

## **PTB9: THE BIBLE IS ONE.**

### **INTERNAL CONSISTENCY OF THE BIBLE**

- **About 40 human authors**
- **Written over about 1600 years from Genesis to Revelation**
- **Three different languages: Hebrew (most of the Old Testament), Aramaic (a few parts of the O.T.), Greek (New Testament)**
- **Written during many different political and economic circumstances.**

**Yet the Bible is completely consistent in doctrine from beginning to end!**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

1. Preaching thru the Bible in one year.

This preaching through the Bible in one year is based on the thorough outline of the Bible based on the Old Testament quotes from the New Testament, and it is

impossible to remember when this method of a complete outline of the Bible was conceived, best guess is from 1985-1995 during the ten years of F-16 flight test at EAFB, since that was the most time of writing Bible commentaries under the series title of "The Learn Christ Commentaries". Yet earlier while teaching electronics at ENMU and preaching at over 16 churches in Eastern New Mexico from FBC Tucumcari to Yeso Baptist to Dora, Elida, and Tatum, it is vaguely recalled that the outline had to be generated because a series was done on "Tapping thru the Bible:, the Tapping stand for Teaching and Preaching thru the Bible. It is recalled that when the thousands of quotes were arranged in the most probable historical order the writing of the OT books, and printed out on one of those old computer printers with the sprocket paper.,

**NOTE: Anytime you fail to appreciate the thoroughness of this massive number of quotes, considered by this Preacher to be choice of God the Holy Spirit in giving us what is most important in the NT from the OT, then also in the NT books from Apostles and associates giving us the proper interpretation of those quotes as well as the applications to the living of the Christian life; you are welcome to free download the 12 Master Table of those quotes – OT and NT. Anytime available for free download from SunGrist at: <http://biblecombibleman.com/MASTERTablescorrected2019.pdf> .**

Notice it takes 11 pages of 12 Tables to go all the way through the Bible, and the only great surprise in all these years of Bible study and reading of Bible books and commentaries is that no other Bible author has done something similar. (Best speculation is that the Scofield mites, especially the graduates of DTS like Ryrie and others have been so busy kicking out Study Bibles that emulate the notes and theology of Scofield, that there was not time left with them for Literal Bible.) Anyone with perseverance on Bible study could do it as all that was required to first make a list from

the NT of all the quotes from the OT that are given in many Bibles, then rearrange them in the OT most probable historical order, which you can see in the Master Tables, then copy all those quotes, OT and NT, in a manuscript and place over it an outline of 12 major topics and a complete outline based on reading of the quotes. (Admittedly it does require some experience and training at the art of Outlining.)

2. Jesus called God the Holy Spirit His Other Comforter, and how comforting it is to know that He wrote the Bible of Prophets and Apostles, not only through thousand of years selecting those approximately 19 plus 12, or 31 men of God to be authors from the human side, but leading them to the correct quotes from the OT to gain a New Testament of the most important things in the OT plus some mysteries of new revelations. Glory be to God the Holy Spirit, third member of the Trinity, not only for His work in the Creation of the world with the Father and the Son, but also His marvelous work of the Bible structure and completion.

### **Part I: Deuteronomy Bible and It's NT Quotes Introduction.**

This section of Bible based on Deuteronomy reminds us that the BIBLE IS ONE. Even as the Trinity is the Godhead of three persons and "God is One", so also the Bible is two major divisions of Old and New Testament with the Bible as One large Book from God of 66 books. We appreciate men like Hester who have given us outstanding Bible study in two semesters with "Heart of Hebrew History" and the "Heart of the New Testament", and the Bible teachers of Ouachita and Baylor who taught us; also Samey's "Heart of the Old Testament" which is a pleasure to read now; however at some point of maturity in our Christian lives of Bible, we need to bring the Bible back to One. It is noteworthy that historical criticism and so many commentaries today, and study Bibles out of DTS with duplicate Scofield notes, enjoy separating one Bible book from another for study; and that is the way more denominations as man's creations are born, or worse the Scofield Reference Bible movement is enhanced as the DTS graduates are now striving to do with their Study Bible creations and through selling on the Lifeway of the SBC.

This Literal Bible series encourages the understanding of the Bible as ONE, getting it all back together as it should be with One author the Spirit of God. Granted is so hard for sceptics and unbelievers, also those Christian leaders on the outskirts of belief to begin to fathom the Miracle that God generated in a period of one thousand years and many Old Testament Prophets and NT Jesus and Apostles of Jesus, ONE BOOK. It is indeed a marvel of a miracle hard for them to swallow and admit, for one reason because of their failure to see the unity in the Bible of the love of God and the teaching of that love, and to be aware that God worked then and works now continually in the world for the benefit of those believers "chosen from before the foundation of the earth'.

The more today's pastors and denominational leaders today strain at the realities of the Trinity at work, the more they fail to practically see the Bible as One; and vice versa.

**NOTE: You will find the Literal Bible series on the Amazon Author Page of Jerry McMichael at: <https://authorcentral.amazon.com/gp/books> .**

For example, how few today even of the most studious in the Bible recognize the ROYAL LAW OF LOVE, established in Leviticus and made evident in the Prophet Messiah in the book of Deuteronomy.

James 2:8 (NKJV)

**"If you really fulfill *the* royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself,"<sup>[a]</sup> you do well..."**

**Footnotes:**

- a. James 2:8 Leviticus 19:18

Deuteronomy 18:18,19

"I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. <sup>19</sup> And it shall be *that* whoever will not hear My words, which He speaks in My name, I will require *it* of him."

**NOTE: If you look for divisions in the Bible you get them, if you look for the unity and consistency in the Bible you get that. "If two agree" speaks of two witnesses that agree, also the consistency of the Bible itself, the OT and the NT agree, the royal law of the OT and the NT and exemplified in Christ and His death on the cross.**

## **Part II: Textual Outline of the Literal Bible of Deuteronomy and Its NT Quotes and Explanations.**

**NOTE: This textual summary of Deuteronomy with topics imposed will be repeated in all 4 messages on Deuteronomy in the hopes that you will read it all four times and store it in your heart, for like David said, "Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee." And we only pass this way 4 times in a year of the "PTB in one year".**

### **2-3: THE COMPOSITE WITNESS OF THE BIBLE**

#### **I. The Importance of Witnesses.**

1. Deuteronomy 5:16, Exodus 20:12 and 21:17, Leviticus 20:9, and Mark 7:10 where with Honor to parents and the law of death with dishonor, Jesus teaches that what is inside man rather than what goes inside him is defiling.

2.Importance of knowing the Commandments: Deut 5:16-20 and Mark 10:19.

You know the commandments, DO NOT MURDER, DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, DO NOT STEAL, DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, DO NOT DEFRAUD, HONOR FATHER AND MOTHER.

(Mark 10:19 NASV)

3.What Commandment is Foremost? Mark 10:28-31 and Luke 10:26,27.

(1). First is THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD, Deut 6:4,5 and Mark 10:29,30.

(2). Second is Love Neighbor, Lev 19:18 and Mark 10:31.

4.Worship God only and serve Him: Deuteronomy 6:13 and Luke 4:8.

5.The importance of a special people to bear witness to God begins here and runs throughout the Old Testament: Deut 7:6 and Titus 2:14.

6.Deuteronomy 8:3, Matthew 4:4, and Luke 4:4: Man should not live by bread alone.

II. OKAY, HOW IS MAN TO LIVE?

1. Live by Listening to what Jesus, the Prophet Messiah has to say: Deut 18:15,19, Acts 3:22,23, and Acts 7:37.

Listen to the Apostle Peter as he preaches quoting from the Prophet Moses in Deuteronomy: Moses said, 'The Lord God shall raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren; to Him you shall give heed in everything He says to you. And it shall be that every soul that does not heed that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people. (Acts 3:22,23 NASV)

2. Live by Listening to the testimony of God the Father to God the Son: Mark 9:7, a paraphrase of Deut 18:15,19 except from God Himself, and a direct quote in Psalm 11:7.

Then a cloud formed, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud, 'This is My beloved Son, listen to him! (Mark 9:7 NASV)

3. Live by Listening to other reliable and trustworthy witnesses: Deut 19:15.

One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth; at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established. (Deut 19:15 KJV)

(1). Deut 19:15 and Matthew 18:16: if your brother sins against you but refuses to listen, take your grievance to him by way of two or three witnesses; and if that does not work take it before the local church.

(2). Deut 19:15 and II Corinthians 13:1: Listen to the Apostle Paul!

**This is the third time I am coming to you; EVERY FACT IS TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE TESTIMONY OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES. (II Cor 13:1)**

(3). Deut 19:15 and John 8:17: Listen to Jesus Himself!

**Even in your law it has been written, that the testimony of two men is true. I am He who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me. (John 8:17,18)**

(4). Deut 19:15 and I Timothy 5:18: Listen to the elder of any local church (same as the pastor or bishop) right up to the point that any accusation against him has been established in that local church at the mouth of two or three witnesses.

III. How Can you Listen to a Common Criminal Like Jesus of Nazareth who was cursed in that He was hanged or crucified on a tree (cross)? Deut 21:22 and Galatians 3:13

1. Deuteronomy 21:22.

And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree; His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged is accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled; which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance. (Deut 21:22,23 KJV)

NOTE: Jesus was very familiar with this portion of the Word of God as He was with all of the Old Testament, and when crying

My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me a cry of grief more than questioning He knew that God had to turn His back on such a curse on Christ for the sins of the whole world.

2. Galatians 3:13.

ALL OF GODS WORDS AND WORD IS SERIOUS AND TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY WHETHER WRITTEN IN THE OLD TESTAMENT OR NEW TESTAMENT! Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse **for us for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree. (Galatians 3:13 NASV)**

(1). We were cursed by the Law since striving to live by them and therefore keeping them, we knew ourselves to come far short; and therefore without real life!

(2). Jesus in the death on the Cross became a curse in our place.

IV. Listen to Jesus seriously on a few other matters.

NOTE: Especially if you think you were not under a curse because of your failures to live up to the Law and therefore did not need for Christ to become a curse in your place!

1. Deuteronomy 24:1, Matthew 5:31, and Mark 10:4.

(1). Deuteronomy 24:1.

When a man hath taken a wife (this is not necessarily the way you are cursed), and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favor in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her; then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house. And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another mans wife. (Deut 24:1,2 KJV)

(2). Matthew 5:31.

And it was said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of dismissal; but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for the cause of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. (Matt 5:31,32 NASV)

(3). Mark 10:4.

And some Pharisees came up to Him, testing Him, and began to question Him whether it was lawful for a man to divorce a wife. And He answered and said to them, what did Moses command you? And they said, Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away. But Jesus said to them, 'Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, And the two shall become one flesh; consequently they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate. (Mark 10:2-9 NASV)

2. Deuteronomy 25:3-5 , I Corinthians 9:9, and I Timothy 5:18.

(1). Be just in judgment in that the punishment correspond with the violation; don't muzzle the ox as he treads the corn, and let a brother raise up children to his dead brothers wife.

(2). It was written for our sakes more than for oxen in order that the worker may work with hope of reward for his works.

(3). The elder (pastor or bishop) that works hard at preaching and teaching should receive likewise double compensation.

3. Deuteronomy 25:6, Luke 20:28,38, and Mark 12:19.

(1). Your dead brothers name is not to disappear from Israel.

NOTE: Why should the eternal laws of God be so concerned about this one single name of a brother who died before he could have any children. After all the last name of the dead childless and the brother would be the same!

(2). According to Jesus it is more important to realize that in heaven there is no marriage, rather men are like the angels; and that men do not die who believe in God and Christ like Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, because they are still alive with the Living God! (Luke 20:28,38 and Mark 12:19)

NOTE: The real concern is that any man's name, alias himself and his real existence, not disappear from the eternal Israel of Gods real people of believing Jews and Gentiles!

V. Listen also to a few other matters from the Apostle Paul in the Word of God!

1. Deuteronomy 27:26 and Galatians 3:10.

(1). Cursed is every man that does not confirm all the laws of God by doing all of them!

- (2). None can truly be justified by the Law, only by faith.
2. Deuteronomy 32:12 and I Corinthians 10:20.
  - (1). The LORD God led Israel and there were no strange gods among them.
  - (2). The Gentiles sacrifice to demons not to God, and the Christian is to have no part in this worship of demons.

### **Part III: Topical Outline of the Literal Bible of Deuteronomy and Its NT Quotes and Explanations.**

The subject of Top Topic #3, “The Composite Witness of the Bible”, can be stated also as “Listen to the Consistency of the Bible.” At first, one might think of all the great subjects or topics of the Bible such as the Living God, that men still live after death **{the Living God of the Living, Topic Topic #1}**; the characteristics of God such as holy and righteousness; the one salvation God has provided whereby man can be declared like God righteous and actually achieve a measure of righteousness in this life through the new birth and sanctification; that to pause in this Bible study for such a mundane subject as THE COMPOSITE WITNESS OF THE BIBLE is busy work or space filler; and when you consider so many great subjects or topics still to be considered as “What Happened to the Jews as the People of God” **{by the way a subject being used by itching ears Bible teachers today, and perverted}**; or the Gospel of Jesus Christ in both the Old and New Testaments, such great subjects as the Day of the LORD **{includes the Second Coming of Christ}**; the New Earth, even a new people of God of a few Jews and many Gentiles; and a new capability to live up to the righteous demands of God with a new heart and new spirit, alias the new birth and sanctification **{the salvation of the one baptism is a two step process}**, then it would seem that such a subject as the consistency of the Bible is just a way to get from Topic # 1 and #2 to Topic #4 and beyond. No, in many ways this Top Topic #3 is more important than all of them; for it helps you develop a concept of consistency for the Bible that can be a helpful, really indispensable, foundation for the study of all the other 12 Topics.

#### **3-1: The Principle of Two or Three Witnesses.**

This “principle of the Bible”, from God Himself, will get us down to the very practical level of a little nitty gritty on the composite nature of the Bible. {Hopefully you will come to the point in this Bible study and any time you see the words “composite” or “consistency”, you will also think of the “Principles of Two or More Witness” of the Bible. This consistency is the highest level, that is how the Old Testament and New Testament speak with one common voice and message; starts with the very fundamental “principle” or “law” as given by God Himself in the book of Deuteronomy. It continues with I John, along with the second and third epistles of John, and after the writing of Revelation and the Gospel in that order, which is the bottom line of the whole Bible--the last to be written--even as the Apostle John was the last of the long line of message bringers from God to

earth of Jesus, the Prophets, and the Apostles. Even as below we look at Deuteronomy 19:15 and I John 5:6-13, first from a Prophet and the second from an Apostle, the first from the Old Testament and the second from the New Testament, you should see a CONSISTENCY or COMPOSITE nature from the truths and messages of the Bible; one that begs a common source and author, that of God the Father Himself sometimes writing through the Spirit of Christ, sometimes through the Holy Spirit, sometimes through the teachings of Jesus; but always with “oracles of God” {this is an internal Bible word for Bible} written in order to communicate to a certain number of people on the earth with the right attitude.

1. Deuteronomy 19:15.

**“One witness shall not rise against a man concerning any iniquity or any sin that he commits; by the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established.”  
(Deuteronomy 19:15)**

Do you mean that you are going to use a trite example about a false or true accusation that one man makes about another, and way back there in history as a matter of fact, to describe such a generalization as the COMPOSITE WITNESS OF THE BIBLE?

Yes, it is not trite: (1) it was given by God Himself as a fundamental principle that is echoed and re-echoed many times throughout the Bible, this within itself providing a composite witness on COMPOSITE WITNESS; (2) like all truths of the Bible, it is based on the character of God which He is trying to communicate to man, for example when we say God is obligated to forgive our sins because that is the way it is written in the Bible, what we are really saying is that God forgives sins because that is the very nature of God Himself, and what He has had written in the Bible is a testimony to His own character {in other words, it is so not because simply it is in the Bible; but it is so because that is the way God is!}; (3) and the Bible, far from being a scholarly treatise for intellectual studies, is a unique book that provides a way God can communicate on very practical and realistic levels to man. **{“All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for...”, bespeaks of this profitability to man, and of the desire of God to communicate to man.}** Well, this communication of God to man began when God called Abraham out of Iraqi to a new land, after a long time through the families of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and 400 years in Egypt, the communication emerged as God told Moses in the wilderness that He was “the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob”; first and simple ways to begin to tell man about Himself; and then continued on Mount Sinai as God Himself first tried to speak to all the people, then as they begged God to talk through Moses, God wrote not only the Ten Commandments down for man with many rules, regulations, both civil and religious, for man to follow. This fundamental principle as it turns out is both civil and religious, this principle of not allowing any truth to be established as truth without two or three witnesses.

2. And it continues on through the Bible all the way down to the bottom Bibleline of I John 5:6-13.

a. The 3 witnesses of Heaven.

**“For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word {notice that John here uses the new word, “Word” for Jesus that he learned in the book of Revelation and applied in the epilogue of the Gospel of John}, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. [We talk about the ONEs of Ephesians 4:4-6 describing the top topics of the Bible, major doctrines and beliefs; and sometimes along with the One Baptism for the One Salvation, the One God the Father and the One Lord Jesus Christ with the One Body, the church, we wonder why there is not a ONE for ONE Bible. Yet the closest for that, and so much more closely related and composite than we think is the “One Faith”, which is faith in the sense of not only what we personally believe about Jesus, but is a summary of all that Christians have come to believe and that they were given and believed originally, at the same time being written in the Bible, “the faith once for all delivered to the saints” of Jude 3.]**

b. The 3 witnesses on Earth.

**“And there are three that bear witness on earth: The Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.” (I John 5:8)**

c. “THESE THREE AGREE AS ONE”.

If we had to have one text to summarize the gist of THE COMPOSITE WITNESS OF THE BIBLE, it would be this quote, repeated twice in the witnesses of heaven and earth, first in I John 5:7 and then in I John 5:8. And we begin to get composite on composite upon composite; so that you begin to see that not only is this a TOP TOPIC of the Bible, but perhaps the single most important for Bible study and understanding as it describes the very unities of all other top topics of the Bible!

3. Some of the consistencies about COMPOSITE itself is in the revealed truths of the Bible between Deuteronomy and I John, between the law and the grace of Jesus, between the Prophets and the Apostles, between Old and New Testaments.

(1). The “How Can Two Walk Together Unless They Be Agreed” of the Prophet Amos.

(2). The “if any two Christians agree on anything in prayer” they shall receive the request of God of the teachings of Jesus in Matthew 18:19.

(3). Discipline in churches and among Christians as requiring two or more witnesses to corroborate an accusation.

Even as Hester and Sampey have written short surveys of the Old Testament, and Hester also on the New Testament, referring to them as “the heart” of the OT, because there is so much to cover, so this Top Topical approach sort of skims the gravy off the top; however the assumption is made that what God the Holy Spirit considered most important in the Old Testament Bible was quoted and explained in the New Testament. Therefore the quotes with explanations and interpretations are the majors of Old and New Testament survey, here in the book of Deuteronomy even as in the other of the 12 top topics of the Bible. We dare not come out of a survey course on the Bible with facts, dates, history, stating that we have failed to LISTEN to the prime message and messages

of the Bible. **{Do not be fearful, we will strive to get some of it all, history and message, even if supplements are required.}**

Whether you read from a Prophet of the Old Testament or an Apostle of the New Testament, the message is the same; whether you read from the law of Moses or from the “grace and truth” of Jesus from John, Matthew, Mark, or Luke the message is the same; whether you read the epistles of the Apostle Paul or the five books of the Apostle John, the two agree on all accounts although they perhaps never met; and so on and on through the Bible the agreement is so consistent and so large as to first lead one to think of “How can two walk together except they be agreed?”; or the composite witness of the Bible of this section of the Bible in Deuteronomy with teachings on the agreement of two or more witnesses, that you know the source of all 66 books of the Bible must be the same, from God the Father!

Since the world thinks the opposite, that there are so many inconsistencies in the Bible, so much contradiction and differences between for example Paul and John, between the law and grace, between the Old Testament and New Testament, between even the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, that we must labor this “Consistency of Content”; and not because we are apologetic, but because the consistency, integrity, sameness--or whatever you want to call it--are so obvious to those who have met all the conditions of hermeneutics, the science of biblical interpretation which is just another way of saying the rules the Bible itself lays down for understanding and interpretation.

### **3-2: Introduction to the Dynamic Nature of the Bible, the Word of God.**

1. First of all, the Bible is (1) divine in origin, all 66 books of the Bible came from God the Father Himself through the Spirit of Christ and the Holy Spirit; (2) absolute in authority in that while you might want to bring science, or human wisdom, or even religious authority above the authority of the Word of God as a criterion for understanding and interpretation, it just will not work; (3) sufficient in its message, and if we do not find what we are looking for and need, it is from a lack of effort or of hermeneutics; for the very purpose of the Bible as entrusted to the Hebrews as oracles of God, is that God might in each generation and in each nation of peoples communicate--it is for communication and not simply study or scholarly research; (4) it is high fidelity in communication, what God tries to do in the Bible, God will do with just a little amount of cooperation on your part in proper Bible rules for understanding **{hermeneutics}**; and (5) the Bible is self-interpretative--why in the world do you think the Apostle Peter told us “no scripture is of any private interpretation”? And let me answer that as it is because what the Prophets said in the OT the Apostles and Jesus explained in the NT, and vice versa, also what the Apostle Paul wrote in his 14 epistles that was hard to understand, and even as “some wrested to their own destruction”, like the Apostle Peter wrote, Peter interprets, and vice versa; and so on and on and on through the 27 books of the NT and the 39 of the OT; and finally (6) the same Spirit of God that wrote these books is the Spirit that explains these books to us.

2. Secondly, you must get into the hermeneutics habit, and if you do you will be surprised how much more open the message and messages of the Bible are to you, which is to allow some other part of the Bible to explain and interpret a verse or chapter in a place of the Bible where you are puzzling. It is the hermeneutics principle of “Compare

Scripture with Scripture". In short, it is to say that the same God who wrote Romans also wrote I John and Jude, etc., so that what God wrote, or had written, one place will not only be consistent with all other places but will amplify and explain and interpret if you would. And furthermore as you have started your journey through the whole Bible in these TOP 12 TOPICS, a journey originating from the OT quotes in the NT, and since each place such is quoted there is an explanation and interpretation either by Jesus or an Apostle {also the two associates of Paul, Dr. Luke and John Mark}. And furthermore sometimes it is the other way, the usage in the OT makes clear what is in the NT. ISN'T IT MARVELOUS WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR US IN BOTH PROVIDING A BOOK FOR GUIDANCE AND LIFE, AND THEN PROVIDING ALL THESE ASSURANCES THAT WE WILL, WITH THE PROPER ATTITUDE, UNDERSTAND IT!

3. The Bible is a book about Jesus. One way to know if you are getting the proper message and messages from God in the Bible is if you (1) learn more about Jesus, (2) Learn Jesus properly for as Paul wrote in Ephesians 4:20 "this is not the way your learned Christ", an obvious indication that Christ can be learned improperly, and (3) get that warmness in the heart that the Bible is "alive and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of the soul and spirit"--yes, the Bible is much larger than leather, and pages, and words as it is the living and active Word of God; that is it is like having God set down in our living room and talk to us, and (4) you get closer to God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4. Always be on the look out for subtle or just plain outright statements, predictions, and understandings about the Lord Jesus Christ.

(1). When in John 1 the Apostle John tells us that Jesus was the Word made flesh, the Word from the beginning with God and was God, and that Jesus was there as the Word in the acts of Creation, this tells us about Genesis chapter one how all members of the godhead, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit were there at Creation.

(2). When in Genesis 3:15 it speaks of, from God, that Satan will bruise the heel of Christ and Christ bruise the head of Satan, it is talking about: (1) how Satan hurt Christ in leading Satan's followers to crucify Christ; and (2) how the crucifixion was really the plan of God all along, and Christ bruised the head of Satan on the cross, freeing with faith on the part of many individuals, those individuals from servitude to Satan, and more which is the long subject of many books in the NT.

(3). You will be surprise when you read and study Deuteronomy, and you should along with a look at this TOP TOPIC, how much clarity with which Moses speaks of the other Prophet like himself, the Lord Jesus Christ.

**"The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear." (Deuteronomy 18:15) 3-3: Some Historical Background of Deuteronomy.**

By the way, has it been mentioned that for an UpToDate {after historical criticism and rising above it unscathed, even showing scholarship on it} and conservative set of

detailed exegetical commentaries you can not beat THE NEW INTERNATIONAL COMMENTARIES of both the Old and New Testament, for which the beloved F. F. Bruce wrote and for a time was chief editor. Peter C. Craigie of the University of Calgary wrote the short **{short compared to many of the others in the set}** commentary on Deuteronomy; and his very introductory words serve to show you something of the difference between history and the message, between ABOUT the Bible that has become famous lately in our pulpits and in Bible teaching instead of the Bible itself, letting the Bible speak to us.

“Deuteronomy is a book about Israel’s preparation for a new life. Hardship and the wilderness lie behind; the conquest of the promised land lies ahead. What remains at this crucial stage in Israel’s history--the end of the Mosaic Age--is a call for a new commitment to God and a fresh understanding of the nature of the community of God’s people.”

In this age of knowledge explosion and in your lifetime, you will be able to cull only a certain amount of knowledge and message from the Bible; and although background info like this helps, you must count on the fact that is what most important for you to know has been quoted and interpreted in the NT. And it at least helps to know that we are gaining some focus on the historical context of Deuteronomy with such statements as above and with a brief look at the text outline of Craigie.

**NOTE: I recall a NT survey course at Baylor in 1953, by the way where the official text was Hester and it was required reading; but the teacher used as the primary text the RSV of the Bible, starting each class with prayer for understanding because it knew and set a good example of how the Bible is not a scholarly treatise, but an alive and dynamic Book through which God speaks, and if we are wise we listen. This along with a similar survey of the book of Acts at the Bible chair of the University Baptist Church in Austin Texas were highlights of my Bible education, that professor also using Scripture itself with the Moffat version.**

Outline of Text and Commentary from Craigie on Deuteronomy:<sup>1</sup>

- I. Introduction to Deuteronomy (1:1-5)
- II. Address of Moses: Historical Prologue (1:6-4:43)<sup>2</sup>
- III. Address of Moses: The Law (4:44-26:19)
- IV. Address of Moses: Blessings and Curse (27:1-28:69)
- V. Address of Moses: A Concluding Charge (29:1-30:20)

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<sup>1</sup>. Commentaries, like sermons you hear, generally fall into three broad categories, or a combination of these three: (1) textual like here and others of the NEW INTERNATIONAL set; (2) Expository like B. H. Carroll who takes the reader through the whole Bible in approximately 17 volumes and which originally were his lessons as he started the Southwestern Seminary at Fort Worth; and (3) topical which is more of what you will find in these short layman like commentaries. {The Bible Interpreter and Expositor is such, which is not at all recommended.} The difference in the TOP 12 TOPICS of the Bible is that all three, based on an exegesis of the selected by the Holy Spirit author of the NT of the many OT quotes, then from that outline in OT sequence a topical outline is derived leading to a subsequent exposition of the whole series of Bible books.

<sup>2</sup>. It is here in Deuteronomy 1:6 through 4:43 that you want to get for yourself most of the historical background, and it is hoped that you will read it.

VI. Continuity of the Covenant from Moses to Joshua (31:1-34:12)