

The Writings

- Which of the following is *not* a collection of songs?
 - Psalms
 - Proverbs
 - Song of Songs
 - Lamentations
- Which book is a collection of love poems (love songs)?
 - Psalms
 - Proverbs
 - Song of Songs
 - Lamentations
- Which book is a collection of 150 poems or songs which were probably used in Israel's formal worship services?
 - Psalms
 - Proverbs
 - Song of Songs
 - Lamentations
- Which type of literature in the Hebrew Bible is dominated by short observations and instructions about life and how to live, and is *not* particularly concerned with themes such as covenant?
 - collections of songs
 - the wisdom literature
 - prose historical works
 - prophetic works
- Which of the following is a collection of songs (poems) expressing sorrow over the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians in 587 BCE?
 - Psalms
 - Proverbs
 - Song of Songs
 - Lamentations
 - Ecclesiastes
- Which of the following is *not* one of the books that scholars include under the heading of *wisdom literature*?
 - Proverbs
 - Lamentations
 - Ecclesiastes
 - Job
- Which book tells in poetic form the story of a righteous man who suffers terribly in spite of his faithfulness to Yahweh?
 - Job
 - Psalms
 - Proverbs
 - Ecclesiastes
- Which book proposes that while there is a certain order to human existence, there is also an element of chance that undermines any strict view of retribution?
 - Job
 - Psalms
 - Proverbs
 - Ecclesiastes
- Which of the wisdom books ponders the question of whether it is possible for a person to worship God without any attempt to benefit from that worship? Which book suggests that the purest worship is *disinterested* worship?
 - Job
 - Proverbs
 - Ecclesiastes

10. Which of the following books tells the story of a courageous Moabite woman who stayed with her Jewish mother-in-law after the death of her husband and who later became the great grandmother of king David?
- a. Ruth
 - b. Esther
 - c. Ecclesiastes
 - d. Judith
11. In which book of the Hebrew Bible is the following passage found?
*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;
he makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.*
- a. Psalms
 - b. Proverbs
 - c. Song of Songs
 - d. Lamentations
 - e. Ecclesiastes
12. Which of the following is the **best** description of the content of the book of Psalms?
- a. While there is a great deal of diversity of literary style, there is not much diversity of themes in this book. Virtually all of the Psalms are celebrations of God's goodness and majesty.
 - b. While the book of Psalms covers with a wide range of topics, a very large number of the psalms deal with the problem of alienation from God or from the worshiping community and with the reconciliation that is needed to end that alienation.
 - c. While the book of Psalms deals with a diversity of topics, the literary form of all of the psalms is the same.
13. Which of the following books is **not** one of the *Megillot*?
- a. Ruth
 - b. Song of Songs
 - c. Ecclesiastes
 - d. Lamentations
 - e. Job
14. Laments are
- a. poems that present the distress of either an individual or a community over some dire situation
 - b. celebrations of the joy of relationship with God
 - c. love poems
 - d. philosophical reflections on the meaning (or lack of meaning) of life

15. Which of the following books tells the story of a young Jewish woman who was raised by her cousin, became Queen of the Persian Empire, and acted courageously to save her people from a massacre?
- a. Ezra
 - b. Nehemiah
 - c. Ruth
 - d. Esther
16. Which book(s) found in the section of the *Tanak* called the "Writings" retell(s) the same period of Israel's history found in the books of Samuel and Kings, but from a later perspective?
- a. Ezra
 - b. Nehemiah
 - c. Chronicles
17. According to ancient Hebrew thought before the Persian period, the dead went to a place called
- a. Hell
 - b. Sheol
 - c. Paradise
 - d. Heaven
18. Which of the following is **not** one of the things the Jewish people did soon after returning from exile in Babylon?
- a. Rebuild the Temple of Yahweh in Jerusalem
 - b. Rebuild the walls around Jerusalem
 - c. Drive out their Persian overlords
 - d. Recommit themselves to the covenant
19. The book of Ruth is read at the festival of
- a. Yom Kippur
 - b. Pentecost
 - c. Passover
20. *Levirite* marriage was
- a. the practice of a widow marrying her brother-in-law (or next closest kin if there was no brother-in-law) in order to continue the family line of her dead husband and perhaps to provide her with protection
 - b. the practice of marrying more than one spouse that was common in ancient Israel as well as in the societies of Israel's neighbors
 - c. marriage to a Levite
21. After the return of from Babylon the Jewish people were governed by a *hierocracy* rather than a monarchy. A hierocracy is
- a. rule by the highest religious authority
 - b. rule by a committee of judges
 - c. rule by a king
 - d. a democracy
22. Which of the following is **not** a part of "the Chronicler's History"?
- a. The book(s) of Chronicles
 - b. Ruth
 - c. Ezra
 - d. Nehemiah