

Old Testament Puzzle

by David Pleacher

Determine the name of the book of the Bible for each clue listed below.

Then write the letters of that book in the 13 by 11 matrix using the following rules:

- (1) Each word makes one right-angle turn somewhere along its length.
But you must determine where each word makes this turn and in which direction.
- (2) As a guide, the starting direction (i.e., the direction of the word before its right angle turn) of each answer is indicated by the letter given after the clue number.
- (3) Words can go North, South, East, or West to start with.
For example, 1S begins on square 1 and heads South.
- (4) Each letter in the correctly completed grid appears in only one word.
- (5) Enter Song of Solomon without any spaces between the words.
- (6) No duplicate names are used. For example, there will be just one entry for 1 Kings and 2 Kings; similarly, CHRONICLES will be entered just once in spite of the fact that there are two books with that name. So, the thirty-nine books of the Old Testament will be represented by the thirty-six unique names.

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Clues:

- 1S The Ten Commandments are mentioned first in this book.
- 2S This book, containing only two chapters, consists of four sermons of this minor prophet.
- 3E This is the fifth book of the Old Testament and contains three sermons delivered by Moses.
- 4N This book is a collection of 150 poems, hymns, and prayers. Probably the most famous is the Twenty-third.
- 5W In this book, the minor prophet states, "I will bring back my exiled people Israel; they will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them."
- 6S This book presents the story of a woman and her loyalty and devotion to Naomi.
- 7W This book's principal aim is to refute the popular view that all suffering is the result of sin in the life of the sufferer. The main character is a good man who feared God and stayed away from evil, but he loses his children, his wealth, and his health.
- 8N In the first of the two books by this name, a wise king had to decide between two women as to which was the mother of a baby.
- 9W The story of David and Goliath appears in the first of two books by this name.
- 10E The opening recitative from Handel's *Messiah* is found in this book: "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem..."
- 11W In this book, the king of Persia, Cyrus, issued the decree that the people of Judah could rebuild their temple.
- 12S You will find Haman, the son of Hammedatha, in this book.
- 13S In this book, the minor prophet warns that "the Lord is slow to anger and of great might, and the Lord will by no means clear the guilty."
- 14S In this book, we read about the military man who captured thirty-one kings.
- 15N This book tells of the prophet who went naked as a way of wailing over the fate of Jerusalem.

- 16N The last verse of this book reads, “These are the commandments, which the Lord commanded Moses for the people of Israel on Mount Sinai.”
- 17N In this book, the prophet predicted, “Egypt shall become a desolation and Edom a desolate wilderness.”
- 18E Though several Old Testament prophets mention “the Day of the Lord,” only this prophet calls it the great Day of the Lord, a key theme in the book.
- 19S In this book, the prophet has a vision of four chariots driven by angels.
- 20E The first commandment, “Be fruitful and multiply,” is found in this book.
- 21N This book is the last book of prophecy in the Old Testament.
- 22W This book reports that a blue cloth was draped over the ark of the covenant.
- 23E In this book, we read about a prophet who had a vision of a valley of dry bones, brought to life when God breathed into them.
- 24N In this Old Testament book, the prophet condemns people who pile up stolen goods: “Woe to him who heaps up what is not his own.”
- 25E In this book, you will find the admonition, “Wine is a mocker, strong drink is a brawler; and whoever is led astray by it is not wise.”
- 26W The last verse of this book reads, “And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle.”
- 27S In this book, we read about Deborah, the only female judge of Israel.
- 28W The last verse of this book reads,
“Whoever is wise, let him understand these things;
whoever is discerning, let him know them;
for the ways of the Lord are right,
and the upright walk in them,
but transgressors stumble in them.”
- 29N This book tells the story of a man who was delivered from a lion’s den.
- 30S This book begins with a bride speaking of her love for her beloved, “O that you would kiss me with the kisses of your mouth! For your love is better than wine...”
- 31N Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem laughed at this political leader’s plan to rebuild Jerusalem.

- 32E This book asks if a leopard can change his spots.
- 33W The Byrds sang a popular song, “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven; a time to be born, and a time to die ...” which is taken from this book of the Old Testament.
- 34N This Old Testament prophet (and book) has come to be a common nickname for a Quaker.
- 35E This book states, “our dancing has been turned to mourning.”
- 36W In this book, we learn that the Philistines fastened the head of Israel’s king, Saul, in the temple of Dagon after they had defeated him in battle.