

Book Overviews

“Tanak”

Fidelis #7

1. Book Overviews – TANAK
 - a. Old Testament is made up of 39 books.
 - b. Divided into 4 main sections.
 - i. First 5 books i.e. Pentateuch then Historical Books, Poetry then Prophets.
 - c. The way the OT is organized now is from the Christian tradition.
 - d. The Jewish tradition organized the OT books differently. They had 3 separate scrolls. All together they are called the “Tanak”.
 - e. So the Tanak has a 3 part design but it is made up of 4 sections.
 - f. Three sections of the Tanak:
 - i. Torah: Same as the Pentateuch.
 - ii. Nevi'im or prophets organized differently.
 1. Four historical narrative books and the 15 books named after specific prophets.
 - iii. Ketuvim: Poetic and Narrative texts.
2. The 3 part shape of Jewish tradition is very important. Even Jesus referred to it.
 - a. 3 parts are interconnected.
 - i. The Holy Spirit guided the writers.
 - ii. Adam means “Human”.
 1. They were to rule over the earth and trust God’s “wisdom” for good and evil.
 2. Instead they listened to Satan’s word for absolute truth.
3. Moses was the ultimate Prophet.
 - a. In the “Prophets” set of books, there are 3 major and 12 minor.
 - i. This is intentional in number because it refers back to the Genesis narrative of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and Jacob’s 12 sons.