

Bunnie Smith

Dr. David Emanuel

Old Testament Literature (Online)

Some of the difficulties I was able to identify in the Old Testament interpretation in the Deuteronomistic chapters I've studied consist of a lot of rebellion, disobedience, serving false Gods, are some of what I can list to include a resolution.

In the beginning with Adam and Eve in the garden when God instructed Adam not to eat from a certain tree that he would surely die. When Eve was enticed by the serpent to eat of this tree, after she ate and then fed her husband and he ate, it was Adam that broke the law and for this punishment was incited by God and they had to leave the garden. Later with the jealousy of the offering by both of their sons Cain and Abel and one murdered the other. Cain was sent away to wander the earth for the rest of his life.

During Noah's time he followed the instruction of God to build an ark to house his family and the animals because God was destroying the earth because of sin and rebellion. God made a covenant with man and the animals that he will not destroy the world with water again and for this he gave them the bow (rainbow) in the sky to remind them of their covenant with him (God). Noah because of his obedience he found favor with God and was saved from death of the flood.

Then there was the town of Babel that decided they were going to build a tower to the heavens. When God was aware of what they were doing he scattered them and give them different language so they could not communicate with one another.

Another situation that I can identify is when Moses freed his people from the hands of Pharaoh the Egyptian king because the Israelite, who was Moses people in bondage and he received a word from God to free them. Although he was successful in completing this assignment there was other rebellious, disobedient, defiant, and false gods ways that still came into play with the people. And because of this they were remanded to the valley and none of them were allowed to go to the promise land, so they stayed there until every one of them died. Moses who was also rebellious toward God's instruction hit the rock with his staff in anger and this did not please God, therefore, he too was not allowed to go to the promise land. But because Moses was a good leader that God had a close relationship with, he allowed Moses to see the promise land from the top of the mountain then Moses died and God buried him.

King David who the Lord appointed to be a king. Although he was a humble young boy tending to the sheep in the field and as their protector he slayed a lion and a bear all the while tending to the herd. As a young man David also slayed Goliath during a battle to stop him from terrorizing the people and because of this he was selected as the king over Hebron first where he was crowned. After Saul's son Ishbosheth's death and the death of Abner cleared the way for David to become king of Israel. During his reign he had a relationship with the Lord and he praised and worshipped him, including repenting for his sins. God said he was a man after his own heart. Although he had an affair with Bathsheba, impregnating her and putting her husband on the front line to be killed, David always repented, worshipped, and praised God. His downfall came although he repented, he still had to pay the price of his sin.

These are some of the difficulties I could identify in the Old Testament with resolutions in their interpretation.

