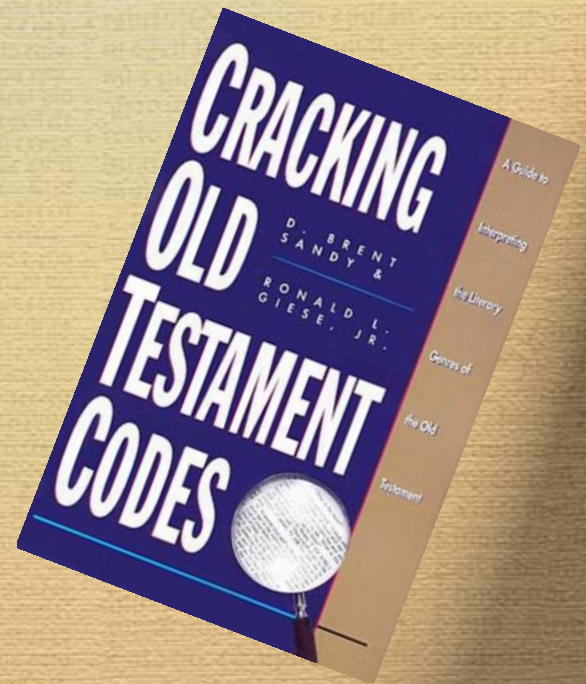


GENRES



DEC 5, 2013

BI 305
HEBREW
PROPHETS




CONSIDER :
THE TRUTH OR FALLACY OF THIS STATEMENT

Anyone who wants to understand Scripture correctly must be sensitive to

1. *Immediate Context*

2. *Distant Context*





Anyone who wants to understand Scripture correctly must be sensitive to three levels of written context:

1. Immediate Context

2. Middle Level Context

3. Distant Context

The middle level literary contexts are called Genres.



IMMEDIATE CONTEXT

- Every word and phrase of Scripture belongs to the context of the sentence and paragraph where they appear. What the grammatical form of a word is, or what the role of a word or phrase is in relation to the sentence as a whole (syntax), are important considerations in determining meaning. ***This is immediate context.***


Brent, Sandy D.; Giese, Ronald L. (1995-06-06). Cracking Old Testament Codes: A Guide to Interpreting Literary Genres of the Old Testament (pp. 5-6). B&H Publishing. Kindle Edition.





DISTANT CONTEXT

- Every statement in Scripture is part of the total context of the canon of Scripture. Since no single statement can completely reveal all of divine truth on any topic, the whole counsel of the Word of God is important for understanding the individual statements in the Bible. ***This is distant context*** (sometimes called theological context).



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MIDDLE LEVEL OF CONTEXT

- Every statement in Scripture is expressed in a certain way, whether it is giving praise to God as in the psalms, proclaiming God's judgment as in the prophets, predicting the expected outcome of certain conduct as in the proverbs, or telling the story of God's chosen people as in the historical books. ***This middle level of context*** is that of literary forms.

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CONSIDER THESE VERSES:

- “The waves of death swirled about me; the torrents of destruction overwhelmed me.”

Without the context we might think of Jonah after his deliverance from near drowning at sea, for these words could describe his plight of floundering in the waves of a terrible storm.



CONSIDER THESE VERSES:

- “Smoke rose from his nostrils; consuming fire came from his mouth, burning coals blazed out of it.”

Deprived of its context, this statement might raise several questions. Is it describing real smoke and fire? Is it describing a terrible creature, and the smoke, fire, and coals are simply pictorial language to add to the terrifying appearance of the creature? Is it describing a dragon? Or Satan?





CONSIDER THESE VERSES:

- “He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters.”


These words might call to mind Peter's experience of trying to walk on the water in his own strength when Jesus had to rescue him.





CONSIDER THESE VERSES

- But all three of these verses come from one passage in 2 Samuel 22 (vv. 5, 9, and 17; cf. Ps. 18). It is one of David's psalms of praise for God's deliverance.




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WHAT LITERARY FORM DOES NOT MEAN

- Genre Criticism works with the canonical form of the text and does not consider the source for the text.
- Genre Criticism works with the canonical form of the text under examination and does not consider any form after that.
- Genre Criticism also does not use terminology within a statement to determine the literary form of the statement.






WHAT LITERARY FORM DOES MEAN

- Literary forms, or genres are not defined by vocabulary or grammar. There are however three marks of genre
 - FORM
 - CONTENT
 - FUNCTION (or intentionality)





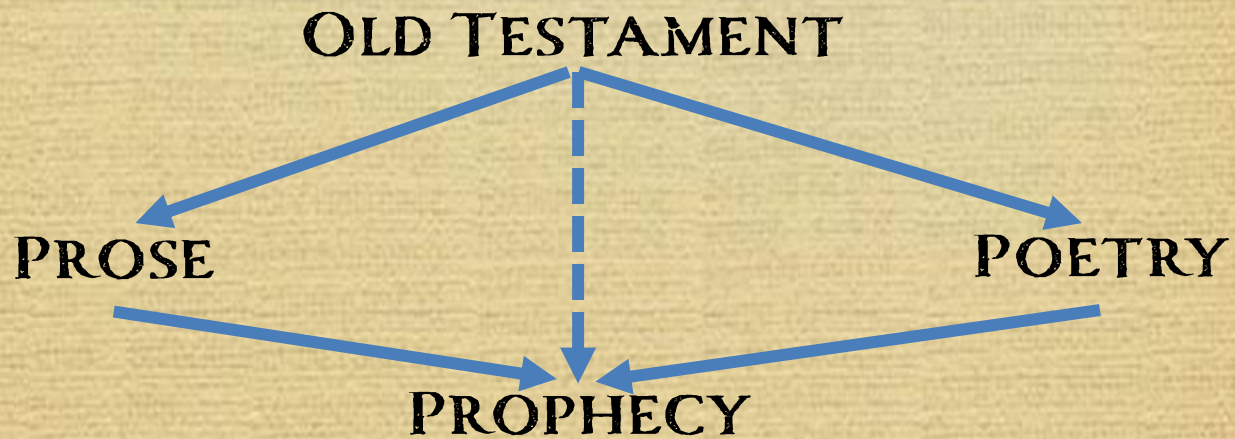
WHAT LITERARY FORM DOES MEAN

- The most important fact about genre is that ***genres are generalizations***. As such they are both true and false. They are not natural objects like animals, vegetables, or minerals. They are made by humans out of the mind's penchant for observing similarities and differences in things, to provide order to understanding (italics his).

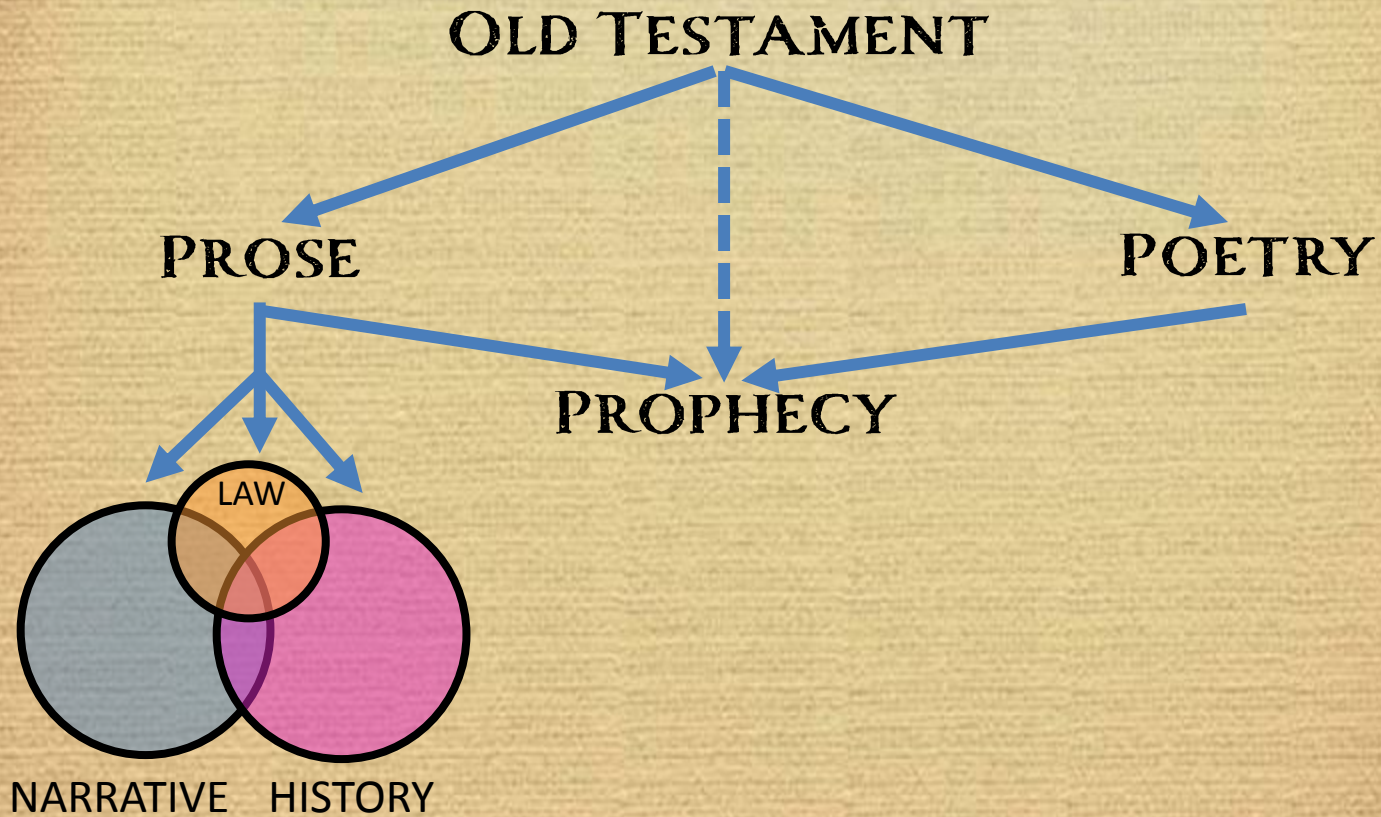
**** *Walter R. Fisher***



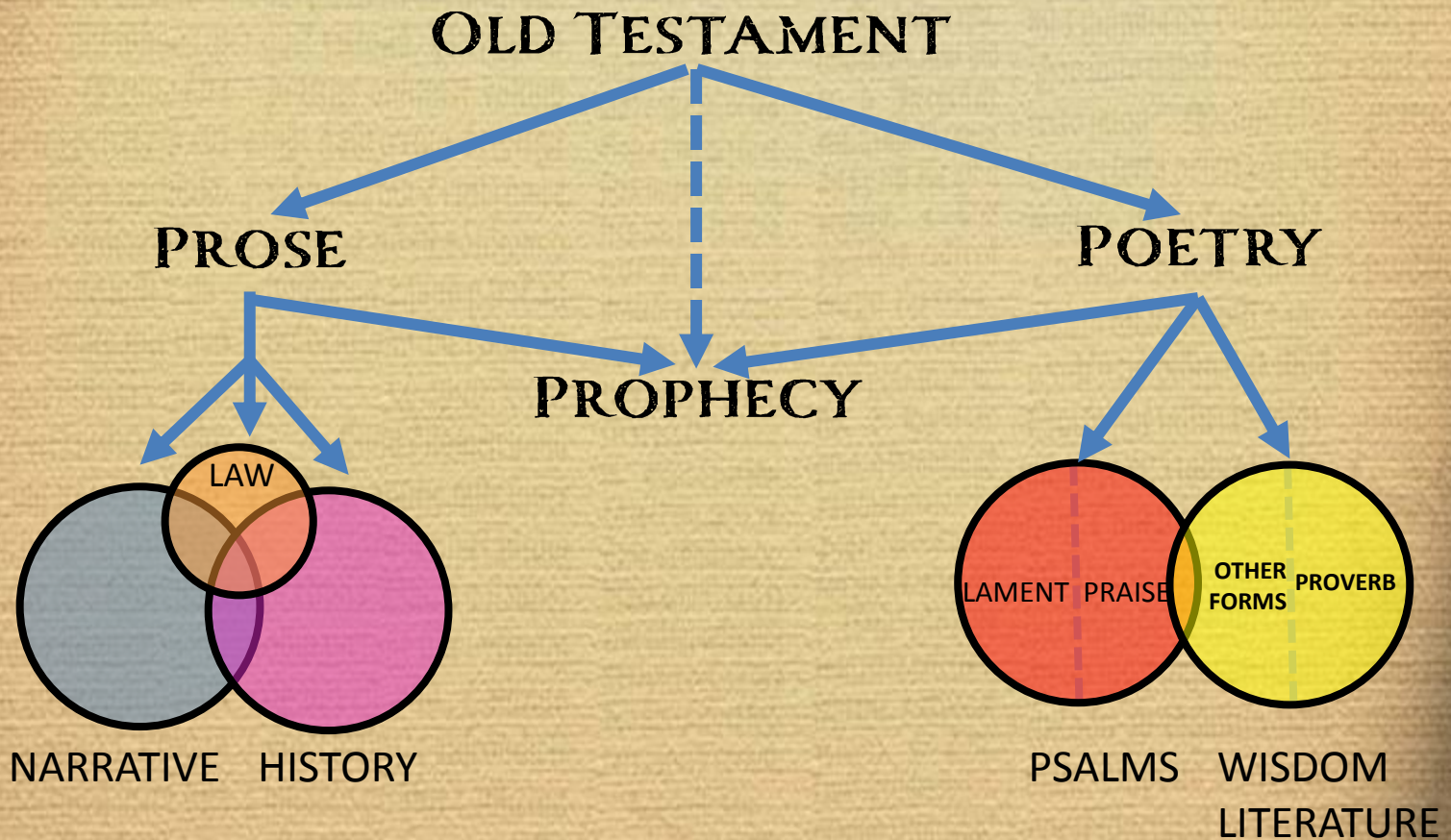
FORMS OF OLD TESTAMENT GENRE



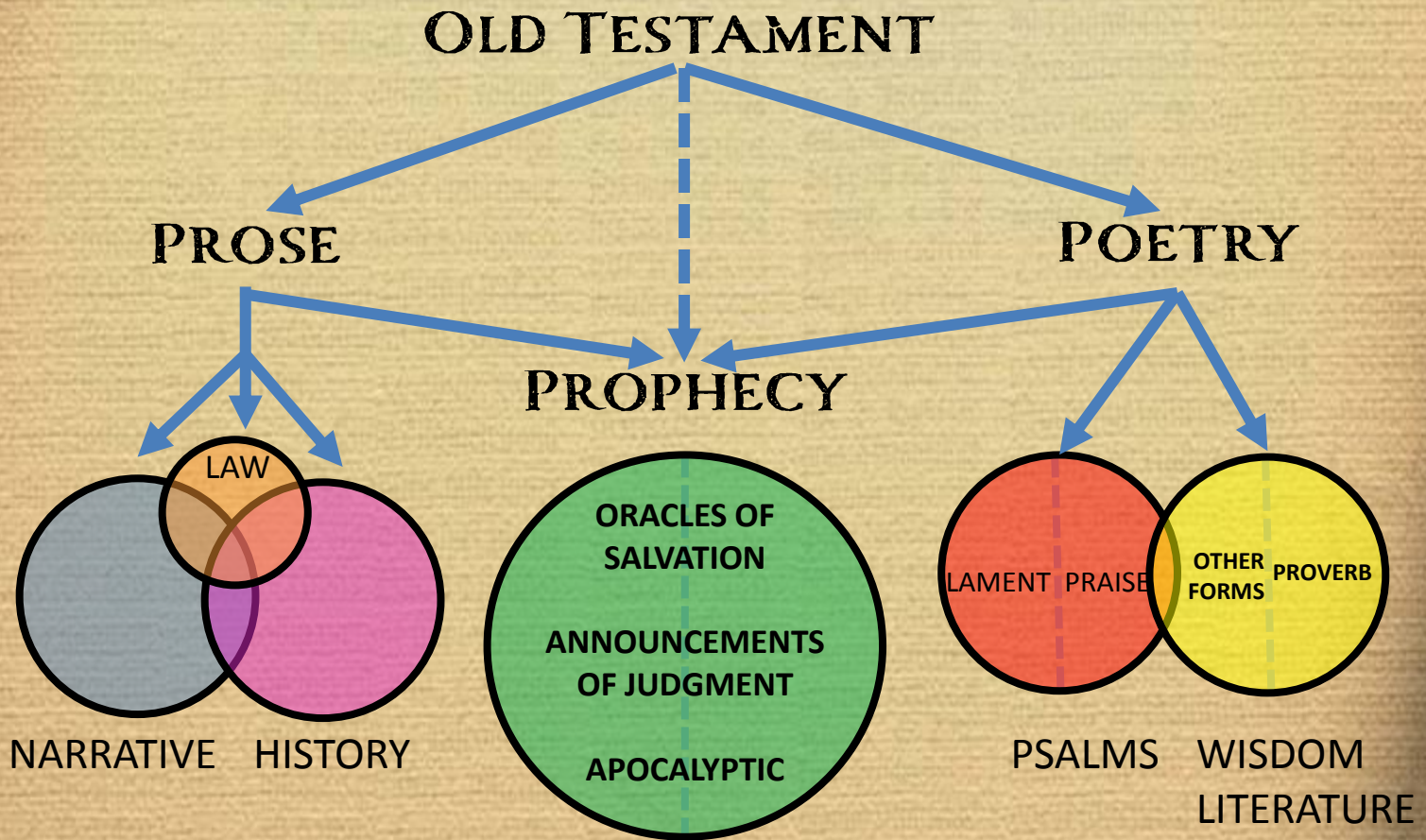
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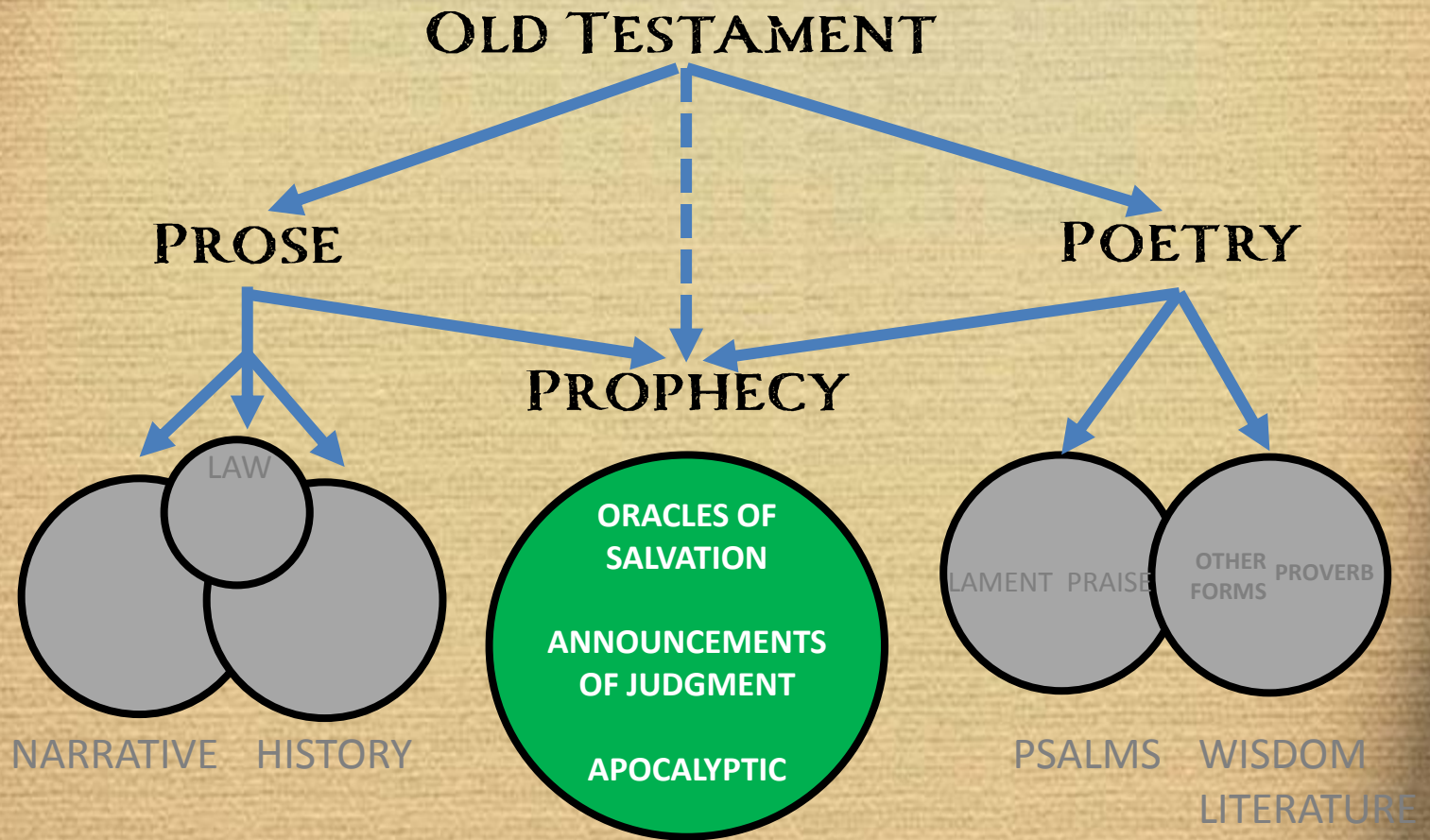
FORMS OF OLD TESTAMENT GENRE



FORMS OF OLD TESTAMENT GENRE



FORMS OF OLD TESTAMENT GENRE





THE GENRE OF PROPHECY



**ORACLES OF
SALVATION**





THE GENRE OF PROPHECY



**ANNOUNCEMENTS
OF JUDGMENT**





THE GENRE OF PROPHECY



APOCALYPTIC

