gentile.

56 1 TIMOTHY
DATE OF CONTENT: c. 62-63 AD
DATE WRITTEN: c. 62-63 AD
AUTHOR: Paul
GENRE: Epistle
KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:
- Gospel mission
- Apostle Paul

KEY THEMES:
- The truth of the gospel as God’s mercy shown toward all people;
- Character qualifications for church leadership;
- Speculative teachings, asceticism, and love of controversy and money disqualify one from church leadership;
- Timothy, by holding fast to the gospel, should model genuine Christian character and leadership.

RECIPIENTS: Timothy, a long-time, younger companion of Paul. The church in Ephesus.

57 TITUS
DATE OF CONTENT: c. 62-63 AD
DATE WRITTEN: c. 62-63 AD
AUTHOR: Paul
GENRE: Epistle
KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:
- Gospel mission
- Apostle Paul

KEY THEMES:
- God’s people must be good and do good beginning to the end;
- The gospel of grace stands over against false teachings based on the Jewish law.

RECIPIENTS: Titus, a Gentile and sometimes travelling companion of Paul. The churches on Crete.

58 2 TIMOTHY CONT.
DATE OF CONTENT: c. 64 AD
DATE WRITTEN: c. 64 AD
AUTHOR: Paul
GENRE: Epistle
KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:
- Gospel mission
- Apostle Paul

KEY THEMES:
- The saving work of Christ;
- Loyalty to Paul by recalling their long-time relationship;
- Loyalty to the gospel by being faithful in proclaiming/teaching ‘the word’;
- The deadly spread, but final demise, of false teaching;
- The final salvation of those who belong to Christ.

RECIPIENTS: Timothy primarily, but also the church in Ephesus.

59 1 PETER
DATE OF CONTENT: c. 64-65 AD
DATE WRITTEN: c. 64-65 AD
AUTHOR: Paul
GENRE: Epistle
KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:
- Gospel mission

KEY THEMES:
- Suffering for the sake of righteousness should not surprise us;
- Believers should submit to unjust suffering the way Christ did;
- Christ suffered on our behalf to free us from sin;
- God’s people should live righteously at all times, but especially in the face of hostility;
- Our hope for the future is based on the certainly of Christ’s resurrection.

RECIPIENTS: Mostly Gentile believers in the five provinces in the northwest quadrant of Asia Minor.

60 2 PETER
DATE OF CONTENT: c. 64 AD
DATE WRITTEN: c. 64 AD
AUTHOR: Paul
GENRE: Epistle
KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:
- Gospel mission

KEY THEMES:
- Concern that God’s people grow in and exhibit godliness;
- The sure judgement on the false teachers for their ungodly living;
- The certainty of the Lord’s coming, despite the scoffing of the false teachers.

RECIPIENTS: Unknown, but a specific group of believers.

62 HEBREWS
DATE OF CONTENT: c. 50-90 AD
DATE WRITTEN: c. 50-90 AD
AUTHOR: Unknown
GENRE: Epistle
KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:
- Gospel mission

KEY THEMES:
- God has spoken his absolutely final word in his Son;
- To abandon Christ is to abandon God altogether;
- Christ is superior to everything that went before – the old revelation, its angelic mediators, the first-born (Moses and Joshua), and the whole priestly system;
- God’s people can have full confidence in God’s Son, the perfect high priest, who gives all people ready access to God.

RECIPIENTS: Unknown, but a specific group of predominantly Jewish Christians.

63 1 JOHN CONT.
DATE OF CONTENT: c. 80-90 AD
DATE WRITTEN: c. 80-90 AD
AUTHOR: John the disciple
GENRE: Epistle
KEY EVENTS/ PEOPLE:
- Gospel mission

KEY THEMES:
- That Jesus who came in the flesh is the Son of God;
- That Jesus showed God’s love for us through his incarnation and crucifixion;
- That God’s children do not habitually sin, but when we do sin, we receive forgiveness;
- That believers can have full confidence in the God who loves them;
- That by trusting in Christ we now have eternal life.

RECIPIENTS: Christian communities well known to the author, thought to be around Ephesus.

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DATE OF CONTENT: c. 64-65 AD
DATE WRITTEN: c. 64-65 AD
AUTHOR: Paul
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- Christ suffered on our behalf to free us from sin;
- God’s people should live righteously at all times, but especially in the face of hostility;
- Our hope for the future is based on the certainly of Christ’s resurrection.

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