



Lecture # 13 Part 2

Supporting Claims for the Inspiration of the Old Testament

NEW TESTAMENT REFERENCES TO SECTIONS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

NEW TESTAMENT REFERENCES TO THE AUTHORITY OF OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS

Not only does the New Testament lend support to the claim of inspiration of the Old Testament as a whole, and for each of its two sections, but it provides a direct confirmation for the authority of most of the individual books of the Old Testament, as may be seen in the following sample survey.

Daniel

This book is clearly quoted in [Matthew 24:15](#) (cf. [Daniel 9:27](#); [Daniel 11:31](#); [Daniel 12:11](#)): “So when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet.”

[Matthew 24:15 \(NASB\)](#)

¹⁵ “Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),

[Daniel 9:27 \(NASB\)](#)

²⁷ “And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations *will come* one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”

[Daniel 11:31 \(NASB\)](#)

³¹ “Forces from him will arise, desecrate the sanctuary fortress, and do away with the regular sacrifice. And they will set up the abomination of desolation.

[Daniel 12:11 \(NASB\)](#)

¹¹ “From the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished and the abomination of desolation is set up, *there will be* 1,290 days.

Further, [Matthew 24:21](#) and [30](#) are taken directly from [Daniel 12:1](#) and [Daniel 7:13](#) respectively.

[Matthew 24:21 \(NASB\)](#)

²¹ “For then “there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now,” nor ever will.



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Daniel 12:1 (NASB)

¹ "Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands *guard* over the sons of your people, will arise. "And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time;" and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.

Matthew 24:30 (NASB)

³⁰ "And then the sign of "the Son of Man will appear in the sky," and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

Daniel 7:13 (NASB)

¹³ "I kept looking in the night visions, "And behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming," And He came up to the Ancient of Days And was presented before Him.

The Twelve

Books from the Minor Prophets, or The Twelve, are quoted several times in the New Testament. Habakkuk 2:4, "The righteous will live by his faith" is quoted three times in the New Testament (Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38).

Habakkuk 2:4 (NASB)

⁴ "Behold, as for the proud one, His soul is not right within him; But "the righteous will live by his faith."

Romans 1:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS *man* SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

Galatians 3:11 (NASB)

¹¹ Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, "THE RIGHTEOUS MAN SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

Hebrews 10:38 (NASB)

³⁸ "BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH"; AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM.

Hebrews 12:26 is a clear quotation of Haggai 2:6, "I am going to shake the heavens and the earth."

Hebrews 12:26 (NASB)

²⁶ And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has promised, saying, "YET ONCE MORE I WILL SHAKE NOT ONLY THE EARTH, BUT ALSO THE HEAVEN."

Haggai 2:6 (NASB)

⁶ "For thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Once more in a little while, "I am going to shake the heavens and the earth", the sea also and the dry land.



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Zechariah 13:7 is quoted in Matthew 26:31 as follows, “For it is written, ‘I will strike down the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered.’”

Zechariah 13:7 (NASB)

⁷ “Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, And against the man, My Associate,” Declares the LORD of hosts. “Strike the Shepherd that the sheep may be scattered”; And I will turn My hand against the little ones.

Matthew 26:31 (NASB)

³¹ Then Jesus *said to them, “You will all fall away because of Me this night, for it is written, “I WILL STRIKE DOWN THE SHEPHERD, AND THE SHEEP OF THE FLOCK SHALL BE SCATTERED.”

In summary, of the twenty-two books of the Hebrew Old Testament, as many as eighteen of them (all but Judges, Chronicles, Esther, and Song of Solomon) are quoted or referred to as authoritative.

There are New Testament teachings that are directly dependent upon the teachings of those Old Testament books. It should be pointed out that the absence of reference to a specific Old Testament book does not mean that particular book lacks authority; instead, it indicates that the New Testament writers had no occasion to refer to it. This is not difficult to understand when a person is asked to recall the last time he quoted from Esther or Judges.

Some books, by their didactic or devotional nature, lend more readily to quotation and, hence, they are quoted more often; those that lack a didactic nature are not often used in that manner.

NEW TESTAMENT REFERENCES TO THE AUTHENTICITY OF OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS

Some of the Old Testament books that have no distinct reference to their authority do, however, have clear commitments to their authenticity. The accompanying chart indicates some of the more important people and events of the Old Testament that are verified in the New Testament (which thereby verifies the authenticity of the books that record them).

1. Creation of the Universe (<u>Genesis 1</u>)	<u>John 1:3; Colossians 1:16</u>
2. Creation of Adam and Eve (<u>Genesis 1–2</u>)	<u>1 Timothy 2:13–14</u>
3. Marriage of Adam and Eve (<u>Genesis 3</u>)	<u>1 Timothy 2:13</u>
4. Temptation of the woman (<u>Genesis 3</u>)	<u>1 Timothy 2:14</u>
5. Disobedience and sin of Adam (<u>Genesis 3</u>)	<u>Romans 5:12; 1 Cor. 15:22</u>
6. Sacrifices of Abel and Cain (<u>Genesis 4</u>)	<u>Hebrews 11:4</u>
7. Murder of Abel by Cain (<u>Genesis 4</u>)	<u>1 John 3:12</u>
8. Birth of Seth (<u>Genesis 4</u>)	<u>Luke 3:38</u>



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9. Translation of Enoch (Genesis 5)	Hebrews 11:5
10. Marriage before the flood (Genesis 6)	Luke 17:27
11. The flood and destruction of man (Genesis 7)	Matthew 24:39
12. Preservation of Noah and his Family (Genesis 8–9)	2 Peter 2:5
13. Genealogy of Shem (Genesis 10)	Luke 3:35–36
14. Birth of Abraham (Genesis 11)	Luke 3:34
15. Call of Abraham (Genesis 12–13)	Hebrews 11:8
16. Tithes to Melchizedek (Genesis 14)	Hebrews 7:1–3
17. Justification of Abraham (Genesis 15)	Romans 4:3
18. Ishmael (Genesis 16)	Galatians 4:21–24
19. Promise of Isaac (Genesis 17)	Hebrews 11:18
20. Lot and Sodom (Genesis 18–19)	Luke 17:29
21. Birth of Isaac (Genesis 21)	Acts 7:9–10
22. Offering of Isaac (Genesis 22)	Hebrews 11:17
23. The burning bush (Exodus 3:6)	Luke 20:32
24. Exodus through the Red Sea (Exodus 14:22)	1 Corinthians 10:1–2
25. Provision of water and manna (Exodus 16:4;17:6)	1 Corinthians 10:3–5
26. Lifting up serpent in wilderness (Numbers 21:9)	John 3:14
27. Fall of Jericho (Joshua 6:22–25)	Hebrews 11:30
28. Miracles of Elijah (1 Kings 17:1; 1 Kings 18:1)	James 5:17
29. Jonah in the great fish (Jonah 2)	Matthew 12:40
30. Three Hebrew youths in furnace (Daniel 3)	Hebrews 11:34
31. Daniel in lion's den (Daniel 6)	Hebrews 11:33
32. Slaying of Zechariah (2 Chronicles 24:20–22)	Matthew 23:35

In this sample survey, several things should be noted.

(1) Most of the controversial passages of the Old Testament are referred to, for example, the creation, Fall, Flood, miracles of Moses and Elijah, and Jonah in the great fish. **Those are not just alluded to, they are *authenticated as historical events by the New Testament*.** If these major miraculous events were considered authentic, there is no difficulty in seeing that the New Testament accepted the rest of the events of the Old Testament.

(2) **Virtually every one of the first twenty-two chapters of Genesis, and each of those prior to Abraham (i.e., *chaps. 1–11*), has either a person or an event that is confirmed by an authoritative New Testament quotation or reference.** If these people and events are authentic, then it may be argued a fortiori that the rest of the Old Testament is authentic.

(3) Whereas there **are direct quotations or references** confirming **the authority of eighteen of the twenty-two books of the Hebrew Old Testament**, events from two of the remaining books **have their authenticity confirmed by the New Testament.**

Several of the **Judges** are referred to in **Hebrews 11:32**, as are numerous events from **Chronicles** (cf. **Matthew 23:35**).



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Thus, only Esther and Song of Solomon are without any direct confirmation as to their authority or authenticity. Here one must rely on the original and subsequent Jewish community, who knew their prophetic source and that they were a part of the canonical books of the “**Prophets**” (see discussion in Scetions. 13 and 14).

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The claim for inspiration by the Old Testament is supported in three ways in the New Testament.

First, there are many terms in the New Testament, such as Scripture, Word of God, Law, and Prophets, which are used to refer authoritatively to the Old Testament as a whole.

Second, both of the sections of the Hebrew canon (Law and Prophets) are viewed as authoritative units by the New Testament.

Finally, of the twenty-two books in the Hebrew canon, eighteen are quoted or referred to by the New Testament, thus confirming their authority. Two others have their authenticity confirmed, which brings the total to twenty of the twenty-two books having their authority and/or authenticity directly affirmed by the New Testament.

As a result, at least twenty of the twenty-two books of the Hebrew canon have their claim for inspiration confirmed individually by the New Testament writers, who regard the record of events or teachings therein as authentic and/or divine in origin. The other two books were recognized by the earliest Jewish community as having a divine source and were placed among the “**Prophets.**”