

# Bible as Christ's Testimony.

## Session # 18 2024-10-08

Who wrote the first books of the Bible? Moses principle. What the Torah tells us about the authorship of those first 5 books of the Bible and about the writing skills in Moses time.

## Beginnings of the Bible.

**Who wrote the first books in the Bible and when? What does the Bible say?**

- What does the rest of the Bible say about the authorship of the Torah?
  - o The Old Testament: Joshua 8:31-32, 23:6, 1 Kings 2:3, 2 Kings 14:6, 2 Chronicles 23:18, 25:4, 34:14, 35:12, Ezra 3:2, Nehemiah 8:1, 8, 14, Daniel 9:11, 13, etc.
  - o The New Testament: Matthew 8:4, 22:24, Mark 10:7, 8, Mark 1:44, 7:10, 10:3, 4, 12:26, Luke 2:22, 5:14, 16:29, 31, 20:28, 37, 24:27, John 1:45, 7:19, 22, 23, 8:5, etc.
- What about the quality of copying? Deuteronomy 17:18, 19 [Deut. 31:23f].

**How did Moses write it all? How did he know it all?**

- As an eyewitness. From God's revelation. From oral or written sources.

Genesis 5:1 [book], Genesis 10:9 [saying], Genesis 22:14 [saying], Genesis 32:32 [tradition], Genesis 47:26 [statute], Exodus 15:1-18 [song], Exodus 15:20f [song], Exodus 17:14 [testimony], Exodus 24:7 [book], Exodus 24:12, 25:16 [tablets], Numbers 11:26 [register], Numbers 21:14 [another book], Numbers 21:17-18, 27-30 [songs], Deuteronomy 29:21, 30:10, 31:26 [book].

**Writing of different parts.**

How did Moses know what to write? Where did he get the materials?

- **Exodus to Deuteronomy.** Deut. 34. Moses time. His own testimonies.
- **Genesis 12-50.** The age of patriarchs. Separated from Moses by a few generations. What would be the most important things to pass on to the next generations? God's promises: Gen 12, 13, 15, 17, 22, 25, 35. Again in Exodus 3:16f. Could Moses have used some written testimonies from his forefathers?

Consider the case of the city-state of Ebla. Read/translate from p. 42.
- **Genesis 3-11.** Prehistory. Can there be written testimonies? Egypt (Acts 7:22). Ebla. But also, if we consider the development of civilization before the flood. E.g. city building, metal working, musical instruments, Noah's ark.
- **Genesis 1 and 2.** How to think about those chapters?