

DEUTERONOMY

All of creation & every jot & tittle point to God:

Symbolism of Numbers	Book of the Pentateuch
1 Wholeness & uniqueness of God – “God is one” there is no other	Genesis – The creator and judge
2 Witness	Exodus - from Egypt and Slavery witnessed by the world
3 Deity, Resurrection & Revelation	Leviticus – the law and how to please God
4 Nature & humanity (all of creation & the world)	Numbers – walk in the wilderness
5 Judgment & Grace	Deuteronomy – Means Second Law 4:39-40

Deuteronomy 4:39-40
³⁹ 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. ⁴⁰ 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 covers the last month before Joshua leads Israel out of the wilderness into the Promised Land
- Moses’ last sermon is one of conviction and heartfelt persuasion to follow the Lord.
- Deuteronomy actually contains a collection of sermons that focus primarily on a relationship based on love.
- Almost 40 times in Deuteronomy, it is written “the land that God gives you”, but another phrase is “go in and possess the land.”
- 250 references to the previous Torah books are given by Moses in Deuteronomy.
- 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.
- Jesus quotes from Deuteronomy more than any other book;
 - Jesus used Deuteronomy to rebuff all three of Satan’s temptations.
- 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 was given 40 years prior
 - Jews call the book “The Words” (Hebrew “Devarim”) because that is the way the book opens.

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 was **written around 1400 BC**, at the end of the forty years of wandering endured by the nation of Israel. (1406BC after 40 years in wilderness beginning in 1446BC - based on 1 Kings 6:1 written in the year of 966BC)
 - Israel departed Egypt on the 15th day of the first month (Nisan) – Exodus 12:2, 5; Numbers 33:3
 - 50 days after leaving Egypt, Israel arrived at Mt. Sinai – Exodus 19:1, 11
 - Israel would have arrived at Mt. Sinai in the summer to experience extreme swings in temperature from 90 degrees in the morning to 130 degrees in the afternoon to 90 degrees in the evening and then to 50 degrees in the AM hours.

- The first Tabernacle was erected nine months later on the first day of the first month (Nisan) – Exodus 40:2, 17; Numbers 1:1 (Spring 1445BC)
- For a single month after the Tabernacle was established, Moses went to the top of Mt Sinai to receive the Book of Leviticus.
- Aaron died at the end of the 40 years of wilderness wanderings, and the Book of Deuteronomy was given that year – Numbers 33:38
- Deuteronomy is written at the end of the 40 years in the wilderness (1446BC-1406BC)
- The 2nd generation of Israel were camped on the east side of the Jordan River, on the plains of Moab, across from the city of Jericho (Deuteronomy 1:1; 29:1). The 1st generation had died in the wilderness except for Joshua & Caleb.
- Moses addressed his words to “all Israel” at least twelve times. This phrase emphasized the nation’s unity in purpose and solidarity under a single authority – God Himself.
- Suzerain Treaty – 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 blessing that correspond to how believers behave according to His will.
 - 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.
 - 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>			

- Just as the Lord is bringing the Israelites out of Egypt into the land, He also brings the Philistines out of Capthor (Crete) and the Arameans out of Kir (Amos 9:7)

6 Deuteronomy 1, 2

Read Deuteronomy 1:1-4.... Israel Conquered the Trans-Jordan (east of the Jordan River)

1:1 Deuteronomy is another “book of Moses.”

The Locations Reflect the Testimony of Israel’s History and Symbolize the Story of Their Transformation (Dt 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.	Hazereth	“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

1:2-3 Moses emphasizes that it took God’s people forty years to arrive at the place that could have been reached in eleven days.

- 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)

1:4 The Amorite people under Sihon were defeated in the south before the giants of Og on the north end of Trans-Jordan had fallen to God’s people (Dt 2:24 – 3:7).

- Both groups of people are east of the Jordan River (Trans-Jordan).

Read Deuteronomy 1:5-8.... Israel Called to Leave My Horeb (Mt. Sinai)

1:5 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.

1:6 Moses begins the story at the Horeb mountain range where Israel had been given the law on Mt. Sinai. But the focus on the Law was not to be forever – God’s promises were waiting. There are times when the Lord urges His people on after their mountaintop experience in His presence.

1:7 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)

1:8 The terms “claim” and “possess” are repeated over fifty times in Deuteronomy alone; the focus was on God’s covenant with Israel through their ancestry.

- **According to Deuteronomy 1:6, what is God recount telling Israel at Sinai to do?**
 - **Moses reminded Israel of God telling Israel at Mt. Sinai that it was time to move on**
 - **This was exactly what God was preparing to tell Israel on the east side of the Jordan**
 - **Believers should never get too “comfortable” at a given location**
- **According to Deuteronomy 1:7, what did Israel never claim?**
 - **The boundaries of land**
 - **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)**
 - **Believers should ask if there is more in the Lord.**

Read Deuteronomy 1:9-18.... Moses Appointed Elders

1:9 Moses took personal responsibility for shepherding the flock of God’s people, but he believed that it was best to increase the leadership beyond himself to judge God’s people (Ex 18; Numbers 11:16; Acts 6:1-6).

- Moses had actually spoken to the 1st generation of Israelites, but now he was speaking to the 2nd generation.

1:10-11 Moses reminds the people that God had already been true to His word by multiplying them to become as numerous as the stars in the sky (Gn 22:17; 26:4).

1:12 Unlike modern mega-church preachers, Moses searched for pastors for the people. (Exodus 18)

1:14-18 Israel begins by listening to Moses’ advice, and the leaders were not intimidated nor did they show partiality in their judgments.

Read Deuteronomy 1:19-25.... Israel Sent Spies into the Promised Land

1:19 The “terrifying” wilderness was a training ground for God’s people. Kadesh-barnea was the staging area for entrance into the Promised Land.

- 1:20 Upon arrival at the border, the land of Canaan had been defined as the land of the Amorites. Although Israel would fear and fail, after 40 years in the wilderness, Israel had already defeated Sihon, the King of the Amorites.
- 1:21 Prior to Israel wanting the twelve spies, God said to take the Land – do not Fear or be Discouraged! “Do not fear” is said to be in the Bible 365 times (the most frequent command), and in those destined for judgment in hell, cowardice is a leading attribute (Rev 21:8).
- 1:22 The mistakes of their families are attributed to these Israelites who were young at that time (Deut 4:3). The spies were to determine “How” to enter the promised land instead of whether or not they should do it. At that time, God was leading through a cloud/flame, so they could have relied on His guidance.
- 1:23 The spies seemed like a good idea to Moses, and had been condoned by the Lord (Numbers 13:1-2).
- 1:24 To modern day, there is a valley with a spring of water (Ain Eshkali) just two miles north of Hebron. “Eschol” means “cluster” because of the vegetation and fruit that grows in abundance there. It took two men to bear a cluster of grapes (Numbers 13:23).
- 1:25 The spies well-knew that God had given the Promised Land to Israel
- **According to Deuteronomy 1:19, how is the wilderness described?**
 - **The wilderness was “terrifying”, and it was a training ground for God’s people.**

Read Deuteronomy 1:26-37.... Israel Refused the Promised Land

- 1:26 Israel did not “go up,” but instead rebelled.
- 1:27 Israel brought the wrath of God on them by grumbling that He hated them and had bad intent for them (Romans 8:28; James 1:17; Jeremiah 29:11)
- 1:28 The spies (Num 13:33) compared these Anakim giants to the Nephilim (Gen 6:4), but no problem is too big for the Lord (Lk 1:37) because they are all spiritual struggles (Eph 6:12).
- 1:29 God commands Israel not to fear.
- 1:30 God reminds Israel that they saw Him protect them in Egypt; the same one who leads will fight for them. Follow God, and He will fight for you.
- 1:31 God carried His people through the wilderness
- 1:32 It’s not about believing “in” God – it is about believing God. **God’s people should receive His word with faith (Hebrews 4:2)**
- 1:33 The Lord sought places for His people to reside. (John 14:3)
- 1:34 The words of God’s people angered God.
- 1:35 God viewed the first generation of His exiled people as an “evil generation.” (Mt 12:39, 45; 16:4; Luke 11:29)
- **The 1.2 million deaths during the wilderness wanderings equate to approximately 80 deaths each day (10 dying every 8 hours) – Romans 6:23; James 1:15**
- 1:36 Caleb means “bold.”
- 1:37 Three times, Moses tells the people that they are the reason that God will not let him enter the promised land (Deut 3:26, 4:21) when it was Moses’ personal sin that God judged (Num 20:12)
- **Who does Moses blame for not being able to enter into the Promised Land?**
 - **Three times, Moses tells the people that they are the reason that God will not let him enter the promised land (Deut 3:26, 4:21) when it was Moses’ personal sin that God judged (Num 20:12)**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 1:27, what did the Israelites do instead of entering the Promised Land?**
 - **Israel brought the wrath of God on them by grumbling that He hated them and had bad intent for them (Romans 8:28; James 1:17; Jeremiah 29:11)**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 1:28, what did the spies report about the Promised Land?**
 - **The spies (Num 13:33) compared these Anakim giants to the Nephilim (Gen 6:4), but no problem is too big for the Lord (Lk 1:37) because they are all spiritual struggles (Eph 6:12).**
 - **Read verse 31 – such a beautiful verse – what was Israel’s reaction in the next verse?**
 - **They did not trust God**

Read Deuteronomy 1:38-45.... Israel Repents the Wrong Way and is Defeated

- 1:41 Israel understood that they “themselves” would enter the Promised Land to fight instead of relying on God’s support.
- 1:42 After rejecting God’s plan, Israel changed their minds, but God wasn’t with them when they fought (Num 14:39-45); Israel’s assessment of the situation (without God factored in) had been correct, and they were defeated.
- 1:43 Israel’s rejection to enter the Promised Land was referenced as “the rebellion” through the rest of Scripture.
- 1:44 Bees attack intruders as an entire colony/hive; one bees sting might very well lead to others. A bee primary sense is smell, and are not deterred by swatting because that only proves that someone is a predator.
- 1:45 God ignored His people’s weeping and prayers
- **What should God’s people do when they realize that they haven’t followed the Lord?**
 - **Begin following Him – Don’t arbitrarily start going the way that you were once called**
 - **(Don’t divorce the woman you shouldn’t have married; don’t quit the career that you should not have pursued, etc.)**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 1:45, what was God’s response to the crying of the Israelites?**
 - **God didn’t care that they cried; God wanted obedience**

Read Deuteronomy 2:1-8...Israel walks through the land of Edom

- 2:1 **“Then we turned...”** Al Israel was doing was turn after turn in their wanderings in the wilderness. **Some believers spend their entire lives getting no where as they continue to turn.**
- 2:2 **Instead of the usual statement through the Torah “The Lord spoke to MOSES” – this time, Moses records “Then the Lord spoke to ME”**
- 2:3 The Lord was ready to lead His people out of the wilderness to the Promised Land.
- 2:4 Often the world is afraid of God, so believers need to be careful. God is the one who gives land and wealth.
- 2:5 **The mountainous region of Seir (meaning “hairy/shaggy”) was the home of the Edomites. While God has blessings for His people, God also calls His people to be satisfied in Him and not meddle in the pleasures of the world.**
- **Wars originate from efforts to increase boundaries (Acts 17:26)**
- 2:6 Silver symbolizes “redemption” as God’s people purchase food and water. This verse reveals that the daily provision of manna has stopped, and it is time for His people to mature. God calls His people to participate in the process of His provision.
- 2:7 God blesses His people’s efforts. God understands the challenging times of His people, but God considers Israel as having lacked nothing (God meets needs - not “greeds”) – Psalm 23:1
- 2:8 Israel passed peacefully by the people of Edom (descendants of Esau)
- **Who were the Edomites?**
 - **From Esau – the brother of Jacob - ...a “brother”**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 2:4, why did the Edomites not welcome God’s people?**
 - **They were afraid**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 2:7, what did the Lord bless?**
 - **The work of their hands – possibly the origin of God helps those who help themselves**

Read Deuteronomy 2:9-15...Israel walks through the Land of Moab

- 2:9-15 Israel passed peacefully by the people of Moab (descendants of Lot’s eldest daughter)
- 2:10 The Moabites had defeated people (Emim) as tall as the giant Anakim; God’s people had less faith in the power of God than did their rebellious relatives - Emim means “terrible men”
- 2:12 After stating who the Moabites had defeated, Scripture states that Edom had also defeated the Horites. All of this was in contrast to fearful Israel who did not have faith to defeat their enemies.
- 2:13 The brook Zered (meaning “exuberant in growth; lined with shrubbery”) runs into the southeast corner of the Dead Sea.
- 2:14 The number “38” only in Bible twice; also with the Paralyzed man by the Sheep Gate Pool (Jn 5:5)
- **Who were the Moabites?**

- Descendants of Lot's eldest daughter (similar to Israel's cousins)
- According to verse 10, what did the Moabites do that Israel couldn't?
 - The Moabites had defeated people (Emim) as tall as the giant Anakim;
 - God's people had less faith in the power of God than did their rebellious relatives
- According to verse 12, who had the Edomites defeated?
 - After stating who the Moabites had defeated, Scripture states that Edom had also defeated the Horites. All of this was in contrast to fearful Israel who did not have faith to defeat their enemies.

Read Deuteronomy 2:19-21...Israel walks through the Land of Ammon

2:16-23 Israel passed peacefully by the Ammonites (descendants of Lot's youngest daughter)

2:16 Eleazar may have been the third individual over the age of 40 entering the promised land; Eleazar was a priest (over 30) prior to the spies. The Levites were not included in the "men of war" and were not represented in the twelve spies (Joshua 5:6).

2:20-23 The Ammonites had defeated people (Rephaim) as tall as the giant Anakim; God's people had less faith in the power of God than did their rebellious relatives. Caphtor is a reference to Crete.

- **Who were the Ammonites?**
 - Descendants of Lot's youngest daughter (similar to Israel's cousins)
- According to Deuteronomy 2:21, what did the Ammonites do that Israel couldn't?
 - The Ammonites had defeated people (Rephaim) as tall as the giant Anakim;
 - God's people had less faith in the power of God than did their rebellious relatives

Read Deuteronomy 2:24-30...Israel Defeats Sihon the Amorite (South Transjordan)

2:24-37 Israel defeated Sihon and the Amorites (they were of no relation to Israel). Hammurabi (the law giver) was an Amorite.

2:25 The Lord began to increase Israel's reputation, so that the surrounding peoples would hear the testimony. The testimony (witness) of God's people should be as powerful today.

2:26-29 Although the Lord had promised victory, Moses offered peace with Sihon beforehand. The judgment and defeat of Sihon was a just result of Sihon's refusal.

2:30 The Lord God made Sihon's heart stubborn in order that His people could defeat the Amorites.

- **Were the Amorites of relation to Israel?**
 - They were of no relation to Israel; Hammurabi (the law giver) was an Amorite.
- **How did the Lord begin to spread fear and respect of Israel?**
 - He took Israel into battle
 - The Lord began to increase Israel's reputation, so that the surrounding peoples would hear the testimony.
 - The testimony (witness) of God's people should be as powerful today.
- According to Deuteronomy 2:27, although God had promised victory in a battle, what did Moses do first?
 - Moses offered peace with Sihon beforehand. The judgment and defeat of Sihon was a just result of Sihon's hard hearts and stubborn refusal.
 - Sihon & Og become "trophy" victories throughout history as their defeat is recounted (Ps 135:8-11, 136:17-21)

Read Deuteronomy 2:34-2:37...Israel takes Sihon's possessions

2:34 Israel completely destroyed the Amorites killing everyone

- Amorites worshipped Chemosh - the false god of war (Solomon built an altar to the false god - 1 Kings 11 – the abomination of Moab)

2:36 God gave everything to His people

- According to Deuteronomy 2:36, what did God give to Israel?
 - Everything.... He gave everything that you have

Read Deuteronomy 3:1-11...Israel Defeats Og (North Transjordan by Sea of Galilee)

- 3:1 Bashan was lush and green east of the Sea of Galilee. Og's well-organized army was defeated at Edrei (meaning "mighty; strength"). It was a victory against all odds.
- 3:2 God gives victory to His people even before the battle
- 3:3 No one survived from Og's kingdom because God delivered Og into Israel's hands.
- 3:4 Sixty (insufficiency) cities were not enough to defeat the Israelites; Argob was the capital of the district of Bashan.
- 3:5 Beyond the poorly defended villages, Israel conquered fortresses of Og with high walls/bars.
- 3:6 Every human (man, woman, child) was killed.
- 3:7 The spoils from Israel's victory could be used for sacrifices and offerings.
- 3:8 Arnon was east of middle of the Dead Sea while Mt. Hermon is located nearly 60 miles north of the Sea of Galilee.
- 3:9 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.
- 3:10 These two cities bordered Og's kingdom on the east (Salecah) and 40 miles west to Edrei – the location of the battle.
- 3:11 Og was the remaining descendant of the Rephaim giants. A cubit is measured from elbow to fingertip (~18 inches), so Og's bed was 13 feet six inches long and six 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).
 - **According to Deuteronomy 3:2, what guidance does God give to Israel?**
 - **Before the battle, God gives him the victory**
 - **Don't fear your enemies.... what do you fear?**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 3:11, how big was King Og's bed?**
 - **A cubit is measured from elbow to fingertip (~18 inches). Og's bed was 13 feet six inches long and six feet wide.**

Read Deuteronomy 3:12-17...Transjordan (East of Jordan) Given to Gad, Reuben & Machir

- 3:12-17 The two and a half tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh were given the land of Gilead on the east of the Jordan.
- **How many Tribes would make their homes on the east side of the Jordan?**
 - **The two and a half tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh were given the land of Gilead on the east of the Jordan.**
 - **Was Israel following God's Word to the letter or were they defining their way?**
 - **Between Og and the Eastern Tribes, Israel was already obeying when they liked.**

Read Deuteronomy 3:18-22...Gad & Reuben Vow to Battle with Israel in Canaan

- 3:18-20 These Transjordan tribes left their vulnerable families and livestock to go off and pursue God's battles (1 Cor 7:28-31).
- 3:22 In God's work, don't be afraid for the Lord your God fights for you.
- **According to Deuteronomy 3:19, what did Gad & Reuben agree to do?**
 - **Leave their families to go fight the Lord's battles**
 - **What do you think about leaving your families behind to go fight God's battles?**
 - **Would you ever do that? (Mt 19:29; Mk 10:29)**
 - **Is it right to leave your family behind?**
 - **It depends on what God is telling you**
 - **Who do you hold more dearly than God?**
 - **The Israelites put their wives and children above God which is the reason that they did not enter into the Promised Land (Numbers 14:3)**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 3:22, why were the Israelites told to not be afraid of their enemies?**
 - **God fights for them**

Read Deuteronomy 3:23-29.... God Rejects Moses' Plea to Enter the Promised Land

3:23-24 Moses tells God that he wanted to experience more of God's wondrous workings in the Promised Land

3:25 Moses pleads to go over to see the Promised Land.

3:26 God denied Moses' repeated request to enter the promised land, and He told Moses not to ask again.

- Believers should pray that God's will be done, and not focus on the things of this world. Three times Moses blames the behavior of the people for his downfall (Deut 1:37, 4:21 → Num 20:12)

3:27 God tells Moses not to pray about seeing the land again.

3:28 God commands Moses to go to climb to the top of Pisgah and look.

3:29 God will fulfill His promise to Abraham (Gen 17:8) as Moses establishes Joshua as new leader of God's people in three ways: 1.commission 2.encourage 3.strengthen

3:30 Beth-peor would be the burial place for Moses (Dt 34:6).

- **According to Deuteronomy 3:27, what was God's response to the request of Moses to enter into the Promised Land?**
 - God became angry, and told Moses not to ask again
 - Balaam prayed for God's guidance, and it was only until he acted on what he knew did the Spirit fall on him
- **What prayers of believers might displease God?**
 - Does it please God when believers request more faith or should believers apply the faith they have?
 - Does it please God when believers request more material wealth or should believers be appreciative for what God has provided?
 - Does it please God when believers request revenge or should believers seek ministry and forgiving spirits?

Discuss Deuteronomy 4:1-4...(Read Deut 12:32; Rev 22:18-19)

4:1 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)

4:2 Twice, Moses states the same precept that is in the last chapter of the Bible – 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.

4:3 God showed Israel His power in the defeat in the Transjordan of Baal-Peor

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

- **How aligned are our beliefs with Scripture?**
- **Is our life truly an open-book test or do feel-good mother-isms sneak in?**
- **The ways that you apply your belief system is the difference between life & death...**

Read Deuteronomy 4:5-8...A Testimony of a Great Nation

4:5 Israel is told to "SEE" – they have seen what God has done for them (Dt 4:3), and the Israelites have seen Moses share God's commandments

4:6 Other surrounding nations will see the testimony of Israel keeping God's commands.

4:7 A testimony of God's people is the propinquity of Him to us (Heb 7:19, 25; James 4:8).

4:8 The law itself is a testimony because of its righteousness

- **According to Deuteronomy 4:7, why was Israel a uniquely great nation?**
 - God was near to them
- **What would make America (or any nation) a uniquely great nation)?**
 - The nearness of God

Discuss Deuteronomy 4:9-14...Israel Urged to Remember God's Actions

4:9 Guard your hearts and memories (Prov 4:23; Heb 13:7; Joshua 1:8; Ps 1:2, 143:5); the most vital stewardship is over one's own soul.

4:10 God's Word teaches believers to fear Him

4:11 "At the feet" is a position of humility while Mt. Sinai is on non-consuming fire; there is a mixture of fire and darkness.

4:12 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 (Dt 4:24).

4:13 God emphasizes obedience to the ten commandments

4:14 Just as Israel was encouraged to teach their children, Moses also taught the children of Israel

- **According to Deuteronomy 4:9, what are God's people called to do?**
 - **Guard your hearts and memories (Prov 4:23; Heb 13:7; Joshua 1:8; Ps 1:2, 143:5);**
 - **The most vital stewardship is over one's own soul.**
 - **What does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and lose his soul?**
 - **As the airlines say, "Adults should put on their oxygen masks first"**
- **According to Deuteronomy 4:10, what two reasons did God want Israel to hear His words?**
 - **So that they would fear Him**
 - **So that they would share with their children**

Read Deuteronomy 4:15-20...God Forbids Idolatry

4:15-19 Man gravitates toward worshipping the tangible; do not worship the creation instead of the creator.

4:20 Egypt is likened to an iron furnace which eliminates impurities and results in iron; at 1500 BC, few societies had iron weapons (the beginning of the iron age and the end of the bronze age), but those who did have iron were victors in war. Israel's experience in Egypt made Israel themselves as strong as iron.

- **Why is man's tendency to make physical idols?**
 - **Man gravitates toward worshipping the tangible; do not worship the creation instead of the creator.**
 - **Worship God in Spirit and in Truth (John 4:24)**
- **According to Deuteronomy 4:20, to what is Egypt compared?**
 - **Egypt is likened to an iron furnace which eliminates impurities and results in strong iron;**
 - **At 1500 BC, few societies had iron weapons (the beginning of the iron age and the end of the bronze age), but those who did have iron were victors in war.**
 - **Israel's experience in Egypt made Israel themselves as strong as iron.**
- **Civilization was entered the iron age en-masse in 800BC**

4:21 Three times Moses blames the behavior of the people for his downfall (Deut 1:37, 3:26 → Num 20:12)

4:22 Moses foretells his physical death

4:24 God is a Consuming Fire (Ex 24:17; Dt 9:3; Heb 12:29) versus a compassionate God (Dt 4:31)

Read Deuteronomy 4:27-31...The Diaspora of Israel & God's Faithfulness

4:25 God understands that Israel's faith will wane as He says "when" (and not "if") Israel's descendants become idolaters, but the Lord also knows that Israel will repent and turn back to Him when they are distressed by consequences (Dt 4:30).

4:26 Three times in Deuteronomy, heaven and earth are called as witnesses (Deut 30:19; 31:28)

4:29 You will find God when you search for Him with all of your heart and all your soul (Mt 7:7-8; Lk 11:9-10; Jn 5:39)

4:30 This verse references the great tribulation when as a nation, Israel will turn to Jesus for survival.

4:31 God is sympathetic to man (Ex 34:6; 2 Chron 30:9; Neh 9:31; Ps 51:1, 116:5; Dan 9:9; Joel 2:13; Jonah 4:2)

- **According to Deuteronomy 4:29, what does God tell His people to do?**
 - **Seek and you will find (Mt 7:7; Jer 29:13)**
- **According to Deuteronomy 4:31, is this the traditional concept of the Old Testament God?**
 - **No – man portrays the OT God as vengeful, but He is defined as compassionate**

Discuss Deuteronomy 4:32-40...God Has Revealed Himself Uniquely to His People

4:33 God's people heard God's voice through fire which typically symbolizes trials and judgment.

- 4:34 Moses lists seven ways God took Israel (His people) out of Egypt (the world): 1.trials 2.signs
3.wonders 4.war 5.strong hand 6.outstretched arm 7.great terrors
- 4:35 The reason that God performed these miracles was to show that the Lord is the only God.
- 4:37 Because of the love for the fathers, God was faithful to the offspring (1 John 4:19).
- 4:39 "...know therefore today, and lay it to your heart, that the Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other."
- 4:40 Obedience resulted in prosperous living (Deut 5:33, 6:24; Joshua 1:8; James 1:25); this seems to apply to earthly parents as well as God the Father (Deut 5:16)
- **According to Deuteronomy 4:40, what time frame is God calling on His people to recognize that He is sovereign?**
 - **Today – Hebrews 4:7 (Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts)**
 - **It only took Israel a single day to reject God's guidance (Numbers 14:39)**
 - **How many days did Adam/Eve sin? One day and then expulsion**

Discuss 4:41-43...Transjordan Cities of Refuge

- 4:41-43 Although there were only 2 ½ tribes on the east side of Jordan, it is possible that they were in greater turmoil since they needed half of the Cities of Refuge; the other three Cities of Refuge were west of the Jordan with the remaining 9 ½ tribes. Moses establishes the cities of refuge east of the Jordan even prior to going into the Promised Land.
- **How many Cities of Refuge existed in total? 6**
 - **Why would 6 be an appropriate number?**
 - **6 is insufficient; failure, the number of man**
 - **What percent of those 6 were outside of Israel proper (on the east side of the Jordan)?**
 - **50% - half of them – 3 cities of refuge served the 2 ½ tribes on the east**

Discuss 4:44-49...Introduction to the Law

- 4:44 Civil law always reflects the religious beliefs of the society. Civil law always legislates morality and should not be used to protect/promote immorality. The law of God is not obsolete, it is absolute.
- 4:45 Moses repeats the testimonies, rules and statutes that he gave at the exodus
- 4:46 King Sihon would not give Israel safe passage, but instead attacked the Lord's people (Dt 2:33), so they were defeated by God's people (Deut 2:24-37)
- 4:47 King Og was also defeated after he attacked Israel as well (Deut 3:1-11). "The rising of the sun" is unique symbolism of the "dawn of a new day" that the Israelites would walk victoriously with God."
- 4:48 Aroer was due east of the Dead Sea while Mt Zion was north of the Sea of Galilee towards Damascus.
- 4:49 The Sea of the Arabah (Dead Sea) is just below Mt Pisgah in the northeast.

8 Deuteronomy 5, 6, 7

Deuteronomy 5 => Ten Commandments

- **The ten commandments are listed twice (witness) in scripture (Ex 20:2-17).**
- **There are other commandments in the Bible, but these stress the integrity/faithfulness of the relationship with God (first four commandments) and man (last six commandments)**
- **Mt 22:36-40 → ³⁶"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷Jesus replied: "'Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."**

- 5:3 The Mosaic covenant (of obedience) should not be passed off on the forefathers; God wanted His people to be just as committed to obedience as in times past.
- 5:6 The old nature is one of slavery to the passions and perversions of the world (Rom 6:16-20).
- 5:7-21 The ten commandments are listed twice (witness) in scripture (Ex 20:2-17). There are other commandments in the Bible, but these stress the integrity/faithfulness of the relationship with God (first four commandments) and man (last six commandments).

- 5:14 In the list of those who were not to work on the Sabbath, the wife is not mentioned.
- 5:15 Keeping the Sabbath day holy shows that God is in control of the circumstances; it is not self-effort or hard work that resulted in the freedom, but God's power (Haggai 1:5-7).
- 5:16 Honoring one's parents is the only Law with Promise (Eph 6:2) and encouraged the testimony from the parent to the child (Deut 4:10, 6:7).
- The underlined words are not found in Exodus 20:12: "*Honor thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.*"
 - The differences emphasize the entire book of Deuteronomy.
 - Obedience to God's commands result in blessing. The 10 commandments are divided into the first half pointing to God, and the second directed at fellow men; however, the fifth commandment shows that how one treats their parents is similar to the way that they treat the Lord.
 - As Leviticus 20 shows the consequences of severe sin to the lesser consequences, cursing a parent is considered a dire sin (Lev 20:9)
- 5:21 To covet is the only mentioned sin of the Heart; the sin of covetousness is a seed resulting in other sins.

Read Deuteronomy 5:22-33...Israel Chooses to Hear God and Obey

5:25-27 The Israelites understood that they needed a mediator with God

5:28-29 God commends the words of His people but not their actions

5:33 Obedience resulted in prosperous living (Deut 4:40, 6:54; Joshua 1:8; James 1:25)

- **In verse 32, what does God mean by not turning to the right or to the left?**
 - **Not getting distracted or seduced...being purposeful**
 - **When do we turn to the right or left?**
 - **Hobbies, Temptations, Worldly Ambitions**

Read Deuteronomy 6:1-3...The Greatest Commandment

6:2 Three times in Deuteronomy, long life is equated to obedience (Deut 5:33, 32:47)

- **How does fear manifest itself in verse Deut 6:2?**
 - **Obedience in keeping all of God's commands**

Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9...The Shema (means "Hear" or "Listen")

6:4 The Bible teaches monotheism of only one being that is God consisting of three divine persons (The Father, The Lord Jesus Christ, The Holy Spirit) that are coequal and coeternal (Mt 3:16-17; John 10:30; 1 Thes 1:3-5; 2 Thes 2:13; 1 Cor 2:2-5; 1 Cor 6:11; 12:4-6; 2 Cor 13:14; Rom 14:17-18; 15:16; Eph 2:18; 3:16-17; 4:4-6).

- **"Ontology" is the study of the single Being that is God while the "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; all the while the Spirit is directing man into an understanding of God's will.
- The Shema is recited in every synagogue daily and recited by every orthodox Jew twice each day.
- **"The Lord is One" (The word "One" in Hebrew is 'e·ḥād)**
 - **The number 'e·ḥād 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·ḥād, the two in marriage are "one"**
- In Hebrew, there is no word for "is", and 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 importance might be on the fact that the Lord is Israel's only God and that they should not be lured into idolatry.

6:5 "*You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.*" (Dt 11:13) This is the key to Deuteronomy and regarded as the first of two primary commands (Mt 22:37-39, Mk 12:30-31, Lk 10:27).

A person can either be born twice or they can die twice. If they are not born again, then their first death will be the death (thus separation) of body from spirit/soul, and the second death will be the death (thus separation) of soul from spirit. A man can lose his soul (Matthew 16:26; Mark 8:36-37) as the soul and body can go to hell (Matthew 10:28), but the soul can be saved from hell (James 5:20) as blood atonement has been made for our souls (Lev 17:11). The three-part components of man are similar to the Trinity of spirit (Holy Spirit – the teacher of understanding), soul (God the Father), and the “body” of Christ (Jesus).

The Sequence of the “Love the Lord your God” verses consistently has “Soul” in the middle			
Deut 6:5	Heart	Soul	Strength
Mt 22:37	Heart	Soul	Mind
Mk 12:33	Understanding	Soul	Strength
1 Thes 5:23	Spirit	Soul	Body

6:6-9 Believers are to intertwine God’s truths with home, family, and lives

6:8 God’s Word in a believer’s life should be evident to everyone in all that the believer does (hand) and thinks (forehead) –Rev 3:16, 19:13, 22:4

6:9 The Word of God is likened to the blood around the door at the Passover (Ex 12:7; Dt 11:20)

- **According to Deuteronomy 6:4, how many Gods exist?**
 - **One - the Bible teaches monotheism of only one being that is God consisting of three divine persons (The Father, The Lord Jesus Christ, The Holy Spirit) that are coequal and coeternal**
 - **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.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 6:7, how frequently should God’s people consider His word?**
 - **All of the time: teaching, talking, awaking/going to bed, in & out of the home**
 - **The Hebrew word for “teach” (wə·šîn·nan·tām) means to repeat or recap which is what Moses is doing with the Book of Deuteronomy.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 6:8, where is the symbol placed?**
 - **Marking on foreheads and hands**
 - **Mark of the beast (Rev 14:9, 20:4) OR Those who weep over sin (Ez 9:4)**
 - **Also, the Passover w/ the frames of the door marked by the lamb’s blood**

Read Deuteronomy 6:10-19.... God Blessing for His Obedient People

6:10-11 Success is a result of God’s blessings, and not human efforts; whether it be cities or assets/wells/vineyards →Joshua 24:13, Psalms 105:44

6:12 Proactive steps should be taken to not forget how God is worked in the past.

6:13 Three actions in regards to the Lord: 1.Fear Him 2.Worship Him 3.Understand His Supremacy. Jesus referenced this verse in defense against Satan’s temptations (Mt 4:10; Lk 4:8; Dt 10:20)

6:16 At Massah, His people complained as to whether God was actually present (Ex 17:7). Jesus references this verse when He is tempted by Satan in the wilderness (Mt 4:7; Lk 4:12)

6:18 A critical concept in Deuteronomy - Do what is good in God’s sight (Deut 13:18)

- **According to Deuteronomy 6:13, what three actions are God’s people called to follow?**
 - **Three actions in regards to the Lord:**
 1. **Fear Him**
 2. **Worship Him**
 3. **Take Oaths in His Name**
- **According to Deuteronomy 6:13, how should oaths be taken?**
 - **Oaths be taken in God’s name**
 - **He is in control, man isn’t – recognize God’s supremacy**
- **According to Deuteronomy 6:14-15, on what is success dependent?**
 - **Obedience to God and serving Him alone**
- **According to Deuteronomy 6:18, who should determine right from wrong?**
 - **Believers should defer to God’s Word when there is a disagreement**

Read Deuteronomy 6:20-25...The Testimony of Israeli Parents to Their Children

6:20 A believer’s child should observe the parent’s obedience to God’s commands, but the child might ask the reason that believers follow God’s laws.

- 6:21-23 Tell the child of the blessings of God and His deliverance of His people from slavery (the old self). Biblically, Egypt represents the world (place of slavery); Pharaoh represents Satan (oppressor); Moses represents Jesus (mediator and deliverer).
- 6:24 Obedience resulted in three outcomes: 1.Proprosperity (Dt 4:40, 5:33) 2.Preservation (Deut 5:33, 6:2, 32:47) 3.Righteousness
- 6:25 Obedience to the law will introduce righteousness into God's people although they will not be wholly righteous without His declaration as such.

Read Deuteronomy 7:1-5...Israel is Uniquely Special to God

- 7:1 Seven (full, complete) nations were dwelling in the land promised to the Israelites:
1. Hivites: North of the Sea of Galilee
 2. Girgashites: In the Galilee region
 3. Canaanites: On the western coastal plains
 4. Amorites: In the eastern mountains
 5. Jebusites: In the center around Jerusalem
 6. Perizzites: In the southwest
 7. Hittites: In the southeast by the Dead Sea
- Beyond these seven, three nations (Arad, Sihon, Og – Num 21) were defeated in the east. The ten nations are similar to the ten nations warring against Jesus at the end times (Rev 17:12).
- 7:2-3 There is a tendency of believers to pacify and negotiate with the world. Every believer must eliminate all venues of sin and completely purify their lives to live as holy unto the Lord (Deut 12:2; 20:16-18).
- 7:4 The world will seduce believers into sin, and God will judge the fallen (Num 31:15-16; Rev 2:14)
- **According to Deuteronomy 7:2, how should Israel treat the sinful idolaters in Canaan?**
 - **Completely destroy them**
 - **There is a tendency of believers to pacify and negotiate with the world.**
 - **Every believer must eliminate all venues of sin and completely purify their lives to live as holy unto the Lord (Deut 12:2; 20:16-18).**
 - **Is there a place for tolerance?**
 - **There should be no tolerance for sin....but sinners need to know Jesus**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 7:4, what is the consequence of believers being seduced by the world?**
 - **The world will seduce believers into sin, and God will judge the fallen (Num 31:15-16; Rev 2:14)**

Read Deuteronomy 7:6-10... God Loved & Chose Israel Because They Were the Least

- 7:6 God's people are holy (1 Pet 1:15-16; Lev 11:44) and wholly His (John 17:24).
- 7:7 As of the year 2020, the Jewish people worldwide (14.6M) is 0.2% of the world's population (9M in Israel – 7.7B Worldwide Population); 62% of the Jewish population is located in Israel; and, Israel is listed in the top ten economical powers on earth.
- 7:8 The reason God chose Israel was because they were weak in population, and God had loved their ancestors.
- 7:10 God destroys those who hate Him (Isaiah 45:7).
- **According to Deuteronomy 7:7-8, why did God choose Israel as His people?**
 - **Because God loved them and said that He would take care of them**
 - **Israel was not the greatest, but instead, they were the least**

Read Deuteronomy 7:12-15... Obedience Brings God's Blessing

- 7:12-15 Obedience brings blessing.
- 7:13 God promised three things: 1.To Love 2.To Bless 3.To Multiply. The fruits of the harvest (salvation) 1.grain (seed & body) 2.new wine (blood/life - Mt 9:17) 3.oil (Holy Spirit). God's people were to offer each of these items to the Lord in acknowledgement that all was from Him (Dt 18:4), but each of these would be pillaged by enemies if Israel did not obey His word (Dt 28:51).

Hebrew Terms for Wine

1.	“Yayin”	Alcoholic and non-alcoholic grape beverages diluted with water.	Prov 31:4
2.	“Shekar”	Strong alcoholic drink that was undiluted.	Num 28:7
3.	“Tirosh”	New or Sweet Wine	Prov 3:10; Deut 7:13

7:15 God was going to preserve His people from illness (sin).

Read Deuteronomy 7:16-26... Understand that God Gives His People Victory

7:16 God’s people were not to pity those who hate Him.

7:17-21 Believers should not be afraid, but trust God beyond their reasoning.

7:20 This “hornet” term is used three times in scripture of God diminishing the resistance of those in the land of Canaan (Ex 23:28; Joshua 24:12). This term could be used generally as striking terror or panic among the people. It could also reference raiding parties from Egypt.

7:22 God has His reasons for working in His way and in His time.

7:25 The things of this world can ensnare and entangle the believer from striving to walk separately.

- **According to Deuteronomy 7:17-18, what happens if believers think too highly of the world?**
 - **There is a tendency to fear the world instead of God**
- **According to Deuteronomy 7:25, how should believers treat the false gods of the world?**
 - **Destroy them and do not covet the gold and silver**

9 Deuteronomy 8, 9, 10

Read Deuteronomy 8:1-10...Israel Encouraged to Remember God’s Provision in the Wilderness

8:2 The wilderness taught Israel humility as God tested their obedience (Dt 8:16; Jn 6:31-35)

8:3 Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God; this verse is quoted by Jesus when tempted by Satan (Mt 4:4; Lk 4:4).

8:4 The clothing of the Israelites did not wear out and their feet did not swell for 40 years (Deut 29:5); in the same manner from a spiritual perspective, God’s covering is eternal, and he protects His people when interacting with the world.

8:5 God disciplines His children (Heb 12:5-8)

8:8 Seven “fruits” of the promised land: 1.Wheat 2.Barley 3.Vines 4.Figs 5.Pomegranates 6.Olive Oil 7.Honey

8:10 Mealtime prayer shows gratitude for His provision.

- **According to Deuteronomy 8:2, what were several reasons that God led Israel into the wilderness?**
 - **To humble and test/teach them**
- **According to Deuteronomy 8:4, did God’s people have to worry about food or clothes?**
 - **Mt 6:25-31: ²⁵"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? ²⁸"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you-you of little faith? ³¹So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'**
- **Believers should commit their concerns about Food, Clothing, and Children to the Lord.**

Discuss Deuteronomy 8:11-20...Israel Warned to Remember God When They Are Blessed

8:11 Disobeying God’s commandments equate to forgetting Him.

8:12-13 God’s people were to focus more on the Lord than material wealth (Food to eat; good houses; multiplied herds/flocks; silver/gold)

- 8:14 Material blessings might “lift the heart” causing forgetfulness of all God has done.
- 8:15 God characterized the wilderness as terrifying.
- 8:16-18 God brought His people through testing with the intent that He could cause them to prosper
- 8:19 God will punish those who abandon Him for false gods.
- 8:20 If God’s people abandon Him, God will make them to perish the same as unbelievers.
 - **According to Deuteronomy 8:11, what equates to forgetting God?**
 - **Disobeying His commands**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 8:14, what can cause His people to forget Him?**
 - **Not to consider themselves to be more righteous than the nations being defeated.**
 -

Discuss Deuteronomy 9:1-4...Israel Warned Not to Consider Themselves Righteous

- 9:1 God honestly admits that other nations are greater and mightier than His people.
- 9:2 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).
- 9:3 God is a consuming fire (Ps 50:3; Heb 12:29, Ex 19:18 & 24:17, Deut 4:24, Zechar 2:5, 2 Thes 1:7)
- 9:4 Israel is warned not to believe that God is blessing them because they are more righteous than the sinful Canaanite nations.
 - **According to Deuteronomy 9:4, what did God warn Israel about?**
 - **Not to consider themselves to be more righteous than the nations being defeated.**
 - **They were not being blessed by God because they were more righteous**

Discuss Deuteronomy 9:5-12...The Unfaithful History of Israel’s Exodus

- 9:5 The Promised Land was taken because of the wickedness of the inhabitants (Gen 15:16).
 - Archeologists have found that the Amorites culture was replete with sexual diseases due to their sexual culture. God’s judgment on them was just as He wants good and godly people inhabiting His land.
 - 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, and God spoke to him that Britain would drive the Nazi’s out because of how evil the Nazi’s were, but not because Britain was good.
- 9:6 God did not give the Promised Land to Israel because of their righteousness; the characteristic “stubbornness” is contrasted to “righteousness.”
- 9:9 The three individuals at the Mt. of Transfiguration (Mt 17:3) each went through 40 (testing) days of fasting (1 Kings 19:8; Mt 4:2).
 - **According to Deuteronomy 9:5, why did God exile the Canaanite nations?**
 - **Because of the wickedness of the nations**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 9:6, what was not the reason that God used Israel to conquer the nations in Canaan?**
 - **God did not bless Israel because they were righteous.**
 - **Believers are sinners deserving of punishment**
 - **We are not above being punished for sin**

Discuss Deuteronomy 9:13-21...Israel Is Reminded of the Golden Calf

9:17 It is a Mideast tradition to destroy the binding document (contract) in the other party’s sight when covenant is broken

Discuss Deuteronomy 9:22-24...Israel Is Reminded of Their Rejection to Enter the Promised Land

Israel Provoked The Lord (Deuteronomy 9:22)			
Taberah	<i>“Burning”</i>	Numbers 11:3	Manna
Massah	<i>“Trial, Proving”</i>	Exodus 11:1-7	Water

Kibroth-hattaavah	<i>"Grave of Greed/Lust"</i>	Numbers 11:34	Quail
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9:24 Israel was perpetually rebellious against the Lord

Discuss Deuteronomy 9:25-29...Israel Is Reminded of Moses Mediated for Their Safety

9:26 Moses intercedes for Israel a number of times (Ex 32:11; Num 14:13; Ps 99:6-8; Jer 15:1)

9:28 Because of Israel's lack of faith: 1. God was not able to bless them 2. God hated them (Rom 9:13)
3. God brought them to the wilderness to kill them

Discuss Deuteronomy 10:1-5...Israel Reminded of Moses Cutting the Second Set of Tablets

10:1 Moses would now build the ark of the covenant to hold the ten commandments instead of his carrying them.

10:2 Although Moses was to provide the tablets, God would still write the Law

10:3 Acacia wood is hard, durable wood that comes from a desert thorn bush (thorns represent the consequences of sin).

Discuss Deuteronomy 10:6-11...Israel Reminded of The Tribe of Levi Sanctified From Them

10:8 The purpose of the Levites was to be threefold: 1. Carry the ark of the Lord's covenant 2. Stand before the Lord to serve Him 3. To bless in His name.

10:9 Worldly inheritance does not belong to the priesthood because theirs is an eternal inheritance.

Read Deuteronomy 10:12-16...Israel Commanded to Circumcise Their Hearts

10:12 The idea "to fear the Lord" is repeated throughout Scripture 50 times (Mt 10:28)

10:13 The commandments of God are meant for man's good.

10:14 Creation in totality belongs to the Lord to do with as He likes (Ex 19:5; Lev 25:23; Ps 24:1, 50:12, 89:11; 1 Cor 10:26).

10:15 The Lord loved and esteemed His people above all people.

10:16 Circumcision was not to be only physical, but spiritually of the heart (Deut 30:6, Jeremiah 4:4)

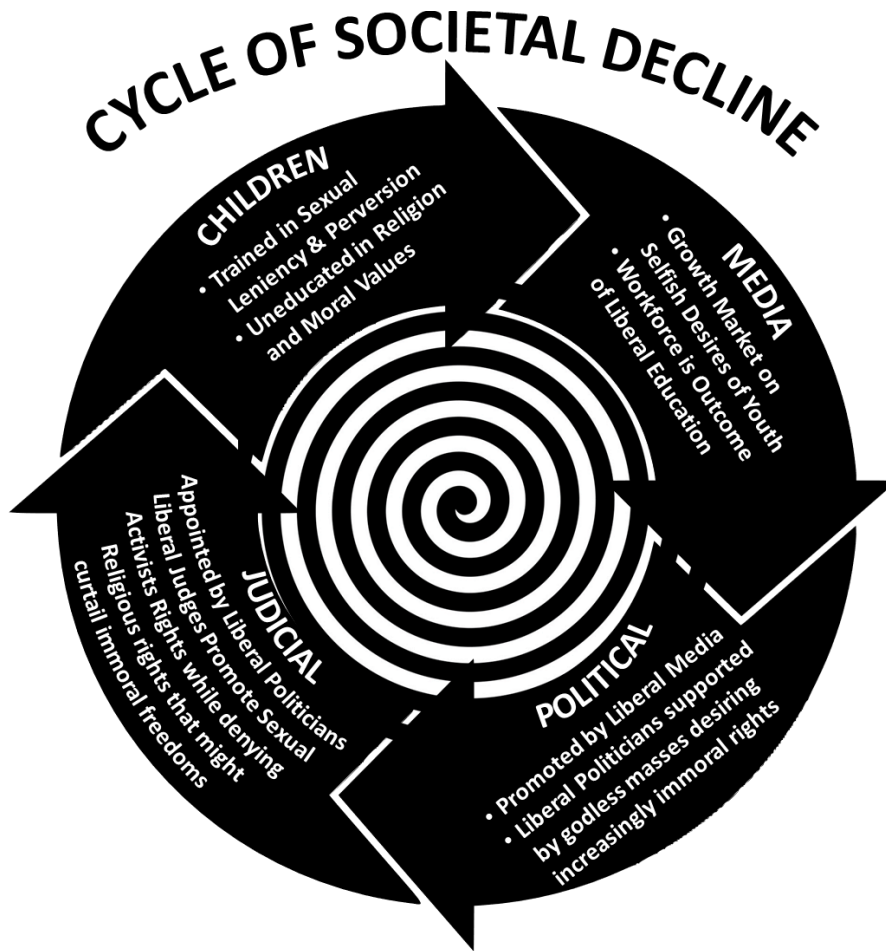
- **According to Deuteronomy 10:12, what 3 things does God require of His people?**

What God Requires 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

- **What are several implications of verse 14?**
 - **God can take and give anything b/c it is all rightfully His.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 10:16, what does God tell Israel to do?**
 - **Covenant yourself to God and obey Him**

Read Deuteronomy 10:17-22...God is Good and Deserves the Praise of His People

10:18-19 God loves and cares for the foreigner as should His people.



10 Deuteronomy 11, 12, 13

Read Deuteronomy 11:1-7...Love and Serve The Lord

11:1 Love for the Lord shows itself through obedience (Jn 14:15; 1 Jn 5:3)

11:2 Scripture emphasizes the importance of “today” (Hebrews 4:7). God’s people should relate their personal testimonies (as well as God’s works at large) to their children. Parents should not rely solely on church activities, but instead parents should have the key influence into their children’s spiritual lives.

11:3 God’s power was used against Pharaoh and with each plague, God proved His power over each of Egypt’s false gods (Ex 18:11; Num 33:4)

11:4 God’s power defeated Pharaoh’s army which was destroyed in the Red Sea

11:5 God’s judgment even fell on the people of Israel themselves as they wandered in the wilderness for forty years.

11:6 Even the Israelite leadership from the tribe of the firstborn (Reuben) Dathan and Abiram were swallowed up by the earth when they revolted in “Korah’s rebellion” (Numbers 16).

Testimony of God’s Judgment (Deuteronomy 3-6)			
Reference	Object of God’s Judgment	God Punishes...	Punishment
1. Dt 11:3	Pharaoh	Secular Leader	Signs/Wonders
2. Dt 11:4	Egyptian Army	Secular People	Destruction by Water
3. Dt 11:5	Israelite People	God’s People	Wilderness Wondering
4. Dt 11:6	Israelite Leadership	Leaders of God’s People	Engulfed by Earth

11:7 Remember the many ways that God has worked in your life and share with the children (Dt 11:2)
Beyond the blessings and positive testimonies, children and youth need to understand the judgment of God as he punished those who disobeyed (Pharaoh, Egypt, Egyptian Army, Israel and Israel's leaders).

Read Deuteronomy 11:8-17...God Will Bless Obedience With Rain

11:8-9 Obedience results in strength, and with that strength (often "of character") God's people can remain in His blessing.

11:10 Egypt did not require living by faith because the land was irrigated from the Nile.

11:11 Living in Israel required faith that God would send rain. Rain causes fruitful growth and is a symbol of blessings (Ps 65:9-10, 72:6; Hos 6:3, 10:12; Joel 2:23; Ez 22:24, 34:26; Dt 28:24)

11:12 God's does care for the land of Israel in a special way; Israel's land is unique.

11:13 Love God with complete heart (Dt 6:5, 13:3) → Two Commands Mt 22:37-39, Mk 12:30-31, Lk 10:27

11:14 God is the provider of all blessings (Mt 7:11; Lk 11:13; James 1:17). Believers should consider every element of their life a "gift" from the Lord as He sustains and satisfies His people. 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.

11:15 Beyond caring for the assets of His people (Deut 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).

11:16 In this world of tolerance, believers are expected to accept and pay homage to false gods, but the one true God forewarns that there will be negative ramifications for revering false gods.

11:17 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.

- **What was the source of water for Egypt?**
 - **The flooding of the Nile**
- **What was the source of water for Israel?**
 - **Rain – while the Egyptians looked to the world for their water, Israel looked to the heavens**
 - **Living in Israel required faith that God would send rain.**
- **What results from rain?**
 - **Rain causes fruitful growth and is a symbol of blessings (Ps 65:9-10, 72:6; Hos 6:3, 10:12; Joel 2:23; Ez 22:24, 34:26; Dt 28:24)**
- **According to Deuteronomy 11:13. What does God expect from His people?**
 - **Love God with complete heart (Dt 6:5, 13:3) → Two Commands Mt 22:37-39, Mk 12:30-31, Lk 10:27**

Read Deuteronomy 11:18-25...The Blessings of Adhering To God's Word

11:18 God's people turned to the outwardly, "tangible" following of this command with the use of phylacteries. A phylactery was a leather box worn on the left arm and head during certain Jewish services (Ex 13:9, 16); inside the phylactery were inscribed strips of parchment segmented into four selections of Scripture (Ex 13:1-10, 13:11-16; Dt. 6:4-9, 11:13-21).

11:19 The presence and commands of the Lord need to be ever-present in a believing parent's conversation with their children. The pervasive "heavenly mindedness" should be from morning to evening and at times of activity and rest in between.

11:20 The doorposts of traditional Jewish homes often have a small case suspended known as a mezuzah which is Hebrew for doorpost (Dt 6:9). The Shema passage (Deut. 6:4-9) and a companion passage (Deut. 11:13-21) are written on a scroll with a name of God written on the back of the scroll. The scroll is rolled up and placed within the case (mezuzah). These tangible reminders focus individuals on God's presence and His law.

11:21 The Lord encouraged His people to obey His law for their good and His blessing.

11:22 The commands of God are summarized by Him in three categories: 1.To Love God 2.To walk in His ways 3.To remain faithful to Him

11:23 The Lord acknowledges that there are nations greater and stronger than Israel, but He would still give them victory over those superior nations.

11:24 God told Abram to walk and see what the Lord was promising to him (Gn 13:17).

11:25 God put fear in the hearts of Israel's enemies for His people to be blessed.

Read Deuteronomy 11:26-32...The Choice Between Blessing (Gerizim) & Curse (Ebal)

11:26 This day is emphasized as being important – God’s people could choose between a blessing and a curse.

11:27-28 God’s blessing comes from obedience, and His curse comes from disobedience.

11:29-30 Mt Gerizim is blessing (Dt 27:11-13) and Mt Ebal would be the curse. 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; along this line runs the great road which from time immemorial has formed the easiest and the quickest means of communication between the East of the Jordan and the Mediterranean sea. Joshua made a covenant between the two representative mountains. The first false king (Abimelech) would be appointed in Shechem (Judges 9:2) and ultimately, Israel would be divided into two kingdoms at Shechem (1 Kings 12).

11:31-32 Each decision of God’s people regarding a sin is also a decision regarding whether to be blessed or cursed by the Lord.

Read Deuteronomy 12:1-7...God’s Place and Process of Worship

12:1 Although the correct choice pleases the Lord, God requires a faithfully consistent walk every day for a lifetime.

12:2 Every believer must eliminate all venues of sin and completely purify their lives to live as holy unto the Lord (Deut 7:2-6; 20:16-18).

12:3 Every tangible object that tempts God’s people away from Him must be destroyed (Deut 7:5).

12:4-5 God’s people must worship Him as He ordains and not dependent on personal preferences and opinions. God selects Jerusalem for Israel, but they draw away to more convenient places of worship (Dt 14:23-24, 16:16 → Joshua 22:9-34 → 1 Kings 5:25-30 → Rev 7:4-8)

12:6-7 Believers have access to the Lord according to His guidelines. They could not offer sacrifices indiscriminately according to human desires and reason.

Read Deuteronomy 12:8-14...Warning to Israel Against Worshipping God as They Like

12:8 Man should not define (relative) morality; should follow God’s consistent guidelines and principles (Judges 21:25, Prov 14:12, 16:25)

12:9 God’s people were not following a single construct in worship of the Lord, but once they entered into the Promised Land, God expected them to comply with His guidelines.

12:10-11 The sequence of selecting a worship location came after God’s people had overcome their worldly enemies and the Lord had granted them security and rest. So much focus is often placed on the local church fellowship to attend, but the Lord wants His people to primarily overcome sin and rest in Him.

12:12 Everyone in the family of God (Gal 3:28) should be joyful in the Lord instead of downcast due to this world.

12:13-14 The world defines tolerance as agreement. Popular religious beliefs are treated as sacred although they were derived by man. God warns His people to follow His commands in His worship.

Read Deuteronomy 12:15-28...God Offers Freedom with Responsibility

12:15-16 The Lord gave freedom to His people to eat as they like, but not to drink the (unclean) blood which represented sinful life (Lev 17:10-14; Heb 9:18-22)

12:17-18 God’s people were to treat a tenth of their income and advancement as the “first fruits” to be consumed in front of the presence of the Lord. *“Rejoice before the Lord your God in everything you do.”*

12:19 Believers should always revere and care for those who are dedicated full time to the Lord’s ministry (1 Tim 5:17-18; 1 Cor 9:9-14).

12:20-22 God allows His people to satisfy their desire to eat meat in their homes, but He also warns of guidelines.

12:23-24 Life is in the blood (Gn 9:4; Lev 17:11), and life comes from the father (Prov 23:22).

12:25 The Lord assures His people that they will prosper if they live obediently according to His way instead of following their own desires.

- 12:26 Although the Lord allows meat to be eaten in the homelands of each tribe, the offerings to the Lord must come into His presence according to His will and at His select location.
- 12:27 The blood of the sacrifice was not to be eaten or discarded elsewhere, but must be poured beside the altar of the offering.
- 12:28 A natural consequence of pleasing the Lord is to receive His blessing. The inherent result of aligning a believer's life to the will of the Lord is an accomplishment in Him.

Read Deuteronomy 12:29-32...God Warns Against Idolatry

- 12:29-30 Knowledge of sinful ways is not always productive, and the Lord forewarns His people to be cautious of learning the ways of the defeated Canaanites and then possibly applying their false beliefs.
- 12:31 God's people must live separate (sanctified) lives unto the Lord God, and not behave in the same sinful manner as those who do not know and worship Him.
- 12:32 Twice, Moses states the same precept that is in the last chapter of the Bible – don't add or take away the message in God's Word. This includes tradition, opinion, personal beliefs. (Deut 4:2; Rev 22:18-19)

Read Deuteronomy 13:1-5...Israel Encouraged to Purge Evil

- 13:1-3 Although someone might perform something mystical or paranormal does not mean that they should be followed. If the worker of supernatural activities contradicts the Lord's word and law, believers are not to give credence to the individual. The Lord will test His people (1 Thes 2:4; Ps 105:19; Gn 22:1-2; Ex 16:4; Dt 8:2-3; 2 Chron 32:31; Prov 17:3; Eccl 3:18; Is 48:10; Jer 17:10; Jn 6:5-6; 2 Cor 2:9; James 1:2-3) Each test that is passed becomes an opportunity for testimony to others and rewards from the Lord.
- 13:4 *"You must follow the LORD your God and fear Him. You must keep His commands and listen to His voice; you must worship Him and remain faithful to Him."*
- 13:5 Believers are told to purge evil from among them. A prophet who misled God's people deserved the death penalty because his sin had eternal ramifications on a group of the Lord's people. Immediate eradication of the polluting individual was preferred to an even broader contamination against God's holiness.

Read Deuteronomy 13:6-11...Capital Punishment for Individual Idolatry

- 13:6-8 Those who are closest, have the greatest influence; therefore, they are the most alluring and dangerous against the Lord's word and will.
- 13:9 The principle of the accuser as casting the first stone is established (John 8:7)
- 13:10-11 Instead of immoral individuals living in fear of recompense, public/corporate/educational systems are fearful of not coddling those with licentious lifestyles. Homosexuality is a good example of a sinful lifestyle that continues to grow in power and influence. Homosexuals are defended to the point that their perverted sexual preferences (e.g. bestiality for a consenting adult/animal) are promoted, encouraged and enforced. The world pities the "unfair treatment" of homosexuals while running havoc over moral individuals who often are following religious truths.

Read Deuteronomy 13:12-18...Capital Punishment for Corporate Idolatry

- 13:12-15 Las Vegas, Nevada has built a reputation as "sin city", and the modern world flocks to the deprived (desert) location with the belief that their sin will not have consequences ("what happens in Las Vegas, stays in Las Vegas"), but sin is carried with the individual and the Lord will judge the private sins (there truly are no "secret sins").
- 13:16 Burning all of the "spoils" results in no false accusations.
- 13:17 Wealth that was produced in a sinful manner will bring a curse on the one who capitalizes on it, but the Lord will bless (and bring joy/satisfaction) to the one who trusts Him.
- 13:18 Do what is good in God's sight (Deut 6:18)

Read Deuteronomy 14:1-2...Israel Warned Against Mourning/Worshipping Like the World

- 14:1 Don't worship in the ways of the world (Jer 16:6; Lev 19:28, 21:5)
- 14:2 God has chosen Israel (Eph 1:4)

- **What does verse 1 say to you?**

- Trust God and don't despair
- According to verse 2, how are believers similar to believers?
 - Read Ephesians 1:4
- What is the spiritual application of verse 3?
 - As a holy people, believers are called to be cautious about the inputs that they bring into their bodies/minds.

Read Deuteronomy 14:3-8...Land Animals that Are Clean/Unclean

- 14:3 As a holy people, believers are called to be cautious about the inputs that they bring into their bodies/minds.
- 14:4 The three primary sacrificial animals are the first listed as being clean to eat (ox, sheep, goat).
- 14:5 Seven additional animals are listed beyond the offertory animals.
- 14:6 Divided hooves symbolizes the separated walk that God's people should have. Reading Scripture is often likened to eating, so "chewing the cud" would infer ruminating over the Lord's word.
- 14:7 Although some chew the cud (meditate on God's truths) – some a great deal (camel) and some to a lesser degree (rabbit) – if they do not have divided hooves (living separated walk), they are unclean.
- 14:8 Of course, the pig has divided hooves (an ethical life – separated walk), but mistakes that for digesting the Word of God and His truths. It is critical that God's people stay away from unclean things.

Read Deuteronomy 14:3-8...Sea Animals that Are Clean/Unclean

- 14:3 A modern tenet is true – "you are what you eat." God is concerned about what His people ingest – physically and spiritually. (Lev 20:25)
- 14:4-5 Ten animals listed as acceptable to eat as clean. The animals of the herd and flock which were offered as sacrifices were considered clean.
- 14:6 The two characteristics of clean land animals were that they had divided hooves (spiritually, they had separated walks) and they chewed the cud (spiritually, they meditated on what they ingested – God's word – the daily bread).
- 14:7 These three animals represent those who reflect on religious matters, but do not have a separated, sanctified walk.
- 14:8 The pig represents those who are "self-righteous" but they do not reflect on God's truths.
- 14:9-10 The church consists of those comfortable in the living water that Jesus provides, but there are unclean individuals who are included in the church society.

Read Deuteronomy 14:11-21...Air Animals that Are Clean/Unclean

- 14:11 Unlike the land animals, only the unclean birds are listed with the clean birds being the remainder.
- 14:12-18 These eleven unclean birds seem to be those who fly from one place to another in search of (self-effort) preservation without a long-term nest.
- This listing of eleven unclean birds matches the earlier list of ten unclean birds (Lev 11:12-18) with the exception that falcons have been added as unclean.
- 14:19 Again it seems that those insects that have four feet on the earth (walk fully in the world) are unclean
- 14:21 Boiling the calf in the mother's milk was a Canaanite worship practice to false gods

Read Deuteronomy 14:22-29...Israel Commanded to Tithe

- 14:22 After guidance of the clean/unclean animals, the Lord gives guidance on the harvests.
- 14:23 The bread, oil and wine is reminiscent of the elements of communion.
- 14:24-26 Accommodations were made if travel distance was "too great" to share first 10th with the Lord, but God still required tithe to be brought to God's select place (Dt 16:16)
- 14:27 The Israel communities were reminded to care for the local ministering Levites who inherited no part of this world.
- 14:28 Every third year, the tithe that was typically taken to Jerusalem was kept at home and given to the needy (Deut 26:12)
- 14:29 The tithe is a goodwill offering which would be used for strangers, orphans as well as Levites.
- According to Deuteronomy 14:24-26, what should be done if the distance is too far to carry the sacrifice?
 - Sell the animal and take the money to enjoy fellowship with the priest
 - According to Deuteronomy 14:24, what determines if the distance is too far?

- Each individual determines for himself
- According to Deuteronomy 14:27, of whom should Israel take particular care?
 - Local Levites did not reap the benefits of working at the Tabernacle, so they were dependent on the hospitality of the locals
- According to Deuteronomy 14:29, who received the goodwill charity of the Israelites?
 - The tithe would equate to a goodwill offering which would be used for strangers, orphans as well as Levites.
 - In those days, the religious leaders of God's people were told not to accumulate worldly possessions, but modern preachers often make more wealth than their average congregant and have ambitions for greater positions and earthly reward.
 - In spite of that, the obedient and generous follower of the Lord will be blessed in all of their work (James 1:25)

Read Deuteronomy 15:1-6...Every Seventh Year as the Sabbath Year

15:1 God's people were instructed to cancel the debts of their fellow believers every 7 years. This was called the "Sabbath year" or the "year of Release" (Ex 21:1-6, 23:10-12; Lev 25:1-7, 18-22).

15:2 As the Lord's people have received His grace, so the Lord's people are to show love to others (Mt 10:8).

15:3 Exceptional interest is to be paid and unique care given for fellow believers above those of the world who are also in need.

15:4 If God's people lived obediently it would result in God's blessing. If God's people lived generously, all material needs would be met as they were in the early church (Acts 4:32-35). However, Israel never fully obeyed and greed also became an increasing problem (Neh 5:7-11; Amos 2:6, 4:1, 8:4), so the poor increased (Dt 15:11; Mt 26:11)

15:5 Obedience is a decision for a blessing. God's people have attained salvation at the cross of Christ, but their blessing of God's favor comes from obedience to Him.

15:6 The United States began with the law of the Bible as the law of the land, and they increased and were greatly blessed. But moral decline and anti-God sentiment has caused America to become a debtor nation.

- What is the spiritual meaning of the year called the "Sabbath year" or the "year of Release" (Ex 21:1-6, 23:10-12; Lev 25:1-7, 18-22)?
 - God's people were instructed to cancel the debts of their fellow believers every 7 years.
 - As the Lord's people have received His grace, so the Lord's people are to show love to others (Mt 10:8).
- Regarding debt, is there a difference between how God's people are treated versus the world?
 - Exceptional interest is to be paid and unique care given for fellow believers above those of the world who are also in need.
- What does God proclaim to His people if they obey His word?
 - If God's people lived obediently it would result in God's blessing.
 - If God's people lived generously, all material needs would be met as they were in the early church (Acts 4:32-35).
 - However, Israel never fully obeyed and greed also became an increasing problem (Neh 5:7-11; Amos 2:6, 4:1, 8:4), so the poor increased (Dt 15:11; Mt 26:11)
- Does America's status as a debtor nation say anything about our spiritual condition?
 - The United States began with the law of the Bible as the law of the land, and they increased and were greatly blessed.
 - But moral decline and anti-God sentiment has caused America to become a debtor nation.
 - Morally bankrupt

Read Deuteronomy 15:7-11...Guidance on the Way God's People are to Care for the Poor

15:7-11 If there was obedience to God, there would be no poor (Dt 15:4), but there is always self-conceit and ambition, so God's people are to have compassion on the endless poor

- **According to Deuteronomy 15:8-9, what was God's command to loan money to a brother?**
 - Give generously even if the 7th year was far off
- **According to Deuteronomy 15:8, should the person in need get as much money as they request?**
 - No, they should get as much as they need
- **According to Deuteronomy 15:10, what will God do for those who are not stingy?**
 - He will bless them in everything that they do

Read Deuteronomy 15:12-18...The Process of a Slave Becoming a Bond Servant

15:12-18 Bond Slaves with pierced ear have chosen to serve; Jesus chose to be obedient to God's will (Heb 10:7) as the Hebrew slave committed himself to the father of the household (Ex 21:1-6; Deut 15:12-18). From his being pierced to wood for his love of the master (Mt 22:37) to the gift of the bride from the father to the servant (Jn 17:6). The earring (or pierced ear) is the symbol of a slave – one who has an ear for his master; one who listens to his master.

- **What should be the attitude of the master when he releases his slave in the 7th year?**
 - One of generosity and gratitude
- **One difficulty of acclimating after emancipation is determining the way to get back on your feet. The master is called to give the freed person funds.**
- **What does Scripture say about slaves?**
 - Slaves should be a testimony and witness with their work ethic (Titus 2:9; 1 Pet 2:18);
 - the Bible does not condone slavery (**Deut 23:15-16**)
 - Scripture goes to great lengths to promote rights and justice for slaves (Job 31:13-15, Col 4:1).
 - In Philemon, Paul intervenes for runaway slave Onesimus.
- **The model of slavery in the ancient Mideast was much different than the animalistic devaluation of humans in modern slavery.**
 - A King's subjects were referenced as slaves (Mt 18:23).
 - Slaves could own property with limited freedoms and rights.
 - For defeated peoples, slavery was often a merciful option compared to the alternative of death.
 - As with contracted employment, slavery was also an aspect of the economy in ancient times, so that an individual could sell themselves into working for someone to pay a debt (in essence, buying back their freedom).
 - Also, many people chose to become bond-slaves as their obligations to the master would entitle them to enjoy the master's resources and protection.

Read Deuteronomy 15:19-23...The Dedication of the Firstborn from Flocks/Herds for Offerings

15:19 The firstborn were to be offered to the Lord at the Temple instead of being used for personal wealth and increase.

15:20 Worship the Lord in the way that He has stated instead of worshipping casually as you like (Gn 4:1-9)

15:21 Israel was only to offer the Lord their best without flaw. Believers should still give their best to the Lord.

15:22 Without an appropriate offering, God's people were directed to remain home and eat there. The gazelle and deer are the first listed after the sacrificial offerings (Dt 14:5).

15:23 Pour blood on ground like water (Deut 12:15-16, 22-24)

Read Deuteronomy 16:1-8...Passover

16:1 Abib (meaning "an ear of corn") was the first month of the Jewish religious year (the seventh month of the civil year) which was called Nisan (meaning "flowers") after the Babylonian captivity (Neh. 2:1).

16:2 The first festival was the Passover (when Jesus would be crucified) to reflect on God's salvation.

- 16:3 The “unleavened bread” symbolized life without sin. The leaven/yeast would corrupt and puff up (pride) the dough. The speed of which Israel left Egypt shows a practical reason for unleavened bread as well. The unleavened bread/life is also called the “bread/life of hardship”.
- 16:4 The yeast (sin) would be completely eradicated and the meat/body of the sacrifice would also disappear before morning.
- 16:5 The Passover sacrifice could not be indiscriminately made, but must adhere to the Lord’s guidance because it symbolized Christ’s crucifixion. Just as the Lord was crucified outside of the Jerusalem gate (Golgotha – Hebrews 13:12), so the animals were crucified outside as well.
- 16:6 Although Israel was released to leave Egypt in the morning (Ex 13:3; Nu 33:3), their break with Egyptian slavery came as they obeyed God in preparation for the Passover.
- 16:7 It would not be enough to obey the commandment, but it is just as important to obey correctly. How the message is obeyed is as critical as if it is obeyed at all.
- 16:8 After six days of the week (representing a sinless life) came the Lord’s Sabbath rest on the seventh day.

Read Deuteronomy 16:9-12...The Feast of Weeks/Pentecost

- 16:9-10 Pentecost was celebrated for forty-nine days after the beginning of the grain harvest.
- 16:11 All of God’s worshippers were to approach Him according to His rules and guidelines. The foreign resident translates into the Hebrew term “Ger” representing even the Gentile.
- 16:12 The fact that Israelites were once slaves enabled them to understand commands and guidelines of their master and King. It also humbled them as to the slavery from which they had been saved.

Read Deuteronomy 16:13-15...The Feast of Booths/Tabernacles

- 16:13 The third obligatory Jerusalem Feast occurred in the Fall after the harvests had been gathered to the threshing floor. The threshing floor often symbolizes the Tribulation. Following the Tribulation, Jesus will reign on earth for one thousand years (the millennium of Jesus reign). During this time, the Feast of Tabernacles will be celebrated every year (Zechariah 14:16-19; Ezekiel 45:25)
- 16:14 God calls for everyone to be joyful as they celebrate God’s provision; it is interesting that in the listing of nine, wives are not mentioned.
- 16:15 The seven days of joyful celebration would reflect that their joy was complete.

Read Deuteronomy 16:16-17...The Three Mandatory Jerusalem Feasts

- 16:16 Three annual feasts (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacle) was to be celebrated in Jerusalem.
- 16:17 The offerings were mandatory, but the levels of giving were related to one’s abundance and blessing from the Lord.
- **According to Deuteronomy 16:16, what are the three annual feasts where the Jewish men needed to go to Jerusalem?**
 - **Three annual feasts (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacle) was to be celebrated in Jerusalem.**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 16:17, were offerings mandatory?**
 - **Yes, the offerings were mandatory, but the levels of giving were related to one’s abundance and blessing from the Lord.**

Spring Feasts – Jesus’ 1st Coming

1. Passover – Jesus Crucified
2. Unleavened Bread – In Grave
3. First Fruits – Resurrected
4. Pentecost – Holy Spirit Comes

Fall Feasts – Jesus’ 2nd Coming

5. Trumpets – Rapture & Resurrection of Dead
6. Day of Atonement – Second coming of Christ
7. Tabernacle – Messianic Kingdom

Colossians 2:16-17

“So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.”

Read Deuteronomy 16:18-20...The Judicial System

- 16:18 Immediately following the three Jerusalem festivals, it is emphasized that judges should be local
- 16:19 Bias and bribery should not be a part of the judicial system.
- 16:20 With the pursuit of justice comes blessing of the promised land.

Read Deuteronomy 16:21-22...Forbidding the Asherah worship

16:21-22 The false idols should not be equated to the Holy God and the sacrifice that the altar symbolized.

Read Deuteronomy 17:1-7...Punishment for Idolatry Was Being Stoned to Death

17:1 Even praise and sacrifices can be detestable to the Lord if they are not given in His way.

17:2-3 Israelites would still bow and worship the tangible false gods as well as nature. Modern wicca (witches) emphasize that they do not worship Satan, but they do worship nature which is still forbidden by God.

17:4 Scripture warns against lynch mob mentality, but instead thorough investigation and detailed vetting is directed.

17:5 Worship of tangible objects instead of the Lord alone is judged with capital punishment. This may seem harsh, but the alternative would be the polluted practices of others leading to the demise of the entire nation.

17:6 Two or three witnesses are required for judgment (Dt 19:15); covenant (Gn 31:44, 50-52), heaven & earth (Dt 4:26, 30:19, 31:28), song (Dt 31:19), the law (Dt 31:26), self (Joshua 24:22; Isaiah 43:10), stone (Joshua 24:27), the Lord (Judges 11:10; 1 Sam 12:5)

17:7 The witnesses must be the first to stone the condemned taking personal responsibility for what they have witnessed. The issue with defending evil is that it encourages additional evil. The evolution of sin is to be defended about others – accepted for one's self – promoted to others.

- **According to Deuteronomy 17:4, what should be performed prior to judgment?**
 - **Scripture warns against lynch mob mentality, but instead thorough investigation and detailed vetting is directed.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 17:5, what was the punishment for idolatry?**
 - **Stoned to death**
- **According to Deuteronomy 17:7, what anyone who brings accusations do?**
 - **The witnesses must be the first to stone the condemned taking personal responsibility for what they have witnessed.**
- **Defending evil results in encouragement of additional evil.**
 - **The evolution of sin is to:**
 1. **Defend others sin –**
 2. **Accept Sin for yourself –**
 3. **Promote sin to others.**

Read Deuteronomy 17:8-13...The Religious & Civil Judicial System

17:8 If the local civil judge could not make an honorable decision, the case was transferred to the Lord's Tabernacle. This would entail a judge understanding his limitations instead of each judge ruling and then the decision working its way through the appeals process.

17:9 The supreme authority was held by those closest to the Lord presence.

17:10 Authority of the religious leader (priest/pastor) and civil judge is important (Dt 17:12)

17:11 Beyond verdicts, the judges would teach the accused. Those in the courtroom should carefully obey the judgements.

17:12 Contempt of the court was punishable by death.

17:13 Beyond capital punishment ridding the immediate evil, it acts as a deterrent to others.

Read Deuteronomy 17:14-20...Laws Concerning Israel's Kings

17:14 God foresaw that Israel would want a human king like the other nations (peer pressure on a national level). Jesus as God incarnate would also be the human king.

17:15 God would choose Israel's king instead of the people subjectively selecting. Israel's king would need to hold the same beliefs and submit to the one true God.

17:16 Horses represent military might (Prov 21:31; Ps 33:17), so the accumulation of horses encouraged the king to rely on his own strength instead of God's provision. Solomon failed to keep this command (1 Kings 10:26-29).

17:17 Kings were not to pursue multiple wives and concubines; this attempt to satisfy the insatiable need for pleasure (and self-made treaties with surrounding countries) would expose the king to seductive influences away from God (1 Kings 11:1-4).

17:19 King should know the law and have quiet time every day.

17:20 Israel's king was not to pridefully esteem himself above the law which would cause him to meander from the straight and narrow truth.

- **According to Deuteronomy 17:14-20, what does God foresee in this passage?**
 - **God makes preparations for Israel to have a king although God did not want them to do it their way (Saul), but instead to follow God and His divine timing (David)**
- **According to Deuteronomy 17:15, what was a requirement of being king?**
 - **No foreign kings**
- **According to Deuteronomy 17:16, what was limited to Israel's future kings?**
 - **Horses represent military might (Prov 21:31; Ps 33:17), so the accumulation of horses encouraged the king to rely on his own strength instead of God's provision.**
 - **Solomon failed to keep this command (1 Kings 10:26-29).**
 - **Isaiah would warn Israel not to flee to Egypt who relied on their horses and chariots for victory (Isaiah 31:1)**
- **According to Deuteronomy 17:17, what else was limited to Israel's future kings?**
 - **Kings were not to pursue multiple wives and concubines;**
 - **This attempt to satisfy the insatiable need for pleasure (and self-made treaties with surrounding countries) would expose the king to seductive influences away from God**
 - **Attempting Hegemony (rulers of one country/social group over others).**
 - **Read 1 Kings 11:1-4**

Read Deuteronomy 18:1-8...Provision for Priests and Levites

18:1 Moses repeats the Levitical provision (Numbers 18:20, 23-24). The Levites were to be about God's business instead of being concerned about worldly affairs of property and provision.

18:2 Although God's people would receive no worldly inheritance in this life, there was offered a spiritual inheritance throughout eternity.

18:3 The Levites were provided for as they served Israel (Lev 17:31-33).

18:4 God has assured His people of each of these provisions in the promised land (Dt 7:13), but each of these would be pillaged by enemies if Israel did not obey His word (Dt 28:51).

18:5 The ministers of God were to be chosen by Him for His purpose and not because individuals wanted to pursue this as a "career path."

18:6 The Levites were given 48 towns in Israel in which to dwell (Numbers 35:7). A Levite might be called to discard his property of this world to sincerely minister in one of the 48 towns.

18:7 This Levite who has given his belongings in sincerity to follow the Lord should be able to serve in the Levitical towns.

18:8 Regardless of the Levites wealth or background, he should receive the benefits of ministry.

Read Deuteronomy 18:9-14...Warning Against the Abominations of Conquered Canaan

18:9 God's people should not learn and imitate the demonic practices of dark powers.

18:10-11 Avoid occult practices – even the subtle forms pollute (Ouiji, New Age, etc.)

18:12 God had rejected the inhabitants in the Promised Land because of their dark practices, so God's people should reject those practices. It is interesting that America (a nation blessed by God) would be so interested in adopting the religious practices of idolatrous third world countries.

18:13 God calls His people to be holy before Him (Matthew 5:48).

18:14 While others might have interest in sorcery or divination, God's people are called to follow Him victoriously.

- **What are examples of modern-day occult practices?**
 - **Ouigi, New Age, Red Man, Horoscope**
- **According to Deuteronomy 18:13, what does God call His people to be?**
 - **"Blameless before God"**
 - **Blameless means to be without blame or guilt which is different than being perfect; blame can be forgiven.**

Read Deuteronomy 18:15-22...A Future Prophet Like Moses

18:15-22 Instead of seeking the dark, evil powers of this world, listen to the man of God (the Prophet)

18:15 Jesus brought salvation just as Moses did.

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

18:16 Horeb is a mountain range containing Mt. Sinai. While the people were at Mt. Sinai, they understood that they were in need of a mediator/intercessor.

18:17 Jesus was the greatest Prophet to ever live as He testified to Himself as the Messiah – the Savior of the world (Mt 13:57, 21:11; Mk 6:15, Lk 1:76, 7:16).

- **The word “Prophet” is capitalized because translators understood this to be Jesus**
- **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)**

18:18 The Lord told Moses that the future prophet would be like him.

18:19 God would judge those who did not hear and heed His prophets – especially those who rejected Jesus.

18:20 It is extremely serious when a prophet assumes to speak for God; a false prophet would receive the death penalty.

18:21 God makes allowance for His people to wonder whether a message is from God.

18:22 All prophecies will occur without exception

- **What should believers do instead of occult practices mentioned in the prior section of Scripture?**
 - **Instead of seeking the dark, evil powers of this world, listen to the man of God (the Prophet)**
- **According to Deuteronomy 18:15, who would Jesus be like?**
 - **The Prophet Jesus would be like Moses:**
 - **Pharaoh tried to kill baby Moses just as Herod attempted to kill baby Jesus**
 - **Moses rejected the royal courts to be with his people as Jesus left the “royal courts” of heaven**
 - **Moses was not recognized by Israel until his second coming (after Midian), and Jesus will not be recognized by Israel until His second coming.**
 - **Moses interceded for his people as does Jesus**
- **According to Deuteronomy 18:19, what will happen to those who do not speak God’s words?**
 - **Those who speak for God need to know God’s word**

Read Deuteronomy 19:1-13...The Cities of Refuge:

- Joshua 20:1-6 Definition of Cities of Refuge
- Numbers 35: 6, 19-28 Manslayers and Safety within Cities of Refuge
- Deut 19:3-6 Roads to the cities of Refuge
- Murder versus Manslaughter; Crucifixion was manslaughter. If someone murdered unintentionally (manslaughter instead of murder), they could flee for safety to the city of refuge (Joshua 20:1-6). Christ claimed that His crucifixion was manslaughter (Lk 23:34; Acts 3:17); however, once man has purposefully rejected the truth of the Gospel, his sin becomes deliberate.
- Eligible to Flee to the City of Refuge Psalms 28:9, Hebrews 6:18
- Under Penalty until High Priest dies
- Ps 9:9, 62:7-8 The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed in times of trouble.
- **According to Deuteronomy 19:6, what determines guilt or innocence of a man slayer?**
 - **Whether or not they had hate for the person beforehand**
- **According to Deuteronomy 19:9, what determines if the Lord would enlarge their territory?**
 - **If they walk in God’s ways at all times (verse 9)**

- **According to Deuteronomy 19:12, who performs the capital punishment?**
 - **The Avenger of Blood**

Discuss Deuteronomy 19:12-13 and Numbers 35:33

19:12-13 The health of a nation depends on capital punishment (Numbers 35:33)

Discuss Deuteronomy 19:21...Requirement of Two or Three Witnesses

19:15 Jesus used this verse to establish church judgment towards sin in the congregation (Mt 18:15-20).

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

19:16 There will be at times, witnesses who are malicious and malevolent.

19:17 Although the accuser and accused stand before judges and elders, they are truly standing before the Lord for judgment.

19:18 The judges are not to simply accept opinions, but they must make due diligence in understanding the entire situation.

19:19 Whatever punishment that the false witness was trying to apply to the one falsely accused, the false witness must endure. (Dt 13:5; 17:12; 21:21)

19:20 This practice would be a deterrent against false accusations.

19:21 Guidelines are established for civil justice.

- **According to Deuteronomy 19:21, what could not occur as judgment?**
 - **Punishment must fit the crime, but punishment should not be unlawfully excessive.**
 - **There is no vigilante justice.**
 - **The Lex Talionis (Latin for "law of retaliation") was repeated in three books of the Torah (Ex 21:24; Lev 24:20).**

13 Deuteronomy 20, 21, 22

Read Deuteronomy 20:1-4...Do Not Fear When Facing Larger Enemies

20:1-4 When circumstances are overwhelming, believers should not be afraid because God fights for them (Rom 14:23; Rev 21:8)

20:1 Armies, chariots, and horses may truly be greater; worldly challenges might truly be daunting.

20:2 The Priest goes forward before the army goes forward.

20:3 The Priest should encourage God's people before they battle; "*do not be fainthearted or afraid; do not panic or be terrified by them.*"

- **According to Deuteronomy 20:1, would Israel be fighting armies larger than their own?**
 - **Yes – chapter 20 begins with the word “when” and not the word “if”; battles with enemies was certain to occur.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 20:2, who is supposed to address Israel's army?**
 - **The Priest should encourage the army**
 - **The Priest was meant to infuse faith into God's people**
- **According to Deuteronomy 20:3, what guidance does God give to His people?**
 - **Do not fear**
- **According to Deuteronomy 20:4, why should God's people not fear?**
 - **God is with them**
 - **Believers should not be fearful of the things of this world (i.e. Future, Finances, Job), but instead trust God to go before them.**
 - **The only way to combat fear is faith; faith and fear are mutually exclusive**
 - **Fear banishes faith; faith banishes fear.**

Read Deuteronomy 20:5-9...God Prepares Israel for a Standing Army for Warfare

20:5-9 Anyone distracted with the things of this world should not go into battle; this can be taken as spiritual battles (Eph 6:12). God sees a time in the future when His people will need a standing army of righteous brave men to defend the nation.

- The “Just War” Doctrine was developed by church leaders such as St. Ambrose of Milan, St. Augustine of Hippo and Thomas Aquinas.

20:5 The building of the house might speak to becoming a Christian.

20:6 Afterwards, the new Christian begins to bear fruit.

20:7 One who is considering Jesus, but not yet committed should do that before anything else.

20:8-9 Anyone who is fearful (faithless) should evade battles, so that he will not discourage his brothers.

- **According to Deuteronomy 20:5-9, what is the common theme for staying out of battle?**
 - Anyone distracted with the things of this world should not go into battle; this can be taken as spiritual battles (Eph 6:12).
 - Paul told Timothy that warriors cannot get involved with civilian affairs (2 Timothy 2:4)
 - According to the Talmud, proof of reasons to be exempt must be brought by individual.
- **Why would a new house be a distraction?**
 - The building of the house might speak to becoming a Christian; building up the house of God
- **Why would new fruit be a distraction?**
 - Afterwards, the new Christian begins to bear fruit.
 - Land wasn't harvested for four years (Leviticus 19:23-25)
- **What about engaged and not married? Possibly children**
 - One who is considering Jesus, but not yet committed should do that before anything else.
 - Jewish men were engaged for a year, and then men were engaged for a year after marriage (Deuteronomy 24:5)
- **What is the last determinant of going to war? If you are afraid**
 - Cowards do not make good Christians (Rev 21:8)
- **According to Deuteronomy 20:8, what is the danger of fighting with someone who is afraid?**
 - Fear is contagious; when they flee in fear, others follow.

Read Deuteronomy 20:10-18...Eradicating Some Enemies While Letting Others Survive to Serve

20:10-15 For the surrounding nations outside of the promised land, God's people should first offer peace.

If peace is rejected, God will give victory and plunder (Dt 7:2-6, 12:2-3; Joshua 6:21)

20:16-18 All of God's enemies within the promised land must be eradicated, so that they will not pollute and seduce away from God. The Amorites had reached a high level of sin and idolatry (Gn 15:16)

Every believer must eliminate all venues of sin and completely purify their lives to live as holy unto the Lord (Deut 7:2-6; 12:2).

- **What did God tell Israel to do with their enemies in the SW Gaza strip?**
 - Destroy them
- **What did God tell Israel to do with their enemies in the NE Golan heights?**
 - Destroy them
- **According to Deuteronomy 20:10, how should Israel treat enemies outside of the promised land?**
 - Make a peace offer and then take them into servitude (Romans 12:18)
 - God did not tell Israel to annihilate those who were not in the promised land
 - When you become a believer, God wants you to get your life in order – not the lives of the unbelievers
 - After the flood, Noah cursed his son Canaan to be a servant of his brothers (Genesis 9:25)

Read Deuteronomy 20:19-20...Treatment of Trees in Conquered Land

20:19-20 Only the trees that bore fruit would survive destruction (Mt 7:19); these laws were against deforestation when conquering a land

- **According to Deuteronomy 20:19, what is not Israel's enemy?**
 - Trees are not the enemy; people are.
- **According to Deuteronomy 20:20, trees are not to be cut down?**
 - Fruitful trees are to be salvaged; trees that do not bear fruit can be destroyed
 - Trees often represent men throughout Scripture

- **According to Deuteronomy 20:20, what should be done with trees that do not produce fruit?**
 - **Cut them down and build siege works**
 - **Even unfruitful trees can be used productively**

Read Deuteronomy 21:1-9...Atonement for Unsolved Murders

21:1-9 The local community is held responsible for sin, but there is also a means of cleansing

21:1 The land is a function of God's gift to His people.

21:2 The elders and judges were to decide on responsibility by vicinity.

21:3 Without a yoke is a reference to Jesus payment (Numbers 19:2). While the yoke represents work, forgiveness and cleansing is not dependent on work but on the payment of Christ.

21:4 Valley's typically represent low points and trials. In this valley, man's effort would not be evident by plowing or planting. Instead, only living water would run through it. They were to break the calf's neck (Ex 13:13; 34:20) which might represent the outcome of stiff-necked and stubborn people (Ex 32:9; 33:3, 5; 34:9; Dt 9:6, 13; 31:27; 2 Kings 17:14; 2 Chron 30:8, 36:13; Nehemiah 9:17, 29; Prov 29:1; Jer 7:26, 17:23, 19:15) just as Eli's neck was also broken (1 Sam 4:18). The Leviathan's strength resides in its neck (Job 41:22; Is 48:4)

21:5 The functions of priests included ministering, pronouncing blessings, and deciding dispute/assault cases.

21:6-7 The elders were to assert that they did not kill the person or see it done.

21:8 A simple prayer would be made by the elders asking God not to hold them accountable.

21:9 Atonement would be offered to the people who would not be held to account for innocent blood shed.

- **According to Deuteronomy 21:6, who would be held accountable for unsolved murders?**
 - **Elders from the nearest town for enabling a society that would do this.**

Read Deuteronomy 21:10-14...Fair Treatment of Female Captives

21:10-14 Women captured in war must be treated fairly

Read Deuteronomy 21:15-17...Inheritance Rights of the Firstborn

21:15-16 Children must be treated fairly; the rights of the firstborn must be sustained regardless of the father's emotions

21:17 The portions of inheritance were not to be apportioned according to the desires of the father, but instead, the man must obey God's way.

Read Deuteronomy 21:18-20...Capital Punishment for Rebellious Sons

21:18-21 A primary role of the parent is to teach God's truth to the children; if the children reject the parent's authority, they would reject the truth.

- Millions of abortions and crimes are committed each year due to rebellious youth. Rebellion was curtailed by this law, and ultimately lives were saved.

21:19 The parents of a disrespectful child could not personally or secretly murder their child, but instead they must make a case before the elders of the city.

- Whether the elders were to judge the character of the child relative to the character of the parent, it would be humbling for the parent to be forced to make the case against their own family in a public setting.

21:20 This judgment on the disrespectful child was not a personal vendetta by an angry parent, but instead it was a judgment by the community elders that this child would wrong the community and live against God's authority.

- **According to Deuteronomy 21:19, what happened to a disrespectful child who could not be corrected?**
 - **He was brought to the elders for judgment – the parents could not just kill their child**
 - **Any poor parents would be judged by the elders instead of the children being judged**
- **What does the term "stubborn" in Deuteronomy 21:18 infer?**
 - **Tenacious over time**

- According to Deuteronomy 21:18, what course of action have the parents also attempted?
 - Disciplining the child
- According to Deuteronomy 21:20, what were the charges against the son?
 - Stubborn – insubordinate over time and non-repentant
 - Rebellious – actively going against his parents
 - Disobedient to his parents
 - Glutton – consuming large amounts of their food
 - Drunkard – addiction and intoxicated behavior

Discuss 21:22-23...The Curse on a Man Hung on a Tree

21:22 The execution and the hanging were two separate activities. Israelites did not use “hanging on a tree” to execute the condemned. The hanging on the tree occurred after the death of the accused as a warning sign to others.

21:23 A corpse on a tree is someone under God’s curse, but a corpse on a tree overnight defiles the land (Galatians 3:13)

- According to Deuteronomy 21:23, what occurs when a man is hanged on a tree?
 - Spiritual law (like natural law) results in you/your land being cursed
 - Very few things are sacred in modern times; comedy central and HBO make a mockery of anything revered and respected
 - Jesus was removed from the cross before the Passover because of this verse.

Discuss 22:1-4...Caring for Brother’s Responsibility

22:1-4 Do not commit sins of omission – don’t ignore needs (James 4:17)

22:4 Even something as simple as “roadside service” brings glory to God

- Is this dealing with the sin of omission or commission? Omission
 - Believers are not to ignore the needs of the world around them
 - This could be applied to anything lost (i.e. a lost dog)

Discuss 22:5...Abomination of Cross-Dressing

22:5 Cross-dressing is censured as a self-centered act which reflects dissatisfaction with how God created the person to be.

- Is this an issue in modern times? Yes, trans-sexual

Discuss 22:6-7...Restriction Against Killing Mother Hen when Taking Eggs

22:6-7 Letting the mother hen live is an act of preservation as the hen is productive

Discuss 22:8...Responsibility of Others at Your Home

22:8 Take responsibility for the household and secure/protect those in it.

Read Deuteronomy 22:9-11...Do Not Unequally Yoke

22:9-11 Do not be unequally yoked with the world.

- What is the spiritual truth behind Deuteronomy 22:9-12?
 - Do not be unequally yoked with the world.
 - The harvest brings different types of “fruit.”
 - The ox (symbolically a servant) is clean while the donkey (symbolically rebellious) is unclean.
 - The different types of material had greater propensity to tear.

Read Deuteronomy 22:12...Tangible Tassel Reminders of Commitment to God’s Law

22:12 The tassels represented adherence to God’s laws (Num 15:38-39)

- What were the tassels reminding the Israelites about?
 - The tassels represented adherence to God’s laws (Num 15:38-39)
- Several Jewish terms:
 - Tassels (tzitzit) were worn on the corners of prayer shawl (tallit).

- The tzitzit consisted of five (grace/judgment) double knots and eight (new beginning) threads for a total of thirteen (rebellion) elements.
- The corner is “Kanaph” in Hebrew meaning wings (Mal 4:2; Mt 23:27; Lk 13:34).
- The hem is “Kraspedon” in Greek meaning tassel of twisted wool.
- The tassels to represent remembrance & faithfulness of God’s command.
 - God’s holiness (tassels) would fill the entire Temple (Is 6:1).
 - David cut off Saul’s tassels as a symbol of Saul’s unrighteousness.
 - As many as touched the hem of Jesus garment (Jesus’ authority and righteousness) were healed (Mk 6:56).
- Blue often represents a spiritual, heavenly perspective; why would this be an appropriate color for the tassels (tzitzit)?
 - The Lord was providing a tangible reminder of the Lord’s perspective and His commands, but the tassels were to be colored blue which points to the spiritual, heavenly perspective.
 - It doesn’t matter what man thinks is right or wrong b/c the holy God understands a greater spiritual reality
 - Man should not follow his own moral code (conscience), but he should be obedient to God (Judges 21:25; Deut 6:18, 12:8, 13:18)
- Does Numbers 15:41 offer the people a choice of whether God is the Lord or not?
 - God declares the fact that He IS the Lord their God.
 - His people could do nothing to deny, change or affect the conclusive truth that the Lord is God.

Read Deuteronomy 22:13-21...Law Concerning Sexual Abstinence Until Marriage

22:13-21 The husband will pay the penalty for discrediting his wife’s reputation, but an unfaithful wife met the death penalty (Mt 1:19)

22:13 This passage undermines a man who simply wants to sleep with a woman and then reject her.

22:14 The hateful husband might slander his wife about not providing proof of her virginity.

22:15 The bride’s father and mother must be involved in ensuring the virginity of their daughter.

22:16 The bride’s father will hold her husband accountable to the elders.

22:17 The bride’s father will champion his daughter’s honor and prove the husband is lying.

22:18 The elders will hold the husband accountable for slandering his wife.

22:19 The hateful husband will pay the bride’s father for slandering the daughters (Ecclesiastes 7:1)

22:20-21 If the husband is correct that the bride is not a virgin when she is married, the promiscuous wife will be stoned to death at the door of her father’s house which would be a punishment to her and her parents.

- According to Deuteronomy 22:13, what might change after sexual intercourse?
 - The man’s feelings might change towards the woman after sleeping with her
- According to Deuteronomy 22:15-16, who is responsible for defending the honor of the wife?
 - The father and mother of the bride
- According to Deuteronomy 22:18, who holds the husband accountable for slandering his wife?
 - The elders
- According to Deuteronomy 22:20-21, who is punished if the wife was not a virgin before marriage?
 - The wife is stoned to death at her parent’s doorstep which also punishes them.
 - The husband’s crime of slander is much less serious than a promiscuous woman.

Too Harsh?

The penalty for the bride's impurity was death as was true for anyone who committed adultery. Similarly, idolatrous (spiritually adulterous) man will spend eternity in hell without being considered righteous by the blood.

The virgin purity of the bride was to be indicated by the consequence of blood. In a comparable manner, the church as the bride of Christ (Rev 19:7, 21:2, 9) will also be found with virginal purity (2 Cor 11:2) because of the blood (Heb 9:22) – the righteous blood of Christ (1 Peter 1:19).

Read Deuteronomy 22:22-30...Laws Concerning Sexual Immorality

22:22-24 Consensual adultery resulted in death penalty for both individuals

22:25-29 Men were not allowed to simply satisfy their sexual lusts through a single act (rape). Instead of a "one-night stand", sex constituted commitment.

22:30 Men were to respect their fathers and esteem his relationship to his wife.

- **According to Deuteronomy 22:22, who is punished if a wife sleeps with another man?**
 - **Both the man and the woman die.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 22:23, what occurs if an engaged woman sleeps with another man?**
 - **Same as marriage - both the man and the woman die.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 22:25, who is punished if a woman struggles against a rape?**
 - **The man is put to death**
- **According to Deuteronomy 22:25, who is punished if a pledged woman struggles against a rape?**
 - **The man is put to death**
- **According to Deuteronomy 22:28, if the woman is not pledged to a man, what must the man who has intercourse do?**
 - **He must accept responsibility for the woman as his wife.**
 - **No "one night" stands.**

14 Deuteronomy 23, 24, 25

Read Deuteronomy 23:1-8...Those Excluded from the Assembly of the Lord

23:1 Eunuchs were symbolic of men incapable of producing the offspring (fruit) that God intended

23:2 No one of illegitimate birth could enter God's assembly to 10th generation; this was prophetic for King David who was the tenth generation after Perez

- **Read Ruth 4:12, 18-22 -OR-**
- **Read Mt 1:3-6**
- **The "Assembly of the Lord" were the Jewish men who entered the area of the Tabernacle/Temple (Joshua 22:16; 1 Chronicles 28:8; Micah 2:5)**

23:3 Israel had marched through the lands (Deut 2:8-23) of the Moabites (Lot's eldest daughter – Gen 19:36-38) and Ammonites (Lot's youngest daughter).

23:4 Those people not chosen by God were not blessed because they had not been charitable to God's people (Mt 25:31-36).

23:5 Believers do not need to fear the curse of others because of the Lord's love for them.

23:6 The descendants of Lot (Ammonites: Lot's Youngest Daughter and Moabites: Lot's Eldest Daughter) were enemies of God (Genesis 19:37-38)

23:7 Believers are to treat brothers and supporters differently than those against God.

23:8 The third generation after Edom or Egypt may enter the assembly of the Lord.

- **According to Deuteronomy 23:5, why didn't God listen to the curse against Israel?**
 - **God loves Israel, so He turns curses into blessings.**

Read Deuteronomy 23:9-13...Maintaining Sanitation in Israelite Camps

23:12-13 Sanitation was not understood until late 1800's

- **As recently as the end of the eighteenth century, hygienic provisions, even in the great capitals, were quite primitive.**
 - **It was the rule for excrement to be dumped into the streets that were unpaved and filthy. Powerful stenches gripped villages and cities.**
 - **It was a heyday for flies as they bred in the filth and spread intestinal diseases that killed millions.**
 - **Diseases such as cholera, dysentery, and typhoid fever could have easily been controlled by following God's provision in Deuteronomy.**
 - **A medical historian writes that this directive is "certainly a primitive measure, but an effective one, which indicates advanced ideas of sanitation."**
- **It was not until 1847, when Dr. Semmelweis wrote a book about hand-washing and changing clothes after performing autopsies and surgeries prior to moving to the next patient.**
 - **When his rules were followed mortality dropped by 80 percent.**

Discuss Deuteronomy 23:15-16...Command to Assist Runaway Slaves

23:15-16 Scripture encouraged believers to help slaves escape (Philemon)

- **What does Scripture say about the "Underground Railroad" for slaves?**

Discuss Deuteronomy 23:17-18...Command to Not Give God "Ill-Gotten Gains"

23:17-18 God does not need money; offerings from funds earned immorally are detestable to Him

- **Read 3 John 1:6-8**

Discuss Deuteronomy 23:19-20...Command to Not Charge Interest to a Brother

23:19-20 Do not charge interest of fellow believers; the business rules for dealing with fellow Christians should be different.

- Centuries ago, Jewish bankers in Venice would charge Gentiles interest
 - Since New Testament Christians were not allowed to charge each other interest, the Christian Gentiles would use the Jewish banks to do so – this began centuries of Jewish banks and financiers.

Discuss Deuteronomy 23:21-23...Command to Keep Vows

23:21-23 Keep vows to God

Discuss Deuteronomy 23:24-25...Command to Share, but not to Steal

23:24-25 Savor but do not pilfer; do not make this a life of gain and consumption, but take what God provides at the time (Mt 12:1).

Discuss Deuteronomy 24:1-4...Guidelines for Divorce

24:1-4 Man was allowed to give divorce because of the hardness of his heart (Mt 19:8)

- **This is the only passage of divorce proceedings in the Old Testament.**
- **The Pharisees questioned Jesus about this passage (Matthew 19:1-12)**
 - **The Pharisees changed the words of Moses into a command when it was permissible, but not a command (Targum – Jewish phrases that were expanded)**
 - **Deuteronomy 24 is a divine concession to a human weakness**
- **Jesus referenced the creation of marriage (Mt 9:4-6)**

24:1 Jewish scholars and Rabbi's have wrestled with what the indecent thing references, but this isn't the point of the passage.

24:2-3 The second marriage of the woman might not work out for whatever reason

24:4 The initial husband cannot take her back; she became defiled by her first husband divorcing her outside of a Biblical reason and the wife remarrying (Mt 5:31-32).

- Wives are not to be traded in and out of marriage

Discuss Deuteronomy 24:5...Military Grace for Newlyweds

24:5 God sanctions 1st year honeymoon & demands that the marriage be given priority w/ solid foundation.

- **The focus of the newly married man was not to battle, but instead to “make his wife happy.”**

Discuss Deuteronomy 24:6...Do Not Affect Another’s Livelihood

24:6 Leave the owing individual a capability to earn enough to pay his debt

- A millstone was used to grind the wheat between the upper and lower millstone.
- Believers should not handicap their believing brothers.

Discuss Deuteronomy 2:7...Do Not Kidnap Israelites into Slavery

24:7 Capital punishment for human trafficking (20-30 million are enslaved in year 2020)

Discuss Deuteronomy 24:8-9...Obedience Required in Cases of Leprosy/Skin Diseases

24:8 “Skin Diseases” often represent sin, and in cases of sin, it is critical that God’s Word is obeyed.

24:9 In Numbers 12, God struck Miriam with leprosy for pridefully opposing God’s chosen leader; God also healed Miriam after she was quarantined outside of the camp for seven days.

- Numbers 12 documents multiples actions God took towards Miriam:
 - He judged her with skin disease
 - He quarantined her outside of the camp
 - He allowed her to come back into community after the skin disease had passed.
- The Bubonic Plague was stopped by the church following the Old Testament laws of sanitation. (Lev 13-14)
 - **The “Black Death” occurred from 1347 to 1351 as it swept through Asia, Europe and Africa.**
 - **Estimates are that 100 million people died as a result with China losing around half of its population and Europe losing a third of its population.**

Read Deuteronomy 24:10-13...Guidelines for Lending to the Needy

24:10-15 Be lenient and take care of the poor

24:10 The lender should not enter the borrower’s house to select the collateral that he pleases.

24:11 The borrower (neighbor) can select the collateral and bring it out to the lender

24:12 If the borrower (neighbor) is poor, the lender should return the collateral that day; this would also facilitate rest for the borrower, so that they would be better able to repay the loan sooner.

24:13 When the needy bless a man, it is counted as an act of righteousness, but when the needy curse a man, guilt and wrongdoing are incurred by the unmerciful man (Eph 4:26).

- **According to Deuteronomy 24:13, does it matter if a poor person blesses or curses you?**
 - **Yes, the Lord hears the prayers of the poor**
- **According to Deuteronomy 24:11-12, should believers treat the needs of a neighbor like a business with interest & claims?**
 - **No, the tenet “It’s just business” is untrue; business transcends the transaction to character.**
 - **To quote Charles Dickens “Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business; charity, mercy, forbearance, benevolence, were all my business. The dealings of my trade were but a drop of water in the comprehensive ocean of my business!”**

Read Deuteronomy 24:14-15...Guidelines for Treatment of the Hired Worker

24:14 God’s people should not take advantage of a hired worker’s situation regardless of whether they are native or foreigner.

24:15 Settle accounts before the end of the day, so the poor and needy can leverage the cash flow. The Lord hears whether the needy bless or curse a man (Dt 24:13).

Read Deuteronomy 24:16...Parents Are Not to Be Held Accountable for the Sins of Their Children

24:16 Each person “will die for their own sin.”

Read Deuteronomy 24:14-15...Guidelines for Treatment of the Hired Worker

24:17 God's people should take extra care of the foreigner, orphan and widow (James 1:27). Believers are foreign to this world; this world is not our home (Hebrews 13:14). Some have entertained angels (Hebrews 13:2)

24:18 Believers are urged to remember their fallen state prior to God's salvation.

Read Deuteronomy 24:19-22...Workers Should Leave Provisions for the Needy

24:19-22 Ruth (Ruth 2:7) benefited from this law to assist the poor (Lev 19:9-10; 23:22). The end times are also referenced as the harvest, and after the rapture of the church, the nation of Israel will be left behind before calling to the Lord for salvation (Rev 14:14-19).

Read Deuteronomy 25:1-3...Guidelines for Resolving Conflict Before the Judge

25:1 Disputes should be assessed by a Judge very simply and straight-forward – right is right/wrong is wrong without games of words/arguments.

25:2 The Judge must watch the punishment carried out. This unpleasant experience would maintain an understanding of the punishment in the Judge as he ensures justice is carried out.

- Incarceration was not part of the penal system; sin and wrongdoing was immediately dealt with punishment (death/beaten/acquittal).

25:3 The Judge cannot overly punish the guilty; the guilty brother should not be degraded in others' brothers' eyes.

Discuss Deuteronomy 25:4...Symbolizing God's Workers as The Ox

25:4 The ox represents God's servants while grazing equates to compensation; therefore, this verse points to a Pastor's Compensation (**Read 1 Cor 9:9**)

⁹For 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? ¹⁰Surely 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 (Referencing Deut 25:4)

Discuss Deuteronomy 25:5-10...The Law of the "Levirate" Marriage

- The Latin word "Levir" means "husband's brother"
- Sadducees tried to trick Jesus about this "Levirate" law (Matthew 22:23-33).

25:5-10 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. Several Sadducees (who did not believe in the afterlife) attempted to trick Jesus with this verse (Mt 22:23-33)

25:5 The brothers are living together and jointly taking responsibility for their families living together.

25:6 If the widow bears more than one son, her first son would carry the name of the deceased brother.

25:7 The widow has recourse to take the brother of the deceased to the elders to ensure that he takes care of his responsibilities and duties.

25:8 The elders will discuss the man's responsibilities/duties with him.

25:9 The living brother who rejects his duty will 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.

25:10 By denying his brother's line of descendants, his own name over his line of descendants is now changed to "The Family of the Un-sandaled."

Discuss Deuteronomy 25:11-12...The Penalty to a Woman for Hurting A Man's Genitalia

25:11-12 Sexuality and sexual organs are to be respected

Discuss Deuteronomy 25:13-16...Fair Trade

25:13-16 Be consistent in judgment (Mt 7:12; Prov 20:22-23). Use a single consistent weight for buying and selling instead of "having two sets of books."

Discuss Deuteronomy 25:17-19...Reminder of the Wickedness of the Amalekites

25:17 God's people were to have learned lessons from the Exodus to apply when in the Promised Land.

- 25:18 The Amalekites preyed on the helpless (Ex 17:8-16; 1 Sam 15:2-3); the Amalekites were ruthless because they did not fear God.
- 25:19 Israel would have peace and power, but they should destroy the Amalekites and not let them re-establish themselves.

15 Deuteronomy 26, 27

Read Deuteronomy 26:1-11...First Fruits & Tithes

26:1 God uses the term “when” instead of “if” in regards to settling into the Promised Land.

- **God is telling Israel what to do when they begin to realize the harvest of the Promised Land.**
- **It begins with the offerings of the “First Fruits” of what the land produces. This was a practice of giving the first and best to God (not the leftovers).**
- **Before consumption was consecration to the Lord.**

26:2 God chose for His name to dwell in Shechem then Shiloh then Jerusalem

26:3 When giving the first fruits, the giver should affirm that God’s vow to his ancestors has been fulfilled.

26:4 The priest will present the offering before the Lord. The Lord is the God of the giver – “your God”

26:5 The Pharaoh in Egypt that did not know Joseph (Ex 1:8 was probably Assyrian (Is 52:4; Acts 7:18)

26:6 Every Jew could say that their father was a Syrian (Aramean); their ancestor was Jacob (the Usurper)

- Jacob received the blessing of the firstborn who fled Esau to Laban in Paddan-Aram or the “Field of Aram” (“Aram” is the Syrian kingdom) – Genesis 29:2, 5, 6, 7
- Jacob wandered between Israel and Paddan-Aram until he ended his life in Egypt

26:7 As Israel grew from 70 people to several million, Egypt forced them into slavery (Exodus 1:11-14)

26:8 The plagues were a judgment of God on Egypt (Exodus 6:6) with many of the plagues coming from Aaron or Moses’ outstretched hands culminating in Moses spreading his hands of the Red Sea. (Ex 14:21, 26-27).

26:9 God had fulfilled His vow to bring His people into a land flowing with milk and honey (Ex 3:8, 17; 13:5; 16:31; 33:3). While “milk” references the health of the herds and livestock, the “honey” represents the fruitfulness of the plants/flowers. (Jer 32:22; Ez 20:6). The milk is probably the “goat’s milk” while the honey may reference “dates that are squeezed and made into a paste.”

26:10 The first fruits come from the land and blessings that God has provided.

26:11 The Levites will celebrate God’s blessings to His people.

- **According to Deuteronomy 26:2, where were the first fruits taken?**
 - **The place where God’s name dwells**

The Place that God Puts His Name



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 original 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 Israel 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

- According to Deuteronomy 26:3, what is each Jew to declare after the first fruits harvest?
 - When giving the first fruits, the giver should affirm that God's vow to his ancestors has been fulfilled.
- According to Deuteronomy 26:6, who was the father of every Jew?
 - Every Jew could say that their father was a Syrian (Aramean); their ancestor was Jacob (the Usurper)
 - Jacob received the blessing of the firstborn who fled Esau to Laban in Paddan-Aram or the "Field of Aram" ("Aram" is the Syrian kingdom) – Genesis 29:2, 5, 6, 7
 - Jacob wandered between Israel and Paddan-Aram until he ended his life in Egypt
- According to Deuteronomy 26:8, how did God bring Israel out of Egypt?
 - "With a mighty hand and an outstretched arm."
 - The plagues were a judgment of God on Egypt (Exodus 6:6) with many of the plagues coming from Aaron or Moses' outstretched hands culminating in Moses spreading his hands of the Red Sea. (Ex 14:21, 26-27).
- According to Deuteronomy 26:9, where had the Lord brought Israel?
 - God had fulfilled His vow to bring His people into a land flowing with milk and honey (Ex 3:8, 17; 13:5; 16:31; 33:3).
 - While "milk" references the health of the herds and livestock, the "honey" represents the fruitfulness of the plants/flowers. (Jer 32:22; Ez 20:6).
 - The milk is probably the "goat's milk" while the honey may reference "dates that are squeezed and made into a paste."
 - A "spiritual application" might reveal that although milk is safe for babies, the medical community insist that honey only be fed to babies older than 1 year.
 - Honey given to babies might cause infant botulism that produces a toxin inside the baby's gestational tract which can affect the baby's muscle control (i.e., breathing muscles)
 - The Israelites were maturing spiritually (1 Cor 3:2; Heb 5:12-13)

Discuss Deuteronomy 26:12-15...Goodwill Offerings to the Needy & Levites

26:12 Every third year, the tithe that was typically taken to Jerusalem was kept at home and given to the needy (Deut 14:28-29)

- This "tri-annual tithe" was beyond the "tithe" of the first fruits as well as the "tithe" of the Levitical offerings (Lev 1-5; Dt 12), so there were multiple tithes to be offered.
- This tithe is directed for the poor, needy, oppressed and the Levite.
- A tithe shouldn't be a burden, but instead it should be an expression of gratitude & faith.

26:13 The offeror was to agree that he has removed the holy portion from his house, and he had not forgotten or disobeyed God's commands.

26:14 The portion being offered should be worthy and not unclean. The offering is not to be a giving for the dead because He is the God of the living (Mk 12:27)

26:15 The offeror was to acknowledge that God is esteemed in His holy place in heaven.

- According to Deuteronomy 26:12, what happens every 3rd year?
 - Every third year, the tithe that was typically taken to Jerusalem was kept at home
- According to Deuteronomy 26:12, who received the freewill offering in the 3rd year?
 - The local priests and the needy
 - Deuteronomy 14:28-29

Discuss Deuteronomy 26:16-19...Follow the Lord's Commands

26:16 Follow God's commands with all of your heart and soul

26:17 God's people have renewed their vow to listen to God and walk in obedience
 26:18 God also declares a commitment to His people as His treasured possession
 26:19 God would esteem His people in praise, fame and honor as they are holy to Him.

- **According to Deuteronomy 26:16, what does God call His people to do with all of their heart and soul?**
 - **Carefully observe God's decrees and laws**
 - **Loving the Lord with all of your heart and soul (Mt 22:37; Lk 10:27) is the greatest commandment (Mt 22:37-38; Lk 10:27)**
 - **Obedience to God's commands equate to loving Him (1 John 5:2-3)**

Transition to The Third Division of Deuteronomy – Future

- **The Edenic Covenant → Conditional Covenant**
- **The Abrahamic Covenant → Unconditional Covenant**
- **The Mosaic Covenant → Conditional Covenant**
- **The “Palestinian Land” Covenant → Unconditional Covenant**
 - **Outlined the remainder of Deuteronomy (Dt 28)**
 - **The gift of the land is unconditional; Israel receives the land regardless**
 - **Status & Tenure/Longevity in land is conditional (Israel can be exiled & returned)**

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

Read Deuteronomy 27:1-8...The Altar on Mt. Ebal

27:1 The elders joined with Moses to encourage them to keep God's commands.
 27:2 Although the outside was white (as if pure) with plaster (Dt 27:4, 8), the inside was hardened (Mt 23:27; Mk 16:4).
 27:3 Once again the law was carved into stones (2 Cor 3:3), but Jesus would roll that stone away (Lk 24:2). Jesus is the living stone (1 Pet 2:4) which unsettles Israel and all who attempt eternity through self-effort (Lk 20:18; Rom 9:32), but Jesus is the cornerstone for salvation (Acts 4:10-12).
 • 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. (Ez 13:10-15)
 27:4 Archeologists discovered the site of this altar (north of Shechem) in the 1980's
 27:5-6 The altar was to consist of uncut stones because cut stones represented man's efforts, and self-effort is never the way to God. The stones were not to be hewn by man (Ex 20:25-26; Daniel 2:34)
 27:7 Israel could take part in the freewill offerings and fellowship with the Lord.
 27:8 The altar used for freewill offering was constructed of rocks with the commandments written on them. God's direction is that His commands are very clear.
 • **When a stone is plastered, the outside was white (as if pure) with plaster (Dt 27:4, 8), the inside was hardened (Mt 23:27; Mk 16:4); how could this symbolize Israel?**

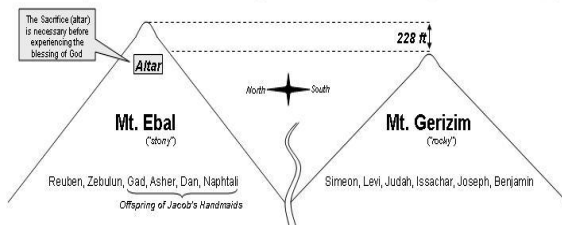
- Their hearts were hard although their “tassels” were long (Dt 22:12)
- What resulted from Jesus’ resurrection in Luke 24:2?
 - The stone was rolled away
 - Once again, the law was carved into stones (2 Cor 3:3), but Jesus would roll that stone away (Lk 24:2).
 - Jesus is the living stone (1 Pet 2:4) which unsettles Israel and all who attempt eternity through self-effort (Lk 20:18; Rom 9:32)
 - Jesus is the cornerstone for salvation (Acts 4:10-12).
- According to Deuteronomy 27:5, what was not to be used on the altar of stones?
 - The altar was to consist of uncut stones because cut stones represented man’s efforts, and self-effort is never the way to God.
 - The stones were not to be hewn by man (Ex 20:25-26; Daniel 2:34)
 - Archeologists discovered the site of this altar (north of Shechem) in the 1980’s

Read Deuteronomy 27:9-26...Curse from Mt. Ebal

27:11-13 Altar on Mt Ebal (north) where curse is delivered (4 of 6 tribes are handmaids) as well as first and last sons of Leah while Mt Gerizim (south) is blessing (Dt 11:26-30).

- 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;
- Along this line runs the great road which from time immemorial has formed the easiest and the quickest means of communication between the East of the Jordan and the Mediterranean Sea. Deut 27:11-13
- Joshua made a covenant between 2 representative mountains: Mt Gerizim is blessing and Altar on Mt Ebal where curse is delivered.
- 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)



- Mt Gerizim (south) - being higher than most mountain peaks in Israel, and rises to 2849 feet above sea level, some 228 feet shorter than Mount Ebal;
- Gerizim continues to be the center of Samaritan religion to this day, and over 90% of the worldwide population of Samaritans lives in very close proximity to Gerizim.
- According to classical rabbinical sources, in order to convert to Judaism, a Samaritan must first and foremost renounce any belief in the sanctity of Mount Gerizim

Levites Proclaimed Twelve Curses to Which All Israelites Agreed (Deuteronomy 27:12-26)		
1.	Idolatry	Deut. 27:15
2.	Disrespecting Parents	Deut. 27:16
3.	Conniving	Deut. 27:17
4.	Misleading	Deut. 27:18
5.	Unjust to the Needy	Deut. 27:19
6.	Immoral Disrespect for Parents	Deut. 27:20
7.	Immoral Bestiality	Deut. 27:21
8.	Incestuous Immorality	Deut. 27:22
9.	Immoral Disrespect for Wife’s Parents	Deut. 27:23

10	Secret Murderer	Deut. 27:24
11.	Hired Murderer	Deut. 27:25
12.	Disobedient	Deut. 27:26; Gal 3:10; Mt 5:48

16 Deuteronomy 28

Read Deuteronomy 28:1-14...Blessings for Obedience

28:1 God will esteem His people who follow His commands; the small word “if” has profound consequences.

28:2 The obedient will be overrun by blessings. Obedient believers will be “assailed” by blessings.

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

28:14 Stay on the “straight and narrow” and do not become distracted by the things of this world (Isaiah 30:21)

Contrast Deuteronomy 28:1-14 with Deuteronomy 28:15-44

- Believers should understand that there are consequences to sin.
- Curses are substantially longer than blessings (15 Blessing Verses contrasted to 54 Curse Verses)

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

Read Deuteronomy 28:15-44...Curses if Israel Disobeys

28:15-19 The first six curses for Disobedience are directly opposite the blessings: city, country, household/descendants, kneading bowl, come in, go out

28:20-68 The curses then grow to be overwhelming.

28:20 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).

28:23-24 Disobedience stops the rain (blessings) and leads to unyielding work and unfruitfulness

28:25 Disobedience will cause His people to flee in seven (all) directions (in every way).

28:27-35 Skin disease is scripturally representative of the consequences of sin.

28:32 Man is powerless to control the consequences of disobedience

28:36 Man will worship something – the one true God or false idols (Mt 6:24; 1 Jn 2:15-16).

28:38-43 Man's efforts will not be fruitful (Haggai 1:5-7; Micah 6:14-15), but God can give in abundance (Ps 39:6, 44:3, 127:2; Prov 14:12, 16:25, 23:4; Is 9:20, 55:2; Jer 5:24-25; Hosea 4:10; Amos 8:5-6; John 1:23, 14:6)

28:44 The "head" is the one with resources to share while the "tail" is the one who relies on the "head" for provision (Deut 28:13)

- **According to Deuteronomy 28:20, what are the curses if someone turns from God?**
 - **Curses, confusion, rebuke**
 - **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).**
- **Do you believe that natural disasters are a result of sin?**
 - **Although modern society believes that God would never bring natural disasters, these natural disasters are correctly called "Acts of God."**

Read Deuteronomy 28:45-48...Curse will Overtake the Disobedient

28:45 Curses will pursue and overtake the disobedient (versus Deut 28:2)

28:46 The curses are a testimony of God's displeasure

28:47 Disobedience comes from ingratitude for blessings from God; believers should serve God with a cheerful heart recognizing that He is the provider

28:48 Disobedience (like all sin) end in death and ultimate destruction (Romans 6:23; James 1:15)

- **According to Deuteronomy 28, how much emphasis does God put on obedience?**
 - **A Great Deal**
- **Does God care whether you obey after becoming a Christian? Of course**
- **According to Deuteronomy 28:46, what does God say will be a sign and wonder?**
 - **The curses of judgment**
- **What might be a source of disobedience? Ingratitude**
 - **Disobedience comes from ingratitude for blessings from God; believers should serve God with a cheerful heart recognizing that He is the provider**
 - **Believers should be grateful and joyful for God's many blessings**

Read Deuteronomy 28:49-52...Foretells of the Assyrian & Babylonian Captivities

28:51 God has assured His people of each of these provisions in the promised land (Dt 7:13), and Israel was to offer back to the Lord each of these items in recognition that all was from Him (Dt 18:4). However, each of these items would be pillaged by enemies if Israel did not obey His word.
28:48-52 Babylon would take Israel captive (2 Chron 36:5-21)

Read Deuteronomy 28:53-57...Onslaughts will result in Cannibalism

28:53-57 The siege would make conditions so extreme that Israelites would turn to the cannibalism of their children (Lev 26:29; Jer 19:9; Ez 5:10); this occurred during Babylon's third siege of Jerusalem in 586 BC (2 Kings 6:26-29; Lam 4:10).

- **Does this curse of cannibalism ever take place?**
 - **The siege would make conditions so extreme that Israelites would turn to the cannibalism of their children (Lev 26:29; Jer 19:9; Ez 5:10); this occurred during Babylon's third siege of Jerusalem in 586 BC (2 Kings 6:26-29; Lam 4:10).**
- **What might be a spiritual symbolism of this cannibalism?**
 - **This is also symbolic of the parents taking away the spiritual lives of their children because of the parent's own needs and desires.**

Read Deuteronomy 28:58-61...Egypt's Plagues Experienced by Israel's Disobedient

28:58-61 God's name should be revered as great and awesome.

Read Deuteronomy 28:62-68...The Great Diaspora where Israel would shrink in other nations

28:62 Although the promise to Abraham had been accomplished with the numerous Israelites, only a remnant of Israelites would survive God's judgment on their disobedience.

28:63 God is glad for justice to be carried out. God is glad to bless & God is glad to punish

28:64 In 70AD with the fall of Jerusalem to the Romans (led by Titus, the eldest son of Vespasian, who ruled as emperor from 79-81AD), the worldwide diaspora began until Israel became the only country to have disappeared and then be "resurrected" on May 14, 1948.

28:65 God can give peace (John 14:27, 16:33) or He can instigate an anxious mind.

28:66 God can fill your life and nights with dread and fear of death.

28:67 God can seed dissatisfaction and always looking ahead for a better time that will never arrive.

28:68 God would make the disobedient so worthless that no one would even buy them as slaves.

- **According to Deuteronomy 28:63, what actions are God pleased to take?**
 - **God is glad for justice to be carried out.**
 - **God is glad to bless & God is glad to punish**
- **Did the curse in verse 64 ever occur?**
 - **Beyond captivity, this deals with the Diaspora in 70AD**
 - **In 70AD with the fall of Jerusalem to the Romans (led by Titus, the eldest son of Vespasian, who ruled as emperor from 79-81AD), the worldwide diaspora began until Israel became the only country to have disappeared and then be "resurrected" on May 14, 1948.**

17 Deuteronomy 29, 30

Read Deuteronomy 29:1-8...The Basis to Trust God for the Renewed Covenant

29:1 An earlier covenant was made with the Israelites at Horeb (Mt. Sinai) forty years earlier (Ex 24:7-8).

- **This covenant was the same as that past, initial one, but the audience had changed because the older Israelites died in the wilderness from their sin.**
- **This is a reiteration/recapitulation of the original covenant.**
- **Chapter 29 begins the same way that the book of Deuteronomy begins**

29:2 Moses called all of the Israelites together for this covenant.

29:3 These Israelites had been very young (< 20 years) when they had witnessed the acts of God in Egypt. (Numbers 14:29).

29:4 God gives spiritual understanding and enlightenment; it is not based on human ability (James 1:5; 1 Cor 1:27, 3:19); God also can give a spirit of stupor (Romans 11:8)

- Some might have actual encounters with God, but it doesn't make a lasting impression (Mt 13:15; Acts 28:27)
- Jesus often encouraged those with ears "to hear" (Mt 11:15, 13:9, 43; Mk 4:9, 23; Lk 8:8; 14:35), and John also encouraged those who could hear to actually hear (Rev 2:7, 2:11, 17)
- Some listeners could not truly hear because of their hearts (Acts 7:51), but blessed are those who do hear (Mt 13:16)

29:5 Clothing did not wear out and feet did not swell for 40 years while God's people wandered in the wilderness (Deut 8:4). God's covering continued to protect from the effects of this world.

29:6 Although God's people were not wealthy and did not live affluently, God provided for their basic needs. The Israelites were taught to rely on the Lord to meet their needs instead of living out of their prosperity.

29:7 The Transjordan Amorite Kings of Sihon and Og attacked God's people but were defeated (Dt 2:24-3:7). Sihon in the south by the Dead Sea (the King who had stolen the land from the Moabites). Og in the north by the Sea of Galilee was also defeated.

29:8 The 2 ½ tribes requested to remain on the land east of the Jordan river (Numbers 32).

- **Chapters 29-30 is called the "Palestinian Covenant or Land Covenant" which has similarities to the Mosaic Covenant that was given at Mt. Sinai.**
 - God gave promises of blessings and land based upon obedience.
- How could the Israelites have witnessed God's miracles if they all died in the wilderness?
 - These Israelites had been very young (< 20 years) when they had witnessed the acts of God in Egypt. (Numbers 14:29-33)
- According to Deuteronomy 29:2-3, what had Israel seen at the Exodus?
 - All that the Lord did with signs and wonders.
 - There were eyewitnesses to the wonders of Jesus (Acts 10:39; 1 John 1:1)
- According to Deuteronomy 29:4, although they "saw" in 29:2-3 – did Israel "see"?
 - No, Israel had not been blessed with eyes that see or ears that hear. (Mt 13:13)
- According to Deuteronomy 29:4, how does someone gain understanding of God's truth?
 - God gives spiritual understanding and enlightenment; it is not based on human ability (James 1:5; 1 Cor 1:27, 3:19).
 - Believers should pray for Spiritual understanding
 - You should also ask for spiritual patience b/c as spiritual understanding grows abhorrence of the wayward world might increase as well.
- According to Deuteronomy 29:5, how long did Israel's clothing & sandals not wear out?
 - Clothing and sandals did not wear out for 40 years while God's people wandered in the wilderness (Deut 8:4).
 - God's covering continued to protect from the effects of this world.
- According to Deuteronomy 29:6, what did Israel experience in the wilderness to know God?
 - Although God's people were not wealthy and did not live affluently, God provided for their basic needs.
 - The Israelites were taught to rely on the Lord to meet their needs instead of living out of their prosperity.
- According to Deuteronomy 29:9, what enabled God's people to prosper?
 - "Observe the words of this covenant and follow them, so that you will succeed in everything you do."
 - Even martyrs succeeded in proclaiming the truth at the cost of their lives.

Read Deuteronomy 29:9-18...Renewal of the Covenant

29:9 God is not asking Israel to "blindly" trust as they have experienced His salvation. This is a conditional covenant where Israel is called to follow the terms. "Observe the words of this covenant and follow them, so that you will succeed in everything you do."

29:10 Although the men were physically standing before Moses, but they were spiritually standing before God for this oath (similar to the marriage vow). The men of Israel from the greatest to the least were called to this covenant.

29:11 Beyond the men to the children, wives and foreigners are called to the covenant with God.

29:12 The Lord made the covenant with Israel.

- 29:13 All of the various categories of Israelites are listed to show the breadth of the covenant – obedience will bring success.
- 29:14-15 The Law was given to all of mankind, so that any might obey and be blessed = although all would fall short
- 29:16-17 As Israel wandered through the pagan nations (and as believers make their pilgrimage through this world), they saw many worldly idols that were false gods. It is imperative to remain faithful to the one true God.
- 29:18 Not all fruit is beneficial fruit (Gn 3:6), and believers are called to bear good fruit (Gal 5:22-23).
- Wormwood (“apsinthas” – source of absinth) was a plant in the middle east that exuded a green pungent oil. Poison from the roots (a tolerance of evil) can infect the entire plant, and ultimately the poison takes control.
 - **According to Deuteronomy 29:10, who did Israel stand before when renewing the covenant?**
 - **Although the men were physically standing before Moses, but they were spiritually standing before God for this oath (similar to the marriage vow).**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 29:12, when was this renewed covenant available?**
 - **“Today” – the word “today” is used at least five times in four verses. (Heb 4:7; 2 Cor 6:1-2)**

Read Deuteronomy 29:19-29

- 29:19 Sin destroys; no one is the exception. A covenant with the Lord means that going your way is not safe. Although some hear God’s warnings, a person might marginalize God’s warning.
- 29:20 God must be Lord of one’s life; no one can have peace with God while following his own heart and being master of his own way (Ex 32:33; Ps 69:28; Rev 3:5)
- The act of being blotted out from under heaven reinforces that sin kills.
- 29:21 Modern culture creates its own judgments on morality and imaginations about eternity instead of relying on God’s truth. Scripture records the “sin cycle” in Judges 2.
- 29:22 Even in modern times, tourists visiting Israel see remnants of the conquests of Israel.
- 29:23 From Hadrian in 138AD until May 14, 1948, Israel ceased to exist.
- After Titus Vespasian destroyed the Temple and killed ~500K Jews in 70AD, the Jews continued to inhabit Jerusalem for another 70 years.
 - In 132AD, a false messiah named Simon bar Kokhba (“Son of the Star”) with his own currency and a desire to reconstruct the Temple, led a revolt against the Roman Empire with the majority of Jews supporting him.
 - Archeologists have found multiple letters (in 1952, 1960-61) in the Judean desert written by Simon bar Kokhba to mobilize the Jews to kill the Galileans (an early term for the Christian church). The 2nd century Christians did not join the rebels or recognize Simon bar Kokhba as the Messiah.
 - In 135AD, Emperor Hadrian marched a third of the entire Roman Army out to put down the revolt
 - The onslaught concluded with Jews fleeing to Masada and 580,000 dying.
 - The Jewish legacy of Simon bar Kokhba resulted in the Jews changing Simon’s name to Simon bar Koziba (“Simon the Liar.”)
 - Rome wiped out Jerusalem, renamed the city as “Aelia Capitolina” and rebuilt a Temple to Jupiter (a pagan cult site) on top of the location of the past Jewish Temple site.
 - Until the end of Hadrian’s reign (138AD), Hadrian discriminated against all Judeo-Christians by outlawing the study of the Torah, Sabbath observance and circumcision.
 - Hadrian also purposefully “salted” the farmland around Jerusalem so that the land could not produce anything.
- 29:24 Although God has laid a productive foundation and harvest, God’s judgment on the disobedient turns fruitful land to desolate and barren yielding nothing.
- 29:25 The discipline and downfall of God’s disobedient people is used as a testimony to His sovereignty and lordship.
- 29:26-28 When God’s people turn from a spiritual God to a tangible, worldly false god, they will be judged by the one true God.
- 29:29 God reveals His secrets to His children – not by human ability, but by God’s grace.

- There are unrevealed truths in creation.
- More truth (upon which to base one's existence) is revealed to the believer than the unbeliever.
- The level understanding is proportionate to the level of seeking God (prayer; study) as well as application (obedience). One must know and believe enough to act on the revealed truth.
- The purpose of knowing God's secrets is that man would observe and obey His truth. The culmination of Biblical knowledge is lifestyle.
- **According to Deuteronomy 29:19, what must take place in a covenant with God?**
 - **Sincere repentance and humble submission.**
 - **Someone might deceive themselves that they can have peace although living a double life sinning against the Lord.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 29:20, what is the Lord's response to those who speak a commitment to God but their hearts are far from Him?**
 - **God will not forgive them, but instead God will punish the hypocrite (Mt 7:22-24)**
- **According to Deuteronomy 29:23, what would occur to Jerusalem if they claimed the covenant with the Lord, but actually went their own way?**
 - **The whole land would be burned and salted stopping future harvests.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 29:29, what does God reveal?**
 - **God reveals His secrets to His children – not by human ability, but by God's grace.**

Read Deuteronomy 30:1-10...Prosperity After Turning to the Lord

30:1 God's people would be able to see His blessing and curses.

- Moses realizes that God's people will fail to keep His commands.
- These verses are meant to be remembered when judgment (exile) has come upon God's people for their unfaithfulness.

30:2 Love God with all of heart and soul (Deuteronomy 30:6 & 10); Obedience equates to Love (Joshua 22:5; 1 John 5:3; 2 John 1:6)

30:3 After Israel fails and repents, God will restore His people from captivity.

30:4 The diaspora re-gathering on May 14, 1948 with the new nation of Israel.

30:5 This is the grant of physical land that Israel now occupies, and this is called the Palestinian covenant.

30:6 Circumcision of the heart reveals that the physical (Gen 17:10-11) is simply a reflection of the spiritual (Rom 2:25-29; 1 Cor 7:18-19; Philipians 3:3; Col 2:11)

30:7 If Israel obeyed the Lord, not only would He bless them, but He would also curse their enemies.

30:8-10 God will reward obedience with abundant life (John 10:10).

- **According to Deuteronomy 30:1-2, what comes after Israel's disbursement and judgment?**
 - **Repentance - After God's people are punished and are subjected to serve other nations, His people will realize their error and repent.**
 - **This is evidenced throughout the book of Judges.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 30:3, what would God do for the dispersed repentant Israel?**
 - **The diaspora re-gathering on May 14, 1948 with the new nation of Israel.**
 - **This is the grant of physical land that Israel now occupies, and this is called the Palestinian covenant.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 30:6, is God focused on physical circumcision or spiritual circumcision?**
 - **Circumcision of the heart - spiritual**

Four Covenants Established by God		
Genesis 12	Abrahamic Covenant	Land/Nation/Blessing
Deuteronomy 30:1-7	Palestinian Covenant	Land
2 Samuel 7:8-16	Davidic Covenant	Nation
Jeremiah 31:31-34	New Covenant	Blessing

Read Deuteronomy 30:11-20...The Decision of Life or Death

30:11 God's commands are not too difficult to understand and obey

30:12 God's word is not beyond His people in the spiritual realms; no visions are needed.

30:13 God's word is not distant in this world beyond the chaos of the sea; no pilgrimages are needed.

30:14 God has placed His word in the mouths and hearts of His people (Romans 10:8)
 30:15-16 Your choice is to be made today (Heb 4:7); choose either life/blessing -or- death/adversity
 30:17-18 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.
 30:19 Heaven and Earth will be witnesses of a man's commitment and his life.
 30:20 Love the Lord, and hold onto Him → The Lord is your Life.

- **According to Deuteronomy 30:14, how close is God's Word to be obeyed by His people?**
 - **It is in their mouth and their heart**
- **According to Deuteronomy 30:15, what is the choice that the Lord gives His people?**
 - **Life & Death**
 - **Choose either life/blessing -or- death/adversity**
- **According to Deuteronomy 30:15, when is the choice given to the people?**
 - **Your choice is to be made today (Heb 4:7)**
- **According to Deuteronomy 30:19, is every action witnessed by someone?**
 - **Yes, heaven & earth - both spiritual & physical testimonies**
 - **Two witnesses are required and satisfied (Deuteronomy 17:6, 19:15)**

Read Deuteronomy 31:1-8...Joshua to Succeed Moses

31:1 The passage reminds the reader that Moses is the orator.
 31:2 The phrasing seems to infer that this is the 120-year birthday of Moses, and he was healthy (Dt 34:7)

- Moses spent the first 40 years being groomed in Egypt (Acts 7:23) and the next 40 years being trained in the desert (Acts 7:30).

31:3 The Lord did cross over before His people as the "first fruit" resurrected from His death on the cross (1 Cor 15:20, 23). The term "cross-over" comes from the Hebrew word "abar". Instead of Moses leading the people over the Jordan, God would be leading them over.
 31:4 Sihon and Og (Dt 2:24-3:7) were continuous examples (2 – witness) of the Lord conquering for His people (Num 32:33; Dt 1:4, 29:7, 31:4; Joshua 2:10, 9:10; 1 Kings 4:19; Ps 135:11)
 31:5 The Lord will win the victories over the world, and His people must continue to obey in triumph.
 31:6 Do not be afraid of the things of this world (Dt 31:8) but fear the Lord (Dt 31:12)
 31:7 Moses commissioned Joshua in front of all of Israel, so that everyone would understand Moses' successor.
 31:8 *"The LORD is the One who will go before you. He will be with you; He will not leave you or forsake you. Do not be afraid or discouraged."*

- **According to Deuteronomy 31:2, what day did Moses make this closing announcement?**
 - **On the 120th birthday of Moses**
 - **Joshua was 80 years old**
- **According to Deuteronomy 31:3, instead of Moses leading Israel across the Jordan, who would?**
 - The Lord did cross over before His people as the "first fruit" resurrected from His death on the cross (1 Cor 15:20, 23).
 - **Christ is called the "first fruit" because the Lord did cross over before His people as the "first fruit" resurrected from His death on the cross (1 Cor 15:20, 23).**
 - **The term "cross-over" comes from the Hebrew word "abar".**
- **According to Deuteronomy 31:6 & 8, why should God's people never fear?**
 - **The Lord God goes with His people as He leads them.**
 - **Do not be afraid of the things of this world (Dt 31:8) but fear the Lord (Dt 31:12)**

Read Deuteronomy 31:9-13

31:9 Moses wrote the first five books of the Bible (the Pentateuch/Torah). Moses (circa 1500BC) is credited as writing it: Exodus 17:14, Exodus 24:4, Exodus 34:27, Leviticus 1:1, Leviticus 6:8, Deuteronomy 31:9, Deuteronomy 31:24-26, Joshua 1:7-8, Joshua 8:31-34, Joshua 22:5, 2 Chronicles 34:14, Matthew 19:7-8, Matthew 22:24, Mark 7:10, Mark 12:24, Luke 24:44, John 1:17, John 5:46, John 7:23, Acts 26:22, Romans 10:5 Also, Jewish and Christian Forefathers, such as Ecclesiasticus, Josephus, Philo, and Origen were in agreement that the Pentateuch was written solely by Moses. The Mishnah and the Talmud also confirm this. I believe it to be more than coincidence that Egypt was

renowned for their penmanship. Many early papyrus manuscripts were created in Egypt which is the exact place that Moses was raised in royalty and “educated in all of the wisdom of the Egyptians” (Acts 7:22) – Egypt royalty would have been the perfect place for an education of a Jewish forefather to learn how to capture the Pentateuch.

31:10-11 Read the entire Law every seven years publicly to everyone. This is the same schedule as the land being given rest; instead of working the land that year (Ex 23:11; Lev 25:4), God’s people could spend time in his word. Even slaves would be freed to study God’s Word that year (Ex 21:2; Dt 15:12).

Believers should take time to read through Scripture from beginning to end.

31:12 The word of God results in a fear of His powerful judgment and awe of His sovereign might. Knowledge of the word of God shows how to please Him.

31:13 Many elders have walked with the Lord for decades, but the word of the Lord should be shared with children who have not enjoyed the faithfulness of the Lord through the years.

- **According to Deuteronomy 31:9, who wrote the Pentateuch?**
 - **Moses; he gave it to the Levitical priests as they would carry the ark of the covenant**
- **According to Deuteronomy 31:10, how often was the Scripture to be read by His people?**
 - **Every 7 years – when all of the debts of Israel were canceled (Nehemiah 8:1-3)**
 - **Scripture would consist of the Torah, and the commoners would not have personal copies of Scripture; the Jewish community would memorize Scripture by musical tune.**
 - **To read from Genesis to Revelation, it would take 71 hours (12 minutes a day to complete in a year)**
- **According to Deuteronomy 31:12, who was to take part in this public reading of Scripture?**
 - **Read the entire Law every seven years publicly to everyone - Men, Women, Children, Foreigners**
 - **Even slaves would be freed to study God’s Word that year (Ex 21:2; Dt 15:12).**
 - **This is the same schedule as the land being given rest; instead of working the land that year (Ex 23:11; Lev 25:4), God’s people could spend time in his word.**
 - **Believers should take time to read through Scripture from beginning to end.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 31:12, what is the result of reading Scripture?**
 - **Fear of God & Obedience**
 - **The word of God results in a fear of His powerful judgment and awe of His sovereign might.**
 - **Knowledge of the word of God shows how to please Him.**

Read Deuteronomy 31:14-18...Israel’s Rebellion Predicted

31:14 The Lord was forthright about the upcoming death of Moses and directed Moses to assist in establishing a new leader in Joshua. This verse has an earthly perspective (Moses will die) while Deuteronomy 31:16 has an eternal perspective (Moses will rest with his fathers).

31:15 The Lord appeared as a pillar of cloud just as God led Israel in the wilderness (Ex 13:21-22; 24:16-18; 40:34-38; Numbers 9:15-23). Jesus ascended into the cloud at the end of his ministry (Acts 1:9)

31:16 Adultery is symbolic of idolatry with foreign gods, but in this verse the correlation is direct as Moses is told that Israel will abandon God for idolatry to false gods (Ez 6:9).

31:17 God’s people will be destroyed when He hides His face from them, but God’s people will understand that this judgment occurred because God was not with them.

31:18 God’s anger towards his people originated from their idolatry.

- **According to Deuteronomy 31:14, who did God call to meet Him at the Tent of Meeting?**
 - **Joshua & Moses**
- **According to Deuteronomy 31:16, who did God talk w/ at the Tent of Meeting?**
 - **Moses**
- **According to Deuteronomy 31:14, why was Joshua was there?**
 - **To be commissioned (verse 23) – what were the other benefits?**
 - **As a witness to the upcoming faithlessness of God**
 - **To add credibility that Joshua was the new leader**
- **According to Deuteronomy 31:16, what does God say Israel will do?**
 - **Commit adultery w/ other Gods**

- **Adultery is symbolic of idolatry with foreign gods, but in this verse the correlation is direct as Moses is told that Israel will abandon God for idolatry to false gods (Ez 6:9).**

Read Deuteronomy 31:19-22...Moses Told to Write a Song as a Testimony

31:19 In response to God foretelling Israel's adultery, God tells Moses to write a song that will be used as a witness against Israel.

31:20 The blessing of the Promised Land will result in Israel adopting Canaanite's false gods.

31:21 Israel's descendants will also sing the song of Moses and understand the testimony of Israel's judgment because of idolatry.

31:22 Moses did not wait to write the song, but instead wrote the song that day; the song is Deuteronomy 32. Moses did write a Psalm as well (Psalm 90)

- **According to Deuteronomy 31:19, why did God tell Moses to write a song?**
 - **The song will be sung by Israel and used as a witness against them when they turn idolatrous.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 31:22, how long did Moses wait before writing the song?**
 - **Moses wrote the song that day.**

Discuss Deuteronomy 31:23...The Lord Gives Command to Joshua

31:23 The first recorded words of God to Joshua were "be strong and courageous" although he probably would have heard God's voice prior in the Tent of Meeting (Exodus 33:11) as well as climbing Mt. Sinai (Exodus 24:13)

Discuss Deuteronomy 31:24-30...Moses Writes Law and Foretells Israel's Rebellion

31:24 This law that Moses wrote was either the Torah or the book Deuteronomy.

31:25 Upon completion, Moses gave the command to the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant.

31:26 Law as a witness against Israel. The book of the Law was placed beside the ark of the covenant.

31:27 Moses calls Israel rebellious and foretells that his death will make them rebel against God even more

31:28 Moses calls Israel's elders together in front of two witnesses: heaven & earth (Nu 35:30; Dt 17:6, 19:15; Jn 8:17)

31:29 Moses foretells Israel's destruction because they become corrupt.

31:30 Moses teaches Israel the song that will be used as a testimony against them.

- **According to Deuteronomy 31:24, what was set next to the ark of the covenant?**
 - **The law written by Moses.**
 - **Inside of the ark of the covenant were the 10 Commandments (Dt 10:1-5), a two-quart jar of manna (Ex 16:32-34), and Aaron's staff (Numbers 17:10). By the time of the Southern and Northern Kingdoms, the only item in the ark was the law. (1 Kings 8:9)**
 - **Law – the only item left at the end of the OT**
 - **Aaron's Rod – God's guidance and fruitfulness**
 - **Manna – God's Provision**
- **According to Deuteronomy 31:29, why will disaster come upon Israel?**
 - **Because they have grown corrupt and made wicked things**

Read Deuteronomy 32:1-6...The Song of Moses Used as Testimony Against Israel

The Song is divided between historical and prophetic

32:1 By calling on the heavens and the earth, Moses is calling on all of creation (from spiritual to physical) to hear this worshipful blessing. Two witnesses (John 8:17 – Numbers 35:30; Deuteronomy 17:6, 19:15)

32:2 God's Word and teaching has the capability to nurture and grow fruitful harvests. The Israelites could no longer trust the Egyptian (worldly) Nile's flooding for their water, instead they had to trust heaven to rain down upon them (Deut 11:7-17). The living water from the Lord is likened to Moses' teaching of the Word of God that would sustain them if they listened and obeyed.

32:3 Moses concludes his life by declaring the greatness of God instead of "singing his own praises" about himself.

- 32:4 In this Mosaic song, the Lord is referenced as “The Rock” (Dt 32:15, 18, 31) because He is the firm foundation to build upon securely. Moses literally sang a “rock” song.
- 32:5 The corruption of Israel is introduced and will be spelled out in detail through Dt 32:35. Primarily the sin of Israel is the worship of false gods.
- 32:6 God’s chosen people were foolish and hard-hearted (Mt 17:17; Lk 9:41; Acts 2:40; Philippians 2:15)
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:1, who is called to witness the song?**
 - **Moses calls out heaven and earth (spiritual and material)**
 - **Deuteronomy 30:19 reveals that heaven and earth are witnesses against God’s people.**
 - **By calling on the heavens and the earth, Moses is calling on all of creation (from spiritual to physical) to hear this worshipful blessing.**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 32:2, what is God’s teaching and Word likened to?**
 - **It is rain and dew – the spirit-filled living water.**
 - **God’s Word and teaching has the capability to nurture and grow fruitful harvests.**
 - **The Israelites could no longer trust the Egyptian (worldly) Nile’s flooding for their water, instead they had to trust heaven to rain down upon them (Deut 11:7-17).**
 - **The living water from the Lord is likened to Moses’ teaching of the Word of God that would sustain them if they listened and obeyed.**
 - **God’s Word is refreshment for the Spirit. (Ps 23:3)**
 - **According to Deuteronomy 32:5, how is Israel described?**
 - **These are God’s chosen people, but they have chosen not to enjoy the blessings of being in His family**
 - **God’s chosen people were foolish and hard-hearted (Mt 17:17; Lk 9:41; Acts 2:40; Philippians 2:15)**
 - **How would you fill if someone called you “foolish and senseless” b/c you don’t respect God?**

Read Deuteronomy 32:7-15...The Song of Moses References the Past Days of Old

- 32:7 God’s children should be trained by testifying fathers and teaching elders.
- 32:8 This seems to refer back to the Table of Nations (Gen 10), and God decides the land of the nations (Acts 17:26). Each nation has a spiritual influence and struggle (Daniel 10:20).
- 32:9 Although everything belongs to God (Col 1:16), He considers His people His portion – His enduring, eternal blessing. God is also the portion for His people (Numbers 18:20-24; Deuteronomy 10:9).
- 32:10 Although the circumstances of this world were difficult, God protected His people as the apple of His eye (Psalm 17:8; Zechariah 2:8) which is a sensitive and cherished area. The pupil is the most sensitive part of the body, and the most instinctual protective mechanism is to blink. God’s people should consider His commands and teaching, the apple of their eye (Proverbs 7:2).
- 32:11 Eagles construct nests at high elevations where the baby eagle must rely on the parent for provision. Eagles push their infants out of the nests only to swoop under them and carry them safely back to the nest. In this way, the eagles teach their young to fly. (Ex 19:4) This verse speaks of the overly protective “griffin” eagle.
- 32:12 There is only one living God who led Israel from Egypt.
- 32:13 God provides for His people in the most wondrous ways. In the most desolate rocks and crags come the best of items – honey and oil.
- 32:14 Wine represents blood and the winepress is the judgment in battle (Isaiah 63:2; Rev 14:19-20)
- 32:15 **The poetic nickname “Jeshurun” is derived from the Hebrew word “yasar” which means to be level, straight, upright.**
- **“Jeshurun” is actually a reference to the Lord who is perfect in His ways, and His people are to be like Him. The Jeshurun reference is used three times in Deuteronomy (33:5, 26) and then later on as well (Is 44:2).**
 - **“Jeshurun” is a term of endearment as the Lord wants a people who are upright and righteous, but this is impossible without the true “Jeshurun” making them upright.**
 - In 1998, the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion published correlations between religious behavior and body mass index which discovered that states with high population professing a religious affiliation had higher than average numbers of obese people.

- In this verse, obesity is viewed negatively by God, and the overweight nation had rejected their provider, the Lord.
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:7, what should God’s people do to grow in the Lord?**
 - Remember past testimonies and ask others to share their testimonies
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:10, did God ensure that His people lived in comfort?**
 - No, but God met their needs in challenging circumstances
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:10, to what did God compare his people?**
 - The apple of His eye which is a sensitive and cherished area. The pupil is the most sensitive part of the body, and the most instinctual protective mechanism is to blink.
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:11, how does an Eagle teach its babies to fly?**
 - Eagles construct nests at high elevations before pushing their infants out of the nests only to swoop under them and carry them safely back to the nest. (Ex 19:4)
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:13, where did Israel find the honey and oil?**
 - God provided the best of items (honey and oil) in the most desolate rocks and crags.
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:15, what does God call His people?**
 - The poetic nickname “Jeshurun” is derived from the Hebrew word “yasar” which means to be level, straight, upright.
 - “Jeshurun” is actually a reference to the Lord who is perfect in His ways, and His people are to be like Him. The Jeshurun reference is used three times in Deuteronomy (33:5, 26) and then later on as well (Is 44:2).
 - “Jeshurun” is a term of endearment as the Lord wants a people who are upright and righteous, but this is impossible without the true “Jeshurun” making them upright.

Read Deuteronomy 32:18-25...God’s Judgment on Israel

32:18 Beyond the Creator, God had promised and established the nation of Israel (Ps 90:2; Is 66:8)

32:19 The Lord saw the rebellion of Israel; God has sons and daughters, so both angered Him.

32:20 Although Moses knew God face-to-face (Numbers 12:8; Deuteronomy 34:10), God would hide His face as punishment on Israel for being an idolatrous nation.

32:21 Because Israel denied the Messiah, the Gentiles have gained salvation (Rom 11:11)

32:22 God is a consuming fire (Ex 24:17; Isaiah 30:27, 30; 33:14; Hebrews 12:29) which is coupled with God being jealous of worship to false gods (Deuteronomy 4:24).

32:23 Arrows can be a metaphor for the judgments of God (2 Sam 22:14-15; Job 6:4; Ps 38:3, 91:5; Ez 5:16; Jer 50:14)

32:24 Whether is the waning hunger of a famine, the struggle of pestilence/plague or the brutal assault of wild beasts and vipers, God would judge those who forgot Him.

32:25 No one would be safe from God’s judgment regardless of gender or age; the location would not matter either whether they were out-and-about or at home.

- **According to Deuteronomy 32:18, what wrong did Israel commit?**
 - Forget that God gave them birth
 - Scripture is emphatic on children obeying their parents.
 - Believers should never forget that God is our Heavenly Father
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:20, how is Israel’s relationship with God different from that of Moses who met with God face-to-face?**
 - Although Moses knew God face-to-face (Numbers 12:8; Deut 34:10), He would hide His face as punishment for being an idolatrous nation.
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:21, what did Israel do to anger God?**
 - Because Israel denied the Messiah, the Gentiles have gained salvation (Rom 11:11)
 - Do you think Israel enjoys when Christians say that they are the fulfillment of Jewish promises?
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:23, would God ever assault His people with calamities?**
 - Read Isaiah 45:5-7
 - There is only one God; He brings life/death; He wounds/heals
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:24, are God’s judgments immediate or over time?**
 - Whether is the waning hunger of a famine, the struggle of pestilence/plague or the brutal assault of wild beasts and vipers, God would judge in a variety of ways.

- **According to Deuteronomy 32:25, who will God’s judgment affect?**
 - **No one would be safe from God’s judgment regardless of gender or age; the location would not matter either whether they were out-and-about or at home.**

Read Deuteronomy 32:26-38...Israel Forgets God While Israel’s Enemies Believe They Defeat Him

32:26 God was so angered by His people that His intent was to eradicate them and their legacy.

32:27 God’s judgment on His people might be misunderstood by Israel’s enemies that they had defeated Him.

32:28-29 God characterizes Israel as a nation without sense or discernment. Israel rejects God’s commands with a short-term view instead of an eternal perspective.

32:30 The man with the most humility (Mt 19:30) will be the greatest vessel of God (2 Cor 12:10, 13:9; Joshua 23:9).

- If a man says “I am a zero”, God will stand in front and the man will be “10”. If the man is two zeroes, God in front will make him “100” and if three zeroes, he will be “1000”.
- Less of me, and more of Him (John 3:30).

32:31 The strength and refuge of the world is much different than the strength and refuge of God.

32:32 The fruit of this world leads to death while the fruit of the true vine (Jesus) gives life.

32:33 The joy and merrymaking of the sinful is as dangerous as poison.

32:34 The faults and sins of the people would not be locked away, but instead God will repay.

32:35 Revenge belongs to God alone (Rom 12:19; Heb 10:30).

32:36 In the end, God’s servants will have victory although they will be without strength.

32:37 Instead of building upon the true rock (Dt 32:4) of the Lord, Israel has built upon other (shifting) rocks

32:38 God states that Israel can defer to those (false) gods who cannot “rise up”, “help” nor be a “shelter.”

- **According to Deuteronomy 32:27, what concerned God about judging His people?**
 - God’s judgment on His people might be misunderstood by Israel’s enemies that they had defeated Him.
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:30, who is the power behind Israel’s victory?**
 - The man with the most humility (Mt 19:30) will be the greatest vessel of God (2 Cor 12:10, 13:9; Joshua 23:9).
 - If a man says “I am a zero”, God will stand in front and the man will be “10”. If the man is two zeroes, God in front will make him “100” and if three zeroes, he will be “1000”.
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:31, what do God’s enemies concede?**
 - The strength and refuge of the world is much different than the strength and refuge of God.
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:35, who will avenge past trespasses?**
 - Revenge belongs to God alone (Rom 12:19; Heb 10:30).

Read Deuteronomy 32:39-43...Song of Moses Concludes with the Strength of God

32:39 There is only one God; He brings life/death; He wounds/heals

32:40 When the Lord vows – even He lifts His hand to heaven – His eternal dwelling place. As an anthropomorphism, God might be emphasizing the emphatic nature of the vow (Gen 14:22)

32:41 God knows who hates Him, and He will exact vengeance on His enemies.

32:42 Scripture periodically likens the saturation of blood with drunkenness (Isaiah 49:26; Jeremiah 46:10; Ezekiel 39:19; Revelation 17:6)

32:43 God calls on nations to rejoice with His people that God has avenged the persecution of His servants.

- **According to Deuteronomy 32:39, what does God call the people to see?**
 - **He is the only true God that brings death and life.**
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:40, what unique action does God take when He vows?**
 - **When the Lord vows – even He lifts His hand to heaven – His eternal dwelling place.**
 - **As an anthropomorphism, God might be emphasizing the emphatic nature of the vow (Gen 14:22)**
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:43, why are the nations to rejoice?**
 - **God calls on nations to rejoice with His people that God has avenged the persecution of His servants.**

Read Deuteronomy 32:44-47...Moses Gives Instructions Regarding His Song to Israel

32:44 Moses to Joshua to speak the words of the song to the people; Scripture doesn't record them singing the words.

32:45-46 God's Word needs to be at the center of a person (their heart) that drives everything they do, so they can: 1 guide the children 2 obey

32:47 The Word of God gives life; Scripture is not idle.

- **According to Deuteronomy 32:46, what should Israel do with God's word?**
 - **God's Word needs to be at the center of a person (their heart) that drives everything they do, so they can:**
 - **guide the children**
 - **obey**
- **According to Deuteronomy 32:47, what is Scripture not?**
 - **Scripture is not meaningless, and it is not idle.**
 - **Being bored with Scripture might be a symptom of a deeper spiritual problem**
 - **Those who treat the Scripture as "IDLE", usually make their own "IDOL"**
- **According to verse 47, what does Bible Study bring to you? Life**
 - **Life is in the blood...Jesus' blood**

Read Deuteronomy 32:48=52...The Lord Tells Moses Where to Go to Die

32:48 On the same day that Moses gave the song to Israel, the Lord instructed him how to end his ministry.

32:49 Mt. Nebo is 4000 feet high in the conquered land of Sihon the Moabite.

32:50 God references the death of Aaron passing before Moses; surely Moses looked forward to that reunion. From an earthly perspective, Moses would die, but from a heavenly perspective, Moses would be gathered to his people.

32:51 Moses & Aaron failed to testify to God's holiness (Rev 4:8). Holiness is revered as sacred and set apart.

32:52 Although Moses would see the Promised Land from a distance, he would not enter it.

19 Deuteronomy 33, 34

Read Deuteronomy 33:1-5.... Blessing of Moses (Similar to Jacob – Genesis 49)

33:1 Just as Jesus blessed His followers prior to His ascension (Lk 24:50), Moses also completed his time on earth with a blessing to his people. Seventy times in Scripture, the term "Man of God" is used, and several times in relation to Moses (Joshua 14:6; 1 Chron 23:14; 2 Chron 30:16; Ezra 3:2)

33:2 This judgment with the holy ones (saints – Zech 14:5) is Jesus' second coming (Jude 1:14-15)

33:3 God's holy ones openly receive the Word of God

33:4 The law was the inheritance and possession of Israel; Jacob symbolizes the fallen usurper who struggled to be a self-made man.

33:5 "Jeshurun" is a reference to the Lord which means to be upright (Dt 33:26), and although His people were to be like him (Is 44:2), they actually fell away from Him (Dt 32:15).

- **What did Jacob do before he died (Gn 49)? What did Jesus do before His ascension (Lk 24:50-51)?**
 - **They gave their blessings**
 - **Just as Jesus blessed His followers prior to His ascension (Lk 24:50),**
 - **Moses also completed his time on earth with a blessing to his people.**
 - **Deut 33:6-25 This prophecy of Israel's Tribes correlates to the blessing/prophecy given by Jacob (Gen 49)**
 - **Simeon is not mentioned as they had led in idolatry (Num 25:14).**
 - **Balaam had taught the Moabites and Midianites how to cause Israel's downfall (Rev 2:14, Nu 31:16).**
 - **Israel aligned itself with the Sin of Baal of Peor (Num 25:3) which took a long time to overcome (Joshua 22:17).**

- **Women acted as spiritual temptresses (Num 25:2) resulting in a plague of judgment killing 24,000 until Phinehas drove stake through the Simeonite offenders (Nu 25:14).**
- **According to Deuteronomy 33:1, what is Moses called?**
 - **Seventy times in Scripture, the term “Man of God” is used, and several times in relation to Moses (Joshua 14:6; 1 Chron 23:14; 2 Chron 30:16; Ezra 3:2)**
- **According to Deuteronomy 33:3, what do the holy ones do?**
 - **They humbly assemble, and they listen to God’s word**

Read Deuteronomy 33:6.... Blessing of Reuben the Elder

33:6 Reuben is given life although as just a remnant (Num 1:23 & 26:7) because of sin (Gen 35:22). The next brother, Simeon is not mentioned because his tribe would be scattered (Gn 49:7)

Read Deuteronomy 33:7.... Blessing of Judah

33:7 Judah is the line of Kings and protector of Israel. Instead of a blessing, Moses prays for Judah.

Read Deuteronomy 33:8-11.... Blessing of Levi

33:8 Levi is the line of Priests providing decisions (guidance) for Israel as Levi was seen as faithful. The exact nature of the Urim and Thummim (Ex 28:30; Lev 8:8) is unknown, although some scholars speculate that they consisted of a pair of flat, marked stones used by the priest as sacred lots to determine the will of God. They could give a positive answer (Judges 18:5; 20:23, 27-28; 1 Samuel 14:41-42; 23:2-4, 9-12; 30:8; 2 Samuel 2:1; 5:19), a negative answer (2 Samuel 5:23), and occasionally, no answer (1 Samuel 14:36-37; 28:6).

33:9 Levi regarded the Lord in greater esteem than their own families (Lk 14:26)

Read Deuteronomy 33:12.... Blessing of Benjamin

33:12 Although Benjamin was regarded as a tribe of warriors, it is God who sustained them. The shoulder is symbolic of strength, but to rest “between the shoulders” could infer as a young child in a papoose (type of backpack) is carried on the back with straps around the shoulders.

Read Deuteronomy 33:13-17.... Blessing of Joseph

33:13-17 The Tribe of Joseph continues to be blessed with fruitfulness

Read Deuteronomy 33:18-19.... Blessing of Zebulun & Issachar

33:18 Zebulun included Phoenicia which was renowned for seafarers and traveling across the Mediterranean. Eleven of the twelve disciples are thought to have come from Zebulun while Judas Iscariot came from Judah.

- **Issachar increased more in population than any of the other tribes. Josephus and the Talmud record Issachar as the primary maker of glass from sand.**

33:19 This is Mt. Moriah (2 Chron 3:1)

Read Deuteronomy 33:20-21.... Blessing of Gad

33:20-21 Gad chose the fruitful land of Gilead on the east of the Jordan (Num 32)

Read Deuteronomy 33:22.... Blessing of Dan

33:22 Dan is leaping and striking out (Gen 49:17). Dan was the only tribe that was not satisfied with their territory, and moved to a different location (Judges 18). Dan is not listed among the Tribes in Revelation 7 because they introduced idolatry to Israel (Judges 18:30; 1 Ki 12:25-32).

Read Deuteronomy 33:23.... Blessing of Naphtali

33:23 Naphtali was the last in marching order of tribes through the wilderness, and settled as one of the northernmost tribes in the land of Canaan. They were encouraged to take possession of the sea (meaning the Sea of Galilee).

Read Deuteronomy 33:24-25.... Blessing of Asher

33:24-25 Asher was recorded as going to war only once (Judges 7:23) and was given some of the richest soil in Palestine.

Read Deuteronomy 33:26-29.... Characteristics of God

After listing the blessings of Moses towards each tribe (besides Simeon), Moses documents the characteristics of God.

33:26 Jeshurun mean “upright one” or “beloved one.” It is a poetic name for Israel (Isaiah 44:2).

- “Jeshurun” is a reference to the Lord which means to be upright (Dt 33:5), and although His people were to be like him (Is 44:2), they actually feel away from Him (Dt 32:15).

33:27 It is a wonderful place to be a believer in the arms of the Lord (Ps 46:1-3, 91:2; Prov 14:26, 18:10; Isaiah 25:4; Jeremiah 16:19)

33:28 A blessed land is one of safety and security with rain; the grain and wine may reference communion.

33:29 This unique time, God asks His people – “who are you?” A special people chosen by God (2 Sam 7:23; 1 Chron 17:21). Often in the Bible, man asks God – “Who is like you?” (Ex 15:11; 2 Chron 6:14; Job 36:22; Ps 35:10, 71:19, 89:6, 8; 113:5; Is 44:7; Jer 50:44; Micah 7:18)

Read Deuteronomy 34:1-4.... God Shows to Moses the Promised Land

34:1-3 God shows 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.

34:4 It is interesting that God would make a point of showing the promised land to Moses before Moses died.

- **According to Deuteronomy 34:1-4, what is the last documented statement from God to Moses?**
 - *“I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over into it.”*

Read Deuteronomy 34:5-8...The Death of Moses

34:5 Moses is called the servant of the Lord.

34:6-7 Strong 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) and will possibly be a prophet of God at the end of time (Rev 11:4-12).

- **According to Deuteronomy 34:5, what was Moses called in the end?**
 - **Moses was the Servant of God**

Read Deuteronomy 34:9-12...Epilogue on Moses

34:9 Moses laid hands on Joshua who was filled with the Spirit of wisdom (Acts 8:17, 19:6; 1 Tim 4:14)

34:10 Moses knew God face-to-face (Numbers 12:8) meaning that he met God directly. This is similar to Jacob naming the place “Peniel,” saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved” (Gen 32:30). Gideon also said “I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face” (Judges 6:22). Of course, they have not seen God glorified – nor has any man (1 Cor 13:12). No man has seen God at any time (Ex 33:20; Jn 1:18); however, God has revealed Himself in Jesus Christ (Isaiah 43:11 & John 8:56-58).

- **Explain verse 9 - Moses laid hands on Joshua who was filled with the Spirit of wisdom (Acts 8:17, 19:6; 1 Tim 4:14)**