

7/6/95

Deuteronomy 29-31

As we continue in the third and final discourse of Moses, we come to the renewal of the covenant at Moab.

There are many covenants in the Old Testament such as the one with Noah, Abraham, Moses at Sinai, David and the eternal covenant in Jeremiah and Ezekiel.

The word covenant means a cutting as two parties agreed on the conditions and a sacrifice was cut in two so that the party or parties involved could walk between the two pieces of the sacrifice and the blood sealed the covenant, even as when God did with Abraham. Gen. 15:10-18

29:1-29 The renewal of the covenant**29:1-9 Moses addresses the nation.**

29:1 We stated that this verse should be the closing verse of the preceding chapter in our last study.

- 1) The covenant is being made in Moab. 1:5
- 2) Some attempt to make it a different covenant the one at Horeb or Sinai, rather than a renewal. Ex. 19-24

* The Scofield Bible calls it the Palestinian covenant.

3) There are two covenants.

- a) The covenant of law which no man can fulfill.
- b) The covenant of Grace through Jesus.
- c) The eternal covenant deals with the last days for true Israel. Jer. 32:40, Ezk. 37:23-28

29:2-3 Moses calls all of Israel to what they saw in Egypt regarding Pharaoh, his servants and the land, through signs and wonders. 5:1

29:4 Moses calls out their sin.

- 1) It would appear at first that it was God who was hindering them.
- 2) It was their own refusal to yield to God, not having a heart for God. 5:29
 - a) This truth is throughout the Scriptures. Jer. 1:17-19, Ezk. 3:4-11
 - b) the carnal mind is an enmity towards God. Rom. 8:7-8
 - c) The natural mind can not understand the things of God. 1Cor. 2:14

29:5-6 Moses calls their attention to His faithfulness through the wilderness.

- 1) It was God who led them the forty years.
- 2) Their clothes and shoes did not wear out.

- 3) Their food and drink was provided as they needed it.
* Manna from heaven was angels food!
- 4) The purpose of all this was in order that they know that He was their Lord their God!

29:7-8 Moses calls their attention to the fact that God had defeated the enemy and given them their land on the east side of Jordan.

29:9 The conclusion of matter is that in view of all these facts they should keep the words of the covenant and do them in order that they prosper in all they do!

29:10-13 **Moses addresses the individual.**

29:10-11 Each individual was responsible for their obedience to the covenant as they stood before the Lord.
* Even those who had come into Israel's fellowship through treaties who became servants of wood and water. Josh. 9:20, 23, 27

29:12 The purpose being to enter into the covenant with God.

29:13 The result being that they would become the people of God and He their God.

29:14-29 **Moses addresses the consequences.**

29:14-15 The covenant was not only with those present but also with those who would born in the future.

* The phrase "today" appears six times between verse two and fifteen, giving emphasis to the responsibility of the Covenant. Hos. 10:4, Amos 6:12, Heb. 12:15

29:16-18 They were to remember the bondage and corruption of Egypt and the nations to restrain them from turning from God.

- 1) The heart is the issue.
- 2) The result is service to other gods.
- 3) The outcome is bitterness and wormwood, poison.

29:19-21 They were not to deceive themselves in their disobedience

- 1) Man's proud heart is the problem.
- 2) God's judgment is severe.

29:22-29 The astonishment of the future generations as well as the acknowledgment of God's judgment due to their disobedience.
1) Jew and Gentile would acknowledge it.
vs. 22

- 2) Their destruction would be absolute as Sodom and Gomorrah and almost forgotten as Admah and Zeboim. vs. 23
- 3) Questions would be asked by the nations and the answer would be the revelation of Scripture. vs. 24-28
- 4) The context of the things revealed is the present chapter and the secret things of God are in relationship to Israel which God will do towards Israel, revealed in the next chapter. vs. 29
- * Is. 55:8-9, Rom. 11:33

30:1-10 **The blessings of repenting from disobedience to the covenant**

- 31:1** This section is prophetic in nature, they would indeed turn from God and be scattered.
- 31:2** They would repent.
- 31:3** They would be regathered.
- 1) The eternal covenant, Jer. 32:40, Ezek. 37:26, Math. 24:31
- 2) Two captivities were in 586 B.C. at Babylon and 70 A.D. by Rome.
- 31:4-5** They would be restored to the land. Ezk.. 36:24-36, 37:23-28, Rom. 11:25-27

- 31:6** They will be a nation converted.
* The heart is to be circumcised. Duet. 10:16, Rom. 2:
- 31:7** They will see their enemies judged.
- 31:8** They will once again obey God.
- 31:9-10** They will be blessed in abundance by God and He will rejoice over them.

30:11-20 **The choice of life and death in the covenant**

- 30:11-14** The word of God was at their access and clear.
- 1) Paul uses this passage for the availability of salvation through God's word in Romans. Rom. 10:6-10
- 2) The context here is regarding the Covenant, in Romans it is an application to the Gospel message.
- * The new covenant is with the gentiles and ultimately with Israel. Jer. 24:7, 31:31-33, Heb. 8:8
- 30:15-16** The choice of life and death is made by each person and is in relation to God's word, obedience bringing blessings.

30:17-18 The consequences are due to disobedience, always!

30:19 Two witnesses are called against the people, heaven and earth.

30:20 The purpose behind the commitment begins with loving God and evident by obedience.

31:1-8 **The transfer of leadership to Joshua**

31:1 These words are those of the covenant in the previous chapters.

31:2 Moses gives the reasons why he can not enter the promise land.

- 1) Age, 120 years old.
- 2) Inability to lead, can't go out nor come in.
- 3) Prohibition from the Lord. Num. 20:7-13, 27:14

31:3 The Lord's presence would continue through Joshua, the only change would be the vessel.

31:4 The same victory would be given to them on the west side as on the east side.

31:5 They were to obey the commands of the Lord as they possessed the land.

- 1) Not make any covenants with the people.
- 2) Not to esquire after their practices.
- 3) Not to spare any.

31:6 Moses knows the heart of the people and their fickleness.

31:7 Moses encourages Joshua knowing the heart and the difficulties of leadership, trusting only in God.

31:8 Moses reminds Joshua of the Lords constant leading so as not to get carried away with the success or admiration by the people.

31:9-13 **The reading of the law every seven years**

31:9 Moses was the author of the Pentateuch not as critics of today say.

- 1) Writing was in existence centuries before Moses yet this use to be one of the arguments.
- 2) The multiplicity of authors is a fabrication of depraved minds.
- 3) Moses gave it to the priest and elders of Israel.

31:10-11 Moses commanded the law to be read every seven years at the Feast of Tabernacles.

- 1) This was the year of release. 16:13-17, 15:1-11, Lev. 23:34
- 2) This is seen in their history. Chron. 17:7, Neh. 3:2

31:12-13 The gathering was to be of all.

- 1) Women, little ones, strangers.
- 2) The purpose was to hear and fear the Lord and observe all the words.
- 3) The future generations would hear and know God's word.

31:14-23 **The inauguration of Joshua and the prediction of apostasy**

31:14-15 God orders Moses to bring Joshua and himself to the Tent of Meeting.

- 1) God is the One who inaugurates men, He alone commissions by calling and anointing the man.
- 2) The place is the place of authority, where God manifests Himself and speaks to Moses.
- 3) The Lord's presence is a theophany, to give evidence of His presence.

31:16 God reveals to Moses that after his death, Israel would be spiritually unfaithful.

* Hosea relationship to his wife Gommer is a classic example of God's example to His people!

31:17--18 The judgment of god would fall on them.

- 1) They will know that it is due to their unfaithfulness.
- 2) They will not have the favor of God's face, access.

31:19 Moses is commanded to teach them a song that prophesied about their apostasy as a witness against them. ch. 32

31:20 God points out three things.

- 1) He had fulfilled His promise of bringing them into the land of milk and honey.
- 2) They would become complacent due to their abundance.
- 3) They would in turn break the Covenant.

31:21 God reveals all this, knowing the future and the heart of the people.

31:22-23 Moses did as the Lord commanded him.

- 1) Moses wrote the song and taught it to the people. vs. 22
- 2) Moses inaugurates and encourages Joshua. vs. 23

31:24-29 The placing of the law in the ark

31:24-25 Moses completed writing the law in the book and told the Levites to put it in the Ark of the Covenant.

31:26-29 The closing words

- 1) Moses tells them to put the book in the ark as another witness against them in their apostasy. vs. 26
- 2) Moses proclaims his knowledge of the rebelliousness against the Lord and how much more after his death. vs. 27
- 3) Moses calls all the elders and officers and calls heaven and earth as a witness against them. vs. 28
- 4) Moses declares their evil in the latter days. vs. 29

31:30 Should be the first verse of chapter thirty.