



WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION

THE DETAILS

- *Final book of the Pentateuch (“five books”), which are God’s word to us.*
 - *Genesis = prenatal word of God*
 - *Exodus = birth and infancy*
 - *Leviticus = childhood*
 - *Numbers = adolescence*
 - *Deuteronomy = adulthood; ready to receive Promised Land*
- *Name is Greek for “second law” – a second law-giving by Moses*
- *Moses is listed as author, but likely a group of writers post-exile (6th century BCE)*

THE STYLE

- *Combination of narrative, exhortation, and law*
 - *Narrative: Deut. begins and ends with the story of Moses and Israel*
 - *Exhortation: contains speeches by Moses asking Israel to obey*
 - *Law: contains the 10 Commandments plus additional laws & instructions*

THE CHARACTER

- *Not just a law code, but a farewell address by Moses and an invitation to choose life vs. death and blessing vs. curse.*
- *A plea to love God: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart” (6:5, the Shema)*
- *A plea to obey: “Follow [the laws] so that you may live...” (4:1)*

ASSIGNMENT

- *Read Deuteronomy chs. 1-3*
- *Prepare to share 2 insights and 2 questions*