

Pastor's Bible Study

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

Week Eighteen - Deuteronomy

Review

Literary Period Covered: 1406 B.C.E.

They are in the plains of Moab by the Jordan opposite Jericho.

Lecture Segment

Deuteronomy

The name Deuteronomy comes from the Septuagint's **Koine** Greek title 'Δευτερονόμιον' for the book, to deuteronomion, meaning “second law” or “repeated law,”

Hebrew name of the book of Deuteronomy is, דְּבָרִים Devarim, which means “words.”
The book of Devarim is filled with Moses' words.

The Book of Deuteronomy tells of the last month of the life of Moses. With his people gathered around him there in the valley of the Jordan, everything was in readiness for the triumphal entry into Palestine. But God had warned Moses that because of the one time when he had failed in faith, he should himself be shut out from the promised land. Hence Moses now prepared himself for death.

He gave his last days to preaching to his people. In this final month he delivered to them three great addresses, marvels of oratory, recorded in this remarkable book of Deuteronomy, though perhaps in their present form they were not written down until centuries after Moses' death. In these orations Moses reminded the new generation, which had grown up around him, of all that God had done for them and for their fathers,

in bringing them out from Egypt. He traced the marvelous history of the past forty years, he reviewed the commandments he had given them, and he passionately exhorted them to continue forever in obedience to God.



Book of Deuteronomy can be summarized in the caption “Preaching and Pleading.” Here Moses poured out his heart in urging Israel to be faithful to the Lord¹

¹ Smith, J. E. (1993). [The Pentateuch](#) (2nd ed., pp. 478–479). College Press Pub. Co.

Pastor's Bible Study

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

CHRONOLOGY OF DEUTERONOMY		
Deuteronomy 1:3	Deuteronomy 34:8	Joshua 4:19
Moses' First Address	Mourning for Moses	Israel Crossed Jordan
40/11/1		41/1/10

No new characters are introduced in this book. In his addresses, however, Moses does refer to a number of characters who were encountered earlier. Besides Moses himself, fifteen others are mentioned here. The listing below is included for review purposes.

- | | | |
|------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Sihon | 6. Caleb | 11. Aaron |
| 2. Og | 7. Joshua | 12. Eleazar |
| 3. Abraham | 8. Esau | 13. Dathan |
| 4. Isaac | 9. Lot | 14. Abiram |
| 5. Jacob | 10. Pharaoh | 15. Balaam ² |

1-11 Moses Opening Speech

The first address in Deuteronomy is dated to the fortieth year of the Exodus, the eleventh month and the first day of the month. According to Joshua 4:19 Israel crossed the Jordan river into Canaan in the forty-first year after leaving Egypt, the first month and the tenth day. This would be about seventy days after Moses' first address. Subtracting the thirty days of mourning following Moses' death (34:8), leaves roughly forty days for the addresses of Deuteronomy. This chronological scheme is set forth below.

12-26 Collection of Laws

Deuteronomy aims at an internalization of God's Law. Moses was seeking to implant within his people the will to live by God's Law. The summarization of the Law in terms of loving God with heart, soul and mind (10:12f.) is a major contribution of this book.

² Smith, J. E. (1993). [The Pentateuch](#) (2nd ed., pp. 476–477). College Press Pub. Co.

Pastor's Bible Study

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

By this emphasis Deuteronomy was opposing all forms of legalism which might grow up around the Law of God.

The book serves to underscore the necessity of obedience to God's Law. The abiding lesson of Deuteronomy is that obedience is essential—essential to health, happiness and heaven itself.

Jesus found in the fourfold obligation of the following passage the first and greatest commandment, it surely must top the list of outstanding verses:

“And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. To keep the commandments of the Lord, and his statutes, which I command you this day for your good?” (10:12f.)

Social Justice is a key part of the Law

“You must never twist justice or show partiality. Never accept a bribe, for bribes blind the eyes of the wise and corrupt the decisions of the godly. Let true justice prevail, so you may live and occupy the land that the LORD your God is giving you”

Deuteronomy 16:18-22 New Living Translation (NLT)

STRUCTURE OF DEUTERONOMY (“The Instruction of the Nation”)

First Discourse	Second Discourse	Third Discourse	Fourth Discourse	Final Words
Review of the Journey	Restatement of the Law	Reemphasis of Responsibility	Renewal of Commitment	Reminder of Duty
Chs. 1–4	Chs. 5–26	Chs. 27–28	Chs. 29–30	Chs. 31–34 ³

27-34 Moses Final Speech and Death

The final chapter of Deuteronomy narrates the death of Moses and the assumption of leadership by Joshua. Before his death Moses was allowed to view the Promised Land. His work is evaluated. Moses was not to be remembered with grave-side tributes on the anniversary of his death. He was to be revered through the reading of the Law which he had recorded.⁴

³ Smith, J. E. (1993). [The Pentateuch](#) (2nd ed., p. 483). College Press Pub. Co.

⁴ Smith, J. E. (1993). [The Pentateuch](#) (2nd ed., pp. 482–483). College Press Pub. Co.

Pastor's Bible Study

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study



JOSHUA

THE STORY SO FAR...

- ABRAHAM
- MOSES
- COVENANT CONTRACTS
- WILDERNESS
- TRAINED LAND
- OBEDIENCE

LOOKING BACK: EXODUS 17

LOOKING FORWARD: GOD'S BATTLE PLAN

1-5 JOSHUA LEADS ISRAEL

- 1 OBEY THE COMMANDS OF THE TORAH
- 2 THE SENDING OF THE SPIES
- 3-4 ISRAELITES LEADS ISRAEL INTO PROMISED LAND
- 5 JOSHUA = NEW MOSES

6-12 BATTLES WITH THE CANAANITES

- 6 JERICHO COST PATRIOTISM
- 7-8 AI ISRAEL'S FAILURE
- 9-11 GOD OF ISRAEL! DESTROY ISRAEL!
- 12 ISRAEL'S VICTORIES

13-22 JOSHUA DIVIDES UP THE LAND

- OLD JOSHUA
- BOONING UP PROMISED LAND
- ABRAHAM
- OLD JOSHUA
- OLD JOSHUA

23-24 JOSHUA'S FINAL WORDS

- 23-24 JOSHUA'S FINAL WORDS
- 23-24 JOSHUA'S FINAL WORDS
- 23-24 JOSHUA'S FINAL WORDS

GOD'S JUSTICE ON HUMAN EVIL

1 WHY THE CANAANITES?

- AREN'T CANAANITES HUMAN?
- AREN'T CANAANITES HUMAN?
- AREN'T CANAANITES HUMAN?

2 DID GOD INITIATE A GENOCIDE?

- AREN'T CANAANITES HUMAN?
- AREN'T CANAANITES HUMAN?
- AREN'T CANAANITES HUMAN?

3 UNIQUE MOMENT IN HISTORY

- AREN'T CANAANITES HUMAN?
- AREN'T CANAANITES HUMAN?
- AREN'T CANAANITES HUMAN?

created by the Bible Project