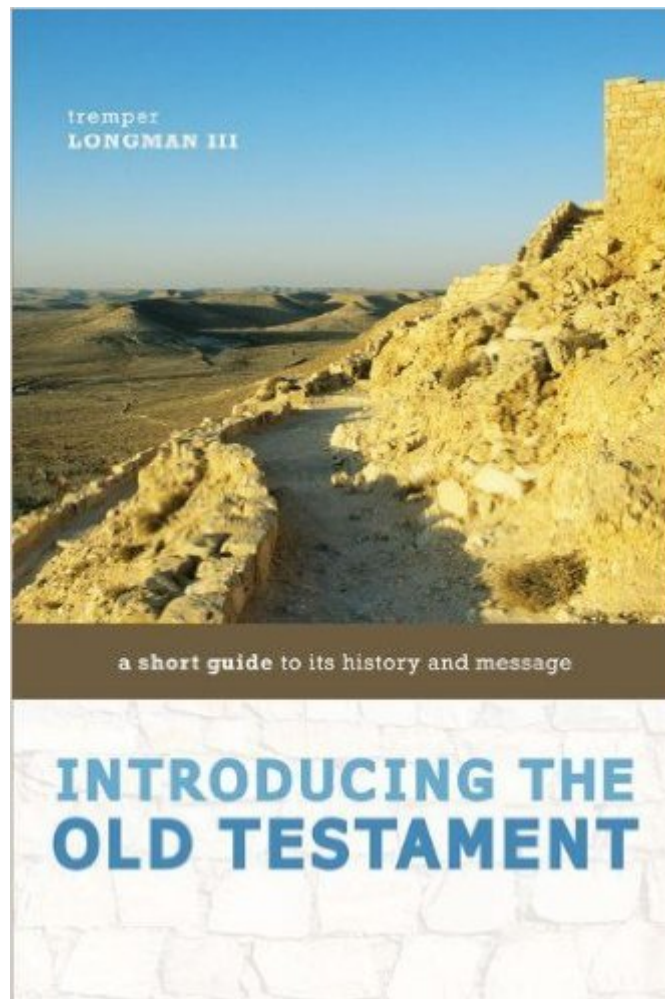


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# Introducing The Old Testament: A Short Guide To Its History And Message



## Synopsis

An abridged edition of the bestselling book *An Introduction to the Old Testament*, this rich guide makes Old Testament scholarship accessible to the average reader. Renowned Bible scholar Tremper Longman III gathers the best in historical research and literary analysis to lead the reader through each book of the Old Testament. Most significantly, Longman explores the meaning of each book in light of its cultural setting. Abbreviated chapters highlight key research discoveries, ensuring that the information is both significant and manageable. Including questions at the end of each chapter for group discussion or personal reflection, *Introducing the Old Testament* makes the words, history, and culture of biblical times come alive for readers. Laypersons as well as church leaders will take away a solid understanding of the historical background and theological message of the Old Testament and be inspired to apply biblical truths to their lives.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I was much pleased when I bought this intro to the Old Testament. In short, Dillard and Longman have done the church and the believing community a great service by providing a scholarly and evangelical introduction that is not afraid to tackle the hard questions of the Bible. They divide each section of the introduction into Historical/Literary/Theological message/Approaching the New Testament. As to one reviewer commenting that this is very biased, I actually think that this was quite objective. Longman analyzes the prevailing critics presuppositions and then provides a logical counterpart. And also, they are (while remaining robustly evangelical) more balanced in their

conclusion than other evangelical scholars (cf. Gleason Archer for a passionate, well written, if a little biased example). In my eyes, this book's greatest strengths were its incorporating the theological message and approaching the New Testament into each book. The Bible then comes alive. Its weakness is similar to many other scholarly works, it could get overly technical at times. Overall, a well organized intro.

Good discussions of date, authorship, text, audience and message of the books of the Old Testament. More in depth than Hendriksen's "Survey of the Bible." It really does go beyond simple cultural information. This title was a required text for me in Seminary...it was one of the best investments I've ever made. The information in the book will overflow into your personal studies. Extremely helpful insights into why the human authors of Scripture phrased certain things in the way they did. This is a great tool!

This Old Testament Introduction maintains the delicate balance between scholarly pertinence and practical usefulness. Dillard & Longman capably present the various issues necessary to address in OT Introduction--authorship & dating, textual issues, etc.--while always offering thorough theological understanding & New Testament/Christological significance. This volume is difficult to put down; this is not simply a reference book but also a book that can be read from cover to cover. This is the best way to understand Dillard's & Longman's overall perspective of the OT. An insightful & incisive work.

I find this Old Testament Introduction easy to read, but also reasonably comprehensive. It is not as complete as R. K. Harrison's 1970 work, but much more inviting. It is both a handy reference work, and a book to read from cover to cover. The New Testament applications at the end of each article are thought-provoking and essential for the Christian, for whom the New Testament opens and explains the Old. Highly recommended.

An excellent, informative overview of cursory introductory matters. OT introduction is quite a mindfield; however, Dillard and Longman present a well-informed discussion. It is brief often on issues of dating and authorship, which makes this an excellent "first grab" off the shelf when a question arises. The volume is probably worth double its asking price for the literary analysis. This volume takes into account literary competency and provides genre discussion (thanks to the illustrious Tremper Longman's coauthorship). All in all each student of the Bible needs a basic OT

introduction; this is an excellent choice for the reader of today.

I'm no expert but this is a good, well-rounded intro to the OT. For the beginner it is brief, Biblical in orientation (Not philosophically twisted), and every book has a historical summary. Remember this is an introduction, not a complete commentary on each book. It will properly orient you, challenge and strengthen the faith and expand your understanding of the history of what we believe and why. For those more advanced it will give you a good critical history summary with enough detail to understand how thought x becomes trend y in tracing a variety of critics. Now the disclaimer: Dr. Dillard tried hard to teach me Hebrew several decades ago and we were very friendly. I finally passed but that wasn't what he taught me most. He was a master builder of his own home. Along with his father, they built it from the ground up. From masonry to parquet flooring he respected life. It was a respect for all of God's callings in life. It helped me become an electrician. That respect shows in this book.

Introducing the Old Testament is a great guide for what it says introducing the Old Testament :-)  
This book is for the reader who desires to understand a synopsis of the books, authorship/date of the books, Genre/style of the books, and Connections to the New Testament. Oh and Mr. Longman dwells into some theological history too. It's a book that should be used as a reference with your daily Bible study. First off I am not a Bible Scholar, I simply am a person who desires to draw closer to God on a daily basis. This being said a Pastor friend of mine told me and I quote " Tremper is wicked smart". I have to agree with him, the book is extensive without being overwhelming. It was perfect for me because it didn't use language that was above me, but talking to several Pastors they wanted to read this book too. It's the perfect combination of knowledge and wisdom. Sometimes an author can be full of knowledge, but lack the wisdom to use it appropriately, this is not the truth for Mr. Longman. So dear readers if you read your Bible (which you should every day :) this would be a great add to your library.\*This book was given to me via netgalley for my honest opinion and I honestly gave it.

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