Ezra and Nehemiah are a single book in the Jewish canon. Roman Catholics long associated the two, calling the second Esdras alias Nehemias in the Douay-Confraternity. Later works, e.g., the Jerusalem Bible, maintain separate identities but associate the books. Protestants treat them separately. Read More on This Topic.

Ezra and Nehemiah are a single book in the Jewish canon. Roman Catholics long associated the two, calling the second Esdras alias Nehemias in the. Alternative Title: Book of Esdras. Books of Ezra and Nehemiah, also spelled Esdras and Nehemias, two Old Testament books that together with the books of Chronicles formed a single history of Israel from the time of Adam. Ezra and Nehemiah are a single book in the Jewish canon. Roman Catholics long associated the two, calling the second Esdras alias Nehemias in the Douay-Confraternity. Later works, e.g., the Jerusalem Bible, maintain separate identities but associate the books. Protestants treat them separately. Read More on This Topic.

Biblical literature: Ezra, Nehemiah, and Chronicles The books of Ezra and Nehemiah are the only completely historical books in the third section of the Hebrew Bible, the Ketuvim (Writings). In English Bibles, they are usually split into two, with the book of Nehemiah appearing as a separate book from Ezra, but in the Hebrew tradition, they are one book, entitled Esdras, and Nehemiah is simply the second part of Ezra. In this essay, the term Ezra is used to describe the complete book. Read the books of Ezra and Nehemiah in Hebrew and English on Sefaria. Parts of Ezra are written in Aramaic, which was the common language of the Middle East at the time of Ezra. To summarize, the books of Ezra-Nehemiah offer an extreme example of a canonical process which has disregarded a strictly literary or historical sequence in order to describe the restoration as a theological model for the obedient and holy people of God. (Brevard S. Childs, Introduction to the Old Testament as Scripture, 636-37). Johnson writes, It is written to demonstrate what God has done without any necessary implications directing attention to future actions. Rather, based on the demonstration of what God has begun to fulfill, the godly reader is encouraged to anticipate a complete fulfillment of God's purposes. (Brevard S. Childs, Introduction to the Old Testament as Scripture, 636-37). Johnson writes, It is written to demonstrate what God has done without any necessary implications directing attention to future actions. Rather, based on the demonstration of what God has begun to fulfill, the godly reader is encouraged to anticipate a complete fulfillment of God's purposes. (Brevard S. Childs, Introduction to the Old Testament as Scripture, 636-37).