

Sabbath Brothers

Eloheynu – “Our Elohim/God”

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל

Shemá Israel

Echad – “To Unite/Is One”

Adonai – “Lord”

Expositional Constancy
(Consistent use through Scripture)

Symbolism of Numbers in Scripture

1	Whole/Unique: One True God	GENESIS	God – The Creator & Judge
2	Witness	EXODUS	Salvation from Slavery; Testimony to the World
3	Resurrection/Revelation	LEVITICUS	The Law & Sacrifices to Please God
4	Nature/Creation & Testing/Trial	NUMBERS	Israel’s “Walk” in the Wilderness
5	Judgment & Grace	DEUTERONOMY	The “Second Law”

“For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.” (Romans 8:2)

Know therefore today, and take it to your heart, that the LORD, He is God in heaven above and on the earth below; there is no other. So you shall keep His statutes and His commandments which I am giving you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may live long on the land which the LORD your God is giving you for all time. (Deuteronomy 4:39-40)

Deuteronomy as a “Suzerainty Treaty”

Deuteronomy is outlined as a Suzerainty Treaty. This type of literature is called “Legal Code and Covenant Treaty” which is a constitutional code between a Master/Lord and his vassals.

A Suzerain Treaty is an agreement that a conquered people could live in relative autonomy as long as they live according to the King’s will.

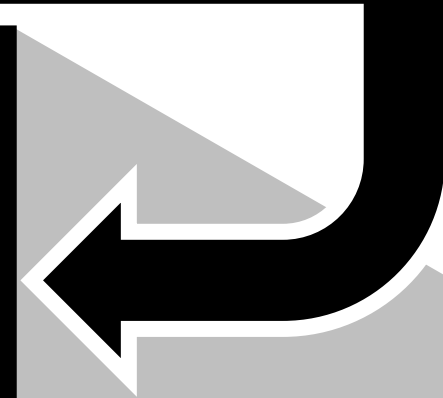
The Lord’s covenant was in the pattern of this treaty with promises of blessings that correspond to how believers behave according to His will.

These five sections can be viewed as five scrolls or speeches to the people of Israel.

Deuteronomy as a Suzerainty Treaty		
1. Preamble	Great King & Covenant	Deuteronomy 1:1-1:8
2. Prologue	Conditions that King has shown his faithfulness	Chapters 1-4
3. Stipulations	Conditions under which the King will continue to be the Guardian	Chapters 5-26
4. Penalties/Rewards	Consequences of submission and rebellion	Chapters 27-30
5. Succession	Process of Passing Authority	Chapters 31-33
Addendum	Appendix	Chapter 34

Outline of Deuteronomy		
1. Review	The Walk	Chapters 1-4
2. Articles of Law	Obedience	Chapters 5-26
3. Affirmation	Loyalty & Faithfulness	Chapters 27-30
4. Blessings	Benefits	Chapters 31-33
<i>This is an opposite formula of “Judges” in which every man does what is right in his own eyes leading to disaster</i>		

Outline of Deuteronomy		
Chapters 1-4	Chapters 5-26	Chapters 27-34
Past	Present	Future
Look Back	Look Up	Look Ahead
Review	Requirements	Readiness
What God has Done	What God Expects	What God will Do



Deuteronomy Overview

Jesus used Deuteronomy to rebuff all three of Satan's temptations.

Jesus quotes from Deuteronomy more than any other book

The book of Deuteronomy is so important that it will be referenced:

- 350 times in the remainder of the Old Testament.
- 95 times in the New Testament.

250 references to the previous Torah books are made by Moses in Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy spans the last month before Joshua leads Israel out of the wilderness into the Promised Land

The final sermons of Moses are replete with conviction & heartfelt persuasion to follow the Lord.

} *A Relationship based on Love*

Deuteronomy means "second law" in Hebrew ("Deutero" means "second" and "nomos" means "law")

- This title of "second law" can emphasize the reaffirmation of God's law, but also point to the two commandment categories of the Lord as simplified by Jesus (Mt 22:36-40).
- Deuteronomy 6:12 "*Beware, lest you forget.*"
- The first "law" was given 40 years prior

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."
(Matthew 22:36-40)



The phrase "*the land that God gives you*" is repeated nearly 40 times in Deuteronomy, but another repeated phrase is to "*go in and possess the land.*"

Jews call Deuteronomy "*The Words*" (Hebrew "Devarim") because those are the words that begin the book.

Israel's Victory & Departure (Deuteronomy 1:1-8)

¹ These are the words that Moses spoke to all Israel beyond the Jordan in the wilderness, in the Arabah opposite **Suph, between Paran and Tophel, Laban, Hazeroth, and Dizahab.**

² It is **eleven days' journey** from Horeb by the way of Mount Seir to Kadesh-barnea.

³ **In the fortieth year, on the first day of the eleventh month,** Moses spoke to the people of Israel according to all that the LORD had given him in commandment to them,

⁴ after he had defeated Sihon the king of the Amorites, who lived in Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, who lived in Ashtaroth and in Edrei.

⁵ Beyond the Jordan, in the land of Moab, Moses undertook to explain this law, saying,

⁶ "The LORD our God said to us in Horeb, 'You have stayed long enough at this mountain.'

⁷ Turn and take your journey, and go to the hill country of the Amorites and to all their neighbors in the Arabah, in the hill country and in the lowland and in the Negeb and by the seacoast, the land of the Canaanites, and Lebanon, as far as the great river, the river Euphrates.

⁸ See, I have set the land before you. Go in and take possession of the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give to them and to their offspring after them.'

The Locations Reflect the Testimony of Israel's History and Symbolize the Story of Their Transformation (Deuteronomy 1:1)			
Locations	Meaning	Story	Context
1. Suph	"Reed"	<i>A Reed</i>	"Yam Suph" is the "Red Sea" but translated literally as the "Sea of Reeds"
2. Paran	"Ornamented"	<i>Draped</i>	Israel had camped at the Desert of Paran in the Arabian Desert (Num 10:12, 12:6)
3. Tophel	"Ruin"; "Folly"	<i>In Ruin & Folly</i>	Southwest of Dead Sea
4. Laban	"White"	<i>Became White</i>	If identical with Libnah, a city in the Arabian desert in the route away from Canaan (Num. 33:20).
5. Hazeroth	"Palaces"	<i>Palaces</i>	Arabian Desert where Miriam and Aaron revolted and Miriam contracted leprosy (Num 11:35-12:16)
6. Dizahab	"Abundant in Gold"	<i>Abundant in Gold</i>	Unknown Location, but similar to location names early in exodus period

Both groups of defeated people were east of the Jordan River (Transjordan).

11 Days to 40 Years

Moses emphasizes that it took God's people forty years to arrive at the place that could have been reached in eleven days.

This first section (Dt 1:1-4:49) is not the distinct law, per se, but Israel's consequences of not following the law; the law would come in the second section of Deuteronomy (Dt 5:1 to 26:19), but Israel needed to understand the importance of the law and the consequences of not obeying the Lord.

All Israelites over 20 years old had died in the wilderness, so this "new" Israel had not experienced the first rejection of the promised land; therefore, Moses explains.

Scripture usually denotes distance by the time it takes between two places instead of a measurement of distance (typical travel by foot ~20 miles/day; by camel ~30 miles/day)

The boundaries for Israel initially included from Lebanon in the north to the top of Egypt in the south and east to Iraq. The original boundaries of Israel's land equated to 300,000 square miles.

At the greatest kingdom of Israel under David/Solomon, Israel only had 30,000 square miles (only 1/10 of all that God promised them)

Israel Rebels (Deuteronomy 1:26-40)

²⁶ “Yet **you would not go up**, but rebelled against the command of the LORD your God.
²⁷ And **you murmured in your tents and said**, ‘Because the LORD hated us he has brought us out of the land of Egypt, to give us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us.
²⁸ Where are we going up? **Our brothers have made our hearts melt**, saying, “The people are greater and taller than we. The cities are great and fortified up to heaven. And besides, we have seen the sons of the Anakim there.”
²⁹ Then I said to you, ‘**Do not be in dread or afraid of them.**
³⁰ The LORD your God who goes before you will himself fight for you, just as he did for you in Egypt before your eyes,
³¹ and in the wilderness, where you have seen how the LORD your God carried you, as a man carries his son, all the way that you went until you came to this place.’
³² Yet in spite of this word **you did not believe the LORD your God**,
³³ who went before you in the way to seek you out a place to pitch your tents, in fire by night and in the cloud by day, to show you by what way you should go.
³⁴ “And the LORD heard your words and was angered, and he swore,
³⁵ ‘**Not one of these men of this evil generation shall see the good land that I swore to give to your fathers**,
³⁶ except Caleb the son of Jephunneh. He shall see it, and to him and to his children I will give the land on which he has trodden, because he has wholly followed the LORD!’
³⁷ Even with me the LORD was angry on your account and said, ‘You also shall not go in there.
³⁸ Joshua the son of Nun, who stands before you, he shall enter. Encourage him, for he shall cause Israel to inherit it.
³⁹ And as for your little ones, who you said would become a prey, and your children, who today have no knowledge of good or evil, they shall go in there. And to them I will give it, and they shall possess it.
⁴⁰ But as for you, turn, and journey into the wilderness in the direction of the Red Sea.’



The Israelites were positioned to enter the promised land , but instead of being joyful/grateful, they wept in fear.

Instead of encouraging wonderful works of faith, “the brothers” fostered fear as they made Israel’s hearts “melt”

“Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” (Matthew 10:28)

It’s not about believing “in” God – it is about believing God.

God urges His people to look back and remember when He carried them in the past.



Day & night, the Lord sought places for His people to reside. (John 14:3)

Joshua was a Jewish leader from Ephraim which became the most powerful Tribe in the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

Jew & Gentile

Caleb’s father, Jephunneh, was a Kennizite (Numbers 32:12; Joshua 14:6, 14) The Kennizites were Edomites from Esau (Genesis 15:18-19; 1 Chronicles 1:51-54)

Although the men of Israel were worried about the safety of their families in Canaan, the men would die while their children would be taken safely & victoriously

Israel Rebels(Again) (Deuteronomy 1:41-46)

⁴¹ “Then you answered me, ‘We have sinned against the LORD. **We ourselves will go up and fight, just as the LORD our God commanded us.**’ And every one of you fastened on his weapons of war and **thought it easy to go up into the hill country.**

⁴² And the LORD said to me, ‘Say to them, **Do not go up or fight, for I am not in your midst, lest you be defeated before your enemies.**’

⁴³ So I spoke to you, and **you would not listen;** but you rebelled against the command of the LORD and **presumptuously** went up into the hill country.

⁴⁴ Then the Amorites who lived in that hill country came out against you and **chased you as bees do and beat you down** in Seir as far as Hormah.

⁴⁵ And you returned and wept before the LORD, but **the LORD did not listen to your voice or give ear to you.**

⁴⁶ So **you remained at Kadesh many days, the days that you remained there.**



Israel pridefully proclaimed that they “themselves” would enter the Promised Land to fight instead of relying on God’s support.

After rejecting God’s plan, Israel changed their mind, but God wasn’t with them when they fought (Numbers 14:39-45)

Israel’s worldly assessment of the situation (without God factored in) had been correct, and they were defeated.

The People would not listen to the Lord
Then the Lord would not listen to the People

Grand sinful acts are often reduced to 1-2 verses in Scripture which corresponds to sin’s brevity.

Bees attack intruders as an entire colony/hive; one bee sting might very well lead to others.

A bee’s primary sense is smell, and they are not deterred by swatting because that only proves that someone is a predator.

Walk
Obediently
With God in
Faith



“...a land flowing with milk and honey.” (Deuteronomy 6:3; 11:9; 26:9, 15; 27:3; 31:20)

Giant Victories (Deuteronomy 2)

Edom (Deuteronomy 2:12)

¹² The Horites also lived in Seir formerly, but the people of Esau dispossessed them and destroyed them from before them and settled in their place, as Israel did to the land of their possession, which the LORD gave to them.)

Battles
of the
World

Moab (Deuteronomy 2:8-10)

⁸ So we went on, away from our brothers, the people of Esau, who live in Seir, away from the Arabah road from Elath and Ezion-geber. “And we turned and went in the direction of the wilderness of Moab. ⁹ And the LORD said to me, ‘Do not harass Moab or contend with them in battle, for I will not give you any of their land for a possession, because I have given Ar to the people of Lot for a possession.’ ¹⁰ (The Emim formerly lived there, a people great and many, and tall as the Anakim.

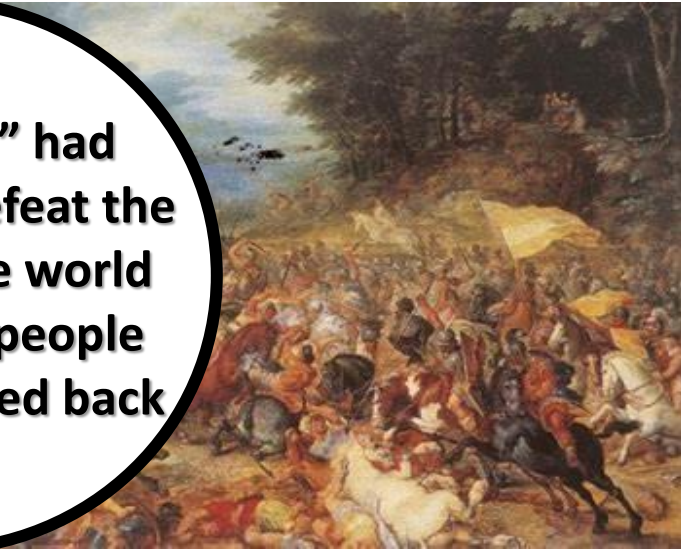
Brother
Esau

Cousin
Lot

Ammon (Deuteronomy 2:19-22)

¹⁹ And when you approach the territory of the people of Ammon, do not harass them or contend with them, for I will not give you any of the land of the people of Ammon as a possession, because I have given it to the sons of Lot for a possession.’ ²⁰ (It is also counted as a land of Rephaim. Rephaim formerly lived there—but the Ammonites call them Zamzummim— ²¹ a people great and many, and tall as the Anakim; but the LORD destroyed them before the Ammonites, and they dispossessed them and settled in their place, ²² as he did for the people of Esau, who live in Seir, when he destroyed the Horites before them and they dispossessed them and settled in their place even to this day.

The “world” had
strength to defeat the
“giants of the world
while God’s people
fearfully turned back



Transjordan Victories (Deuteronomy 3:8-20)

⁸ So we took the land at that time out of the hand of the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, from the Valley of the Arnon to Mount Hermon (*Sacred Mountain*)

⁹ (the Sidonians call Hermon Sirion, while the Amorites call it Senir),

¹⁰ all the cities of the tableland and all Gilead and all Bashan, as far as Salecah and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan.

¹¹ (For only Og the king of Bashan was left of the remnant of the Rephaim. Behold, his bed was a bed of iron. Is it not in Rabbah of the Ammonites? Nine cubits was its length, and four cubits its breadth, according to the common cubit.)

¹² “When we took possession of this land at that time, I gave to the Reubenites and the Gadites the territory beginning at Aroer, which is on the edge of the Valley of the Arnon, and half the hill country of Gilead with its cities.

¹³ The rest of Gilead, and all Bashan, the kingdom of Og, that is, all the region of Argob, I gave to the half-tribe of Manasseh.

(All that portion of Bashan is called the land of Rephaim.

¹⁴ Jair the Manassite took all the region of Argob, that is, Bashan, as far as the border of the Geshurites and the Maacathites, and called the villages after his own name, Havvoth-jair, as it is to this day.)

¹⁵ To Machir I gave Gilead,

¹⁶ and to the Reubenites and the Gadites I gave the territory from Gilead as far as the Valley of the Arnon, with the middle of the valley as a border, as far over as the river Jabbok, the border of the Ammonites;

¹⁷ the Arabah also, with the Jordan as the border, from Chinnereth as far as the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, under the slopes of Pisgah on the east.

¹⁸ “And I commanded you at that time, saying, ‘The LORD your God has given you this land to possess. All your men of valor shall cross over armed before your brothers, the people of Israel.

¹⁹ Only your wives, your little ones, and your livestock (I know that you have much livestock) shall remain in the cities that I have given you,

²⁰ until the LORD gives rest to your brothers, as to you, and they also occupy the land that the LORD your God gives them beyond the Jordan. Then each of you may return to his possession which I have given you.’



Arnon was east of middle of the Dead Sea while Mt. Hermon is located nearly 60 miles north of the Sea of Galilee.

Whether on the Sea of Galilee (Sidonians – Ps 29:6) or east of the Jordan (Amorites), they had a new, unique (possibly endearing name) for Mt. Hermon.

Two cities marked the borders of Og’s kingdom: From Salecah on the east across 40 miles west to Edrei – the location of the battle.

Og was the sole descendant of the Rephaim giants. A cubit is measured from elbow to fingertip (~18 inches), so Og’s bed was 13 feet 6 inches long and 6 feet wide.

It is thought that Og’s defeated army carried Og’s bed of iron as they fled to Rabbah – the only city of the Ammonites mentioned in Scripture (NE of the top of the Dead Sea).

The two and a half tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh were given the land of Gilead on the east of the Jordan.

These Transjordan tribes left their vulnerable families and livestock to go off and pursue God’s battles (1 Corinthians 7:28-31).



Joshua 13:8-33

Moses Denied Request (Deuteronomy 3:23-29)

²³ “And I pleaded with the LORD at that time, saying,

²⁴ ‘O Lord GOD, you have only begun to show your servant your greatness and your mighty hand. For what god is there in heaven or on earth who can do such works and mighty acts as yours?’

²⁵ Please let me go over and see the good land beyond the Jordan, that good hill country and Lebanon.’



²⁶ But the LORD was angry with me because of you and would not listen to me. And the LORD said to me, ‘Enough from you; do not speak to me of this matter again.’

²⁷ Go up to the top of Pisgah and lift up your eyes westward and northward and southward and eastward, and look at it with your eyes, for you shall not go over this Jordan.

²⁸ But charge Joshua, and encourage and strengthen him, for he shall go over at the head of this people, and he shall put them in possession of the land that you shall see.’

²⁹ So we remained in the valley opposite Beth-peor.

Moses told God that he wanted to experience more of God’s wondrous workings in the Promised Land

God denied Moses’ repeated request to enter the promised land, and He told Moses not to ask again.

Three times Moses blames the behavior of the people for his downfall (Deuteronomy 1:37, 4:21 → Numbers 20:12)

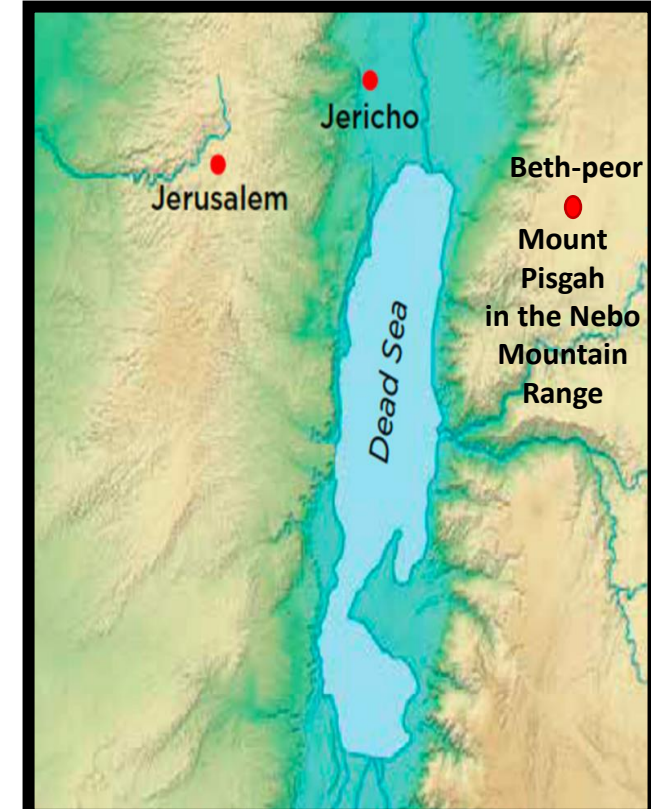
God tells Moses not to pray about seeing the land again.

God commands Moses to go to climb to the top of Pisgah and look.

God would fulfill His promise to Abraham as Moses establishes Joshua as new leader of God’s people in three ways: 1.commission 2.encourage 3.strengthen

“I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojourning, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.” (Genesis 17:8)

Beth-peor would be the burial place for Moses (Deuteronomy 34:6).



Moses Calls Israel to Obey (Deuteronomy 4:1-14)

¹ “And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you.
² You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you.
³ Your eyes have seen what the LORD did at Baal-peor, for the LORD your God destroyed from among you all the men who followed the Baal of Peor.
⁴ But you who held fast to the LORD your God are all alive today.
⁵ See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.
⁶ Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’
⁷ For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him?
⁸ And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?
⁹ “Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children—
¹⁰ how on the day that you stood before the LORD your God at Horeb, the LORD said to me, ‘Gather the people to me, that I may let them hear my words, so that they may learn to fear me all the days that they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children so.’
¹¹ And you came near and stood at the foot of the mountain, while the mountain burned with fire to the heart of heaven, wrapped in darkness, cloud, and gloom.
¹² Then the LORD spoke to you out of the midst of the fire. You heard the sound of words, but saw no form; there was only a voice.
¹³ And he declared to you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, that is, the Ten Commandments, and he wrote them on two tablets of stone.
¹⁴ And the LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and rules, that you might do them in the land that you are going over to possess.

With Chapter 4, the “tense” of the words changes from “past tense” to “present tense” (i.e. This is what I did for you; this is what I want from you)

Obedience to God leads to life
(Proverbs 4:4-6; John 3:36)

Moses states the same truth found in the last chapter of the Bible (Revelation 22:18-19) – Don’t add or take away the message in God’s Word. (This includes tradition, opinion, personal beliefs.)

Believers should not edit God’s Word picking and choosing what makes sense to them.

Israel is told to “SEE” – they have seen what God has done for them (Deuteronomy 4:3), and have witnessed Moses sharing God’s commandments

Surrounding nations will see Israel as testimony

The Law is viewed by the world as being righteous

“Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.”
(Hebrews 13:7)

Guard your hearts & memories; the most vital stewardship is over one’s own soul.

“Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.”
(Proverbs 4:23)

“I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands.”
(Psalm 143:5)

God’s Word teaches His people to fear Him

“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night.” (Joshua 1:8)

The Lord was purposeful in not revealing a form so that no form could be imitated for idols. Instead, the Lord spoke out of fire (Deuteronomy 4:24).

Just as Israel’s parents were encouraged to teach their children, Moses also taught Israel as a child.

OBEDIENCE

1-4 Towards God

The Ten Commandments (Deuteronomy 5:6-21)

6 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

The 10 Commandments begin with God reminding Israel that He took them from slavery.

The first command directs God's people to prioritize & obey Yahweh as God.

7 "You shall have no other gods before me. 1

8 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 2

Given 50 days after Passover

Man is inclined to worship the Tangible versus the Spiritual (John 4:23-24)

While no physical representation of God is allowed, man was given His name to represent Him (Revelation 2:17).

The Hebrew word (אִשָּׁוָה) translated "vain" means "worthlessness."

9 You shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 10 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

11 "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. 3

The first three commands began "do not" while this is the first command that directs to do something – "remember to keep the Sabbath holy".

This fourth command on the holiness of the Sabbath is the longest command (28% of the Hebrew characters in the ten commandments).

12 "Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. 4

13 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 14 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant, or your ox or your donkey or any of your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you.

"Consequently, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God." (Hebrews 4:9)

"One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind." (Romans 14:5)

15 You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

16 "Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may go well with you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. 5

Paul points out that #5 is the only command with a promise – long life (Ephesians 6:1-3).

17 "You shall not murder. 6

Jesus elaborated that hatred equated to murder (Matthew 5:21; 1 John 3:15)

Lies are an abomination to the Lord (Proverbs 12:17, 19, 22; Revelation 21:27)

18 "And you shall not commit adultery. 7

19 "And you shall not steal. 8

20 "And you shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. 9

5-10 Towards Man

Coveting is the most subtle sin which leads to the other sins (2 Samuel 11:2-6). Without the law, Paul would not have realized that coveting was wrong. (Romans 7:7-8)

21 "And you shall not covet your neighbor's wife. And you shall not desire your neighbor's house, his field, or his male servant, or his female servant, his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's. 10

The Shema is recited in every synagogue daily and recited by every orthodox Jew twice each day.

The Greatest Command (Deuteronomy 6:1-9)

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "'Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." (Matthew 22:36-40) (also Mark 12:30-31, Luke 10:26-27).

Three times in Deuteronomy, Long Life is equated to Obedience (Deuteronomy 5:33; 6:2; 32:47)

Shema: "To Hear" (& Take Action)



¹ "Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it,



² that you may fear the LORD your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long.

³ Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

⁴ "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Phylactery
Tefillin



⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Mezuzah



Scripture Teaches Monotheism

One Being (God) consisting of Three Divine Persons (The Father, The Lord Jesus Christ, The Holy Spirit) that are coequal and coeternal (Mathew 3:16-17; John 10:30; 1 Thessalonians 1:3-5; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Corinthians 2:2-5; 6:11; 12:4-6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Romans 14:17-18; 15:16; Ephesians 2:18; 3:16-17; 4:4-6).

"The Lord is One"

(The word "One" in Hebrew is 'e-ḥāḏ)

The number 'e-ḥāḏ is the first number (equivalent to the number "1")

The word can also mean "unity"

Genesis 2:24..."and the two shall become one" in this use of 'e-ḥāḏ, the two in marriage are "one"

God's Word in a believer's life should be evident to everyone in all that the believer does (hand) and thinks (forehead) - Revelation 3:16, 19:13, 22:4



"Ontology" is the study of the Single Being that is God

"Economical Trinity" is the study of the activity of each of the three persons.

The Trinity is a relationship of Love as The Father elevates the Son while the Son performs the will of the Father, And the Spirit directs Man into an understanding of God's truth & will.

In Hebrew, there is no word for "is"

The Shema prayer consists of four nouns: YHWH 'elohenu YHWH ekhad which in English translate to: "Lord Our God Lord One"

The emphasis of the Shema may not have been that there is only "one God," but instead, the significance may be on the fact that the Lord is Israel's only God and that they should not be lured into idolatry.

Four compartments with four Scriptures: Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 11:13-21, Exodus 13:1-10; 13:11-16.

Israel Not Righteous (Deuteronomy 9:1-7)

ANAKIM

The Anakim were legendary giants who God described as great and tall.

The Anakim inhabited Edom and Hebron (Genesis 14:1-6); they descended from Anak (Numbers 13:22) who was a descendant of Arba (Joshua 15:13).

The Anakim (Numbers 13:33) were in the lineage of the Nephilim (Genesis 6:1-4).

God agrees that other nations are greater and mightier than Israel.

God is a Consuming Fire
(Psalms 50:3; Hebrews 12:29, Exodus 19:18 & 24:17, Deuteronomy 4:24, Zechariah 2:5, 2 Thessalonians 1:7)

Israel is cautioned not to believe that their righteousness brought their success

The Promised Land was given to the Israelites because of the wickedness of the inhabitants (Genesis 15:16).

Archeologists have found that the Amorites culture was full of sexual diseases due to their licentious culture



“Stubbornness” is contrasted to “Righteousness.”
(Deuteronomy 9:6)

The three individuals at the Mt. of Transfiguration (Jesus, Moses, Elijah - Matthew 17:3) each went through 40 (testing) days of fasting (1 Kings 19:8; Matthew 4:2).

Commanded to Recall & Remember



During World War 2, Winston Churchill had spent a day speaking of how British society was above German evils, and he promised to drive the Nazi's out.

That night, he stayed at a lodge where he found a Bible in his room where God revealed to him that Britain would drive the Nazi's out because of the evil the Nazis, but not because of the goodness of Britain.



¹ “Hear, O Israel: you are to cross over the Jordan today, to go in to dispossess nations greater and mightier than you, cities great and fortified up to heaven,
² a people great and tall, the sons of the Anakim, whom you know, and of whom you have heard it said, ‘Who can stand before the sons of Anak?’
³ Know therefore today that he who goes over before you as a consuming fire is the LORD your God. He will destroy them and subdue them before you. So you shall drive them out and make them perish quickly, as the LORD has promised you.
⁴ “Do not say in your heart, after the LORD your God has thrust them out before you, ‘It is because of my righteousness that the LORD has brought me in to possess this land,’ whereas it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD is driving them out before you.
⁵ Not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart are you going in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations the LORD your God is driving them out from before you, and that he may confirm the word that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.
⁶ “Know, therefore, that the LORD your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stubborn people.
⁷ Remember and do not forget how you provoked the LORD your God to wrath in the wilderness. From the day you came out of the land of Egypt until you came to this place, you have been rebellious against the LORD.

Circumcision of the Heart (Deuteronomy 10:12-22)

¹² “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, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,

¹³ and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today **for your good?**

¹⁴ Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it.

¹⁵ Yet the LORD set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day.

¹⁶ Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn.

¹⁷ For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe.

¹⁸ He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing.

¹⁹ Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt.

²⁰ You shall fear the LORD your God. You shall serve him and hold fast to him, and by his name you shall swear.

²¹ He is your praise. He is your God, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen.

²² Your fathers went down to Egypt seventy persons, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars of heaven.

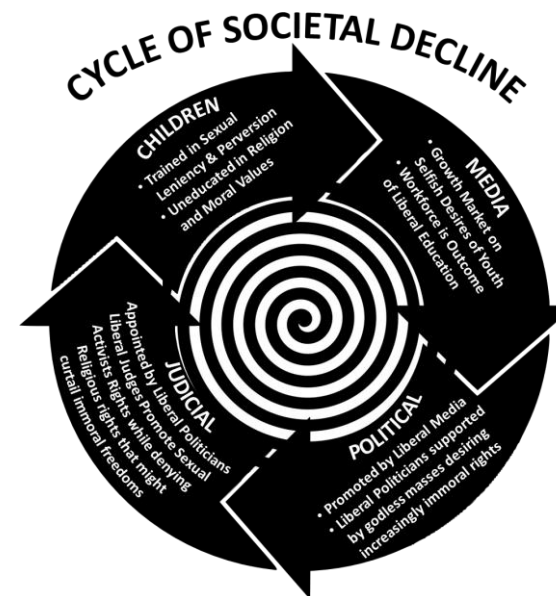
God’s Requirements of His People (Deuteronomy 10:12)

1. Fear the Lord your God by Walking in His Ways
2. Love God
3. Worship the Lord God with all your heart and soul

God’s commands are meant for man’s good.

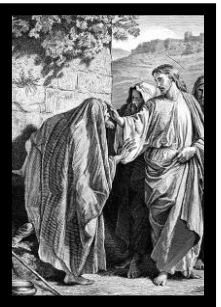
All of Creation belongs to the Lord to do with as He likes (Exodus 19:5; Leviticus 25:23; Psalms 24:1, 50:12, 89:11; 1 Corinthians 10:26).

God has done great & terrifying things...
uplifting praises from His people...
horrific screams from those who reject Him



The command “to fear the Lord” is repeated throughout Scripture more than 50 times (Matthew 10:28)

Circumcision was to be more than outward & physical, but spiritually of the heart (Deuteronomy 30:6, Jeremiah 4:4)



God fulfills His promise to Abraham Genesis 26:4

The Blessing of Rain From Heaven (Deuteronomy 11:10-20)

¹⁰ For the land that you are entering to take possession of it is not like the land of Egypt, from which you have come, where you sowed your seed and irrigated it, like a garden of vegetables.



¹¹ But the land that you are going over to possess is a land of hills and valleys, which drinks water by the rain from heaven,

¹² a land that the LORD your God cares for. The eyes of the LORD your God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.

¹³ “And if you will indeed obey my commandments that I command you today, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul,

¹⁴ he will give the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the later rain, that you may gather in your grain and your wine and your oil.

¹⁵ And he will give grass in your fields for your livestock, and you shall eat and be full.

¹⁶ Take care lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them;

God’s people should not tolerate false gods.

¹⁷ then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and he will shut up the heavens, so that there will be no rain, and the land will yield no fruit, and you will perish quickly off the good land that the LORD is giving you.

¹⁸ “You shall therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.

¹⁹ You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.



²⁰ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates,

Egypt did not require living by faith because the land was irrigated from the Nile.

Living in Israel required faith that God would send rain. Rain causes fruitful growth and is a symbol of blessings (Psalms 65:9-10, 72:6; Hosea 6:3, 10:12; Joel 2:23; Ezekiel 22:24, 34:26; Deuteronomy 28:24)

The Greatest Commandment (Mt 22:37-39, Mk 12:30-31, Lk 10:27)

God’s grace is the source of all blessings (Mt 7:11; Lk 11:13; James 1:17)

The grain representing the bread, the new wine of joy, and the oil symbolizing the Holy Spirit are also key components of the Lord’s supper which reminds His people of the greatest gift of salvation.

Beyond caring for the assets of His people (Deuteronomy 6:3), God will give satisfaction. Dissatisfaction may hint of sin or the need to alter one’s life in obedience to the Lord (Haggai 1:5-7).

God’s anger can “burn against” His people in spite of His love for them. The Lord can cause His people to quickly perish in discipline for their sin.

No Other Gods (Deuteronomy 13:1-11)

¹ "If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, ² and the sign or wonder that he tells you comes to pass, and if he says, 'Let us go after other gods,' which you have not known, 'and let us serve them,' ³ you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. For the LORD your God is testing you, to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.



⁴ **You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him.**



⁵ But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has taught rebellion against the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you out of the house of slavery, to make you leave the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

⁶ "If your brother, the son of your mother, or your son or your daughter or the wife you embrace or your friend who is as your own soul entices you secretly, saying, 'Let us go and serve other gods,' which neither you nor your fathers have known,



⁷ some of the gods of the peoples who are around you, whether near you or far off from you, from the one end of the earth to the other, ⁸ you shall not yield to him or listen to him, nor shall your eye pity him, nor shall you spare him, nor shall you conceal him.

⁹ But you shall kill him. Your hand shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people.

¹⁰ You shall stone him to death with stones, because he sought to draw you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

¹¹ And all Israel shall hear and fear and never again do any such wickedness as this among you.

Although someone might perform something mystical or paranormal does not mean that they should be followed.

Believers are told to purge evil from among them.

A prophet who encourages God's people towards idolatry deserved the capital punishment. Eradication of the polluting individual was preferred to an even broader contamination against God's holiness.

Relationships, who are closest, have the greatest influence; therefore, they are the most alluring and dangerous against the Lord's word and will.

"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple." (Luke 14:26)

The principle of the accuser casting the first stone is established (John 8:7)

Modern society coddles criminals while promoting sinful lifestyles. Youth are used by criminals to commit heinous crimes with little or no consequence.

"Dreamed-up" Religions

BUDDHISM originated in Nepal around 500BC, when Siddhartha Gautama had a visions as he sat under a fig tree.

ISLAM originated in Mecca, Saudi Arabia in 627AD, when Muhammad had a dream.

MORMONISM originated in New York in 1836AD, when Joseph Smith had multiple dreams & visions

Giving (Deuteronomy 14:22-29)

“Now may He who supplies seed to the Sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness.” (2 Corinthians 9:10)

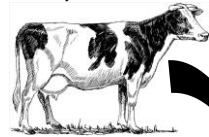
The Spiritual Ruling Cities of Israel		
1. Shechem	<i>The city of the patriarchs including Abraham (Genesis 12:6) and Jacob (Genesis 33:18)</i>	Joshua 24:1, 25
2. Gilgal	<i>The initial center of Israel’s worship after Joshua’s invasion</i>	Joshua 4:19-20; 5:9-10
3. Shiloh	<i>In Shiloh, a corrupt religious system abounded under Eli (1 Sam 2:12-17). During the Battle of Ebenezer, the Philistines took the Ark of God, and Shiloh was probably destroyed around 1050 BC. The Ark of God was with Philistines in Ashdod, Gath, Ekron (1 Samuel 5)</i>	Joshua 18:1
4. Ramah	<i>Samuel led Israel out of his home town of Ramah (1 Samuel 7:15-17). The Ark of God was returned to Beth-shemesh (1 Samuel 6:13-18). The Ark of God was transferred to Abinadab’s house in Kiriath-Jearim (1 Samuel 6:19-21)</i>	1 Samuel 7:15-17
5. Gibeah	<i>When Samuel died, Saul led Israel out of his home town of Gibeah.</i>	1 Samuel 10:26, 15:34, 22:6
6. Hebron	<i>David led Judah out of Hebron</i>	2 Samuel 2:11
7. Jerusalem	<i>David relocated the capital of Israel to Jerusalem. David moved the Ark of God to Obed-Edom’s house (2 Samuel 6:1-11; 1 Chronicles 13:6). David may have had to search for the Ark of God (Psalm 132:6). David moved the Ark of God to Jerusalem (2 Samuel 6:12-19)</i>	2 Samuel 6:12-19

²² “You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year.

²³ And before the LORD your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the LORD your God always.

²⁴ And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the LORD your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the LORD your God chooses, to set his name there,

²⁵ then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the LORD your God chooses



²⁶ and spend the money for whatever you desire—oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the LORD your God and rejoice, you and your household.

²⁷ And you shall not neglect the Levite who is within your towns, for he has no portion or inheritance with you.

²⁸ “At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up within your towns.



²⁹ And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do.

“Too far from you” is not a defined distance, but up to the giver’s conscience

The Israel communities were reminded to care for the local ministering Levites who inherited no part of this world.

Every third year, the tithe that was typically taken to Jerusalem was kept at home and given to the needy (Deuteronomy 26:12)

“Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches.” (Galatians 6:6)

“Even so the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel.” (1 Corinthians 9:14)

The Tithe is a “Goodwill Offering” which would be used for strangers & orphans as well as Levites.

Jesus as God incarnate would be a Human King.

Expectations of the King (Deuteronomy 17:14-20)

¹⁴ “When you come to the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, ‘I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,’

¹⁵ you may indeed set a king over you whom the LORD your God will choose. One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother.

¹⁶ Only he must not acquire many horses for himself or cause the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, since the LORD has said to you, ‘You shall never return that way again.’

¹⁷ And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.

¹⁸ “And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests.

¹⁹ And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them,

²⁰ that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.



God foresaw that Israel would want a human king like the other nations (peer pressure on a national level).

God would choose Israel’s king instead of the people subjectively selecting (Hosea 8:4)

Horses represent military might (Proverbs 21:31; Psalms 33:17).



The accumulation of horses encouraged the king to rely on his own strength instead of God’s provision.

Kings were not to accumulate multiple wives and concubines

The acts of self-seeking pleasure and self-made treaties with surrounding countries would expose the king to seductive influences away from God (1 Kings 11:1-4).

King should know the law and have quiet time every day.

Israel’s king was not to pridefully esteem himself above the law which would cause him to stray from the straight and narrow truth.

**Prophet: God’s Word to Man
Priest: Man’s Mediator to God
King: Exemplary Illustration of God’s Man**

Israel’s king would need to defend Israel’s beliefs and submit to the one true God.

Solomon failed to keep this command (1 Kings 10:26-29).



Prophecy of a “New” Prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15-22)

15 “The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—

16 just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’

17 And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken.

18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.

19 And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

20 But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’

21 And if you say in your heart, ‘How may we know the word that the LORD has not spoken?’—

22 when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that is a word that the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You need not be afraid of him.



Just like Moses, Jesus brought salvation for His people.

The title of “Prophet” became a designation for Christ (John 1:21, 25, 45; 5:46; 6:14; 7:40; Acts 3:22; 7:37)

The people of God realized that they needed an intercessor with God in order not to die.

The many prophets prior to Jesus would “train” Israel to hear from “The Prophet”

John the Baptist would be asked if he was “the Prophet” (John 1:21)

Philip told his brother, Nathaniel, that he had found the one that Moses wrote about in the Law (John 1:45)

Stephen preached that Jesus was the fulfillment of Moses statement because Jesus was “the Prophet” (Acts 7:37)

God spoke through prophets until the last days when God spoke through His Son (Hebrews 1:1-2)



It is extremely serious when a prophet assumes to speak for God; a false prophet would receive the death penalty.

God would judge those who did not hear and heed (“Shema”) His prophets – especially those who rejected Jesus.

Those who speak for God need to know God’s word



All prophecies will come to pass without exception

God makes allowance for His people to question whether a message is from God.

Cities of Refuge (Deuteronomy 19:1-13)

¹When the LORD your God cuts off the nations whose land the LORD your God is giving you, and you dispossess them and dwell in their cities and in their houses,
²you shall set apart three cities for yourselves in the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess.

³You shall measure the distances and divide into three parts the area of the land that the LORD your God gives you as a possession, so that any manslayer can flee to them.

⁴This is the provision for the manslayer, who by fleeing there may save his life. If anyone kills his neighbor unintentionally without having hated him in the past—

⁵as when someone goes into the forest with his neighbor to cut wood, and his hand swings the axe to cut down a tree, and the head slips from the handle and strikes his neighbor so that he dies—he may flee to one of these cities and live,

⁶lest the avenger of blood in hot anger pursue the manslayer and overtake him, because the way is long, and strike him fatally, though the man did not deserve to die, since he had not hated his neighbor in the past.

⁷Therefore I command you, You shall set apart three cities.

⁸And if the LORD your God enlarges your territory, as he has sworn to your fathers, and gives you all the land that he promised to give to your fathers—

⁹provided you are careful to keep all this commandment, which I command you today, by loving the LORD your God and by walking ever in his ways—then you shall add three other cities to these three,
¹⁰lest innocent blood be shed in your land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance, and so the guilt of bloodshed be upon you.

¹¹“But if anyone hates his neighbor and lies in wait for him and attacks him and strikes him fatally so that he dies, and he flees into one of these cities,

¹²then the elders of his city shall send and take him from there, and hand him over to the avenger of blood, so that he may die.

¹³Your eye shall not pity him, but you shall purge the guilt of innocent blood from Israel, so that it may be well with you.

“God is our refuge and strength.”
 (Psalms 46:1)

“Hatred” is deciding factor on premeditated murder.

The Cities of Refuge are referenced in Scripture 3 Times: Joshua 20, Numbers 35, Deuteronomy 19

Only protects unintentional killings (Manslaughter but not Murder)

Cities of Refuge (Joshua 20:7-8)					
1.	Kedesh	“Sanctuary”	Naphtali	“Wrestling”	
2.	Shechem	“Shoulder/Strength”	Ephraim	“Fruitful/Ashe-heap”	
3.	Kirjath Arba	“City of Four” (Test)	Judah	“Praise”	
4.	Bezer	“Strong”	Reuben	“Behold the Son”	
5.	Ramoth	“Eminent High Place”	Gad	“Fortune”	
6.	Golan	“Captivity/Rejoicing”	Manasseh	“Forgotten”	
Meanings represent Spiritual Aspects of the Repentant Sinner					

The six cities were located so that one could be reached from anywhere in Israel within a single day.

Three cities would be designated on the east side and three on the west side of the Jordan River.

In modern times, some families in the middle east continue to designate an avenger of blood

“Jesus has avenged the blood of His bond-servants on her” (Revelation 6:10; 19:2)



“Then Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, because they do not know what they are doing.’”
 (Luke 23:34)

Christ proclaimed His crucifixion to be manslaughter (Acts 3:17); however, once a man has purposefully rejected the truth of the Gospel, his sin becomes deliberate.

“We who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us.”
 (Hebrews 6:18)

Two or Three Witnesses (Deuteronomy 19:14-21)

14 “You shall not displace your neighbor’s boundary marker, which the ancestors have set, in your inheritance which you will inherit in the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess.

15 “A single witness shall not rise up against a person regarding any wrongdoing or any sin that he commits; on the testimony of two or three witnesses a matter shall be confirmed.

16 If a malicious witness rises up against a person to testify against him of wrongdoing,

17 then both people who have the dispute shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges who will be *in office* in those days.

18 And the judges shall investigate thoroughly, and if the witness is a false witness *and* he has testified against his brother falsely,

19 then you shall do to him just as he had planned to do to his brother. So you shall eliminate the evil from among you.

20 And the rest of the people will hear and be afraid, and will never again do such an evil thing among you.

21 So you shall not show pity: life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, *and* foot for foot.

Law of 2 or 3 Witness in the New Testament

Jesus used this verse to establish church judgment towards sin in the congregation (Matthew 18:15-20).

Paul also referenced this principle when he judged the sin taking place in the church at Corinth (1 Corinthians 13:1)

There will be times when witnesses are malicious & malevolent.

Although the accuser and accused stand before judges and elders, they are truly standing before the Lord for judgment.

The judges are not to simply accept opinions, but they must perform due diligence in understanding the entire situation.

Deterrent Against False Accusations

The false witness must endure the punishment that the false witness was seeking for the falsely accused. (Deuteronomy 13:5; 17:12; 21:21)

Civil Justice instead of Personal Vendettas

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.’ But I say to you, do not show opposition against an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other toward him also.” (Matthew 5:38-39)

Laws of Warfare (Deuteronomy 20:1-13)

1 "When you go out to war against your enemies, and see horses and chariots and an army larger than your own, **you shall not be afraid of them, for the LORD your God is with you**, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

2 And when you draw near to the battle, the priest shall come forward and speak to the people

3 and shall say to them, 'Hear, O Israel, today you are drawing near for battle against your enemies: let not your heart faint. Do not fear or panic or be in dread of them,

4 for the LORD your God is he who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies, to give you the victory.'

5 Then the officers shall speak to the people, saying, 'Is there any man who has built a new house and has not dedicated it? Let him go back to his house, lest he die in the battle and another man dedicate it.

6 And is there any man who has planted a vineyard and has not enjoyed its fruit? Let him go back to his house, lest he die in the battle and another man enjoy its fruit.

7 And is there any man who has betrothed a wife and has not taken her? Let him go back to his house, lest he die in the battle and another man take her.'

8 And the officers shall speak further to the people, and say, 'Is there any man who is fearful and fainthearted? Let him go back to his house, lest he make the heart of his fellows melt like his own.'

9 And when the officers have finished speaking to the people, then commanders shall be appointed at the head of the people.

10 "When you draw near to a city to fight against it, offer terms of peace to it.

11 And if it responds to you peaceably and it opens to you, then all the people who are found in it shall do forced labor for you and shall serve you.

12 But if it makes no peace with you, but makes war against you, then you shall besiege it.



The term "when" (20:1) shows that battles with larger enemies were certain to occur.

The Priest should encourage the army / The Priest was meant to infuse faith into God's people

The "Just War" Doctrine was developed by church leaders such as St. Ambrose of Milan, St. Augustine of Hippo and Thomas Aquinas. A doctrine outlining criteria of a morally justifiable war.

Applications can also be applied to spiritual battles (Ephesians 6:12).

1 Anyone distracted with the things of this world should not go into battle

Paul told Timothy that warriors cannot get involved with civilian affairs (2 Timothy 2:4)



2 Anyone who hasn't enjoyed the fruits of his work should not go into battle

Land wasn't harvested for four years (Leviticus 19:23-25)

3 Anyone who hasn't consummated his marriage should not go into battle

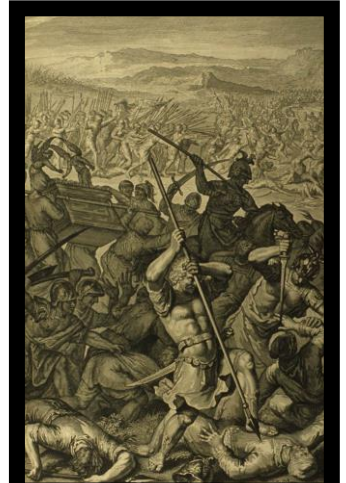
Jewish men were engaged for a year, and then men were engaged for a year after marriage (Deuteronomy 24:5)

4 Anyone who is fearful should not go into battle



Israel was to offer peace and servitude prior to devastating enemy cities.

Peace is dependent on submission & service



Levirate Marriage (Deuteronomy 25:4-10)

4 "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain."

5 "If brothers dwell together, and one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the dead man shall not be married outside the family to a stranger. Her husband's brother shall go in to her and take her as his wife and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her."

6 And the first son whom she bears shall succeed to the name of his dead brother, that his name may not be blotted out of Israel.

7 And if the man does not wish to take his brother's wife, then his brother's wife shall go up to the gate to the elders and say, 'My husband's brother refuses to perpetuate his brother's name in Israel; he will not perform the duty of a husband's brother to me.'

8 Then the elders of his city shall call him and speak to him, and if he persists, saying, 'I do not wish to take her,'

9 then his brother's wife shall go up to him in the presence of the elders and pull his sandal off his foot and spit in his face. And she shall answer and say, 'So shall it be done to the man who does not build up his brother's house.'

10 And the name of his house shall be called in Israel, 'The house of him who had his sandal pulled off.'

"For it is written in the Law of Moses: 'Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain.' Is it about oxen that God is concerned? Surely he says this for us, doesn't he? Yes, this was written for us, because whoever plows and threshes should be able to do so in the hope of sharing in the harvest." 1 Corinthians 9:9-10

The Latin word "Levir" means "Husband's Brother"

The duties of the head of a house should be taken seriously; the head of the household should not be selfish about his own ambitions.

The brothers would have been living together and jointly taking responsibility for their families living together.

Several Sadducees (who did not believe in the afterlife) attempted to trick Jesus with Deuteronomy 25:5 (Matthew 22:23-33)

The elders would discuss the man's responsibilities & duties with the brother of the deceased.

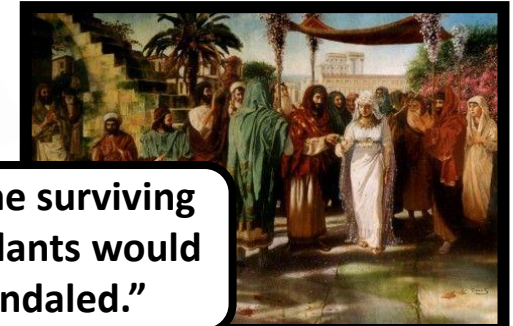
The widow has recourse to take the brother of her deceased husband to the elders to ensure that he takes care of his responsibilities and duties.

The surviving brother (who rejected his duty) would give one of his shoes to the widow as he now only has one connection to the world instead of two lines of descendants.

The widow would also spit in the man's face.

The brother of the deceased is given no recourse if the widow does not want to sleep with him

By denying his brother a line of descendants, the surviving brother's own name through his line of descendants would now be changed to "The Family of the Un-sandaled."



Curses from Mount Ebal (Deuteronomy 27:1-14)

¹ Now Moses and the elders of Israel commanded the people, saying, **“Keep the whole commandment that I command you today.**

² **And on the day you cross over the Jordan to the land that the LORD your God is giving you, you shall set up large stones and plaster them with plaster.**

³ **And you shall write on them all the words of this law,** when you cross over to enter the land that the LORD your God is giving you, **a land flowing with milk and honey,** as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised you.

⁴ **And when you have crossed over the Jordan, you shall set up these stones, concerning which I command you today, on Mount Ebal, and you shall plaster them with plaster.**

⁵ **And there you shall build an altar to the LORD your God, an altar of stones.** You shall wield **no iron tool** on them;

⁶ **you shall build an altar to the LORD your God of uncut stones.** And you shall **offer burnt offerings** on it to the LORD your God,

⁷ **and you shall sacrifice peace offerings** and shall eat there, and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God.

⁸ **And you shall write on the stones all the words of this law very plainly.”**

⁹ Then Moses and the Levitical priests said to all Israel, **“Keep silence and hear, O Israel: this day you have become the people of the LORD your God.**

¹⁰ **You shall therefore obey the voice of the LORD your God, keeping his commandments and his statutes, which I command you today.”**

¹¹ That day Moses charged the people, saying,

¹² **“When you have crossed over the Jordan, these shall stand on Mount Gerizim to bless the people: Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Joseph, and Benjamin.**

¹³ **And these shall stand on Mount Ebal for the curse: Reuben, Gad, Asher, Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali.**

¹⁴ **And the Levites shall declare to all the men of Israel in a loud voice**

When a stone is plastered, the outside was white (as if pure) with plaster (Deuteronomy 27:4, 8) while the inside was hardened (Matthew 23:27; Mark 16:4).

Israel would “put on airs” with long “tassels” (Deuteronomy 22:12) although their hearts were hard.

Much of Israel’s land in the Jordan Valley near the Dead Sea is filled with limestone (Israel’s buildings and houses are constructed from limestone).

Lime used to make gypsum, then roast the gypsum to make a stone mortar whitewash paint to paint the stones with public announcements. (Ezekiel 13:10-15)

Once again the law was carved into stones (2 Corinthians 3:3), but Jesus would roll that stone away (Luke 24:2).

Jesus is the living stone (1 Peter 2:4) which unsettles those who attempt righteousness through self-effort (Luke 20:18; Romans 9:32), but Jesus is the cornerstone for salvation (Acts 4:10-12).



Archeologists discovered the Ebal altar (north of Shechem) in the 1980’s

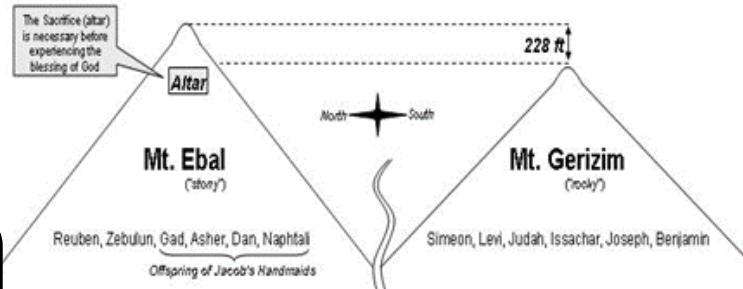
The altar was to consist of uncut stones because cut stones represented man’s efforts. Self-effort is never the way to God. (Exodus 20:25-26; Daniel 2:34)

Shechem (“shoulder”) in Samaria stood in the narrow-sheltered valley between Ebal (“stony”) on the north and Gerizim (“rocky”) on the south, these mountains at their base being only some 500 yards apart.

4 of 6 Tribes descend from Handmaids along with the first & last sons of Leah

The first false king (Abimelech) will be appointed in Shechem (Judges 9:2) and ultimately, Israel will be divided into two kingdoms at Shechem (1 Kings 12).

Ebal (Sin/Sacrifice) to Gerizim (Blessing)



A great road between the two mountains as the quickest means of communication between the East of the Jordan and the Mediterranean Sea.

Covenants of the Bible

A Covenant is a Commitment to be Faithful

Covenants in Scripture

	Seed	Blessing	Land	Nation	Kingdom	Scripture
Edenic	X		X		X	Genesis 1:28-30; 2:15-17; Psalm 8:6
Noahic	X		X		X	Genesis 6:7, 18; 8:20-22; 9:8-18
Abrahamic	X	X	X	X	X	Genesis 12:1-3; 15:1-21; 17:1-8; 22:15-18
Mosaic		X	X	X	X	Exodus 19-24; Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 11
Priestly		X			X	Numbers 25:10-13; Jeremiah 33:17-18; Ezekiel 48:11
Palestinian		X	X	X		Deuteronomy 27-30
Davidic	X	X	X	X	X	2 Samuel 7:8-16
New		X	X	X	X	Jeremiah 31:31-34

A Covenant is an agreement that is made between multiple parties where one or both pledge to perform or refrain from certain actions.

The Best Way to Ensure a Good Future is to Keep Your Covenants

The future is determined by the faithfulness of the individual to the commitment.

Blessings for Obedience (Deuteronomy 28:1-14)

The small word
"if" (יִם -אם)
has profound
consequences

God will bless & esteem His people
who follow His commands

The obedient will be overrun
and "assailed" by blessings.

1 "And if you faithfully obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, **the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth.**

2 And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God. **1**

3 Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. **2**

4 Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. **3**

5 Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. **4**

6 Blessed shall you be when you come in, **5** and blessed shall you be when you go out. **6**

7 "The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before you. They shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways. **7**

8 The LORD will command the blessing on you in your barns and in all that you undertake. And he will bless you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. **8**

9 The LORD will establish you as a people holy to himself, as he has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in his ways. **9**

10 And all the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they shall be afraid of you. **10**

11 And the LORD will make you abound in prosperity, in the fruit of your womb and in the fruit of your livestock and in the fruit of your ground, within the land that the LORD swore to your fathers to give you. **11**

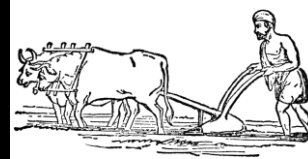
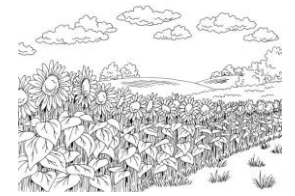
12 The LORD will open to you his good treasury, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hands. And you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. **11**

13 And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail, and you shall only go up and not down, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, being careful to do them, **12**

14 and if you do not turn aside from any of the words that I command you today, to the right hand or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them. **12**

Blessing
(Berakah)
ברכה

Levites Proclaimed Twelve Blessings (Deuteronomy 28:1-13)		
1.	In the City	Deut. 28:3
2.	In the Country	Deut. 28:3
3.	For the Household/Descendants	Deut. 28:4
4.	For the Kneading Bowl & Provision	Deut. 28:5
5.	When You Come In	Deut. 28:6
6.	When You Go Out	Deut. 28:6
7.	Enemies will Flee	Deut. 28:7
8.	Storehouses & Work	Deut. 28:8
9.	Become Holy People	Deut. 28:9
10.	Prosper Abundantly	Deut. 28:11
11.	Rain & Harvests	Deut. 28:12
12.	Advancement	Deut. 28:13



Believers should understand that there are consequences to sin.

Curses are substantially longer than blessings (15 Blessing Verses contrasted to 54 Curse Verses)

Curses for Disobedience (Deuteronomy 28:15-44)



Levites Proclaimed Thirty-One Curses (Deuteronomy 28:15-44)

1.	In the City	Deut. 28:16
2.	In the Country	Deut. 28:16
3.	For the Kneading Bowl & Provision	Deut. 28:17 <i>(switched from blessing order)</i>
4.	For the Household/Descendants	Deut. 28:18 <i>(switched from blessing order)</i>
5.	When You Come In	Deut. 28:19
6.	When You Go Out	Deut. 28:19
7.	Curses, Confusion, Rebuke	Deut. 28:20
8.	Plague of Diseases	Deut. 28:21
9.	Drought, blight, mildew plague	Deut. 28:22
10.	Hard sky/ground like bronze/iron	Deut. 28:23
11.	Rain of Dust/Powder	Deut. 28:24
12.	Defeat by Enemies	Deut. 28:25
13.	Carcasses eaten by wild animals	Deut. 28:26
14.	Uncurable Tumors, Sores & the Itch	Deut. 28:27
15.	Madness, Blindness, Confusion	Deut. 28:28
16.	Unsuccessful, Oppressed, Robbed	Deut. 28:29
17.	Another will take new wife/house/vineyard	Deut. 28:30
18.	Herd and cattle will be taken by others	Deut. 28:31
19.	Children given as slaves to another nation	Deut. 28:32
20.	Cruel oppression & loss of harvests	Deut. 28:33
21.	Sights will turn oppressed mad	Deut. 28:34
22.	Uncurable Boils	Deut. 28:35
23.	Nation in Exile	Deut. 28:36
24.	An Object of Ridicule	Deut. 28:37
25.	Locusts will Devour your Field	Deut. 28:38
26.	Worms will ruin wine & grapes	Deut. 28:39
27.	No oil from Olive Trees	Deut. 28:40
28.	Children in Captivity	Deut. 28:41
29.	Locusts will take over trees and crops	Deut. 28:42
30.	Foreign inhabitants will increase	Deut. 28:43
31.	Become the borrower	Deut. 28:44

The first six curses for Disobedience are directly opposite the blessings: city, country, household/descendants, kneading bowl, come in, go out

Confusion is a judgment from the Lord (Isaiah 28:26; 1 Cor 14:33; James 3:16).

One can either be a spiritual citizen of Babylon (confusion) or Jerusalem (peace).

~9 million people have died from the corona virus pandemic

1 in 5 (50-60 Million) Americans suffers from Mental Illness

Adultery and Divorce are around 50%

40 Million are enslaved (human trafficking) worldwide

Over 2 million illegal immigrants crossed southern border of US in 2021

80% of Americans have consumer debt

2 out of 10 Americans use at least 50% of their income to pay back what they owe.

Life or Death (Deuteronomy 30:11-20)

11 "For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off.

12 It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?'

13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?'

14 But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.

15 "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil.

16 If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.

17 But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them,

18 I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess.

19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse.

Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, 20 loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

God's commands are not too difficult to understand and obey

God has placed His word in the mouths & hearts of His people (Jeremiah 31:31-34; Romans 10:8)

Heaven and Earth will be witnesses of a man's commitment and his life.

God's word is not beyond His people in the spiritual realms; no visions are needed.

God's word is not distant in this world beyond the chaos of the sea; no pilgrimages are needed.

Your choice is to be made today; You must choose either life/blessing -or- death/adversity

"He again sets a certain day, 'Today,' saying through David after so long a time just as has been said before, 'Today if you hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts.'" (Hebrews 4:7)



Regardless of whether God's people do not listen or if they become unfaithful to following Him, the result is the same - they will perish.



LOVE THE LORD, AND HOLD ONTO HIM → THE LORD IS YOUR LIFE.

The Death of Moses (Deuteronomy 34:1-11)

¹ Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan,
² all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the western sea,
³ the Negeb, and the Plain, that is, the Valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar.
⁴ And the LORD said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, 'I will give it to your offspring.' I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there."
⁵ So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD,
⁶ and He buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows the place of his burial to this day.
⁷ Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eye was undimmed, and his vigor unabated.
⁸ And the people of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. Then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended.
⁹ And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses.
¹⁰ And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,
¹¹ none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land,
¹² and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.



Laying on of Hands
Acts 8:17, 19:6;
1 Timothy 4:14

God showed Moses all of the land from the northeast side of the Jordan to the southwest.

Pisgah ("fortress") is a location on the top of Mt. Nebo ("prophet") in the land of Moab.

God would make a point of showing the promised land to Moses before Moses died.

A healthy Moses died at 120 yrs. old, and God buried him.

Afterward Michael, the archangel, contended with the devil for Moses' body (Jude 1:9)

Moses would be returning at the Mt. of Transfiguration (Mt 17:3; Mk 9:4; Lk 9:30)

Moses might be a prophet of God at the end of time (Rev 11:4-12).



Moses is called the Servant of the Lord.

Joshua = Jesus
Hebrew = Greek

Face-to-Face
Moses → Numbers 12:8
Jacob → Genesis 32:30
Gideon → Judges 6:22

Not God's Glory
(1 Corinthians 13:12
Exodus 33:20; John 1:18)