

INTRO TO DEUTERONOMY



ABRAHAMIC
COVENANT

- Hebrews not chosen for merit
- TWO covenants given to Israel
- Abraham
- Moses
- Laws were an ideal Israel never lived up to

ISRAEL: A PEOPLE WITHOUT A COUNTRY

- Israel redeemed from the “beast”, Egypt
- Given the Law at Sinai
- The Priesthood is established
- Israel standing on the eastern edge of the Jordan River, across from Jericho
- Moses about to address Israel before he dies



DEUTERONOMIAN TOUTO: “The Second Law”

- Hebrew → Greek → Latin → English
- 100's of Versions due to difficulty of language translations
- Hebrews did NOT name the books of the Bible
- They referred to each book by the first few words that began each book
- *Elleh ha-devarim* = “these are the words”
- *Sefer Devarim* is the Hebrew name for our Deuteronomy
- Title “Deuteronomy” comes from an ERROR of translation Deut.17:18 “*this is a COPY.....*”
- Deuteronomian Touto means: “*this is a SECOND....*”
- Deuteronomy is NOT a “Second Law”

MODERN TEXTS ACCURATE TO 200 BC

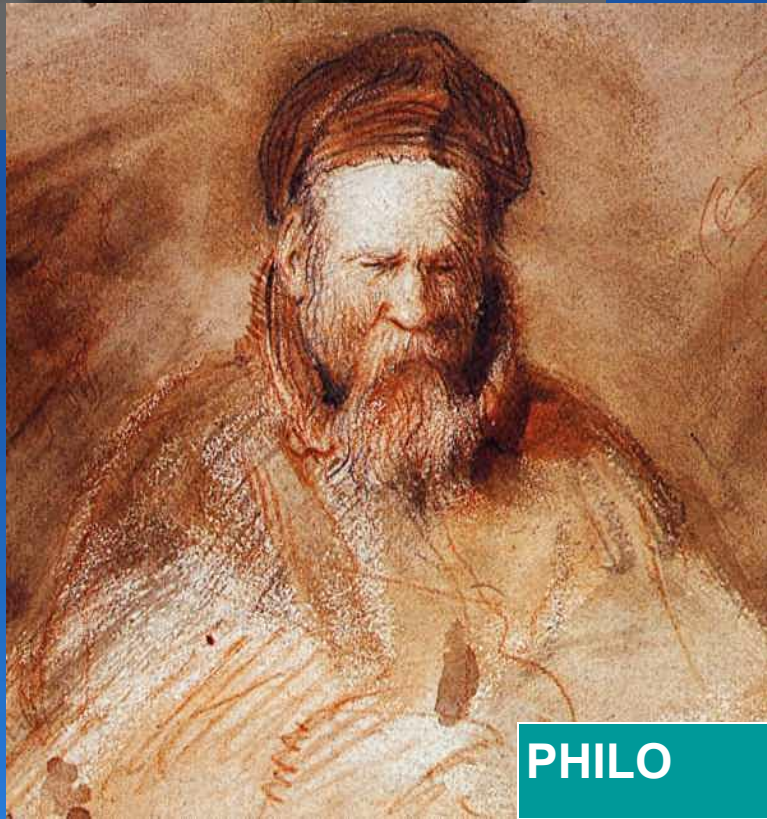
- Masoretic Text 800 AD →
- Dead Sea Scrolls 100 BC – 200 BC
- Literary Criticism
- Textual Criticism
- Some scholars say Deut. was written in 8th cent. BC
- Moses/Israel 13th-14th century
- This is pure speculation by Bible critics



SOME REDACTION OF TORAH IS LIKELY



JOSEPHUS

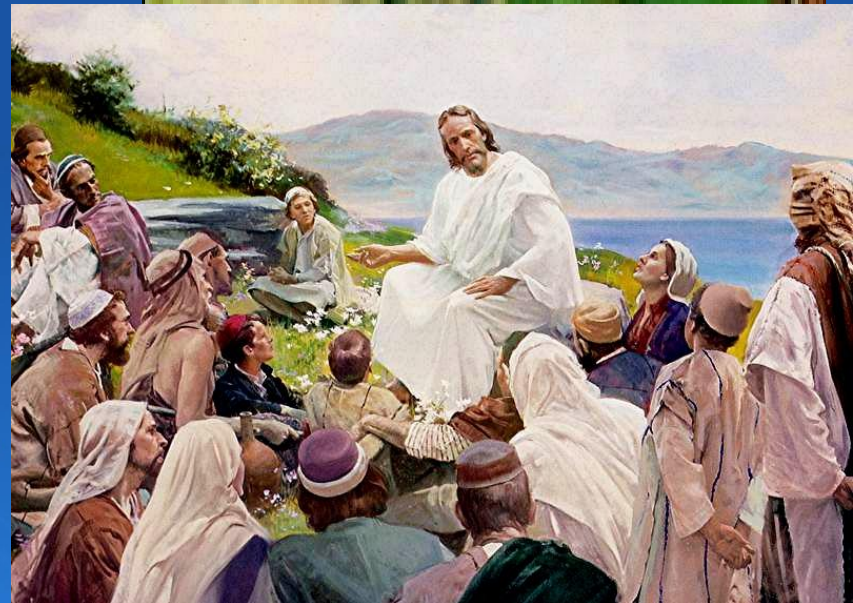
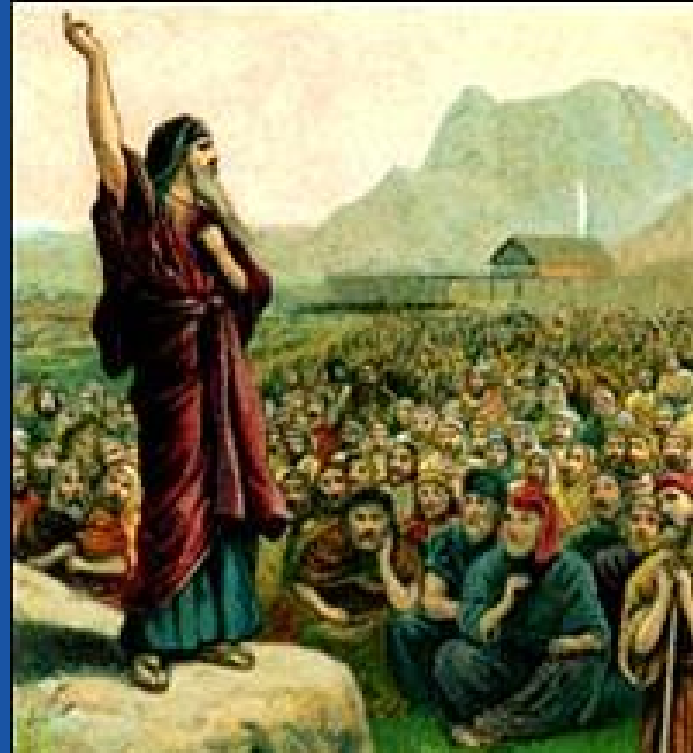


PHILO

- However, Torah fragments from EVERY era closely match one another
- Minor spelling and grammatical errors
- Early church fathers thought of Torah as from Moses
- Josephus and Philo say ALL of Torah written by Moses
- NOT UNTIL 17th-18th cent. did the “Enlightenment” scholars dispute authorship of Torah!!

DEUTERONOMY IS A PARALLEL TO “THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT”

- Moses begins with history
- 50+ % of all previous Laws are expounded upon in Deut.
- Moses takes Law from the physical mechanical level to a HIGHER spiritual plane
- Moses explains how Laws given to 1st generation, BUT, how they are to be applied under new circumstances
- Jesus explains how His listeners’ ancestors saw the Law, BUT, how they are to be applied under new circumstances



MOSES: GOD'S 1ST MEDIATOR

YESHUA: GOD'S 2ND MEDIATOR

- Moses expounds on the IDEAL of the Law in Deuteronomy
- Jesus Christ expounds on the IDEAL of the Law in Matthew
- Moses expounded DUE TO his coming death and people's entry into the Promised Land
(a Physical Kingdom)
- Yeshua expounded DUE TO His coming death and people's entry into the Kingdom of God
(a Spiritual Kingdom)
- Sermon on the Mount is a good context for understanding Deuteronomy
- Proof of repeating God-patterns

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT WAS ABOUT THE LAW



- The NEWNESS of the NT is NOT about a “*new or abolished law*”, it is explaining that the OT Messiah HAS come!
- It is a “*sermon*” on the Mount, not an “*oracle*” on the Mount
- So it was with Moses. Deuteronomy is about Moses PREACHING about the Law, not adding to or changing the Law
- It is assumed in Deut. that the people/reader knows and understands the first 4 books of Torah
- Terms are NOT re-explained nor re-defined

DEUTERONOMY HAD MUCH EFFECT ON JEWISH TRADITION



- 200 of the original 613 Torah commands are in Deuteronomy
- Moses uses a method of speaking that resembles Rabbinical rulings (Halakah)
- Words of Deut. play large role in Synagogue liturgy
- Amidah and Aleinu
- Shema (Hear O Israel)

PRIMARY THEMES OF DEUTERONOMY

- **MONOTHEISM** Principle that there is but ONE GOD in existence
- Old news for us, a whole new concept for the Hebrews
- Hebrews thought of the ONE God as THEIR god, but that other cultures had other gods
- Until this point in Torah, no major push to explain that Yehoveh was the ONLY god, and He was for the entire world
- **LOYALTY TO GOD** Principle that since there is but ONE God, then Israel should respond by not worshipping heavenly objects or other false gods

MORE PRIMARY THEMES

- CONCEPT OF GOD Moses more completely defines WHO God is
- Nearness of God is discussed
- His “Presence” versus His “total reality”
- The Lord lives in Heaven, NOT in the Tabernacle
- Removes the PHYSICAL nature of God and explains the SPIRITUAL nature of God and His FORMLESSNESS
- Yehoveh loves, gets angry and jealous

COVENANT RELATIONSHIP

- Relationship goes beyond the ethereal and the “ideal”
- Israel has specific OBLIGATIONS to God
- WORKS is a key part of our faith and it is EXPECTED by Yehoveh
- Our “works” do not END at Salvation!!
- James 2:26 “....*faith without works is dead..*”
- LOVE God forms a bond of love with Israel
- WHO ISRAEL IS A nation whose King/God is Yehoveh
- THE LAND THE LAW CENTRAL WORSHIP
- HUMANITARIANISM Focus on widows, orphans, the poor, foreigners, animals, captured soldiers