

The Unity of the Torah

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Unity of the Torah

The five 'books' of the Torah
are a single literary work
divided into five segments.

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Unity of the Torah

The central story of the Torah
is the account of the redemption
of the people of Israel from
their slavery in Egypt
and their establishment as
the people of God.

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The Torah as a Whole

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Genesis

- The 'Old Testament' of the Torah
- The *backstory* of the drama of redemption

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Genesis

- Lays the foundations for the theology of the OT (and NT).

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Genesis as *Backstory*

- Reveals Yahweh is the creator of all things.
- Explains the need to redeem fallen creation.

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Genesis as *Backstory*

- How God called Abraham as the ancestor of His people.
- Explains how the Hebrews came to be in Egypt.

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Exodus

- Chs. 1-15*: the drama of redemption
- Chs. 16-40*: learning what it means to be the people of Yahweh

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Leviticus

- Receiving instruction on how to live as the people of God
- Continues instruction given beginning in Exodus 20–23

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Leviticus

- Contains both *religious* and *civil* regulation

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Numbers

Israel leaves Sinai to journey to the land of promise.

- Israel lives as Yahweh's people
- Yahweh fights for His people
- Yahweh fulfills His promises
- Israel encounters temptation

13

Deuteronomy

Homiletical review of God's work and teaching:

- Who is Yahweh?
- Who is Israel, and how should Israel live as the people of Yahweh?
- Prepare to receive the gift of the land

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The Torah

A single literary work in five segments that tells the central story of the account of the redemption of the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt and their establishment as the people of God.

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