

“THE SECOND LAW”

The Book of Deuteronomy

Who wrote The Book of Deuteronomy?

The Book of Deuteronomy was written by Hebrew Scribes and Priests

How did The Book of Deuteronomy get its name and/or what does that name mean?

In Hebrew, the word Deuteronomy means “second law.”

When did these events take place?

Although Deuteronomy covers the period just prior to the Israelites entering the Promised Land in approximately 1175 B.C., the book was probably written several hundred years after.

For more about The Book of Deuteronomy:

See page 161 in the [Fireside Catholic Youth Bible](#).

Have you ever noticed how your parents repeat what they think is important over and over again - especially if you are going somewhere? They might say things like "Be sure to stay out of trouble" or "Remember to wear your seatbelt" or "Call us if you need anything." They might even remind you of the consequences of bad judgment while you are away. You probably have the routine memorized. The important thing to remember is that they are only reminding you because they love you. The rules that they have in place are there as proof of that love and are there to protect you.

Through the person of Moses, God gave us The Book of Deuteronomy (which means "second law") in that same spirit of love for His people. At age 120, Moses' discourses (or speeches) in The Book of Deuteronomy are his last instructions to the Hebrew People. Just like a worried parent, much of what he tells the Israelites in Deuteronomy (like a repeat of The 10 Commandments) is a reminder of the law they have heard before. Like a loving parent to the Hebrews and an obedient servant of God, Moses has led the Israelites to the plains of Moab just across the Jordan River from the Promised Land.

Interesting Fact: Jesus quoted The Book of Deuteronomy when defending himself against the devil while he was praying and fasting in the desert before his public ministry began.

Bonus Point: For what special occasion must a woman “shave her head” and “manicure her nails?”