

- a. The search for sources: a longer note on redaction criticism
- b. The nature of prophecy

B. The Books of the Hagiographa

1. The Poetic books

Hebrew poetry has its own merit and is not based on rhyme or metre. There is a thought of cadenzic quality to it but the scholars do not agree. Much of the prophetic literature is poetic in form but the "official" poetic books are Psalms, Proverbs, and Job. We introduce them with the following data.

a. Psalms:

- (1) authorship
- (2) the "five books"
- (3) the principle teachings
- (4) the date of the psalter

b. Proverbs

- (1) authorship: Solomon plus others
- (2) Outline:
 - I. Advice to a son 1-10
 - II. Proverbs of life 11-24
 - III. Solomonic collections 25-31
- (3) Theme: Let wisdom be supreme
- (4) Some interpretation notes:

There is a wide variety of proverbs in the book. Many are expressions of general truth, not exact formulae. It is not always possible to have a correct context in Proverbs but it is important to look for it! Proverbs constitute a literary genre and you will find others scattered through the Old Testament.