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Nelson's "Old Testament: Canon, History, and Literature" (book review)

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Book Reviews



Nelson, R. D. (2019). *Old Testament: Canon, history, and literature*. Nashville: Abingdon Press. 326 pp. \$42.99. ISBN 9781426759239

Richard D. Nelson is professor emeritus of biblical Hebrew and Old Testament interpretation at Southern Methodist University Perkins School of Theology. He provides an extraordinary textbook and scholarly reference book. Nelson's work contains an extensive table of contents, which is divided in six parts. The end of the book contains a vocabulary and chronology of significant events. At the end of each chapter, the reader can supplement his or her study because further reading is available. This book includes visual aids such as figures, maps, tables which figures contain brief description. An introduction and conclusion are absent.

This book could be used in an Old Testament seminary class or as a reference book for students, staff, faculty researching an Old Testament book of the Bible. Also, pastors would benefit from this book during sermon preparation or teaching on the canon in a small group setting. This resource is a vital resource to the field of the Old Testament and Canon. Nelson's book presents a scholarly introduction to researchers in Biblical Studies concentrating in Old Testament. The book is well documented with helpful tools for a researcher. Nelson fulfilled the purpose of this book and researchers benefit from an extensive introduction to books of the Old Testament. This book is clear and thorough.

Nelson challenges a reader to gain a better understanding of the Old Testament. The book allows for an introduction and provides tools to further a lifelong learner of the Old Testament. It provides a seminarian an introductory resource to further scholarly study of the Old Testament.

Reviewer

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