

OT Lit. Study Guide #2:

Memory Verses: Lev 19:2, 18; Deut 6:4-5; Num 6:24-26; Psalm 100:1-5

Judges Reading Assignment: Judges & Ruth; and Getting Started with Judges, Bible in Five: Judges and Ruth.

After you've studied your notes along with the PowerPoints then look at the questions on the Video Lectures

10-17 and quizlet.com as the questions on the exam will be pulled the question sets found attached to those lectures. Master those questions and you should do well on the exam.

GENESIS

1. Connect the themes of strife and deception to the names and the events of Jacob's life.
2. How do you understand God's choosing Jacob over Esau before they were born? Did Esau ever have a chance? What are the significance of the names Jacob and Esau/Edom?
3. What consequences followed Jacob's lie to his father Isaac, Esau, himself and Rebekah?
4. What happened to Jacob at Bethel? How does that parallel modern faith development? In class we likened Jacob's ladder to a _____.
5. What irony was seen in Jacob's marrying Leah first and then Rachel?
6. What are mandrakes and what role did they play in the Jacob story?
7. Why did Rachel want to steal the family gods? What does that show about the religious character of Rachel and Laban?
8. What happened to Jacob at Peniel? What does Peniel mean? Who did Jacob wrestle with?
9. What 2 sons were born to Rachel? Who were Leah's 2 most important sons?
10. Does the Bible portray violence and sexually explicit written material? Illustrate with 2 stories in Genesis. What reason was suggested for why such sexual and violent stories were included in Genesis?
11. How are the stories about Jacob and Joseph alike?
12. What folk tale format is seen in the Joseph story?
13. What themes are shared by the stories about Joseph and wisdom literature?
14. What is the significance of Gen. 50:20?

EXODUS

1. Who wrote the book of Exodus? Use biblical data to support it. How is Egypt the gift of the Nile?
2. What three ways did Pharaoh try to destroy the male children? How is the last one ironic? What does Moses name mean? The mid-wives lied sparing the baby boys. How did we understand this ethical dilemma? How and why must one separate between the normative and non-normative in the historical narratives of the Bible?
3. What are the three periods of Moses' life?
4. How did Moses attempt to escape the call of God? What implications does that have for us today and the rhetoric of being "sold out"? What did that show about Moses relationship with God?
5. What does "I AM" (Jehovah/Yahweh) mean? Give 3 options for Ex 3:14 and how the difference in understanding fits into the context.
6. Why did God almost kill Moses or his son? What role did Zipporah play? What are 3 options and how did Ross' suggestion fit things together?
7. How is Exod. 6:3 understood by literary critics of the Scriptures? What is the JEDP theory and what impact does it have on how one understands the Torah? How was the apparent conflict between Ex. 6:3 and Gen. 49:18 explained without retreating to multiple sources and editorial seams?
8. What is the late date and early date of the exodus? What are major arguments for each? What is an etiological story?
9. Discuss the issues with the number of Israelites (pros & cons; options)?
10. Who hardened Pharaoh's heart? Does Pharaoh harden his own heart? How does human choice and divine election work together?
11. What were three stated purposes for the plagues of Egypt?
12. What cycle was used in Exodus in narrating the plagues? Be able to recognize a list of the plagues (first couple and ending couple plagues).
13. How does the role of the magicians change in the plague cycles? How did the plagues relate to the gods of Egypt? What was the significance of the death of the first born?
14. What are several functions of the rest/Sabbath principle?
15. What concept does the tabernacle symbolize (Ex 25:8).

16. Be able to draw a map of the tabernacle setup. What three things were in the ark? What vessels are found in the courtyard and Holy place? What is in the Holy of Holies? Who carried the tabernacle from place to place? Who ministered inside the tabernacle? Who carried the tabernacle equipment from place to place?
17. What does Ex 21:22 teach about abortion? How does the law interact with culture (i.e., slavery laws, etc.)?

LEVITICUS

1. What is the major theme of Leviticus?
2. How do you understand the idea of holiness (what are the various aspects of the concept)? How does God manifest holiness? What is the ethical quality of holiness? What categories were used to develop the personal/non-personal non-ethical holiness? How is holiness transferred?
3. How do the categories of unclean, clean, and holy relate? How do you move from one to the other (chart)?
4. How do the various aspects and defilements of sin relate to the sacrificial system in Israel? What types of things does sin damage?
5. How do you explain why certain animals are held to be clean and others unclean (4 options)? How does the concept of wholeness/yuckiness help here?
6. Purpose & types of sacrifices (whole, purification...) .
7. What are the 2 rules for eating each of the following: land animals, sea animals, birds and insects?
8. Be able to discuss the purposes, unique features and procedures of the various feasts of Israel. What happened on the Sabbath year & year of jubilee?
9. Be able to discuss the purposes, unique features and procedures of the various feasts of Israel. What happened on the Sabbath year & year of jubilee? What are Purim and Hanukah and what do they celebrate and commemorate?

Numbers

1. What is known about the Nazirites?
2. What literary pattern was seen in Numbers? How did the mini-cycle in ch. 11 reveal this pattern? What did the no-meat cycle reveal about Moses' relationship with God? Is it possible for a believer to long for death and when is that manifest in Moses' life?
3. What was learned from the Cushite Wife cycle about inter-racial marriage?
4. How is Numbers 12:3 about Moses being humble understood by critics and by us?
5. What lessons were learned in the giants in the land cycle? What is the difference between complaint and lament?
6. What ironies were seen in the Korah & Cushite wife cycles?
7. In the Numbers cycles, what features of God were discussed (change/static/dynamic/anger etc)? What were major motifs (themes) which arose in our discussion of the cycles?
8. How does the book of Numbers describe God in relationship to Moses & Israel?
9. What does Numbers suggest about the power and nature of prayer? Does prayer really change things?
10. Did God ever change His mind in Numbers (where/when specifically)? How do you explain that in light of Num. 23:19? Can God change? Is God static or dynamic? If God is perfect how can He change as any change would make him not be perfect? Does Numbers talk about the unchangeableness or immutability of God? How do you fit the two together?
11. When Moses put the snake on a pole that those bitten might look on it and live what NT passage did that tie into and how?
12. When Moses struck the rock and was judged for it what other things were going on in the context there?
13. Did Balaam know God? How does the NT look at Balaam in contrast to the way the book of Numbers portrays him? Why did Balak want Israel cursed? Why did he send to Mesopotamia to get a curser?
14. What was Balaam's biggest temptation? How does it come up in the story? What ironies were seen in the donkey incident?
15. What theme was developed in several of the Balaam oracles?
16. How does the fourth oracle of Balaam develop a messianic prophecy? What possible connections were found between Balaam's prophecy and the birth of Christ?
17. How did Balaam ultimately get Israel cursed? How is Balaam killed?
18. What is the significance of the red heifer?

Deuteronomy

1. How do you understand the concept of the land in Deuteronomy?

2. Why do some people hold a Josian date (620 BC) for the book of Deuteronomy? Explain the JEDP theory of the Pentateuch.
3. How does the argument from Hittite treaties support the early date of Deuteronomy? What were the 5 parts of a Hittite treaty? How do second millennium treaties contrast with first millennium Assyria treaties? Which model does Deuteronomy fit and what does that say about when it was written?
4. What does Deuteronomy say about the major institutions of Israel (prophets, kings, judges)?
5. What are the ten commandments and the Shema?
6. How do you interpret Deut. 22:5? How does one interpret Mosaic laws into post-modern circumstances?
7. How do you understand the concept of the law? How have certain folks broken up the law to isolate parts that are culturally conditioned and other parts that are morally universal? What is its relevance to us today? What was Jesus' and Paul's view of the law? What does the law suggest about God's relationship to culture?
8. How does the law as an indicator of social values impact how some of the laws are looked at?
9. What are some of the difficult laws of Deuteronomy and how do you understand them in light of post-modern concerns (polygamy, slavery, herem/war, etc).