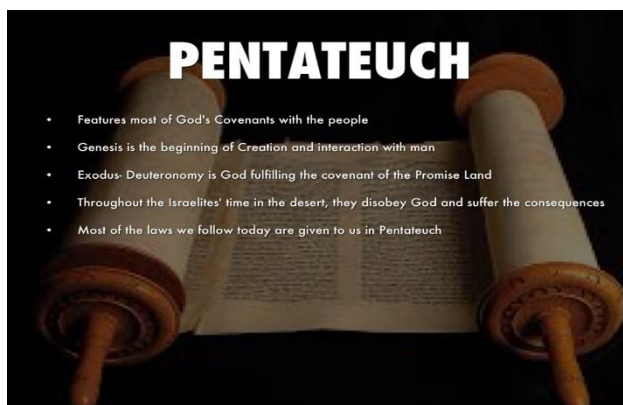


Module T15: The Pentateuch

This module gives a good introduction to the Pentateuch by looking at its content and formation, and by presenting analysis of a few chosen key texts.



WHAT IS THE PENTATEUCH?

The Pentateuch is the name of the first five books of the Bible, ie Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. These books contain stories, poems and laws composed at different times, and gathered together at different stages. The oldest text may come from about 1000 BCE, while the youngest may come from about 400 BCE.

Units 1-4 deal with background information and the remaining twelve units consist of analysis of texts. Only some of the most important texts can be dealt with; plenty of equally important texts have had to be excluded. Most of the chosen texts are from Genesis, as this book contains most of the narrative material. However, a couple of texts from Exodus, one from Leviticus and two from Deuteronomy are also included. Unfortunately, no space has been found for texts from Numbers in this course.