

# OT501: The Pentateuch

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## About The Course

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This course was originally created through the Institute of Theological Studies in association with the Evangelical Seminary Deans' Council. There are nearly 100 evangelical seminaries of various denominations represented within the council and many continue to use the ITS courses to supplement their curriculum. The lecturers were selected primarily by the Deans' Council as highly recognized scholars in their particular fields of study.

## Lecture Outlines

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### LECTURE I

#### Introduction

- I. Things to learn in the course
- II. Importance of the Pentateuch
- III. Place of the Pentateuch in the Divisions of the Old Testament
  - A. Divisions of the English Old Testament
  - B. Divisions of the present Hebrew Bible
  - C. Earlier divisions of the Old Testament books.
  - D. The division found in the Septuagint
- IV. Biblical witness for the Mosaic Authorship
  - A. Theory of P.J. Wiseman
  - B. The claims of Exodus, especially the Book of the Covenant
  - C. The claims of Leviticus and Numbers
  - D. Deuteronomy - the speeches of Moses
  - E. Witness of some other Old Testament books: Joshua, Ezra, Nehemiah, Hosea
- V. Special problems to be studied

A. Evolution

B. Higher criticism

## VI. General Outline of the Pentateuch

### LECTURE II

#### Part One: Genesis

##### I. Creation

A. Outline of Genesis

B. Alleged contradiction of Genesis 1 and 2

1. Genesis 2:4ff refers only to the area of Eden. The “mist” means a “river” that rose and irrigated the area.
2. Genesis 2:4ff refers to a special creation of man - not from brutes - and to the establishing of Eden for him.
3. The order of world-wide creation in Genesis 1 does not conflict with the order of the establishing of Eden in Genesis 2.

C. Creation of matter and scientific theory

1. Genesis 1:1 refers to the creation of matter followed by its ordering into universes, etc.
2. The usual scientific theory of the origin of matter is the “Big Bang” theory.
3. Evidences alleged from the theory of an expanding universe.
4. Magnitude of the universe does not contradict the Christian view.
5. As to the fact of a beginning, current science need not be interpreted against the biblical picture.
6. Various theories of the date of creation yet to consider.

### LECTURE III

D. The six creative days

1. Ussher’s date of creation
2. Scientific view of a very old earth
3. The theory that the universe was created full grown
4. The view of periods between the creative days
5. The long-day or period-day theory
  - a. God had made the sun before day **four** and made it visible on day **four**.
  - b. The seventh day of Sabbath rest for God has been a long period.

E. The Cosmology of Genesis 1

1. Not a hard-dome firmament with windows for rain
2. But a sky with clouds bearing water above and the seas below
3. The “windows of heaven” or better “sluice gates of the sky” are not to be over-literalized.

#### F. The formation of plants

1. Some scientific theory now argues that plants came first because there was a reducing atmosphere in which only plants could live.
2. This theory would fit the Bible quite well.

#### G. The Gap Theory or Restitution Theory

#### H. The Origin of Life

1. The alleged Key to Life, the DNA molecule, is exceedingly complicated.
2. Possibilities of formation by accident are correspondingly slim.
3. View still best that God brought the materials together and made life

### LECTURE IV

4. Life requires many things besides DNA - enzymes, whole cells, etc.
5. If, by careful planning and skill, scientists should make life, this would not prove it possible by accident.

#### I. The Origin of Species - the Biological argument

1. Darwin and development of species by natural process
2. Minor arguments for evolution - embryology, vestigial organs - now of lesser value
3. The argument from similarity has been very persuasive.
4. Darwin's view - organisms varied without any limit and environment effected the necessary changes
5. But inheritance of acquired characteristics now no longer held
6. Mendel proved heredity sets limits that selection and environment cannot cross over.
7. DeVries then suggested that small mutations add up to major species changes.
8. Reputable scientists insist that this cannot be proved.
9. Fruit-fly experiments give new varieties, but not new major types of life.

#### J. The Origin of Species - the Geological argument

1. The Flood Geology - possible, but not the only possibility
2. Even if the geological column is admitted for the sake of the argument, the missing links are still missing. Admissions by scientists.

3. Conclude that all that science can insist upon is a limited evolution, not general evolution. This evolution within the kinds of Genesis reduces greatly the Bible-science problem.

## LECTURE V

### K. Evolution within the kinds and the argument from similarity

1. Obvious similarities throughout living creatures - organs, blood, reproduction, bio-chemistry
2. Reasons for similarities, negative: not due to common descent for limited evolution holds to several distinct lines of origin.
3. Reasons for similarities, positive: due to God's plan in using the similar bio-chemistry of DNA building blocks

### L. Creation of Man

1. The biblical picture - not from brute ancestry but by a special creation
2. Older picture fossil man: steady progress from Java man to Cro Magnon man
3. Newer elements in the picture:
  - a. Peking man like Java man but brain without human range
  - b. Piltdown man, a hoax
  - c. Carmel man intermediate between Neanderthal and Cro Magnon and not so old as once thought
  - d. Swanscombe man old, yet modern in type
  - e. Glacier dating of these finds now questioned
  - f. Neanderthal man now fully erect
4. New finds from Africa
  - a. Olduvai Gorge, Lake Rudolph, etc. Small forms - pygmies, but can be called fully human

## LECTURE VI

### II. Adam to Abraham

#### A. The Date of Creation of Man

#### B. The Fall

1. The serpent
2. The voice of the Lord God on the wind
3. The curse on the serpent - never to be removed
4. The prot-evangelism or first gospel

5. The curse on the woman and the relation between the sexes
6. The curse on the man, and the ultimate removal by Christ of the curse on the world and mankind

C. The sin of Cain

D. The genealogies of Genesis 5 and 11

1. In a form readily memorized
2. Doubtless incomplete - arguments for this

E. The Flood of Noah

1. Universal in extent and results
2. Possibly a combination flood and drastic change of climate
3. Date to be further considered

## LECTURE VII

F. The Date of the Flood

1. Siberian Mammoths preserved in ice
2. Wisconsin spruce forests destroyed
3. A point of rapid sedimentation about 10,000 years ago

G. In the Ark preserved on Mt. Ararat?

N.B. Too early to say. Some wooden structure has been found, but more must be uncovered.

H. The post-Diluvian genealogies

1. The Table of Nations in Genesis 10 is a history of colonization, not a strict genealogy.
2. Genesis 11 is a real genealogy although, as previously said, incomplete.

## III. The Life of Abraham

A. Abraham's birth and work

1. Ur of the Chaldees - the city or a general locality?
2. Abraham's background in Hurrian laws and customs illuminated by the Nuzi tablets
3. Abraham's business - possibly an organizer of caravans

B. Sarah's barrenness and the birth of Ishmael

1. In line with Nuzi customs
2. Nuzi adoption practices
3. Sarah's lack of faith

## LECTURE VIII

### C. Genesis 14 and Melchizedek

1. Date of the chapter formerly considered quite late, now is admitted to be early
2. Melchizedek - a type of Christ as Psalm 110 and Hebrews say

### D. Abraham calls his wife his sister

1. Older view that this was a duplicate account of a sad lapse
2. New information from Nuzi that it was a granting of high social status to a wife

### E. The Birth of Isaac

N.B. By Nuzi law the natural son, Isaac, would take over the right of first born from Ishmael

### F. Purchase of the Cave of Machpelah

N.B. Hittite parallels for this bargaining

### G. The Abrahamic blessing and Messianic promise

### H. The covenant of infant circumcision

1. A spiritual sign: "Circumcision of the heart"
2. A distinctive sign: No other ancient circumcision was given to infants
3. A sign of faith

### I. The Sacrifice of Isaac

## LECTURE IX

### IV. Archaeology and the Cultural Background of Abraham

- A. The founding of early cities, two or three thousand years after the Flood
- B. How cities get buried and how their history can be uncovered
  1. Building, collapse, leveling, and rebuilding
  2. Written remains: clay tablets in Mesopotamia; papyri in Egypt. Very little in Palestine where the papyrus has perished.
  3. Excavation layer by layer with comparison of other cities in and outside of Palestine
- C. Early periods in Mesopotamia before invention of writing at 3000: Jarmo, Halaf, Obeid, Uruk
- D. The unification of Egypt at 3000 with subsequent dynastic history
- E. The Sumerians in Mesopotamia - 3000-2350  
The Semites under Sargon of Accad, 2350
- F. The invasions of the Amorites around 2000

G. The high culture of Mesopotamia about 2000, advanced Mathematics, commerce, international contacts

## LECTURE X

### V. Isaac and Jacob

A. Isaac calls his wife his sister as Abraham had done

B. Isaac and the early Philistines

C. The birth of Esau and Jacob

D. The meanings of Old Testament names

1. Theophoric names

2. The non-etymological use of names in word plays

E. Isaac's will - and Jacob's deception

N.B. Jacob's previous purchase of the birthright - his spiritual desire for it

F. Jacob's flight to Padan Aram

G. The birth of Jacob's sons

## LECTURE XI

H. Jacob's meeting with Esau

1. Esau's coming and Jacob's fear

2. Jacob's plan of appeasing Esau by gifts

3. The wrestling with the angel

4. The happy meeting of the brothers

I. The seduction of Dinah

### VI. The Life of Joseph

A. Joseph's early dreams

1. Revelations from God

2. The dreams rejected by the family

B. The sale of Joseph to the Midianites

C. Joseph's fidelity in Potiphar's house

D. Joseph's trust in God even in prison

E. God's timing in releasing Joseph

F. Joseph's exaltation as Vizier of Egypt

G. God's providence in saving Jacob's family

1. Joseph's personal trust in God's providence
2. God's larger design for the Israelites
3. Joseph's wonderful forgiveness

H. A study in God's providence

I. Dates of Joseph and the length of the Egyptian bondage

1. Exodus 12:40 - 430 years in Egypt according to our Hebrew copies; 430 years in Egypt and Canaan according to the Septuagint Text

2. Diagram of the dates according to the two possibilities:

(Abraham lived in Canaan 25 years before Isaac was born; Isaac lived in Canaan 60 years before Jacob was born; Jacob went to Egypt when he was 130 years old. The time of the patriarchs in Canaan was 215 years total.)

By Hebrew Text:	By Septuagint Text:
Date of Abraham entering Canaan: 2045	Date of Abraham entering Canaan: 1830
Period of Patriarchs in Canaan: 215	Period of Patriarchs in Canaan: 215
Date of Jacob's going down to Egypt: 1830	Date of Jacob's going down to Egypt: 1615
Period of bondage in Egypt: 215	Period of bondage in Egypt (430-215): 215
Date of Exodus (cf. I Kings 6:1): 1400	Date of Exodus: 1400

LECTURE XII

J. Jacob's dying blessing

1. Adoption of his two grandsons as sons
2. The Messianic promise of Genesis 49:10

VII. A Brief Study of Higher Criticism

A. Brief history of the theory

B. Small problems in the Pentateuch, which do not really deny Mosaic authorship:

1. Moses' claim to be meek, Numbers 12:3
2. Moses' writing of his own death, Deuteronomy 24
3. The phrase "unto this day"
4. Anachronisms in place names

5. The phrase “the other side of the Jordan”

C. Main arguments for the alleged documents, J, E, D, & P

1. Variations in style - such as the names for God
2. The occurrence of apparent doublets, such as in the flood story or creation story
3. The different documents each telling a complete story

## LECTURE XIII

D. Wellhausen and the dating of the documents

1. He worked at a time when little was known of ancient history
2. Later discoveries have outmoded Wellhausen

E. Current - often contradictory - views

1. Martin Noth and the Tetrateuch

N.B. But how can the parts of Joshua and Judges so often identified as J, E, and P, now be called D?

2. The oral tradition school

- a. Rightly criticizes the documentary theory
- b. But there is evidence that writing was common in Israel, only the papyrus has disintegrated
- c. Also, the parallels with Koranic studies show that memorization goes with writing and disseminates what writing preserves

3. Form criticism

- a. But one author may use several forms
- b. To classify forms is legitimate, but not to divide and date by forms

## LECTURE XIV

Part Two: The Book of Exodus

I. Introduction

A. Outline of Exodus

B. Background history of Egypt

1. The Hyksos period, 1776-1560
2. The Thutmosids, the Eighteenth Dynasty
  - a. Hatshepsut

- b. Thutmoses III
- c. Amenophis III
- d. Ecnaton and his “monotheism”
- e. The tomb of King Tutankhamon
- f. The Amarna period, 1400-1360
- 3. The Ramessides, the Nineteenth Dynasty
  - a. Rameses, the Great, 1290-1223
  - b. Merneptah and his contact with Israel in Palestine at 1219

## II. Moses and the Exodus

- A. Moses’ birth, training, flight, exile, and call
- B. The office of prophet
  - 1. Signs of a prophet
  - 2. Moses, the type of the great Prophet, Christ
- C. The Exodus from Egypt
  - 1. The ten miraculous plagues
  - 2. The passover night

## LECTURE XV

- D. The route of the Exodus
  - 1. Why the Israelites did not go around the eastern lakes - the line of Egyptian forts on the East
  - 2. Probable crossing - the arm of the Mediterranean at the North end of where the Suez Canal is
- E. Miriam’s Song of deliverance - Exodus 15
  - N.B. Dated early by its poetry
- F. The trip to Mt. Sinai

## III. The Legislation at Mt. Sinai

- A. The Ten Commandments
  - 1. Classification of the laws
    - a. Moral, civil, and ceremonial
    - b. Or: Commandments 1-4 with the ceremonial legislation; and Commandments 6-10 with the civil legislation

- c. A classification of all these laws according to form: Apodictic laws and case laws
2. The type of jurisprudence in ancient Israel - much wisdom expected from the judge

## LECTURE XVI

### B. The Book of the Covenant

1. Slavery - allowed but its evils greatly mitigated
2. Murder - distinguished clearly from manslaughter

N.B. Cities of refuge to be named for the man guilty of manslaughter only

3. Assault and battery
4. Seduction and adultery
5. Loans and pledges

### C. The Annual Feasts - Passover, Weeks, Booths

## IV. The Tabernacle

### A. Its Construction

N.B. Chapel of similar construction from Tomb of King Tut

### B. Its furniture

1. The Ark of the Covenant
2. The Mercy Seat or Atonement Place
3. The Table for the priest's offering
4. The Seven-branched Lampstand and its meaning
5. The Altar of Incense
6. The Altar of Burnt offering
7. The Laver for cleansing

## LECTURE XVII

### Part Three: The Book of Leviticus

#### I. Introduction

##### A. Outline of Leviticus

##### B. The critical view making Leviticus late

1. Ezekiel differs from Leviticus (but not really).
2. The centralized sanctuary was late (but this is only a reconstruction of criticism).

3. The cultic terms for sacrifice are late (but they are now found in early Ugaritic).

C. Positive reasons against the critical views

1. Parts of Leviticus, at least, are quoted in Ezekiel.

2. Various laws in Leviticus are parallel to very early times

D. The meaning of sacrifice: Shown by reference to the Day of Atonement in Leviticus 16 and 17

1. The penalty of sin paid

2. The removal of sin pictured

3. The transference of guilt symbolized

II. The Laws of Worship

A. The major types of offerings - all emphasizing atonement - Chapters 1-5

1. Burnt offering - worship, prayer

2. Peace offering, meal offering - communion

3. Sin offering, trespass offering - forgiveness

LECTURE XVIII

B. The Consecration of the priests

1. Their ordination and start of their ministry

2. The judgment on Nadab and Abihu

III. The Laws of Cleanliness

A. Clean and unclean food

N.B. Purpose - to preserve from parasites

B. Unclean carcasses to be disposed of

N.B. Purpose - to minimize the spread of disease by vermin

C. The laws of so-called leprosy

1. This really referred to any disease characterized by skin eruptions - like smallpox.

2. The only treatment - quarantine

3. Greatly minimized the spread of contagious diseases - apparently unique to Israel

D. Leprosy - so called - in garments and houses

1. Probably types of mildew

2. The result of these laws was to assure healthy living conditions

#### IV. The Laws of Incest

##### A. Forbidden degrees of marriage

1. The laws are about what is recognized today as good.
2. Note that marriage of first cousins is not prohibited.

#### V. Further Ceremonial and Miscellaneous Regulations

##### A. Quality and characteristics demanded of priests

##### B. The Annual Feasts

1. Also in Exodus 23 and 37; Numbers 28, 29, and Deuteronomy 16
2. Passover and Unleavened Bread (Massoth - pronounced Matzos today)
3. Feast of Weeks or Firstfruits of wheat harvest
4. New Year - Rosh Hashanah
5. Day of Atonement - Yom Kippur
6. Feast of Booths or Tabernacles

#### LECTURE XIX

##### C. The Sabbatical year

N.B. For the land, for the slave, for the poor

##### D. The Jubilee year

1. Time - The Seventh Sabbatical
2. Purpose - First land reform in history

##### E. Helping the poor

1. Not to forbid interest loans
2. Loans were made with interest discounted in advance (Speiser, *Oriental and Biblical Studies*, p. 131-35).
3. The law forbade a continuing interest charge after the debtor became an indentured servant.
4. Redemption of lands the poor have sold by the "kinsman redeemer"

##### F. Warnings for disobedience

##### G. Things given for the Lord's use

#### Part Four: The Book of Numbers

##### I. The Organization of the Nation

A. Outline of the Book of Numbers

B. Organization of the Army

1. Mustering the army - not a mere census
2. Consideration of the large numbers, 606,000 fighting men
3. How they lived in the wilderness
4. How they regathered after forty years

C. The order of march of the nation

D. Rebellious on the march to Kadesh-Barnea

## LECTURE XX

II. The Debacle at Kadesh-Barnea

A. The report of the spies

1. The abundance of the land
2. The military difficulties
3. The faith of the few and unbelief of the crowd

B. The Lord's anger

1. Moses' intercession
2. The people's shallow reversal and defeat

III. The Forty Years of Wandering

A. The scattering of the people as nomads

B. The drinking offering (a poured out offering, a libation) to accompany the burnt offering

C. The man who broke the Sabbath

D. The sin of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram

N.B. Miraculous attestation of Aaron's rod

E. The water of cleansing

IV. The Journey to Transjordan

A. Death of Miriam at Kadesh-Barnea

B. Moses' sin in striking the rock

C. The victory over Arad in South Canaan

D. The journey to Ezion Geber then north to the Zered

- E. The plague of snakes and the serpent of bronze
- F. Skirting Edom and Moab in preparation for the conquest of Transjordan

## LECTURE XXI

### V. The Date of the Exodus

#### A. The Biblical Data - I Kings 6:1; Judges 11:26

1. 480 years before the temple
2. The LXX says 440 years
3. Conclusion: 1440 or 1400 for the Exodus; 1400 or 1360 for the Conquest

#### B. Argument from Edom's forts not built until 1200

N.B. But it does not say Israel couldn't defeat Edom; it says they were not to fight.

#### C. The walls of Jericho wrongly identified by Garstang

N.B. But even Miss Kenyon admits Jericho fell about 1325 - not far from the LXX figure, at least.

#### D. Several Palestine cities were destroyed at about 1200, the poorer later layers were doubtless due to Israelites

1. But the cities also changed hands about 1400-1360, for the Amarna Letters say so.
2. Hazor, for instance, changed hands both at 1400 and 1200; reasons given for claiming the former destruction was due to Joshua.
3. Miss Kenyon insists that the major cultural break in Palestine was at 1400, not around 1200.

#### E. Israelites built Rameses (Exodus 1:11) and therefore stayed in Egypt until the days of Rameses the Great

1. But Genesis 47:11 speaks of a land of Rameses before the Ramesside Kings.
2. Probably this area was called Goshen by Moses and the name changed to Rameses by a later scribe after the town's name was changed.

#### F. The Amarna Age, 1400-1360, a very suitable time for such a conquest

### VI. The Conquest of Transjordan

#### A. The threat from Balak and God's using Balaam to stop this trouble

## LECTURE XXII

#### B. Settlement of 2-1/2 tribes in Transjordan

#### C. The second mustering of the troops for battle

N.B. A few more soldiers than 40 years before

#### D. The Midianite War

1. Justification of the “total war” concept
2. In ancient battles many of those “smitten” were not killed, but became fugitives and displaced persons.
3. Results of the Israelites misplaced mercy on the Canaanites - Psalm 106:34-38, the Israelites’ innocent children were sacrificed

## Part Five: The Book of Deuteronomy

### I. Introduction

#### A. Outline of the Book

1. Chapters 1-11: Sinai to the Plains of Moab
2. Chapters 12-26: A summary of laws
3. Chapters 27-31: Warnings and challenges
4. Chapters 32-33: Final songs
5. Chapter 34: The death of Moses

#### B. Critical theories against Mosaic authorship

1. More detail on the phrase “other side of the Jordan”
2. A book written in the days of Josiah to form a base for his reform
3. The holy war motif late - possibly also early

## LECTURE XXIII

### II. Moses’ Early Speeches, Deuteronomy 1-11

#### A. The journey from Kadesh-Barnea

1. The journey to Kadesh-Barnea
2. Smiting the rock
3. The journey around Edom

#### B. The Transjordan wars

1. With Sihon in Gilead
2. With Og in Bashan
  - a. Og’s bedstead - a sarcophagus?

#### C. The warning against idolatry

#### D. The repetition of the Commandments

N.B. The “Shema” of Israel, Deuteronomy 6:4

E. Warning in view of past sins

1. The manna and God’s care
2. The golden calf
3. Korah and his company
4. The choice of a blessing or a curse

## LECTURE XXIV

III. The Laws of Deuteronomy

A. The law of the central sanctuary (chapter 12)

1. Critical views
2. Exceptions with a natural explanation

B. The tests of a prophet (chapters 13 and 18)

1. True doctrine
2. True prediction
3. Real miracle

C. Dietary laws - more extensive in Leviticus (chapter 14)

D. The Sabbatical year and care of the poor (chapter 15)

E. The Annual Feasts (chapter 16)

F. Capital punishment for religious offenses (chapter 17)

1. Not applicable in this age of separation of church and state
2. Adequate witnesses necessary
3. No trial by ordeal or confession by torture

G. Limits on kingship

H. The law of Retaliation - lex talionis (chapter 19)

1. Not a principle of private conduct as Pharisees thought.
2. But a law for judges to make the punishment fit the crime
3. A principle, never literally carried out - even in Hammurabi’s system

I. Laws of warfare (chapter 20)

J. Law of divorce (chapter 24)

N.B. Rather this was really a law against wife-trading, a limitation of excessive divorce.

#### IV. Concluding Challenges

- A. The antiphonal blessings and curses at Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim (chapters 27 and 28)
- B. The song of Moses and blessing of the tribes (chapters 32, 33)
- C. God takes Moses home

## Examination Questions

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### INTRODUCTION AND PART ONE: CREATION

1. Give three verses in the Pentateuch indicating Moses' authorship.
2. Give two verses in other Old Testament books on Moses' authorship of the Pentateuch.
3. Does the order of creation of Genesis 1 (plants, animals, man) contradict Genesis 2? Explain.
4. What is meant by the "Big Bang" theory of origin of matter?
5. Does the Bible contradict the idea of an immense universe?
6. What assumptions did Ussher make in calculating his date for the creation of Adam?
7. How does the Restitution theory answer the claim of an old earth?
8. How does the grown creation theory answer this claim?
9. How does the long-day theory answer this claim?
10. How long is God's seventh day creation rest?
11. Why is it unlikely that a DNA molecule formed itself by accident?
12. What things besides DNA are necessary for life?
13. What is the argument for evolution from similarity?
14. What did Darwin believe about the possibility of organisms naturally varying without any limits?
15. What did Mendel show were the limits of natural variation of organism?
16. Can an environment make changes in organisms which are inherited?
17. Who is credited with the idea that accidental mutations cause the variations which add up to evolutionary change?
18. Do experiments show that small mutations can add up to make major changes in the organism?
19. If the standard geology with its geological column is admitted, does it show a regular gradation between all kinds of types of life?
20. Is the concept of only a limited evolution within the "kinds" accept-able in present state of science?

21. If many “kinds” are independent and not related to each other, how can we explain the many similarities in nature?
22. Are the fossil men of Europe and Asia human? Explain the more recent finds and conclusions in this area.
23. Explain the small brains of the men found in East Africa in relation to their size.
24. Does the Bible give an absolute date for man?
25. Does the potassium-argon dating method used in East Africa always give results?

#### PART ONE: ADAM TO JOSEPH

1. Will God’s curse ever be removed on (a) mankind, (b) the ground, (c) the serpent? Explain.
2. Discuss briefly the prot-evangelium of Genesis 3:15 and its fulfillment in Christ.
3. Who offered the first sacrifice?
4. Give two arguments that the genealogy from Noah to Abraham in Genesis 11 is incomplete.
5. Why do we believe the flood was universal?
6. Give two arguments that there was a sudden, significant change in the world’s climate some 10,000 years ago.
7. Name three special patriarchal customs now illustrated by the Nuzi documents.
8. What do these Nuzi documents teach us about the background of the patriarchs?
9. What are two of the early culture sequences of Mesopotamia before writing was invented?
10. When and where was writing invented?
11. How do ancient cities get buried so they can be dug layer by layer?
12. Why are not many ancient writings preserved from Palestine?
13. Who were the Sumerians?
14. Who was Melchizedek and how is he a type of Christ?
15. Explain how Nuzi customs show us that Abraham’s calling his wife his sister protected both her and him.
16. What city was the Cave of Machpelah near?
17. What is the “Abrahamic blessing” and to whom else was it given?
18. Was it a legal custom in Jacob’s time for a birthright to be bought and sold?
19. What proof did Jacob have that his wrestling at night was not just a dream?
20. Should Jacob and his family have listened more to Joseph’s dreams? Why?
21. Who were the Hyksos Kings of Egypt? What new item of warfare did they bring in?
22. Why would the Hyksos have been more than normally friendly to the Israelites?
23. What are the two possibilities for the length of the bondage of Egypt?

24. How does Joseph's experience teach the necessity of fidelity to God?

25. How does it teach the doctrine of providence?

#### PART ONE AND TWO: HIGHER CRITICISM AND BACKGROUND OF THE EXODUS

1. Does the problem of Moses' writing of his own death necessitate division of the Pentateuch into documents?
2. Are there two different flood stories with contradictory statements?
3. How did Wellhausen claim to date the documents into which the Pentateuch had been divided?
4. Have archaeological discoveries since Wellhausen supported his reconstruction of Israel's history?
5. Have archaeological discoveries supported only some of the alleged documents or all of them?
6. How does Martin Noth and his followers divide up the Pentateuch and other historical books?
7. How does Martin Noth's view differ from older critics?
8. Does the Oral Tradition school agree with the documentary school in dividing up the documents?
9. Can books be properly divided up by different forms of expression, then the parts dated by the Sitz im Leben (Situation in Life) principle?
10. Have archaeological discoveries opposed the orthodox position on authorship of the Pentateuch?
11. Name three great rulers of the Eighteenth Dynasty.
12. Why is Ecnaton called "the heretic king"?
13. What was happening in Palestine in the days of Kings Ecnaton and Tutankhamon?
14. What are the Amarna Letters?
15. Describe the Nineteenth Dynasty.

#### PART TWO: THE EXODUS

1. Give a brief outline of Exodus.
2. How did God train Moses for his later work?
3. Describe Moses' call as a prophet.
4. How were the Israelites to know Moses was a prophet?
5. Describe the first Passover night.
6. Why did Israel not go directly to Canaan
7. What is the relation of Israel's civil law to the first four commandments?
8. What are the apodictic laws? Are there any other ancient laws in this form?
9. Explain the purpose of the cities of refuge.

10. Name the five annual feasts instituted by Moses.
11. How do Egyptian parallels support the Mosaic construction of the demountable Tabernacle?
12. What did the Tabernacle symbolize as to the holiness and approachableness of God?
13. Why was the Mosaic worship so detailed when the Abrahamic worship was not?
14. Name the furniture of the Tabernacle.
15. Outline the meaning of the seven-branched Lampstand.

### PART THREE: LEVITICUS

1. Answer the argument that Leviticus is late because the terms for sacrifice are late.
2. What was done with the two goats of the Day of Atonement?
3. What did each goat of the Day of Atonement signify?
4. Name the five major offerings and in a word say what each one signifies.
5. Why were some kinds of food forbidden to Israel?
6. Why was it valuable for the Israelites to call carcasses of unclean animals unclean?
7. What other diseases besides leprosy would make a person be counted unclean?
8. How did these laws about leprosy, so called, protect public health?
9. How did the laws about “leprosy” in the houses and garments protect public health?
10. In general, what were the laws of incest in Israel?
11. Describe the celebration of the New Year, Rosh Hashanah, and what was at least one purpose of the feast?
12. What produce was brought to the temple at the Feast of Tabernacles?
13. How did the Sabbatical Year help the poor Israelites?
14. What did the Jubilee Year do for Israelite society?
15. Describe the method of borrowing money and the penalties for no repayment.

### PART FOUR: NUMBERS

1. Was the numbering of the men of Israel a mere census or an organization of the army?
2. Why was there a second numbering just before the march to Trans-Jordan?
3. In what points did the twelve spies agree and in what did they disagree?
4. Did all the multitudes of Israel live near the Tabernacle at Kadesh-Barnea, or wherever it moved to, for forty years?
5. Name at least three of the rebellions of the people after they left Mt. Sinai.
6. When Israel journeyed south to Ezion-Geber, why did they stay in the valley south of the Dead Sea?

7. What were the dates of the Exodus and Conquest of Palestine according to the Hebrew? According to the Septuagint, LXX?
8. Answer the argument that Israel went around Edom after 1200 B.C. because there would have been no fortifications to prevent their passage before 1200.
9. Answer the argument that Jericho did not fall at 1400 because Garstang wrongly identified its walls.
10. What were the Amarna Letters and what do they say about Habiru?
11. What was Balak planning to do that made him hire Balaam to give an oracle against Israel?
12. What two kingdoms did Israel conquer in Trans-Jordan?
13. What three kingdoms in the East and South were they not to conquer?
14. What was the result of Joshua's use of the "total war" concept on the Midianites and on Jericho?
15. In the Old Testament battles, did all the enemy that were "smitten" die? Or did some become fugitives?

#### PART FIVE: DEUTERONOMY

1. Give a brief outline of the book.
2. What is the critical view of the date of Deuteronomy? Does the book show any knowledge of late people and situations?
3. In Moses' early addresses what are the reasons why he urges the people to be faithful?
4. Why did the tribes of Reuben and Gad want to settle in Gilead? What kind of territory is it?
5. Was Og a big man because he had a big "bedstead"? Explain.
6. Does the expression "waters under the earth" in Deuteronomy 4:18 and elsewhere imply that the Israelites thought the earth floated on waters below?
7. What is the "Shema" of Israel?
8. Give three tests of a true prophet.
9. What is the difference in the matter of the separation of church and state between Moses' day and ours? Should our governments punish religious offenses?
10. What took place at Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim?