

Lan Ngo  
OT 503: Reading of the Old Testament  
Lesson 2 Essay

I read the Bible for 2 hours and read 100% of the assigned reading and took notes from it. I also watched all of the Bible Project videos.

In the Pentateuch or Torah, which is the first five books of the Old Testament, we learn how God's original design of creation was corrupted by rebellious humans and this led to the separation of God and His people. Through this separation, we begin to uncover His redemptive plan of rescuing His people from their destructive ways so that they can be reconciled back to Him. In Genesis, God created the world with humans to commune with and for them to rule the world with; however, the first humans failed by disobeying Him and that caused sin to enter the world. In Exodus, He remained faithful to His people by making a new covenant with Moses. In Leviticus, He desired to be with them, even as morally corrupt as they were, He made a way for them to come into His holy presence. In Numbers, He provided and protected them as He led them to the promised land and yet they continued to rebel against Him. In Deuteronomy, Moses died after he gave God's people the final words of warning and wisdom before they entered the promised land. Over and over again, we see God's faithfulness to His people in spite of their continual decision to turn away from Him.

While this major event is not new but it is still challenging to understand the death of Moses. It is disheartening to see him, one of the most faithful prophets of the Lord, die prior to entering the promised land. Specific questions that I have as I read Numbers are: (1) God operated very meticulously through His people but what does this tell me about His character and how will it impact my relationship with Him now? (2) Men, in the Old and New Testament, have always been placed in leadership roles but how does this translate today for the role of women in ministry, particularly in the church?