

# Genesis

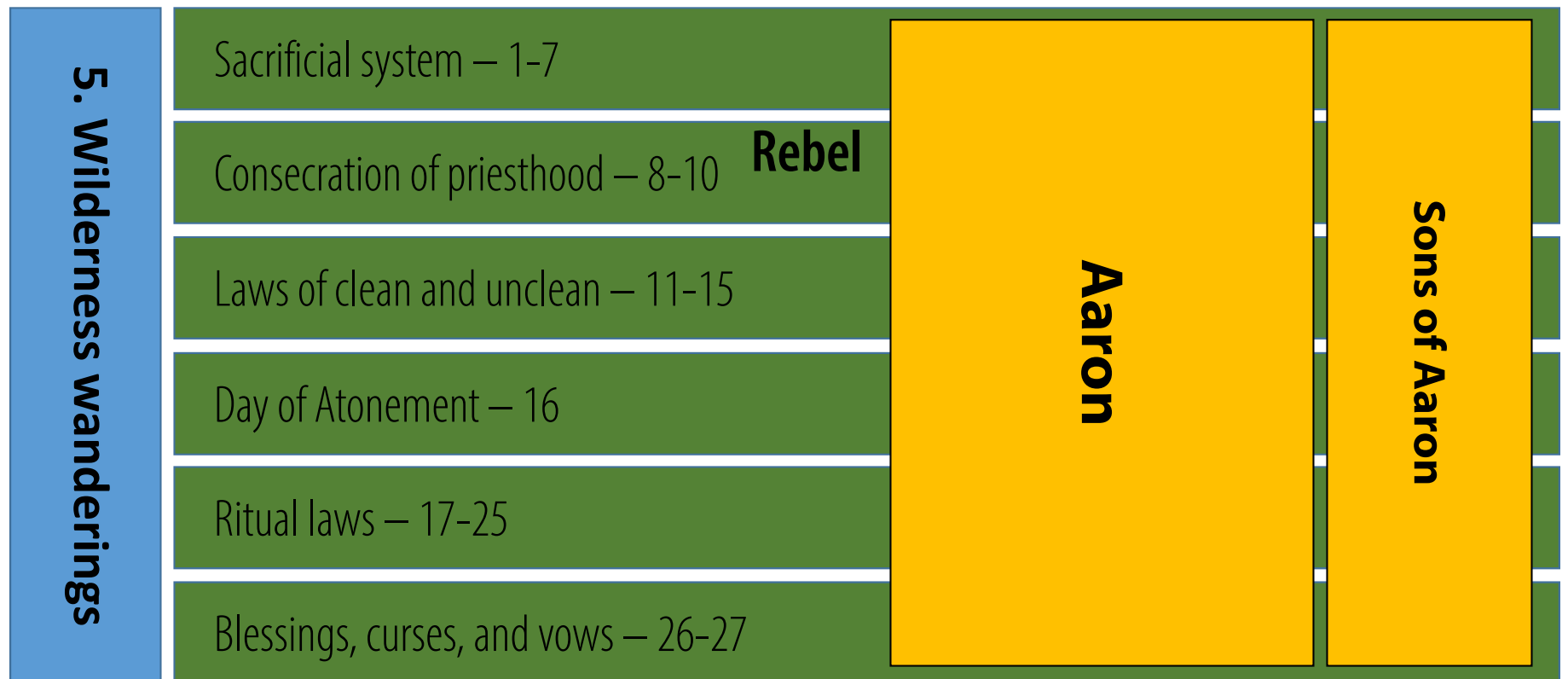
1. Pre-flood 1-8	Origin of cosmos, humans, & sin – 1-5	<b>Adam and Eve</b>
	History of Great Flood – 6-9	<b>Noah</b>
2. Post-flood 9-11	Origin of nations – 10-11	
3. The Patriarchs 12-50	History of Abraham – 12-25	<b>Abraham</b>
	History of Isaac – 25-26	
	History of Jacob and Esau – 27-36	<b>Jacob</b>
	History of Joseph and brothers – 37-50	<b>Joseph</b>

# Exodus

<b>4. Sojourn in Egypt 1-15</b>	Deliverance from Egypt – 1-15	<b>Moses – Birth to 80</b>	
<b>5. Wilderness wanderings 16-40</b>	Journey to Sinai – 16-19	<b>Moses</b>	<b>Aaron &amp; Miriam</b>
	The covenant and the law – 20-24		
	Planning and building tabernacle – 25-40		

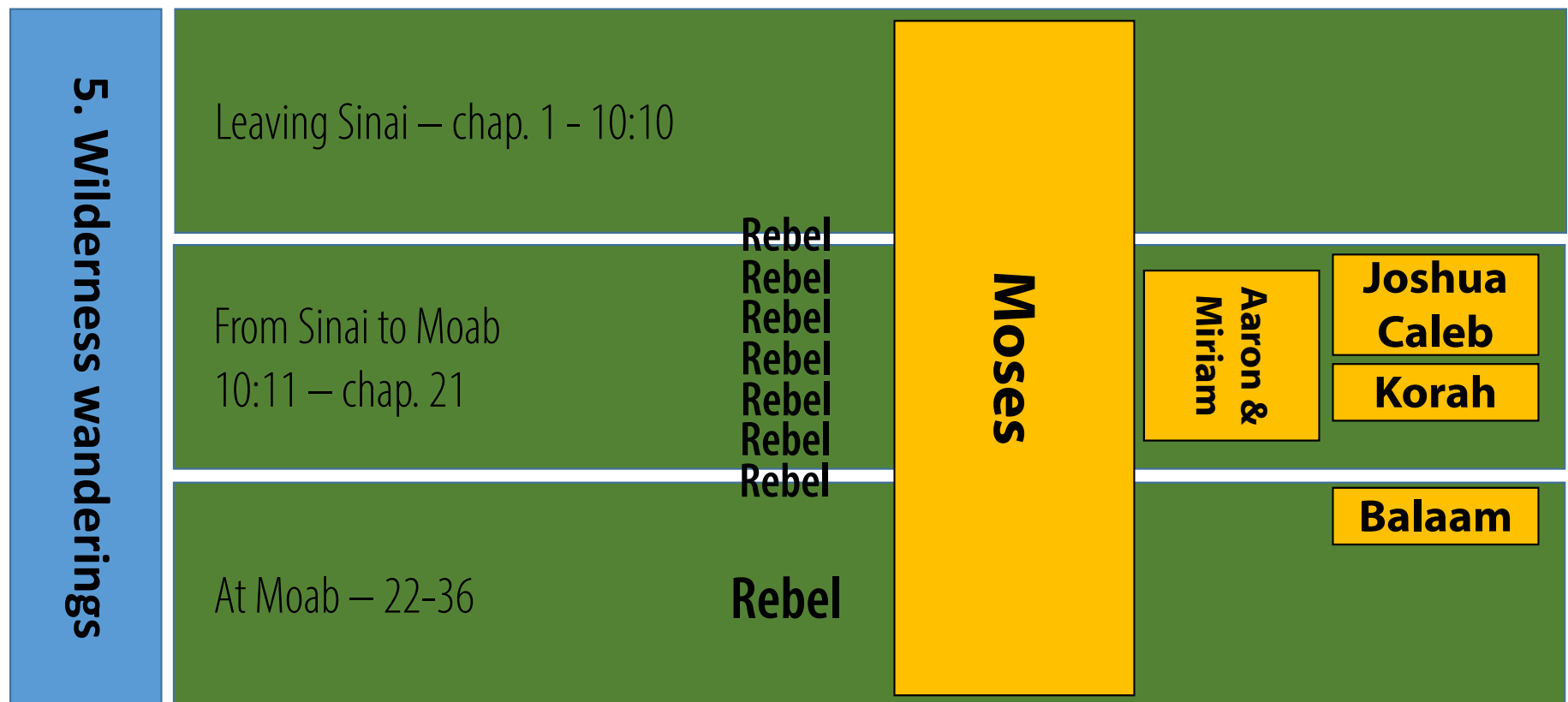
Source: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 82-83.

# Leviticus



Adapted from: R. K. Harrison, *Introduction to the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1969), 589-590.

# Numbers

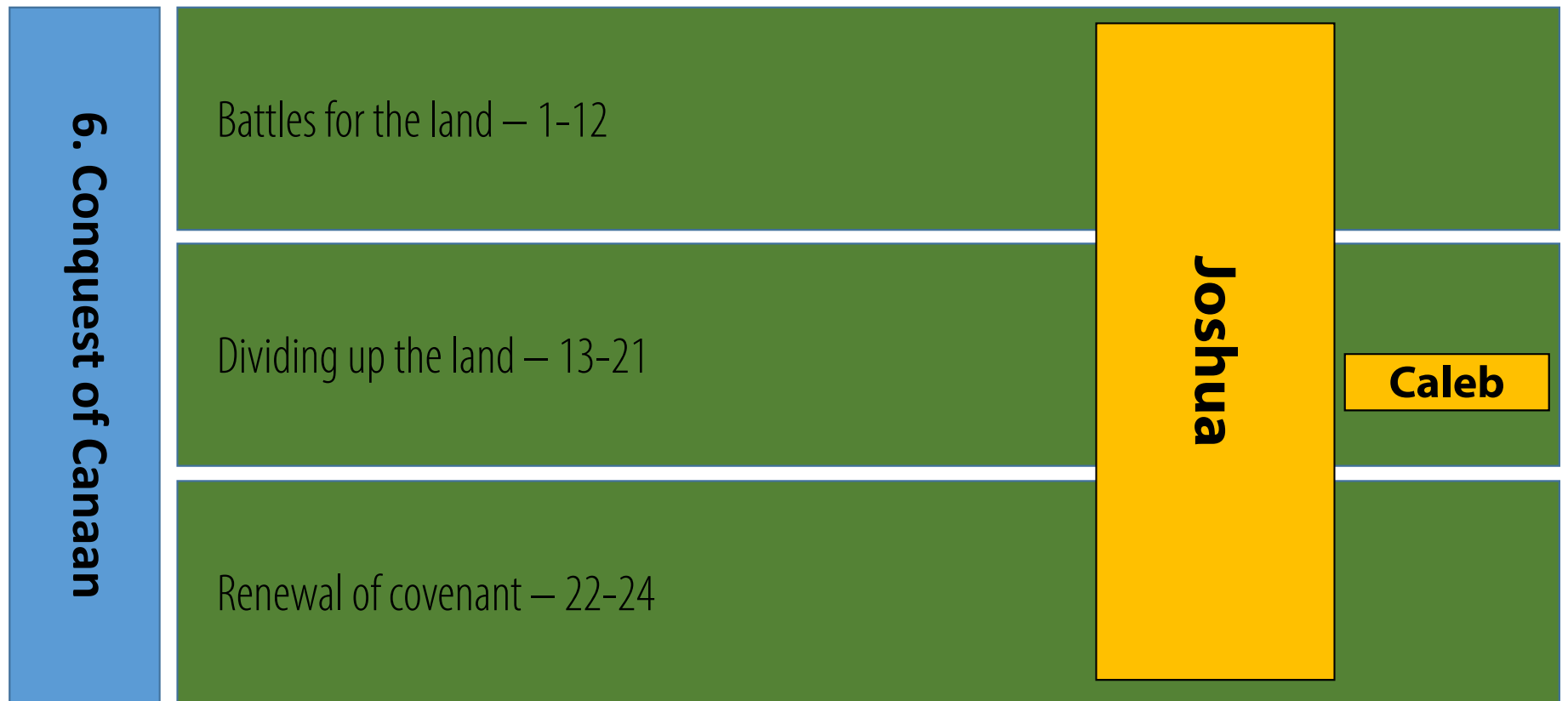


Source: R. K. Harrison, *Introduction to the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1969), 614-615.

# Deuteronomy

5. Wilderness wanderings	First speech: Review of the exodus — chap. 1 - 4:43	Moses	
	Second speech: God's law for how to live — 4:44 - chap. 28		
	Third speech: The life-and-death choice — chaps. 29 - 30		
	Leadership transition from Moses to Joshua — chaps. 31-33		Joshua

# Joshua



Adapted from: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 307-308.

# Judges

7. Period of Judges	Prologue: Failure to fully conquer the land – chap. 1 – 3:6	
	Seven Champions	Othniel – 3:7-11
		Ehud – 3:12-30
		Deborah and Barak – 4-5
		Gideon – 6:1 – 8:33
		Abimelech – 8:33 – 9:57
		Jephthah – 10-12
		Samson – 13-16
	Epilogue: Depths of rebellion against God – 17-25	

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 114, 119.

# Ruth

## 7. Period of Judges

Devastation of Naomi's family – 1:1-5

Two of Naomi's relatives consider whether to support her – 1:6-19

Return to Bethlehem in emptiness and hopelessness – 1:19-22

**TURNING POINT:** Meeting of Ruth and Boaz – chap. 2

Ruth's appeal to Boaz, returning in fullness and hope – chap. 3

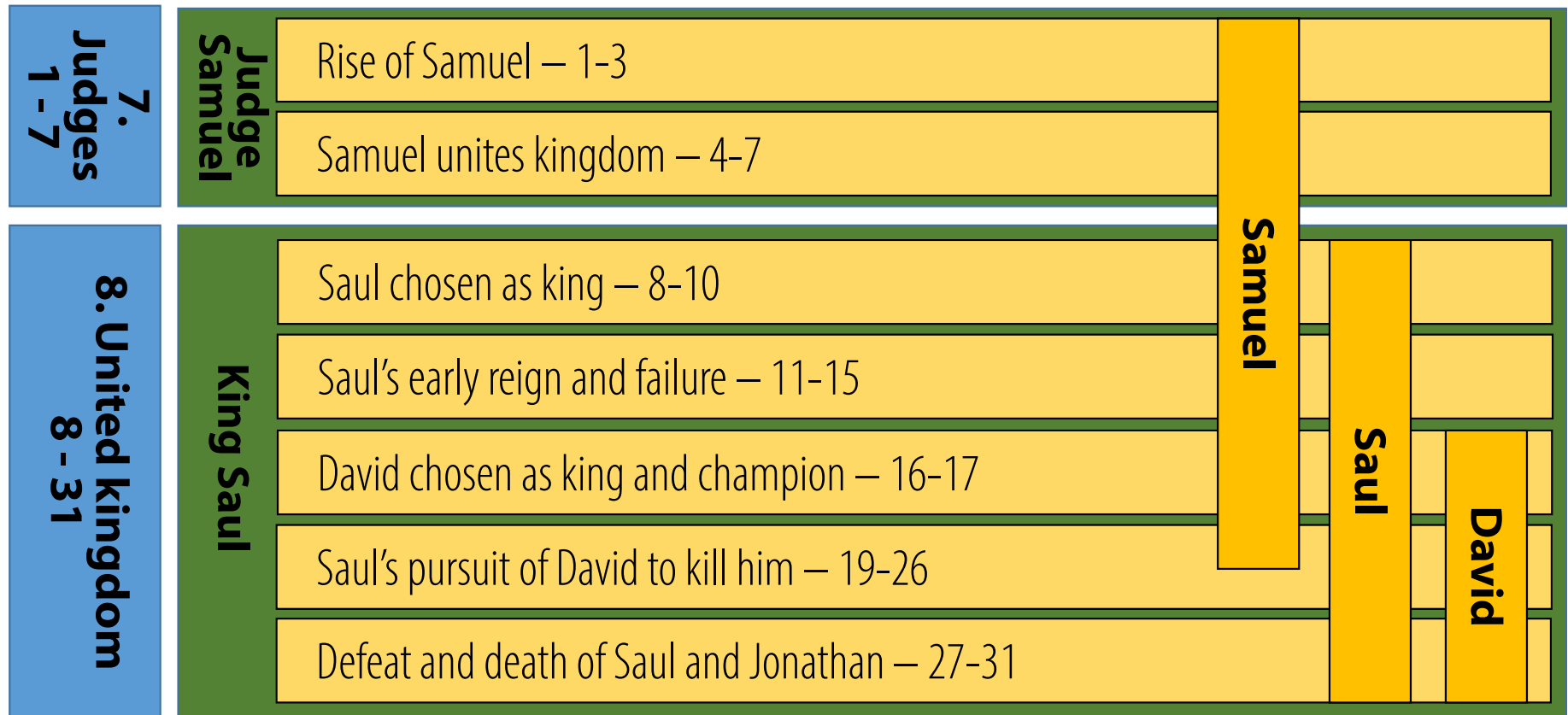
Two of Naomi's relatives consider whether to support her -4:1-12

Restoration of Naomi's family – 4:13-21

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 126.



# First Samuel



Adapted from: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 393-432.

# Second Samuel

8. United kingdom	David becomes king over Judah and Israel – 1-4	David
	David's successes as king and general – 5-10	
	David's sin and the cover-up – 11-12	
	David's troubles over Absalom – 13-18	
	David's kingdom is restored to him – 19-20	
	The final years of David's reign – 21-24	

Adapted from: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 439.

# First Kings

8. United kingdom 1-11	End of David's reign – 1-2:12a			
	King Solomon	Solomon's reign is established – 2:12b-46	Solomon	
		Solomon's alliance with Egypt and his wisdom – 3-4		
		Solomon's projects and splendor – 5-10		
		Solomon's decline and death – 11		
9. Divided kingdom 12-22	Early kings of Judah & Israel	Rehoboam and Jeroboam – 12-14		
		Abijam and Asa of Judah - 15		
		Nadab, Baasha, Zimri, and Omri of Israel – 15-16		
		Ahab and Jezebel of Israel and Elijah – 16-22	Ahab	Elijah
		Jehoshaphat of Judah and Ahaziah of Israel – 22		

Adapted from: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 482.

# Second Kings

9. Divided kingdom 1-17	Later kings of Israel & Judah	End of Elijah's ministry – 1
		<b>Ministry of Elisha</b> – 2-8
		Jehoram and Ahaziah of Judah – 8
		<b>Jehu of Israel</b> and Athaliah of Judah – 9-11
		Kings of Israel and Judah leading to fall of Israel – 12-17
10. Judah Alone 18-25	Last kings of Judah	<b>Hezekiah</b> – 18-20
		Manasseh and Amon – 21
		<b>Josiah</b> – 22-23
		Jehoahaz and Jehoiakim – 23-24
		Zedekiah – 24-25
		Fall of Judah and assassination of Gedaliah – 25

Adapted from: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 529.

# First Chronicles

Genealogies from Adam to return from exile — 1-9	
8. United Kingdom chaps. 10 - 29	Reign of King David
	David's rise to the throne — 10-12
	David moves the ark to Jerusalem — 13-16
	God's covenant with David and his descendants — 17
	David's victories and his sin over the census — 18-21
	David's preparations to build temple — 22-27
	David's last words and his death — 28-29
David	

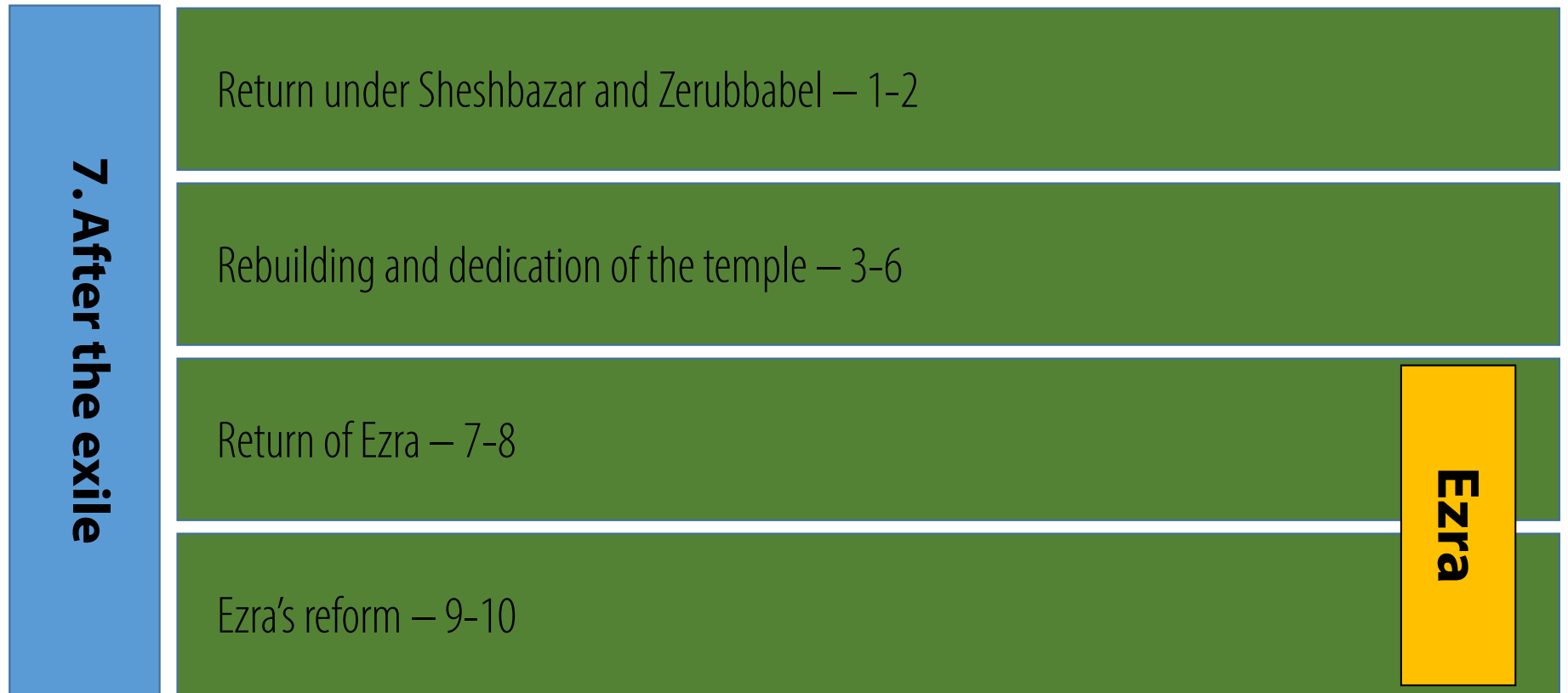
Adapted from: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 574-610.

# Second Chronicles

<b>8. United kingdom</b> <b>1-9</b>	<b>Reign of Solomon</b>	Solomon's wisdom and wealth - 1 Building and dedication of temple – 2-7 Solomon's prosperity, fame, and wisdom – 8-9
<b>9. Divided kingdom</b> <b>10-28</b>	<b>Early Kings of Judah</b>	Rehoboam – 10-12 Abijah, Asa, and Jehoshaphat – 13-20 Jehoram, Ahaziah, and Athaliah – 21-23 Joash, Amaziah, Uzziah, and Ahaz – 24-28
<b>10. Judah Alone</b> <b>29-36</b>	<b>Late kings of Judah</b>	Hezekiah and the Assyrian crisis – 29-31 Manasseh, Amon, and Josiah – 32-35 Josiah's successors to the Captivity – 36

Adapted from: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 614-662.

# Ezra



Adapted from: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 664-665.

# Nehemiah

## 12. After the exile

Return under Nehemiah – 1-2

Walls of Jerusalem are rebuilt – 3-7

Reading of law, renewing of covenant, and dedication of walls – 8-12

Nehemiah's reforms – 13

**Nehemiah**



# Esther

12. After the exile	The rise of Esther to be queen of Persia – 1-2	Esther
	Haman's struggle against Mordecai – 3-7	
	Triumph of the Jews over their enemies – 8-9	
	The Feast of Purim and the administration of Mordecai – 9-10	

Adapted from: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 702-715.

# Job

## 3. Patriarchs

Prologue — 1-2

Is God just?

Job's debate with his friends — 3-31

Speeches of Elihu — 32-37

God's response to Job — 38-42

Epilogue — 42

# Psalms

All periods included	Book One – 1-41	<b>Amen and Amen</b>
	Book Two – 42-72	<b>Amen and Amen</b>
	Book Three – 73-89	<b>Amen and Amen</b>
	Book Four – 90-106	<b>Praise the LORD</b>
	Book Five – 107-150	<b>Praise the LORD</b>

# Proverbs

## 8. United kingdom

Two-part introduction – 1-9

Solomon's proverbs—first collection – 10-22

Words of the wise – 22-24

Solomon's proverbs—second collection – 25-29

Two-part conclusion – 30-31

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 187.

# Ecclesiastes

## 8. United kingdom (or Judah alone)

Title — 1:1

Brevity and insignificance of life — 1:2-11

Wisdom's failure to discover life's meaning — 1:12-chap. 2

Poem about time — 3:1-15

Center: Fear God! — 3:16-6:12

Poem about time revisited — 7:1-14

Wisdom's failure revisited — 7:15-10:19

Brevity of life revisited — 10:20-12:8

Conclusion — 12:9-14

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 198.

# Song of Songs

## 8. United kingdom

The courtship – 1:1-2:7

Praise of the engaged man – 2:8-3:5

The wedding and praise of the bride – 3:6-5:1

Challenges of married life – 5:2-8:4

Return of the wedded couple – 8:5-14

Adapted from: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 984-985.

# Isaiah

10. Judah alone	Assyrian crisis – 1-38	Ruin and restoration – 1-5
		Biographical material – 6-8
		Agents of divine blessing and judgment – 9-12
		Oracles against foreign powers – 13-23
		Universal redemption and deliverance of Israel – 24-27
		Ethical sermons – 28-31
		Restoration of the nation – 32-33
	Future crises 39-66	Ruin and restoration – 34-35
		Biographical material – 36-39
		Agents of divine blessing and judgment – 40-45
		Oracles against foreign powers – 46-48
		Universal redemption and deliverance of Jerusalem – 49-55
		Ethical sermons – 56-59
		Restoration of the Jerusalem – 60-66

Source: W. H. Brownlee, *The Meaning of the Qumran Scrolls for the Bible with Special Attention to Isaiah* (New York: Oxford University, 1964), 247ff, as quoted by R. K. Harrison, *Introduction to the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1969), 788.

# Jeremiah

10. Judah alone 1-39	Before fall of Jerusalem	Prophecies under Josiah and Jerhoiakim – 1-20
		Prophecies under Jehoiakim and Zedekiah – 21-39
11. Babylonian exile 40-52	After fall of Jerusalem	Prophecies after the fall of Jerusalem – 40-45
		Prophecies against the nations – 46-51
		Historical appendix - 52

Adapted from: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 1105-1106.



# Lamentations

11. Babylonian exile	Desolation of Jerusalem – 1	<b>Acrostic</b>
	Reason for judgment and call to repentance – 2	<b>Acrostic</b>
	Jeremiah's lamentation and his hope – 3	<b>Triple-acrostic</b>
	Contrast between Zion's present and future condition – 4	<b>Acrostic</b>
	Prayer for mercy in the middle of trouble – 5	<b>Non-acrostic</b>

Adapted from: Harold Lindsell, *Harper Study Bible* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1965), 1201-1213.

# Ezekiel

<b>10. Judah alone</b> 1-34	<b>Glory of the Lord departs</b>	<b>Doom!</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ezekiel's call and first collection of messages – 1-7</li><li>Second collection of messages – 8-13</li><li>Third collection of messages – 14-19</li><li>Fourth collection of messages – 20-24</li><li>Oracles against the nations and Israel – 25-34</li></ul>
<b>11. Babylonian exile</b> 35-48	<b>Glory returns</b>	<b>Hope!</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Messages about Israel's future restoration – 35-39</li><li>Vision of the new temple and the new land – 40-48</li></ul>

Adapted from: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 254.

# Daniel

## 11. Babylonian exile

God is in control of history

Historical: Believers  
are faithful to God  
1-6

Predictive: God will be  
faithful to believers  
7-12

How to thrive, not just survive in Overlord's capital – 1

Dream of statue of four metals and stone mountain – 2

Deliverance from fiery furnace – 3

God punishes Nebuchadnezzar for his arrogance – 4

God punishes Belshazzar for his arrogance – 5

Deliverance from the den of lions – 6

Dream of four beasts and the Son of Man – 7

Kingdoms two and three – 8

Vision of the 70 sevens – 9

Kingdoms two and three – 10

Kingdoms two, three, and four – 11

Kingdom four and God's kingdom – 12

# Hosea

## 9. Divided Kingdom

Israel is God's wayward wife that God will cause to return — 1-3

Condemnation for spiritual prostitution and idolatry — 4:1-5:7

Condemnation for faithlessness, corruption, and empty sacrifices — 5:8-6:11

**CENTER:** Israel has not returned to the LORD — 6:11-chap. 7

Condemnation for faithlessness, corruption, and empty sacrifices — 8:1-9:7

Condemnation for spiritual prostitution and idolatry — 9:7- chap.10

Israel is God's wayward son that God invites to return — 11-14

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 271.

# Joel

## 9. Divided Kingdom

Devastating locust invasion – 1:1-14

Suffering of all creatures from locust plague – 1:15-20

The LORD Himself leads the locust army against Judah – 2:1-11

**CENTER:** Call to repentance – 2:12-17

Promise that God will reverse devastation of the locusts – 2:18-27

In the future, all in Judah will experience God's spiritual blessings – 2:28-32

God will destroy the Gentile armies that attack Judah, and he will restore Judah – 3

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 271.

# Amos

## 9. Divided Kingdom

The coming judgment on Israel and its neighbors – 1-2

Amos must announce Israel's coming destruction and the fall of Bethel – 3

Condemnation of Israel's wealthy women: empty religion and God's judgment – 4

**CENTER:** Call to repentance and a lamentation – 5:1-17

Condemnation of Israel's wealthy men: empty religion and coming judgment – 5:18-chap. 6

Amos must announce coming destruction and the fall of Bethel – 7:1-8:3

Coming judgment on Israel and its future restoration – 8:4 - chap. 9

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 271.

# Obadiah

## 11. Babylonian exile (?)

Proud Edom will be defeated by the nations – vv. 1-4

Edom will be plundered, and nothing will be left – vv. 5-7

Edom's population will be slaughtered – vv. 8-11

**CENTER:** Why Edom deserves this punishment – vv. 12-14

Edom and the nation will be judged, becoming as if they never were – vv. 15-16

Israel will regain what it has lost and will plunder Edom – vv. 17-18

Humbled Israel will be victorious over the surrounding nations – vv. 19-21

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 289.

# Jonah

## 9. Divided Kingdom

Jonah is commissioned to go to Nineveh, and he disobeys – 1:1-3

Jonah and the pagan sailors – 1:4-16

Jonah's grateful, beautiful prayer – 1:17–2:10

Jonah is recommissioned to go to Nineveh, and he obeys – 3:1-3

Jonah and the pagan Ninevites – 3:3-10

Jonah's resentful, mean-spirited prayer – 4:1-4

**CLIMAX:** The LORD's lesson for Jonah – 4:5-11

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 292.



# Micah

## 9. Divided Kingdom

Coming defeat and destruction – 1

Corruption of the people – 2

Corruption of the leaders – 3

**CENTER:** Glorious future restoration under the LORD's rule – 4-5

Corruption of the leaders – 6

Corruption of the people – 7:1-7

Future reversal of defeat and destruction – 7:8-20

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 299.

# Nahum

## 10. Judah alone

The LORD, like terrible force of nature, avenges enemies but is good to those who trust Him — 1:2-10  
**Acrostic (1/2)**

The LORD will destroy Nineveh but restore Judah — 1:11-15

Vivid description of the attack upon Nineveh — 2:1-10

**CENTER:** Lament over the fall of Nineveh, the lion's den — 2:11-13

Vivid description of the looting of Nineveh — 3:1-7

Nineveh will be destroyed: it is vulnerable, like Thebes — 3:8-13

Nineveh, likened to a destructive force of nature, will be destroyed — 3:14-19

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 304.

# Habakkuk

## 10. Judah alone

First complaint: How long must I wait for Your justice? – 1:1-4

God's first answer: Coming of the powerful Babylonian army – 1:5-11

Second complaint: How can you allow the wicked to destroy those more righteous? – 1:12-17

**CENTER:** Wait, for the wicked will be punished, but the righteous will live by faith – 2:1-5

God's second answer: The wicked will be punished, and all wrongs set right – 2:6-20

God's final answer: His even more powerful army will destroy Babylon and rescue Israel – 3:1-15

Habakkuk's final resolution: I will wait for God's help; He is my source of joy – 3:16-19

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 308.

# Zephaniah

## 10. Judah alone

Judgment is coming upon the wicked of Jerusalem — 1:1-6

Judgment is coming upon the corrupt leaders and rich of Jerusalem — 1:7-13

Judgment is coming upon all the nations on the great day of the LORD — 1:14-18

**CENTER:** Call to repentance — 2:1-3

Judgment is coming upon all the nations — 2:4-15

Judgment is coming upon the corrupt political and religious leaders of Jerusalem — 3:1-7

The LORD will restore Jerusalem and make it prosperous — 3:8-20

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 313.

# Haggai

## 12. After the exile

Message of rebuke and exhortation to rebuild the temple – 1:2-11

People's response and new message; temple begun – 1:12-15

### Messages of Encouragement and Promise

Reassurance and encouragement in the work – 2:1-9

Promise: The Lord will now bless them – 2:10-19

Zerubbabel's significance – 2:20-23

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 316.

# Zechariah

12. After the exile	During rebuilding of the temple 1-8	Call to repentance – 1:1-6
		Zechariah's nighttime vision – 1:7-6:8
		Symbolic-action message: silver and gold crown – 6:9-15
		Message about fasting and call to repentance – 7-8
	After rebuilding of the temple 9-14	Israel's future restoration – 9:1-11:3
		Symbolic-action message: Shepherd and two staffs – 11:4-17
		Israel's future restoration – 12-14

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 318.

# Malachi

## 12. After the exile

The LORD is just: He loves the faithful remnant of Israel but will destroy wicked Edom – 1:1-5

Priests and people have cheated the LORD in their offerings – 1:6-14

Levi once served in righteousness, but now Levites have turned away from the LORD – 2:1-9

**CENTER:** Stop being faithless – 2:10-16

Promise: the LORD's messenger will come, and Levites will be purified – 2:17-3:6

People have robbed the LORD, but if they change, God will bless them – 3:7-12

The LORD is just: He will reward the righteous but utterly destroy the wicked – 3:13-4:6

Source: David A. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999), 323.

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