

sections of division in the Pentateuch. In the Pent. it was very early divided into sections for study and they divided the Pent. into these divisions which they called Parashas. There are a great many of these divisions and sometimes it is not particularly important and where that division took place they went right on in the same line with the next verse. But sometimes a division comes at a real division of thought, they don't finish out the line but start a new one. They call these divisions differently _____ those divisions which were filled out to the end of the line, but if they stopped in the middle of a line and began on the next line they called it an open division because the rest of the line was left blank. Then they decided not to waste paper in leaving the rest of the line blank so they would put in a samech ~~xxx~~ where you had a closed division and a pe where you had an open division. Then however a later division was made which was still quite early--this was one to divide the Pent. into sections and divided up so that you would read through the Pent. in a week--a certain section and divide them at the end of Parasha and they put three samechs or three pe and that is the way you will find your Heb. marked in your Pent. In the rest of the Prophets you have your Haphatroth which are divisions which are read along with divisions of the Pent. and then of course the Psalms were divided up.

2. Massoretic Notes. (Our English verses follow the Heb. and the chapter divisions of our English Bible follow the Latin. Later the chapter divisions were taken into the Heb. Bible but sometimes they changed the division, though the English is the original chapter division which was around 13th century A.D.) The purpose of these notes was preserve the original in the most exact form possible. Consequently they will say the text is so and so but read this way. You might think that they mean that it makes better sense--they probably mean that the MSS. which we had at our disposal, the minority gave this other reading but since this other reading seems to be the better reading, therefore we follow it with our reading but not in the text. That is called the Kari. The Kathive is that which is written. Those are the Massoretic notes which are in your Heb. Bible. They tell you what the middle word, how many letters in a chapter and how many times a certain word occurs etc. This was put in to make it harder for the text to be corrupted and thus the Jews used wonderful care and preserved a text for us which is most remarkable in accuracy. ~~The preservation~~

3. The Preservation of the Hebrew Text. We have noticed from proper names therein and the evidence is that the Heb. text has remarkably been preserved but it has not been preserved