

Original Writings of the Old Testament

Book of the Bible	Approximate Year Range	Assumed Author(s)	Notes
Genesis: In the Beginning	1445-1405 BC	Moses	Genesis 1:1-2:3 Source may have been Egyptian Hebrews or Jethro - Moses's Priest-Father in Law. Original composition likely Adam (who lived 930 years).
Genesis: The Heavens and Earth	1445-1405 BC	Moses	Genesis 2:4-4:26 Source may have been Egyptian Hebrews or Jethro - Moses's Priest-Father in Law. Original composition likely Adam.
Genesis: The Generations of Adam	1445-1405 BC	Moses	Genesis 5:1-6:8 Source may have been Egyptian Hebrews or Jethro - Moses's Priest-Father in Law. Original composition likely Noah.
Genesis: The Generations of Noah	1445-1405 BC	Moses	Genesis 6:9-9:29 Source may have been Egyptian Hebrews or Jethro - Moses's Priest-Father in Law. Original composition likely started by Noah or Shem.
Genesis: The Generations of Shem, Ham, and Japheth	1445-1405 BC	Moses	Genesis 10:1-11:9 Source may have been Egyptian Hebrews or Jethro - Moses's Priest-Father in Law. Original composition likely started by Shem.
Genesis: The Generations of Shem	1445-1405 BC	Moses	Genesis 11:10-26 Source assumed to be Egyptian Hebrews. Original composition likely started by Terah.
Genesis: The Generations of Terah	1445-1405 BC	Moses	Genesis 11:27-25:11 Source assumed to be Egyptian Hebrews. Original composition likely started by Abraham.
Genesis: The Generations of Ishmael	1445-1405 BC	Moses	Genesis 25:12-25:18 Source assumed to be Egyptian Hebrews. Original composition likely by Isaac.
Genesis: The Generations of Isaac	1445-1405 BC	Moses	Genesis 25:19-35:29 Source assumed to be Egyptian Hebrews. Original composition likely started by Isaac.
Genesis: The Generations of Esau	1445-1405 BC	Moses	Genesis 36:1-37:1 Source assumed to be Egyptian Hebrews. Original composition likely started by Jacob/Israel.
Genesis: The Generations of Jacob	1445-1405 BC	Moses	Genesis 37:2-50:26 Source assumed to be Egyptian Hebrews. Original composition likely to be started by Joseph.
Job	1445-1405 BC	Moses	Assumed to take place during Egyptian captivity, original source assumed to be Job, or one of his local contemporaries, conveyed to Moses via Jethro - Moses's Priest-Father in Law (Ur was not far from Midean).
Exodus	1445-1405 BC	Moses	
Numbers	1444-1405 BC	Moses	
Psalms	1410-430 BC	Moses	Collection of authors including Moses (1), David (72), Solomon (2) and other identified (27) and unidentified (51) authors.
Leviticus	1405 BC	Moses	
Deuteronomy	1405 BC	Moses, Joshua	Last chapter assumed to be written by Joshua
Joshua	1405-1390 BC	Joshua	Ending written by contemporary associate
Ruth	1050-1010 BC	Samuel	Written during David's lifetime
Judges	1043-1004 BC	Samuel	Samuel and others
Song of Solomon	971-931 BC	Solomon	
Ecclesiastes	935 BC	Solomon	
I & II Samuel	932-721 BC	Samuel, Nathan, Gad	I & II Samuel comprise a single book, broken by volume.
Proverbs	931-686 BC	Solomon and others	Majority written by Solomon in 931, others 715-686 BC
Obadiah	840 BC	Obadiah	To Edom, period of 2 Kings 8-24
Joel	835 BC	Joel	To Judah, period of 2 Kings 12-21
Jonah	760 BC	Jonah	To Assyria (Nineveh), period of 2 Kings 13-14
Amos	755 BC	Amos	To Israel, period of 2 Kings 14-15
Hosea	740 BC	Hosea	To Israel, period of 2 Kings 14-18
Micah	730 BC	Micah	To Israel & Judah, period of 2 Kings 15-19
Isaiah	740-680 BC	Isaiah	To Israel & Judah, period of 2 Kings 15-20
Nahum	660 BC	Nahum	To Assyria, period of 2 Kings 21
Zephaniah	625 BC	Zephaniah	To Judah, period of 2 Kings 22-25
Jeremiah	625-580 BC	Jeremiah	To Judah, period of 2 Kings 22-25
Lamentations	586 BC	Jeremiah	To Judah in exile
Habakkuk	607 BC	Habakkuk	Habakkuk, pre exile Judah (multiple deportations), period of 2 Kings 23-24
I & II Kings	646-570 BC	Jeremiah	I & II Kings comprise a single book, broken by volume.
Daniel	605-536 BC	Daniel	To Babylonian Exiles, period of 2 Kings 23-25
Ezekiel	592-570 BC	Ezekiel	To Babylonian Exiles, period of 2 Kings 24-25
Haggai	520 BC	Haggai	To Post-exhile Jews, period of Ezra 5-6
Zechariah	515 BC	Zechariah	To Post-exhile Jews, period of Ezra 5-6
Esther	464 BC	Mordecai	Assumed written by Mordecai or contemporary
Ezra	457-444 BC	Ezra	Upon returning from Exile to Jerusalem, many works of scripture are ascribed to Ezra; The authorship of Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and some of the Psalms, a translation to Aramaic of at least the Pentateuch, and great contribution towards the Old Testament canon.
Nehemiah	457-444 BC	Nehemiah, Ezra	Autobiographical by Nehemiah, traditionally authored by Ezra.
I & II Chronicles	450-430 BC	Ezra	I & II Chronicles comprise a single book, broken by volume, which is a retelling (in Aramaic) of both Samuel and Kings.
Malachi	430 BC	Malachi	To Post-exhile Jews, period of Nehemiah 13