

THE FIVE BOOKS OF MOSES: GENESIS - DEUTERONOMY

God is in charge and engaged; Israel's right to conquer and establish Zion in Canaan
Zion requires: (1) a people; (2) a place; (3) a king; and (4) a law

Genesis: Origin of the House of Israel as Heir of the Abrahamic Covenant

- Adam-Noah Cycle: Origin of mankind and Abraham's genealogy as an heir back to Shem, Noah, and Adam (1-11b)
- Abraham Cycle: God's special covenant with Abraham (11c-25a)
- Jacob Cycle: Isaac and Jacob each inherit the Abrahamic Covenant individually (25b-35)
- Joseph Cycle: All of Jacob's descendants inherit the Abrahamic Covenant collectively (36-50)

Exodus: Israel Delivered and Established as God's Covenant People [1446 BC / Yr 1, Mos 1-12]

- Israel in bondage to Egypt and unable to be delivered by man (1-7a) [*many years of back story*]
- Ten plagues, God delivers Israel on Passover and at Red Sea (7b-15a) [*months to Yr 1, Mo 1*]
- Rebellions from the Red Sea to Mount Sinai (15b-18) [*Yr 1, Mos 1-2*]

A. Ten Commandments: Sinai Covenant revealed and ratified (19-24a) [*Yr 1, Mos 3+*]

B. Tabernacle and priesthood rituals revealed (24b-31) [*Yr 1*]

A. Golden Calf (people reject king and law): Sinai Covenant broken and renewed (32-34) [*Yr 1*]

B. Tabernacle and priests implemented and accepted (35-40) [*Yr 1 to Yr 2, Day 1*]

Leviticus: Being Clean and Holy [*Yr 2, Mo 1*]

A. Laws governing offerings (1-7)

B. Consecration of the priests (holy people) (8-10)

C. Laws mostly regarding temporary uncleanness (11-15)

D. Day of Atonement: holy congregation on the holiest day of the year [*>16:16-19: scapegoat*] (16)

C. Laws mostly regarding extended or capital defilement and unholiness (17-22)

B. Laws regarding sabbaths and feasts (holy time) (23-26)

A. Laws regarding vows and devotions (27)

Numbers: Rebellious Generation 1 Replaced by Faithful Generation 2 [*Yr 2, Mo 1 - Yr 40, Mo 10*]

- Generation 1 is prepared to possess Canaan (1-10a) [*1-6: Yr 2, Mo 2; 7-10a: Yr 2, Mo 1*]
- Generation 1 rebels for tenth time by refusing to enter Canaan (people reject land) and is cursed to wander 40 years (God rejects people) (10b-25) [*10b-14: Yr 2, Mos 3+; 15-19: Yrs 3-39; 20-25: Yr 40, Mos 1-5+*]
- Generation 2 is prepared to possess Canaan (26-36) [*Yr 40, to Mo 10*]

Deuteronomy: Renewal of Sinai Covenant with Generation 2 [1405 BC / Yr 40, Mos 11-12]

- A. Speech 1: Whereas: Account of God's dealings in Yrs 1-40, and exhortation to obey God's Law (1-4a)
- B. Speech 2: Whereas: Reasons based on experiences over Yrs 1-40 to obey God's Law, and exhortation to do so (4b-11)
- C. Speech 2: Now therefore: Specific requirements of the Law spelled out (the "Deuteronomistic Code") (12-26a)
- D. Speech 2: Renewal of the Covenant with Generation 2 and consequences of compliance or default (26b-28)
- E. Speech 3: Renewal of the Covenant with Generation 2 and consequences of compliance or default (29-30)
- Steps to perpetuate the covenant in future generations (31-34)

THE DEUTERONOMISTIC HISTORY: JOSHUA-KINGS

Israel's possession of Canaan under the Abrahamic Covenant and the Sinai Covenant as renewed in Deuteronomy, especially: (1) no foreign alliances; (2) no intermarriage with foreigners; and (3) no idolatry (see Deut 7:1-6)

Joshua: Faithful Generation 2 Begins to Receive Complete Possession under Joshua [*Yrs 41-67 / 1406-1380 BC*]

A. Instruction to enter and conquer the land (1) [*Yr 41, Mo 1*]

B. Conquering the land: Israelite obedience and Canaanite opposition [*>8:30-35: altar on Mount Ebal*] (2-12) [*Yrs 41-47*]

B. Distributing the land [*>18:1: Tabernacle at Shiloh*] (13-21) [*Yr 47*]

A. Instructions for retaining possession of the land (22-24) [*c. Yr 67*]

Judges: Rebellious Generation 3 and Descendants Forfeit Complete Possession, Scourged [c.1379-1049 BC]

- Introduction: Generation 3 forfeits complete possession for idolatry, foreign alliances, and marriage with foreigners (1-2)
- Development: Israel descends into increasing apostasy and weakness over c.325 years (3-16)
 - Othniel, Ehud, and Deborah-Barak: cycles of idolatry, captivity, repentance, deliverance, rest (3-5) [r. 1371-1178 BC]
 - Gideon and Abimelech: Israel is faithless to its deliverer (6-10a) [r. 1172-1131 BC]
 - Jephthah and Samson: self-interested leaders fail to deliver or provide rest (10b-16) [r. 1088-1083 / 1068-1049 BC]
- Conclusion: Generation 3 breaks Ten Commandments, abandons land and God, self-destructs, because no king (17-21)

Ruth: Individuals (Even Non-Israelites) Can Still Be Faithful and Blessed (“Bethlehem Trilogy” is Judges 17 - Ruth 4)

1-2 Samuel: Israel Is Delivered and Receives Complete Possession under King David [1109 BC - 969 BC]

- Judge Eli: Accepts God’s judgment without rebellion (1-4) [r. 1109-1069 BC]
- Judge Samuel: Commits Israel to God and delivers Israel from oppression (5-7) [r. 1060-1049 BC]
- King Saul (five act tragedy with Act 1 prologue in chapters 1-7) [r. 1049-1009 BC]
 2. Goodness: Israel demands a king to lead in battle; Saul’s early humility and success (8-12)
 3. > Climax: Sin and Rebellion: Saul’s pride, disobedience, and rejection by God as king (13-16)
 4. Decline: Saul rebels against God’s judgment and becomes a murderer; David’s goodness (17-27)
 5. End: Saul cut off from God and commits suicide; David protected from disqualification as king (28-31)
- King David (five act semi-tragedy with Act 1 prologue and part of Act 2 goodness in 1 Samuel) [r. 1009-969 BC]
 2. Blessing: Early reign over the tribe of Judah: David prospers against Saul’s son (1-4)
 2. Blessing: Early reign over united Israel: All enemies are defeated (5-10)
 3. > Climax: Sin and Acknowledgment: adultery with Bathsheba, murder of Uriah, and acknowledgment of sin (11-12)
 4. Punishment: Failure to discipline and violence among his children, rebellions of son Absalom and of Sheba (13-20)
 4. Sin, Acknowledgment, and Punishment: David’s reliance on God, he sins by conducting a census and repents (21-24)
 5. End: Son Adonijah proclaims himself to be king, David proclaims Solomon to be king and then dies of old age (1-2a)

1-2 Kings: First Temple: Israel Completely Forfeits Possession and Is Scattered [971-587 BC]

- A. Solomon:** The builder of the temple marries foreign wives and tolerates their idolatry (2b-11) [r. 971-932 BC]
 - a. Early reign: security, loyalty to God is blessed with wisdom and wealth, gifts used to benefit the people (2b-5)
 - b. Construction and dedication of the temple (6-9a)
 - a. Late reign: gifts used for himself, disloyal tolerance of idolatry is punished, threats to security rise up (9b-11)
- B. Ten Kings:** Kings promote idolatry in North and tolerate it in South (12-16) [932-871 BC]
 - Jeroboam I (N #1): splits away N tribes and promotes worship of two golden calves (“the sin of Jeroboam”) (12-14a)
 - Nine Kings (S #1-3 / N #2-7): N kings promote idolatry, S kings tolerate idolatry except good Asa (S #3) (14b-16a)
- C. Elijah versus the House of Ahab and the worship of Baal (16b-2) [c.874-852 BC]**
 - Ahab (N #8), son of Omri: marries foreign princess Jezebel and promotes worship of her foreign idol Baal
 - Prophet Elijah: prophesies, performs miracles, and calls down fire from heaven to kill the priests of Baal
- C. Elisha versus the House of Ahab and the worship of Baal (3-13) [c.852-c.814 BC]**
 - Prophet Elisha: prophesies, performs miracles, and anoints Jehu to be king over the Northern Kingdom (3-8a)
 - Jehoram (S #5): marries Northern princess Athaliah; Jehoram, Ahaziah, and Athaliah (S #5-7) all “walk in the sin of the Northern Kingdom’s House of Ahab” by likewise promoting Baal worship in the Southern Kingdom (8b, 11)
 - Jehu (N #11): destroys the House of Ahab including Joram (N #10) and Ahaziah (S #6), kills the priests of Baal, and stamps out Baal worship from Northern Kingdom, but still promotes worship of the two golden calves (9-10)
 - Joash (S #8): restores proper worship of God at the temple in Southern Kingdom (12)
- B. Nineteen Kings:** Destruction of both kingdoms (14-25) [c.814-587 BC]
 - Nine kings (S #9-11 / N #14-19): S kings generally good but tolerate idolatry; N kings all idolatrous (14-15)
 - Ahaz (S #12): more wicked than Canaanites: child sacrifice, sacrifice to idols on temple altar, foreign alliance (16)
 - last Northern king (N #20): **Northern Kingdom destroyed** by Assyria for idolatry and rejecting Sinai Covenant (17)
 - Hezekiah (S #13): tears down pagan altars and trusts completely in God, God turns away Assyrian invasion (18-20)
 - Manasseh (S #14): more wicked than Canaanites: child sacrifice, Baal worship, profanes temple, many murders (21)
 - Josiah (S #16): restores proper worship, wholeheartedly devout, God promises to delay destruction, alliance (22-23a)
 - Last four kings (S #17-20): all idolatrous, **Jerusalem destroyed** by Babylon for the sins of its kings (23b-25)