

The Metanarrative

Creation—Blessing

From chaos to order
From darkness to light
From unproductive to fruitful
From aimless to *telos* / blessing
From work to rest

Fall—Blessing and Curse Compete

From innocence to shame
From harmony to strife
From fruitful to futile

Israel—Blessing to all through Abraham

Fear and faith compete
From Canaan to Egypt
From Egypt to Sinai
From Wilderness to the Land

Jesus

The Church

Tabernacle Complete—Restoration Underway

Exodus 40: 34-38

And so Moses finished the work. Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

In all the travels of the Israelites, whenever the cloud lifted from above the tabernacle, they would set out; but if the cloud did not lift, they did not set out—until the day it lifted. So the cloud of the LORD was over the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, in the sight of all the Israelites during all their travels.

Means of Restoration? Holiness—aka the Book of Leviticus

The LORD called to Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting. He said, 2 “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘When anyone among you brings an offering to the LORD, bring as your offering an animal from either the herd or the flock. Leviticus 1:1-2

Question: did YHWH demand perfection from Israel to fulfill the covenant?

Leviticus: Holiness

Leviticus Overview

Sacrificial Forgiveness (1-16)

Variety of Offerings and Sacrifices (1-7)

Priesthood overseeing sacrifices (8-10)

Uncleanness and Holiness (11-15)

The Day of Atonement (16)

Holiness Code/Community Ethics (17-26)

Appendix (27)

Question: what is the significance of community ethics following sacrificial forgiveness? Is the OT a merit based ethics as opposed to the NT's grace based ethics?

Numbers: Wilderness Precedes Arrival

"The experience of living between Egypt/ Sinai and Canaan runs through the entire First Testament's story, as it continues to run through the life of the church. It is intrinsic to being the people of God." John Goldingay

Numbers Overview:

Israel at Sinai (1-10)

YHWH builds His Army (1-4)

Purity of the People (5-10)

From Sinai to Kadesh (10-12)

Complaints of the People lead to Disaster (11)

Rebellion of Miriam and Aaron (12)

Israel at Kadesh (13-20)

12 Spies Report (13)

Rebellion and Defeat of the People (14)

Offerings and Tassels (15)

Rebellion of Korah (16-17)

Duties of Priests & Cleansing (18-19)

Rebellion of Moses and Aaron (20)

Kadesh to Moab (20-22)

Bronze Snake Disaster (21)

Defeat of Sihon and Og (21)

Israel at Moab (22-32)

Balaam Blesses Israel 7 Times (22-24)

Sexual Rebellion of Israel (25)

New Census and Instructions (26-30)

Appendixes (33-26)

Pre And Post Sinai Rebellion

Israel Defeats the Amalekites (Exodus 17: 8-16)

Israel Defeated by the Amalekites (Numbers 14: 41-44)

Sabbath Violation Leads to Reprimand (Exodus 16: 27-30)

Sabbath Violation Leads to Death (Numbers 15: 32-36)

Murmurings at Meribah Leads to Rebuke (Exodus 17: 1-7)

Murmurings at Meribah Lead to Exile (Numbers 20: 1-13)

Question: what appears to be the inevitable outcome of the Sinai covenant?

Balaam's Seven Blessings

Balak said to Balaam, "What have you done to me? I brought you to curse my enemies, but you have done nothing but bless them!" Numbers 23: 11

The Coming King Will Crush The Enemies Head in the Latter Days (Numbers 24: 17-19)

Deuteronomy: On the Border of the Land

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. Deuteronomy 6: 4-9

Deuteronomy Overview:

Preamble (1:1-5)

Historical Prologue (1:6-4:43)

Stipulations of the Covenant (4:44-26:19)

Blessings and Curses (27-30)

Leadership Succession (31-34)

Deuteronomy 30: 11-19

Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, "Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you have to ask, "Who will cross the sea to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.

See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The Servant of the Lord Dies Outside the Land

Joshua: YHWH Gives the Land

Joshua Overview

Taking the land (1-12)

" So Joshua took the entire land, just as the LORD had directed Moses...Then the land had rest from war." Joshua 11:23

Distributing the land (12-21)

“So the LORD gave Israel all the land he had sworn to give their forefathers, and they took possession of it and settled there. The LORD gave them rest on every side, just as he had sworn to their forefathers. Not one of their enemies withstood them; the LORD handed all their enemies over to them. Not one of all the LORD's good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled.” Joshua 21: 43-45

Keeping the land (22-24)

“On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people, and there at Shechem he reaffirmed for them decrees and laws...After these things, Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of a hundred and ten.” Joshua 24: 25

Why All the Killing?

“When the LORD your God brings you into the land you are entering to possess and drives out before you many nations...then you must destroy them totally. Make no treaty with them, and show them no mercy.” Deut. 7:1-2

Israel's Conflicted Calling

The Call to Bless the Nations

The Call to Be Holy from the Nations

The Final Word...

Resolved in _____

Rahab: Glimpsing the Final word

The Tension of the Wilderness

The Exodus Pattern

1. Liberating Battle
2. Wilderness Travel
3. Kingdom Arrival



Living Between the Already and Not Yet

But as surely as God is faithful, our message to you is not “Yes” and “No.” For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me and Silas and Timothy—was not “Yes” and “No,” but in him it has always been “Yes.” For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ. And so through him the “Amen” is spoken by us to the glory of God. Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. 2 Corinthians 1: 18-22

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. For we live by faith, not by sight. We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10