

The Books of Moses – the Pentateuch

Introduction

Penta- five

Teuch- rolls or scrolls

Also called, The Law (Torah)

John 5:46-47

Luke 24:27, 44

Matthew 5:17-20 – Christ fulfills the law, see also (Rom. 10:3,4)

I. Source- The Author

A. Jewish tradition lists Moses as the author of Genesis, along with the next four Books.

B. The Pentateuch itself depicts Moses as having written extensively. Ex. 17:14/ 24:4/ Deut. 31:24

C. Acts 7:22 tells us that “Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians.” There are a number of Egyptian loanwords found in Genesis, suggests that the author had his roots in Egypt, as Moses did.

D. Internal evidence in Exodus: 17:14/ 24:4-7/ 34:27

E. Num. 33:2- Moses writes down points about the wilderness journey.

F. Deut. 1:1- “These are the words which Moses spoke to all of Israel.”

G. Deut. 31:9- Moses wrote this Law...first person pronoun used freely throughout Deuteronomy.

H. The creative account

- passed down by oral traditions
- by Abraham's time-written form of language
- Moses collected oral trad + edited them
- Retrospective Prophecy

I. Documentary Hypothesis

1. A modern critical theory- began out of enlightenment period (German + French), in the middle of the 19th century.
2. Charles Darwin- evolutionary theological + historical development.
3. No longer considered the "WORK OF MOSES", because 'supposedly' has higher theological development than Moses could have expressed.
: Documentary Hypothesis states that
-the O.T., especially the Pentateuch, was made up of a multirole of documents, eventually woven together skillfully by editors- they put Moses' name to it for authority.

4. Four Editors:

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| J- Yahwey – Gen. 2 | - approach creator from 2 |
| E- Elohim – Gen. 1 | viewpoints |
| D- Deuteronomy | -power- ARCHITECT |
| P- Priestly Written | -person- ARTIST |

5. Main objection to this:

- Jesus and the apostles ascribe authorship of Pentateuch to Moses.
- John 5:46/ Matt. 19:8/ John 7:19/ Rom. 10:5/ Acts 3:22

II. When- Date

A. The History of the Pentateuch

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| The Era of Beginnings | Genesis 1-11 | (c.a. 10,000- 2100 B.C.) |
| Patriarchal Times | Genesis 12-50 | (2100- 1800 B.C.) |
| Israel Becomes a Nation | Exodus-Deuteronomy (Egypt+Exodus1800-1406) | |

B. The traditional Date of the Exodus from Egypt is the mid-fifteenth century B.C.

1. 1 Kings 6:1- Solomon began building Temple 480 years after Exodus
-960 B.C. - (480 years) - 1440 B.C.
2. Moses wrote the Pentateuch after 1440 B.C., during the 40 years in the wilderness.

III. Occasion- Purpose and Background

A. Genesis

1. The book of Beginnings
2. Provides background to and reason for the rest of the Bible.
3. Introduces us to and gives history to the Redemption community- Israel.

B. Exodus

1. means “going out” (church- called out ones)
2. Records the founding of the nation of Israel, by deliverance from Egypt.
3. The Account of God establishes the constitutional covenant at Sinai.
4. God’s instruction to Moses to build the tabernacle and its completion.

C. Leviticus

1. Important as a background to other books of the Bible about sacrifice and priestly obligations.
2. Important as showing us principles of God's attitude to sin - also shows us God's means of combating sin.
3. Prefigures the sacrifice and ministry of Jesus.

Eg. "the day of atonement" (Chap. 16)

*Typology: the study of O.T. people, institutions, objects and some events in relation to what they represent of Christ, this ministry and of this 1st and 2nd coming.

D. Numbers

1. Records the journey from Sinai to the Plains of Moab
2. One year at Sinai receiving additional instructions
3. Thirty-eight years wandering in the wilderness due to unbelief to take the land
4. There are many lessons for us to learn from this wilderness

E. Deuteronomy

1. Greek – "the second law" – not second version, nor exact copy.
2. A summary, reflection, and explanation of the law.
3. It comes in the form of a speech by Moses. (1:5)
4. It is "The" book of the law
5. Purpose: to prepare the people for their entry into Canaan. (35 times it is said "go in and take possession") The new generation born in the wilderness needed to hear the Law. They were not there at Sinai. Moses is speaking to a new generation.
6. The legislation in Deuteronomy is partly repetitive of the laws in Exodus and Leviticus, and partly fresh new laws.

IV. Design and Outline of the Pentateuch

Genesis

1. The Era of Beginnings 1:1 - 11:32
 - Creation Account* 1:1- 2:25
 - The Fall & Consequence* 3:1- 6:10
 - Noah, The Flood, and
A New Beginning* 6:11 - 11:32

2. The Patriarchal Period 12:1 - 50:26
 - Abraham* 12:1 - 25:18
 - Isaac & Jacob* 25:19 - 36:43
 - Joseph* 37:1 - 50:26

Exodus

1. The Deliverance of Israel 1:1 - 13:16
2. The Journey to Sinai 13:17 - 18:27
3. The Revelations at Sinai 19:1 – 40:38

Leviticus

1. The Sacrificial System 1:1 – 7:38
2. The Service of the Priests 8:1 – 10:20
3. The Laws of Impurities 11:1 – 16:34
4. The Holiness Code 17:1 – 26:46
5. Gifts to the Sanctuary 27:1-34

Numbers

1. Instructions for the journey from Sinai 1:1 – 10:10
2. Rebellion and Punishment of 1st Generation 10:11 – 25:18
3. Preparation of the New Generation 26:1 – 36:13

Deuteronomy

1. Review of Israel's History & its Significance 1:1 – 4:43
2. The Law and its Significance 4:44 – 28:68
3. Final Preparations & Moses' Farewell 29:1 – 34:12