

Memorization of the books of the O.T. has found in the Hebrew Bible. Now the paper which you wrote about what the O. T. claims for itself and the new paper is what ~~is~~ ^{is} the New Testament attitude towards the O.T. We have noticed that in the Maccabean time that they recognized that there was no prophet then. Note I. Macc. 4:46. Now turn over to ch. 9:27--there is a description of a terrible tribulation that came to the Jews after the events described in ch. 4 such as was not since there was a prophet seen in Israel. That shows us that at that time they didn't consider that there were in prophets among them or hadn't been one there for some time. Now look at ch. 14:41--there is a similar expression used there, though the troubles are pretty well over. Now since the two Maccabbe brothers have died, there seems to be a time when the Jews are finding things just a little bit easier--they had just about won their freedom and had even written to Rome for her to help them out. Now the Jews are wondering what kind of organization they shall have and who shall be their ruler--so we read in v. 41, that Simeon Macc. would be their priest forever until there should arise a faithful prophet--the Jews didn't know what to do; they didn't know whether to wait for a king in the line of David or maybe they could have a democratic control--in other words they thought in themselves that they had no reason to expect God to send them a prophet. That is we have no reason that God

will send us a prophet. They would have one of the Maccabean rulers rule them until the Lord sent along His true prophet and when He came along, they naturally would then make the change. These three references in the books of Maccabees, which is not an inspired book, but it is a book of history and a reliable book of history, and a book of history usually is most useful in the little incidental things where it simply shows you the background and helps in understanding the viewpoint of the people at that time. The people didn't think that there was a prophet in their midst. That fits in with the statement of Josephus that the books of the O.T. canon were written up to the time of King Artaxerxes. Of course there are some who would argue that some of these books such as Kings, Daniel, etc. Now conservatives don't believe that any of these books were written after the time of Ezra. There has been recent archeological evidence to show that Chronicles is earlier than at first supposed. ILL. of asking how many were in states of the union--in the north they would count everyone but in the south they would skip the slaves, that is when it came to lifting taxes but if it came to having representatives in Congress there would be quite a different figure.