Introduction

Sumerian, Akkadian, and Egyptian Literatures

The Pyramid Texts (funeral poems) (Egypt) (2464-2355 B.C.)

Enheduanna (poems) (Sumer) (c. 2300 B.C.)

from The Epic of Gilgamesh (epic poem) (Babylonia) (c. 2000 B.C.)

Adapa: The Man (myth) (Babylonia) (2nd millennium B.C.)

The Shipwrecked Sailor (story) (Egypt) (c. 2040-1650 B.C.)

Tale of the Doomed Prince (story) (Egypt) (c. 2040-1650 B.C.)

The Book of the Dead (spells) (Egypt) (c. 1500 B.C.)

Ancient Egyptian Love Poems (poems) (Egypt) (1554-1085 B.C.)


Introduction

The Old Testament (11th century to 1st century B.C.) Israel

Genesis

Job

Songs of David (Psalms)

Ecclesiastes, or the Preacher

The Song of Songs

Isaiah

Daniel

Jewish Apocrypha

New Testament (55-100)

Matthew (gospel) (Israel or Syrian Antioch) (A.D. 80-110)

Mark (gospel) (Israel, Syria, Alexandria, or Rome?) (after A.D. 70)

Luke (gospel) (Place of composition unknown) (A.D. 80-85)

John (gospel) (Ephesus?) (between A.D. 80-120)

Paul (letter) (Tarsus/Jerusalem) (A.D. 5 to A.D. mid-60s)

Revelation (Ephesus or Patmos?) (apocalypse) (100?)

Intertestament: Jewish Pseudepigrapha, Dead Sea Scrolls, Jewish-Christian Odes, Gnostic Scriptures (2nd Century B.C. to 3rd Century A.D.)

The Book of Jubilees (Israel/Alexandria) (2nd century B.C.)

The Thanksgiving Psalms (Dead Sea Scrolls) (Israel) (1st century A.D.)

Introduction to Gnosticism

The Gospel of Thomas (prophecies, proverbs, and parables of Jesus) (Syria, Palestine, or Mesopotamia) (c. A.D. 200)

The Odes of Solomon (Syria?) (2nd century)

The Hymn of the Pearl (narrative poem) (Syria?) (2nd or 3rd century)

On the Origin of the World (Gnostic genesis) (Greek/Coptic Egypt) (3rd century)

Neoplatonism

Plotinus (Neoplatonic philosophy) (Alexandria, Egypt) (205-270)

Early Arabic Literature

Al-Khansa (poems) (Arabia) (575-646)
Muallaqat (The Suspended Odes) (Arabia) (6th-early 7th centuries)
The Quran (Arabia) (7th century)
Rabia the Mystic (poems and miracle story) (Iraq) (712-801)
Abu Nuwas (poem) (Persia/Baghdad) (between 747-762, d. between 813-815)
The Thousand and One Nights (tales) (Baghdad, Iraq) (c. 9th-14th centuries)
Usamah Ibn Munqidh (memoir) (Syria) (1095-1188)
Poems of Arab Andalusia
Introduction (711-1492)
Ibn Shuhayd (Cordoba) (992-1034)
Ibn Hazm (Cordoba) (994-1064)
Solomon Ben Gabirol (Hebrew) (Miaga) (c.1021-1022-c.1055)
Ibn Ammar (Sevilla) (1030-1083)
Ibn Burd (Cordoba) (d. 1053)
Judah Halevi (Hebrew) (c. 1075-1141)
Abu l-Hasan Al-Hursi (Eastern Andalusia) (d. 1095)
Ibn Abi l-Haytham (uncertain period)
Ibn Iyad (Central Andalusia) (1083-1149)
Abu l-Hasan Ibn Al-Qabturnuh (Badajoz) (d. 1134)
Abu l-Qasim al-Manisi (Sevilla) (12th century)
Persian Literature
Ferdowsi (epic poem) (Persia) (c. 940-1020)
Omar Khayyam (poems) (Persia) (c.1048-1131)
Attar (Farid Ad-Din Attar) (poems) (Persia) (c.1120-1220)
Rumi (poems) (Persia/Turkey) (1207-1273)
Sadi (prose and poems) (Persia) (1184-1292)
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