

Alliance Theological Seminary
OT 504.NA Hebrew Bible in the Eastern Mediterranean World
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Cleotha Robertson, Ph.D., D.Min.
Cleotha.Robertson@Nyack.edu
Name: KESHA BONE

**Hebrew Bible in the Eastern Mediterranean World
Midterm Examination**

Part One: Define all of the following.

1. Case /casuistic law- contains a conditional statement and a type of punishment to be meted out.
2. Apodictic law - regulations in the form of divine commands (Ten Commandments)
3. Code of Hammurabi - a collection of 282 rules, established standards for commercial interactions and set fine and punishments to meet the requirements of justice.
4. Suzerainty-vassal treaty -an agreement between a superior power and a lesser one, is most instructive.
5. Holiness Code - a collection of many laws concerning several subjects.
6. Historiography-a study of the methods of historians in developing history as an academic discipline.
7. Documentary Hypothesis - is one of the methods used by biblical scholars to explain the origins and composition of the Torah
8. Deuteronomic/Deuteronomistic History
- is a modern theoretical construct holding that behind the present forms of the books of Deuteronomy and Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings (the former Prophets in the Hebrew canon)
9. Kathleen Kenyon -was a British archaeologist most well-known for her excavation of Jericho.
10. Jericho - is a Palestinian city in the West Bank. It is located in the Jordan Valley, with the Jordan River to the east and Jerusalem to the west.
11. Iron Age -is the period of human culture characterized by the smelting of iron and its use in industry beginning somewhat before 1000 b.c. in western Asia and Egypt

12. Judge - is primarily the name we give to those rulers who presided over the affairs of the Israelites during the interval between the death of Joshua and the accession of King Saul (Judges 2:18), a period of general anarchy and confusion.
13. Hittites were an ancient people group that existed as early as the time of Abraham in the OT.
14. Concubine - was a woman acquired by a man as a secondary wife.
15. Pentateuch - the first five books of the Hebrew Bible (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy).
16. Hebron - was given to the tribe of Judah after Israel entered the Promised Land. A city in the south end of the valley of Eshcol, about midway between Jerusalem and Beersheba
17. Jael - was the wife of a man named Heber, who was a Kenite. Judges 4:17-22
18. Tobit - A captive in Nineveh.
19. Herem - something given over to the Lord, or under a ban, and sometimes refers to things or persons to be utterly destroyed.
20. Tamar - Genesis 38 (was the daughter-in-law of Judah twice, as well as the mother of two of his children: the twins Perez and Zerah).

Essay Questions: Answer all of the following in 100 words.

1. List and explain the conceptual differences that define the worldview of the Ancient Near East.
2. List the books and the major themes of the Pentateuch. Provide biblical passages that support each theme.
3. Outline and list the major themes of the book of Judges

Part Three: Choose the correct answer.

1. Which of the following apply to an examination of the world of the ancient near east:
 - a. () The world of the Bible is an ancient and not a modern world
 - b. () The world of the Bible is an eastern and not western world.
 - c. () The world of the Bible is a changeless and not a changing world.

- d. The world of the Bible is a communal, not an individual world.
- e. None of the above
- f. All of the above.

2. Hospitality and its connected social rules for hosts and strangers were an important of the ancient near east.
 True: False

1. Hospitality neutralized the threat which stranger posed by temporarily adopting them into the community.
 True: False

4. The following are models for the interpretation for the conquest of Canaan:

- a. peasant revolt of conquest
- b. immigration model of conquest
- c. Blitzkrieg model of conquest
- d. none of the above
- e. All of the above

5. Herem is the term used in the book of Joshua for the total destruction of a captured city.
 True: False

6. The Documentary Hypothesis asserts that the Pentateuch is comprised of the following sources:

- a. J source
- b. E source
- c. D Source
- d. P source
- e. JE source
- f. All of the above
- g. Answers a, b, c and d

7. Deuteronomy 28 consists of curses and blessings for obedience and disobedience to the covenant.
 True: False

8. One can find an example of case or casuistic law in the Ten Commandments.
 True: False

9. One can find an example of apodictic law in the Ten Commandments.
 True: False

10. The structure of the book of Deuteronomy contains the components of the suzerainty-vassal treaty.

() True: () False

11. Archaeologists have discovered that the earliest Israelite settlements consisted of small hamlets with 50 to 300 people dwelling on an acre or two.

12. The first commandment given to humankind is found in the 10 Commandments.

() True: () False

13. The first commandment given to humankind is Genesis 1:27 and 28 (be fruitful and multiply).

14. Hebron, as David's original power base, plays an important role in the actions of leadership.

15. The natural environment in which the early Israelite families established their farmsteads was far less friendly than the popular imagination supposes.

() True: () False

16. In most villages herding and farming involved only the men.

() True: () False

17. One important roles of the mother that was not gender specific was her responsibility as the childbearer of he household.

18. The mother was the following in ancient Israel:

a. () Child-bearer

b. () Teacher

c. () Mediator

d. () Priest

e. () All of the above

f. () None of the above

g. () a, b, and c

19. Throughout Syria-Palestine there are only two seasons, wet and dry.

(X) True: () False

20. Any serious threat to the land or pollution of a village could set the protocol for the commissioning of a Judge or chief in motion.

Essay Questions

1. List and explain the conceptual differences that define the worldview of the Ancient Near East.

The conceptual differences that define the worldview of the Ancient Near East in which the Bible developed was dramatically different from the world in which we read the Bible. There are many ways to describe the differences. The world of the Bible, for example, is ancient; our world is modern. It is an Eastern world; ours is Western. The world of the Bible is virtually changeless; our world is ever changing. It is agricultural; ours is industrial. Biblical people think of their goods and resources as limited. We consider ours renewable. They think of themselves as households; we think of ourselves as individuals. In their world old age is a blessing; in our world it is a burden. Their favorite genre of literature is story; ours is history. And perhaps most difficult of all for us to understand, in the world of the Bible there is no separation between religion and daily life or between church and state.¹

The world of the ANE made due in circumstances and situations that we as westerners will never understand. We as city people often have a hard time visiting family in the south especially if they live in a place called Saint Matthews, SC where my family is from. There are open fields and dirt everywhere we call it the country 😊 and ANE has the same concept. We as westerners must exam the text instead of reading it at face value. The facts are that the world of the Bible is 3,000 years older than our world, our world was developed from the western Mediterranean cultures of Greece and Rome, the bible developed in the eastern Mediterranean cultures of Mesopotamia, Syria-Palestine, Asia minor, and Egypt. Our world promotes changes, while the world of the bible promotes stability. There are many obvious differences but we must be willing to adopt to obtain the full picture of the text.

¹ Victor H. Matthews and Don C. Benjamin, Social world of Ancient Israel, page xiii

2. List the books and the major themes of the Pentateuch. Provide biblical passages that support each theme.

The books of the Pentateuch in order are **Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy**. The Pentateuch is the story of our relationship with God and his creation. God's plan from beginning was to create a people among whom he could dwell and with whom he could be in relationship. The major themes of the Pentateuch are **God the Creator, God of the Covenant Promise, God as Lawgiver, and God as Judge**.

Listed below are a few of the major themes with a scriptural reference.

God the Creator (Genesis 1-2)

God of the Covenant Promise (Genesis 9:13, Leviticus 26:14-45, Deuteronomy 7:9) A significant theme found throughout the Pentateuch is that of the Covenant promise, which God establishes between himself and his people. From the covenant with Adam in Genesis 1 through to the covenants between, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Israel, and the covenant renewal of Deuteronomy we see the centrality of this concept.²

God as Lawgiver (Genesis 1:28, Exodus 20, Deuteronomy 28:15-68; 32:1-43)

God as Judge (Genesis 3:14-19, Exodus 22, Numbers 14:18-19, Deuteronomy 4:1-40)

The original message to the readers was the God of Israel, the creator of all things wants to be in relationship with his creations through covenants with his people, making them a blessing to the world. This is still true today, making the message of Pentateuch relevant to today's society. The God of all creation wants to be in relationship with us and it is through this relationship that he can do amazing work in and through us. His unfailing and steadfast love never ends.³

3. Outline and list the major themes of the book of Judges.

The Book of Judges is a tragic account of how Yahweh [God] was taken for granted by His children year after year, century after century. Judges is a sad contrast to the book of

² [Three Significant Themes of the Pentateuch – Dalelopez's Weblog \(wordpress.com\)](#)

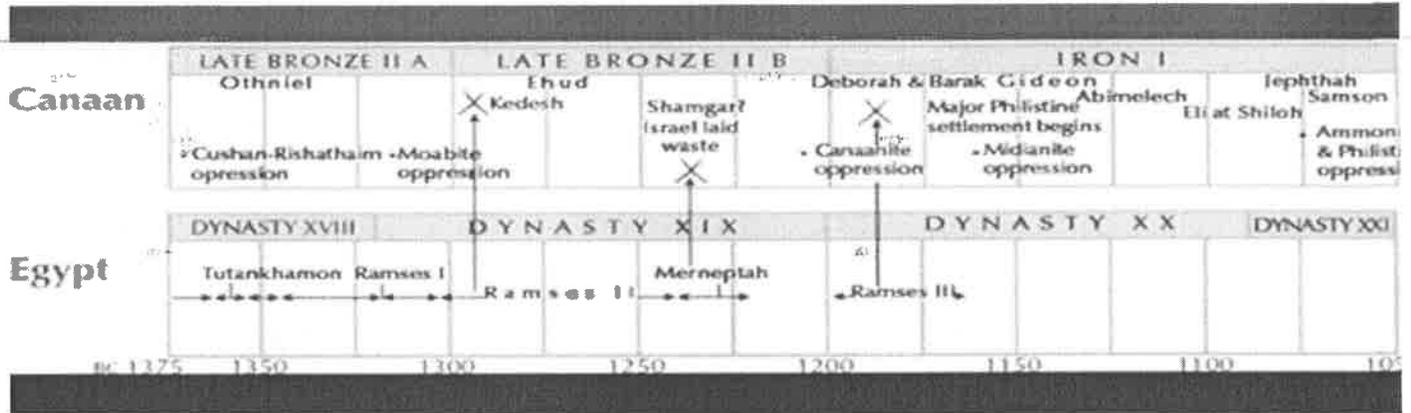
³ [Three Significant Themes of the Pentateuch – Dalelopez's Weblog \(wordpress.com\)](#)

Joshua which chronicles the blessings God bestowed on the Israelites for their obedience in conquering the land. In Judges, they were disobedient and idolatrous, leading to their many defeats. Yet God has never failed to open His arms in love to His people whenever they repent from their wicked ways and call upon His name (Judges 2:18). Through the twelve judges of Israel, God honored His promise to Abraham to protect and bless his offspring (Genesis 12:2-3).⁴

The outline to the Book of Judges displays how the promised people could be so unfaithful to their just God. The outline deals with the following: **Background, Introduction, Cycles, and the tribal depravity.** In the background of Judges, we see the failure to drive out the Canaanites (1:1-2:5), the introduction deals with the cycle of Apostasy (2:6-3:6), Cycles: the Israelites continued to be repeat offenders by doing evil in the eyes of the Lord. This is the section of Judges where we can see that physical judges are implemented upon request of the people and they still let God down. We often see under the leadership of certain individuals' people can excel, but in the case with Israel, their behavior was embedded in their hearts causing them to constantly disobey God.

Under the rule 12 Judges Othniel (3:7-11), Ehud (3:12-31), Deborah (4-5), Gideon (6-8), Abimelech (9), Tola and Jair (10:1-5), Jephthah (10:6-12:7), Ibzan (12:8-10), Elon (12:11-12), Abdon (12:13-15), and Samson (13-16). The major themes of the book of Judges the Nature of Charismatic Leadership, Spirit of the Lord and Israel's Apostasy. The time table below will provide us with a visual time table.

⁴ [Summary of the Book of Judges - Bible Survey | GotQuestions.org](https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-Survey-Book-of-Judges)



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⁵ Andrew E. Hill and John H. Walton, *A Survey of the Old Testament*, pg.385 (online book)