



Nazarene Theological Seminary

1700 E Meyer Blvd • Kansas City, MO 64131 • 816/268-5400

BIB850 — Intertestamental Period - Module Spring 2012

Essential Information

Please refer to the following resources for information essential for the successful completion of courses and degree programs at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Links to these resources are available in the Essential Information section at <http://support.nts.edu>.

- NTS Mission Statement & Purpose Degree Objectives
- Tips for online learning success
- NTS library services
- NTS textbook information
- Online technical requirements and Moodle support information
- NTS Student Handbook including statements on quality of work, plagiarism, and academic probation
- *Handbook for Inclusive Language*

Instructor Information

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Office Hours: By appointment

Catalog Description

A survey of the history and literature of the intertestamental period with the aim of understanding more adequately the background and setting of significant New Testament Ideas and institutions.

Course Narrative & Rationale

A fundamental assumption of at least the past two hundred years of biblical study is that knowledge of the historical context of the biblical passage plays an important role in correctly interpreting that passage. For most ministers and most Christians the largest vacuum of knowledge of historical context is the ignorance of the Intertestamental Period. This term itself is problematic in that it assumes the existence of the Christian canon of Scripture which had not completely developed in the period under consideration. The most favored alternative designation is Second Temple Judaism which comes closer to defining the period being studied

and makes clear that Judaism is the religious/ethnic milieu that more precisely defines the subject of this class.

The subject matter of the class will be the historical, literary, theological, and religious institutional context of the Judaisms from the beginning of the Persian period, c. 538 B.C., through the end of the so-called Second Jewish War concluding c. A.D. 135. Though such a study is of considerable importance and interest in itself, the context of this class as part of the curriculum of a Christian seminary means that the study will be pursued with an eye toward its contribution to the understanding of the origins of Christianity.

Degree Objectives

This course addresses the following NTS Degree Program Objectives:

- MDiv Objective 2, “Articulation of the knowledge of God through prayerful, scholarly study and a deepening understanding of the Christian Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, exhibited in the following outcomes; the student will: b. Use scholarly methods for understanding Scripture, c. Identify key theological themes as they arise from Scripture, d. Identify and relate literary and theological emphases of Scripture, e. Understand the formative power of Scripture in shaping corporate and personal Christian life, f. Appropriate Scripture to personal and corporate life both in and beyond the church.”
- MACE Objective 1, “Appropriate and enhance the student’s ecclesial understanding of the Word of God, the heritage of the faith, the doctrines of the church, and the fellowship of believers, sufficient to enable him or her to deepen a personal commitment to God and the Church and to inform a passionate, vital, and redemptive ministry.
- MAICS Objective 4, “Graduates will articulate, communicate, and contextualize the essential affirmations of the Christian faith in a cross-cultural setting.
- MA(TS) General Academic Track Objective 1, “Students will develop a comprehensive knowledge of the major theological disciplines and their interrelationships.

Course Outcomes

By the conclusion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Identify the major events in and describe the flow of Jewish history from 538 B.C. through A.D. 135, (To be accomplished by Course Requirements 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, and 17)
2. Describe the leading theological concepts that appear in the major collections of Jewish writings of the period, including the Apocrypha, the Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, the Dead Sea Scrolls, Josephus and Philo, and rabbinic interpretations of the *Torah*, (To be accomplished by Course Requirements 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, and 17)
3. Demonstrate familiarity with significant examples of Jewish wisdom literature, testaments, and apocalyptic literature of the period, (To be accomplished by Course Requirements 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 17)
4. Describe the ways in which Judaism worshipped during the period, (To be accomplished by Course Requirements 2, 3, 10, 11, 14, and 17)
5. Distinguish between the various expressions of Judaism in the period, (To be accomplished by Course Requirements 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 16, and 17) and
6. Articulate the value of the study of Second Temple Judaism for the interpretation of the Christian Bible. (To be accomplished by Course Requirements 10 and 17)

Required Texts & Course Materials

- **The New Oxford Annotated Apocrypha: New Revised Standard Version*. Fully Revised Fourth Edition. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2010. ISBN 978-0-1952-8961-9
- Charlesworth, James H. ed. *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha*, Vol. 1. *Apocalyptic Literature & Testaments*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2010. ISBN 978-1-5985-6491-4
- Nickelsburg, George W.E. *Jewish Literature Between the Bible and the Mishnah*. Second Edition. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2005. ISBN 978-0-8006-3779-8
- Vanderkam, James C. *An Introduction to Early Judaism*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2000. ISBN 978-0-8028-4641-9
- Vermes, Geza. *The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls in English*. New York, NY: Penguin Books, 2004. ISBN 978-0-1404-4952-5
- *Other editions of the Apocrypha may be used, including those bound in the same volume as the Old and New Testaments. Be sure the edition you use has “The Prayer of Manasseh,” “3 Maccabees,” “4 Maccabees,” and “Psalm 151.”

Recommended Texts & Course Materials

- Charlesworth, James H. ed. *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha*, Vol. 2. *Expansions of the “Old Testament” and Legends, Wisdom and Philosophical Literature, Prayers, Psalms and Odes, Fragments of Lost Judeo-Hellenistic Works*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2010. ISBN 978-1-5985-6490-7 (One may purchase both volumes of Charlesworth’s *Old Testament Pseudepigrapha* together and save at least \$10.00. The ISBN for the 2 vol. set is 978-1-5985-6489-1

Course Outline

Pre- and Post-Module work will be devoted to reading, the development of a Reading Journal and two other written assignments.

Module Sessions:

Day/Date	5:30-6:30	6:30-7:30	7:45-8:45	8:45-9:45
Monday Jan. 23	Review Syllabus Bibliography	Review of Literary Genre	Review of History	Review of History
Tuesday Jan. 24	Review of History	Ezra, Nehemiah, Malachi	The Development of the Septuagint – Review <i>The Letter of Aristeas</i>	Character of the Septuagint
Weds. Jan. 25	Esther, Daniel, Tobit	“Re-writing of Scripture” – Jubilees, Pseudo- Philo, Genesis Apocryphon	Joseph & Asenath The Targums	Reading the Targums
Thurs.	The Development	Wisdom	Apocalyptic	Review of 1

Jan. 26	of the Old Testament canon	Literature – Review of Sirach and Wisdom of Solomon		Literature	Enoch
Friday Jan. 27	Review of IV Ezra	Review of 2 Baruch		Reading Testaments	Institutions of Judaism: Temple
Monday Jan. 30	Institutions of Judaism: Synagogue Read VanderKam, pp. 175-217	Practices of Judaism: The Study of <i>Torah</i>		Practices of Judaism: Worship	Practices of Judaism: Worship
Tuesday Jan. 31	Sects of Judaism: The Sadducees	Sects of Judaism: The Pharisees		Sects of Judaism: The Essenes	The Dead Sea Scrolls
Weds. Feb. 1	The Dead Sea Scrolls	Sects of Judaism: The Nazarenes		Hellenistic Judaism and Philo	Rabbinic Judaism after A.D. 70
Thurs. Feb. 2	The “Jewish” View of Humankind Read <i>The Life of Adam and Eve</i>	The “Jewish” View of Sin		The “Jewish” view of the Messiah	Summation and preparation for post-module work

Course Assignments & Requirements

Pre-Module Assignments

1. Autobiographical Statement – By 11:55 p.m. Saturday, December 17, post a 250 word autobiographical statement in the Autobiographical Forum for Week 1 of this course on Moodle. As you have time read the posts of other class members and reply as you wish.
2. During Week 1 read the Old Testament books of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Malachi and enter your notes in your reading journal. (Addresses Course Outcomes 1 and 4)
3. **Reading Journal** – For each of the assigned readings you should develop an entry in your reading journal. The entry should identify the title of the work read, the author if it is a modern work or known (do not list the names of pseudepigraphal works as authors), the pages read, if you read from a paginated source, and then observations on the following:
 - A. Evidence providing historical information about the work or the time in which it was written.
 - B. Evidence pointing toward Jewish practices of worship. This would include information about the temple, about the synagogue, about the sacrificial system, about Sabbath observance, and any other religious observances.
 - C. Evidence indicating the posture of the work regarding the Law.

D. Evidence regarding leadership within the Jewish community. This would include information regarding priests as leaders, Sadducees, Pharisees, and other religious groups attempting to provide leadership to the Jewish people. Expectations of a Messiah or other similar leader should be mentioned.

E. Evidence regarding the posture of the work regarding the end of time or the future (e.g. Eschatology).

F. Evidence regarding the view of angels, demons, and other spiritual forces

G. Information regarding the view of Sin and/or Salvation in the work.

H. Perceptions of the view of Scripture taken in your work.

Not every work you read will provide information for all these categories, but you should be looking for these subjects as you read and noting what the work you are reading says or implies about these subjects. For most weeks you should have a minimum of 250 words in your reading journal, but many weeks will require a more detailed response. (Addresses Course Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5)

4. During Week 2 read VanderKam, pp. 1-173 and 1 Maccabees from the NOANRSV and enter your notes in your reading journal. (Addresses Course Outcomes 1 and 5)

5. During Week 3 read Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*, Preface and Books 15-20 and enter your notes in your reading journal. You may purchase or check out an edition of Josephus' *Works* or you may access his writings at www.earlyjewishwritings.com. (Addresses Course Outcome 1)

6. **Important Historical Events Chart** - Based on the reading you have done thus far for this course, create a chart showing the major time frames from 587 B.C. to A.D. 200 and list with probable dates the most important events that took place in each time frame. Your Important Historical Events chart will be due to be uploaded to the appropriate Moodle link by 11:55 p.m. on January 2. (Addresses Course Outcome 1)

7. During Week 4 read Nickelsburg, pp. 8-88; *Tobit*, the *Additions to Esther*, *Baruch*, the *Letter of Jeremiah*, and the *Additions to Daniel* (Prayer of Azariah, Susanna, Bel and the Dragon) from the NOANRSV; *I Enoch* (Chapters 1-90) in OTP Vol. 1, pp. 13-72; *The Letter of Aristeas* (OTP Vol. 2, pp. 12-34), and *Jubilees* (OTP Vol. 2, pp. 52-142), and enter your notes in your reading journal. *The Letter of Aristeas* and *Jubilees* may also be found in the Pseudepigrapha section at www.earlyjewishwritings.com. (Addresses Course Outcomes 2, 3, and 5)

8. During Week 5 read Nickelsburg, pp. 91-181; *Sirach*, *Judith*, and *2 Maccabees* from NOANRSV; *I Enoch 91-108* from OTP, pp. 72-89; and pp. 98-188 from Vermes (including the *The Community Rule*, the *Damascus Document*, *The Messianic Rule*, and *The War Scroll*) and enter your notes in your reading journal. (Addresses Course Outcomes 2,3, and 5)

9. During Week 6 read Nickelsburg, pp. 191-296; *The Wisdom of Solomon*, *3 Maccabees*, *4 Maccabees* from NOANRSV; *2 Enoch* (OTP, pp. 102-212), *The Sibylline Oracles Books 1-3*(OTP,

pp. 335-380) and *The Testament of Moses* (OTP, pp. 927-934); and enter your notes in your reading journal. In your reading journal this week include observations regarding the Wisdom literature you have read this week and last week. (Addresses Course Outcomes 2, 3, and 5)

Module Assignments

10. Attend all class sessions, participating in the discussions, and entering pertinent material from the lectures and discussion in your reading journal. (Addresses Course Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

11. Before class on Wednesday, January 25, review your notes on Jubilees; read Pseudo-Philo, Chapters 1-24 (OTP, Vol. 2, pp. 304-334, or www.earlyjewishwritings.com/pseudophilo.html ; *Joseph and Asenath* (OTP Vol. 2, pp.202-247, or www.earlyjewishwritings.com) and the Genesis Apocryphon (Vermes, pp. 481-491) and enter your notes in your reading journal.

Before class on Friday, January 27, read *IV Ezra* (OTP, pp. 525-559) and *2 Baruch* (OTP, pp. 621-652) and enter your notes in your reading journal.

Before class on Monday, January 30, read VanderKam, pp. 175-217 and enter your notes in your reading journal.

Before class on Thursday, February 2, read *The Life of Adam and Eve* (OTP Vol. 2, pp. 259-295) or <http://wesley.nnu.edu/sermons-essays-books/noncanonical-literature/noncanonical-literature-ot-pseudepigrapha/the-books-of-adam-and-eve/> (Addresses Course Outcomes 2, 4, and 5)

Post - Module Assignments

12. During Week 10 read *The Testament of the 12 Patriarchs* (OTP, pp. 782-828); *The Testament of the 3 Patriarchs* (OTP, pp. 882-918); *The Testament of Job* (OTP, pp. 839-868); *The Testaments of Moses, Solomon, and Adam* (OTP, pp. 919-995) and enter your notes in your reading journal. (Addresses Course Outcomes 2 and 3)

13. During Week 11 read *3 Enoch* (OTP, pp. 255-315); *3 Baruch* (both Slavonic and Greek, OTP, pp. 662-679; the *Apocalypses of Abraham, Adam, and Elijah* (OTP, pp. 689-705, 712-719, 735-753); *Bible Interpretation in the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Vermes, pp. 461-536) and enter your notes in your reading journal. (Addresses Course Outcomes 2, 3, and 5)

14. During Week 12 read *The Prayer of Manasseh*, *Psalm 151*, *3 and 4 Maccabees* from NOANRSV; *The Pirke Aboth*, *The Psalms of Solomon* (OTP Vol. 2, pp. 651-670); *The Odes of Solomon* (OTP Vol. 2, pp.735-771); *The Thanksgiving Hymns* (Vermes, pp. 249-306); and *Wisdom Literature in the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Vermes, pp. 417-457) and enter your notes in your reading journal. (Addresses Course Outcomes 2 and 4)

15. During Week 13 read Tractates, *Shabbath, Erubin, Yoma, Sukkah, Ketuboth, Nedarim, Sotah*, and *Gittin* from the Mishnah (available at emishnah.com) and *The Decalogue, The Special Laws I*, and *The Special Laws II* from Philo (available at <http://www.earlyjewishwritings.com/philo.html>) and enter your notes in your reading journal. Also in your reading journal compare and contrast the ways in which the Mishnah and Philo interpret the *Torah*. (Addresses Course Outcomes 2 and 5)

16. **Essay on the Value of Studying 2nd Temple Judaism for Understanding the Christian Bible** – By 11:55 p.m. on Thursday, March 15, an essay of approximately 1500 words describing the value of studying the Intertestamental Period for Understanding the Christian Bible will be due. You may use secondary sources if you wish, but be sure to properly cite them if you do. If you wish to compose this as entirely original essay based on what you learned in this class that would be quite acceptable. (Addresses Course Outcome 6)

17. **Reading Journal** – By 11:55 p.m. on Thursday, March 15, your entire Reading Journal with all the notes you have taken from the readings listed above will be due. (Addresses Course Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5)

18. **Participation in the class evaluation** for NTS assessment purposes is also required. Your participation is secure and private, but you will not be able to submit the final essay and your Reading Journal until you have completed the course evaluation.

Distribution of Student Learning Hours

	pre-module hours	module hours	post-module hours
Face-to-face Class Sessions		38	
Online Participation in forums, groups, etc.	1		0
Reading	50	8	39
Writing	6	2	10
Other Assignments and Learning Activities	3	0	0
Exams & Quizzes	0	0	0
TOTAL	60	47	49

Method for Submitting Assignments

All written assignments are to be submitted via the appropriate link on the Moodle site for this course.

Form and Style Expectations

The Final Essay should be presented using the form and style of Turabian. Your Reading Journal should cite information in a way that you can most quickly find it again for yourself.

Inclusive Language

NTS is committed to the equality of women and men. Recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, NTS urges students, faculty, and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in classroom discussions, and in their writings. All written work presented to meet course requirements must use gender inclusive language.

Policy Regarding Late Work & Missed Exams

The grade of written work may be reduced by up to 10% per day late.

Additional Costs

Assuming you are will to read on line there are no additional costs for this course beyond regular tuition, fees, and the published textbooks. Should you not be willing or able to read online you will need access to printed copies of items listed in the reading assignments as found in OTP Vol. 2, selected materials from Josephus and Philo, and the Mishnah. You may check these items out of some libraries or purchase them if you wish.

Course Grading

The instructor will assign numerical grades (between 0 and 100) to the work required. The final grade will be calculated using the following percentage weighting:

Important Historical Events Chart	15%
Class Participation (Including Autobiography)	25%
Reading Journal	40%
Final Essay on Value of Studying Intertestamental	20%

In accordance with the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, NTS is committed to providing students with disabilities the opportunity to participate and benefit from its programs and activities. Accordingly, NTS will make reasonable modifications to its programs and activities to accommodate otherwise qualified students with disabilities, unless such modifications would impose an undue burden on the operation of the particular program or activity or would fundamentally alter the nature or purpose of the program or activity. Students needing accommodations should contact the Office of the Registrar. They also should contact the instructor no later than the end of the first class session to discuss learning needs and adaptive strategies that have been beneficial for the student in the past.

Class Attendance

Attendance at classes is essential for realizing the maximum benefit of your education. A significant portion of your grade will be determined by your participation in class discussion of the assigned readings. Your absences will significantly reduce your participation grade.

If you must be absent because of extenuating circumstances, contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss the situation.

If a student is absent for 9 hrs of a two week module or is absent (does not participate) four or more weeks of assigned participation in the pre/post module, the professor may automatically fail the student.

Daily attendance records must be reported for those obtaining V.A. and Department of Education benefits. Students must make the professor aware if their attendance must be recorded.

Course Calendar

Dates	Week	Course Activities/Assignments
12/12-12/18	1	Read the Old Testament books of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Malachi and enter your notes in your reading journal By 11:55 p.m., Saturday, December 17, post a 250 word autobiographical statement.
12/19-12/25	2	Read VanderKam, pp. 1-173 and 1 Maccabees from the NOANRSV and enter your notes in your reading journal
12/26-1/1	3	Read Josephus, <i>Antiquities of the Jews</i> , Preface and Books 15-20 and enter your notes in your reading journal. You may purchase or check out an edition of Josephus' <i>Works</i> or you may access his writings at www.earlyjewishwritings.com . Based on the reading you have done thus far for this course, create a chart showing the major time frames from 587 B.C. to A.D. 200 and list with probable dates the most important events that took place in each time frame. Your Important Historical Events chart will be due to be uploaded to the appropriate Moodle link by 11:55 p.m. on January 2.
1/2-1/8	4	Read Nickelsburg, pp. 8-88; <i>Tobit</i> , the <i>Additions to Esther</i> , <i>Baruch</i> , the <i>Letter of Jeremiah</i> , and the <i>Additions to Daniel</i> (Prayer of Azariah, Susanna, Bel and the Dragon) from the NOANRSV; <i>I Enoch</i> (Chapters 1-90) in OTP Vol. 1, pp. 13-72; <i>The Letter of Aristeas</i> (OTP Vol. 2, pp. 12-34), and <i>Jubilees</i> (OTP Vol. 2, pp. 52-142) , and enter your notes in your reading journal. <i>The Letter of Aristeas</i> and <i>Jubilees</i> may also be found

		in the Pseudepigrapha section at www.earlyjewishwritings.com .
1/9-1/15	5	Read Nickelsburg, pp. 91-181; <i>Sirach</i> , <i>Judith</i> , and <i>2 Maccabees</i> from NOANRSV; <i>I Enoch 91-108</i> from OTP, pp. 72-89; and pp. 98-188 from Vermes (including the <i>The Community Rule</i> , <i>the Damascus Document</i> , <i>The Messianic Rule</i> , and <i>The War Scroll</i>) and enter your notes in your reading journal.
1/16-1/22	6	Read Nickelsburg, pp. 191-296; <i>The Wisdom of Solomon</i> , <i>3 Maccabees</i> , <i>4 Maccabees</i> from NOANRSV; <i>2 Enoch</i> (OTP, pp. 102-212), <i>The Sibylline Oracles Books 1-3</i> (OTP, pp. 335-380) and <i>The Testament of Moses</i> (OTP, pp. 927-934); and enter your notes in your reading journal. In your reading journal this week include observations regarding the Wisdom literature you have read this week and last week.
1/23-1/29	7	Module Sessions Before Weds, 1/25, review your notes on Jubilees; read Pseudo-Philo, Chapters 1-24 (OTP, Vol. 2, pp. 304-334, or www.earlyjewishwritings.com/pseudophilo.html); and the Genesis Apocryphon (Vermes, pp. 481-491) and enter your notes in your reading journal. Before class on Friday, January 27, read <i>IV Ezra</i> (OTP, pp. 525-559) and <i>2 Baruch</i> (OTP, pp. 621-652) and enter your notes in your reading journal.
1/30-2/5	8	Module Sessions Before class on Monday, January 30, read VanderKam, pp. 175-217 and enter your notes in your reading journal. Before class on Thursday, February 2, read <i>The Life of Adam and Eve</i> (OTP Vol. 2, pp. 259-295) or http://wesley.nnu.edu/sermons-essays-books/noncanonical-literature/noncanonical-literature-ot-pseudepigrapha/the-books-of-adam-and-eve/ .
2/6-2/12	9	Reading and Research Week – no assignments due
2/13-2/19	10	Read <i>The Testament of the 12 Patriarchs</i> (OTP, pp. 782-828); <i>The Testament of the 3 Patriarchs</i> (OTP, pp. 882-918); <i>The Testament of Job</i> (OTP, pp. 839-868); <i>The Testaments of Moses, Solomon, and Adam</i> (OTP, pp. 919-995) and enter your notes in your reading journal.

2/20-2/26	11	Read <i>3 Enoch</i> (OTP, pp. 255-315); <i>3 Baruch</i> (both Slavonic and Greek, OTP, pp. 662-679); the <i>Apocalypses of Abraham, Adam, and Elijah</i> (OTP, pp. 689-705, 712-719, 735-753); Bible Interpretation in the Dead Sea Scrolls (Vermes, pp. 461-536) and enter your notes in your reading journal.
2/27-3/4	12	Read <i>The Prayer of Manasseh</i> , <i>Psalms 151</i> , 3 and 4 Maccabees from NOANRSV; <i>The Pirke Aboth</i> , <i>The Psalms of Solomon</i> (OTP Vol. 2, pp. 651-670); <i>The Odes of Solomon</i> (OTP Vol. 2, pp.735-771); <i>The Thanksgiving Hymns</i> (Vermes, pp. 249-306); and Wisdom Literature in the Dead Sea Scrolls (Vermes, pp. 417-457) and enter your notes in your reading journal.
3/5-3/11	13	Read Tractates, <i>Shabbath</i> , <i>Erubin</i> , <i>Yoma</i> , <i>Sukkah</i> , <i>Ketuboth</i> , <i>Nedarim</i> , <i>Sotah</i> , and <i>Gittin</i> from the Mishnah (available at emishnah.com) and <i>The Decalogue</i> , <i>The Special Laws I</i> , and <i>The Special Laws II</i> from Philo (available at http://www.earlyjewishwritings.com/philo.html) and enter your notes in your reading journal. Also in your reading journal compare and contrast the ways in which the Mishnah and Philo interpret the <i>Torah</i> .
3/12-3/16	14	Reading Journal – By 11:55 p.m. on Thursday, March 15, your entire Reading Journal with all the notes you have taken from the readings listed above will be due. Essay on the Value of Studying 2 nd Temple Judaism for Understanding the Christian Bible – By 11:55 p.m. on Thursday, March 15, an essay of approximately 1500 words describing the value of studying the Intertestamental Period for Understanding the Christian Bible will be due. You may use secondary sources if you wish, but be sure to properly cite them if you do. If you wish to compose this as entirely original essay based on what you learned in this class that would be quite acceptable.

Bibliography

Texts and Translations

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History, Literature, and Theology

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