

This week's Audio, Video, and Teaching Notes are posted here.

Torah – The Secret of the Torah – Class Twelve (Those Who Handle the Torah – Traditionalist vs. Academic Views; Deuteronomy is Not Derivative, Late, or Secondary; These are the Words Which Moses Spoke; Only in Deuteronomy; Keys to Unlocking Scripture; Who, When, and Where was the Torah Written; What We Know About the Moses Scroll and It's Interpolation; Do Not Add to or Take Away From the Words of YHVH; Rabbi Ibn Ezra & Joseph Bonfils Reveal a Great Secret; Beholding to Tradition and to the Words of the Prophets; Non-Mosaic Torah Passages Revealed; Joshua Writes in the Torah; Torah on the Heart; The Secret of the Twelve – The Wise will be Silent; Tools for Identifying the Hand of Moses and of Others in Scripture; Not Remaining Silent in Our Continued Search for Ultimate Truth)

**November 7, 2020 – Ross Nichols**

### **Torah – The Secret of the Torah – Class Twelve**

Audio/Video/Dialogue Links:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=396838814778692>

<https://unitedisrael.org/torah-the-secret-of-the-torah-class-twelve/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aa0HuQRDTFc>

#### **TODAY'S INTRODUCTION**

-Welcome to United Israel World Union, this is our Sabbath morning scripture study coming to you live from the United Israel Center in Saint Francisville, Louisiana. Many of you are in your own place today, alone, Shabbat Shalom and thank you for joining us this morning. We need one another to help us go through what the world is going through today. I pray that all of you and the ones that you care for remain healthy today and throughout the coronavirus.

-We are currently in a new teaching series called, "Torah" where I want to talk about everything Torah. My intention with this series is to go where I've never gone before in a teaching series. I want to bring to light much of what I've been studying for the past several years, because this group can handle this subject matter. Though it's not a traditional series on the Torah, there will be some of that. This will be an in-depth study of Torah. In "The Ten Words" series, <https://unitedisrael.org/category/the-ten-words/>, we looked at textural inconsistencies, comparing Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5 side by side and we will continue this in our "Torah" series. UIWU has an educational outreach and our purpose is to provide good, solid, informative exegesis of the text of the Bible. All of us are here because we are deep students of scripture.

-Our "Torah" study has turned to a search for the authentic scroll written by Moses. The hand of Moses being apparent in the text of what is traditionally known as the works attributed to him, the Moses material / Pentateuch (Genesis 1:1 - Deuteronomy 34:12). What does evidence bring forth to clearly show, what did Moses write? We are talking about authorship. I'm not questioning the authenticity, or the inspiration, or the divine nature of the other material, our study will get to that. In this series I want to discern a single hand that belongs to Moshe Rabbeinu. What did Moses write? The search must

take place within the pages of the bible initially along with other sources as necessary, like the Dead Sea Scrolls. We will look at the text in the bible, from the words, in connection with the words, and on-the-basis-of the words.

-In our “Torah” study, we’re currently looking for what Moses’ hand wrote on leather / parchment. In previous classes, I presented evidence that Moses did indeed write a little scroll, whether rolled or folded, based on several third person accounts within the Moses material. In Deuteronomy 31:24-26 we learned through a third person account where Moses finished writing the scroll to the very end and he handed it to the Levites who carry the ark, yet we still have three chapters left in Deuteronomy. The Torah was to be written on plastered stones and the five books would have been too much. When Ezra stands on a wooden platform and the scroll of Moses is read in the hearing of the people we get a clear indication it took from morning to mid-day, yet today it takes about 25 hours to read the five books. As such, I’ve proposed that the Moses Scroll is a smaller document. Please join us as we continue in our teaching series called, “Torah”.

### **TEACHING NOTES**

-Today we are in our twelfth and final class in our series on the Torah and today’s class is called “The Secret of the Torah” – Class Twelve. The Torah Scroll that I’m teaching about is not the same as the one traditionally attributed to Moses, the first five books of the bible (Genesis 1:1 – Deuteronomy 34:12). In my classes thus far, I suggest this is not the case if you study closely the words of scripture. Nor does it follow standard academic or traditionalist/fundamentalist views which are long on speculation and short on evidence. Neither of these groups are faithful to the biblical texts and their theories are not rooted in the bible. The traditionalist / fundamentalist camp has added to the discernable words of Moses, while the academic camp has taken from what Moses said, and most of the time, claim that Moses said nothing at all.

-Jer 2: 8 The priests did not say, 'Where is YHVH?' Those who handle the law did not know me; the shepherds transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal and went after things that do not profit.

-Jeremiah talks about “Those who handle the Torah”. I will say that those who handle the Torah have erred because they know not scripture. Many today consider the Book of Deuteronomy a mere copy of the Torah, and that it’s not an original document and is mere repetition of what comes before it. Deutero-nomos means a second copy of the law. This theory has stuck, and many people believe the Deuteronomy has nothing new to offer and that it’s considered derivative, late, and deemed secondary in importance. Many scholars believe that Deuteronomy was not written by Moses and that it’s dated no later than the 7<sup>th</sup> century BCE. They believe it was penned at the time of its discovery in 2Kings 22 – 23 & 2Chronicles 34 – 35. They say it wasn’t discovered but written at that time. One scholar even called the Book of Deuteronomy, a pious fraud.

-The evidence thus far presented in this series challenges the fundamentalist view and the academic view. I have been working on this for months and it’s the subject matter of a forthcoming book, in which some additional questions will be answered in more detail. It will take more time and an in-depth study to get into the details and substantiate the claim. The claim I’m making in this class in and in the book is that Deuteronomy is not derivative, it is not late, and it is not secondary, although portions of it are later. As it turns out, at its core is the Moses Scroll, written by the hand of Moses during the

wilderness journey, before he died, and before the children of Israel crossed into the land. The Moses Scroll is discoverable to a critical eye within and only within our present Book of Deuteronomy. My intention is never to destroy anyone's faith, but to get at the truth.

-I have put forth and believe, based on a faithful reliance on the words of the bible, that the Book of Deuteronomy contains within it, a discernable original scroll that Moses wrote. The most remarkable document in the history of religion. It's discoverable, "From the words, in connection with the words, and on the basis of the words." I am reliant on the text of scripture and these texts are what lead me to the far-reaching conclusions that are presented in this Torah series.

-References throughout the sacred text, as we've demonstrated, more often point to content exclusive to Deuteronomy. This main idea is that portions of Deuteronomy give itself away as being authentic, particularly because of its use of a first-person narration, is only demonstrated in the Book of Deuteronomy. However, first person quotes in third person narratives can be found in context, in other books of the Torah. The title Deuteronomy throws you, if you open the Book of Deuteronomy, it begins differently than all other books. It begins, these are the words which Moses spoke. It's almost as if it's a great clue.

-Deuteronomy is typically put at the 40<sup>th</sup> year where the children of Israel are ready to go into the land, and they view it as secondary, a rehearsal of what's gone on before. Yet Deuteronomy contains more than 100 laws, not mentioned anywhere else, and it mentions vocabulary, phrases, words and sayings that are unique to Deuteronomy. The Book of Deuteronomy is especially important to Judaism and Christianity, without this, these things wouldn't even be in our religious vocabulary. The love of God is particularly important, and it's only found in Deuteronomy as well as the Shema, the famous confession of faith.

-Deu 6: 4 "Hear, O Israel: YHVH our God, YHVH is one.

-Repeatedly we get these ideas that are central to Deuteronomy's theology and they're only in Deuteronomy. But Deuteronomy, like the other four books of the Pentateuch, also contains evidence of other hands and other voices which are observable to a critical eye is a key to unlocking Deuteronomy, the Pentateuch, and this idea of authorship. In coming weeks, if we understand and use these keys, we'll be able to unlock vast amounts of scripture which has been difficult for people for millennium. Most often the thing that indicates other hands or voices is this unique use of the third person narrations, "and the LORD spoke unto Moses." These third person narrations are most logically understood as coming from the hand or voice of someone other than Moses. We expect Moses to say in the first person, "and the LORD spoke unto me."

-We see first person narration exclusively in Deuteronomy and third person in Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers. Other clues that another hand or voice comes to us from the Torah text are the frequent use of anacronyms. Anacronym is when you take something that is noncontemporary to a narrative and you insert it. An example would be, "to this day". "Unto this day" indicates that it was interjected into the text. Variant details exist when you compare details from the Book of Deuteronomy to Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers. When you read the two narratives horizontally comparing harmonistic text's you'll see variations. As an example, see the narrative of the spies in Numbers 13 vs. Deuteronomy 1 you'll see important variations. This demonstrates exactly what we

want to find. We are searching for the hand of Moses and this method allows us to do this.

-If Moses didn't write the other books, who wrote them, and can we trust them? Who were these other authors? Were they men, women, or a combination of both? Was it one person or a school of priests or scribes and when did they write it? If they didn't write it in the contemporary time period of the Exodus, when was it written? We have this idea that it was all written by Moses during a 40-year period, from the Exodus of Egypt to the crossing over into the land. Fundamentalists say it was written around 1450 to 1410 BCE. Many scholars, because of anachronistic text, date it to the 1200s. When and where did they write it?

-In Deuteronomy 1, the narrator lets us know they are writing from the land of Canaan. "These are the words which Moses spoke to the children of Israel on the other side of the Jordan. Geography plays into this, where were they at? We know this narrator is writing later and is writing from the land of Canaan. Can we determine with any certainty, who that is or when they wrote? Sadly no, however we can make speculations. There are some good suggestions out there. Rarely are these speculations and proposals supported by the text of the bible in any definitive way. We just don't know. I'm interested in knowing and I continue to search the bible for evidence.

-What I decided to begin with is that which is certain from scripture. With a fair degree of certainty, as evidenced by everything thus far, I wanted to establish the criteria that is necessary to identify what Moses did write. If we have text that tell us what he did write and we place that as our model, we can begin to reconstruct, with a fair degree of certainty what Moses did write. Then we can make some informed points as to what he didn't write.

-We know that Moses did write a scroll, because we have seven references in scripture that talk about it. We must look for the document that contains those things and all these references point towards content found within the Book of Deuteronomy. We know that Moses took his scroll (Deuteronomy 31 in third person) and he entrusted it to the care of a group of Levites who carried the ark of the covenant and to the elders of Israel. We know that this beautiful scroll was ignored and forsaken for centuries and stored in the temple and forgotten, until it was rediscovered in 622 BCE.

-As the Biblical Period comes to an end, the Hebrew Bible, covered within the pages of the Tanakh. Particularly during the Persian Period, small sampling of later text suggests that the scroll that Moses wrote, late in the biblical period, was interpolated. Meaning that other information was added to it. Then the Scroll of Moses now interpolated into what became the Book of Deuteronomy, is attached to and incorporated into a larger document including other sacred priestly historical writings. That which Moses wrote was interpolated and incorporated into a five volume, sacred history that is now called the Pentateuch, the five books of Moses. Terms and names originally applied to the scroll that Moses wrote began to be applied in some of these later texts to the whole document including the scroll that Moses wrote plus these other priestly documents. The name of Moses was attached to the larger work even though our texts do not indicate that he wrote them.

-Deu 4: 1 "And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that YHVH, the God of your fathers, is giving you. 2 You shall not add to the word that I command you,

nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of YHVH your God that I command you.

-This warning, given by Moses against manipulating his scroll is found only in the Book of Deuteronomy, and it's found twice. This is found as part of our first-person narration.

-Deu 12: 32 "Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it.

-In the Hebrew it literally says, All the word which I command you, guard to do it. You shall not add there to, nor diminish from it. It's particularly important to Moses, in his scroll to inform / warn against adding to the words he is communicating, because that which comes from the hand of Moses previously came from the mouth of YHVH. He wants to ensure that the record he is presenting doesn't get diluted, polluted, mixed or watered down in any way. Don't add to it or take away from it. By guarding it, you are ensuring the continuity of the true message from YHVH to Moses to the children of Israel. The original Torah was to be left apart. This doesn't say that you can't have other historical records or important details provided in other sacred histories written by those who were inspired. We need to recover that which was authentic. That's what drives this quest. If you add to or take away from God's word you are not guarding.

-Pro 30: 5 Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.  
6 Do not add to his words, lest he rebuke you and you be found a liar.

-Jer 8: 8 "How can you say, 'We are wise, and the law of YHVH is with us'? But behold, the lying pen of the scribes has made it into a lie.

-Jeremiah was alive in the day the Scroll of Moses was discovered. I have every indication that he saw the original Scroll of Moses and it didn't match what was being presented as the Torah. Two times in the Torah it says, don't add to it or take away from it and it's only found these two times in Deuteronomy, but it wasn't heeded.

-Indications within the five books that certain words, phrases, and narratives, which we have been told are attributed to Moses, have every indication they were written by another person or by other people and that these narratives were interpolated into or incorporated with what was authentically Moses. Many before me have noticed this and among the first was a celebrated Rabbi named Abraham Ibn Ezra who lived from 1089 to 1164 CE. A brilliant mind who loved the scripture and spent his entire adult life writing about the Torah. Making comments on the text of the Torah and addressing some of the most difficult things he found within the text. Commenting on one verse, Ibn Ezra expressed it contained a great secret of which I will share with you in today's class.

-Others may have noticed it before him, but I don't know of anyone who saw as deeply into the text and revealed the secret in his writings, as Ibn Ezra and he warned about making the secret known. What was it that Ibn Ezra saw? Later, another person was studying Ibn Ezra and picked up on his research and took it even further by applying the same method. He was a French Rabbi by the name of Joseph Bonfils. Commenting on Ibn Ezra's work, Bonfils said the following: "The great secret is that Joshua or another of the prophets wrote it, and since we have to trust in the words of tradition and the prophets, what should I care whether it was Moses or another prophet who wrote it? Since the words of all of them are true and inspired." I give to you this quote because many of you may be troubled by what we've found. What Bonfils does, and what Ibn Ezra does before him, is he says, "I'm beholding to two things, I'm beholding to traditions and I'm beholding to the words of the prophets." In their minds the words of

tradition were on an equal footing with the words of the prophets and they had to make both work with the difficulties they were discovering.

-Ibn Ezra's secret, what he saw, was that within the five books were passages non-Mosaic in origin. Passages which do not trace back to the hand of Moses. I've studied the writings of Ibn Ezra and Joseph Bonfils and they must be credited with seeking to resolve these great difficulties presented to them by the text. They are believers and love scripture just like we do and were exposed to these difficulties and they are seeking to reconcile the words of tradition and the words of the prophets. Bonfils ultimately says, Moses didn't write all these non-Mosaic passages. Then they went on to make comments and speculated as to who wrote them. Many who have written books on this subject have done the same. They've tried to identify by name if possible, or by a certain group of scribes, who those other intrusions can be attributed to. I refrain from making my guess, another in a long list of guesses. Bonfils ultimately says, it doesn't matter because according to tradition this is inspired from God. Whether it was Joshua or another prophet, it matters not, because all of them, their words are true and inspired.

-Many of the difficulties which Ibn Ezra encounters and comments on and Joseph Bonfils comments on Ibn Ezra's comments on the scripture with these non-Mosaic sayings or narration not attributed to Moses, they attribute to Joshua. Ibn Ezra did have a text which he used to support his assertion that Joshua wrote in the Torah. This is the answer they felt reconciled the discrepancies, knowing Moses didn't write certain things in the Torah, with this idea that Joshua or one of the prophets after added these things to the Torah.

-Jos 24: 26 And Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God. And he took a large stone and set it up there under the terebinth that was by the sanctuary of YHVH.

-In the Hebrew it says, and Joshua wrote these words in a scroll of the instruction of God. Notice how this is like the way Deuteronomy 1 begins. Is this scroll of the instruction of God the same as the scroll of this Torah, and the scroll of Moses? Is this telling us that Joshua wrote in the Torah of Moses? There are three other texts that talk about the scroll of the instruction of God.

-(1) Isa 1: 10 Hear the word of YHVH, you rulers of Sodom! Give ear to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah! 11 "What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says YHVH; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. 12 "When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts?

-Isaiah is encouraging the listeners to hear the word of the Torah of Elohim and says, who said anything about sacrifices?

-(2) Hos 4: 6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you have rejected knowledge, I reject you from being a priest to me. And since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

-According to Hosea, the people have forgotten the Torah of God.

-(3) Psa 37: 31 The law of his God is in his heart; his steps do not slip.

-This talks about the Torah of Elohim on the heart. This concept is also picked up by Jeremiah in his idea of the new covenant and describes a Torah that is written on the heart. The Psalmist picks this up and refers to it as the Torah of Elohim. Do these all point to the same document? I propose to you that they do. The scroll that Moses wrote with his hand, he was recording that which YHVH spoke to him, and therefore the Torah of Moses is the Torah of Elohim, and it's the Torah of YHVH. Ibn Ezra also said, if you

understand the secret of the twelve, you will recognize the truth. What is this secret of the twelve? Bonfils suggests that with Ibn Ezra's use of the word secret, these are related to another hand, ie. non-Mosaic. One of the secrets of the twelve texts is noted here. They are beholding to the text and making the Bible tell the truth.

-Deu 3: 11 (For only Og the king of Bashan was left of the remnant of the Rephaim. Behold, his bed was a bed of iron. Is it not in Rabbah of the Ammonites? Nine cubits was its length, and four cubits its breadth, according to the common cubit.)

-Ibn Ezra and Bonfils comment on this. They look at this as, Moses didn't write this.

-Deu 2: 37 Only to the land of the sons of Ammon you did not draw near, that is, to all the banks of the river Jabbok and the cities of the hill country, whatever YHVH our God had forbidden us.

-Bonfils says this is proof that this verse was written into the Torah only after these events. Thus Moses didn't write it, but rather one of the later prophets must of written it. According to Deuteronomy 2:37 they didn't go to Ammon and therefore they would not know about a bed in Rabbah because they didn't encroach it. How much have we missed from Chapter 2:37 to Chapter 3:11 because it appears to be a discrepancy? Ibn Ezra and Bonfils said this is a great secret because all around them the fundamentalist / traditionalist say Moses wrote Genesis 1:1 to Deuteronomy 34:12. Ibn Ezra and Bonfils said no, there is evidence that another hand is involved. It doesn't mean it's not inspired. During the time the children of Israel were wandering in the wilderness for 40 years, someone else went to Rabbah and saw Og's bed. This later writer is telling us an important detail about how big the bed of the king of Bashan is. Since Moses never entered Rabbah, according to Bonfils, he would have no way of confirming that Og's bed was there. Bonfils and Ibn Ezra also make a comment on the first five verses of the Book of Deuteronomy.

-Deu 1: 1 These are the words that Moses spoke to all Israel beyond the Jordan in the wilderness, in the Arabah opposite Suph, between Paran and Tophel, Laban, Hazereth, and Dizahab. 2 It is eleven days' journey from Horeb by the way of Mount Seir to Kadesh-barnea. 3 In the fortieth year, on the first day of the eleventh month, Moses spoke to the people of Israel according to all that YHVH had given him in commandment to them, 4 after he had defeated Sihon the king of the Amorites, who lived in Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, who lived in Ashtaroth and in Edrei. 5 Beyond the Jordan, in the land of Moab, Moses undertook to explain this law, saying,

-Bonfils said in regards to this passage, "Anyone who looks carefully at these verses will understand the truth and can certify that all five of these verses are speaking in the third person as if someone else were telling the story. Ibn Ezra and Bonfils after him, saw what Ibn Ezra called a great secret. The secret of the Torah is that another hand or other hands are involved in the final product of the work. They said not to worry, because these were also prophets like Joshua writing in the Torah as Joshua 24:26 indicates. Many have said where it describes the death of Moses in Deuteronomy 34, it wasn't Moses that wrote about his own death. However, the Rabbis said he did write about his own death through tears in a prophetic manner, because he's a prophet and knows the rest of the story. It's their answer to what could be considered a discrepancy.

-Deu 34: 6 and he buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows the place of his burial to this day. 7 Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eye was undimmed, and his vigor unabated. 8 And the people of Israel wept for

Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. Then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended. 9 And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as YHVH had commanded Moses.

-This was written in the third person by a narrator that wasn't Joshua, because he would have written it in the first person. By the same criteria that Ibn Ezra discovered a great secret, he didn't go far enough. He's looking for an answer to help explain these great difficulties with two things in mind, tradition and the words of the prophets. What's the difference in my approach compared to Ibn Ezra, Bonfils and others? I'm only beholding to the words of the prophets. Ibn Ezra and Bonfils concluded that the difficulties did not violate adding two or taking away from the texts as noted in Deuteronomy 4:1-2 and Deuteronomy 12:32 in an English bible. How could we have added to what was the original Torah if we have a prohibition against adding to the Torah? According to Ibn Ezra and Bonfils, you must distinguish between narration and law. They say that anything that deals with the commandments or the law, you can't add to it or take away from it, but narrations – help yourself.

-For Ibn Ezra and Bonfils the author didn't matter, if it wasn't Moses it was one of the prophets. Bonfils gives a piece of advice I didn't follow today. "It would not be appropriate to reveal this secret to average people, lest they make light of the Torah. For anyone who is not sufficiently wise cannot differentiate verses that contain commandments and verses that are simply narrative in nature. Additionally, because of the nations who tell us, "Your Torah was once the truth, but you replaced it and changed it." For these reasons, Bonfils refers to Ibn Ezra, "The wise will be silent. For the wise know that this does no damage, only fools would attack Ibn Ezra for this."

-The secret is that although tradition tells us that Moses wrote the five books, that we have indications by careful and critical study of the text that other hands are involved, but don't tell. It's not appropriate to reveal the secret to average people because they'll make light of it and non-Jews would say, your Torah was once the truth, but you've messed it up. Therefore, the wise will be silent.

-Why did I want to reveal this secret now? Class Twelve of our Torah Series? For these reasons: (1) I want the truth. We've spent 12 weeks discovering what Moses actually wrote and by doing so we've learned some tools whereby we can identify not only what Moses wrote; look for first person narration, watch out for anachronism, and watch out for third person. We've given you the tools in 12 classes to identify what Moses wrote and by the fact we've done that, we've also given you the tools to identify the hand of another.

-The reason I want to conclude, at least for the present, our journey into the Torah with this class is that I want you to be able to breathe deeply and possibly choose to say like Ibn Ezra and Bonfils, that it doesn't matter to me who wrote these things, if it were Joshua or one of the prophets. I want you to feel comfortable. By doing so, Ibn Ezra and Bonfils were able to continue with their traditional view as well as with the words of the prophets. Whether Moses or another prophet wrote it, it makes no difference.

-The warning of revealing this secret is they said it wouldn't be appropriate to share this with average people. You are people who desire truth above all and have invested a greater part of your lives in studying and searching for truth. You were willing to walk away from false traditional things that you were told and trade that up for something that



is true and sustainable and real. You're not average. Your intent is not to make light of the Torah.

-I won't remain silent. It would have been easy for me not to share what I've shared in the past twelve weeks. People who teach the bible look to please the most people by telling them what it is they already believe so they're preaching to the choir. My quest isn't like that. I set forward on a journey to discover, the whole truth, nothing but the truth, so help me God. As I discover things and feel led to present them, I do that. I will continue to face the difficulties presented to me by the scriptures that I love, and I will continue to search out, to find the ultimate truth in all of this. It's led me to study Biblical Hebrew and driven me to devote my full time to this work. In my view, there is nothing more important than studying these matters. I'm not beholden to tradition. I don't say that in an arrogant way. What I mean by that is, that the traditions of men can be looked at and considered, but to me, I'm beholden only to the prophets and to the One who spoke through them.

-Regarding the classes which are coming, if we can discern the hand of Moses against what we knew traditionally. If we can discover and discern the hand of Moses within this greater document and thereby discern the true words of YHVH. If we can recognize the divine words of YHVH through Moses' words and we know that the prophets followed suit based on the model provided to us in Deuteronomy, might we not also apply this method to other scriptures. An honest assessment. There are things we must learn. We get a great deal of the foundation of this study by learning through the original Torah of Moses. We've learned some things that are going to help us as we get into Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Nahum, and Micah. What if some of what we've learned here like the manner of speech, the method by which YHVH speaks to his people, this is extremely important. If we've discovered some difficulties within our traditional views of the Torah, how much more will that play out as we work through the prophets of ancient Israel who spoke forth those flaming God inspired words? If we can identify the hand of Moses within the five books. If we can identify the voice of YHVH there, we can also see it in the prophets. Next week we begin a new series called "Prophet".

Shabbat Shalom, Shavua Tov, and Have a Beautiful week!

April 26-28, 2019 - 76th Annual UIWU Conference

**"Finding the Hand of Moses: The Torah Within OUR Torah"** – Ross Nichols

**Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1FUGQ99xZA> (8 – 1:12 minutes)

**(1) Torah – The Journey Begins – Class One** (Seekers of Truth Awaken; Under the Law – What Were We Told; The Fundamentalist View; Reading the Book – A Positive View of Torah; An Introduction to Torah Faith; The Torah Class Syllabus; An Honest Assessment of Torah; Burning Questions; Fundamentalism – Then & Now; Taking the Hard Road – An Obligation to Share Biblical Truth and Reach Sound Conclusions; Torah Means Direction; This is the Torah Of; Torah in the Heart; Rejecting the Torah of YHVH; What Does the Torah Say vs What People Say it Says; What Did Moses Write)

**August 8, 2020 – Ross Nichols**

**Audio/Video Links:** <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-the-journey-begins/>

**Teaching Notes Link:** <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Teaching-Notes-2020.8.8-Torah-The-Journey-Begins1.pdf>

**(2) Torah – Authors – Class Two** (Associating Our Lives with the Ancient Texts; Going Inside the Scriptures; Letting the Authors Speak for Themselves; The Psalms of David; The First-Person Words of Daniel, Isaiah, and Jeremiah; The Distinction Between Scribe (Third-Person) and Prophet (First-Person); Applying the Same Method to the Moses Material – The Five Books of Moses; What Did Moses Write – Discerning the Hand of Moses; The Third-Person Narratives of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers; Deuteronomy’s First-Person Narratives; Moses Constructs an Ark; Moses Spoke Beyond the Jordan – Examples of Late Biblical Editors; The Scroll of Moses)

**August 15, 2020 – Ross Nichols**

**Audio/Video Link:** <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-authors-class-two/>

**Teaching Notes:** <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Teaching-Notes-2020.8.15-Torah-Authors-Class-Two.pdf>

**(3) Torah – What Moses Wrote – Class Three** (The Five Books of Moses – The Pentateuch; Seven References to Moses Writing Something; Blotting Out the Memory of Amalek; Writing the Commands of YHVH Associated with the Covenant; YHVH’s Travelogue – Journeys in the Wilderness; This Torah; The Book / Scroll of This Torah and It’s Content; References to the Scroll / Torah of Moses – The Man of God; Content Within Deuteronomy; Walking in the Ways of YHVH; Cooking the Passover Lamb – Roasted vs. Boiled; Remember the Torah of My Servant Moses; What Did Moses Write)

**August 22, 2020 – Ross Nichols**

**Audio/Video Link:** <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-what-moses-wrote-class-three/>

**Teaching Notes:** <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Teaching-Notes-2020.8.22-Torah-What-Moses-Wrote-Class-Three1.pdf>

**(4) Torah – The Moses Scroll – Class Four** (What Did Moses Write; The Moses Scroll – A Smaller Document; Excluding Things from the Moses Scroll; Third Person Material – A Different Hand than Moses; Biblical References Pointing to Context in Deuteronomy; Missing Books Quoted in the Bible; The Damascus Document – A Quote About the Scroll of Moses; One Woman One Man; David and Solomon Multiply Wives; Joshua and the Sealed Scroll of the Torah in the Ark; The Torah of the King – Deuteronomy 17:14-20; A King “Like the Nations”; Samuel is Displeased; Rejecting YHVH as King; Jotham’s Parable; Allowing Statutes that are Not Good; A Polemic Against the Monarchy; Inserting Anachronistic Texts Which Come Later)

**August 29, 2020 – Ross Nichols**

**Audio/Video Link:** <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-the-moses-scroll-class-four/>

**Teaching Notes:** <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Teaching-Notes-2020.8.29-Torah-The-Moses-Scroll-Class-Four1.pdf>

**(5) Torah – The Discovery – Class Five** (Where’s the Moses Scroll; The Purpose of the Box; David Brings the Ark of God to Jerusalem; Solomon Builds a House for the Name of God; The Ark of God – Housed in the Most Holy Place; What Happened to the Scroll of Moses; Jehoash Repairs the Temple; The Temple Falls into Disrepair Again; A Great

King is Born to the House of David; Josiah Appointed King; Hilkiyah Discovers the Scroll of YHVH Written by the Hand of Moses; Shaphan the Scribe Reads the Scroll before Josiah; Josiah Tears His Cloths; Huldah the Prophetess says Gods Wrath is Coming; Josiah Reforms Judah; Content found in Deuteronomy; With All Your Heart and Soul; Josiah's Passover; With All Your Strength/Everything; Where is Jeremiah the Prophet)

**September 5, 2020 – Ross Nichols**

**Audio/Video Link:** <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-the-discovery-class-five/>

**Teaching Notes:** <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Teaching-Notes-2020.9.5-Torah-The-Discovery-Class-Five.pdf>

**(6) Torah – Keepers of the Holy – Class Six** (The Great Discovery; Josiah's Great Reform; Following the Words of Moses Scroll; Where is the Ark of the Covenant; Where was the Moses Scroll Concealed; Josiah's Passover; The Sons of Levi – Gershon, Kohath, and Merari; Service of the Holy Things; Oxen and Wagons; The Sons of Kohath; The Sons of Amram – Aaron and Moses; Solomon Anointed King; Adonijah is Killed; Abiathar is Banished to Anathoth; Kohathites and the Most Sacred Things Carried on Shoulders; Jeremiah – Son of Hilkiyah; The Words of YHVH in the Mouth of a Prophet like Moses; Jeremiah and Josiah Overlap for 18 Years; The Potential for Redemption is Ripe; Jeremiah Laments the Death of Josiah; Jeremiah's Prophecies; Treacherous Sister Judah and Faithless Israel; The Ark of the Covenant won't be Missed; Burning Questions)

**September 12, 2020 – Ross Nichols**

**Audio/Video Link:** <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-keepers-of-the-holy-class-six/>

**Teaching Notes:** <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Teaching-Notes-2020.9.12-Torah-Keepers-of-the-Holy-Class-Six.pdf>

**(7) Torah – Jeremiah Part One – Class Seven** (The Day of the Blast; Jeremiah – Key to Understanding the Moses Scroll; No Marriage or Children for Jeremiah; The Coming Catastrophes; No Longer will it be Said, As YHVH Lives Who Brought Up the Children of Israel Out of the Land of Egypt; The Call of Jeremiah; YHVH's Words In the Mouth of His Prophets; Keep this Scroll and this Song as a Witness Against You – The End was Decreed; Pierced in the Valley of Megiddo – Josiah My Servant is Dead; Josiah's Eulogy – Jeremiah Laments; No Time for Mourning – YHVH Drives Out the Kingdom of Judah; Behold Days are Coming Declares YHVH – A New and Glorious Beginning; Swearing by the Name of YHVH; A New Oath – As YHVH Lives Who Brought Up the Children of Israel Out of the North Country and All the Countries Where They Were Driven)

**September 19, 2020 – Ross Nichols**

**Audio/Video Link:** <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-jeremiah-part-one-class-seven/>

**Teaching Notes:** <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Teaching-Notes-2020.9.19-Torah-Jeremiah-Part-One-Class-Seven.pdf>

**(8) Torah – Haazinu the Song – Class Eight** (The Song of Moses; The Role of A Prophet – The Words They Speak are Not Their Own; YHVH Raises up Josiah and Jeremiah; Huldah the Prophetess; The People Forsake YHVH, Turn to Other Gods Through the Work of Their Hands, and Provoke Him to Anger; Josiah's Reform; Huldah's Bad Report; Three Prophetic Voices – Huldah, Jeremiah, and Zephaniah;

YHVH Threatens to Undo the Creation – I will Cut Off Mankind; The Host of Heaven; The Sons of Josiah; Crying Comes from the Second Quarter of Jerusalem; The Temple will be Destroyed; Violence is Done to the Torah; Jeremiah’s Vision of Acorns and Cauldrons; In YHVH’s Anger a Fire is Kindled; With a Mighty Hand and an Outstretched Arm; Jeremiah’s Use of the Moses Scroll Language; This Torah Which I set Before You Today)

**September 26, 2020 – Ross Nichols**

**Audio/Video Link:** <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-haazinu-the-song-class-eight/>

**Teaching Notes:** <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Teaching-Notes-2020.9.26-Torah-Haazinu-the-Song-Class-Eight1.pdf>

**(9) Torah – A New Covenant – Class Nine** (A Public Reading of the Torah of Moses; Inconsistencies in the Four Species; Long Gaps in Keeping the Festivals; Listen, Learn, Guard, Do; Reflecting on the Covenant; Moses’ New Covenant with Us and Those Not Standing Here Today; Consequences for Not Following the Covenant; The Secret Things Belong to YHVH; Just Do the Words of This Torah; Jeremiah’s New Covenant; The Scroll Written by the Hand of Moses; Keys to the Book of Jeremiah – Historic Content & the Mosaic Source; The Word Which Was to Jeremiah – Fourteen Sub-Scrolls; Jeremiah – A Four Part Series; Circumcision of Heart; The Words of This Covenant; The New Covenant Exodus; Love YHVH with All Your Heart and All Your Soul; The Greatest Chapter in the Bible – Deuteronomy 30)

**October 3, 2020 – Ross Nichols**

**Audio/Video/Dialogue Links:** <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-a-new-covenant-class-nine/>

**Teaching Notes:** <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Teaching-Notes-2020.10.3-Torah-A-New-Covenant-Class-Nine.pdf>

**(10) Torah – Deuteronomy is Different – Class Ten** (In the Wilderness; Forty Two Stations – Key Stops Along the Way; The Wilderness of Tzin; The Bronze Serpent; The Scroll of Moses and the Book of Balaam; Shittim to Gilgal; The Exodus Generation Dies Off; Moses Asks YHVH to Appoint Someone to Lead the Children of Israel; The End of the Book of Numbers; Whose Behind the Sources; Deuteronomy is Different; Sinai vs Horeb; The Ten Words; Testimony vs Covenant; Who Built the Ark – Moses vs Bezalel and Oholiab; The Burden of Leadership; Who Suggested Sending Out the Twelve Spies; The Place Where YHVH Chooses to Put His Name; Scholarship and Deuteronomy’s Supposed Secondary Status; It’s Not Late; Deuteronomy’s First-Person Position; The Levitical Koahthites and the Scroll that Moses Wrote)

**October 17, 2020 – Ross Nichols**

**Audio/Video/Dialogue Links:** <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-deuteronomy-is-different-class-ten/>

**Teaching Notes:** <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Teaching-Notes-2020.10.17-Torah-Deuteronomy-is-Different-Class-Ten1.pdf>

**(11) Torah – Evidence for the Scroll of Moses – Class Eleven** (Discerning the Hand of Moses in the Pentateuch – Our Best Evidence; The Ethics of the Fathers; The Torah that Moses Commanded Us – An Inheritance of the Congregation of Jacob;

**Then YHVH said unto Moses; Questions of Time and Place; Beyond the Jordan; Text vs. Tradition – What to Trust; Seven References to Moses Writing the Scroll of Moses; References to the Scroll of This Torah, to the Scroll of Moses, and to the Torah of Moses; Content Found in the Book of Deuteronomy; The Voice of the Narrator; Behold the Words of Moses; Examples of First Person and Third Person Narratives; The Unique Language of Deuteronomy)**

**October 31, 2020 – Ross Nichols**

**Audio/Video/Dialogue Links:**

<https://unitedisrael.org/torah-evidence-for-the-scroll-of-moses-class-eleven/>

**Teaching Notes:** <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Teaching-Notes-2020.10.31-Torah-Evidence-for-The-Scroll-of-Moses-Class-Eleven.pdf>

### **THIS WEEK IN TORAH**

NOVEMBER 7, 2020

This week's Torah Portion VaYera: "And He Appeared" (Genesis 18:1 – 22:24) Visiting the sick and hospitality to strangers; The promise of a son is revealed to Sarah; Abraham learns about Sodom's destruction; God's love for Abraham; Abraham intercedes for Sodom; Sodom is destroyed; Lot – a perplexing hero; God rescues Lot; God destroys Sodom; Lot begs for a concession; Lot's daughters and the birth of Moab and Ammon; The roots of Jewish monarchy; Abraham in Gerar; Sarah is abducted; Abimelech appeases Abraham and Sarah; The birth of Isaac; God protects Hagar and Ishmael; The treaty with Abimelech at Beer-sheba; The tenth trial; The Akeidah / Binding of Isaac on the Altar; The birth of Rebecca. "Shavua Tov" and Have a Great Week!

"This Week in Torah" FB Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/571648826269105/>

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

-Blossoming Rose Israel Tours (2020 - 2021): <https://blossomingrose.org/>

-Walking the Ancient Paths – (2021): Tabor – Nichols Israel Tour February 26-March 9, 2021; <https://blossomingrose.org/2021-walking-the-ancient-paths/>;

<https://www.facebook.com/unitedisrael/videos/1519585374879147>;

-UNCC Mt. Zion Archaeological Project, Dig Mt. Zion (2021): June/July 2021;

<https://digmountzion.uncc.edu/>, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/digmountzion/>

-Limited Mobility Israel Tour – (2021): Nichols – Young; October 18 – 28, 2021;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyUGXC4fUvU> & <https://blossomingrose.org/israel-tours/limited-mobility-israel-tour-2021/>

### **UNITED ISRAEL WORLD UNION (UIWU) WEBSITES**

-UIWU Official Website / YouTube Website / Facebook Website:

<https://unitedisrael.org/> (UIWU Main Website)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq31WAlio9zC1eXDzrEVzlg> (YouTube Videos)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/unitedisraelworldunion/> (UIWU Facebook)

-UIWU Founder, United Nations Correspondent, Author, (1903 – 2003) David Horowitz:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David\\_Horowitz\\_\(author\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Horowitz_(author))

<https://jamestabor.com/the-extraordinary-life-of-david-horowitz-documented-at-last/>

<https://unitedisrael.org/remembering-david-horowitz/>

-UIWU President, Biblical Scholar/Professor at UNCC, Tabor Blog, Dr. James D. Tabor:

<https://jamestabor.com/>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_Tabor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Tabor)  
[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=james+tabor](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=james+tabor)  
-UIWU Executive Vice-President, Historian, Researcher, Author, Ralph Buntyn:  
<https://unitedisrael.org/category/remembering-david-horowitz/>  
<https://www.amazon.com/Book-David-Horowitz-Nations-Founder/dp/1630515833>  
[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=ralph+buntyn](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=ralph+buntyn)  
-UIWU Vice-President, Weekly Teaching and Study Sessions, Ross Nichols:  
<https://unitedisrael.org/author/rknichols/>  
<https://rossknichols.com/about-ross-nichols/>  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq31WAlio9zC1eXDzrEVzlg>  
-UIWU Vice-President, Temple Beth Shalom, Hickory, NC, Rabbi Dennis Jones:  
<https://www.hickoryjewishcenter.com/index.html>  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hickory-Jewish-CenterTemple-Beth/125461817509689> & <https://unitedisrael.org/faith-without-borders/>  
-UIWU Ministers/Board Directors, UI Center Northeast, Rome, NY, Dave & Patty Tyler:  
<https://www.facebook.com/UIWUNortheast>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6BsCXrGttxo> (The Song of Moses by Patricia Tyler)  
-UIWU Historical Research Specialist, Weekly Teachings, Author, Jodell Onstott:  
[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=jodell+onstott](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=jodell+onstott)  
<https://www.amazon.com/YHWH-Exists-Jodell-Onstott/dp/0975337505>  
-UIWU Audio/Visual Technical Support, Weekly Teachings/Meals, Dave & Sherry Cole  
-UIWU UI Minister, Weekly Teachings, UI Bulletin Contributor, Ronnie Fulcher  
-UIWU Board Director, United Israel Bulletin Contributor, Betty Givin  
-UIWU Music Minister, Weekly Teachings, Glenn Chatterton  
-UIWU Scribe, Weekly Teaching Notes, This Week in Torah FB, John “Baruch” Perry  
-A 95 Page Summary of UI “Weekly Teaching Notes” (April 2007 to May 2020)  
<https://unitedisrael.org/a-summary-of-ui-teachings-by-john-baruch-perry/>  
-This Week in Torah / Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/571648826269105/>

## **FRIENDS OF UNITED ISRAEL WORLD UNION**

-Blossoming Rose, Official Curator of UI Biblical Tamar Park, Dr. DeWayne Coxson:  
<https://blossomingrose.org/>  
[https://www.facebook.com/groups/97078180601/?ref=group\\_browse](https://www.facebook.com/groups/97078180601/?ref=group_browse)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLCdRzFRy90> (Biblical Tamar – 7 Periods)  
[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=biblical+tamar+park+israel](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=biblical+tamar+park+israel)  
-Kol Yehuda, Facebook United 2 Restore, Israeli Tour Guide, Hanoch Young:  
<https://www.kolyehuda.com/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/470824226357829/>  
[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=hanoch+young+israel](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=hanoch+young+israel)  
-Truth2U, Tanakh Tours, The Kingdom Chronicles, Talk Radio Host, Jono Vandor:  
<https://www.truth2u.org/author/admin/>  
<https://truth2u.org/category/james-tabor/> (Gleanings from Genesis, with Tabor/Nichols)  
<https://israelnewstalkradio.com/news-anchor-jono-vandor/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/Truth2Uorg-116835708352238>  
-Film Director, Producer, Freelance Journalist, Author, Simcha Jacobovici:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/57979546982/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simcha\\_Jacobovici](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simcha_Jacobovici)

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=Simcha+Jacobovici](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Simcha+Jacobovici)

-Archaeologist, Professor of Practice at UNCC, Dr. Shimon Gibson:

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=shimon+gibson](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=shimon+gibson)

<https://history.uncc.edu/people/dr-shimon-gibson>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shimon\\_Gibson](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shimon_Gibson)

-Nehemia's Wall, Uncovering Ancient Hebrew Sources of Faith, Nehemia Gordan

[https://www.nehemiaswall.com/;](https://www.nehemiaswall.com/)

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=nehemia+gordan](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=nehemia+gordan)