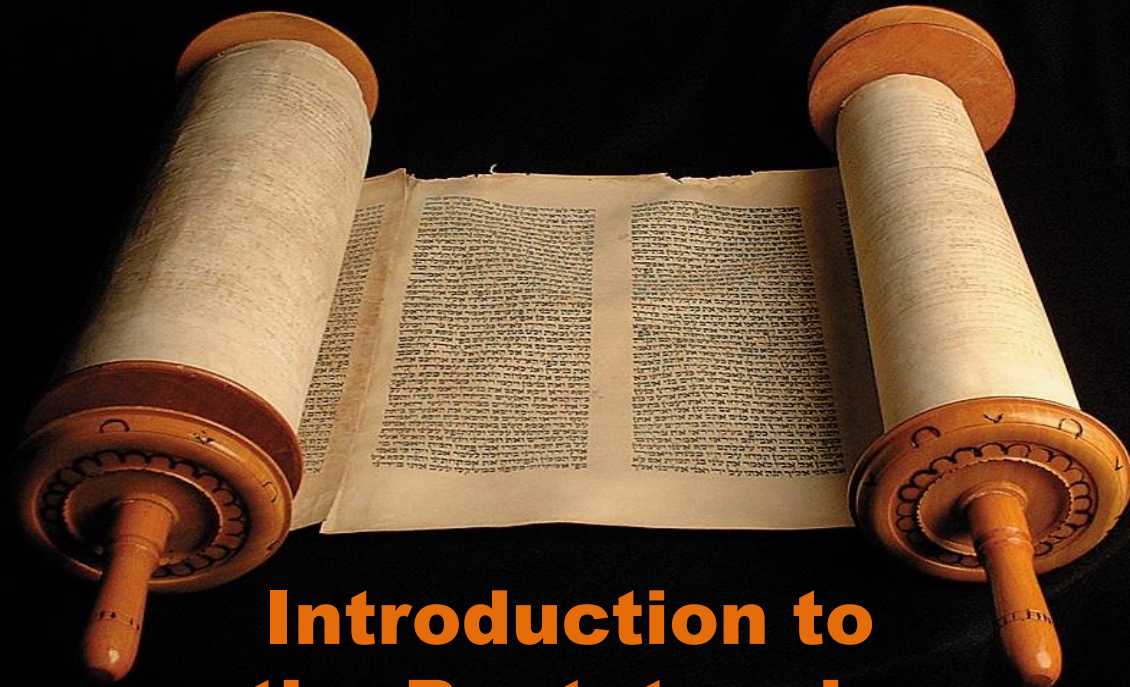


The Old Testament Chronological Books



**Introduction to
the Pentateuch**

New Class Begins!



- Are you ready for an **in-depth college** level study?
 - Fun and practical.
 - Emphasize *learning that transcends mere facts!*
 - Pray for **wisdom** to apply the knowledge (Eph 1: 18)!
- Your OT Notebook is designed for you to **take notes** and save as a life time resource.
 - Notebook paper is provided. You bring the pen!
 - Dividers are available to divide up key divisions.
- Put your **name** on it now and bring back to each class.
- Follow **schedule of class sessions** and be sure to read your handouts before class.

Today's Handouts



- The **Books of the OT** – summary.
- **Probable authors** of each book.
- **Key dates** in Bible History (Mark to refer back to later).
- **Genesis** – Importance and a memorable outline. Notice all the NT references!
- **“Jesus and Genesis”** – do you see him?

Always ask:



- Why am I being told this?
- How does it fit into the entire Bible story?
- What type-anti-types is God foreshadowing?
- How do these eternal truths affect my life?
- How can this study help to build my faith and bring me to a better understanding of God and how we are justified by faith (Gal 3:24)?
- Focus on character studies! These are *real people*. We are looking into our *family album*.
- Experience the joy of discovery! Why wrap a present? (Matt 4:11, 21-22).

*GENESIS:
THE BOOK OF BEGINNINGS!*

**The Universe
Human Race
Sin**

**Promise of Redemption
Marriage and Family
Civilization
Nations of the World
Hebrew race**

Introduction to the Pentateuch



- **What is the Pentateuch?**
- What is the Pentateuch **about?**
- What are the **themes** of the Pentateuch?
- **Who wrote** the Pentateuch?

Pentateuch: Defined



- Scholars call it **Pentateuch**: From Greek *pente* = “five” and *teuchos* = “scroll”
- Jews call it **Torah**: meaning “instruction”
- Christians call it the **Law**: Simply “the law” (Josh.1:8) or “the law of Moses” (II Ki.14:6; Lk.16:16; etc)
- It consists of the **first five books of the OT**
 - *We should not necessarily view these as five separate books*
- It spans from the beginning of time up to the conquest. ***When were they written?***

where these stories are found. These books are called the

Pentateuch

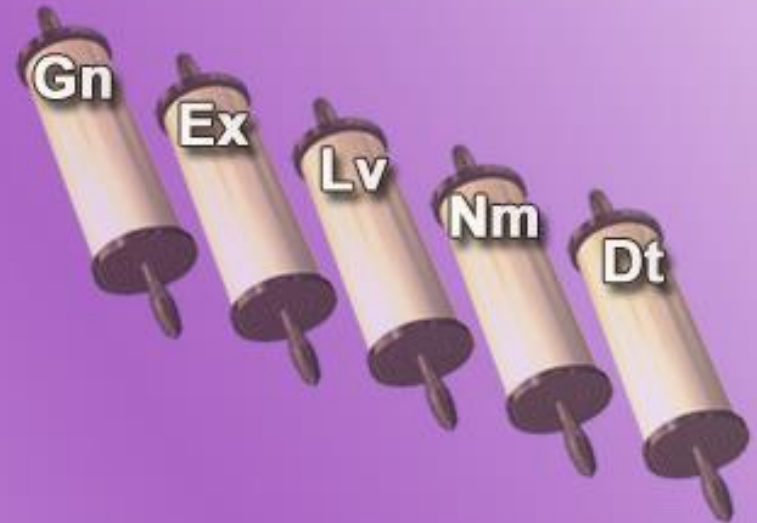
the first five books
of the Bible

pente

teuchos

[scrolls]

5



...through the society ... more ... It comes from a word for "teach" and is better

...every aspect of ... creation, and ... worse. After humankind resisted other atten

Pentateuch

the first five books
of the Bible

pente

teuchos

[scroll]

“Book of the Law of Moses”

“Book of the Law”

“the Law and the prophets”

Pentateuch



“Excluding for the moment Genesis 1-11, the story is basically one of a family that grew, by God’s grace, into His people....Together **these five books establish the historical and theological foundations for the rest of the Bible....”**

Pentateuch: Content



- **Summary:**

- It is **real history** and **true history** but not simply history (“**HIS**”**story**, Theo-history)
- This history focuses on several truths:
 - The **origin** of the nation (Gen)
 - The **deliverance** of the nation (Ex)
 - The **covenant privileges** of the nation (Gen – Ex)
 - The **covenant stipulations** for the nation (Gen – Deut)
 - The **covenant struggles** of the nation (Ex – Deut)
- This history was recorded to encourage future generations to learn from the past and be **faithful to God, & ultimately lead us to Christ!**

Pentateuch: Content



- **Genesis:**
 - **“Genesis”** comes from a Greek word meaning **“origins”**
 - Genesis describes the beginning of everything except God
 - God is the pre-existent, transcendent, intelligent First Cause
 - **Genesis 1-11** deals with the **beginning of the universe**
 - Everything God created was **“good”** 1-2
 - Man corrupted creation by sinfulness and rebellion 3-11
 - **Genesis 12-50** deals with the **beginning of Israel**
 - Abraham 12-25, Isaac 21-25, Jacob 26-36, & Joseph 37-50
 - God demonstrated covenant fidelity to the patriarchs
 - **NOTE:** Faith is a key to the sin problem

Pentateuch: Content



- **Exodus:**
 - **“Exodus”** means to “go out” or **“departure”**
 - It was a departure from slavery and homelessness
 - It was a journey to covenant freedom & a Promised Land
 - **Exodus 1:** Israel is in intense **bondage**
 - **Exodus 2-6:** God prepares a deliverer (**Moses**)
 - **Exodus 7-15:** God frees the nation (**Plagues & Red Sea**)
 - **Exodus 16-24:** God enters into covenant (**10 words**)
 - **Exodus 25-40:** God dwells among them (**Tabernacle**)
 - **NOTE:** God’s Grace is a key to the sin problem. The Exodus is to the OT what the cross/empty tomb is to the NT

Pentateuch: Content



- **Leviticus:**
 - “**Leviticus**” having to do with the sons of “**Levi**”/priests
 - A relationship with God is maintained by a thankful people who:
 - Joyously and regularly **worship**
 - Exhibit ritual and moral **purity**
 - Intensely desire to **obey** God in all things
 - Habitually maintain community by **loving their neighbor**
 - **NOTE:** ritual & and moral purity and thankful obedience are essential **responses to God’s deliverance**.
A holy life is a requisite to life with a holy God.

Pentateuch: Content



- **Numbers:**
 - Named from censuses taken of the nation 1-2, 26.
 - The Hebrew title, **“in the wilderness”**, is actually a better description of content. Israel’s infidelity causes the nation to become a wandering funeral procession for 40 years
 - 1-10 Israel prepares for their wilderness journey
 - 10-22 Israel Journeys to the plains of Moab
 - 22-25 Israel is opposed by hostile spiritual force (Balaam)
 - 26-36 Israel prepares to enter the Promised Land
 - **NOTE:** We must reclaim the world for our God

Pentateuch: Content



- Deuteronomy:
 - “Deuteronomy” means “second law”
 - It is the second giving of the law for the new generation born/surviving in the wilderness
 - It is a renewal of the covenant to the new generation born/surviving in the wilderness
 - It is covenant preparation before Holy Land inheritance
 - It is a series of farewell speeches delivered by Moses

3b



Pentateuch: Content

- **Summary**



Genesis

Beginnings



Exodus

Deliverance



Leviticus

Holiness



Numbers

Wandering



Deuteronomy

Renewal

Match each book with its description.

a book of wanderings

Genesis

beginnings of the universe

Exodus

traces Israel's salvation

Leviticus

a program for renewal

Numbers

a call for holiness

Deuteronomy

Match each book with its description.

describes God's special covenant with his people

Genesis

Israel's disobedience cost her dearly

Exodus

aims to reestablish the covenant between God and his people

Leviticus

chapters 1-11 present a problem; 12-50, a solution

Numbers

shows God's people how to maintain their relationship with him

Deuteronomy

Pentateuch: Themes

- Sovereignty of God
- Incarnational history
- Fallenness of mankind
- Salvation by grace through faith/Types of Jesus
- Responding in holy gratitude
- Living in a loving covenant
- Life in a loving community



Pentateuch: Themes

Sovereignty of God



1) Power:

Creation: (Gen.1-2) unlike any in the ANE.

- God is eternal
- God created (*ex nihilo*)
- God needed no assistance
- God created by Word (*fiat*)

Decreation: Flood (Gen.6-9), Plagues (Ex.7-15)

Judgments: Babel (Gen.11), Sodom (Gen.18-19)

2) Presence: God is Sovereign over all History

- God assured his people of presence, protection, and guidance...wherever they traveled
- Other ANE deities were geographically limited and nationally specific (Plagues, Manna, Quail demonstrate universal control over the entire world)

God's sovereignty is demonstrated in...

control of his **creation**

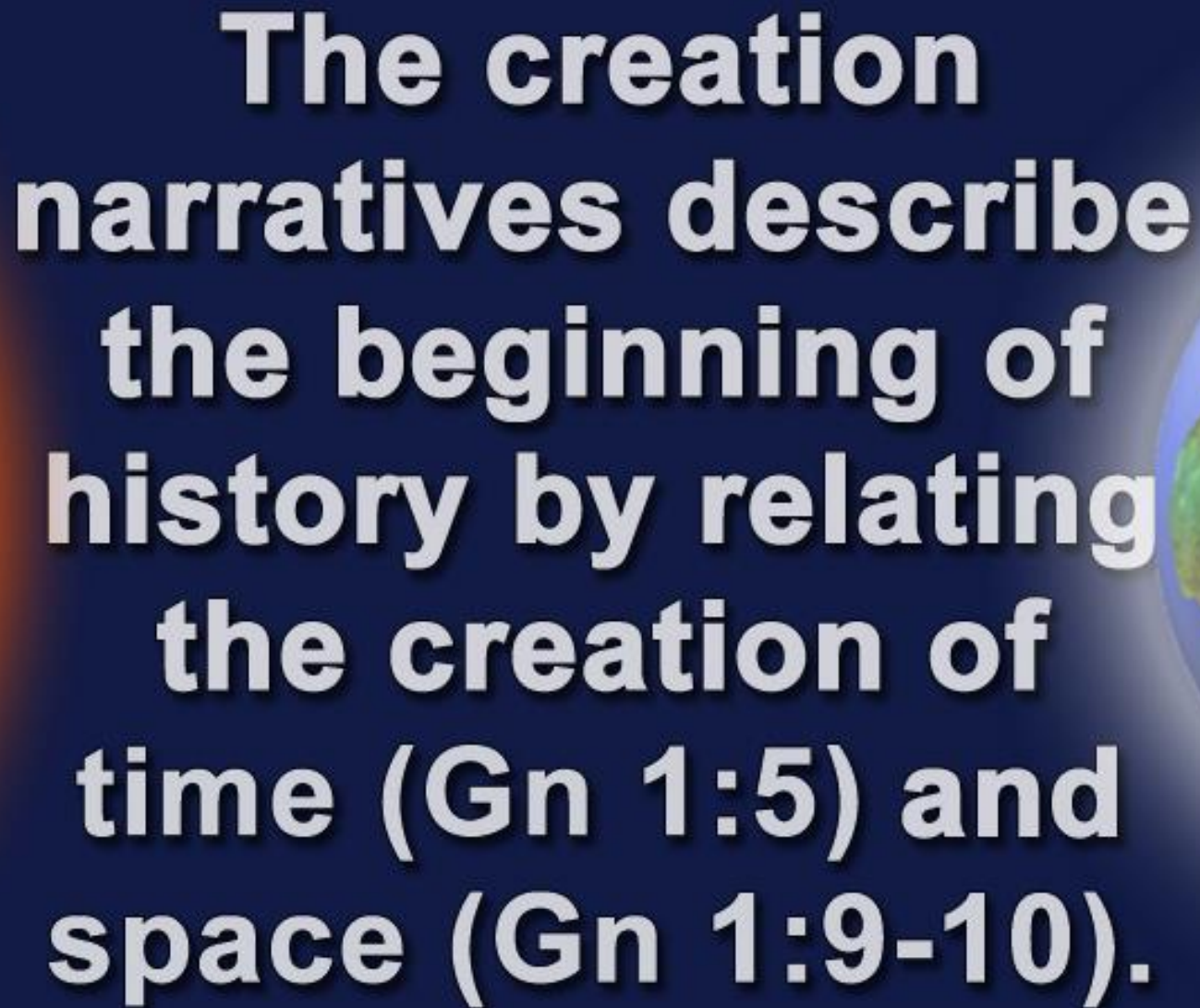
- **creatio ex nihilo**
- **the flood**
- **the tower of Babel**

his dealings with **individuals**

- **Abraham, Isaac, Jacob**
- **Joseph**
- **Moses**

and his lordship over **nations**

- **plagues**
- **Mt. Sinai**



The creation narratives describe the beginning of history by relating the creation of time (Gn 1:5) and space (Gn 1:9-10).

Pentateuch: Themes

Incarnational history



- **History is a central feature in God's plan**
 - **God created History**
 - **God rules over History**
 - **God can alter History**
 - **God works through history**
 - **It is unlike the mythology of the ANE which often explains theology through mythology**
 - **The bible uses true history to reveal true theology**
 - **The Bible fleshes out spiritual truth through historical realities**

3c

Pentateuch: Themes

Incarnational history



- **God uses history to teach theological truth**
 - **It could be called theo-history or HIStory**
 - **History is incarnational, invested with God Himself (image, garden, temple, Jesus, etc)**
 - **History is an arena for divine intervention**
 - **History is one way God revealed Himself**
 - **Events typically express theological truths**
 - **Events can later be rehearsed to stimulate faith**
 - **Even faith expresses itself in events (“works”), therefore our “works” are theology statements as well**

Pentateuch: Themes

Fallenness of mankind



- Adam and Eve enjoy a paradise, an unrivaled shalom. *“Shalom peace is present when God is not hindered by human sin.”*
 - Sin entered the garden and disrupted:
 - Man’s relationship with God
 - Man’s relationship with his wife
 - Man’s relationship with himself
 - Man’s relationship with creation

Pentateuch: Themes

Falleness of mankind



- Adam and Eve enjoy a paradise.
- Sin entered the garden.
- Things spiraled out of control (flood, etc)
- All men from this point on were affected by the fall, by their own sins, and by the consequences of a fallen planet.
- **Only God can address the needs of fallen men** (skins Gen 3; God will provide a lamb Gen.22; Passover blood Ex. 11-15); etc).

Gn 1-2



- peace with God
- access to his presence
- wholeness, well-being
- significance, meaning

Gn 3



- humanity incapable of righting its own wrongs

Pentateuch: Themes

Salvation by grace through faith



- **Salvation by grace through faith is not simply a NT doctrine, it is woven into the very fabric of OT history.**
- **It was God's love and grace that moved Him to remedy the sin problem through the nation of Israel's future Child.**
- **Salvation is entirely rooted in God. All saved men of all time have been saved by grace through faith in order to live a holy life.**

Only God's loving and
compassionate nature
bridges the **gap**.

sovereignty
(God has no needs)

fallen humanity
(hopeless predicament)

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Pentateuch: Themes

Responding in holy gratitude



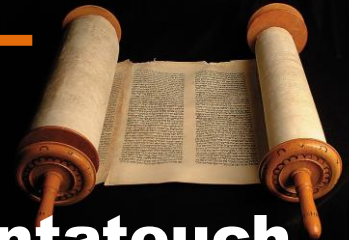
- **God wants an obedient people who are obeying from a grateful heart and in direct response to God's rescue.**
- **Salvation is in no way based upon works, however it produces loving obedience for those grateful for God's rescue.**

the only proper response



Pentateuch: Themes

Living in a loving covenant



- The law plays a prominent role in the Pentateuch. However, it was never meant to enslave them or save them. It was intended to guide them, protect them, and provide the best opportunity for them to experience God in all His grandeur.
- ***“God’s grace is always followed by law. God is never content to be in relationship with His people if they are making no effort to imitate His character.”*** (p.68).
- The only proper human response to God’s grace and love is covenant love demonstrated by living in personal holiness. (Lv.11:44; 19:2)
- A holy God must demand a holy people in order to maintain fellowship.
- A loving God wants to be loved in return.

Pentateuch: Themes

Living in a loving covenant



“For Christians, personal salvation is very similar to the story of the Pentateuch. God, the Sovereign of the universe, breaks into our personal history and provides a solution for our brokenness. Because of His love and grace, He provides salvation by His own revelation in history (incarnation). God gives us prophets and teachers....The rest of the story is one of growth in grace....So the gospel of Jesus Christ is also the gospel of the Israelites.” (p.68).

Pentateuch: Authorship



- Who wrote the Pentateuch?

- **Moses**

1. The text claims Moses wrote it (Ex.24:4,7; 34:27; 17:14; Num.33:2; Dt.31:9,19,22,24).
2. The LORD spoke these messages to Moses (Lev.4:1).
3. Moses is the central historical figure during this period.
4. Nearly uncontested ancient tradition credited Moses.
5. The Talmud, Mishnah, Josephus, and the NT (Lk.24:27,44) all credit Moses as the author.



**Jewish and
Christian
tradition**

MOSES

“Moses then wrote down everything the LORD had said” (Ex 24:4)

“The LORD spoke to Moses, saying...” (Lv 4:1)

- the Talmud
- Mishnah
- Josephus
- New Testament