

CONTENTS



Preface	ix
Abbreviations	xi
Introduction	1
1. The Name and Its Meaning	1
2. Outline of Contents	2
3. The Literary Form of Deuteronomy	4
4. The Covenant at the Plains of Moab	6
5. Composition and Structure	9
6. Deuteronomy and the Deuteronomic Historiographer	13
7. "Singular" and "Plural" Layers	15
8. Deuteronomy: The Archimedean Point in the History of the Pentateuchal Literature	16
9. The Book of Law (Torah)	17
10. Relation of Deuteronomy to the Tetrateuch	19
11. Deuteronomy and the Priestly School	25
12. Deuteronomy as Turning Point in Israelite Religion	37
13. Deuteronomy and Its Northern Roots	44
14. The Land in Deuteronomy	57
15. The Idea of the Election of Israel	60
16. Deuteronomy and Wisdom Literature	62
17. Deuteronomy and the Reform of Josiah	65
Bibliography	85
Translation, Notes, and Comments	123
<i>The Superscription, Place, and Date of the Address (1:1-5)</i>	125
Textual Notes	125
Notes	126
Comment	129
<i>Historical Survey (1:6-3:29)</i>	130
Introductory Remark	130

CONTENTS

<i>The Order to Depart (1:6–8)</i>	130
Textual Notes	131
Notes	131
<i>The Organization of the Judiciary (1:9–18)</i>	134
Textual Notes	135
Notes	137
Comment	139
Excursus: The Judiciary in the Ancient Near East	140
<i>The Sin of the Spies (1:19–28)</i>	141
Textual Notes	142
Notes	142
Comment	144
<i>The Speech of Moses Concerning the Sin of the Spies (1:29–46)</i>	145
Textual Notes	146
Notes	147
Comment	153
<i>The Circuit of Edom, Moab, and Ammon (2:1–23)</i>	153
Textual Notes	155
Notes	158
Comment	165
<i>The Conquest of Transjordan</i>	
<i>A. The Defeat of Sihon (2:24–37)</i>	167
Textual Notes	168
Notes	170
Comment	173
<i>B. The Defeat of Og (3:1–7)</i>	178
Textual Notes	178
Notes	180
Comment	181
<i>C. Summary of Conquests and Their Allotment (3:8–17)</i>	181
Textual Notes	182
Notes	183
Comment	187
<i>Instructions to the Transjordanian Tribes Concerning the Conquest (3:18–22)</i>	187
Textual Notes	187
Notes	188
Comment	189

CONTENTS

<i>The Prayer of Moses (3:23-29)</i>	189
Textual Notes	190
Notes	190
Comment	192
<i>Hortatory Address (4:1-40)</i>	193
Textual Notes	195
Notes	199
Comment	214
<i>The Assignment by Moses of the Cities of Refuge in Transjordan (4:41-43)</i>	230
Textual Notes	230
Notes	230
Comment	232
4:44-11:32	233
Introduction	233
<i>Introduction to the Exposition of the Law in Chapters 5-26 (4:44-49)</i>	234
Textual Notes	234
Notes	234
<i>The Prologue to the Decalogue (5:1-5)</i>	236
Textual Notes	236
Notes	237
Comment	241
<i>The Decalogue (5:6-18)</i>	242
Introduction	242
Textual Notes	276
Notes	284
<i>Epilogue to the Decalogue (5:19-6:3)</i>	319
Textual Notes	320
Notes	323
<i>Exclusive Allegiance to YHWH (6:4-25)</i>	328
Introduction	328
Textual Notes	331
Notes	337
Comment	349
<i>The Conquest of the Land; the Struggle with the Canaanites and Their Culture (7:1-26)</i>	357
Textual Notes	359
Notes	362

CONTENTS

Comment	377
<i>The Lessons from the Wanderings in the Desert (8:1–20)</i>	384
Textual Notes	385
Notes	388
Comment	396
<i>The Sin of the Past (9:1–10:11)</i>	398
Textual Notes	400
Notes	405
Comment	423
<i>The Preparations for the Entrance into the Promised Land (10:12–11:32)</i>	429
Textual Notes	431
Notes	435
Comment	453
Sources	457

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PREFACE



The decision to allocate a separate volume for Deuteronomy was motivated by three reasons. The first was the nature of the material, which contains history and homily, in contrast to the other books, which are comprised of legal material. Second, the Decalogue (chapter 5), which the Decalogue first appears has not yet been published in the Bible series. Finally, the partition permits the presentation of the book, which reflects its special importance. Deuteronomy is a median point for biblical criticism: it enabled scholars to identify the sources and the editorial framework of the historical books, the Deuteronomium and Kings, the so-called deuteronomistic history.

The INTRODUCTION covers all aspects of the book, historical, and theological. Only the section on the Decalogue is postponed for the second volume, because research on Deuteronomy is still in process of publication. The section on the Decalogue will appear at the end of Vol. 5A.

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