

**A HISTORY OF THE HEBREWS IN
OUTLINE: DOWN TO THE
RESTORATION UNDER EZRA AND
NEHEMIAH. SYLLABUS OF A COURSE
OF CLASS STUDIES AND LECTURES**

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A History of the Hebrews in Outline: Down to the Restoration Under Ezra and Nehemiah.
Syllabus of a Course of Class Studies and Lectures by James A. Kelso

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For use in the Classes of
THE WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
PITTSBURGH, PA.

PREFACE

This outline syllabus of Old Testament History, covering the ground from the Patriarchal Age to the times of Ezra and Nehemiah, is intended for use in the classes of the Western Theological Seminary. It presupposes the discussions and lectures of the professor; and the arrangement of the material is such as to compel the student to study the original sources and to get a comprehensive idea of the chief works of modern historical literature that bear on the history of ancient Israel. The chief merit of this method of approach to the subject lies in the compulsion which it exerts on the student: first, to master the material; and secondly, to think out the problems for himself instead of taking his conclusions secondhand from a textbook.

Books of Reference

ABBREVIATIONS—

Bd	Baedeker	Syria and Palestine
Ball	Ball	Light from the East
Barton	Barton	Archaeology and the Bible
Breasted ARE	Breasted	Ancient Records of Egypt
Breasted H	Breasted	A History of Egypt
Clay	Clay	Light on Old Testament from Babel
Curtiss	Curtiss	Primitive Semitic Religion To-day
Dr LOT	Driver	Literature of the Old Testament
Hall	Hall	The Ancient History of the Near East
Hand	Handcock	The Latest Light on Bible Lands
HDB	Hastings	Dictionary of the Bible
Harper	Harper	The Code of Hammurabi
Hogarth	Hogarth	Authority and Archaeology
Hom	Hommel	Ancient Hebrew Tradition
Jos	Josephus	ed. by Shilleto
Kent	Kent	History of the Hebrew People, 3 vols.
Kent OT	Kent	Student's Old Testament
Kit	Kittel	History of the Hebrews

Mercer	Mercer	Extra Biblical Sources for Hebrew and Jewish History
McC	McCurdy	History, Prophecy, and the Monuments
Ot	Ottley	Short History of the Hebrews
Pat	Paton	Early History of Syria and Palestine
Peters	Peters	The Religion of the Hebrews
Rogers	Rogers	Cuneiform Parallels to the Old Testament
Sayce	Sayce	Higher Criticism and the Verdict of the Monuments
Schultz SDB	Schultz	Old Testament Theology Standard Dictionary of the Bible
Smith HGHL	G. A. Smith	Historical Geography of the Holy Land
Smith JER	G. A. Smith	Jerusalem, 2 vols.
Smith OTH	H. P. Smith	Old Testament History
Stanley	Stanley	History of the Jewish Church 3 vols.*
Thomson	Thomson	The Land and the Book
Wade	Wade	Old Testament History

The Old Testament R. V. American Standard Edition.

*Many editions, pagination varies.

I. INTRODUCTORY STUDIES

1. Definition of history; point of view of the historian and his methods Kit I § 1; McC §§ 1-16; Briggs, Study of Holy Scripture ch xxii
2. The methods and material of history are briefly treated in the 'Guide to the Study of the Christian Religion' ed. by G. B. Smith 21-28; at greater length in Briggs, *op cit* ch xxi. For details see Langlois and Seignobos, Introduction to the Study of History. For the moral and spiritual factors of history, Mathews, The Spiritual Interpretation of History.
3. Sources of Hebrew History

a. Biblical Sources Kent I ch 1

b. Extra-Biblical—literary sources

Later Jewish literature: Josephus, The Antiquities; for an outline of this great historical work and an estimate of its value as a source HDB V 464-466; Schürer, History of Jewish People I i 84-89. I, II Maccabees Schürer *op cit* II iii 6-13, 211-216. The references to the Jews in Græco-Roman literature have been collected by Reinach and arranged in a convenient volume (Reinach, *Textes d'Auteurs Grecs et Romains relatifs au Judaïsme*).

c. Monumental sources

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| (i) Egyptian | (iv) Moabite |
| (ii) Assyro-Babylonian | (v) Hebrew |
| (iii) Phœnician | |

These sources will be discussed in the proper place as they touch on the history of the Hebrews

4. The significance of the following subjects for the historian

- a.* Archaeology Sayce 1-30; Barton 11-14
- b.* Historical Geography Smith HGHL ch 1
- c.* Modern oriental customs Thomson 363-371; Curtiss ch v

5. Palestine the home of the Hebrews

- a.* Geology Smith HGHL ch 2; Kent I ch 3
- b.* Natural features Smith HGHL ch 2; Kent I ch 3
- c.* Climate and products Smith HGHL ch 3
- d.* O. T. geography Smith HGHL ch 2; Kent I ch 3

These four topics are fully discussed in article on Palestine HDB and SDB; Kit § 3; Peters, Religion of Hebrews ch 2 'Land and People'

Every student should read Smith's HGHL.

6. Inhabitants of Palestine

- a.* Palestine before its occupation by the Hebrews
McC §§ 125-146; Sayce 283-307; Kent I pp 27, 28; HGHL, 1
- b.* The neighbors of the Hebrews
 - (*i*) Canaanites
 - (*ii*) Amorites
 - (*iii*) Hitites McC §§ 156-164; Barton 68f
 - (*iv*) Philistines
 - (*v*) Moabites
 - (*vi*) Edomites