Contents

CHAPTER		PAGE
	A Beginning Word	5
1.	Some Beginning Questions What Is the Old Testament?—How Can a Reader Make Sense out of the Old Testament?—What Does Inspiration of the Old Testament Mean?—Are the Text and History of the Old Testament Reliable?—What Books Belong to the Old Testament?—How Does the Old Testament Relate to the New Testament? Part 1—The Story of the Old Testament	7
2.	Early Beginnings	27
3.	The Patriarchs	44
4.	Bondage and Exodus	50
5.	The Wilderness Wanderings	56
6.	The Conquest	74
7.	The Judges	80
8.	The United Monarchy	93
9.	The Divided Kingdom	109
10.	The Restoration	127

Part 2—The Prophets of the Old Testament		
11.	Introduction	135
12.	Prophets of the Assyrian Period	138
13.	Prophets of the Babylonian Period	151
14.	Prophets of the Persian Period	166
	Part 3—The Poets of the Old Testament	
15.	The Poets of the Old Testament	175
	Books for Further Study	190