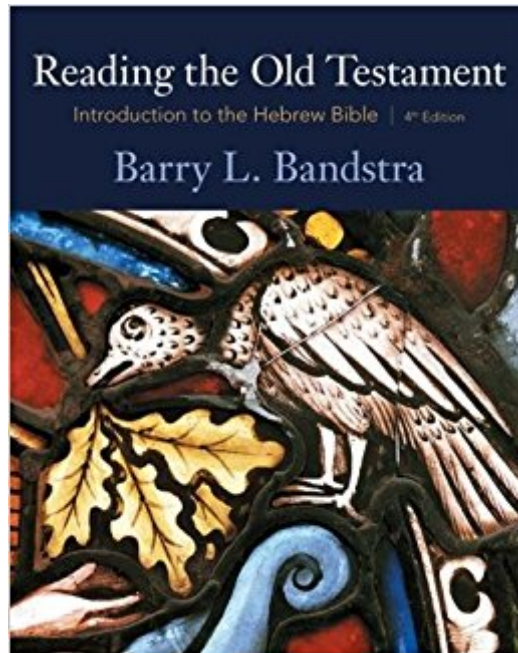




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# Reading The Old Testament: Introduction To The Hebrew Bible



## Synopsis

Learn how to actively read and understand the Hebrew Bible and its significant literary, historical, and thematic meanings with the help of this bestselling introduction to the Old Testament and its companion website. **READING THE OLD TESTAMENT: INTRODUCTION TO THE HEBREW BIBLE**, Fourth Edition uses a wide selection of maps, charts, timelines, and artwork to ensure your understanding. Chapter-opening summaries and reading guides direct your attention to key concepts, historical contexts, and relevant Biblical passages.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Preface. Introduction: Reading the Bible. Part 1: TORAH: PROLOGUE TO THE TORAH. 1. Genesis 1-11: The Primeval Story. 2. Genesis 12-50: The Ancestral Story. 3. Exodus: Deliverance and Covenant. 4. Leviticus and Numbers: In the Wilderness. 5. Deuteronomy: The Torah of Moses. Part 2: PROPHETS: PROLOGUE TO THE PROPHETS. 6. Joshua: The Conquest of Canaan. 7. Judges: Securing the Land. 8. Samuel: The Rise of Kingship. 9. Kings 1: The Early Monarchy. 10. Kings 2: The Assyrian Crisis. 11. Kings 3: The Babylonian Crisis. 12. Exilic Prophecy: Hope for the Future. 13. Post-exilic Prophecy: Return and Restoration. Part 3: WRITINGS: PROLOGUE TO THE WRITINGS. 14. Psalms: Complaint and Thanksgiving. 15. Proverbs and Job: The Wisdom of Israel. 16. Five Scrolls: Stories of the People. 17. Daniel: From History to Apocalypse. 18. Chronicler's History: Retelling the Story After the Hebrew Bible. 19. Apocrypha: Additions to the Story. 20. Pseudepigrapha: In Their Name. Conclusion: The Biblical Canon.

A respected scholar and teacher in the field of religious and Biblical studies, Barry L. Bandstra received his Ph.D. in Near Eastern Languages and Literature from Yale University. He also holds degrees from Calvin Theological Seminary and the University of Illinois at Urbana. He is the chairman of the Religion Department at Hope College, where his primary teaching fields are Biblical studies and Biblical theology. He also serves as director of instructional technology. In addition to this Old Testament text and the accompanying interactive study guide, Barry Bandstra has published articles and reviews on many aspects of religion and scripture. He is married and has three sons.

My pastor led me to this book; I bought a cheaper used 4th edition paperback. The paper-back edition is taken from a textbook that is used in many main-line protestant seminaries. It divides the Hebrew Bible into its different genres as they are laid out in the Bible, discusses the methodology of Biblical scholars from the past fifty years, and then takes a look at the individual books of the Bible with respect to each one's history, context, story, poetry, and authorship. He includes a review of theories of different scholars and leaves the reader to decide which one best fits the reader's comprehension of the studies. The scholars use the Hebrew texts in the ancient Hebrew language and compare and contrast them to other sources like archeological digs of Biblical times that existed at the time of the Biblical writings..Backstra treats the scriptures with the respect of those who look to the scriptures as a guide to how followers of Yahweh and Elohim (the names for the one true God known to the ancient Hebrews) experienced, followed, fell away from and ultimately returned to follow God. It is a very comprehensive, respectful and thorough study of the Hebrew Bible (the Christian Old Testament).

I found Bandstra's book helpful. I have heard about the scholarship on the compiling of the Old Testament, but have never found anything that is more clear than this book about that information. The JEDP information was helpful and I can see how it could be dissected that way. It makes sense that God used the current understanding of creation to help people acknowledge his authorship in making the universe. I am enjoying reading this and find it challenging intellectually as well as spiritually. Faith that isn't growing is stagnant.

I read three other general works on the Hebrew Bible-by John Collins, by Lawrence Boadt, and by Norman Gottwald-and this is the best. The author is a good writer and is very, very informative. I

highly recommend this work.T. Ehrlich

This is an excellent book describing the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible for Religious Studies students). It is readable for the lay public and has been well researched. I recommend it for anyone in their initial study of the Old Testament.

Came as expected

I teach a 26-week course on the Old Testament in our church, and this is an excellent resource. Bandstra is a very competent scholar. I recommend it to both professional teachers and lay people.

Works great for what I needed it for. Used book in great condition. Would buy again.

Great condition for a Used Paperback; interesting read/latest revision.

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