Torah & Deuteronomistic History

UNDERSTANDING HOLY SCRIPTURE SESSION 3
Genres & Historical Contexts

Dei Verbum 12
Why study the Old Testament?

Divinely inspired (Don’t be a Marcionite!)
New Testament fulfillment of Old Testament
תָּנָ״ךְ, (Tanakh)

Torah (Law)
Nevi'im (Prophets)
Ketuvim (Writings)
Torah/Pentateuch

“Law” or “Way of Life”
“Five Scrolls”
Heart of the Old Testament
Authorship

Traditionally Moses
Probably numerous authors and compilers
Compiled during or after exile in Babylon
Patriarchs, Matriarchs, and Joseph (Genesis 12-50)

Biblical myth and history

Founding covenants of Israel

Joseph “novella”

Genesis 17:1-22
Exodus from Egypt
(Parts of Exodus and Numbers)

Biblical myth and history

God’s faithfulness and saving power

Moses, the greatest prophet

Exodus 14:5-31
Law Codes

Ten Commandments (Exodus 20, Deuteronomy 5)

Covenant Code (Exodus 21-23)

Holiness Code (Leviticus 17-26)

Deuteronomy Code (12-26)

Leviticus 19:1-18
Deuteronomistic History

“Deuteronomist”
Compiled after exile in Babylon
Theological history
1 Kings 11:1-13