

Exodus and Leviticus

(Departure and Things pertaining to the Levites)
(In Hebrew, “These are the Names” and “He called”)

Exodus:

- I. Authorship – It is commonly believed that Moses wrote this book. Opponents typically make one of the following arguments:
 1. JEDP theory – One author who wrote preferred using the name *Jehovah*, one the name *Elohim*, and one (P) which was obviously concerned with recording the origins and institutions of the theocracy, genealogies, rituals, and sacrifices. (Source D only concerns the books of Joshua through the Kings.)
 2. Form criticism – small segments of the text are consistent with different era’s, which points to multiple authors.
 3. Traditionalist criticism – the book we have is the remnant of a richer, fuller communication that was transmitted orally, and ultimately was recorded, though we don’t know by whom.

- II. Contents – there are two basic parts to the book:
 1. The record of Israel’s departure from Egyptian bondage
 2. The establishment of Israel as a covenantal theocracy.

- III. Background –

Timing – Some place the Exodus during the reign of Amenhotep II (1450-1425), while others during the reign of Ramses II (1304-1237), and still others during the reign of King Tut (Tutankhamun) (1334-1325). The debate goes on still.

Geography – Exodus takes us from Egypt, across the Red Sea, and to Mt. Sinai. It is a rough land, inhospitable and menacing.

- IV. Outline –
 - I. Egyptian oppression of Israel – Ch. 1
 - II. The deliverer delivers – Ch. 2-18
 - III. The setting of the covenant – Ch. 19-31
 - IV. Conditions of the covenant – Ch. 32-34
 - V. The sacred tabernacle – Ch. 35-40

Leviticus:

- I. Authorship – In relation to Genesis and Exodus, there is even less debate about Mosaic authorship.
- II. Scriptural significance:
 1. Theologically – To keep their side of the covenant, sacrifices were required to restore fellowship when it had been broken by sin. This book gives the prescribed means of atonement for restored fellowship between God and His people.
 2. Theme – With sacrifices and the priesthood at the center of the book, Leviticus addresses the matters of a believer's walk and worship. It isn't until Hebrews is written that we get a full perspective of God's expectation in Leviticus.
- III. Outline –
 1. Laws concerning sacrifices – 1-7
 2. Laws concerning the inauguration of the priests – 8-10
 3. Laws concerning uncleanness – 11-15
 4. Laws concerning the Day of Atonement – 16
 5. Laws concerning holy living – 17-27
 - 1 sacrificing and eating meat 17
 - 2 covenant morality and devotion – 18-20
 - 3 priestly and sacrificial holiness – 21-22
 - 4 feasts – 23
 - 5 ceremonial regulations – 24
 - 6 special years – 25
 - 7 blessing for obedience, cursing for disobedience – 26
 - 8 vows, gifts, and tithes – 27