

Preparation Guide for the Final Exam

1. Assemble the most important genealogies in Genesis beginning with Gen 5 and ending with Gen 46. Be able to use the information you assembled to retell the story of the Patriarchs using the genealogies "pegs" as the source for your narrative. Be sure to have memorized all the key relationships from Adam to Benjamin [but most importantly from Terah to Benjamin] and be able to plot the 12 sons of Jacob on a map.
2. Sternberg writes (p. 286) that the "motivations of Joseph's conduct have always proceeded along four main lines: punishing, testing, teaching and dream fulfillment. Predictably enough, however each line is wrong because all are right." Explain. Which of these four do you think Sternberg believes is most important. How does Judah's speech fit into Sternberg's analysis.
3. How can one read the story of the Patriarchs Christologically?
4. On the bottom of p. 154 and the top of p. 155 Levenson explains the "problematics of chosenness" for both the chosen and the unchosen. What is the problem and how is the problem articulated and resolved in the Jacob and Joseph cycles?
5. Genesis 38 both fits and does not fit into the larger narrative frame of the Joseph story. Explain.

Long Essay (one-hour). Read carefully the first paragraph of Levenson p. 143. He says that in the Joseph story "is concentrated almost every variation of the theme that first appeared in the little tale of Cain and Abel and has been growing and becoming more involved and more complex throughout the Book of Genesis." Looking over all our readings for the course of the term be prepared to explain how this is true.