

## “Linchpin” - Part 1: Introduction (7-1-2018)

**New Series:** Linchpin – A Study of the Book of Deuteronomy

**Today:** Introduction to the series – Overview of the Book, Key Factors we will explore, significance of Linchpin

**Introduction:** My family’s last 2 weeks . . .

- Purchase of a house fell through – days before closing (homeless w/ 6 kids & 2 dogs)
- Rent back our house for a week – washing machine goes out
- Abby – got really sick could be Strep, or like 3 random exotic diseases
- Jeep – wouldn’t start coming out of Alex Arnold’s celebration service
- My Emotions: Anger, Frustration, Confusion, Fear, Lack of Control, & ultimately Laughter!
- Settled into a little 3 bedroom house, waiting for our next home
- Amy – famous for chalkboard walls, my daughter Ashley draws one Friday night . . .
- “Home is wherever I’m with you” – Lumineers quote?

**This series:** is called Linchpin and it’s about knowing what anchors you, and living accordingly!

**Why Deuteronomy?** My goal is to answer that question today!

### 1) Overview of Deuteronomy

**Context:** Moses and the old wilderness wandering generation are coming to a close, and the next generation is about to head into the land that was promised long ago.

**Basic outline:** Looking back, within, ahead, and up! (Warren Wiersbe)

- Looking Back – Moses is reminding the next generation of their people’s history (good & bad)
- Looking Within – A reminder of the Law of God and who they are called to be
- Looking Ahead – what it’s going to require to take the promised land & keep it!
- Looking Up – A new leader is appointed, and a song of Worship, and a Blessing is pronounced.

**The Purpose:** To engage, prepare, & inspire the “next” generation to take their place as “this” generation.

**Picture a relay race** – they are being taught how to take the baton, run their leg, and hand-off well so the race can be won over the long haul.

Your life is more than your own. Your legacy is wrapped up in both the past & future.

**John Maxwell** (From his commentary on the Book of Deuteronomy)

"I want to do what Deuteronomy itself does: bring the power of the past to bear on the present, with an eye to the future. When this happens, Deuteronomy should come alive and breathe spiritual renewal into the personal histories of its readers."

**My Hope:** That this book comes alive, inspires you, and equips you, to run your race well, for the long haul!

## 2) Deuteronomy - Key Themes & Ideas

The way any book of the Bible comes alive is through the Living Word: Jesus! So, we are going to spend our time looking at this book through the eyes of Jesus Christ. . .

- Outside of the Book of Psalms, it's the Book of the Bible He quoted the most. In fact if you consider the Torah (the Law of Moses, or 1<sup>st</sup> 5 books of the Bible) - which Deuteronomy is a restatement or overview, then it is Jesus most quoted section of scripture.
- Jesus quotes from Deuteronomy 3 times to Satan when he is tempted in the wilderness
- Jesus quotes from Deuteronomy and the Law of Moses, when speaking with the rich young ruler
- The Book deals with issues like . . .
  - Courage vs. Cowardice
  - Speaks to the Next Generation about . . .
    - How to learn from your parents (the good & bad)
    - Win victory over difficult circumstances
    - How to maintain success, and avoid complacency
- **Ultimately . . . Jesus defines the entire OT with a quote from Deuteronomy & Leviticus**

In fact it is that quote that gave this series its title . . .

## 3) Linchpin

Jesus quoting from Deuteronomy 6:5 & Leviticus 19:18 . . . (this quote is recorded in 3 places: Matt, Mark, & Luke)

### Matthew 22:36-40 (NKJV)

(36) "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" (37) Jesus said to him, 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' (38) This is the first and great commandment. (39) And the second is like it: 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' (40) On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

**Notes:** The word "Hang" – it's like a peg or nail, upon which something hangs. Like the peg in the hinge of a door.

- Story of removing the Door during our move – what happens when we remove the linchpin?

Jesus said that our world should hang upon Loving God & Loving People. Yet we are living in a society that is becoming increasingly un-hinged. How then shall we live?

**Conclusion:** Ashley's new sign

### Deuteronomy 31:6

Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for the LORD your God is the one who will go with you. He will not leave you or abandon you.