# STUDY THE BIBLE LESSON

**Deuteronomy: The Sermons of Moses** 



## **Lesson Summary**

Israel has finally made their way to edge of the Promised Land and are camped in the plains of Moab, just across the Jordan river from Canaan. They have just wandered through the desert for 40 years and this new generation has just buried their parents and grand parents. The old generation has died off because they refused to go into the Land. Now, the new generation is ready to go, but Moses cannot go with them. Therefore, Moses delivers to Israel his final farewell sermons in the book of Deuteronomy. First, he reminds them not to make the mistakes of their fathers, but rather they need to trust the LORD. The LORD has fought for them this far so they have no need to fear the Canaanites as their fathers did. Then, Moses reminds them of the Law which the LORD delivered to them at Sinai, he prepares them for life in the Land and in cities vs. in the desert around a tent, and he sets before them again the blessings and curses of the covenant. Then, in his parting words, Moses predicts their future... They would follow in the footsteps of their fathers and bring upon themselves the covenant curse. Yet, that curse would cause them to repent one day and on that day, the LORD would have mercy and compassion upon them and would restore them to the blessing in their Promised Land. In that day, Israel would finally be a blessing to the nations as the kingdom of Messiah is established.

## Story of the Bible Chart

Following Easter, we are returning to the "looking for the Messiah" part of the chart. Today, we are over-viewing Deuteronomy which will end with Moses' death. Yet, the book introduces us to the search for a greater Moses. This greater Moses will be Messiah.

Story of the Bible Chart picture of the day:





# **RECAP/INTRO**

The LORD has been busy at work, making Israel into a great nation just as He promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

He has multiplied them greatly, He has delivered them from Egypt, He has given them the Law, and now He has led them right to the edge of the Land of Canaan so that they can finally take their Land and establish the Kingdom of Messiah who will bless all the nations.

But, remember, the first generation was unfaithful and refused to trust the LORD and enter the Land? As a result, the LORD killed off the old generation and has raised up a new one. Many of this new generation had been born after the events of Kadesh-Barnea (Numbers 13—14) and they had not witnessed their parents' refusal to enter into the land. Some were up to 19 years old then and all of them had watched their fathers die during the forty years they had spent in the wilderness. They knew not to commit the sins of their fathers for they had witnessed exactly what would happen to them should they reject God and their God-appointed leader, Joshua. Now they were ready . . . they thought.

Of course, the reader wonders how this generation could be so confident when their parents had actually witnessed the miraculous exodus from powerful Egypt less than five months previous, yet still rebelled at Kadesh-Barnea. So Moses composed several sermons to exhort the new generation as they prepared for their trek across the Jordan into the Land inhabited by the evil Canaanites.

Deuteronomy contains these sermons.

Deuteronomy means "second Law." It is given this title because Moses is re-delivering the Law so-to-speak, to this new generation.

Today, we will be overviewing this book before diving into key parts in the coming weeks.

## **Lesson Outline**

The LORD is faithful

# LESSON OUTLINE Deuteronomy



#### 1. God had acted on their behalf in the past and thus would in the future (Deut 1-4)

- a. Moses began by telling them the history of how they had come to this place; how God had already fought their battles for them in order to bring them to this entry point.
- b. Since God has proven that He fights for them, they have no need to fear like their fathers before them.
- c. They are to recognize the LORD as their cause of victory, not themselves or the gods of the nations.

#### 2. The commands restated and expanded (Deut 5-26)

- a. The 10 commands from Ex 20 are repeated and re-contextualized for their new lives in the Land which they were about to take.
- b. Interspersed through these commands was the repeated command to "love the LORD your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind."
- c. They were not to simply keep the rules, but they were to love to keep the rules for they were the desires of the heart of God. God's desires were to be their desires.

#### 3. Blessing and cursing restated and expanded (Deut 27-28)

- a. Just like in Leviticus, blessings and curses were given as stipulations of their covenant with the LORD.
- b. If they represent Him and continue to walk by faith, they would find prosperity in the Kingdom of Messiah. Should they disobey and rebel against God, they would be cursed.
- c. The point of cursing was so that Israel would turn to Him as their provider and once again love Him with all their heart.

### 4. God's Compassion in the Last Days to Israel (Deut 30)

- a. Moses predicts that Israel will fail and fall under the curses of the covenant.
- b. When they find themselves under the curse and kicked out of their Land to a foreign land as they will one day (the last days), the curse will cause them to return to the LORD. He will overwhelmingly return to them and return them to the Land that He wanted them to have.

## 5. Moses' warnings and farewell to the nation (Deut 31-34)

- a. In the end of the book, Moses predicts Israel's future.
- b. In one song, he prophesied that he knew that they would not change from the same people as their parents. They would ultimately reject God and God would have to judge them. They would ultimately regard themselves as responsible for their prosperity and would forsake God. But they could not fool God, nor ignore Him. He would make them accountable.
- c. Yet, despite all of this, God would still have compassion on Israel in the last days and make His plan to bring blessing to the nations come about through Israel.

# TEACH THE BIBLE LESSON

**Deuteronomy: The Sermons of Moses** 



# **Lesson Questions**

Use these questions to teach or to review this week's lesson.

#### Ages 3-5

- Who wrote the first 5 Books of the Bible that we call the Law or the Torah?
  Moses
- 2. What is the name of the book of the Bible that we are learning about today? Deuteronomy
- 3. Does Deuteronomy repeat the instructions given to God's special nation, Israel for the new generation?

Yes

4. Is God always faithful to all of His promises?

Yes

#### Grades 1-6

- What is the name of the fifth book that Moses wrote to God's special nation Israel?
  Deuteronomy
- 2. Do you remember the 4 books that the story has already covered? Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers
- Together, what are these first 5 books of the story also called? The Law. or the Torah
- 4. Deuteronomy means "second law." Why does the story need to repeat the Law to the new generation of God's special nation?

They will be the ones going to the Promised Land.

- In the story, has God always kept all of His promises to His special nation, Israel? Yes
- If God always keeps His promises and fights for Israel, should Israel be afraid?No
- 7. How was Israel supposed to act once they came to their Promised Land that the LORD was giving to them?
  - Israel was supposed to remember God's faithfulness to them in the past and trust that He would continue to keep all His future promises to them. This would require having faith in God even when their enemies seemed too strong or too many to defeat.
- 8. What has God told Israel to do in the times that they did not trust His promises but instead rebel against God?

Return to the LORD or repent

- What does Moses predict about Israel in his farewell speech?
  Israel will not be faithful to God so God will be faithful in carrying out the curses on Israel so that they will repent and return to the LORD.
- 10. At the end of the story, will God bring the blessings of the coming Promised One through Israel to bless all who are on God's Team from every nation?

Yes