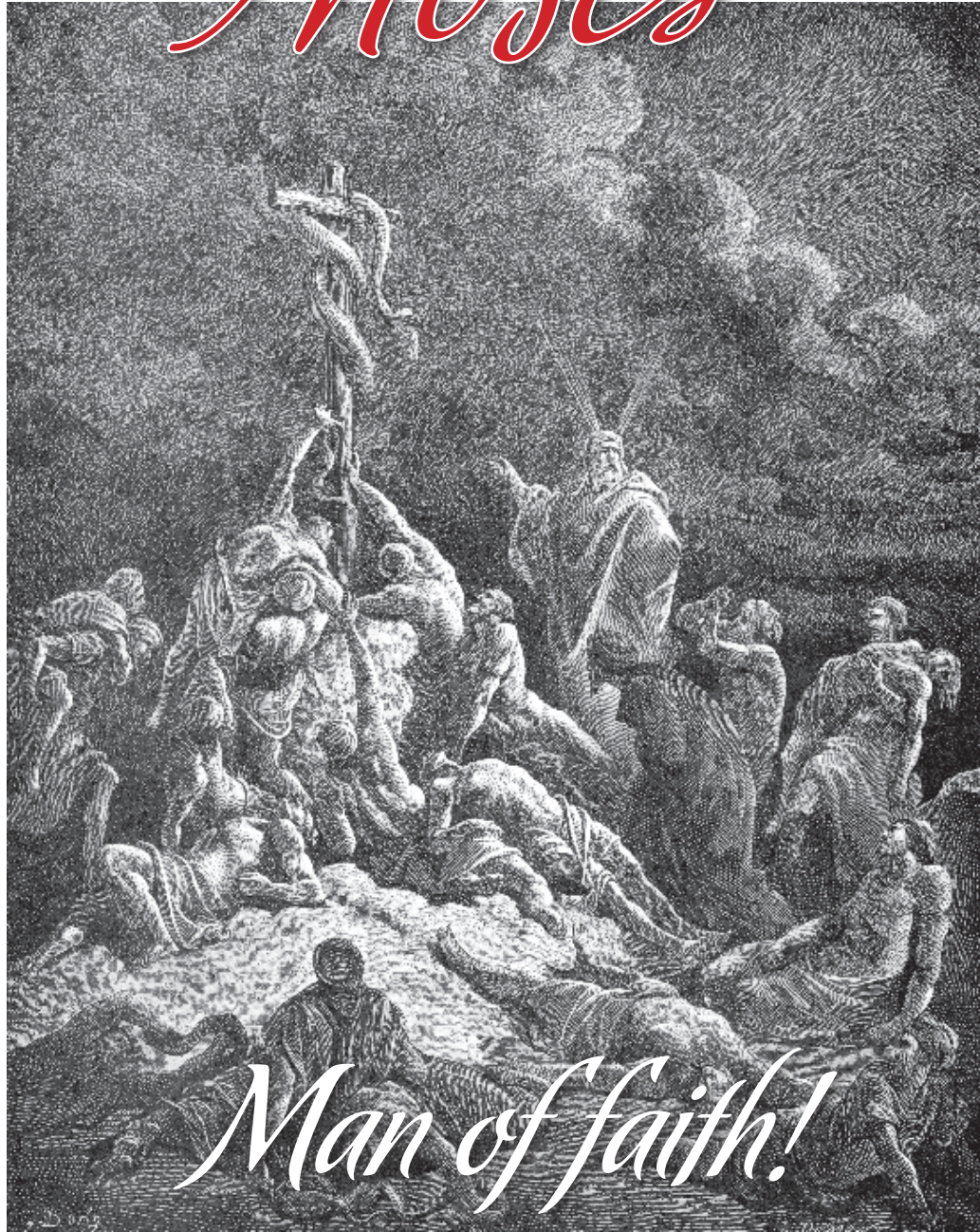


Moses



Man of faith!

A [FOURTHSTREAM.COM](https://www.fourthstream.com) STUDY GUIDE ABOUT
FINDING AUTHENTIC FAITH.

“Since that time no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses,
whom the LORD knew face to face,
for all the signs and wonders
which the LORD sent him to perform
in the land of Egypt against Pharaoh,
all his servants, and all his land,
and for all the mighty power and for all the great terror
which Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.”

Deuteronomy 34.10-12



- FRIEND -

I cannot tell you how thrilled I am to offer
you this study of the life of Moses.
There is a woven harmony in God's Word which
eclipses human ability to weave story.

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy
are the foundation of the teaching of Jesus and his followers.

I am humbled to have spent my lifetime
having my heart remade through the animating work
of the Spirit through the eternal words of the Living God.

ENJOY!
Dave Nadler

THE BOOKS OF MOSES



God chose a people in whom He would display His power and His glory. Abraham became not only the father of the Hebrews through his son Isaac, but the father of the Arabs through his son, Ishmael. The Jews were not created because they were better than the other nations, but because God would bring redemption into the world - and this nation would birth the Son of God!

Genesis gets us in touch with our origins, and answers many questions about existence, the nature of God and man, and the conditions in which we find ourselves. It also explains the creation of the chosen people - chosen for God's very specific purposes.

Exodus is the story of how God brings His captive people out of the land of Egypt. Israel sees God's power and is taught how to worship God through the mechanism of the Law of Moses and the Tabernacle.

Leviticus explains the priesthood and the sacrifices, all designed to draw His people's heart close to His own heart.

Numbers talks about the Jews as they wander in the wilderness, and in the midst of their grumbling, are taught to love God no matter what the circumstance.

Deuteronomy outlines the moral, civil, and ceremonial laws that were given to the Hebrews to set them apart, protect them, and deliver their hearts!

The following guide will help you get the most from your study of each of these five books. God uses Moses to illuminate His holiness, reveal His plans for redemption, and to display His incredible patience with the human race.

Welcome to the book of Genesis!

To begin your study of Genesis, meditate on the book's content represented in the overview chart below. What are the four major events of chapters 1-11? How do each of these events reflect the theme *origins of the human race*? In chapters 11-50 we encounter the *origins of the chosen race*. Notice the theme phrase at the bottom of the overview chart: "*and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed!*" What does this phrase mean to you? It will be an important aspect of our study in Genesis. Also notice the Scriptures listed within the overview chart. Take this opportunity to consider each one, relating the theme words to the appropriate Scripture. What have you learned so far about Genesis?

GENESIS

Origins

HUMAN RACE	CHOSEN RACE
Creation...1:1,2	Abraham...12:1,8
Fall...3:6-8	Isaac...22:7,8
Flood...6:8;9:16	Jacob...25:23
Tower...11:6,9	Joseph...46:3,4
1-11	11-20 21-26 27-36 37-50

"In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." 12:3

The book of Genesis gives us a wealth of insight into the character of God and nature of man. Two key verses are prominent. For chapters 1-11 we have chosen 1:26 reflecting the emphasis on the **origin** of the human race, and for chapters 12-50 we have chosen 12:2 which states the **covenant** God made with Abraham, father of the chosen race.

Genesis opens by explaining the foundation that the eternal God "is" and the book assumes no other need to substantiate His existence. It closes with a promise of deliverance from the bondage in Egypt (50:24). Genesis begins with the faith principle (Hebrews 11:2, 6).

Open your heart as you read!

God's sovereignty is revealed in Genesis. The outcome of man depends completely on the grace of God. He has chosen to select a people through Christ's blood despite the universal death that sin has required. God is the initiator of all that is good, man is the responder to all He has decreed. Compare the theories of evolution to the plausibility of Intelligent Design as you read!

KEY BACKGROUND on the book of Genesis



AUTHOR

Genesis does not state who; tradition and other Scriptures assume it. We must keep in mind that Genesis is a part of the Pentateuch, the first five books of Law. As a unit, Moses is said to have composed it (Exodus 17:14; 24:4; 34:27) and other Old Testament books bear witness to this fact (Joshua 1:7, 8; 8:31; 1 Kings 2:3; 2 Kings 14:6). New Testament writers also make this clear (Acts 3:22; 13:39; 15:1,5,21; Romans 10:5, 19; 1 Corinthians 9:9; 2 Corinthians 3:15). Most convincing is the testimony of Christ (John 5:46-47).

Moses was not present through all of the events of Genesis by any means, but he was the one God chose to record the data. Moses was well qualified for the task (Acts 7:22). We are indebted to Moses for the only authoritative account of man's beginning. Many philosophies and theories come and go, but the Word of God has never been disproved. It is standing the test of time!

DATE

Sometime during the wilderness wanderings is probable. Moses is said to have been born in 1520 B.C. and lived 120 years. From 1 Kings 6:1 and Judges 11:26, we place the date of the Exodus at 1445 B.C. This allows time for the compiling of the remainder of the Pentateuch during the "wanderings" of the children of Israel (Numbers).

HISTORY

The book relates how Israel was selected from among the nations of the world to become God's chosen people. This explains why the author devoted 38 chapters to the chosen race, (covering a mere 350 years), but only 11 chapters to the human race, even though this section covers over 3,000 years. God's sovereign selection of His people (12:2) must be seen as the primary purpose of the book of Genesis.

Following the custom of designating a book by its opening word or words the Jews called this Bere'shith or "in the beginning" because it describes the beginnings of the universe, life, mankind, Sabbath, marriage, family, work, childhood, sin, pain, death, murder, sacrifice, races, languages, agriculture, city life, nations, government, the chosen people and salvation.

Why Study the book of Genesis?

1. After reading and studying this book, you will see more clearly that Genesis is indeed a book of beginnings. This study of God's Word can encourage you to make a new beginning with God as you learn what it means to truly walk with Him, day by day and year by year.
2. To answer crucial questions about man's origin, man's plight, man's nature, etc.
3. To gain a correct foundation and reference base for our study of the other 65 books of God's Word.
4. To address our need to view the Lord God in His sovereignty and to see the awesome magnificence of His creating and ruling power as He glorifies Himself.



Effective reading results in meditation!

How to get a lot out of the God Story.

I would like to suggest to you that reading the bible should be an animating experience for your soul. It really can be a supernatural event! Mostly because the Holy Spirit wants the Word to come alive to us. Before you engage these study guides each day, take a moment and ask God's Spirit to teach you. It also helps if you have a quiet space to spend your time reading, processing, and thinking about God's Word in your life.

How to read carefully and critically.

There are a few things you can look for and note with a pen or a highlighter as you read. It will help you as you title chapters and choose key verses.

CONTRASTS...noting uniqueness by observing differences in perspectives.

COMPARISONS...observing similarities between ideas or thoughts.

REPEATING WORDS & PHRASES...often reveal the main point or subjects involved.

RELATED ENTITIES...similar thoughts or ideas establish of the "flow" of the passage.

WORD PICTURES...here ask the question "Why this illustration?"

STRONG STATEMENTS often lead to a main point of application.

QUESTIONS...who, what, when, where, why, and how remain powerful observing tools.

KEY WORDS are words that reflect the main thought or idea of a passage.

Find your own "code" to note these in your bible (using underlining, boxes, highlighting; etc.).

Choose a study version that you don't mind writing in, and connect the parts that will help you see continuity in the message of each book. Before you choose a chapter title, it helps to make ten or fifteen observations in each chapter and choose one or two verses that stand out as you read.

How to title a chapter!

After you have spent 15-20 minutes making observations in a chapter you will have isolated several key words or phrases. Take actual words from the text and assemble them into a 2-4 word title that reflects the essence of the story, word pictures, or teachings from that chapter.

Be creative and use your sense of humor and innate cleverness! Record them on the study sheets that follow, and when you are done with a book, choose a few of your favorites and write them at the top of chapters in your study bible.

How to choose a key verse!

Key verses may be set apart in brackets and should summarize the central point of a passage or just be a verse that you like! Several may be chosen during reading and then selectively narrowed into which verse best reflects one you will remember - or one that reflects the argument of that chapter!

These suggestions can help you get the most out of these study guides. Enjoy!

Genesis Chapter Chart

As you read each of the segments of Genesis you will find the following questions provoking as you seek to discern spiritual truth for your own life. Look specifically for God's initiative in Genesis!

ORIGINS

Read Chapters 1-11

Chapter 1	Key Verse_____	Chapter Title_____
Chapter 2	Key Verse_____	Chapter Title_____
Chapter 3	Key Verse_____	Chapter Title_____
Chapter 4	Key Verse_____	Chapter Title_____
Chapter 5	Key Verse_____	Chapter Title_____
Chapter 6	Key Verse_____	Chapter Title_____
Chapter 7	Key Verse_____	Chapter Title_____
Chapter 8	Key Verse_____	Chapter Title_____
Chapter 9	Key Verse_____	Chapter Title_____
Chapter 10	Key Verse_____	Chapter Title_____
Chapter 11	Key Verse_____	Chapter Title_____

KEY QUESTIONS

1. How did man differ from the rest of God's creation?

2. On whom does the responsibility for the fall of mankind rest, Adam or Eve?

3. What is 3:20-24 trying to teach us?

4. What specifically was the cause of the universal flood?

5. Why didn't God desire for man to continue to speak one language?

6. What do we learn about the nature of God from these chapters? The nature of man?

7. Where do you feel you stand on the relationship between evolution and intelligent design?

What about today?

1. To what degree do you accept the Bible as literally and historically true?

2. How do we evidence the effects of the curse after the fall in our lives?

3. How does man reveal a continued desire to build towers (present-day examples)?

4. What does this teach you about expectations in living a life pleasing to God?

We all are sons of Adam and as a result, partake in the sin of Adam (Romans 5:12).

How is this evidenced by your nature in your daily activities?

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What would you choose as the three or four major events of Abraham's life and why do you consider them prominent? How do you think Abraham felt during each event?

2. Compare the promise to Abraham (12:1-3) with 1 Samuel 7:8-17 and Jeremiah 31:27-34. How are they similar? In what ways do they differ?

3. Why would you call Abraham a man of faith?

What about today?

1. What would you describe from your own life with God that would indicate you are a man or woman of faith?

2. What can you specifically do to grow in your life of faith (by looking at Abraham's example)?

3. Read Hebrews 11:8-22 for further thoughts on the subject of faith!

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What would you choose as the three or four major events of Isaac's life and why would you consider them prominent?

2. How do you think Isaac felt during each event?

3. Where have you seen 26:3-5 before?

4. 25:23 describes the beginning of a struggle that will last hundreds of years.
What is that struggle? (Note 27:36, 41).

What about today?

1. Read Romans 9. What is God's perspective on the twins?
Relate this to the key phrase we have chosen for this book.

2. Also read Galatians 4:21-31. What is taught in this passage about the choice of God?

3. Just as God provided a sacrifice (Yahweh-Jireh) in 22:13-14, He has provided the "satisfaction" for our sin through His Son - the Lord Jesus (Hebrews 9:11-14).

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
27		
28		
29		
30		
31		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. How would you summarize Jacob's character in a few words?

2. What insights do we gain from Hebrews 12:14-17 concerning Jacob and Esau?

3. How is Jacob's dream connected with the original covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12)?

4. What does the dream (28) and wrestling (32) reveal about Jacob's growth in his knowledge of God?

5. How do we see God's sovereignty in Jacob's life? Through Laban's life?

What about today?

1. Compare your spiritual life with that of Jacob. What similarities and/or differences are evident to you?

2. Again read Hebrews 12:14-17. In what way does this exhortation reveal any needs in your own life as a follower of Christ?

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
32		
33		
34		
35		
36		

KEY QUESTIONS:

- Briefly trace Jacob's (Israel) and Esau's (Edom) conflict through the years:
Numbers 20:14-20; 1 Samuel 14:47; 1 Kings 11:14-25; 2 Chronicles 20:22;
21:8; and Obadiah. (Herod the Great in the days of Christ was an Edomite!)

- Read Obadiah to observe how God deals with Esau (Edom). Do these actions seem fair?

- What did the renewed covenant at Bethel involve (35)?

- Why was Jacob named Israel?

What about today?

- From studying Esau we see a vivid illustration of the principle of iniquity visiting *generations* to come (Deuteronomy 5:9,10). What are the implications for raising children today?
Also note Matthew 10:24,25.

- Jacob spent his life learning about God through his faith. Jot down a brief description of how you view your faith at the present time in relationship to the life of Jacob.

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
37		
38		
39		
40		
41		
42		
43		
44		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. More than any character in Genesis, Joseph portrays a 'type' of the Lord Jesus Christ. Make a list of the specific similarities to Christ's life that you recognize in this section (note circumstances and character traits).

2. What would you choose as the three or four major events of Joseph's experiences?

3. What do you perceive Joseph's feelings were during these events?

4. How is God's sovereignty revealed in the life of Joseph?

What about today?

1. Joseph knew how to deal with immorality (39). What can you learn from Joseph's example?

2. Reread 41:16. What do we learn about Joseph's character from this verse?
What are the implications for you as a servant of Christ?

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
45		
46		
47		
48		
49		
50		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What do we learn about Jacob's latter days?

2. Why was it necessary to go down into Egypt?

3. Particularly note Israel's (Jacob) dying prophecy about his sons (49:1-33). This represents the twelve tribes of Israel that will play a part in the conquest and settlement of the land recorded in Joshua. From which of these twelve tribes did Jesus come?

What about today?

1. What does 45:5 reveal about Joseph's heart? What lesson does it give us as we consider our own growth?

2. Note God's confirmation in 46:3,4. What does this reveal about the slavery to come? Our slavery to sin?

3. What does 48:15-22 reveal about God's sovereign choice?

4. Familiarize yourself with Jacob's blessing of the twelve tribes. A basic understanding now will help you in future study!

GENESIS FAMILY ORIGINS

This is a study of these six patriarch's family origins throughout the Scriptures.
Use it to do a topical study as you seek to learn more about God and men!

Summarize in your own words a central lesson you learn from each patriarch:

ADAM

REPRESENTATIVE OF FALLEN HUMANITY

Genesis 2:19-23; 3:8,9,17,20,21; 4:1,25; 5:1-5; 1 Chronicles 1:1; Job 31:33; Luke 3:38; Romans 5:14;
1 Corinthians 15:22,45; 1 Timothy 1:13,14.

NOAH

EXAMPLE OF ONE WHO RECEIVED GRACE AND DELIVERANCE

Genesis 5:29; 6:8-22; 7:1-24; 8:1-20;9:1-29; 1 Chronicles 1:1; Isaiah 54:9; Ezekiel 14:14,20;
Hebrews 11:7; 1 Peter 3:20; 11 Peter 2:5

ABRAHAM

FATHER OF THOSE BOUGHT BACK THROUGH FAITH

Genesis 11:26-31; 12:1-18; 13:4,14; 14:19; 15:1-18; 16:15,16; 17:5-7; 18:19; 22:1-20; 25:8;
Exodus 2:24; 6:8; Leviticus 26:42; Numbers 32:11; Psalm 105:6; Isaiah 29:22; Ezekiel 33:24; Luke 1:55;
3:8; 19:9; John 8:58; Romans 4:1-3,9,10-13,16; Galatians 3:6-9, 16-18; Hebrews 6:13; James 2:21-23.

ISAAC

SON OF PROMISE

Genesis 17:19-21; 21:4, 12; 25:5; 26:12,27; 28; 35:28,29; Exodus 3:6; Leviticus 26:42; Joshua 24:3,4; Psalm 105:9; Romans 9:7-10; Galatians 4:27-29; Hebrews 11:9,17,18,20; James 2:21.

JACOB

SON OF SOVEREIGN CHOICE

Genesis 25:26,27; 27; 28:10-22; 29:20; 35:22-29; 49; Exodus 2:24; Leviticus 26:42; Psalm 105:6; John 4:12; Acts 7:11-15; Romans 9:10-13; Hebrews 11:21

JOSEPH

SON OF SOVEREIGN CIRCUMSTANCES

Genesis 30:24,25; 37:39-50; (Key verses - 45:4-8); Exodus 1:6; Psalm 105:16-22; Acts 7:8-18; Hebrews 11:22; Revelation 7:8.



Read 1 Corinthians 8:6 as you begin.

Sovereignty defined: Supreme excellence or an example of it. Supreme power, freedom from external control, or; autonomous controlling influence. When speaking of the sovereignty of God we might say that He exercises complete control that transcends the whims and transitory circumstances of men.

Here are some passages that reflect the supreme influence of the Master of Mankind!

What do you think?

- 1 Chronicles 29:11 Supreme in ownership!
- Revelation 4:11 Supreme over all that is created!
- Psalms 103:19 Supreme as Ruler!
- Romans 11:33-36 Supreme in effective will!
- Philippians 2:13 Supreme over human will!
- 1 John 5:14 Supreme in effective prayer!

What you feel should be our God response in light of these passages:

Romans 8:35-39

Philippians 4:4-7

Romans 12:1,2

Deuteronomy 33:26-27 (Also note Luke 22:31)

John 1:13 (Also note John 6:37,44,65)

SOME GOOD QUESTIONS

1. What part does man have in finding salvation?

2. What reason does a Christ-followers have for being anxious?

3. What right does mankind have in asserting *ownership* over our possessions?

4. How do you assert yourself as supreme when it comes to the choices and events of your life?

5. Have you learned what it means to rest in God's sovereign authority?

6. Do you find your security in His ultimate control?

7. Do you feel you are being humbled before God? *A closing thought for your meditation.*

"If Christ is not valued above all, He is not valued at all."

GENESIS ATTRIBUTES

The following study considers the attributes of God as they are revealed in Genesis.
An attribute is similar to a character quality in that it is inseparably a part of God.

It is difficult to find examples in Scripture of one attribute of God where another is not also revealed.

A **ALL KNOWING**

He Promises Concern.....
Genesis 15:5, 16:10-12; 18:10-24 and 21:1,2; 25:23.

T **TOTALLY HOLY**

He Commands His Children to be Holy....
Genesis 3:8-10 (consider 2:25); 17:1; 18:19

T **TOTALLY PRESENT**

Joseph.....He is there no matter what the circumstances...
Skim Through Genesis 37-50 in the N.I.V. (also the attached study on sovereignty)

R **RIGHTEOUSLY TRUE AND JUST**

Sodom and Gomorrah.....His standards and His resolve are as constant as Himself...
Genesis 18:22-33.

I **IMMUTABLE (UNCHANGABLE)**

Genesis 22:15-18 (Isaiah 46:3-4; Malachi 3:6).

B **BENEVOLENT**

Hagar and Ishmael (even though Ishmael was the *son of the flesh*, not the *son of the promise*)
Genesis 16:10,11; 21:13-20; Isaiah 49:14-16a; (also note His covenant with creation
Genesis 8:21; 9:8-17).

U **UNBOUND**

The only way God is 'bound' is that He will perform what He has spoken!
Genesis 17:18 'I will establish my covenant between Me and you.'
Numbers 23:19; 1 Samuel 15:29 (unchanging); Isaiah 25:1; in the words of Jesus
(Matthew 5:17-18; Matthew 24:35; Mark 13:31).

T **TOTALLY POWERFUL**

Genesis 15:13-21 His power transcends even the unbelievable!
Example: The ability (or inability) to bear children -- Genesis 16:2, 25:21; 29:31-35; 30:2,17,22.

E **ETERNAL**

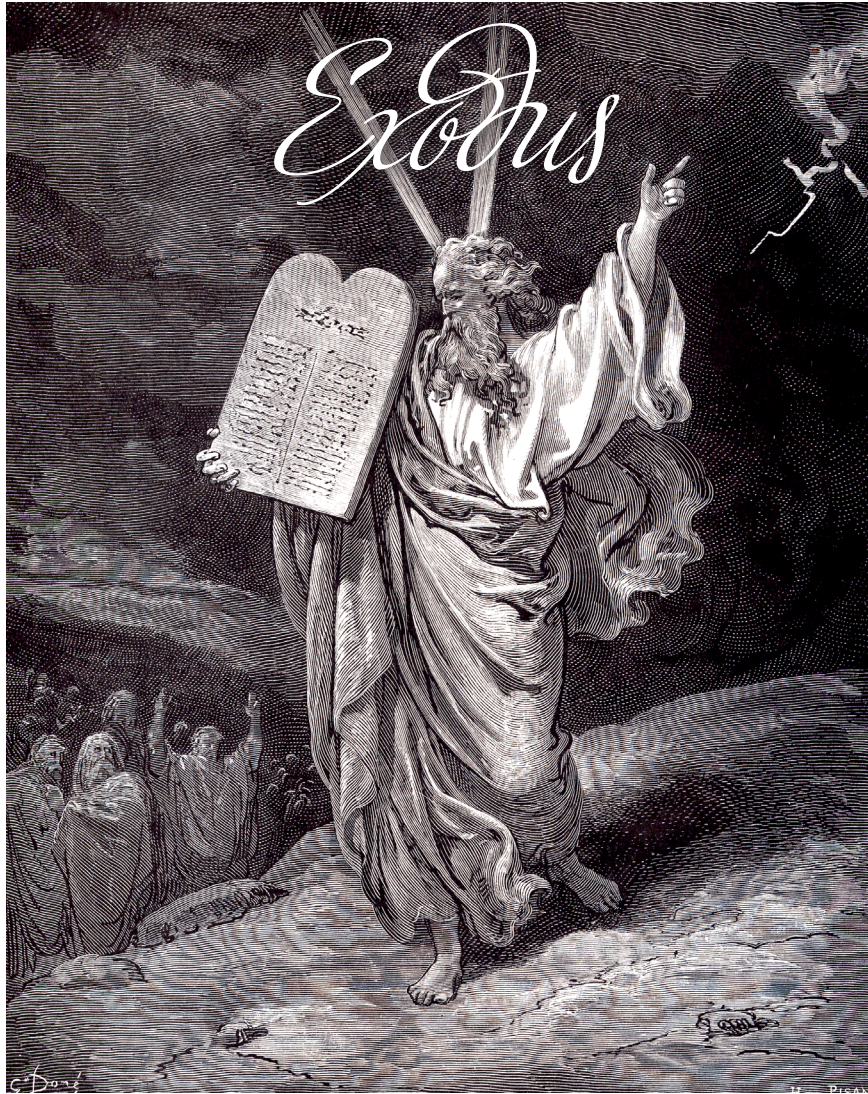
'In the beginning....God!' - Genesis 1:1; Revelation 1:8; 22:13 -- All knowing -- knows past, present, and future. Eternal...is past, present, and future. Compare these two.

S **SOVEREIGN**

Joseph; Rebekah
Genesis 24:12-15 N.I.V.

SUMMARY

Consider the list of attributes as they compare to these references: Isaiah 43:1-3; 10-13; 44:6-8; 45:21-24a; 46:8-10,116. *We must continually consider, behold, and worship the God of Heaven as He has revealed Himself to us! We worship Him in Spirit and Truth!*



‘Now you shall eat it in this manner: with your loins girded,
your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand;
and you shall eat it in haste—it is the LORD’S Passover.

Exodus 12:11

Welcome to the Book of Exodus!

As you begin your study of Exodus, meditate on the contents of the book represented in the overview chart below. What are the three major movements of Exodus? Notice the progression of events. How do you think each section relates to the walk of a Christ-follower today? In Genesis we viewed the Sovereign choice of God. In Exodus we see sovereign deliverance from the bondage of sin! The great theme of redemption permeates the pages of this pertinent book!

EXODUS		Exit
Deliverance from Bondage	Law Exposed	Tabernacle Constructed
1:9-22; 12:51	20:1-17	25:1-22
1-12	13-24	25-40

"God's sovereign redemption." 12:51

Take this opportunity to examine each of the references included in the overview chart. These passages reveal the main thrust of the corresponding sections. What have you learned thus far concerning the book of Exodus? A key verse of Exodus is found in 12:51 and reflects the theme of the exit from the bondage of sin by the power of the Sovereign Lord God. As you read, try to glean specific principles concerning redemption.

Genesis closed with the promise of blessing (50:24) and Exodus opens with a problem of bondage (1:8-14). In Genesis we considered God's sovereign choice of His people (12:1-3); in Exodus, we see His sovereign redemption (12:51).

Open your heart as you read!

Though life can be filled with problems, God's promises are sure. God's plan is to choose and redeem; His desire for man is to submit and obey. Though sin reigns in the human race, God provides escape and pardon for His chosen race; the shed blood of a pure Lamb!



KEY BACKGROUND on the book of Exodus

AUTHOR

Moses. Jesus verified this fact in Mark 1:44 and John 7:19 as do His disciples in John 1:45. Also note Exodus 17:14 and 24:4.

DATE

After 1444 B.C. (date of the Exodus) and before 1405 B.C. when Moses died. Exodus was probably completed during the 40 years of wandering, sometime soon after the completion of the Tabernacle (Exodus 35-40).

PURPOSE

Egypt to the average person usually means massive pyramids, hieroglyphic inscriptions, mummies, and King Tut. The land of ancient Egypt brings to most peoples' minds a sense of mystery and magic. To the ancient Israelite, however, the situation was different. For him Egypt meant slavery and suffering but also great victory and the birth of his nation. The book of Exodus is a logical sequel to the patriarchal history of Genesis. The last chapter of Genesis ends on a rather sad note, for Joseph, a great spiritual and human leader, was put 'in a coffin in Egypt' (Genesis 50:26). To a certain degree the book of Exodus begins on that very same sad note. Figuratively speaking, the nation of Israel was in a coffin in Egypt. During the nearly 400 years since the close of Genesis, the patriarchal family had grown into a nation of nearly three million people. The theme of this book as described in Exodus 19:1 centers around Israel's 'exit' from Egypt. Without this exit, everything else that takes place in Exodus could not have happened. In this book, you will read about the deliverance of the nation from slavery (Chapters 1-12), the giving of the nation's law at Mt. Sinai (chapters 13-24), and the building of the nation's place of worship, the Tabernacle (chapters 25-40).

WHY STUDY THE BOOK OF EXODUS?

1. It is clear from a study of Exodus that the Israelites had just as difficult a time exiting from their old ways as they did exiting from the old land of Egypt. As Christ-followers, we need to learn from the bad example of Israel exiting from Egypt "and not crave evil things, as they also craved, and do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written, the people sat down to eat and drink, and stood up to play. Nor let us act immorally...nor let us try the Lord...nor grumble...' (1 Corinthians 10:6-12). Instead we need to practically experience the truth of 2 Corinthians 5:17 '...old things have passed away, new things have come'. Someone has said, "It took only one day to take Israel out of Egypt, but many years to get Egypt out of Israel."

2. Israel's God and Guide steered the travelers away from the most direct route to Canaan, the 'way of the sea', for at least two reasons: 1) To avoid certain warfare; and 2) To take Israel to 'the mountain of God' (3:12). The nation needed to learn to walk with God before learning to fight for Him. Too many Christian organizations and churches today want workers and warriors first and worshippers second. This is the reverse of God's desire for us. Jesus Himself said that the Father seeks true worshippers (John 4:23-24). Only through worshipful submission to our King will we be prepared to work and do warfare for Him.



Exodus Chapter Chart

OPPRESSION & THE DELIVERER

Read Chapters 1-4

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
1		
2		
3		
4		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What was the cause of this bondage? What was the result?

2. What does 1:12 reveal about God? Israel? Egypt?

3. What are the three questions Moses asks God?

4. Reread the account of the burning bush. List specific feelings you would have if you were in this situation.

5. How is God specifically revealed as Redeemer in these chapters?

What about today?

1. Identify any bondage that is presently in your life. What is the cause? What is the impact?

2. How do the three questions of Moses give you instruction for your own response to God?

1 Thessalonians 5:24 could have provided much comfort to Moses, for the years ahead would provide many opportunities to trust in the Lord!

RESISTED REDEMPTION

Read Chapters 5-11

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. Why didn't Pharaoh wish to let Israel go?

2. Why didn't the people listen to the Word of the Lord through Moses?

3. What is the meaning of the statement, "I will harden Pharaoh's heart"? (Note Romans 9)

4. Try to imagine the intensity of these plagues by viewing them as happening in your own country, state, and city! It is an awesome picture of the wrath to come!

5. Read 9:16, 17. What insights do you gain about God's awesome power?

What about today?

1. Picturing Egypt as the world, Christians as Israel, God as His Son, and you as a member of God's chosen people, what lessons can we learn about our struggle with sin?

2. Read Romans 9:14-18. What are the implications as we seek to comprehend a sovereign God and His salvation?

3. What hinders you from listening to the Word of the Lord?

The distinction in 11:7 is a beautiful statement of God's love for His people. When difficult times come, we can have confidence that we are loved in the Beloved! We see this same distinction in Revelation 19:11-15 and 21:6-8.

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
12		
13		
14		
15		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. List the similarities you observe between what you know of Christ in the Gospels and this Passover lamb. See how many you can list!

2. How was the Passover a sign to the Jews? The Gentile nations?

3. Note here the key verse of 12:51 relative to 13:8. What was God's desire for future generations?

4. In what manner did God lead Israel out?

What about today?

1. How could this section increase your appreciation of Christ's satisfying sacrifice?

2. How is the "Passover" instinctive to a believer today?

3. What did the events of this section further teach you about God's character?

4. How does the response of the people and Moses instruct you in your own appreciation of the Passover?

We, too, complain in the midst of God's great love for us. Do you have the attitude of Moses (15:11-13)? We should (Revelation 5:1-7)!

How do you feel about being "passed over" on the basis of Christ's blood?

(1 Corinthians 5:7)

SINAI MIGRATION

Read Chapters 15-19

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
16		
17		
18		
19		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What were the three forms of sustenance God provided for the Jews as they set out and continued upon their journey?

2. What was the response of the people in each case?

3. What tests did God perform through those three acts of providence?

4. What were the conditional promises that were made?

5. What lessons do we learn from the counsel of Jethro?

What about today?

1. Compare Matthew 6:25-34 to the reaction of the Jews to God's providence. How do you respond in similar situations?

2. What are the principles revealed in the teaching on the Sabbath and do you keep them? Why should (or should not) not these principles be observed?

The migration period was a testing time to purify the people of God. How are you responding to the tests of God in your life (1 Peter 4:12-19)?

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. Read 19:5-6. What is revealed about God's desire for His people and His purpose for His law?

2. How should a Christ-follower feel about keeping the ten commandments?

3. What warning is given following the ten commandments and reiterated in 1 John 5:21?

4. How do each of these other laws give instruction on Matthew 22:34-40?

5. In 24:9-11 we see a beautiful example of the mercy of God in withholding His wrath.
What does this mean to us?

What about today?

1. What is our relationship to God's law?

2. What is your heart response to 24:9-11?

The people had been delivered from the suffering of Egypt. They now need to be taught about God's holy standards. We will see the Jews continually desiring to return to Egypt. Read Matthew 6:24. [Whom do you serve, Egypt, or the King of the Promised Land?](#)

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
25		
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		
31		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What was God's purpose for Himself in building a Tabernacle? For the people?

2. What did each part of the dwelling place reveal about God's relationship to man? Man's responsibility to God?

3. What was the purpose of sustaining a priesthood?

4. What is a 'perpetual covenant'?

What about today?

1. What do we learn about the character and standards of God from these elaborate instructions?

2. Do you feel you are conscientious in your worship and communion with the Lord?

3. What have you learned about obedience in worship?

Read Hebrews 8-9. What do you learn about the Tabernacle? What are the similarities between this and what you have seen in Exodus? What has changed? What is fulfilled? We must learn to worship God in spirit and in truth as well (John 4:24)!

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
32		
33		
34		
35		
36		
37		
38		
39		
40		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What was the response of the people to God's instructions about the Tabernacle?

2. What was the significance of the ornaments?

3. Why was the request of Moses to see God's glory a significant one?

4. What was the importance of the contributions?

5. In 40:16, we see an example of the followthrough that God desires!

What about today?

1. Are you carrying any ornaments?

2. What have you personally experienced concerning God's glory?

3. What contributions have been stirred up in your life?

4. 40:34-38 reveals God's desire to lead His people.

Communing through the Tabernacle meant knowing the leading and direction of God.
Read Romans 12:1,2. How do we fulfill this need for understanding God's direction?



Check out these passages and learn more about the Tabernacle!

The Tabernacle

Symbol of God's Presence; God's Dwelling Among Man.

Exodus 25:8,22; Exodus 40:38

The Holy Spirit

Seal of God's Presence; God's Dwelling in Man.

Ephesians 1:13,14; John 14:16,17,23,26; John 16:7-15; 1 Corinthians 2:12

The Ark

God met with the people....Exodus 25:21,22

"...above the mercy seat" (atonement cover Exodus 25:17 in the N.I.V.)
Signifies the Mercy of God.

"...between the two cherubim..."
Signifies the Holiness and the Power of God.
(Genesis 3:24)

"...upon (over N.I.V.) the...testimony..."
Signifies the Authority of the Word of God and
His Faithfulness to perform what He has spoken.

The Testimony

Then: Written on tablets of stone; kept in a box. Exodus 25:16; 40:20.

Now: "And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us..." John 1:14;
Romans 10:8,9.

The Bread of the Presence....Exodus 25:30

The Bread of Life...John 6:32-58.

The Lampstand

The light of the tabernacle.

Jesus Christ

The Light of the World. John 8:12

His Children

Commanded to be His 'lights'. Matthew 5:14-16.

God dwells with any seeker who has committed his or her life to allow Him to
tabernacle within our heart!

SOVEREIGN REDEMPTION

Redeem:

To buy out; release by paying a ransom price; to deliver. When we talk about sovereign redemption, we are talking about God's all-powerful and supernatural work in redeeming Israel. Redemption is a work of God! Observe these passages, recording what you learn about redemption. What does redemption involve? What is the purpose of redemption?

Exodus 6:6

Isaiah 62:12

Exodus 13:13,15

Jeremiah 15:21

Deuteronomy 7:8, 9:26; 13:5

Hosea 13:14

Deuteronomy 15:15; 21:8; 24:18

Luke 24:21

Ruth 4:4,6

Titus 2:14

2 Samuel 7:23

1 Peter 1:18,19

1 Chronicles 17:21

Galatians 3:13

Psalms 25:22

Galatians 4:5

Psalms 26:11

Revelation 5:9

Psalms 44:26

Revelation 14:3,4

Psalms 49:7,8

2 Thessalonians 2:8

Psalms 69:18

Ephesians 1:7,14

Psalms 107:2

Colossians 1:14

Psalms 111:9

Romans 6:4

Psalms 130:8

Hebrews 9:12, 15

Psalms 136:24

Romans 8:23

Isaiah 29:22

1 Corinthians 1:30

Isaiah 43:1; 44:22

Ephesians 4:30

MOSES, MAN OF GOD

Here is a six and one-half point study considering Moses, the Man of God. Study each reference and determine one or two personal applications for each point considered. We can learn much from the example of this man of God!

1. **CHOSEN BY GOD**

He was singled out...Exodus 3:4,10

2. **GUARDED BY GOD**

He was drawn out...Exodus 2:6,10

3. **CALLED/COMMISSIONED BY GOD**

He was to bring out...Exodus 3:4, 10; 14:21,22

3 1/2. **UNSURE OF GOD**

He missed out...Exodus 4:10-15

4. **TESTED BY GOD**

He wanted out... Exodus 17:4; Numbers 11:10-15

5. **EXALTED BY GOD**

He was called out and decked out...Exodus 24:15-18; 33:7-10; 34:28-30

6. **BURIED BY GOD**

He was left out...Numbers 20:12; Deuteronomy 3:23-28; 34:4-6

'...unless possibly, after I have preached to others, I myself should be disqualified?'
1 Corinthians 9:27

In what ways was Moses tempted?

How does this parallel potential disqualification in my life?

EGYPT EVALUATION

Observe each of these references to grow in your understanding of the [effect of Egypt upon the people of God](#). As followers of Christ, we are being called out of the bondage of Egypt (sin) and into the freedom of bondage of God. First, let us define Egypt!

Acts 7:22...Egypt was man-centered. In what ways has Egypt impacted you?

Hebrews 11:25...Egypt was pleasure-centered. What pleasures and treasures have been built into your value system?

Acts 7:41...Egypt was self-centered. Someone once said, "God took His people out of the land of Egypt in one day...it took a lifetime to take Egypt out of the people." What are the works of your hands that provide a [snare](#) for you?

Compare 1 John 2:15, 16 and Matthew 4:1-11 for a clear representation of the three temptations that continue to come from Egypt. 1 Corinthians 10:10...How does God help us [escape](#) Egypt?

[God dealt with the bondage of Egypt very specifically.](#)

Sin was confronted (Moses and Pharaoh) 1 Timothy 4:2; Romans 6:6

Blood was applied (Passover) 1 John 1:9; Romans 6:11

Freedom was gained (Red Sea Opened) Romans 8:2; Romans 6:13

Freedom was learned (Wilderness) 1 Peter 4:12-19

How do these principles relate to our own spiritual walk?

From what are we to flee?

1 Corinthians 10:14

1 Timothy 2:22

1 Corinthians 6:18

To what or Whom are we to turn?

2 Timothy 3:5

What are we to resist?

Hebrews 12:4

James 4:7

Departing Egypt means forsaking everthing that exalts itself above God. What specifically needs to be forsaken in your life - in light of the preceding passages? Make a specific list and be honest!

THE PLAGUES ON EGYPT

It is quite probable that the plagues that came against Pharaoh and Egypt were targeted toward the Egyptians and specific 'gods'. Here are some possible correlations with what we know of the Egyptian 'gods' of the day.

TEN PLAGUES	POSSIBLE EGYPTIAN GOD
Nile Turned to Blood Exodus 7:14-25	Khnum: guardian of the Nile Hapi: spirit of the Nile Osiris: the Nile was his bloodstream
Frogs Exodus 8:1-15	Hett: form of a frog, god of resurrection
Gnats and Flies (2) Exodus 8:16-19; 20-32	No correlations
Cattle Exodus 9:1-7	Hathor: mother goddess; form of a cow Apis: bull of god Ptah; symbol of fertility Mnevis: sacred bull of Heliopolis
Boils Exodus 9:8-12	Imhoptep: god of medicine
Hail Exodus 9:13-35	Nut: sky goddess Isis: goddess of life Seth: protector of crops
Locusts Exodus 10:1-20	Isis: goddess of life Seth: protector of crops
Darkness Exodus 10:21-29	Re, Aten, Atum, Horus: all sun gods of sorts
Death of Firstborn	The deity of Pharaoh: Osiris, the giver of life

This may not indicate that God has a sense of humor, but it certainly shows His attention to detail!

Leviticus

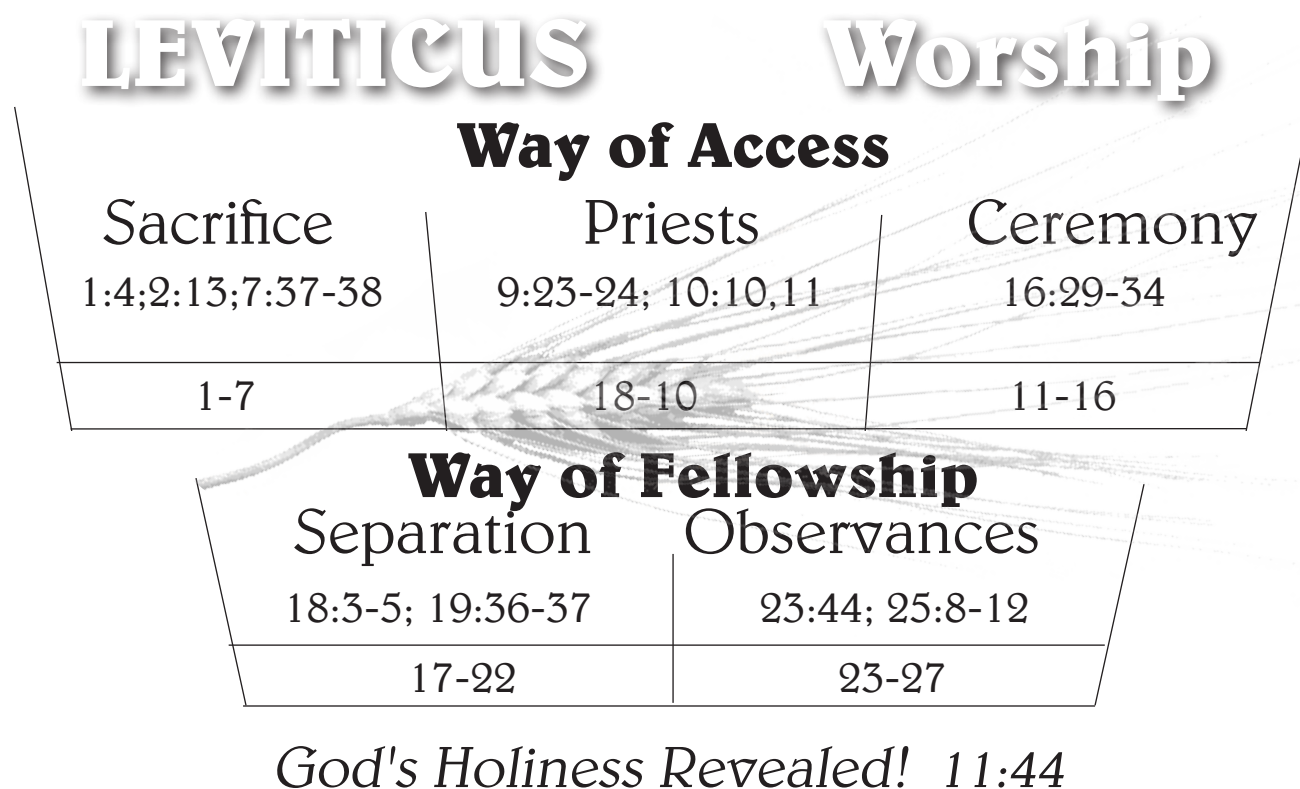


“For I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. And you shall not make yourselves unclean with any of the swarming things that swarm on the earth. ‘For I am the LORD who brought you up from the land of Egypt to be your God; thus you shall be holy, for I am holy.’”

Leviticus 11:45

Welcome to the book of Leviticus!

To begin your study of Leviticus, meditate on the book's content represented in the overview chart below. What are the two major movements of the Leviticus? How does each sub-section give information that clarifies the two major movements? In Chapters 1-16 we view principles of access to God that is acceptable in His sight. In Chapters 17-27 we deal with the way of pleasing and honoring fellowship once access has been given. Note the theme phrase at the bottom of the overview chart: 'God's holiness revealed.' What comes to your mind when you think of God's holiness?



Also note the passages listed within the overview chart. Take this opportunity to refer to each one, relating the section titles to the appropriate Scripture. What have you learned thus far about Leviticus? The book of Leviticus gives us a wealth of spiritual truth and insight into the Holy character of God and the need of man as we approach our Holy Creator. Two key verses are prominent. For Chapters 1-16, we have chosen 11:44 reflecting the opportunity and responsibility of sinful man to have pure access to the Father. For Chapters 17-27, we have chosen 22:32-33 reflecting God's desire for us to avoid defilement after our access has been granted.

Open your heart as you read!

God's holiness is revealed in Leviticus. The quality of our access to God depends upon acceptable sacrifice and service. How would you describe your access? Your sacrifice? Are you practicing separation from the contamination?



KEY BACKGROUND on the book of Leviticus

AUTHOR

Although the book does not make an explicit statement of its Mosaic authorship, the phrase, and the Lord spoke to Moses, occurs about thirty times. Further, our Lord believed that Moses wrote the book as attested by Mark 1:44 (compare Ezra 6:18; Matthew 8:2-4 with Leviticus 14:1-4).

DATE

In Exodus 40:7, a chronological note is given: "It came to pass in the first month of the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was reared up." This would date the book either shortly before or in the first month of 1444 B.C.

PURPOSE

"The inescapable fact of a dichotomy of God's holiness and man's sinfulness is the universal basic problem confronting all humanity. The entire message of Leviticus is directed to it." (Jensen, Survey of the Old Testament, Page 105)

OTHER BACKGROUND

The best explanatory commentary on Leviticus is the book of Hebrews. God spoke the words recorded in Leviticus to Moses out of the tabernacle of the congregation. (1:1) Before, He had spoken distantly from Mount Sinai. Now He is instructing His people how they can approach Him and have fellowship.

God has not changed. He is the same holy God that desires His people to be holy. That word, in fact, is mentioned 81 times in the book. The precepts of the law in the remaining chapters show God's standard for conduct.

There is much symbolism and teaching in types in Leviticus which the New Testament expands for us. The New Testament writers refer to this rich book 44 times. The sacrifices reminded the Israelite of his deep sinfulness and great need for atonement. They pointed to Christ, the Perfect and Final Sacrifice. (Note Hebrews 8-10)

Not only is Christ our Sacrifice, He is our Priest, which is discussed in Hebrews 8-10. Hebrews 4-7 is a sequel to this book. It teaches that Christ is our High Priest, and 1 Peter 2:5 says we are a royal priesthood. Just as Leviticus instructs priests to be consecrated by being washed, clothed and anointed, so we need to be washed (Titus 3:6), clothed in garments of salvation and righteousness (Isaiah 61:10) and anointed by the Holy spirit (1 John 2:27).

[Genesis](#) begins with God's pre-eminence and ends with a promise of deliverance. [Exodus](#) opens with a problem of bondage and closes with the pathway to freedom. [Leviticus](#) heralds the peaceway of sacrifice and closes with the premise that devotion to God is crucial! Leviticus views the need for offerings that are pleasing in His sight (1:1-4). The book closes with commandments to govern God's people as they walk (27:34). Offerings are provided way of access, and keeping commandments as a means of fellowship!



Leviticus Chapter Chart

ACCESS THROUGH OFFERINGS

Read Chapters 1-3

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
1		
2		
3		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What are the three offerings in this section and what do you perceive as the significance of each?

2. In what manner was each offering given and what is God's response?

3. With what was each offering to be offered?

4. Why wasn't Israel supposed to eat fat or blood?

5. Why was God so particular about the ways these offerings were to be presented?

What about today?

1. Read Hebrews 10:5-18. What do you learn about true sacrifice? What does God require from you?

2. Read Romans 12:1,2. What is a living sacrifice? In what ways do you find yourself living as a living sacrifice?

Thank God for the ability to have access to perfect peace!

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
4		
5		
6		
7		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What was the nature of the sin offering and why was it necessary?

2. What kinds of sins are dealt with and how was forgiveness experienced?

3. What are the similarities and differences between the sin offering and the trespass offering?

4. Why are the offerings considered more than once?

5. What is a wave offering and why was it necessary?

6. Note the summary verses 7:37, 38.

What about today?

1. Consider guilt in the life of a Christian. What do we learn from this section about feeling guilty? (Note 1 John 1:9).

2. Search your heart today and every day for unintentional sin. What are we to do when sin is discovered? (Read Psalm 139:23, 24).

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
8		
9		
10		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What was the purpose and significance of the anointing oil?

2. What was the purpose of the ram of ordination offering? How does it compare with the ram of the burnt offering?

3. What was Aaron's job and why was it necessary?

4. What does 9:23, 24 reveal about God's holiness?

5. Why was Nadab and Abihu's sin so serious? What was the root of their sin?

6. How does the Lord respond to Aaron? What do we learn about Aaron in this section?

What about today?

1. Study and compare Acts 5:1-11. What correlations would there be? What are the implications for our offerings to the Lord?

2. Read Revelation 1:4-7. What does it mean for us to be priests before our God?

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. Why are there clean and unclean animals?

2. What was God's attitude toward the unclean and why did it seem so harsh?

3. What does the word swarming teach us?

4. What correlations are evident between leprosy and sin?

5. How was one cleansed from leprosy? What is pictured here?

6. Why were the laws on leprosy given?

7. Why did God want Israel to be clean? Read 16:29, 30.

What about today?

1. What spiritual leprosy has or is now affecting you?

2. What are the swarming things of today?

3. What do you do when you find yourself unclean?

Even among the people of God, the leprosy of the world rots away at the fabric of God's morality. And yet, there is a cure! (See 1 John 1:9 and Romans 6:12-14).

SEPARATE & HOLY

Read Chapters 17-22

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What is God revealing when He talks about the blood?

2. Why were such stringent sexual laws necessary?

3. What do you learn here about God's view of justice?

4. Why was God's response so harsh and why should all of these people have been put to death?

5. Why were the offerings supposed to be without defect?

6. Note the conclusion (22:32, 33) concerning to the necessity of holy gifts!

What about today?

1. Do you have appreciation and reverence for the blood sacrifice of Christ?

2. Do you practice social equity?

3. In what ways could the worship of Molech have a 20th century correlation?

Our God has not changed. He still desires His children to walk holy before Him in love and purity. True separation involves a turning away from the world and its standards (1 Peter 1:13-16)!

OBSERVANCES

Read Chapters 23-24

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
23		
24		

KEY QUESTIONS:

There are seven **appointed times** listed in this section along with the teaching of Jesus and His apostles concerning each holy day and feast. Take the time to consider each one and ask the questions:

What did each mean to the Jews?

What did each mean to the Christ-followers who followed?

What does each one have to do with my life of devotion to the Lord God?

OBSERVANCE	PURPOSE	TEACHING OF CHRIST & THE APOSTLES
Sabbath		Hebrews 4:1-10
Passover		1 Corinthians 11:17-34
First Fruits		Romans 8:23; 1 Corinthians 9:7
Pentecost		Acts 2
Trumpets		1 Corinthians 15:52; Revelation 1:10
Atonement		Hebrews 9
Tabernacles		Mark 9:2-13; 11:8

What about today?

What do you learn about devotion from these feasts and observances?

What are the times where you evaluate your commitment to the Lord Jesus and reflect upon your life? Don't let the days, months, and years slip by (Ephesians 5:16)!

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
25		
26		
27		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What does the feast of Jubilee teach us about God's perspective on man's nature?

2. What is promised and warned concerning periods of time in the land?

3. What principles do we learn about God's ownership?

What about today?

1. How would you specifically define pride of power in your life?

2. What have you set apart to the Lord? What specifically are you are holding back?

It is critical that times of refreshing come for the spiritual, physical, and emotional welfare of the sons of Adam, and particularly the sons of Abraham!



CONCENTRATION ON CONSECRATION

Leviticus 11:44

"For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy..."

Consecration (setting apart) and holiness are not just available options to godliness, they are requirements for "all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus".

CONSECRATION IS COMMANDED BY GOD

What does each section of passages teach us about consecration?

A. Because of Who He Is

Exodus 20:1-6; Leviticus 11:44, 45; Leviticus 19 (esp. vs. 1-2, 37);
Leviticus 20:7-8; John 15:1,4,5.

B. Because of What He Has Done and Is Going To Do

Exodus 13:2,11-16; Exodus 34:10-16, 24¹ Leviticus 20:22-24; John 15:16

C. Because of Who We Are Supposed To Be in Him

Exodus 19:4-6; Leviticus 20:26; 1 Peter 2-9; John 15:14

CONSECRATION IS DEMONSTRATED BY GOD'S SON

John 17:19 (in light of John 15:13; John 17:4)

CONSECRATION IS REQUIRED OF YOU AND ME IN ORDER TO BE FREE!

"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body." (1 Corinthians 6:19,20)

"For you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God!" (Peter 2:10)

We can never be perfected by works of the flesh. If we love God, however, we will keep His commandment to set ourselves apart for His purposes. We do so as a privilege - not a burden. And through obedience we are set free!

In what ways do you concentrate upon your consecration?

THE ROTTING HEART

Here is an opportunity to examine the relationship between leprosy and sin.

Sin is like leprosy: what starts out as a small 'dot' can spread and grow until the whole body is covered with rot!

In order to be wholly holy we need to learn how to avoid 'spiritual leprosy', as well as how to deal with it. Carefully consider the following points to discern how they apply to your life. What do you learn from each group of passages?

Separate yourself from it!

(Avoid opportunities to get it; don't make your home among the infected.)

Leviticus 13:46. Compare with Leviticus 20:24-26; Psalm 1:1; Proverbs 4:14-15;
Proverbs 5:8; 1 Corinthians 5:2; Ephesians 5:3-17.

When you notice it beginning, deal with it immediately! (Don't let it spread!)

Leviticus 13:2. Compare with Psalm 32:3; 1 Corinthians 5:6-7; Hebrews 12:15

If 'the rot' got you, get cleansed!

Luke 5:12-13; 17:12-13. Compare with Psalm 32:3-5; Psalm 51; Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 1:8-9.

Show yourself to be clean by walking in cleanliness!

Leviticus 14:2,3,11; Luke 5:14; 17:14. Compare with Luke 3:8

('Therefore, bring forth fruits in keeping with repentance....'); Ephesians 4:1; 5:8;

Colossians 1:10, 21-23; 3:5-10; 1 Peter 2:9.

Don't forget the One who set you free!

Leviticus 14:7; Luke 17:15-18. Consider Isaiah 53:3-9; John 8:36; 2 Corinthians 5:21;

Revelation 5:9-10.

"But if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin." 1 John 1:7



HOLINESS OR HAPPINESS?

By A.W. Tozer

A selfish desire for happiness is as sinful as any other selfish desire. Its root is in the flesh which can never have any standing before God. 'The carnal mind is enmity against God for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.' (Romans 8:7)

People are coming more and more to excuse every sort of wrongdoing on the grounds that they are 'just trying to secure a little happiness'. Before she will give her consent to marriage, the modern young lady may ask outright whether or not the man 'can make me happy', instead of wondering selflessly whether she can bring happiness to her life partner. The lovelorn columns of the newspapers are wet with the self-pitying tears of persons who write to inquire how they can 'preserve their happiness'. The psychiatrists of the land are getting fat off the increasing numbers who seek professional aid in their all-absorbing search for happiness. It is not uncommon for crimes to be committed against persons who do nothing worse than 'jeopardize someone's happiness.

That is the hedonistic philosophy of old Grecian days misunderstood and applied to everyday living in the twentieth century. It destroys all nobility of character and makes milksops of all who consciously or unconsciously adopt it; but it has become quite the popular creed of the masses. That we are born to be happy is scarcely questioned by anyone. No one bothers to prove that fallen men have any moral right to happiness, or that they are in the long run any better off happy. The only question before the house is how to get the most happiness out of life. Almost all popular books and plays assume that personal happiness is the legitimate end of the dramatic human struggle.

Now I submit that the whole hectic scramble after happiness is an evil as certainly as is the scramble after money or fame or success. It springs out of a vast misunderstanding of ourselves and of our true moral state. The man who really knows himself can never believe in his right to be happy. A little glimpse of his own heart will disillusion him instantly so that he is more likely to turn on himself and own God's sentence against him to be just. The doctrine of man's inalienable right to happiness is anti-God and anti-Christ, and its wide acceptance by society tells us a lot about that same society.

The effect of this modern hedonism is felt also among the people of God. The gospel is too often presented as a means toward happiness, to peace of mind or security. There are even those who use the Bible to 'relax' them, as if it were a drug.

How far wrong all this is will be discovered easily by the simple act of reading the New Testament through once with meditation. There the emphasis is not upon happiness, but upon holiness. God is more concerned with the state of people's hearts than with the state of their feelings. Undoubtedly the will of God brings final happiness to those who obey, but the most important matter is not how happy we are but how holy. The soldier does not seek to be happy in the field; he seeks rather to get the fighting over with, to win the war and get back home to his loved ones. There he may enjoy himself to the full; but while the war is on his most pressing job is to be a good soldier, to acquit himself like a man, regardless of how he feels.

The childish clamor after happiness can become a real snare. One may easily deceive himself by cultivating a religious joy without a correspondingly righteous life. No man should desire to be happy who is not at the same time holy. He should spend his efforts in seeking to know and do the will of God, leaving to Christ the matter of how happy he shall be.

For those who take this whole thing seriously, I have a suggestion: Go to God and have an understanding. Tell Him that it is your desire to be holy at any cost and then ask Him never to give you more happiness than holiness. When your holiness becomes tarnished, let your joy become dim. And ask Him to make you holy whether you are happy or not. Be assured that in the end you will be as happy as you are holy; but for the time being let your whole ambition be to serve God and be Christlike.

If we dare to take a stand like that we may expect to know a new degree of inward purification. And, God being who He is, we are more than likely to know a new degree of happiness as well, but a happiness that springs out of a more intimate fellowship with God, a happiness that is elevated and unselfish and free from the pollutions of the flesh.

Numbers



“And he spoke to Korah and all his company, saying,
“Tomorrow morning the LORD will show who is His, and who
is holy, and will bring him near to Himself; even the one whom
He will choose, He will bring near to Himself.”

Numbers 16:5

Welcome to the Book of Numbers!

To begin your study of Numbers, meditate on the book's content represented in the overview chart below. What are the two major movements of the book? How does each subsection give information that clarifies the two major movements? In Chapters 1-10, we observe the specific preparations for journey. Why do you think each of these would be necessary for any godly journey? Chapters 10-36 describe the journey wanderings as God tests the commitment of the Israelites. Note again the theme phrase at the bottom of the overview chart: God's people as they walk. How would you describe your walk?

NUMBERS

Wander

Journey Prepared

Warriors	Levites	Purity	Worship
1:2,3,19	3:12,13; 4:49	5:6,7; 6:21	10:13,35,36
1-2	3-4	5-6	7-10

Journey Wanderings

Sinai to Moab	Events at Moab
12:1-3; 14:22-33	25:1-3; 26:64,65
10-21	22-36

"God's people as they walk!" 33:1

The book of Numbers gives us a wealth of spiritual truth and insight into what it means to walk in a manner worthy of that which we have been called. God is in the process of purifying a people for Himself. He does so through testing the faith of His children. Two key verses are prominent. We have chosen 33:1 reflecting the wandering events of the book. We have chosen 9:17 that states the most important preparation for any journey: understanding and knowing the desire and direction of God Most High!

Open your heart as you read!

God has a plan for our life of following, and it involves obedience with a preview to our entrance into the promised land. God's premise for a holy life is devotion, and this devotion must permeate every area of our walk. Grumbling and complaining of any kind is ultimately directed at God, who oversees all of the details and circumstances of our lives!



KEY BACKGROUND on the book of Numbers

AUTHOR

The internal and external evidences clearly support the fact that Moses, the great leader and law giver of Israel, is the author. The internal evidence for Mosaic authorship can be seen from the author's knowledge of Egyptian manners and customs (13:1-2). Outside of the Old Testament, the Lord Jesus Christ, Himself, confirms Mosaic authorship (Luke 24:27; John 5:46-47).

DATE

In Numbers 1:1, the book begins with a census on the first day of the second month of the second year after the Exodus (1443 B.C.) and ends in the eleventh month of the fortieth year (Deuteronomy 1:3). The writing of this book was concluded at the end of the wilderness wanderings (1425 B.C.), although parts may have been written as the events transpired.

OTHER BACKGROUND

This fourth book of Moses is called Numbers, from its Greek title, because on two different occasions a census or 'numbering' of God's people was taken (Chapters 1 and 26). The name of the book in the Hebrew is in the wilderness, a phrase which occurs in the first verse and is perhaps a more accurate designation than the familiar English title. The Hebrew title actually explains what this book is all about: the wanderings of the Israelites in the wilderness and the disobedience that got them there.

The wandering in Numbers takes up where the exiting in Exodus left off. Five characters dominate the action of the book: Moses, Aaron, Miriam, Joshua, and Caleb. To prevent you from wandering and wandering through this book, the wanderings of the Israelites may be geographically broken down into three sections:

1-14 From Sinai to Kadesh 15-20 In the Wilderness 21-36 From Kadesh to Moab

Why study the book of Numbers?

In Numbers, an eleven-day trip required forty years to complete, all because of sin and disobedience. For the Christian, the pilgrimage through life is often made as difficult as the Jews' forty-year trek through the desert. Many potential blessings are detained or even deleted out of the Christian's life because of disobedience. It is possible for the Christian to never attain the full richness of his inheritance in Christ in this life just as all but two of those adults who left Egypt never enjoyed the richness of the inheritance awaiting them in the promised land.

As the wilderness where Israel wandered is littered with the corpses of a disobedient people who never obtained their inheritance, so too the history of Christianity is littered with disbelieving people who never appropriated all they had in Christ and received their full inheritance. There are people who have for all practical purposes become worthless as far as service for God is concerned because they wasted their lives wandering aimlessly when they should have been winning the war purposefully. To such a people, and for those who wish to avoid the same folly, the book of Numbers was written.

[Genesis](#) opens with God's pre-eminence and closes with a promise of deliverance. [Exodus](#) begins with the problem of bondage and closes with the pathway to freedom. [Leviticus](#) begins with the peaceway of sacrifice and closes with the premise that devotion to God is imperative! [Numbers](#) starts with a plan to number the people and closes with a preview of the promised land (35:10).



Numbers Chapter Chart

CENSUS & THE CAMP

Read Chapters 1-2

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
1		
2		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What were the particulars of the census? What do they teach us about God's interest in His people?

2. What was the special consideration for Levites and why?

3. Why was the camp arranged as it was? What was the spiritual significance?

What about today?

1. What is the degree of God's interest in the particulars of your life?

2. Is God's dwelling place central in your life?

3. How would you describe the order (or lack of it) in your camp?

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What was the purpose of the ransom money?

2. How do you feel about the 'law of jealousy'? What was its purpose?

3. What was a 'Nazarite vow'? What was it for?

4. What was the purpose of the Levites?

5. How was Israel led?

What about today?

1. Israel was led in specific and spectacular ways! How are we led similarly in our spiritual lives?

2. How do you measure up to the standards for worship in this section?

3. Do you feel that all of these demands for purity are fair?

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. How did Israel know when it was time to depart?

2. What was the first complaint?

3. The second complaint?

4. The third?

5. What was the reason for the plague?

6. What do we learn about Moses in this section?

7. What is the greatest lesson Israel needed to learn? (Note 14:39-45)

What about today?

1. Recall Moses' reaction to the circumstances of this section. In what ways are you a Moses?

2. In what ways a Miriam or Aaron?

3. In what ways do you act like the congregation?

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. Why do you think that the laws of chapter 15 are listed where they are?

2. What is the symbolism of the tassels and blue cord?

3. Why was Korah's rebellion so serious?

4. What was the reason for this plague?

5. What is happening relative to Aaron in 16 and 17?

6. What do the duties of the priests reveal?

7. In what way did Moses not treat God as holy when he sinned?

What about today?

1. Which laws do you think have most specific application to you?

2. How would Korah's rebellion manifest itself today?
-
-
3. What do you learn from this section about your duties as a priest of God?
-
-

BALAAM ENCOUNTER

Read Chapters 22-25

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
22		
23		
24		
25		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Balak? Balaam?
-
-
2. Why was Balak requesting Balaam's services and what were they?
-
-
3. Did Balaam know God?
-
-
4. What does the encounter with the donkey and Balaam reflect upon this book thus far?
-
-
5. What was the sin of Peor? The consequences? The remedy?
-
-
6. What do we learn about leadership in the congregation (compare 31:16)?
-
-

What about today?

1. The zeal of Phineas was commendable. What was the basis for it? The result of it?

2. What would be the attitude of Phineas toward the church today? What it be toward your life?

PREPARING FOR CANAAN

Read Chapters 26-30

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. Here we have the second census of the people. Why was it necessary and how did it differ from the first?

2. What were the people instructed to remember? What is the significance? Why was a restatement necessary?

3. Why do you think there was an emphasis on the content of 30:1-16?

What about today?

1. We need to be aware of our offerings to God. What are they? (see Romans 12:1,2)

2. Where do you stand on making and keeping vows?

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
31		
32		
33		
34		
35		
36		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. Why was vengeance upon the Midianites necessary? (read 25:16-18 for a previous command).

2. What was the outcome for Balaam?

3. What is the lesson here as we live as soldiers in Christ?

4. Notice a key verse of the book in this section (33:1).

5. Note the emphasis on remembrance (33:1-49).

What about today?

1. What specific principles of walking do you learn from 33:1-42?

2. Which ones do you feel apply specifically to your life today?

WARRIORS & WARFARE

God has called His people to war! We are to respond to this call in His Strength. 'Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.' (Ephesians 6:10-13)

The call is out; the battle is on! But before you charge out to 'take possession', consider these three very important points:

Recognize Your Enemy

Ephesians 2:2; Ephesians 6:11, 12; 1 Peter 5:8, 1 John 4:1

Recognize Your Source of Strength

Exodus 15; Isaiah 40:29-31; 41:10; Acts 1:8; John 16:33; 1 John 5:4,5

Remember That The Outcome Has Already Been Decided!

2 Peter 3:7; 10:30; 17-18; 1 John 2:17; Revelation 20:10-21:5

This acrostic, based on the book of Numbers, will help you glean applicable truths for spiritual warfare.

Count each warrior - Numbers 1:2,3 -- Each individual is important!

Also Judges 7:1-7; Ephesians 4:7, 15-16.

Established leadership is from God -- Numbers 1:1,4,17 -- '...These men who had been designated...' Also, Numbers 12:8; 27:15-18; Romans 13:1-4 (human government); Hebrews 13:7,17.

Never abandon your position -- Numbers 2:1; 3:6; 16:3 -- 'Be what God wants you to be, and where He wants you to be' Also, Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 4:7, 11-13.

Set out.

Under the direction of the Most High -- Numbers 9:15-23 -- Move when He moves -- Stay when He stays! Also, Matthew 4:19-20; John 10:3-5, 27.

Never **S**hrink Back! -- Numbers 13:27-32 -- Unbelief has grave consequences!
1 Timothy 6:12; Hebrews 3:7 - 4:2; Hebrews 10:38.

IT'S HARD TO BE HUMBLE!

As we near the end of our concentrated study of the Pentateuch and Moses, let's not neglect to examine a very important verse which reveals a characteristic from the life of Moses that is very much needed today. Numbers 12:3 reveals: "Now the man Moses was very humble, more than any man who was on the face of the earth."

Why is this verse significant? How does one attain this quality of life known as 'humility'? To begin, let's verify from Scripture Moses' humility.

Moses Humbled Himself:

In the sight of the people...Numbers 14:5; 16:4

On behalf of the people...Exodus 32:10-13; 30-32; Numbers 14:12-20; 16:22

Concerning his authority as leader...Numbers 11:28-29

Before the presence of God...Exodus 34:8-9

As we see from these examples, Moses demonstrated true humility. But how does a person become humble? This usually happens one of two ways: either humble yourself or be humbled! Neither thought is pleasurable, but humility is required of a servant of God (Micah 6:8), and humbling yourself is much less 'humiliating' than being humbled.

The following passages list several examples of each.

On Humbling Yourself:

...Abraham...Genesis 13:8-9

...Hezekiah...2 Kings 19:14-19

...Ezra...Ezra 9:3-15

...Mordecai/Esther...Esther 4:1; 4:15-16

...David...Psalm 37:1-11

On Being Humbled:

...Pharoah...Exodus 12:31-32

...Samson...Judges 16:21, 25, 28

...Saul...1 Samuel 15:24-28

...Nebuchadnezzar...Daniel 4:35

Don't be deceived into thinking humbling yourself is a once-for-all accomplishment!

Moses humbled himself in the previously listed examples, but did not humble himself and obey God when he was told to speak to the rock. Instead, he struck it in anger and was humbled by being forbidden to enter the promised land.

Job humbled himself (Job 1:20-21), but was again to be humbled by God in Chapters 38-41 (resulting in Job 42:1-6).

For those who desire to be godly, the choice is not whether or not to be humble (James 4:6); the choice lies in how we are humbled. See James 4:10 for the right way to be humbled before God!

In conclusion, study John 13:1-17 carefully for a beautiful illustration (as well as a very important lesson) concerning humility.

PITFALLS IN WANDERING

Philippians 2:5-8 commands us to “have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.” The result of this kind of living is found in verse 9: ‘Therefore also God highly exalted Him...’

As we walk before the Lord Christ, we often fall into the same sins as our fathers before us. Here are several we have noted for your own personal evaluation. Are you falling into pits as you wander? What do you learn from each reference?

COMPLAINING...Do you?

Numbers 11:1
Lamentations 3:39
Jude 16

SPEAKING AGAINST AUTHORITY...What about you?

Numbers 12:1,2
Jude 8

WALKING BY SIGHT...In what ways do we?

Numbers 13:14
2 Corinthians 5:7
1 Thessalonians 4:1
2 John 6

PRESUMPTION...Some your-life examples?

Numbers 14:43,44
Psalm 19:13
2 Peter 2:10

REBELLION...Present-day evidences?

Numbers 20:8-11; 27:14
Luke 6:46
Acts 5:32
1 Peter 1:22

DISCOURAGEMENT...What discourages you?

Numbers 32:7-9
Joshua 1:7
Psalm 27:14

IDOLATRY...What idols have you kept?

Numbers 25:1-13
1 John 2:15-17
1 John 5:21

Deuteronomy



“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us,
and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten
from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 1:14

Welcome to the book of Deuteronomy!

To begin your study of Deuteronomy, meditate upon the book's content reflected in the overview chart below. What are the four major movements of the book? The historical review is for the new generation of Israelites who had been born since the exodus from Egypt. The law is given once again (the tablets had been broken). God renews and ratifies His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and Moses is buried before the nation enters her inheritance. The key word (standards) reflects the majority of the book's content (4-26) where we observe the giving of the Law (Deuteronomy means "second law.") A key verse for Deuteronomy is found in 10:12. How does this compare with Christ's teaching in Matthew 22:34-40? Do you understand where God's Law fits into your life as a believer?

DEUTERONOMY

Standards

Three Discourses:

HISTORICAL REVIEW	LAW EXPOSITED	COVENANT RATIFIED	MOSES GOODBYE
1:26; 4:39	5:29; 6:12	30:11-20	34:6-12
1-4	4-26	27-30	31-34

God's faithfulness and instruction! 10:12

The book of Deuteronomy gives us a wealth of spiritual truth and insight into the character of God Most High. It focuses the righteous standards for holiness that are required by His character. In Numbers we viewed tests in the wilderness. In Deuteronomy we see the standards for the test that will come living as a distinct nation in the promised land. Two key verses are prominent. We have chosen 10:12 which reflects the essence of God's standards and 30:11 for God's perspective on His law. Do you understand the purpose of the Law as a part of the plan of God's grace?

Genesis opens with God's pre-eminence and closes with a promise of deliverance. Exodus begins with the problem of bondage and closes with the pathway to freedom. Leviticus opens with a peaceway of sacrifice, and closes with the premise that devotion to God is imperative. Numbers opens with a plan for the journey and closes with a preview of the promised land (35:10). Deuteronomy opens with principles of history and closes with the death of the prophet Moses.

Open your heart as you read!

Someone once said that the only thing men learn from history is that men don't learn anything from history. Just as Moses desired that the children of Israel grow through experience, it is His desire for us today to learn what is pleasing to Him (1 Corinthians 10:11,12). Moses walked humbly before the Lord. God's desire is the same for all His children (Leviticus 26:19). Are you being broken before the Lord or is your pride still your power? Do you have a proper view of God's law? The requirement of the law was fulfilled in Christ, but the law continues to convict mankind of our need. God's Law will be the standard for all future judgment! Christ's fulfilment of the penalty of the Law will be our rescue!



KEY BACKGROUND on the book of Deuteronomy

AUTHOR

The book explicitly states that Moses was the author. "So Moses wrote down this law and gave it to the priests, the sons of Levi, who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and to all the elders of Israel." (31:9) Compare also 31:24-26. It is further declared that Moses spoke "the words of this song." (31:30)

DATE

According to Deuteronomy 1:1-5, Israel was on the plains of Moab about to enter Canaan when Moses spoke the words of the book. Moses states that he commenced the book "in the fortieth year" (1:3). Assuming the conservative date of the exodus (1445 B.C.), the date of this book would be about 1405 B.C. The material in this book was given to the people within a period of seven days, just a month before God's people crossed over to Canaan.

NAME

The name Deuteronomy ("Second Law" - 17:18) should be rendered "This is the copy or repetition of the law." The book, therefore, does not contain a "different law" distinct from that given at Sinai, but is simply a partial restatement and explanation of previous laws of Israel to the new generation who had grown up in the wilderness.

PURPOSE

The events described in Deuteronomy occur right at the end of the life of Moses and immediately prior to the entry of the Israelites into the promised land. Deuteronomy is a book which reflects upon the past forty years in the wilderness and gives the prospects for the coming years in the promised land. It is a book written to warn people who are fickle about the importance of being faithful. The word "do" is mentioned fifty times in the book, emphasizing the necessity of obeying God's law. In Deuteronomy God gives His people, Israel, standards to live by and in so doing to inherit a blessing. The corollary for God's people today is found in the book of James where we are told that those who are "doers of the Word and not hearers only" (1:22) will be blessed in what they do (1:25).

Why study the book of Deuteronomy?

As mentioned above, God set certain standards for the people of Israel to follow in Deuteronomy. The same holds true for believers today. It is very easy to confuse what is cultural from what is biblical. In subsequent books we will discover the Israelites had the same problem when they conformed themselves to the idolatrous cultures around them rather than having a transforming effect on those cultures by their obedience to God's commands. The nation confused what was cultural and what was biblical. To check up on your cultural/biblical I.Q., see if you can answer the following correctly;

1. Church is where we go on Sundays.
CULTURAL or BIBLICAL?
2. Our spiritual success is reflected in our material success.
CULTURAL or BIBLICAL?
3. Business leadership qualifies you to lead the people of God.
CULTURAL or BIBLICAL?
4. Providing materially for your family fulfills your family obligations before God.
CULTURAL or BIBLICAL?

Deuteronomy Chapter Chart

HISTORICAL REVIEW

Read Chapters 1-4

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
1		
2		
3		
4		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. In what ways are 1:26,27 summary verses?

2. What was the root of Israel's problem within the events of Chapter 1?

3. What do we learn about God's providence?

4. Why were the battles continued until there were no survivors?

5. How do these chapters reinforce our view of Moses' humility?

6. How did Moses view the future of Israel?

What about today?

1. What have you specifically learned from Israel's history that affects the way you view your own walk with God?

2. Reread 4:34-40. Consider the awesome power we have witnessed thus far in the Biblical account. How do these events impact your view of God? How do you know that you fear the Lord?

THE LAW OF MOSES

Read Chapters 5-11

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. Note 4:44. Why is it a transitional verse?

2. What was the people's response to the message of the tablets?

3. What was God's response to the people?

4. What is God's central desire in chapter 6? What is His warning?

5. Why was Israel not to pity the nations?

6. What was Israel supposed to remember?

7. 11:26-28 are good summary verses for the section.

What about today?

1. What significance do you believe the ten commandments have in the life of a Christ-follower?

2. How do we define proper and improper pity?

3. Are you careful to remember the standards of God in the middle of your circumstances?

WORSHIP LAWS

Read Chapters 12-16

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
---------	-------	-----------

12		
13		
14		
15		
16		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. There appear to be three sections. Worship Laws (12:1-32); Laws for Idolatry (13:1-18); and Personal Holiness Laws (14:1-16:17).

2. What is the purpose behind the worship laws?

3. What is God's specific attitude toward idolatry?

4. Personal holiness included no disfigurement, dietary restrictions, tithes, care of the poor, and keeping central feasts. What are the correlations of each as you meditate upon your walk with Jesus?

What about today?

1. True religion is described in James 1:27. How is one "stained by the world?"

2. In what ways has your view of worship changed? Your view of idolatry? Your standards for personal holiness?

CIVIL LAW

Read Chapters 16-21

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. Note 16:18-20 as summary verses for this section.

2. Why and on what basis were transgressors to die?

3. In what way is 17:14, 15 a prophecy?

4. To whom does 18:15-22 refer?

5. What is the spiritual significance of the city of refuge?

6. What principles of warfare do we learn in chapters 20 and 21?

What about today?

1. How do you feel about today's reading?

2. Do you deal in equity with those around you?

3. Read 1 Peter 4:17. God is bringing equity first through the judgment of the Church. In what ways do you "fall short" by God's standard of evaluation?

SOCIAL LAWS

Read Chapters 22-26

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. Read 26:16-19 as summary verses for this section.

2. How are all of the issues tied together in chapter 22?

3. Chapters 23, 24, 25 deal with relationships in the congregation. What is the central "social theme" that is taught?

4. What do we learn about principles for the importance of giving in chapter 26?

What about today?

1. God has "set us high." (Read 26:19)

2. 1 Peter 2:1-10 gives us the reason for our being "set apart".

3. In what ways do you see fruit in your life as one of the "chosen race"? A "royal priesthood"? A "holy nation"? In what ways do you feel as though you belong to God?

COVENANT RATIFIED

Read Chapters 27-30

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
27		
28		
29		
30		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. 27:1-8 give the prerequisites for establishing laws for the land that was to be possessed. They are summary verses for the section.

2. What do the curses of chapter 27 have in common?

3. What is the nature of the covenant (29:9, 30:19-20)? What is a covenant?

4. What does the "but" in 28:15 contrast?

5. How does 29:4 relate to a covenant?

6. Reread 29:29. What are secret things and revealed things in this context and what are the implications for us? 7. Read 30:19, 20 as extremely central verses!

What about today?

1. In what ways have you set up the law around you?

2. God establishes His covenant. Read Romans 8:26-39 to rejoice in the surety of the ratified covenant of God!

MOSES GOODBYE

Read Chapters 31-34

Chapter	Title	Key Verse
31		
32		
33		
34		

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What was accomplished through Moses in each of these verses?

31:1-8 _____

31:23 _____

31:24-29 _____

33:1-29 _____

34:1-12 _____

2. What do we learn from this retrospective about being a servant of the most High God?

What about today?

In Numbers we saw that Moses was the most humble man on the face of the earth.

1. How can we know (based on the example of Moses) that we are learning true humility?

2. Read Psalm 9:12; Proverbs 6:3; 16:19; Isaiah 57:15; Matthew 18:4, 23:12; James 4:6, 10; 1 Peter 5:5,6; and Philippians 2:8 for a brief study on humility. Are you being humbled?

THE GRACE OF LAW

The following references are an in-depth consideration of the subject of God's law. Take this opportunity to record observations from each of the verses. What do you learn about the grace of law?

Deuteronomy

30:11,15,19; 32:47; 10:13; 6:29; 13:17; 33:2-4

Psalms

119; 128:1; 94:12; 112:1-6; 1:1,2; 37:31; 103:17; 19:7

Proverbs

1:33; 13:6; 21:21; 14:28-35 (with Habakkuk 1:4); 29:4

Jeremiah 31:33; Isaiah 32:17

Luke 6:46-48

Romans

3:31; 4:15; 5:13,20,21; 6:14; 7:10,22; 8:2,3; 10:4; 13:8

2 Corinthians 3:17

Galatians

2:19,21; 3:23,24; 4:4,5,21; 5:1,14,23; 6:2

Hebrews 10:1,7

James 1:25; 2:8, 10,25

1 John 5:3

Jude 4

COMMANDS OF CHRIST

JESUS IS QUITE CLEAR ABOUT HIS EXPECTATIONS!

Luke 6:46: "Why do you call me, Lord, Lord and do not the things which I say?"

John 15:14: "You are my friends, if you do whatever I command you."

John 14:15: "If you love me, keep my commandments."

Christ's purpose for giving commandments

John 15: 10-11 - "If you keep my commandments, you shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in His love. These things have I spoken to you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

The promise to those that find and keep commandments

John 14:21 - "Whoever has my commandments, and keeps them, it is he that loves me: and he that loves me shall be loved by my Father, and I will love him, and will reveal myself to him."

COMMANDMENTS CONCERNING YOU AND GOD - check them out!

1. Rejoice -- Matthew 5:12
2. Prayer and Fasting -- Matthew 6:6,7,16
3. Ready -- Matthew 24:44
4. Watch and Pray -- Matthew 26:41
5. Follow -- Matthew 4:19
6. Treasure -- Matthew 6:19,20
7. First -- Matthew 6:33
8. Pray-Harvest -- Matthew 9:38
9. Yoke -- Matthew 11:29
10. Cheer -- Matthew 14:27
11. Love God -- Matthew 22:37, 38
12. Abide -- John 15:4

CONCERNING YOU AND OTHERS - check them out!

5. Give -- Matthew 5:42
6. Light -- Matthew 5:16
7. Resist -- Matthew 5:39
8. Alms -- Matthew 6:1
9. Judge -- Matthew 7:1,2
10. Holy -- Matthew 7:6
11. Brother -- Luke 17:3,4
12. Murmur -- John 6:43
13. Caesar -- Matthew 22:21
14. Mile -- Matthew 5:41
15. Love Enemies -- Matthew 5:44
16. Offend -- Matthew 18:8,9
17. Go -- Mark 16:15
18. Lift -- John 4:35
19. Love One Another -- John 15:12
20. Faith -- Mark 11:22,23

What an awesome study!

COVENANT KEEPER

Man comes to God with many different expectations. Often we feel God owes us something. Many times we have a "bone to pick" because we feel He has shown himself inconsistent in some way. There are those who have become embittered. There are those who maintain a religious skepticism toward our Creator and our need for redemption.

The Scriptures are clear. Man is in a humbled and needy position. God is the initiator - man is the reactor. Any system of belief that places man as the one responsible for faithfully keeping the covenant of redemption is a system without Biblical foundation. God and God alone is the "covenant-keeper." If anything, man is the "covenant-breaker" (in Biblical and secular history).

This concept is portrayed in the lives of the key characters of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the bible given through Moses).

ABRAHAM (read Genesis 12:1,2,8)

Who does the calling? Who calls first? Why was Abraham chosen?

ISAAC (read Genesis 21:7,8,13)

From where does the sacrifice come?

JACOB (read Genesis 28:10-17)

Who made initial contact? Judging by Jacob's previous actions, was he a "covenant keeper"?

JOSEPH (read Genesis 37:5)

Who made initial contact? What does this contact reveal?



WHO IS GOD?

It is so important for our spiritual lives that we get a correct take on how God has revealed Himself through nature, through His Word and His people, and through His Son - the Saviour of the world. As you reflect upon your time invested in each of these “books of Moses,” how would you summarize what each book and unfolding event of the God Story adds to your view of The Living God - whom the scriptures describe as Yahweh or Lord God Almighty?

GENESIS

EXODUS

LEVITICUS

NUMBERS

DEUTERONOMY



MOSES RETROSPECTIVE

Write a brief paragraph describing your conclusions as you have considered the central messages of these foundational books of the God Story. What was NEW to you? What was REINFORCED? What was CHALLENGED in your world view?

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