



Jazzin' Up the Old Testament

"Instruments of Interpretation"

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with Musicians

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"Instruments of Interpretation"

**Tonight's focus:
Source Critical Analysis**



Introduction:

**A Responsible Word
about the term “Old Testament”**



Guidelines for Study and Interpretation

Respect

Humbleness

Awareness of Social Location

Attitude of Exploration



One more term:

“Interpretation”

- 1. Original**
- 2. Later Audiences**
- 3. Contemporary**



Source-Critical Analysis:

Most of the individual books of the OT were composed in several stages over several centuries.



Source-Critical Analysis

A Little Background...

Hellenistic Era (323-146 bce)	Moses
Medieval (12th c)	Not Moses
Reformation (16th c)	Critical study
Enlightenment (18th c)	Analysis fully applied to Bible



Source-Critical Analysis

“The Documentary Hypothesis”
(1860’s-1960’s)

J = Yahwist Source (Jahwist)

E = Elohist (Elohim)

D = Deuteronomist Source

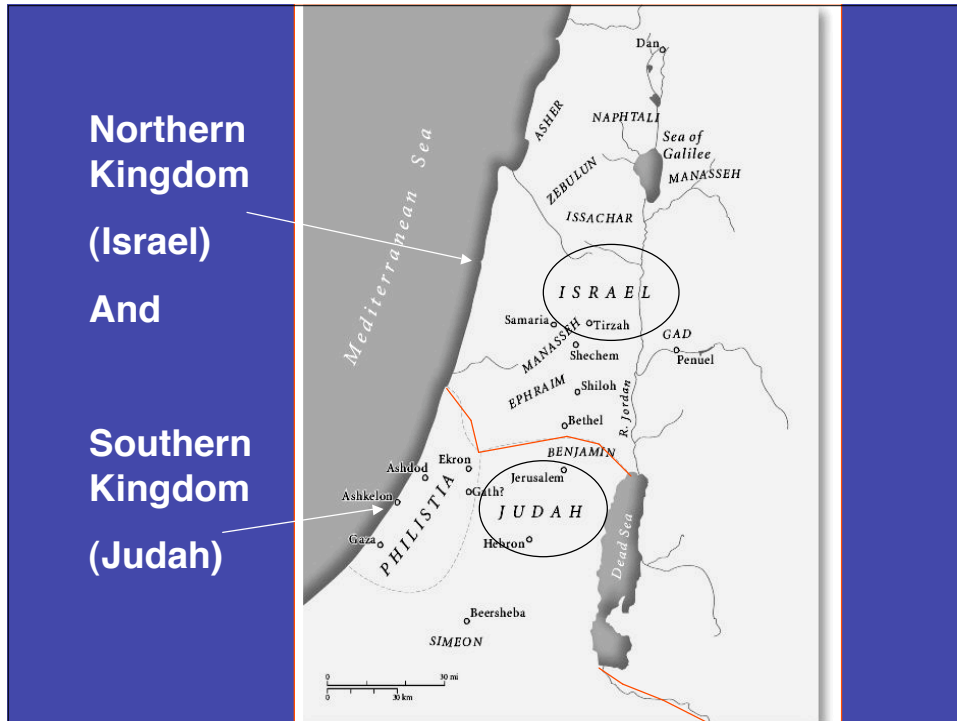
P – Priestly Source

Source-Critical Analysis

Detective Work...

Vocabulary	Breaks
Divine Name	Personality
Doublets	Thought

Tribal Confederation	1200-1020 BCE
Monarchy King Saul, David, Solomon	1020-922 BCE
Divided Monarchy North ("Israel") & South ("Judah")	922-722 BCE
Assyrian Empire: Fall of the North	722 BCE
Babylonian Empire: destruction of Jerusalem & temple) leaders Exiled to Babylonia ("exilic period")	587 BCE 587-539 BCE
Persian Empire: build second temple	515 BCE
Hellenist Empire (300-63 BCE)	
Roman Empire Roman Army undertakes Jerusalem destruction of second temple	63 BCE; 70 CE



Northern
Kingdom

(Israel)

And

Southern
Kingdom

(Judah)

Documentary Hypothesis Critiqued

E is older (Jacob stories)

Two blocks of stories

Moses (after fall of N. Kingdom)

Genesis 12-50, (Exilic period)

Linked by “KD” source which

introduces theme of Promise

Primeval History (Gen. 1-11) late!

“Non-P” more accurate than “J and E”

3 Isaiah periods

and much more...

Over-view of Process:

**Oral sources
lead to written sources.**

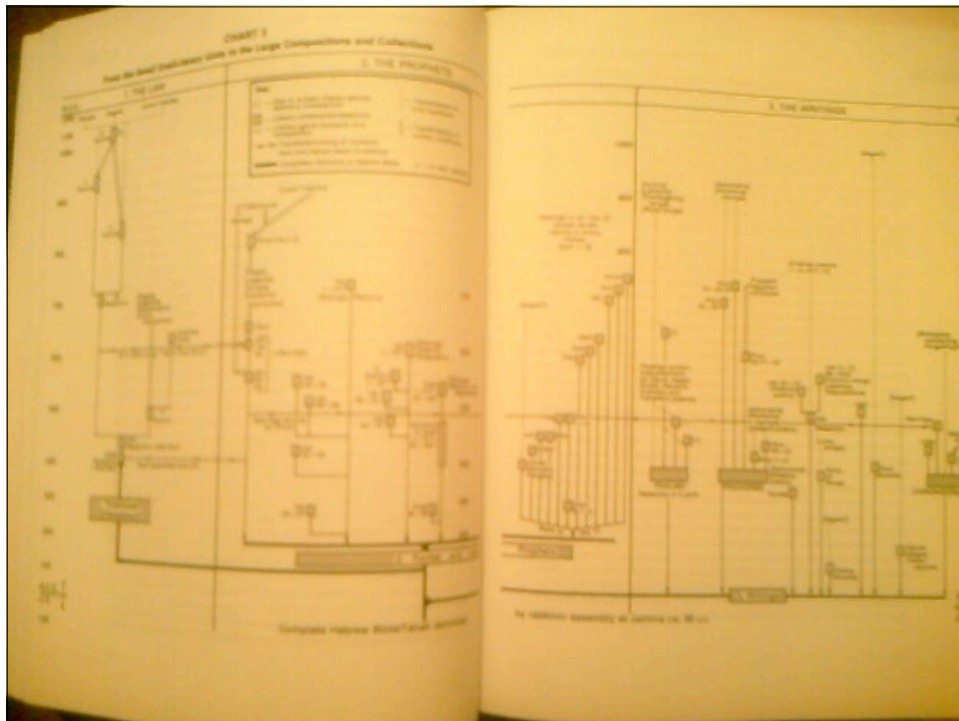
**Written sources combined by R
(redactors)**

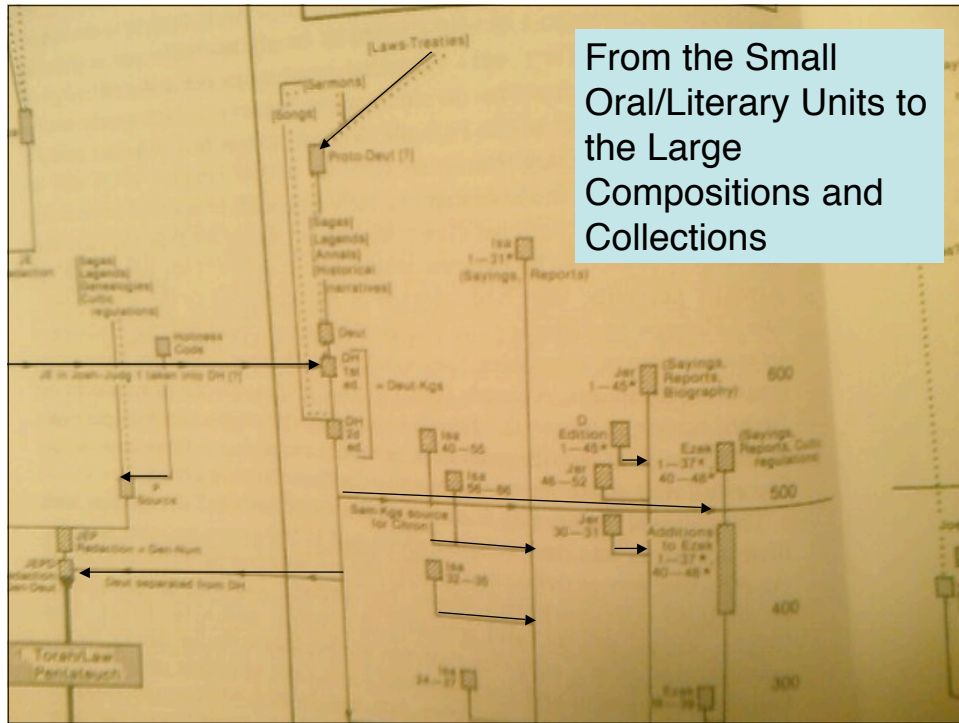
**Key times of revamping and
combining large sections of texts:**

After fall of northern kingdom

Exilic Period

Post-exilic Period





Resources:

David M. Carr, *Fractures of Genesis: Historical and Literary Approaches*, Westminster John Knox Press, 1996

Chart from Norman K. Gottwald, *The Hebrew Bible: A Socio-Literary Introduction*, Fortress Press, 1985 p.104-105

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