

STUDY GUIDE #1 FOR OT Lit

10/1/10

Read Deuteronomy and know the Stories and the memory verses listed in the syllabus for this Thursday; review memory verses: Gen 1:27, 15:6, 50:20 and Ps. 23; Lev. 19:2, 18, and the new memory verse Deut 6:4-5. (No article or OFA reading).

INTRODUCTION

1. How do the cosmological, teleological (Green giant argument), Pascal's wager and Jesus argue that God exists?
Why do you believe there is a God?
2. What biblical support would you give for the doctrine of inspiration? Does the Bible itself really claim to speak from God?
3. What varied processes were used in the God-breathing of Scriptures?
4. What are the 4 major steps of the movement of God's word to us?
5. What biblical support is there that the books of the Bible were immediately accepted as authoritative? What NT/OT evidence is given to support that the writers were accepted as writing authoritatively from God by others at that same time?
6. What five criteria are used to establish or question a book's claim to be canonical? What is the apocrypha and pseudepigrapha and what are the difficulty with these?
7. What external evidence is there supporting the belief that the Bible is the word of God?
8. What is the problem in 1 Sam 13:1? Does this show the doctrine of inspiration is flawed? Where are 2 major places in the NT that face textual problems?
9. What kinds of errors did the scribes that copied Scripture make on occasion? What are conflation, dittography, metathesis, fission, and fusion?
10. What principles are used for sorting out which manuscripts and textual readings are best?
11. What types of differences are there in translation theory? What are the two problems with the KJV?

GENESIS

1. What are three approaches to the relationship between the verses in Gen 1:1, 2, 3? What are the problems and benefits of each? Which allows for the world to be millions of years old and which demands a young earth?
2. What's wrong with the gap theory? How old does the gap theory allow the earth to be?
3. Which view emphasizes the word "when" and which one focuses on "became" in Gen 1:1-2?
4. What are the implications for the age of the earth if one holds a dependent clause view of Gen 1:1?
5. How does Genesis 1:1 deal with the original creation of matter in the title independent clause view? Why was this view favored?
6. Understand the 10 tablet "toledoth" ("this is the account of") view of the structure of Genesis. How does the tablet approach to Genesis work with the "toledoth" pattern? How is this information relevant to the composition of the book of Genesis? How does the sequence of genealogy and history work in the "toledoth" pattern in Genesis (tablet approach)?
7. What are the Enuma Elish and Gilgamesh? How do you explain similarities with ancient creation stories? Could Moses have borrowed from those documents? What polemical function did the Genesis story have for Moses and Israel? What is a Weltanschauung and how is that shaped in Genesis 1?
8. What are the 3 major ways of taking the term for "day" (yom) in Genesis 1? What are the advantages, rationale and problems of each approach?
9. What does the day-age theory help explain?
10. Did God ever use pre-existing materials to create? Did God ever use processes in the creation? What is creation *ex nihilo*?
11. What was the 5-fold pattern of the MEANS of CREATION as presented in Gen 1? (Announcement, command...)(know the order and wording of each).
12. What is the parallel days scheme? Be able to reconstruct the seven days of Genesis by knowing the first and sixth day using the parallel days scheme. How do the days match? What is the relationship of days 1-3 and 4-6 to forming and filling? From the parallel days-scheme, what was the order of creation?
13. What type of attitude should we have to the "when" question as opposed to the "what God did" question of creation? How should evangelicals that hold a different position on the "when" question be viewed?
14. How would you respond to someone who adds up the genealogies to find out how old the earth is (4004 BC)? How old does the Bible say the earth is?

15. What is the doxological function of the creation account? Was the original intent to fight evolutionary theory? What was the original purpose of writing Gen 1 for Israel?
16. What are 4 aspects of the image of God in man? What support is offered for each approach?
17. What are the possibilities for understanding the "us" in "let us make man in our image"?
18. What are the moral, practical and eschatological implications of the image, etc.?
19. What is the replica aspect of the image of God in humans (on what basis is this supported)? How were the ancient near eastern materials used to support the concepts of the image of God in man?
21. What are two ways of looking at the tree of life? Could Adam and Eve eat of it before the fall? (yes/no, why?) Where else does the tree of life crop up in the Bible?
22. After they ate of the fruit, how were Adam and Eve more like God? Where exactly did Satan trick them? How were they not like God? Understand the chart good/evil/objective/subjective. Why do you think God put this tree in the garden? How significant is human choice? How does choice relate to love?
23. What curses come as a result of the fall? (Serpent, woman, man)
24. What does Gen 3:16 mean? What is the woman's desire? How does Gen. 3:16 relate to Gen. 4:7? How is the woman's desire a curse? How should people respond to the curse?
25. What are some arguments for the inferiority of women in Gen 1-3 and how were they dealt with in class? e.g.:
 - 1) Eve was to be a "help mate" to Adam, therefore inferior
 - 2) Adam named Eve thus showing his power over her
 - 3) How does Galatians 3:28 play into the discussion of gender roles?
26. What is the proto-evangelium? How does the curse specify male/female role distinctions? Is work a curse?
27. What does Eve's name mean and what does that show in regard to her relationship with Adam? Why was Adam's name probably not literally "Adam"? What does his name mean in common English?
28. Why was Cain's offering rejected? What internal and familial realities moved Cain to kill his brother?
29. What are the various options for understanding the "sons of God" marrying the "daughters of men"? What view did Hildebrandt take this year and why? What does it mean that "God was sorry" or "God repented"? Are there tears in heaven (support)? Can God change His mind? What are the implications of this?
30. After the flood who did Noah curse? How does this relate to racial distinctions?
31. What was Abraham's title in relation to God? Know the map of Mesopotamia from your atlases (Ur, Nuzu, Mari, Haran, Damascus, Ebla, Ugarit; Babylon, Nineveh, Tigris, Euphrates, Nile River, Goshen, Sinai).
32. What two human solutions did Abraham consider in an effort to produce a son?
33. In what modern contexts did we parallel Abraham's relationship with Hagar? How does Abraham's relationship with Hagar show the interactiveness of culture and one's faith? How did God respond?
34. What three things was Abraham to receive through the covenant (i.e. the Abrahamic Covenant)?
35. When Abraham cut the animal in two what were two possible ways of rendering its meaning? What other two "cuts" demonstrated Abraham's faith? What is circumcision and what is its relationship to the Abrahamic covenant?
36. How do you understand Abraham's lying about his wife/sister? Was Abraham trying to protect her?
37. When Abraham bartered with God about sparing Sodom, what implications did that have for one's view of a fixed, static and deterministic view of predestination? Was the issue at Sodom hospitality? What does the Sodom story tell us about God's view of homosexual rape? Are all sins alike? How are they similar and how are they different? What should be our response to those struggling with or militant about the gay lifestyle?
38. Why is there no mention of Abraham's emotional struggle in the binding of Isaac? What did Abraham learn about Christ & God in the Akedah? What are 3 stages of faith? How did Gen 22 relate to Abraham's being God's friend?
39. Connect the themes of strife and deception to the names and the events of Jacob's life.
40. 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?
41. What consequences followed Jacob's lie to his father Isaac, Esau, himself and Rebekah?
42. What happened to Jacob at Bethel? How does that parallel modern faith development? In class we likened Jacob's ladder to a _____.
43. What irony was seen in Jacob's marrying Leah/Rachel?
44. What are mandrakes and what role did they play in the Jacob story?

45. Why did Rachel want to steal the family gods? What does that show about the religious character of Rachel and Laban?
46. What happened to Jacob at Peniel? What does Peniel mean? Who did Jacob wrestle with?
47. What 2 sons were born to Rachel? Who were Leah's 2 most important sons?
48. 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?
49. How are the stories about Jacob and Joseph alike?
50. What folk tale format is seen in the Joseph story?
51. What themes are shared by the stories about Joseph and wisdom literature?

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? What are the three periods of Moses' life?
3. 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?
4. What does "I AM" (Jehovah/Yahweh) mean? Give 3 options for Ex 3:14 and how the difference in understanding fits into the context.
5. 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?
6. What is the late date and early date of the exodus? What are major arguments for each? What is an etiological story?
7. Discuss the issues with the number of Israelites (pros & cons; options)?
8. Who hardened Pharaoh's heart? Does Pharaoh harden his own heart? How does human choice and divine election work together?
9. What were three stated purposes for the plagues of Egypt?
10. 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).
11. How does the role of the magicians change in the plague cycles? How did the plagues relate to the gods of Egypt?
12. 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?
13. What are several functions of the rest/sabbath principle?
14. What concept does the tabernacle symbolize (Ex 25:8).
14. 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?
15. What does Ex 21:22 teach about abortion? How does the law interact with culture (i.e., slavery laws, etc.)?

LEVITICUS (as far as we get into Leviticus on Tues.)

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/gross help here? Purpose & types of sacrifices.
6. What are the 2 rules for eating each of the following: land animals, sea animals, birds and insects?
7. 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?