

DEUTERONOMY

AUTHOR:

Deuteronomy was probably written down in its final form much later than the events of the book took place. The stories were written down in the 7th century B.C. as the Jewish people wanted to have an account of what their ancestors had done with Moses.

DATE:

The majority of the events in Deuteronomy took place during Moses lifetime in the 15th century B.C.

AUDIENCE:

The original audience for Deuteronomy was the generation of Israelites who would soon enter the Promised Land. This book also summarizes the law for all the following generations of people who worshipped God.

CONTENTS:

Deuteronomy means “second law” and contains the details of the covenantal relationship between God and his people. The promise was that “God will be their God and they will be his people”. The book ends with Moses and the Israelites getting ready to enter Canaan.

CULTURAL FACTS:

After 40 years of wandering in the desert, the Israelites were ready to enter into the Promised Land. God has been faithful to the Israelites in battle, so long as they trust and depend on Him. God and Moses knew the many challenges the Israelites would face in their new land, and this new generation needed a refresher course concerning the covenant God had made with them through their ancestors.

