



ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

"A Covenant That Outlives Our Failures"

Devarim (דְּבָרִים) "Words"

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Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Texts: Deut. 1:1-3:22; Gen. 17:7-8; Ex. 12:2-3; Josh 4:19; Lev. 26:44-45; Ps. 89:31-38; Jer 31; Isaiah 54:7-13; Romans 11:29

Sometimes, life doesn't go according to the plan—or even the timeline—we expected. You know what I mean. That one thing you thought would take a year ends up dragging on for a decade. An 11-day journey turns into 40 years. That's how Moses opens the book of Devarim—*"These are the words..."*—and then he gives Israel a gut punch: "It's an eleven-day journey from Horeb to Kadesh-Barnea" (Deut. 1:2). But here they are, on day 14,600. This isn't just a retelling of laws. This is Moses, in the final month of his life, looking at the next generation and saying, "Let me tell you where we've been, why we stayed so long, and where God is still calling us to go." It's more than history. It's a covenant renewal. It's an invitation.

1. IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO TAKE THIS LONG

Moses starts Deuteronomy with a geographical reminder—just 11 days from Sinai to the edge of the Promised Land. That's it. Eleven. But disobedience, fear, grumbling, and lack of trust stretched those 11 days into 40 years. And we scoff, but don't we do the same? God gives us direction, but we hesitate. He speaks a word, but we ask for a sign—then another one. We replay the sins of our past like old tapes and sabotage the future He's trying to bring us into. The journey delays, not because He stopped leading, but because we stopped trusting. Yet even then—He doesn't abandon us.

Deuteronomy 1:6 is God's gentle yet firm nudge: *"You have stayed long enough at this mountain."* Maybe you've stayed too long in that bitterness, that regret, that wilderness of indecision. It wasn't supposed to take this long. But even when we delay, God doesn't cancel the journey. He just waits for us to move again.

2 THE COVENANT STILL STANDS, EVEN WHEN YOU FALL

Deuteronomy isn't just Moses reciting rules. It's a covenant document—structured just like ancient suzerain treaties of the day. But what makes this covenant unique is that it's not just between a king and his vassal—it's between God and His people. And unlike human kings, this God sticks to His word even when we don't. Moses reviews the failures of the past generation—not to shame, but to teach. He reminds them: You didn't go in because you wouldn't trust Him. But God still preserved your children. The covenant didn't die with your parents—it's alive for you.

This covenant is deeper than obligation; it's personal. God said in Genesis 17, "I will be your God and your seed's God after you." In Leviticus 26, He declares that even in exile, He will not break His covenant. And Isaiah 54? "My love will not depart from you, nor will My covenant of peace be shaken." God is not just covenant-making. He is covenant-keeping. Even when you fall, the covenant stands.

3. THIS GENERATION STILL HAS A CALLING

Now Moses is speaking to a generation that didn't see the plagues in Egypt, didn't walk through the Red Sea, and didn't hear the voice of God thunder from Mount Sinai. All they've known is manna, wandering, and waiting. But Moses doesn't coddle them—he commissions them. *"See, I have set the land before you. Enter and possess it"* (Deut. 1:8). In other words: **THE CALLING HASN'T CHANGED, EVEN THOUGH THE GENERATION HAS.**

Maybe you're not the first in your family to hear the call of God. Maybe others before you fumbled the baton. But you're holding it now. And the question is—will you run with it? Moses tells Joshua: *"You must not fear them, for it is ADONAI your God who fights for you"* (Deut. 3:22). This generation isn't an accident. God's purpose is still unfolding—and He's calling you into it.

CONCLUSION

What was supposed to be an 11-day journey turned into a lifetime of wandering. And yet, even when His people got stuck, God didn't abandon them. He stayed. He guided. He preserved. And now, He's speaking to you.

Maybe you've wandered. Maybe you've feared. Maybe you've stayed too long at a mountain God told you to leave. But today, God is renewing His call over your life. The covenant is still valid. The calling is still alive. And if you're breathing, there's still a Jordan to cross and a promise to walk in. Come back to the covenant. Trust in the faithfulness of the God who never gives up on His promises. Yeshua has made a way to fulfill the covenant, to make you right with the Father, and to empower you by the Spirit.

If you've never trusted Him—Today is the day to look to Him and trust Him..

If you've trusted Him, but wandered—come back.

If you've gotten comfortable in the desert—stand up and respond to His call!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What "11-day journey" in your life has turned into a 40-year delay? Why?
2. How have you seen God's faithfulness, even in seasons of your disobedience?
3. What does it mean to you that God keeps His covenant, even when we don't?
4. In what areas has God been saying, "You've stayed long enough at this mountain"?
5. What step is He asking you to take today toward obedience and trust?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Abba, We thank You that You are a covenant-keeping God. Even when we hesitate, even when we rebel, even when we delay—You remain faithful. Lord, we confess the ways we've gotten stuck, stayed too long, and doubted Your promises. Forgive us. Restore us. Renew our courage. We receive Your invitation to rise and move. We say yes to Your call again. Help us not to waste another day in the wilderness, but to walk forward in faith, trusting You to fight our battles and lead us into the promises You've prepared. We love You. We trust You. We follow You.

In the name of Yeshua our Messiah—Amen.