

Bible Overview: understanding the message in the different books of the Bible.

Video 3—Freedom and Conquest—Exodus to Joshua

What does this part of the Bible tell us about each of the following?

1. Who did God provide to lead the people of Israel out of slavery in Egypt?
2. What does Moses' sin and fleeing (and if you read Exodus three his reluctance to go when God called him) tell us about people we call heroes of faith in the Bible?
3. What did God use to make Pharaoh listen to God's command to "let my people go?"
4. What awesome miracle did the Lord use to rescue his people from Pharaoh's attack?
5. What did God tell the Israelites before He gave his commandments?
6. How did the special laws God gave to the Israelites help them see their sins?
7. How did the special laws God gave to the Israelites help them see their Savior?
8. Why did the Israelites have to live in the desert for 40 years?
9. Who led Israel when the Lord gave the promised land to them through amazing victories?

The book of Exodus over-view for knowing where you are as you read your Bible.

Exodus—word meaning “exit or departure”—God taking his people out (exiting) Egypt

Exodus 1-18: How God brought the Israelites out of Egypt under Moses

Exodus 19-40: the laws God gave to the Israelites to live for Him as his special people and the detailed blueprint of the Tabernacle and the worship there (which is all a picture of Jesus work—God living among his people!)

The book of Leviticus

Leviticus—name comes from “Levi” the tribe of Israel God appointed the priests from, much of Leviticus talks about the special laws regarding Israelite worship and the work of the Priests. (Remember! The Priests with the special sacrifices were a picture and preview of the work of Jesus!)

Leviticus can be difficult reading but it is worth it, as it has many beautiful pictures and previews of Jesus saving work like the High Priest and the Great Day of Atonement (a preview of Good Friday).

It is helpful to read Leviticus with the aid of a commentary like *The People’s Bible* to help explain difficult portions.

The book of Numbers

Numbers—the book begins with a census (the numbering of the people of Israel)

Numbers includes more of the laws that showed people their sins and also pointed them to pictures of Jesus. It also includes the history of the Israelites travelling from Mt. Sinai to the edge of the promised land and contains victories God gave his people over the enemies that stood in their way. It is also useful to read this book with a commentary to help you with difficult portions.

The book of Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy—a word that comes from Latin meaning “second giving of the law”. The book repeats and explains God’s laws and promises to a new generation of Israelites just before they enter the promised land. This book records the death of Moses and God calling Joshua to succeed Moses as Israel’s ruler.

Joshua

Book is named for Joshua, the leader of God’s people at this time. Joshua leads the Israelites in their battles where God gives them amazing victories and gives the promised land to them, an important stage in God keeping his promise that Savior would be born there to the descendants of Abraham.

These books continue the history of God’s promise of the Savior Jesus, passed on from one generation to the next, God keeping his promise and preparing the people from whom the Savior would come. These lives of these Christians with their ups and downs and above all God’s mercy to them, teach us countless lessons for our faith and every day life. They also teach us much about living in thanks for all God’s amazing and saving blessings He pours out upon us!