

PART 1 - WHAT?

Chart 1 – Overview of Tanach

Torah - 5 books of Moshe received through Divine Revelation at Mount Sinai

- Bereshit - Genesis
- Shemot - Exodus
- Vayikra - Leviticus
- Bamidbar - Numbers
- Devarim - Deuteronomy

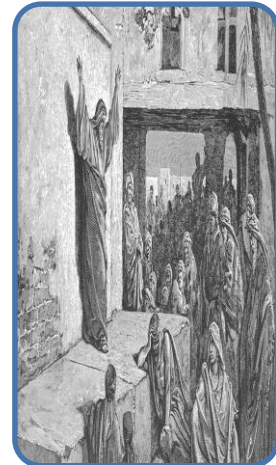
Time span of section:
0 - 2488
3760_{BCE} – 1272_{BCE}



Nevi'im - Prophets - received by prophecy to prophets, who transmitted it to the people

- Yehoshua - Joshua
- Shoftim - Judges
- Shmuel - Samuel
- Melachim - Kings
- Yeshayahu - Isaiah
- Yirmiyahu - Jeremiah
- Yechezkel - Ezekial
- Trei Asar - compilation of Twelve Minor Prophets:
 - Hoshea, Yoel, Amos, Ovadya, Yona, Micha, Nachum, Chavakuk, Tzefanya, Chaggai, Zecharia, Malachi

Rough time span of section:
2488 – 3244
1272_{BCE} – 515_{BCE}



Ketuvim - Writings - written with Divine inspiration

- Tehillim - Psalms
- Mishlei - Proverbs
- Iyov - Job
- Shir HaShirim - Song of Songs
- Ruth
- Eicha - Lamentations
- Kohelet - Ecclesiastes
- Esther
- Daniel
- Ezra/Nechemiah
- Divrei HaYamim - Chronicles

Five Megillot
(Scrolls)



How is Nach Relevant to Our Lives in the 21st Century?

PART 2 – WHY?

Nach is not a history book, it is a moral guide full of life lessons on how to conduct ourselves. How do we know this?

a) Chazal state it is relevant to future generations

1. תלמוד בבלי מסכת מגילה דף יד עמוד א

ותו ליכא? והכתיב ויהי איש אחד מן הרמתים צופים - אחד ממאתים צופים שנתנבאו להם לישראל! - מיהוה טובא הוּו. כדתניא: הרבה נביאים עמדו להם לישראל, כפלים כיוצאי מצרים, אלא, נבואה שהוצרכה לדורות - נכתבה, ושלא הוצרכה - לא נכתבה

1. Babylonian Talmud Tractate Megilla 14a

Were there no more? But it is written “And there was one man from Ramathaim-zophim” (I Samuel 1: 1), one [*ehad*] of two hundred [*mata'im*] prophets [*tzofim*] who prophesied on behalf of the Jewish people. There were more prophets, as it is taught in a *baraita*: Many prophets arose for the Jewish people, double the number who left Egypt. However, only prophecy that was needed for future generations was written, but that which was not needed, was not written.

b) Key historical information is left out

c) Timescale shows focus is on the message, not the history

Chart 2 – Timescale of the Torah¹

Bereshit	Shemot	Vayikra	Bamidbar	Devarim
2309 years	140 years	8 days	39 years	9 weeks

d) So why don't we study Nach more?

2. שמות פרק לא

יח ויתן אֱלֹהֵי מֹשֶׁה כְּכֹלְתּוֹ לְדַבֵּר אִתּוֹ בְּהַר סִינַי שְׁנֵי לַחַת הַעֲדוּת לַחַת אֲבֹן כְּתֻבִים בְּאֶצְבַּע אֱלֹקִים

2. Exodus Chapter 31

When He **finished** speaking with him on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses the two tablets of the Pact, stone tablets inscribed with the finger of God.

3. רש"י על שמות לא:יח

ככלתו כתיב חסר, שנמסרה לו תורה במתנה ככלה לחתן, שלא היה יכול ללמוד כולה בזמן מועט: ככלתו כזה. דבר אחר מה כלה מתקשטת בעשרים וארבעה קשוטין, הן האמורים בספר ישעיה (ישעיה ג יח - כד) אף תלמיד חכם צריך להיות בקי בעשרים וארבעה ספרים

3. Rashi on Exodus 31:18

When He had finished: **Heb.** כְּכֹלְתּוֹ. [This word should be spelled כְּכֹלְתּוֹ. Here, however,] it is spelled defectively [without the first “vav”], as if to be read: כְּכֹלְתּוֹ, [meaning] like his bride, for the Torah was delivered to him [Moses] as a gift, as a bride [is given] to a bridegroom, because [otherwise] he could not have learnt it all in such a short time (Tanchuma, Ki Thissa 18). Another explanation: Just as a bride is adorned with twenty-four ornaments [i.e.,] the ones listed in the book of Isaiah (3: 18-22), so too must a Torah scholar be adorned with the twenty-four books [of the Scriptures, i.e., possess the knowledge of the entire Scriptures] (Tanchuma, Ki Thissa 16).

¹ Data taken from Torah le'Am Study Guide

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4. תלמוד בבלי מסכת ברכות דף כח עמוד ב

אמר להם הזהרו בכבוד חבריכם ומנעו בניכם מן ההגיון והושיבום בין ברכי תלמידי חכמים וכשאתם מתפללים דעו לפני מי אתם עומדים ובשביל כך תזכו לחיי העולם הבא

4. Babylonian Talmud Tractate Berachot 28b

He (Rabbi Eliezer) said to them: Be vigilant in the honor of your counterparts, and prevent your children from logic, and place your children, while they are still young, between the knees of Torah scholars, and when you pray, know before Whom you stand, for on account on this, you will merit the life of the World-to-Come.

5. רש"י על תלמוד בבלי מסכת ברכות דף כח עמוד ב

מההגיון - לא תרגילום במקרא יותר מדאי משום דמשכא. לשון אחר משיחת ילדים

5. Rashi on Babylonian Talmud Tractate Berachot 28a

Do not accustom them to spend too much time studying Scripture, because they will be drawn to it. Another explanation, do not allow them to waste time on idle childish chatter.

PART 3 – THE HOW?

6. רות א:כא

אֲנִי מְלֵאָה הַלְכָתִי, וְרִיקָם הִשְׁיִבְנִי יְקוֹק; לָמָּה תִקְרָאֵנִי לִי, נְעָמִי, וַיִּקְוֶךָ עֲנָה בִּי, וְשָׁקִי הֲרַע לִי

6. Megillat Ruth 1:21

I went away full, and the Lord has brought me back empty. How can you call me Naomi, when the Lord has dealt harshly with me, when Hashem has brought misfortune upon me!”

7. רות ב:ב

וַתֹּאמֶר נְעָמִי לְכַלְתָּהּ, בְּרוּךְ הוּא לִיקוֹק, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-עָזַב חֶסֶדּוֹ, אֶת-הַחַיִּים וְאֶת-הַמֵּתִים; וַתֹּאמֶר לָהּ נְעָמִי, קָרוֹב לָנוּ הָאִישׁ--מִגְּאֻלָּנוּ, הוּא

7. Megillat Ruth 2:20

Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, “Blessed be he of the Lord, who has not failed in His kindness to the living or to the dead! For,” Naomi explained to her daughter-in-law, “the man is related to us; he is one of our redeeming kinsmen.”

8. ישעיהו מה:ז

יֹצֵר אֹר וּבֹרֵא חֹשֶׁךְ, עֹשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם וּבֹרֵא רָע; אֲנִי יְקוֹק, עֹשֶׂה כָּל-אֵלֶּה

8. Isaiah 45:7

I form light and create darkness, I make peace and create woe—I, the Lord, do all these things.

9. Morning Shacharit Prayers - Blessings of the Shema

ברוך אתה ה' יוצר אור ובורא חושך עושה שלום ובורא את הכל (ברכת קריאת שמע)

Blessed are you Lord, King of the Universe, who forms light and creates darkness, makes peace and creates all.