

Old Testament Overview

Genesis-Deuteronomy

(Ro 15:4)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Evening
 - a. Greeting...
2. How many people really know what each book of the Bible is dealing with?
 - a. The context
 - b. The content
3. We are going to start a new series of lessons entitled "O.T. Overview."
 - a. We are going to look at each book of the O.T. over the next few weeks.
 - b. We will then go and look at each of the N.T. books.
4. My hope with this series is to give a basic understanding of each book of the Bible while giving us some lessons we can learn from each.
5. Today we will be looking at the first five books of the O.T.
 - a. Gn, Ex, Lv, Nu, Dt.
 - b. These books are known as...
 - i. Torah in Hebrew meaning "law."
 - ii. Pentateuch in Greek meaning "five rolls or cases."
 - c. Moses is said to have written the Torah right before the Jews went into the promised land.
6. With this in mind let us examine these books.

I. Genesis

- A. Genesis means...beginnings
 1. This is because it is a book of beginnings.
 - i. We see the beginning of creation.
 - ii. We see the beginning of sin with mankind.
 - iii. We see the beginning of the scheme of redemption.
- B. Outline
 1. **(1-2)** Creation
 2. **(3-4)** Sin introduced
 3. **(5)** Genealogies
 4. **(6-9)** Flood
 5. **(10)** Genealogies
 6. **(11)** Babel
 7. **(12-25)** Abraham
 8. **(25-36)** Isaac & Sons
 9. **(37-50)** Joseph
- C. Lessons learned in Genesis
 1. We learn how we got here...
 - i. We find out that we are God's creation
 - a. **Gn 2:7** "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being."¹

¹ All Scriptures are taken from the NKJV unless otherwise noted.

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2. We learn who we are
 - i. We see that we are God's children.
 - a. **Gn 1:27** "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."
 - ii. In the same way a child is made in the image of its parents so are we with God.
 - a. **Ac 17:28-29** "for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.' 29 Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising."
3. We learn why we are here.
 - i. We see quickly that we are here to walk with God.
 - a. **Gn 5:24** "And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him."
 - b. **Gn 6:9** "This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God."

II. Exodus

- A. Name Means
 1. To exit or depart
- B. History
 1. Exodus picks up with the death of Joseph and the enslavement of the Israelites. God's goal is to get His people to the land that was promised to Abraham's decedents.
- C. Outline
 1. **(1-12a)** Preparations to exit Egypt
 2. **(12b)** The exit of Israel
 3. **(13)** Firstborn consecrated; God leads by cloud and fire
 4. **(14)** Crossing of the Red Sea
 5. **(15a)** Victory Song
 6. **(15b-17a)** Grumbling Begins
 7. **(17b)** War with Amalek
 8. **(18)** Advice to Moses regarding leadership
 9. **(19)** People hear God at Mt. Sinai and commit to covenant
 10. **(20)** Ten Commandments
 11. **(21-23a)** Various civil obligations & guidelines for relationships
 12. **(23b)** Guidelines on Sabbaths, feasts, and Cannon Promised
 13. **(24)** Covenant ratification & God's glory revealed
 14. **(25-31)** Tabernacle preparations
 15. **(32-34)** Golden calf issue
 16. **(35-40)** Tabernacle constructed

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D. Lessons learned

1. Deliverance can only come from God.
 - i. **Ex 3:7-8** "And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. 8 So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites."
 - a. **Jg 10:11**
 - ii. **Ps 50:15** "Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."
2. You are never too good to take advice.
 - i. **Ex 18:19, 24** "Listen now to my voice; I will give you counsel, and God will be with you: Stand before God for the people, so that you may bring the difficulties to God...24 So Moses heeded the voice of his father-in-law and did all that he had said."
 - ii. **Pr 12:15** "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice." (ESV)
3. God keeps His commitments.
 - i. **Ex 19:5** "Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine."
 - ii. **Ps 105:8** "He remembers His covenant forever, The word which He commanded, for a thousand generations"
 - a. "He will keep his agreement forever; he will keep his promises always." (NCV)

III. Leviticus

A. Name means

1. "that which pertains to the Levites" (Old Testament Survey "Survey of Leviticus" by Parrish, Eddie pg. 17)

B. History

1. Dave Miller, "Whereas Exodus closed with the erection of the tabernacle, Leviticus describes how the tabernacle is to be used and put into service." (can't remember where I got this)

C. Outline

1. **(1-16)** How to approach God & enter into communion with Him
2. **(17-27)** How to maintain fellowship and communion with God

D. Lessons Learned

1. God is holy
 - i. **Lv 11:45** "For I am the LORD who brings you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy."
 - ii. **Lv 20:26** "And you shall be holy to Me, for I the LORD am holy, and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be Mine."

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2. Follow the Lord's Word and it only (do not add to nor take away)
 - i. **Lv 10:1-2** "Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. 2 So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD."
 - ii. **Dt 12:32** "Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it."
 - iii. **Pr 30:6** "Do not add to His words, Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar."

IV. Numbers

- A. Name came from LXX title which is "Numbers"
 1. Because of the census taken at the beginning and end of the book.
- B. History
 1. Picks up one month after the close of Exodus and covers the 40yrs of wandering in the wilderness.
- C. Outline
 1. **(1-4)** Census of males 20yrs and above able to fight
 - i. 603,550 so estimate population was 2-3 million.
 2. **(5 – 10a)** More instructions on how to be holy
 3. **(10b-12)** Leave for Kadesh Barnea (grumbling begins)
 4. **(13-14)** Reconnaissance team investigates Cannon
 5. **(15)** More divine regulations or instructions
 6. **(16)** Overthrow attempt by Korah & associates
 7. **(17)** Aaron's priestly preeminence is verified
 8. **(18-19)** More responsibilities give
 9. **(20a)** Death of Miriam & sin of Moses
 10. **(20b-21)** Trip to Moab
 - a. Aaron dies and bronze snake is needed.
 11. **(22-36)** On the plains of Moab
- D. Lessons Learned
 1. Life is a journey that requires faith if you want heaven.
 - i. Obstacles will get in our way.
 - a. Grumblers – **Nu 10-12**
 - b. Pessimist – **Nu 13-14**
 - c. Self-righteousness – **Nu 16**
 - ii. We must overcome them.
 - a. Be content
 1. **Ph 4:11** "Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content"
 - b. Optimist
 1. **II Co 4:16** "Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day."

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c. Humble

1. **Nu 12:3** "Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth."

V. Deuteronomy

A. Name Means

1. Means "second law" comes from the LXX.

B. History

1. Picks up at the final months in the Plains of Moab.
2. Moses is getting close to death.
3. Moses address the new generation to prepare them for the occupation of the Promise Land.
4. Remember this generation would be no older than 59yrs old.
 - i. Only children when they left Egypt, saw the Red Sea part, and heard God's voice from Mt. Sinai.
5. They needed to be reminded who God is, what He has done, what He expects from them.

C. Outline

1. **(1-4)** Recap of the previous 40yrs
2. **(5-26)** Reminder of God's laws
3. **(27-30)** Necessity of remaining true to the covenant
4. **(31-34)** Final details of Moses' life

D. Lessons Learned

1. Being reminded of God's word is good.
 - i. **II Pt 1:12** "For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth."
2. Every generation needs to know God's word.
 - i. **Dt 31:12-13** "Gather the people together, men and women and little ones, and the stranger who is within your gates, that they may hear and that they may learn to fear the LORD your God and carefully observe all the words of this law, 13 and that their children, who have not known it, may hear and learn to fear the LORD your God as long as you live in the land which you cross the Jordan to possess."
 - ii. **II Ti 2:1-2** "You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."
 - iii. **Pr 22:6** "Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it."

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CONCLUSION

1. The first five books of the Old Testament are some of the most prized among the Jewish nation.
2. It is there that they get their law and it is considered sacred above all else.
 - a. In fact there are over 4,000 laws that scribes had to follow just to make a copy of the Law of Moses.
3. Here is the question we need to ask ourselves, do you care enough to know each word of God that has been written?
 - a. Do you look to God's word as your prized possession?
4. Invitation
 - a. God's Plan of Salvation
 - i. Hear/Study **Rom 10:17; II Tim 2:15**
 - ii. Believe Jesus Is The Christ **Jn 3:16; 8:24**
 - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:30; Lk 24:47**
 - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9**
 - v. Immersed For The Forgiveness of Sins **Ac 2:38; 22:16; I Pt 3:21**
 - vi. Live A Faithful Life **I Jn 1:7; Eph 5:8**