

DEUTERONOMY LESSON 1

The book of Deuteronomy was the fifth book penned by Moses. It is the fifth book of the Pentateuch. Deuteronomy is taken from 2 Greek words. Deuterous means second. Nomos means law. This is a stating of the law the second time. It is not exactly like the law stated in Leviticus, but is giving a practical use of the law, now that they are entering the promised land. In the last book, we saw the older generation of the Israelites die in the wilderness. This takes place at the end of the 40 years of wandering. Moses will expound the law to the new generation. Obedience to the LORD and His law is stressed. They must remember the deliverance of Israel from Egypt. They must, also, remember the mistakes their parents made, and not make them again. This is actually a book on the blessings they will receive, if they obey the LORD, or the curses that will be theirs, if they do not obey the LORD.

Deuteronomy 1:1 These [be] the words which Moses spake unto all Israel on this side Jordan in the wilderness, in the plain over against the Red [sea], between Paran, and Tophel, and Laban, and Hazeroth, and Dizahab.

This is giving the location of this near three million people, who are poised to go into the promised land. This is one of the last things that Moses does. He wants this generation to fully understand the law of God. This says, he gave the message to all the people, not just the elders. These laws are for all the people. This is before they cross over Jordan to the promised land. They were between the Red Sea and the place where they will cross over Jordan. We dealt with all of these places in our book on Numbers.

Deuteronomy 1:2 "([There are] eleven days' [journey] from Horeb by the way of mount Seir unto Kadesh-barnea.)"

The journey to the promised land was just a very short journey. Their unfaithfulness caused the 40 year delay. Kadesh-barnea was the place where they would camp, just before entering the promised land. The distance between Horeb and Kadesh-barnea should have taken 11 days. It is actually about 165 miles.

Deuteronomy 1:3 "And it came to pass in the fortieth year, in the eleventh month, on the first [day] of the month, [that] Moses spake unto the children of Israel, according unto all that the LORD had given him in commandment unto them;"

Forty years have passed. Their wandering is over. The eleventh month is very similar to our February. The message coming from Moses' mouth for these people is actually the message of the LORD.

Deuteronomy 1:4 "After he had slain Sihon the king of the Amorites, which dwelt in Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, which dwelt at Astaroth in Edrei:"

Moses knew before the battle with the Amorites, that he would not enter the promised land. The latter chapters of the book of Numbers tell of this little matter of these evil kings being dealt with before Moses died. Og and Sihon had planned to stop the Israelites from entering the promised land.

Israel, commanded of God, destroyed them both. Asteroth and Edrei were places where the evil kings resided.

Deuteronomy 1:5 "On this side Jordan, in the land of Moab, began Moses to declare this law, saying,"

Moses will not cross over Jordan, so the law was to be given to the people by him, before they entered the promised land. They are in the plains of Moab, when Moses gives them the law. They are near Jericho.

Deuteronomy 1:6 "The LORD our God spake unto us in Horeb, saying, Ye have dwelt long enough in this mount:"

The LORD is speaking of Jehovah. The LORD speaking to the people shows that they are His people, and He is their God. The Israelites had remained at Horeb about a year. The following is part of the covenant God made with Israel. Exodus 19:5 "Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth [is] mine:" Exodus 19:6 "And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These [are] the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel." We will see in the following Scripture, that Israel agreed to the covenant. Exodus 19:8 "And all the people answered together, and said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD." Horeb is the name of a range of mountains, of which Sinai is one of the summits. This is the place they received the ten commandments from God. Horeb was, also, the place of the Rock which gushed forth water. It would be advantageous to read the whole 19th and 20th chapter of Exodus on this subject.

Deuteronomy 1:7 "Turn you, and take your journey, and go to the mount of the Amorites, and unto all [the places] nigh thereunto, in the plain, in the hills, and in the vale, and in the south, and by the sea side, to the land of the Canaanites, and unto Lebanon, unto the great river, the river Euphrates."

Lebanon was the furthest point on one side, and the lands this is speaking of are near the entrance of the land near Jericho.

Deuteronomy 1:8 "Behold, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them."

This is the same land that their fathers had spied out, and decided they could not take. The LORD tells them to go into the land and take it for their own. This is the land the LORD had promised Abraham, and in turn, Isaac, and Jacob. Genesis 13:14 "And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:" Genesis 13:15 "For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever."

Deuteronomy 1:9 "And I spake unto you at that time, saying, I am not able to bear you myself alone:"

It appears, from this, that Moses had spoken to their fathers, when they decided to send the spies into the land.

Deuteronomy 1:10 "The LORD your God hath multiplied you, and, behold, ye [are] this day as the stars of heaven for multitude."

God's promise to them was fulfilled in the fact, that they were a large number compared to the number of stars in heaven. Genesis 15:5 "And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be."

Deuteronomy 1:11 "(The LORD God of your fathers make you a thousand times so many more as ye [are], and bless you, as he hath promised you!)"

Moses is explaining to them that the near three million people they were now, is nothing to the amount they will increase to. Genesis 22:17 "That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which [is] upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;"

Deuteronomy 1:12 "How can I myself alone bear your cumbrance, and your burden, and your strife?"

"Cumbrance" means burden or trouble. The troubles that came on Moses as their leader had been tremendous. It was almost more than one man could bear.

Deuteronomy 1:13 "Take you wise men, and understanding, and known among your tribes, and I will make them rulers over you."

These are the men that are to take on the tremendous task that Moses had endured by himself. These men will be their leaders. Jethro has advised Moses to do this, to help him bear the load. The people, themselves, decide who their leaders are.

Deuteronomy 1:14 "And ye answered me, and said, The thing which thou hast spoken [is] good [for us] to do."

This greatly pleased the people, because they had not liked many of the decisions Moses had made.

Deuteronomy 1:15 "So I took the chief of your tribes, wise men, and known, and made them heads over you, captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, and captains over fifties, and captains over tens, and officers among your tribes."

It appears, each tribe chose their own leaders. Moses approved their choices and set them over hundreds, or thousands, as their ability warranted.

Deuteronomy 1:16 "And I charged your judges at that time, saying, Hear [the causes] between your brethren, and judge righteously between [every] man and his brother, and the stranger [that is] with him."

The judges of these people were to judge them on most matters. The only time something was to be settled by Moses, was if it were of great magnitude. These judges were like the lower court of our day, and Moses was like the higher court.

Deuteronomy 1:17 "Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; [but] ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment [is] God's: and the cause that is too hard for you, bring [it] unto me, and I will hear it."

These judges were responsible to God for the decisions they made. They were to judge the rich and the poor in the same manner. They were not to respect the person, because of his wealth or position. The major things, they could not decide, they brought to Moses. This would take the trivial problems off Moses.

Deuteronomy 1:18 "And I commanded you at that time all the things which ye should do."

There really was no question what they were to do. God had given commandment covering every aspect of their lives.

Deuteronomy 1:19 "And when we departed from Horeb, we went through all that great and terrible wilderness, which ye saw by the way of the mountain of the Amorites, as the LORD our God commanded us; and we came to Kadesh-barnea."

This is speaking of that nearly 40 years of wanderings, where there was very little grass for the animals, and very little water. This could easily be called a desert land. God fed them miraculously, and when they were out of water, He provided water. The terribleness of this journey had to do with the hardships they endured. We must remember, they would not have had these hardships had they been obedient to God.

Deuteronomy 1:20 "And I said unto you, Ye are come unto the mountain of the Amorites, which the LORD our God doth give unto us."

This was a welcome relief from the desert land they had endured. Notice the statement, "The LORD our God". As long as they remember He is their God and obey His commandments, they will be blessed of the LORD. They get in trouble, when they do not have faith, and turn from God.

Deuteronomy 1 Questions

1. Who penned the book of Deuteronomy?
2. Explain the name.
3. This is stating the _____ the _____ time.
4. Why is the law being stated again?
5. What is stressed by Moses to these people?
6. What must they remember?
7. What are the conditions set forth in the covenant here?
8. Where did Moses speak this from?
9. Who was the law given to?
10. How many days journey is it from Horeb to Kadesh-barnea?
11. Why was there the 40 year delay?
12. How many miles between Horeb and Kadesh-barnea are there?
13. Verse 3 says, Moses spoke to them when?
14. Their eleventh month is similar to our _____.
15. Who had they slain to get this far?
16. Where do we read more detail about the war with these two kings?
17. Where are they, when Moses gives the law?
18. LORD, in verse 6, is who?
19. Quote Exodus chapter 19 verses 5, 6, and 8.
20. What special things happened at Horeb, or mount Sinai?
21. What city were they near?
22. God had sworn to _____, _____, and _____ that this promised land would be their descendent's?
23. Quote Genesis chapter 13 verses 14 and 15.
24. How many were they for multitude?
25. The LORD God of your fathers make you a _____ times so many more as you are.
26. Quote Genesis chapter 22 verse 17.
27. What does "cumbrance" mean?
28. Who advised Moses to get some help?
29. Who decided who the leaders were?
30. Who were made heads over the people?
31. How were they to judge?
32. The judges were like the _____ court of our day.
33. Who would decide the major things?
34. The great and terrible wilderness was actually a _____.
35. What statement, in verse 20, must we take note of?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 1:21 "Behold, the LORD thy God hath set the land before thee: go up [and] possess [it], as the LORD God of thy fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged."

We see the beginning of the account of their father's failure to possess the land. The commandment from the beginning had been for them to go in and possess the land. They were to have faith in the LORD enough that they would not fear.

Deuteronomy 1:22 "And ye came near unto me every one of you, and said, We will send men before us, and they shall search us out the land, and bring us word again by what way we must go up, and into what cities we shall come."

They had influenced Moses into allowing them to go and search out the land, to make sure they could take it. This is a sin, because the LORD had told them to take the land. This showed lack of faith in the Word of the LORD. It is as if they were questioning the wisdom of God.

Deuteronomy 1:23 "And the saying pleased me well: and I took twelve men of you, one of a tribe:"

Twelve is a representative number of the whole. These twelve represented the twelve tribes of Israel. Moses agreed to this plan, even though it was not the LORD's commandment.

Deuteronomy 1:24 "And they turned and went up into the mountain, and came unto the valley of Eshcol, and searched it out."

The spies went by this route.

Deuteronomy 1:25 "And they took of the fruit of the land in their hands, and brought [it] down unto us, and brought us word again, and said, [It is] a good land which the LORD our God doth give us."

The land was fertile, as the grapes they brought back proved. He had promised them it would be a land of milk and honey. It was even more than He had promised. It already had vineyards.

Deuteronomy 1:26 "Notwithstanding ye would not go up, but rebelled against the commandment of the LORD your God:"

Even though this land was everything God had promised, they became fearful, and would not obey the LORD's command to go in. They feared people, more than they feared the LORD.

Deuteronomy 1:27 "And ye murmured in your tents, and said, Because the LORD hated us, he hath brought us forth out of the land of Egypt, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us."

The murmuring was a continuous problem. This is the same as in Numbers chapter 14 verse 1. Look at the actual complaint in the next two verses. Numbers 14:2 "And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and

against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!" Numbers 14:3 "And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?"

Deuteronomy 1:28 "Whither shall we go up? our brethren have discouraged our heart, saying, The people [is] greater and taller than we; the cities [are] great and walled up to heaven; and moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakims there."

Fear is the opposite of faith. Their fear of the people was greater than their faith in the LORD. It is difficult for me to believe that the LORD, who opened the Red Sea and destroyed Pharaoh's army, would be so under-rated here. They are looking with their physical eyes at a flesh people, and are afraid. God is the Almighty One. Why do they not trust Him?

Deuteronomy 1:29 "Then I said unto you, Dread not, neither be afraid of them."

Moses had tried to reassure them that they had nothing to fear, when the LORD was with them.

Deuteronomy 1:30 "The LORD your God which goeth before you, he shall fight for you, according to all that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes;"

The LORD had brought ten plagues on the Egyptians and their false gods to get them released. The LORD, without any loss of people at all, had defeated one of the largest and strongest armies of that day. The LORD had been present with them in the cloud by day, and the fire by night. They knew God was with them. Their fear was lack of faith.

Deuteronomy 1:31 "And in the wilderness, where thou hast seen how that the LORD thy God bare thee, as a man doth bear his son, in all the way that ye went, until ye came into this place."

The LORD had not only delivered them from Egypt, and led them through the wilderness, but had miraculously cared for their well being. Their shoes did not wear out. God fed them with Manna from heaven, and gave them water from the Rock. He had cared for them personally. They were His people, and He wanted them to decide on their own to make Him their God.

Deuteronomy 1:32 "Yet in this thing ye did not believe the LORD your God,"

Doubt, and fear of the things they saw with their physical eyes, caused them to not have faith in the LORD in their hearts.

Deuteronomy 1:33 "Who went in the way before you, to search you out a place to pitch your tents [in], in fire by night, to shew you by what way ye should go, and in a cloud by day."

The LORD was with them on a daily basis. He led them miraculously with His fire and smoke. It would have been a monumental task for them to travel with the near three million people in their company, if the Lord had not led

them to each camping place. This desert had very little water. God knew where every drop was. This same fire stood between Pharaoh's army and the Israelites, until they could all cross the Red Sea. Their lack of faith astonishes me. It is like miracles we see today, and just take them for granted. The LORD is all powerful now, as He was then. It takes faith to please the LORD.

Deuteronomy 1:34 "And the LORD heard the voice of your words, and was wroth, and swore, saying,"

Their murmuring rose to the ears of the LORD. He was disappointed that His people did not trust Him. His wrath came up in His face.

Deuteronomy 1:35 "Surely there shall not one of these men of this evil generation see that good land, which I swore to give unto your fathers,"

Their lack of faith in the LORD caused them to wander 38 more years in this wilderness, until the generation of doubters died. He would keep His Word that this land would be their promised land, but their children would be the ones to receive it.

Deuteronomy 1:36 "Save Caleb the son of Jephunneh; he shall see it, and to him will I give the land that he hath trodden upon, and to his children, because he hath wholly followed the LORD."

As we discussed in the book of Numbers, Joshua and Caleb were the only two of the twelve spies who brought back a good report. God would allow them to live, and Caleb would receive of the land with His children. Joshua would not receive land, because he was of the Levitical tribe, but he would live and take Moses' place. The LORD always blesses the obedient.

Deuteronomy 1:37 Also the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, saying, Thou also shalt not go in thither.

This is speaking of the anger of Moses at these people causing him to strike the Rock {symbolic of Jesus} the second time. God told Moses to speak to the Rock for water. Moses struck the Rock in anger at the people. The LORD did not let Moses enter the promised land.

Deuteronomy 1:38 "[But] Joshua the son of Nun, which standeth before thee, he shall go in thither: encourage him: for he shall cause Israel to inherit it."

Just as Moses led the children of Israel out of bondage in Egypt, Joshua will lead them into the promised land. The anointing of Moses has been transferred to Joshua at that time. The people must accept him and follow him. Joshua is the leader God has chosen for this task.

Deuteronomy 1:39 "Moreover your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, and your children, which in that day had no knowledge between good and evil, they shall go in thither, and unto them will I give it, and they shall possess it."

Those who were under 20 years of age, when their fathers refused to take the promised land, will be the inheritors. These little ones had not

been part of the decision to rebel against the LORD. They will receive the long awaited promised land. They had not chosen evil over good.

Deuteronomy 1:40 "But [as for] you, turn you, and take your journey into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea."

Moses is retelling the outcome of those who failed to obey God's commands to go into the promised land. They were punished by sending them back into the wilderness, until they died off.

Deuteronomy 1:41 "Then ye answered and said unto me, We have sinned against the LORD, we will go up and fight, according to all that the LORD our God commanded us. And when ye had girded on every man his weapons of war, ye were ready to go up into the hill."

As soon as they had heard that God was angry with them, they repented and decided to go into the promised land. They had rather fight, than be banished back to the wilderness. It is too late. God will not help them in battle now.

Deuteronomy 1:42 "And the LORD said unto me, Say unto them, Go not up, neither fight; for I [am] not among you; lest ye be smitten before your enemies."

Moses told them, if they went into battle now, they would not be under the protection of God. The LORD would not be with them, because they had doubted His ability to save them. They would certainly fail in their endeavor without the blessing of the LORD.

Deuteronomy 1:43 "So I spake unto you; and ye would not hear, but rebelled against the commandment of the LORD, and went presumptuously up into the hill."

Even the fact that they went up into the battle was in defiance of Himself. He would have been with them, if they had immediately gone. Now, they are completely upon their own.

Deuteronomy 1:44 "And the Amorites, which dwelt in that mountain, came out against you, and chased you, as bees do, and destroyed you in Seir, [even] unto Hormah."

They were defeated, because God was not with them. The Amorites, in this Scripture, are speaking of the Canaanites. They chased them as bees do. The Amorites slew many of them. Numbers 14:45 "Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites which dwelt in that hill, and smote them, and discomfited them, [even] unto Hormah."

Deuteronomy 1:45 "And ye returned and wept before the LORD; but the LORD would not hearken to your voice, nor give ear unto you."

Moses had remained at Kadesh. The people came back to Moses for protection. Their tears were bitter, because of their great loss in the battle. The LORD had stopped hearing their pleas at this time. He would not stop the punishment on them because of their unbelief.

Deuteronomy 1:46 "So ye abode in Kadesh many days, according unto the days that ye abode [there]."

The following Scriptures show that Moses stayed in Kadesh, until God gave orders what they were to do. Numbers 14:25 "(Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites dwelt in the valley.) To morrow turn you, and get you into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea." Numbers 14:34 "After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, [even] forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, [even] forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise." We see the severity of the punishment for not believing.

Deuteronomy 2 Questions

1. What had God told them to do, now that they were at the entrance of the land?
2. What did they do, instead of following the wishes of God?
3. This is a _____.
4. This showed lack of faith in the _____ of the _____.
5. It is as if they are questioning the _____ of God.
6. What reaction did Moses have to this?
7. How many men went to search out the land?
8. Who did they represent?
9. What did they bring back, that proved this was, indeed, a land of plentiful food?
10. They refused to obey God's _____.
11. Where did they murmur?
12. Quote Numbers chapter 14 verses 2 and 3.
13. What excuse did they give for not wanting to take the land?
14. Fear is the opposite of _____.
15. Why does the author find it difficult to believe their fear?
16. What did Moses say to these fearful people?
17. Why does their fear not make any sense?
18. What does, the LORD thy God bare thee, mean?
19. They were His people, and He wanted them to make Him _____.
20. What caused them to not have faith in the LORD in their hearts?
21. How had God led them?
22. What did the fire of God do at the Red Sea, that showed the LORD's tremendous power?
23. Who of the twelve spies would live to inherit land in the promised land?
24. Which other one of the twelve spies had no fear?
25. Why did he not inherit land?
26. Why was Moses not allowed to enter the promised land?
27. Who would lead them into the promised land?
28. Who would inherit the promised land?
29. When they realized they had sinned against God, what did they do?
30. Would God be with them in this battle of their own making?
31. What happened to them?
32. Moses had remained at _____.
33. Quote Numbers chapter 14 verses 25 and 34.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 2:1 "Then we turned, and took our journey into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea, as the LORD spake unto me: and we compassed mount Seir many days."

This is Moses telling of their turn back into the wilderness at God's command. Moses had not gone in as a spy, but now, he is with them, as they go back into the wilderness. The many days, covered in the verse above, is speaking of the 38 more years of their wandering in the wilderness.

Deuteronomy 2:2 "And the LORD spake unto me, saying,"

This is toward the end of the 38 years of wandering. The LORD speaks to Moses.

Deuteronomy 2:3 "Ye have compassed this mountain long enough: turn you northward."

"Compassed" means to revolve around, or circle. They had apparently been circling around. Now, God says, it is enough and turns them northward.

Deuteronomy 2:4 "And command thou the people, saying, Ye [are] to pass through the coast of your brethren the children of Esau, which dwell in Seir; and they shall be afraid of you: take ye good heed unto yourselves therefore:"

We remember from our lessons in Numbers, that the children of Esau refused passage to the Israelites. The Israelites never did go through the land of Edom, but just skirted around their land. They remained enemies of Israel. The LORD cautioned them to be careful of them.

Deuteronomy 2:5 "Meddle not with them; for I will not give you of their land, no, not so much as a foot breadth; because I have given mount Seir unto Esau [for] a possession."

Even though the LORD was angry with Esau for not letting the children of Israel cross, He will not take their land. The land was given to them by the LORD. He would not take it back. Mount Seir was Esau's possession, like the promised land was the possession of the Israelites.

Deuteronomy 2:6 "Ye shall buy meat of them for money, that ye may eat; and ye shall also buy water of them for money, that ye may drink."

They were not to take anything from Esau. The things they needed, they were to buy from them.

Deuteronomy 2:7 "For the LORD thy God hath blessed thee in all the works of thy hand: he knoweth thy walking through this great wilderness: these forty years the LORD thy God [hath been] with thee; thou hast lacked nothing."

God had been their constant provider. It appears, he had blessed them financially, as well as providing food and water for them. They could buy whatever they needed.

Deuteronomy 2:8 "And when we passed by from our brethren the children of Esau, which dwelt in Seir, through the way of the plain from Elath, and from Ezion-gaber, we turned and passed by the way of the wilderness of Moab."

We find that the children of Israel were obedient to God. They did not go to battle with the Edomites. They went around their land, instead of through it. They wound up in the wilderness of Moab.

Deuteronomy 2:9 "And the LORD said unto me, Distress not the Moabites, neither contend with them in battle: for I will not give thee of their land [for] a possession; because I have given Ar unto the children of Lot [for] a possession."

Lot was the nephew of Abraham. This land had been given to him for his descendents. They were distant relatives of the Israelites. God commands them to leave them alone at this time.

Deuteronomy 2:10 "The Emims dwelt therein in times past, a people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims;" Deuteronomy 2:11 "Which also were accounted giants, as the Anakims; but the Moabites call them Emims."

The word "Emims" means terrors, or frightful. They seemed to be people of very large stature. They were thought of as giants. The Anakims and Emims were the same people. They were Moabites, or Canaanites.

Deuteronomy 2:12 "The Horims also dwelt in Seir beforetime; but the children of Esau succeeded them, when they had destroyed them from before them, and dwelt in their stead; as Israel did unto the land of his possession, which the LORD gave unto them."

This is just telling them that the Horites were cave dwellers there before the Emims. Some believe these cave dwellers brought about the city of Petra.

Deuteronomy 2:13 "Now rise up, [said I], and get you over the brook Zered. And we went over the brook Zered."

This brook served as a boundary line between Moab and Edom.

Deuteronomy 2:14 "And the space in which we came from Kadesh-barnea, until we were come over the brook Zered, [was] thirty and eight years; until all the generation of the men of war were wasted out from among the host, as the LORD sware unto them."

This states, again, that they wandered in the wilderness 38 years, after their first attempt to enter the promised land. The total time, from the time they left Egypt until the actual entering the promised land, was 40 years.

Deuteronomy 2:15 "For indeed the hand of the LORD was against them, to destroy them from among the host, until they were consumed."

This is primarily speaking of judgements of God that came upon them. Numbers 26:64 "But among these there was not a man of them whom Moses and Aaron the priest numbered, when they numbered the children of Israel in the

wilderness of Sinai." Numbers 26:65 "For the LORD had said of them, They shall surely die in the wilderness. And there was not left a man of them, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun." All of the men who were twenty years old, when they disobeyed God by not going into the promised land, were destroyed during this 38 years, except for Caleb and Joshua.

Deuteronomy 2:16 "So it came to pass, when all the men of war were consumed and dead from among the people," Deuteronomy 2:17 "That the LORD spake unto me, saying,"

When God saw that His punishment of the faithless had been accomplished, He spoke to Moses.

Deuteronomy 2:18 "Thou art to pass over through Ar, the coast of Moab, this day:"

The coast of Moab was at the river Arnon.

Deuteronomy 2:19 "And [when] thou comest nigh over against the children of Ammon, distress them not, nor meddle with them: for I will not give thee of the land of the children of Ammon [any] possession; because I have given it unto the children of Lot [for] a possession."

The Ammonites were descendents of Lot and his younger daughter. This land had been given to them by the LORD. We mentioned before, that Lot was the nephew of Abraham.

Deuteronomy 2:20 "(That also was accounted a land of giants: giants dwelt therein in old time; and the Ammonites call them Zamzummims;" Deuteronomy 2:21 "A people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims; but the LORD destroyed them before them; and they succeeded them, and dwelt in their stead:"

We see in this, that Moses is stating that even though there were giants in the land, God had destroyed the giants and given the land to the Ammonites.

Deuteronomy 2:22 "As he did to the children of Esau, which dwelt in Seir, when he destroyed the Horims from before them; and they succeeded them, and dwelt in their stead even unto this day:"

God destroyed the Horims, and gave their land to Esau's descendents. God gives each person his rightful inheritance.

Deuteronomy 2:23 "And the Avims which dwelt in Hazerim, [even] unto Azzah, the Caphtorims, which came forth out of Caphtor, destroyed them, and dwelt in their stead.)"

This land was, also, taken from a stronger nation, and given to those God had chosen to have it. The lesson in these last few lessons is that God can take away from the strongest and give to the weakest, if that is His desire. To doubt the ability of God to do as He wishes is sin.

Deuteronomy 2:24 "Rise ye up, take your journey, and pass over the river Arnon: behold, I have given into thine hand Sihon the Amorite, king of

Heshbon, and his land: begin to possess [it], and contend with him in battle."

The above examples were given, to bolster the courage of the Israelites to go in and possess the land God has chosen for them. God has given them Sihon, the Amorite. Now, go in and possess it. {They must battle for the land God has given them.}

Deuteronomy 2:25 "This day will I begin to put the dread of thee and the fear of thee upon the nations [that are] under the whole heaven, who shall hear report of thee, and shall tremble, and be in anguish because of thee."

Their victory, in this battle with Sihon, will cause the nations around to fear the Israelites. They will hear of this battle and fear for their own safety. The fear is not so much of the Israelites, themselves, as it is of the God of Israel. Their anguish will be in wondering, if they will be the next to be conquered by Israel.

Deuteronomy 2:26 "And I sent messengers out of the wilderness of Kedemoth unto Sihon king of Heshbon with words of peace, saying,"

We see in this, that Moses had given them the option of peace.

Deuteronomy 2:27 "Let me pass through thy land: I will go along by the high way, I will neither turn unto the right hand nor to the left."

Really, all they had wanted of Sihon was passage through their land.

Deuteronomy 2:28 "Thou shalt sell me meat for money, that I may eat; and give me water for money, that I may drink: only I will pass through on my feet;"

They had money to buy what they needed from Sihon. They did not even want to set up camp; they would pass through on their feet.

Deuteronomy 2:29 "(As the children of Esau which dwell in Seir, and the Moabites which dwell in Ar, did unto me;) until I shall pass over Jordan into the land which the LORD our God giveth us."

Moses plainly tells them, this is not land that they really want. They are headed for their promised land by the Jordan River. They passed by Edom and Moab, without having war with them.

Deuteronomy 2:30 "But Sihon king of Heshbon would not let us pass by him: for the LORD thy God hardened his spirit, and made his heart obstinate, that he might deliver him into thy hand, as [appeareth] this day."

Sihon will not let them pass. They go to war, because the LORD hardened the heart of Sihon. This little battle will be a warning to the others they come against, that God is with Israel. Sihon is defeated.

Deuteronomy 2:31 "And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have begun to give Sihon and his land before thee: begin to possess, that thou mayest inherit his land."

It is important for Israel to follow the commands of the Lord here at Heshbon. The children of Israel must fight the actual battle to possess the land, but God is with them, so that they win.

Deuteronomy 2:32 "Then Sihon came out against us, he and all his people, to fight at Jahaz."

This is a test to see if Israel will truly fight, and take what God has commanded them to do.

Deuteronomy 2:33 "And the LORD our God delivered him before us; and we smote him, and his sons, and all his people."

We see, from this, that Sihon and his army are almost helpless in this battle. The LORD fights the battle for Israel. The LORD is with Israel, when they obey Him.

Deuteronomy 2:34 "And we took all his cities at that time, and utterly destroyed the men, and the women, and the little ones, of every city, we left none to remain:"

They left no one to lead the Israelites away from their God into idle worship. This area will be part of the land that the tribe of Reuben will receive as their inheritance.

Deuteronomy 2:35 "Only the cattle we took for a prey unto ourselves, and the spoil of the cities which we took."

Reuben's tribe were people who raised cattle and sheep. This land had been good for that. They kept the cattle and the other wealth of the cities.

Deuteronomy 2:36 "From Aroer, which [is] by the brink of the river of Arnon, and [from] the city that [is] by the river, even unto Gilead, there was not one city too strong for us: the LORD our God delivered all unto us:"

Aroer was an Amorite city near the Arnon River. Gilead, here, is, probably, Mount Gilead. Judges 11:22 "And they possessed all the coasts of the Amorites, from Arnon even unto Jabbok, and from the wilderness even unto Jordan."

Deuteronomy 2:37 "Only unto the land of the children of Ammon thou camest not, [nor] unto any place of the river Jabbok, nor unto the cities in the mountains, nor unto whatsoever the LORD our God forbid us."

The country of the Ammonites situated on the eastern side of the upper Jabbok, which God had forbidden to the Israelites, was not taken. They took only the area the Lord commanded them to.

Deuteronomy 3 Questions

1. What is verse 1 speaking of?
2. The "many days", in verse 1, is speaking of how much time?
3. What does "Compassed" mean?
4. Where do the children of Esau live?
5. What do we remember, from the lessons on Numbers, that the children of Esau do?
6. Why will God not give them Esau's descendents' land?
7. How were the Israelites to get the needed things from the family of Esau?
8. What had the Israelites lacked for in their wilderness wanderings?
9. Who are the children of Esau called in verse 8?
10. What warning is given the Israelites about the Moabites?
11. Lot was the _____ of Abraham.
12. The word "Emims" means _____ or _____.
13. Describe these Emims.
14. The Horites were _____ dwellers.
15. What did the brook Zered serve as?
16. What was the purpose of the 38 year wanderings?
17. How many total years, from Egypt to the promised land, did they wander?
18. What is verse 15 primarily speaking of?
19. Quote Numbers chapter 26 verses 64 and 65.
20. Who were the only two, of the twelve spies, spared?
21. Who were the Ammonites?
22. What did the Ammonites call the giants?
23. Who were they compared with for size?
24. Who had God given over into the Israelites hands?
25. What will this cause the other nations to do?
26. What had Moses tried to do with Sihon?
27. Why would he not do it?
28. What happened to all of Sihon's people?
29. Where was the battle of Sihon fought?
30. What did the Israelites take for a prey?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 3:1 "Then we turned, and went up the way to Bashan: and Og the king of Bashan came out against us, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei."

Og was from the race of giants. He ruled over the northern half of Gilead. This was land that God wanted His Israelites to possess. The Israelites totally annihilate the people of Og. In the process, over 60 cities were taken by Israel.

Deuteronomy 3:2 "And the LORD said unto me, Fear him not: for I will deliver him, and all his people, and his land, into thy hand; and thou shalt do unto him as thou didst unto Sihon king of the Amorites, which dwelt at Heshbon."

We see that God encouraged the Israelites not to fear Og and his troops. The Lord takes from those who are disobedient to Him, and gives to them who obey Him. Og was a heathen. He was not a follower of the true God. The same results will be here, as at Sihon.

Deuteronomy 3:3 "So the LORD our God delivered into our hands Og also, the king of Bashan, and all his people: and we smote him until none was left to him remaining."

The Israelites killed all of the army of Og. They, in fact, killed everyone, including women and children.

Deuteronomy 3:4 "And we took all his cities at that time, there was not a city which we took not from them, threescore cities, all the region of Argob, the kingdom of Og in Bashan."

These cities were well fortified, but God gave them into the hands of the Israelites. Bashan and Argob are the same place.

Deuteronomy 3:5 "All these cities [were] fenced with high walls, gates, and bars; beside unwalled towns a great many."

There were more cities taken, but the 60 cities had high walls and gates with bars. All of the cities fell to Israel.

Deuteronomy 3:6 "And we utterly destroyed them, as we did unto Sihon king of Heshbon, utterly destroying the men, women, and children, of every city."

This seems very cruel, but was done to keep God's people from mixing with these heathen people.

Deuteronomy 3:7 "But all the cattle, and the spoil of the cities, we took for a prey to ourselves."

The cattle, and all of the material things, were not destroyed. They became the property of Israel.

Deuteronomy 3:8 "And we took at that time out of the hand of the two kings of the Amorites the land that [was] on this side Jordan, from the river of Arnon unto mount Hermon;"

The elevation of Hermon is approximately 10,000 feet, and is near the Lebanon border. All this is the land on the eastern side of Jordan which will be inherited by the tribe of Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh.

Deuteronomy 3:9 "([Which] Hermon the Sidonians call Sirion; and the Amorites call it Shenir;)"

These are two other names for Mount Hermon.

Deuteronomy 3:10 "All the cities of the plain, and all Gilead, and all Bashan, unto Salchah and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan."

This is a description of the land taken. These are just a few of the cities mentioned.

Deuteronomy 3:11 "For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of giants; behold, his bedstead [was] a bedstead of iron; [is] it not in Rabbath of the children of Ammon? nine cubits [was] the length thereof, and four cubits the breadth of it, after the cubit of a man."

It appears, of the giants, Og is the last one. His bed gives some idea of how big he was. It was first of all, made of iron to be strong enough to hold him. It was 13 1/2 feet long and 6 feet wide. We do not know for sure how tall he was. Even if he were 9 feet tall, that would be a giant to a man 6 feet tall. Goliath, who fought David, was just over 9 feet tall, and he was spoken of as a giant.

Deuteronomy 3:12 "And this land, [which] we possessed at that time, from Aroer, which [is] by the river Arnon, and half mount Gilead, and the cities thereof, gave I unto the Reubenites and to the Gadites."

This is showing the division of the land on the east side of the Jordan River, that Reuben and Gad receive as an inheritance.

Deuteronomy 3:13 "And the rest of Gilead, and all Bashan, [being] the kingdom of Og, gave I unto the half tribe of Manasseh; all the region of Argob, with all Bashan, which was called the land of giants."

As we said earlier, the half tribe of Manasseh received land on the eastern side of the Jordan, just above the land of Gad. The mountain was divided, and Manasseh's descendents received half. The land, that had formerly been the giants, is now Manasseh's descendents' land.

Deuteronomy 3:14 "Jair the son of Manasseh took all the country of Argob unto the coasts of Geshuri and Maachathi; and called them after his own name, Bashan-havoth-jair, unto this day."

Jair was a descendent of Manasseh on his mother's side. He was a descendent of Judah on his father's side. "Havoth" is the plural of the word chavvoth, which means life. The name of the region bore the name of Jair, because it belonged to him.

Deuteronomy 3:15 "And I gave Gilead unto Machir."

Numbers 32:39 "And the children of Machir the son of Manasseh went to Gilead, and took it, and dispossessed the Amorite which [was] in it."
Numbers 32:40 "And Moses gave Gilead unto Machir the son of Manasseh; and he dwelt therein."

Deuteronomy 3:16 "And unto the Reubenites and unto the Gadites I gave from Gilead even unto the river Arnon half the valley, and the border even unto the river Jabbok, [which is] the border of the children of Ammon;"

This is giving the northern and the southern border of the land to Reuben and Gad.

Deuteronomy 3:17 "The plain also, and Jordan, and the coast [thereof], from Chinnereth even unto the sea of the plain, [even] the salt sea, under Ashdoth-pisgah eastward."

"Chinnereth" is what we call the sea of Galilee. The coast of the Jordan river on the eastern side is the coast mentioned above. The Dead Sea is the same as the Salt Sea.

Deuteronomy 3:18 "And I commanded you at that time, saying, The LORD your God hath given you this land to possess it: ye shall pass over armed before your brethren the children of Israel, all [that are] meet for the war."

The tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh have inherited their land on the eastern side of the Jordan River. This does not excuse them from going to war to help the other 9 1/2 tribes win their land on the western side of the Jordan River. They shall go to war with their brother tribes. Every man 20 years old, that is fit for war, shall go with them into battle to fight for their promised land.

Deuteronomy 3:19 "But your wives, and your little ones, and your cattle, ([for] I know that ye have much cattle,) shall abide in your cities which I have given you;"

In the book of Numbers, we found that Moses gave them time to build places for their families to live, while they were gone to battle. They were, also, allowed to fix a place for their cattle. The wives and the little ones would stay with the herds, until the war for the promised land is over.

Deuteronomy 3:20 "Until the LORD have given rest unto your brethren, as well as unto you, and [until] they also possess the land which the LORD your God hath given them beyond Jordan: and [then] shall ye return every man unto his possession, which I have given you."

All the soldiers of the twelve tribes are needed to subdue their enemies. As soon as they have helped establish the 9 1/2 tribes on the west side of Jordan, they will be free to come back and live on their own land on the eastern side of the Jordan. Numbers 32:22 "And the land be subdued before the LORD: then afterward ye shall return, and be guiltless before the LORD, and before Israel; and this land shall be your possession before the LORD."

Deuteronomy 3:21 "And I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, Thine eyes have seen all that the LORD your God hath done unto these two kings: so shall the LORD do unto all the kingdoms whither thou passest."

Moses will not cross over the Jordan River. Joshua will lead the people. He has seen on the eastern side of the Jordan what God has done to the tribes. Now, he must lead his people to victory on the western side. I am sure he has more confidence in winning, since he saw these victories.

Deuteronomy 3:22 "Ye shall not fear them: for the LORD your God he shall fight for you."

Without faith, it is impossible to please God. Fear is the opposite of faith. He should be assured that the LORD will fight for them.

Deuteronomy 3:23 "And I besought the LORD at that time, saying,"
Deuteronomy 3:24 "O Lord GOD, thou hast begun to shew thy servant thy greatness, and thy mighty hand: for what God [is there] in heaven or in earth, that can do according to thy works, and according to thy might?"

This is the beginning of a prayer by Moses. Notice, that He elevates God to the very highest level at the beginning of the prayer. Moses realizes the power of Almighty God. He knows more than anyone else that there is none other than God.

Deuteronomy 3:25 "I pray thee, let me go over, and see the good land that [is] beyond Jordan, that goodly mountain, and Lebanon."

Moses has led them for 40 years. It is a great disappointment that he might not see the promised land. His prayer has become a plea that he might go over.

Deuteronomy 3:26 "But the LORD was wroth with me for your sakes, and would not hear me: and the LORD said unto me, Let it suffice thee; speak no more unto me of this matter."

The LORD's answer to Moses' request was no. Moses had angered the LORD when he smote the Rock {Jesus}, when God told him to speak to it. The LORD tells Moses, He does not want to hear anymore on this subject.

Deuteronomy 3:27 "Get thee up into the top of Pisgah, and lift up thine eyes westward, and northward, and southward, and eastward, and behold [it] with thine eyes: for thou shalt not go over this Jordan."

Moses goes to a very high point on Mount Pisgah, and sees the promised land. It reaches actually further than the eye can see in every direction. He did allow Moses to see the promised land, but not to go over into the promised land.

Deuteronomy 3:28 "But charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him: for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which thou shalt see."

The anointing of Moses to lead the people was passed on to Joshua. Joshua would now lead the people over into the promised land. Numbers 27:18 "And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in

whom [is] the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him;" Numbers 27:19 "And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight." Numbers 27:20 "And thou shalt put [some] of thine honour upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient." Joshua 3:7 "And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, [so] I will be with thee."

Deuteronomy 3:29 "So we abode in the valley over against Beth-peor."

This is in the plains of Moab. This was opposite of Jericho. At the end of this, we see they are poised, ready to take the promised land.

Deuteronomy 4 Questions

1. Who was the king of Bashan?
2. He ruled over the northern half of _____.
3. How many of his cities were taken by Israel?
4. Why did God say not to fear him?
5. Who did they kill, besides Og?
6. What is the same as Bashan?
7. How were the cities fortified?
8. What was kept for spoil?
9. The land they took was from the River _____ unto mount _____.
10. How tall is mount Hermon?
11. What were the names of some of the cities taken?
12. Who was the last of the giants?
13. How big was his bed?
14. Who was a giant, who was 9 feet tall?
15. What land do the Reubenites and Gadites receive?
16. What goes to the half tribe of Manasseh?
17. Who was Jair a descendent of?
18. "Havoth" is plural for chavvoth, which means _____.
19. Who was Gilead given to?
20. What is another name for "Chinnereth"?
21. The Dead Sea is the same as the _____ Sea.
22. Where did the tribe of Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh inherit land?
23. Where do the other tribes inherit land?
24. Where will Reuben's wife and children stay, while he goes to war?
25. When do the men of the tribe of Reuben go home?
26. Moses will not cross the _____.
27. Without _____, it is impossible to please God.
28. Where does Moses' prayer begin?
29. What does Moses ask God for?
30. Does God grant his prayer request?
31. Why was the LORD wroth with Moses?
32. Where did the LORD send Moses?
33. Who will go in Moses' place?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 4:1 "Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do [them], that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you."

Moses keeps reminding them that their eternal life and their well being on this earth is dependent upon total obedience to the LORD. "Hearken", is saying listen attentively. The statutes and the judgements are for all of the people. Moses will teach them before they enter into the promised land, because he will not go into the promised land with them. They must go in and possess the land of promise. They must obey God.

Deuteronomy 4:2 "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish [ought] from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you."

This was a warning to them, and is, also, a warning to us. Revelation 22:18 "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:" Revelation 22:19 "And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and [from] the things which are written in this book."

Deuteronomy 4:3 "Your eyes have seen what the LORD did because of Baal-peor: for all the men that followed Baal-peor, the LORD thy God hath destroyed them from among you."

There is a great deal in the 25th chapter of Numbers on the worship of false gods at Baal-peor. The following Scriptures give us an idea of how God punished for that sin. Numbers 25:3 "And Israel joined himself unto Baal-peor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel." Numbers 25:4 "And the LORD said unto Moses, Take all the heads of the people, and hang them up before the LORD against the sun, that the fierce anger of the LORD may be turned away from Israel." Numbers 25:5 "And Moses said unto the judges of Israel, Slay ye every one his men that were joined unto Baal-peor."

Deuteronomy 4:4 "But ye that did cleave unto the LORD your God [are] alive every one of you this day."

We see that only those who were involved in the sin were killed. Those who stayed true to God lived.

Deuteronomy 4:5 "Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it."

Moses wants them to clearly understand, that the statutes and judgements God had given them on the trip, were for their practice in the promised land. They are not to forget about God, and start living pleasing to their own flesh. They are to keep God's commandments and laws.

Deuteronomy 4:6 "Keep therefore and do [them]; for this [is] your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation [is] a wise and understanding people."

The law and the ordinances were given to the Hebrews. The rest of the world did not get the law from God. The one thing that set the Israelites apart from the rest of the world, was their relationship with their God. The people who lived around them thought of them as a great nation, because God was with them, and because He had given them His law. Their wisdom was a gift from God. Righteousness brings life. The wisest man realizes his need for a Saviour. II Timothy 3:15 "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

Deuteronomy 4:7 "For what nation [is there so] great, who [hath] God [so] nigh unto them, as the LORD our God [is] in all [things that] we call upon him [for]?"

This is the only nation in the world, at the time Moses wrote this, that had the LORD dwelling with them. Exodus 29:45 "And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will be their God."

Deuteronomy 4:8 "And what nation [is there so] great, that hath statutes and judgments [so] righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?"

All the nations around them lived pleasing to their own flesh. Every man did what was right in his own sight. The law and statutes God had given Israel was not just to please God, but to cause Israel to live uprightly. There were dietary laws, and civil laws, as well as religious laws. There were over 600 instructions given to Israel in the book of Leviticus to help them live righteously before God and man. God did not want them to have an earthly king. He wanted to be their only King. The one thing that set Israel aside, was the fact that God had intrusted them with His law. Romans 3:2 "Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God."

Deuteronomy 4:9 "Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;"

This law is not just for this generation, but for all the generations to come. They must walk in the knowledge God had entrusted them with. They were to keep themselves holy before the LORD. We are all warned to gird up our mind. Sin begins in the heart and mind of men. Sin is the transgression of the law. Sin brings death. They must live by the law that God gave them. We, Christians, must walk in our salvation that we have received. It is important to stay in the Christian walk, after you receive your salvation. It is a dangerous thing to go back to pleasing the flesh.

Deuteronomy 4:10 "[Specially] the day that thou stoodest before the LORD thy God in Horeb, when the LORD said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me

all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and [that] they may teach their children."

The fear is not the terror kind of fear, but reverence toward God and His commandments. God spoke to the people His commandments. Exodus 19:16 "And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that [was] in the camp trembled." Exodus 19:17 "And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount." Exodus 20:18 "And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw [it], they removed, and stood afar off." Exodus 20:20 "And Moses said unto the people, Fear not: for God is come to prove you, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not." To fear God enough causes us to teach our children to fear God, as well.

Deuteronomy 4:11 "And ye came near and stood under the mountain; and the mountain burned with fire unto the midst of heaven, with darkness, clouds, and thick darkness."

This darkness was from the smoke of the fire of God.

Deuteronomy 4:12 "And the LORD spake unto you out of the midst of the fire: ye heard the voice of the words, but saw no similitude; only [ye heard] a voice."

Hebrews 12:29 "For our God [is] a consuming fire." No one can see the face of the LORD and live. Generally, when a person encounters God, it is in a fire, or something relating to a fire. The burning bush is a good example of that. The hub of the wheel in the wheel inside of the wheel had a fire burning. Both of these things are the presence of God. They saw no figure of a person. They heard His voice.

Deuteronomy 4:13 "And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, [even] ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone."

God first spoke the ten commandments to the children of Israel from the fire we just read about. Moses went on the mountain and stayed 40 days and God wrote the ten commandments on the tables of stone. Exodus 31:18 "And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God."

Deuteronomy 4:14 "And the LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go over to possess it."

The covenant that God made with them was dependent upon them keeping God's laws and statutes.

Deuteronomy 4:15 "Take ye therefore good heed unto yourselves; for ye saw no manner of similitude on the day [that] the LORD spake unto you in Horeb out of the midst of the fire:"

This is warning about the worship of idols or false gods. God is a Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

Deuteronomy 4:16 "Lest ye corrupt [yourselves], and make you a graven image, the similitude of any figure, the likeness of male or female,"

The heathen around them worshipped images of false gods. This is a warning not to make an image of a false god. The worship of false gods is the same thing as spiritual adultery.

Deuteronomy 4:17 "The likeness of any beast that [is] on the earth, the likeness of any winged fowl that flieth in the air,"

They had made a golden calf and worshipped it. This is a warning not to worship any of God's created beings. Birds, or animals, are not to be worshipped. They are the creation of God, not the Creator.

Deuteronomy 4:18 "The likeness of any thing that creepeth on the ground, the likeness of any fish that [is] in the waters beneath the Earth:"

Again, these things such as fish, or snakes, or anything else that is created of God, are not to be worshipped. God, who created the earth and everything in it, is to be worshipped.

Deuteronomy 4:19 "And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, [even] all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the LORD thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven."

The sun, moon, and stars are, also, part of the creation of God. They are not the Creator. They are His handiwork. All the host of heaven, including angels, are part of God's great creative acts. God, alone, is to be worshipped. Genesis 1:14 "And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:" The following Scripture says it well. Romans 1:25 "Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen." We must worship the Creator, and not His creation.

Deuteronomy 4:20 "But the LORD hath taken you, and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, [even] out of Egypt, to be unto him a people of inheritance, as [ye are] this day."

They had been in heavy bondage in Egypt. God, Himself, delivered them out of Egypt {the world}. He had chosen them as His special people to glorify His name to the whole world. He thought of Israel as His wife.

Deuteronomy 4:21 "Furthermore the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, and sware that I should not go over Jordan, and that I should not go in unto that good land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee [for] an inheritance:"

Moses is still speaking of them causing him to strike the Rock {which symbolized Jesus}, when God had told him to speak to it. They had grieved

Moses over and over. Moses lost his chance to go to the promised land, because in his anger at the Israelites, he disobeyed God.

Deuteronomy 4:22 "But I must die in this land, I must not go over Jordan: but ye shall go over, and possess that good land."

Moses had led them to the door of the promised land, and yet, would not be allowed to go in. He keeps reminding them how important it is to obey the commands of God. It is as if he is saying, "Look at me, I disobeyed God once, and lost my place".

Deuteronomy 4:23 "Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, [or] the likeness of any [thing], which the LORD thy God hath forbidden thee."

The graven image of a false god would greatly anger God. Moses keeps reminding them not to do that. They must keep the covenant of God, to be blessed in their land.

Deuteronomy 4:24 "For the LORD thy God [is] a consuming fire, [even] a jealous God."

Almost every appearance of the LORD was in the midst of a fire. Exodus 24:17 "And the sight of the glory of the LORD [was] like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel." God will not share His people with a false god. Exodus 34:14 "For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name [is] Jealous, [is] a jealous God:"

Deuteronomy 5 Questions

1. Hearken, O Israel, unto the _____ and _____.
2. Why must Israel do this?
3. What does "hearken" mean?
4. What does verse 2 warn of?
5. Quote Revelation chapter 22 verses 18 and 19.
6. What happened to the men who followed Baal-peor?
7. Quote Numbers chapter 25 verses 4 and 5.
8. What happened to those who did cleave to the LORD?
9. What statutes and judgements had Moses taught?
10. Who were the only people to receive the law and judgements?
11. What set Israel aside from all other nations?
12. Righteousness brings _____.
13. Quote Exodus chapter 29 verse 45.
14. How did the nations around them live?
15. What, other than religious laws, did God give them?
16. Quote Romans chapter 3 verse 2.
17. How long were these laws to be kept?
18. What is important for Christians to do, after they are saved?
19. What kind of fear is verse 10 speaking of?
20. Quote Exodus chapter 19 verses 16, 17, 18, and 20.
21. How did God appear to them at the mountain?
22. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 4 verse 12.
23. Our God is a consuming _____.
24. What are some examples of seeing God in fire?
25. How were the tables of testimony written?
26. What did the covenant with God depend on?
27. What is verse 15 warning of?
28. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 4 verse 16.
29. They were not to worship any of God's _____ beings.
30. What, in the heavens, is part of God's handiwork?
31. Quote Genesis chapter 1 verse 14.
32. Quote Romans chapter 1 verse 25.
33. What is Egypt called in verse 20?
34. God thought of Israel as His _____.
35. Why could Moses not go into the promised land?
36. The LORD thy God is a _____, even a jealous God.
37. Quote Exodus chapter 24 verse 17.
38. What is one of God's names in Exodus chapter 34 verse 14?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 4:25 "When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt [yourselves], and make a graven image, [or] the likeness of any [thing], and shall do evil in the sight of the LORD thy God, to provoke him to anger:"

This is speaking of those who start out with God, and over a period of time, slip into idolatry. This is warning them against gradually drifting away from God and His teachings. To worship anything made with human hands, is idolatry, and strictly forbidden.

Deuteronomy 4:26 "I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong [your] days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed."

God is a Jealous God. He will not share His people with any false god. This is one sin that brings quick punishment from God on His people. The condition of their inheritance of the land, is if they keep God's commandments. Calling heaven and earth to witness is like saying all of God's creation witnesses to that.

Deuteronomy 4:27 "And the LORD shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the LORD shall lead you."

This is speaking of things like the Babylonian captivity. Every time they seem to get careless about keeping God's law, and seek other Gods to worship, God brings disaster to them. Usually, it is in the form of captivity.

Deuteronomy 4:28 "And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell."

The lands that capture Israel are the heathen countries around them, and they do worship idols of all kinds. We have mentioned before that, the Creator of everything is the only one to worship. His creation, whether people or things, are not to be worshipped.

Deuteronomy 4:29 "But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find [him], if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul."

As long as they have breath in their bodies, regardless of where they are, they can cry out to God, and He will hear. True belief in God originates in the heart. Look at what Jesus said about this very thing. Mark 12:30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this [is] the first commandment."

Deuteronomy 4:30 "When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, [even] in the latter days, if thou turn to the LORD thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;"

The latter days are, many times, speaking of the time of the second coming of Christ. At that time, there shall be great tribulation. Matthew 24:21 "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." In the following verse, we see that some people are taken out of this great tribulation to be with the LORD. Revelation 7:14 "And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." To turn to the LORD is speaking of repenting of a life of sin and obeying the will of God.

Deuteronomy 4:31 "(For the LORD thy God [is] a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them."

His mercy endureth forever. I Chronicles 16:34 "O give thanks unto the LORD; for [he is] good; for his mercy [endureth] for ever." Hebrews 13:5 "[Let your] conversation [be] without covetousness; [and be] content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." We may forsake God, but He never forsakes His own. His mercy extends to whosoever will dare to believe. The covenant is an everlasting covenant. God will never forget.

Deuteronomy 4:32 "For ask now of the days that are past, which were before thee, since the day that God created man upon the earth, and [ask] from the one side of heaven unto the other, whether there hath been [any such thing] as this great thing [is], or hath been heard like it?"

Moses is explaining here, that God had chosen them of all the people in the world, and made them His. They are a unique people. God had actually dwelt with them, and miraculously protected them, and fed them for these 40 years. There had never before been a people that God had blessed like Israel.

Deuteronomy 4:33 "Did [ever] people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live?"

This is one of the miraculous things that happened to them, when God spoke the ten commandments to them from the fire on the mountain.

Deuteronomy 4:34 "Or hath God assayed to go [and] take him a nation from the midst of [another] nation, by temptations, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by a stretched out arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?"

The word "assayed" means test, or attempt. God did take Israel from the grip of Egypt. The ten plagues that God brought on Egypt and the Egyptian gods caused them to release the Israelites. God, Himself, fought Pharaoh's army at the Red Sea. The Israelites saw all of this with their very own eyes.

Deuteronomy 4:35 "Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the LORD he [is] God; [there is] none else beside him."

God did all of this in Egypt and, also, all of the miracles, like the water coming from the Rock, for the benefit of Israel. There could be no doubt that the LORD, He is God. The false gods of Egypt were unable to do anything. God defamed all of the Egyptian false gods.

Deuteronomy 4:36 "Out of heaven he made thee to hear his voice, that he might instruct thee: and upon earth he shewed thee his great fire; and thou heardest his words out of the midst of the fire."

God's voice was heard by all of the Israelites, when He spoke to them from heaven. The voice actually came from the fire.

Deuteronomy 4:37 "And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt;"

Thy fathers, mentioned here, are speaking of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Genesis 17:8 "And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God." Exodus 13:14 "And it shall be when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What [is] this? that thou shalt say unto him, By strength of hand the LORD brought us out from Egypt, from the house of bondage:"

Deuteronomy 4:38 "To drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou [art], to bring thee in, to give thee their land [for] an inheritance, as [it is] this day."

They had just seen this, when the mighty army of Og was defeated before them. The LORD goes before them in the smoke by day, and the fire by night. Exodus 23:27 "I will send my fear before thee, and will destroy all the people to whom thou shalt come, and I will make all thine enemies turn their backs unto thee." Exodus 23:28 "And I will send hornets before thee, which shall drive out the Hivite, the Canaanite, and the Hittite, from before thee."

Deuteronomy 4:39 "Know therefore this day, and consider [it] in thine heart, that the LORD he [is] God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: [there is] none else."

Mark 12:32 "And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he:" Colossians 1:16 "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether [they be] thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:"

Deuteronomy 4:40 "Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong [thy] days upon the earth, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, for ever."

John 14:15 "If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 14:21 "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him." The blessings of God are upon those who live for Him.

Deuteronomy 4:41 "Then Moses severed three cities on this side Jordan toward the sun rising;"

These three cities on the eastern side of the Jordan were separated out for the purposes of God.

Deuteronomy 4:42 "That the slayer might flee thither, which should kill his neighbour unawares, and hated him not in times past; and that fleeing unto one of these cities he might live:"

This city of refuge is a place of safety for those who unintentionally kill someone. They will not be harmed, as long as they stay in this city. In the book of Numbers, we saw the law pertaining to this. Numbers 35:11 "Then ye shall appoint you cities to be cities of refuge for you; that the slayer may flee thither, which killeth any person at unawares."

Deuteronomy 4:43 "[Namely], Bezer in the wilderness, in the plain country, of the Reubenites; and Ramoth in Gilead, of the Gadites; and Golan in Bashan, of the Manassites."

The cities of refuge are named in the verse above. We see that each of the tribes had their city of refuge.

Deuteronomy 4:44 "And this [is] the law which Moses set before the children of Israel:"

Moses was more familiar with this law of God than anyone else. He has reminded the people of this law, before this later generation goes in to occupy the promised land. Sometimes, this law is spoken of as Moses' law.

Deuteronomy 4:45 "These [are] the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which Moses spake unto the children of Israel, after they came forth out of Egypt,"

We see from this, that there are several categories to this. Testimonies, statutes, and judgements are all actually part of the law. This is the second time Moses has given this law.

Deuteronomy 4:46 "On this side Jordan, in the valley over against Beth-peor, in the land of Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt at Heshbon, whom Moses and the children of Israel smote, after they were come forth out of Egypt:"

This is explaining that this law is given to the people by Moses, before they go into the promised land. Beth-peor is just across from Jericho, where they will enter the promised land. Sihon, king of the Amorites, was miraculously defeated by God for these people. This was a show from God that they will not have any difficulty defeating the armies in Canaan. When God is with them, they cannot lose.

Deuteronomy 4:47 "And they possessed his land, and the land of Og king of Bashan, two kings of the Amorites, which [were] on this side Jordan toward the sun rising;"

Og was the last of the giants. The land that was taken from them was given to the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh.

Deuteronomy 4:48 "From Aroer, which [is] by the bank of the river Arnon, even unto mount Sion, which [is] Hermon,"

Deuteronomy 2:36 "From Aroer, which [is] by the brink of the river of Arnon, and [from] the city that [is] by the river, even unto Gilead, there was not one city too strong for us: the LORD our God delivered all unto us:"
Joshua 12:1 "Now these [are] the kings of the land, which the children of Israel smote, and possessed their land on the other side Jordan toward the rising of the sun, from the river Arnon unto mount Hermon, and all the plain on the east:"

Deuteronomy 4:49 "And all the plain on this side Jordan eastward, even unto the sea of the plain, under the springs of Pisgah."

All of this area mentioned is part of the land taken on the eastern side of the Jordan. Deuteronomy 34:1 "And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that [is] over against Jericho. And the LORD shewed him all the land of Gilead, unto Dan,"

Deuteronomy 6 Questions

1. Who is verse 25 speaking of?
2. What will happen to them, if they fall into idolatry?
3. What condition is placed on their inheritance?
4. The Lord shall scatter you among the _____.
5. Who is a good example of this?
6. The lands that capture them will be _____ countries.
7. If thou shalt seek the LORD, thou shalt _____.
8. Quote Mark chapter 12 verse 30.
9. What time is verse 30 speaking of?
10. Quote Matthew chapter 24 verse 21.
11. Who are dressed in white in Revelation chapter 7 verse 14?
12. Quote 1 Chronicles chapter 16 verse 34.
13. What promise did God make us in Hebrews chapter 13 verse 5?
14. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 4 verse 32.
15. Has any one nation, other than Israel, ever heard the voice of God and lived?
16. When did God speak to them?
17. What does "assayed" mean?
18. What caused the release of the Israelites from Egypt?
19. What had they seen with their own eyes in the way of miracles?
20. Did they see God, when He spoke to them from the fire?
21. Quote Genesis chapter 17 verse 8.
22. Exodus chapter 13 verse 14 tells us God brought them out, how?
23. God drove out _____ before them.
24. Where is God in power?
25. Quote Mark chapter 12 verse 32.
26. Quote Colossians chapter 1 verse 16.
27. Jesus said, if you love me, _____.
28. Quote John chapter 14 verse 21.
29. What were the three cities that Moses separated out to be used for?
30. Whose tribes were they chosen out of?
31. What are the categories of the law in verse 45?
32. Who was the last of the giants?
33. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 34 verse 1.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 5:1 "And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them."

Moses has called all of the people together for a re-stating of the law. The law was first given at Horeb, where the voice of God came from the fire. Moses knows that many of those who were present that day are dead. The 40 years in the wilderness has caused many of the older people to die. Moses will repeat the law and judgements to them again, so they will be without excuse.

Deuteronomy 5:2 "The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb."

Moses immediately explains who God is. He is every individual's personal LORD and God. The covenant He made with the people was conditional. If they keep His commandments, He will bless them. If they do not keep them, He will curse them.

Deuteronomy 5:3 "The LORD made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, [even] us, who [are] all of us here alive this day."

The covenant is for the living, not for the dead. This is the covenant that God made with them as a people at Mount Sinai. The nation of Israel had gone into agreement with God. The older people who were involved in that agreement are dead. Moses, Caleb, and Joshua remain of the leaders who met with the Lord at Sinai. The covenant was not made with individuals, but with the nation. This new generation is now Israel. The covenant, then, is with them.

Deuteronomy 5:4 "The LORD talked with you face to face in the mount out of the midst of the fire,"

Moses had gathered the people to the side of the mountain, and God had spoken to them from the fire on the mountain.

Deuteronomy 5:5 "(I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to shew you the word of the LORD: for ye were afraid by reason of the fire, and went not up into the mount;) saying,"

We can see, in the next verses, the fear the people had of the LORD, and also, the fact that Moses spoke to God for them. Exodus 20:18 "And all the people saw the thunders, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw [it], they removed, and stood afar off." Exodus 20:19 "And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die."

Deuteronomy 5:6 "I [am] the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage."

He is the great I AM. He is the One who eternally exists. It was actually God that brought them out of Egypt. Moses led them under the

direction of the LORD. The rules for all men to live by must come from God. Man's law is not unfailing.

Deuteronomy 5:7 "Thou shalt have none other gods before me."

This is the first of the ten commandments. We see in this very first commandment, that there is One God. The worship of false gods would break the first commandment of God.

Deuteronomy 5:8 "Thou shalt not make thee [any] graven image, [or] any likeness [of any thing] that [is] in heaven above, or that [is] in the earth beneath, or that [is] in the waters beneath the earth:"

Any image would not be God. God is Spirit. John 4:24 "God [is] a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship [him] in spirit and in truth." Graven images are idol worship.

Deuteronomy 5:9 "Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God [am] a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth [generation] of them that hate me,"

We know the Jews had been easily influenced by the heathen women to bow down to their false gods. This is the one sin that God will not overlook. This is spiritual adultery, when they are unfaithful to God. This is strictly forbidden.

Deuteronomy 5:10 "And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments."

The mercy of God is forever. Deuteronomy 7:9 "Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he [is] God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;" James 5:11 "Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy."

Deuteronomy 5:11 "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain: for the LORD will not hold [him] guiltless that taketh his name in vain."

This is speaking of all profanity that uses the name of the LORD. It is strictly forbidden to misuse the name of the LORD. James 5:12 "But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and [your] nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation." What comes out of the mouth, begins in the heart. Those who profane the name of the LORD, have profanity in their hearts.

Deuteronomy 5:12 "Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee."

The sabbath is the 7th day of the week, or Saturday. Christians practice firstfruits, which is Sunday. Those under the law must practice sabbath, or Saturday.

Deuteronomy 5:13 "Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work:"

Sabbath is a time for rest. Jesus said it best in the following Scripture. Mark 2:27 "And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath:" Man is to work 6 days, and rest 1 day.

Deuteronomy 5:14 "But the seventh day [is] the sabbath of the LORD thy God: [in it] thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that [is] within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou."

The sabbath is actually a time set aside from all physical labor. It is a time of refreshing in the LORD. Every man and animal need a time to rest their body and their mind. This special time was set aside for man by the LORD, to give him a time of refreshing. Even though this day is set aside for worship, it is for the benefit of man.

Deuteronomy 5:15 "And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and [that] the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day."

This day of rest {sabbath} is not an option, it is a commandment of the LORD. God rested from His labors, and man is to rest one day in seven from his labors.

Deuteronomy 5:16 "Honour 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."

Matthew 15:4 "For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death." Our father and mother, actually, are responsible for our birth. God gives us life. He uses our fathers and mothers to bring us to life. We should have great respect for the parents who brought us into the world. God should be first in our lives, but we should have respect for our parents.

Deuteronomy 5:17 "Thou shalt not kill."

This is speaking of premeditated murder.

Deuteronomy 5:18 "Neither shalt thou commit adultery."

Adultery, in the physical sense, is participating in sex with someone you are not married to. Adultery, in the spiritual sense, is speaking of the worship of false gods. Adultery of all kinds is strictly forbidden.

Deuteronomy 5:19 "Neither shalt thou steal."

To take anything that does not belong to you is stealing. Employees even steal from their employers, when they do not give them a full day's work for a full day's pay.

Deuteronomy 5:20 "Neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbour."

This is a very cruel thing to do. It does not build your position up, to tear someone else down. At all times, we are required to speak the truth, if we are believers in the LORD. We should build our neighbors up, and not tear them down.

Deuteronomy 5:21 "Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any [thing] that [is] thy neighbour's."

We should rejoice in the fact that our neighbor has these things. It is coveting to want anything that belongs to someone else. Luke 12:15 "And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." All of the ten commandments are covered in the following two that Jesus gave. Matthew 22:37 "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Matthew 22:38 "This is the first and great commandment." Matthew 22:39 "And the second [is] like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." God first, neighbor second, and self third covers all of the ten commandments.

Deuteronomy 5:22 "These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me."

The same message was spoken to the people that the message the fiery finger of God wrote on the tablets. They are the decalogue, or the ten commandments. "Decalogue" means ten words.

Deuteronomy 5:23 "And it came to pass, when ye heard the voice out of the midst of the darkness, (for the mountain did burn with fire,) that ye came near unto me, [even] all the heads of your tribes, and your elders;"

Moses had built a fence around the bottom of the mountain to keep them from touching the mountain, while the presence of God was on it. If they had touched the mountain, they would have died. The fire, smoke, and the voice out of the fire were all they could stand. They ran back from the mountain, when God began to speak in the fire.

Deuteronomy 5:24 "And ye said, Behold, the LORD our God hath shewed us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire: we have seen this day that God doth talk with man, and he liveth."

God has revealed Himself to them, so they will realize these ten commandments are from Him, and not Moses. They are amazed that any man can hear the voice of God and live.

Deuteronomy 5:25 "Now therefore why should we die? for this great fire will consume us: if we hear the voice of the LORD our God any more, then we shall die."

God's presence is more than they can bare. Fear of death overwhelms them.

Deuteronomy 5:26 "For who [is there of] all flesh, that hath heard the voice of the living God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as we [have], and lived?"

This does set them aside as a very special people. They are His chosen people. It is not unnatural for men to fear the presence of God. In fact, terror is a closer description than fear. They are amazed they are still alive.

Deuteronomy 5:27 "Go thou near, and hear all that the LORD our God shall say: and speak thou unto us all that the LORD our God shall speak unto thee; and we will hear [it], and do [it]."

They are aware, now, that Moses has a special relationship with the LORD. They ask Moses to communicate with God for them, and then, bring His message to them. They promise to accept the message, and do it.

Deuteronomy 5:28 "And the LORD heard the voice of your words, when ye spake unto me; and the LORD said unto me, I have heard the voice of the words of this people, which they have spoken unto thee: they have well said all that they have spoken."

The LORD heard them ask Moses to be their representative to Him. The Lord is pleased with that request. The LORD is aware that to speak to them directly would cause problems for them.

Deuteronomy 5:29 "O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!"

God knows their hearts, and knows the words they spoke were just promises they would not keep. As soon as Moses goes up the mountain for 40 days, they fall into great sin. The covenant depended upon them keeping God's commandments.

Deuteronomy 5:30 "Go say to them, Get you into your tents again."

They were to return to their tents, while Moses communed with God for them. Moses would receive instructions from God for them, and then deliver the message to the people.

Deuteronomy 5:31 "But as for thee, stand thou here by me, and I will speak unto thee all the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which thou shalt teach them, that they may do [them] in the land which I give them to possess it."

God taught Moses His ways. He gave him, not only the ten commandments, but all of the statutes and judgements for the people. It was, then, the obligation of Moses to teach them to the people. Exodus 24:3 "And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the LORD hath said will we do."

Deuteronomy 5:32 "Ye shall observe to do therefore as the LORD your God hath commanded you: ye shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left."

This is a warning from Moses, that they must keep the commandments that God has sent them. They must not wander out of the straight and narrow path He has set before them. They are not to look to the world for answers. They must keep their eyes straight ahead on God.

Deuteronomy 5:33 "Ye shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and [that it may be] well with you, and [that] ye may prolong [your] days in the land which ye shall possess."

God had promised to bless them on the earth, in the land He has given them, if they keep His commandments. Ephesians 2:10 "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

Deuteronomy 7 Questions

1. What had Moses called all Israel together for?
2. Where was the law first given?
3. Who had made a covenant with Israel?
4. The covenant was _____.
5. Why does Moses say, this covenant was made with them?
6. The _____ of Israel had gone into covenant with God.
7. Who had been present, when God had spoken from the fire to them?
8. Face to face is speaking of what?
9. Why were they afraid?
10. Quote Exodus chapter 20 verses 18 and 19.
11. Who had brought them out of Egypt?
12. He is the great I AM. The One who _____.
13. What is the first commandment?
14. Any image would not be _____.
15. Quote John chapter 4 verse 24.
16. How many generations will God visit the iniquity to?
17. What is the worship of false gods?
18. Quote James chapter 5 verse 11.
19. What is verse 11 speaking of?
20. Quote James chapter 5 verse 12.
21. What day is sabbath?
22. What do Christians practice?
23. Quote Mark chapter 2 verse 27.
24. Who celebrates sabbath, besides the head of the family?
25. Honour thy _____ and thy _____.
26. What is meant by kill in verse 17?
27. What two kinds of adultery are there?
28. What is stealing?
29. Quote Luke chapter 12 verse 15.
30. What two commandments did Jesus give, that covers the ten commandments?
31. What is another name for the ten commandments?
32. What did the people ask Moses to do for them?
33. God wished for their hearts to be like what?

We will begin in Deuteronomy 6:1 "Now these [are] the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do [them] in the land whither ye go to possess it:"

God had founded a new nation in the Israelites. God, Himself, had released them from bondage in Egypt. This nation was to be different from their neighbors around them. They would have no earthly king. Their King was the LORD. Their laws were not man made, they were laws, judgements, and statutes established by God. They were to live on this earth under the direct leadership of God. Moses was to teach these people these things that God had set down for them to live by. They were to establish their new land on these principles of God. Notice, Moses says, "your God".

Deuteronomy 6:2 "That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged."

The agreement, or covenant, that God had made with them was conditional on their obedience to God. Fear, in the verse above, is speaking of their respecting God and being reverent toward Him. God had not left out any aspect of their lives. He had taught them how to please God, and stay at peace with those around them.

Deuteronomy 6:3 "Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do [it]; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey."

They had truly grown from a family of Jacob of just over seventy people, to a nation of Israel close to three million strong. They had increased mightily in Egypt, because God had blessed them in this manner. They would continue to increase, as long as they were obedient to God and His Word. God had promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob the land of promise, which was the land of milk and honey. They are, now, on the threshold of entering into this land. God will bless them in their growth and in their prosperity, as long as they obey Him.

Deuteronomy 6:4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God [is] one LORD:"

Israel is warned, from the beginning, to remember there is One God. The heathens around them worship many false gods. We see from the following Scripture that the Father, Word, and the Holy Ghost are one in the Spirit. I John 5:7 "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." Moses is telling them to remember this fact, when he says, hear.

Deuteronomy 6:5 "And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."

I have said many times, we are what our hearts are. If our hearts are pure and stayed upon the things of God, good things will come out of our mouth. Luke 6:45 "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth

forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh." For us to love the LORD with our heart, soul, and with all our might, we must be submitted to the will of God. Notice, what Jesus says about this very thing. Mark 12:30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this [is] the first commandment."

Deuteronomy 6:6 "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:"

Those things stored in the heart cannot be taken away from you. God's Words must be stamped into the fleshly parts of our heart, for us to truly love Him. John 15:10 "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love." Someday God's laws will be written on the hearts of His people. II Corinthians 3:3 "[Forasmuch as ye are] manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart."

Deuteronomy 6:7 "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

When God's laws are talked about constantly, those listening are receiving them into that computer we call our brain. Teach the children of God and His Ways, and when they are old they will come back to that teaching. All of this talking of these godly things gives no time for worldliness to creep in.

Deuteronomy 6:8 "And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes."

This is not actually speaking of wearing a box with God's laws on the front of your head. It is speaking of it being in your mind at all times. The binding on the hand is speaking of taking God's Words with you, wherever you go. It is like our Bible, which should be our constant companion.

Deuteronomy 6:9 "And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates."

The writing on the gates and the posts was speaking of them being constantly before them, wherever they went.

Deuteronomy 6:10 "And it shall be, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not,"

Notice the word "when". It is not if, but when. God promised to bring them into this land, and God keeps His Word. Moses reminds them that this is a fulfillment of those promises.

Deuteronomy 6:11 "And houses full of all good [things], which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full;"

This is saying, everything there for them is a gift from God. They did not work to dig the wells, nor did they work for any of these things. All of it is a free gift from God. It is almost like paradise. The vineyards and the olive trees are already there. They just move in with everything provided for them. This reminds me of the fact that God created the earth, and everything in it, for the use of mankind. He did not create man, until He had made provision for him.

Deuteronomy 6:12 "[Then] beware lest thou forget the LORD, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage."

Having too much too fast, sometimes, causes a person to begin to take things for granted. They must remember where their blessings came from, and be thankful. They must not forget their former condition in Egypt. They must remember God in this.

Deuteronomy 6:13 "Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name."

This fear is reverence. It is speaking of having tremendous respect for the person of the LORD. This sort of reverence would cause one to serve Him. There is no greater name. God, Himself, swore by His own name, because there was none greater. This swear means to take great confidence in His name.

Deuteronomy 6:14 "Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which [are] round about you;"

One of the main reasons that God did not want His people marrying the heathen around them, was because of their false gods. A husband, or a wife, can cause a person to, sometimes, wander away from God. We know the downfall of Solomon was when he built places of worship of false gods for his wives. The gods of this world are not to be worshipped. Worship the Creator, not anything, or anyone, of His creation.

Deuteronomy 6:15 "(For the LORD thy God [is] a jealous God among you) lest the anger of the LORD thy God be kindled against thee, and destroy thee from off the face of the earth."

There have been several demonstrations of the Lord's anger against those who bow down to false gods. They had a recent example, when the men married strange wives who worshipped false gods. God destroyed everyone involved. This is one sin God will destroy them for. They must guard against being unfaithful to God, if they want to live. God will destroy those who dishonor Him with false gods.

Deuteronomy 6:16 "Ye shall not tempt the LORD your God, as ye tempted [him] in Massah."

"Massah" means trial, or temptation. In this particular place, it is speaking of the place where they murmured about the lack of water. Another name for this place is Meribah. Exodus 17:7 "And he called the name of the place Massah, and Meribah, because of the chiding of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the LORD, saying, Is the LORD among us, or not?"

Deuteronomy 6:17 "Ye shall diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and his testimonies, and his statutes, which he hath commanded thee."

The word "diligently" shows us they will work at keeping the testimonies, statutes, and commandments. It must stay uppermost in their minds. Their welfare depends upon them keeping them

Deuteronomy 6:18 "And thou shalt do [that which is] right and good in the sight of the LORD: that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest go in and possess the good land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers,"

This means they must desire in their hearts to do the will of God. God will bless them far above what they could ask, or even think, if they are obedient to His will. Ephesians 5:8 "For ye were sometimes darkness, but now [are ye] light in the Lord: walk as children of light:"

Deuteronomy 6:19 "To cast out all thine enemies from before thee, as the LORD hath spoken."

They must go into the land of promise, to receive these blessings God had promised their forefathers. They must go into the land, and receive these blessings with the faith that God will take care of them. The Lord is with them, when they have faith in Him.

Deuteronomy 6:20 "[And] when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What [mean] the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD our God hath commanded you?"

Generations to come may not understand the special relationship that God has with Israel. The fathers must tell the sons of the meanings. God commanded these things for the well being of His people. They are different from the countries around them, because their worship of the One True God.

Deuteronomy 6:21 "Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand:"

The miracle release of the Israelites from the servitude of Pharaoh is a phenomenon. The Lord brought ten plagues on Egypt and the Egyptian false gods. At the end of the tenth plague, Pharaoh let them go. God, Himself, delivered the people of Israel. The death of the firstborn of all Egypt was the tenth plague that caused their release.

Deuteronomy 6:22 "And the LORD shewed signs and wonders, great and sore, upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household, before our eyes:"

Some of the signs and wonders were the water turning to blood, the plague of frogs, the darkness that covered the land. Half of the plagues did not touch the Hebrews at all. They saw them, but were not affected by them.

Deuteronomy 6:23 "And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he sware unto our fathers."

Egypt was a type of the world. God brought them out of Egypt. It took God quite a long time to get Egypt out of them. The 40 years wandering in

the wilderness was for that purpose. God has brought them to the edge of their promised land. Now, they must go in.

Deuteronomy 6:24 "And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as [it is] at this day."

One thing that set these people aside from the rest of the world around them, was the fact God had entrusted them with His law and commandments. They were to be an example of holy living to the rest of the world.

Deuteronomy 6:25 "And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us."

Abraham's faith was counted unto him for righteousness. To be righteous means you are in right standing with God. Jesus gave all believers His righteousness. We gave Him our sin, and He clothed us in His righteousness. This, above, is saying they will be in right standing with God, if they keep His commandments. One of the greatest things in life we can have, is to be in right standing with our God.

Deuteronomy 8 Questions

1. God had founded a new nation in the _____.
2. _____ had released them from their bondage in Egypt.
3. Their King was the _____.
4. The nations around them had what kind of laws?
5. Where had they gotten their law?
6. What does Moses call God in verse 1?
7. What was another name for the agreement they had made with God?
8. What is fear, in verse 2, speaking of?
9. They had grown from a small family of Jacob, to close to _____ people.
10. How long would they continue to increase?
11. What three patriarchs had God promised the land of milk and honey to?
12. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 6 verse 4.
13. Quote 1 John chapter 5 verse 7.
14. How were they to love the LORD their God?
15. Quote Luke chapter 6 verse 45.
16. Quote 2 Corinthians chapter 3 verse 3.
17. What is meant by the "frontlets between thine eyes"?
18. What does the author say to notice in verse 10?
19. What is verse 11 saying to them?
20. What, sometimes, causes a person to take something for granted?
21. Why did God swear by His own name?
22. What does God do to those who get involved with false gods?
23. What does "Massah" mean?
24. What is another name for Massah?
25. What does "diligently", in verse 17, show us?
26. Quote Ephesians chapter 5 verse 8.
27. When generations to come ask of these things, what shall they tell them?
28. The LORD showed _____ and _____, great and sore, upon Egypt.
29. Egypt was a type of the _____.
30. What was the 40 years of wandering for?
31. Abraham's _____ was counted unto him for righteousness.
32. To be righteous means you are in _____ with God.
33. What is one of the greatest things we can have in life?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 7:1 "When the LORD thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou;"

All of these people from these 7 nations are idolaters. They may be physically strong, but they are no match for God. Notice, who cast out the nations before them. It is the LORD. Not only are there 7 nations, but they are mightier physically than the Israelites. God had promised Abraham 10 nations. Some of them were the Kenites, Kenizites, Kadmonites and Rephadim. They had destroyed Rephadim with Og. The others, here, will fall with the exploits of Joshua.

Deuteronomy 7:2 "And when the LORD thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, [and] utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them:"

It seems cruel for them to be totally run out of this country, but that is necessary to keep the Israelites from mixing with them, and worshipping their false gods. They must not make a covenant with the world. They are not people who would honor a covenant, since they know not God.

Deuteronomy 7:3 "Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son."

The sad part of this is what we said above, they are idolaters, and would cause their spouses to become idolaters, also. They must not marry these people, because they must stay faithful to God. A believer should never marry a non-believer. That is being unequally yoked.

Deuteronomy 7:4 "For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly."

This had already happened, when Balaam tricked them. God destroyed all who were involved in the unfaithfulness. Thousands had died. It is strange, but the worshipper of the false gods usually turn the worshipper of God, instead of the other way around. It is better to marry within your own faith.

Deuteronomy 7:5 "But thus shall ye deal with them; ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire."

Their altars, images, groves, and graven images were all associated with the worship of their false gods. They were to be totally destroyed, for a reminder to not get involved in this sin. They were not to just tear them down, but totally destroy them with fire, as well.

Deuteronomy 7:6 "For thou [art] an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that [are] upon the face of the earth."

The thing that made Israel different, was their relationship with their God. God had chosen them out of all the people on the earth to be His. God had given Him their law. He wanted them to be holy, as He is holy. They are to be a representative for God upon the earth.

Deuteronomy 7:7 "The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye [were] the fewest of all people:"

God chose the smallest country in the world, so His greatness could show through them. He set His love upon them. They did not earn His love. He gave it to them.

Deuteronomy 7:8 "But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt."

God's great love for mankind is hard to understand. It is even more difficult to understand His immense love for this ungrateful people. The God kind of love {agape} is the greatest love there is. He does not love them because of something they have done, but in spite of what they have done. He had sworn to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob {their fathers}. God brought them out of Egypt, not by any great feat of man. He brought them out with the ten plagues He sent on Egypt. They had been slaves to Pharaoh, now, they are God's wife.

Deuteronomy 7:9 "Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he [is] God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;"

The people are warned against rebellion and unfaithfulness. God is faithful and just. He blesses the person who keeps His commandments. He blesses their children, and grandchildren to a thousand generations.

Deuteronomy 7:10 "And repayeth them that hate him to their face, to destroy them: he will not be slack to him that hateth him, he will repay him to his face."

This just means that God will not have someone else to do this, He will do it Himself. God will punish him personally.

Deuteronomy 7:11 "Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which I command thee this day, to do them."

The people are reminded, by Moses, to keep God's commandments, if they do not want God to punish them.

Deuteronomy 7:12 "Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the LORD thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers:"

Moses reminds them, also, that God will bless them abundantly, if they keep His commandments. There were blessings promised for obedience, and cursings for those who would not obey. God always does exactly what He says. What He promises, He will do. He is a merciful God.

Deuteronomy 7:13 "And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he swore unto thy fathers to give thee."

This is a list of some of the blessings that would come upon them, if they kept their covenant with God. Hebrews considered children as a special blessing from God. They were blessed with big families, plenty of food, and an abundance of cattle and sheep. They would have need for nothing.

Deuteronomy 7:14 "Thou shalt be blessed above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle."

The Hebrews thought it a curse not to have children. This is a blessing on the people, and their cattle.

Deuteronomy 7:15 "And the LORD will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all [them] that hate thee."

Some diseases are caused from sin. The worldly diseases of our day are like the A.I.D.S. Sinful acts, sometimes, cause disease. Sexually transmitted diseases are a good example of that. Not all diseases are sin. We know that, by the blind man that Jesus healed. His disciples asked Him who had sinned, him or his parents. Jesus told them neither of them, it was to glorify God.

Deuteronomy 7:16 "And thou shalt consume all the people which the LORD thy God shall deliver thee; thine eye shall have no pity upon them: neither shalt thou serve their gods; for that [will be] a snare unto thee."

The enemy was a strong nation, but God would be with the Israelites. He told them to get rid of the people He had delivered before them. They should have no pity on them, because they served false gods. If they spared them, they might get ensnared by their worship of false gods.

Deuteronomy 7:17 "If thou shalt say in thine heart, These nations [are] more than I; how can I dispossess them?"

This would be a terrible thing to think in their hearts. This was the sin their fathers had committed. They must not faint at the size of the people, but have faith in God.

Deuteronomy 7:18 "Thou shalt not be afraid of them: [but] shalt well remember what the LORD thy God did unto Pharaoh, and unto all Egypt;"

Pharaoh had a large, well-trained army with many chariots, but God drowned them all in the Red Sea. They must depend on the power of their God, and not on their own power.

Deuteronomy 7:19 "The great temptations which thine eyes saw, and the signs, and the wonders, and the mighty hand, and the stretched out arm, whereby the LORD thy God brought thee out: so shall the LORD thy God do unto all the people of whom thou art afraid."

The temptation is to look at these people, and be afraid. They must not do that. They must remember the great odds against God bringing them out of Egypt, but He did. They must use all the faith they have, and believe God will deliver these people into their hands.

Deuteronomy 7:20 "Moreover the LORD thy God will send the hornet among them, until they that are left, and hide themselves from thee, be destroyed."

The people will flee from the hornet sting. Those who refuse to go, will die from the hornet stings.

Deuteronomy 7:21 "Thou shalt not be affrighted at them: for the LORD thy God [is] among you, a mighty God and terrible."

Fear is the opposite of faith. They must put their faith and trust in the LORD who is among them. He is a mighty God and terrible.

Deuteronomy 7:22 "And the LORD thy God will put out those nations before thee by little and little: thou mayest not consume them at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon thee."

We see the enemy is not moved out in one night, because there would be too many wild animals left for this group of Israelites to fight. They will take the people, a few at a time, to give them time to build safe places for their own cattle and sheep.

Deuteronomy 7:23 "But the LORD thy God shall deliver them unto thee, and shall destroy them with a mighty destruction, until they be destroyed."

God will be with them all the time, that they are fighting these people. God will go before them in every instance, and protect them. God will place them before the Israelites, as they are to fight against them.

Deuteronomy 7:24 "And he shall deliver their kings into thine hand, and thou shalt destroy their name from under heaven: there shall no man be able to stand before thee, until thou have destroyed them."

It would be very important to destroy their leaders, so the people would not have someone to lead them in their battles. This seems as if the siege is for quite some time.

Deuteronomy 7:25 "The graven images of their gods shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not desire the silver or gold [that is] on them, nor take [it] unto thee, lest thou be snared therein: for it [is] an abomination to the LORD thy God."

The graven images were made mostly of silver and gold. The metal, alone, in them would have been valuable. God tells them not to take the metal, after they have melted these images. Gold and silver could be a temptation to sin.

Deuteronomy 7:26 "Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it: [but] thou shalt utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor it; for it [is] a cursed thing."

The gold and silver had been associated with the false god. God tells them not to bring anything into their homes, that are related in any way to the worship of false gods. The things used in false worship are cursed, and could bring the curse to them. These people of God shall hate anything connected to false gods.

Deuteronomy 9 Questions

1. Who are the people in the land, that will be cast out?
2. All of the people from these 7 nations are _____.
3. God had promised Abraham _____ nations would be destroyed.
4. Who were the others?
5. Who was a Rephadim?
6. They were to make no _____ with them.
7. Why is it necessary to run them out totally?
8. Why should they not marry these people?
9. What would happen to those who married these idolaters?
10. What should they do to the altars, and images?
11. What were the altars, images, groves, and graven images associated with?
12. What kind of people are Israel to be?
13. The thing that made Israel different, was their _____ with God.
14. They were not large in number, but _____.
15. What is God's kind of love?
16. Who had God sworn to, that they would receive the promised land?
17. How had God brought them out of Egypt?
18. How long will God keep covenant with those who love Him?
19. What was the condition of His covenant with them?
20. What are some of the blessings mentioned in verse 13?
21. The Hebrews thought it a _____ not to have children.
22. What is a disease of our day caused by sin, in most cases?
23. How do we know that all sickness is not from sin?
24. Why did God tell them to have no pity on these people?
25. What is the sin in verse 17?
26. What were they to remember, to help them not be afraid?
27. What will God send among their enemies, to help run them off?
28. Why would it take some time to move all of the enemy out?
29. Why should they not keep the gold and silver from the burned images?
30. The people of God shall hate anything connected to _____ _____.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 8:1 "All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers."

This seems to be a continuation of our last lesson. We see, again, the importance of keeping God's commandments. Notice, the word "all". We see to keep part of the commandments, is not enough. They must keep all of them to live. This land is theirs, but they must go in and possess it.

Deuteronomy 8:2 "And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, [and] to prove thee, to know what [was] in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no."

Now, we see these 40 years were a time of testing. God must humble these proud people. Their hearts must be made pure, and they must conform to the will of God in their lives. The lesson, in this, for us, could be that trials are more easily understood, after they are over. When we are in the midst of a problem, it is seldom easy to see the benefit of it. Romans 5:3 "And not only [so], but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;" Romans 5:4 "And patience, experience; and experience, hope:" Romans 5:5 "And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."

Deuteronomy 8:3 "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every [word] that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live."

We find that they were taught that God is their source. When they hungered, He fed them. They did not know what the manna was, just that it kept them from starving. They soon found that God was their provider. The statement, in the verse above, is in the New Testament, too. Matthew 4:4 "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Deuteronomy 8:4 "Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years."

This is a tremendous miracle in itself. Ordinarily, clothes do not last 40 years without wearing out. The even greater miracle is that these old people did not have swollen feet from this journey.

Deuteronomy 8:5 "Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, [so] the LORD thy God chasteneth thee."

Those the LORD loves, He chastens. Hebrews 12:6 "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth." Hebrews 12:7 "If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?" Chastening is for a moment to correct error. Psalms 94:12 "Blessed [is] the man whom thou chastenest, O

LORD, and teachest him out of thy law;" I Corinthians 11:32 "But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world."

Deuteronomy 8:6 "Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him."

Exodus 18:20 "And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do." Psalms 128:1 "Blessed [is] every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways."

Deuteronomy 8:7 "For the LORD thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills;"

Now, Moses is describing the beautiful land of promise to them. This is preparing them to receive the blessings God has for them. This would mean so much to them, because they have just come out of a desert with very little water.

Deuteronomy 8:8 "A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey;"

Palestine, even today, is a fertile land where much food grows. This land is fertile, and with plenty of water can grow all of the things mentioned above in abundance. This would be a welcome change to the limited diet they had coming across the desert.

Deuteronomy 8:9 "A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any [thing] in it; a land whose stones [are] iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass."

These very metals have been found here. There will be no lack of food. This is a breadbasket for this part of the world.

Deuteronomy 8:10 "When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the LORD thy God for the good land which he hath given thee."

The practice of thanking God for the food we eat, has been evident in Israel, since these very days mentioned here. We are told that anything we pray over before we eat it is clean to us.

Deuteronomy 8:11 "Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day:"

All of these wonderful blessings showered upon them are conditional. They must remember their LORD. They must keep His commandments to keep these blessings.

Deuteronomy 8:12 "Lest [when] thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt [therein];"

When we are full, it is easy to forget to be thankful for what we have. We all seem to remember to pray, when we are in need.

Deuteronomy 8:13 "And [when] thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied;"

This is speaking of a time of prosperity. When all our needs are taken care of, it is easy to forget God who furnished all of it for us. We only appreciate the water, when the well runs dry.

Deuteronomy 8:14 "Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;"

It is so easy to forget the bad times, when they are gone. They must remember where they came from, and how they got where they are. God wants them to remember, He delivered them.

Deuteronomy 8:15 "Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, [wherein were] fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where [there was] no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint;"

They must look back and remember the hardships, so they can remember to be thankful to God for bringing them this far.

Deuteronomy 8:16 "Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end;"

The LORD had miraculously fed them these 40 years with that heavenly Bread, which symbolizes the Lord Jesus. John 6:50 "This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die." John 6:51 "I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

Deuteronomy 8:17 "And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of [mine] hand hath gotten me this wealth."

When they remember the miraculous Bread from heaven, they will know the wealth they have now is, also, a gift from God. They must never forget that all they have is because God gave it to them. It is not their own doing.

Deuteronomy 8:18 "But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for [it is] he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as [it is] this day."

They must not think their own ability got them this wealth. They must remember God gives all good gifts to those who love and obey Him. James 1:17 "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

Deuteronomy 8:19 "And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the LORD thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish."

Moses reminds them, over and over, that they must not get filled up with pride, because God has blessed them so greatly. The next thing after pride is to forget God. To forget God who blessed them, would bring certain disaster. To walk after false gods, is to commit spiritual adultery. That is not only being unfaithful to God, but shaming Him, as well.

Deuteronomy 8:20 "As the nations which the LORD destroyeth before your face, so shall ye perish; because ye would not be obedient unto the voice of the LORD your God."

If they act like the heathens, they will be treated like the heathens. God destroyed the nations before Israel, because they worshipped false gods. It would be no different for them, if they turn away from the Living God.

Deuteronomy 10 Questions

1. Why is it important for them to keep the commandments?
2. How many are they to keep?
3. What was the purpose of the 40 years of wandering?
4. Quote Romans chapter 5 verses 3 through 5.
5. How had God fed them?
6. Why were they fed this way?
7. Quote Matthew chapter 4 verse 4.
8. What was miraculous about their clothing, and their feet on this journey?
9. Those the LORD loves, He _____.
10. Quote Hebrews chapter 12 verse 6.
11. We are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be _____ with the world.
12. Quote Exodus chapter 18 verse 20.
13. Blessed is every one that _____ the LORD.
14. What kind of land has God given them?
15. Why will there be no lack of food for them?
16. What metals will be found there?
17. What did Moses tell them to beware of?
18. We all remember to pray when we are _____.
19. What is speaking of prosperity?
20. When is it easy to forget where the blessings come from?
21. What does verse 15 say was in the wilderness?
22. Quote John chapter 6 verses 50 and 51.
23. In verse 17, they think what has gotten them this wealth?
24. Quote James chapter 1 verse 17.
25. If they worship false gods, what will happen to them?
26. To walk after false gods, is to commit _____.
27. If they act like heathens, they will be _____ like heathens.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 9:1 "Hear, O Israel: Thou [art] to pass over Jordan this day, to go in to possess nations greater and mightier than thyself, cities great and fenced up to heaven,"

Moses continues to bring before them the fact that they are led of God. They must listen carefully and obey. "This Day" means in the very near future. The people in the lands they are about to possess are not weak in the physical sense. In fact, they are very strong physically. God is removing them, because of the magnitude of the sins in their lives. They are idolatrous, which God will not permit. They do have strong world fortifications, but none of this can stop God.

Deuteronomy 9:2 "A people great and tall, the children of the Anakims, whom thou knowest, and [of whom] thou hast heard [say], Who can stand before the children of Anak!"

They were much larger people than the Israelites. Just as this was no problem with Og, it will be no problem here. Instead of saying, "who can stand before the sons of Anak", they should say, "who can stand before God". There is no power on earth strong enough to withstand God.

Deuteronomy 9:3 "Understand therefore this day, that the LORD thy God [is] he which goeth over before thee; [as] a consuming fire he shall destroy them, and he shall bring them down before thy face: so shalt thou drive them out, and destroy them quickly, as the LORD hath said unto thee."

The Israelites must not hesitate to go into the land, but they must not depend on their own strength to defeat these people. God will go before them. He is their strength. Psalms 140:7 "O GOD the Lord, the strength of my salvation, thou hast covered my head in the day of battle." The Scripture that helps me, when I feel I cannot go on is the following. Isaiah 12:2 "Behold, God [is] my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH [is] my strength and [my] song; he also is become my salvation."

Deuteronomy 9:4 "Speak not thou in thine heart, after that the LORD thy God hath cast them out from before thee, saying, For my righteousness the LORD hath brought me in to possess this land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD doth drive them out from before thee."

It is not the righteousness of Israel that causes God to do this for them, but the wickedness of their enemies. God loves Israel, and wants them to return that love in obedience to Him. They are not perfect, just loved.

Deuteronomy 9:5 "Not for thy righteousness, or for the uprightness of thine heart, dost thou go to possess their land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee, and that he may perform the word which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

Abraham was counted righteous, because of his great faith. The blessings that were coming upon Israel were because of the promises God had made to Abraham, and in turn to Isaac, and Jacob. The lack of faith is the

very thing that caused the Israelite fathers not to enter the promised land, but wander 40 years. Now, this generation has a chance to enter, if they have enough faith.

Deuteronomy 9:6 "Understand therefore, that the LORD thy God giveth thee not this good land to possess it for thy righteousness; for thou [art] a stiffnecked people."

"Stiffnecked" means obstinate, rebellious, stubborn. Moses would have them understand their righteousness is not what got them the land. They receive the land on faith, because of their ancestor Abraham. God is keeping His promise to Abraham.

Deuteronomy 9:7 "Remember, [and] forget not, how thou provokedst the LORD thy God to wrath in the wilderness: from the day that thou didst depart out of the land of Egypt, until ye came unto this place, ye have been rebellious against the LORD."

They had been a people who were never satisfied. They had murmured against God, Moses, and Aaron. They had made the golden calf. They had sinned with false gods. They were a people who did not want to be ruled of God. Over and over, the LORD had been angered by their sins.

Deuteronomy 9:8 "Also in Horeb ye provoked the LORD to wrath, so that the LORD was angry with you to have destroyed you."

I suppose their very worst sin had been when they made the golden calf and worshipped it, while Moses was gone up the mountain to receive the two tables of stone with the ten commandments graven in them. They were without excuse, because God had spoken the ten commandments from the fire on the mountain, and they had all heard. They, also, had agreed to keep the commandments of God. The LORD would have destroyed them all, had not Moses begged for their lives.

Deuteronomy 9:9 "When I was gone up into the mount to receive the tables of stone, [even] the tables of the covenant which the LORD made with you, then I abode in the mount forty days and forty nights, I neither did eat bread nor drink water:"

Moses had fasted for forty days and nights, while on the mountain top with God. He had been in the near presence of God. His head shone so brightly, when he came down the mountain, that he had to wear a veil to keep from blinding the people.

Deuteronomy 9:10 "And the LORD delivered unto me two tables of stone written with the finger of God; and on them [was written] according to all the words, which the LORD spake with you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly."

The main thing we must see in this, is that the fiery finger of God wrote the commandments on the stones. This was the first set of stones God prepared for Moses to bring and present to the people. These were the same commandments God had spoken to them at the mount.

Deuteronomy 9:11 "And it came to pass at the end of forty days and forty nights, [that] the LORD gave me the two tables of stone, [even] the tables of the covenant."

Moses stayed on the mountain, until the LORD told him to go. We see total obedience on the part of Moses. The tables of stone with the ten commandments are given to Moses.

Deuteronomy 9:12 "And the LORD said unto me, Arise, get thee down quickly from hence; for thy people which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt have corrupted [themselves]; they are quickly turned aside out of the way which I commanded them; they have made them a molten image."

We see they had quickly forgotten the ten commandments, God had spoken to them. Not only had God forbidden them to make a golden image, but He had forbidden worship of it, too. It had been just a short time since they had heard the voice of God, and yet they have turned to idols.

Deuteronomy 9:13 "Furthermore the LORD spake unto me, saying, I have seen this people, and, behold, it [is] a stiffnecked people:"

They are a people who want to do what pleases themselves. They do not want to obey anyone. They have rebelled against God.

Deuteronomy 9:14 "Let me alone, that I may destroy them, and blot out their name from under heaven: and I will make of thee a nation mightier and greater than they."

The LORD, at this point in time, wants to destroy them all, and start all over with Moses. He is already grieved that He chose them to be His people. Moses actually pleads with God for their lives. God does not destroy them, because of Moses' request.

Deuteronomy 9:15 "So I turned and came down from the mount, and the mount burned with fire: and the two tables of the covenant [were] in my two hands."

God remained on the mount. He was present in the fire on the mount. Moses came down the mountain alone with the two tables containing the ten commandments.

Deuteronomy 9:16 "And I looked, and, behold, ye had sinned against the LORD your God, [and] had made you a molten calf: ye had turned aside quickly out of the way which the LORD had commanded you."

Actually, they had convinced Aaron to make the golden calf. They had so quickly turned aside to this golden calf to worship. They wanted something they could see with their physical eyes. God is a Spirit. The true God is Creator of all the world. He cannot be seen with physical eyes.

Deuteronomy 9:17 "And I took the two tables, and cast them out of my two hands, and brake them before your eyes."

When Moses threw the stones to the ground and broke them, it showed that their agreement with God had been broken by them. They had turned from the One True God to the worship of an image.

Deuteronomy 9:18 "And I fell down before the LORD, as at the first, forty days and forty nights: I did neither eat bread, nor drink water, because of all your sins which ye sinned, in doing wickedly in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger."

Moses went back up on the mountain where the presence of God was. He stayed on the mountain another 40 days and 40 nights, without eating, or drinking water. They had provoked God to anger, and Moses interceded for them.

Deuteronomy 9:19 "For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure, wherewith the LORD was wroth against you to destroy you. But the LORD hearkened unto me at that time also."

The LORD spared them, because of Moses' prayers for them.

Deuteronomy 9:20 "And the LORD was very angry with Aaron to have destroyed him: and I prayed for Aaron also the same time."

The mention of God being extremely angry with Aaron is not mentioned in Exodus, but we can surely see why God would have been angry with him. Perhaps, this is mentioned here, to show that even the highest official in the church can, also, anger God. Just because a person is a pastor of a church, does not exempt him from the penalty for sin.

Deuteronomy 9:21 "And I took your sin, the calf which ye had made, and burnt it with fire, and stamped it, [and] ground [it] very small, [even] until it was as small as dust: and I cast the dust thereof into the brook that descended out of the mount."

The following Scripture tells a little more clearly why Moses strewed the gold dust from the calf in the brook. Exodus 32:20 "And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt [it] in the fire, and ground [it] to powder, and strawed [it] upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink [of it]." In a sense, they drank of their own sin.

Deuteronomy 9:22 "And at Taberah, and at Massah, and at Kibroth-hattaavah, ye provoked the LORD to wrath."

At Taberah, they murmured against God. At Massah, they complained of lack of water, until God miraculously provided good water for them to drink. At Kibroth-hattaavah they complained of the manna which fed them. They were complaining about something all the time. God would punish them, they would repent and then a short time later, it would begin again.

Deuteronomy 9:23 "Likewise when the LORD sent you from Kadesh-barnea, saying, Go up and possess the land which I have given you; then ye rebelled against the commandment of the LORD your God, and ye believed him not, nor hearkened to his voice."

This is speaking of the twelve spies who went for forty days into the promised land, to see if they could take it. God did not tell them to question whether they could take it, or not. He told them to take it. Only two spies, Joshua and Caleb, came back with a good report. The others convinced the people not to go in. They were punished by wandering in the wilderness, until the doubters died.

Deuteronomy 9:24 "Ye have been rebellious against the LORD from the day that I knew you."

Moses had trouble with them, even before they left Egypt. They had complained the entire 40 years. Moses is trying to make them realize, they have not been acting in faith toward God.

Deuteronomy 9:25 "Thus I fell down before the LORD forty days and forty nights, as I fell down [at the first]; because the LORD had said he would destroy you."

This 40 days was in addition to the first 40 days. This time Moses has to prepare the stones himself for God to write on. He is pleading with God for their lives.

Deuteronomy 9:26 "I prayed therefore unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, destroy not thy people and thine inheritance, which thou hast redeemed through thy greatness, which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand."

Moses reminds God that He chose these people. These are the people of the inheritance. God miraculously freed them from Egypt, Himself. He destroyed Pharaoh's army for them. He must not give up on them now.

Deuteronomy 9:27 "Remember thy servants, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; look not unto the stubbornness of this people, nor to their wickedness, nor to their sin:"

Moses reminds God of His promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He is saying, "Do this because you promised them, not because of these stubborn people. They were a wicked, sinful, stubborn people. God had delivered them from the clutches of Egypt. Now, He is having difficulty getting Egypt out of them. They had lived in a heathen nation. They had picked up many of the ways of the world. God does not destroy them for Abraham's sake.

Deuteronomy 9:28 "Lest the land whence thou broughtest us out say, Because the LORD was not able to bring them into the land which he promised them, and because he hated them, he hath brought them out to slay them in the wilderness."

All of the people in the lands around them knew that God was with this people. They knew of the ten plagues that freed them from Egypt. They knew that God had parted the Red Sea for them to cross. They knew God destroyed Pharaoh's army for these people. They were aware that God was leading them with a fire by night, and a smoke by day. If He destroys them now, it will appear God is lacking in power. Moses has made a good point.

Deuteronomy 9:29 "Yet they [are] thy people and thine inheritance, which thou broughtest out by thy mighty power and by thy stretched out arm."

The best statement of all is, perhaps, the fact that they are God's people. He has chosen them. As bad as they are, they are His. They do not deserve to be saved. God saved them in spite of that fact. It sounds familiar doesn't it. We do not deserve to be saved either. God saves, us because He loves us, not because we deserve it.

Deuteronomy 11 Questions

1. What does "this day", in verse 1, mean?
2. What kind of people will Israel face?
3. Why is God moving these people out for Israel?
4. Their cities were said to be fenced up to _____.
5. These people were tall like the _____.
6. Instead of saying "Who can stand before the sons of Anak" they should say what?
7. How will God destroy their enemies?
8. Quote Psalms chapter 140 verse 7.
9. Quote Isaiah chapter 12 verse 2.
10. It is not the righteousness of Israel, but the _____ of their enemies that causes God to drive them out.
11. Who had God given His Word to about this land?
12. Abraham was counted righteous, because of his _____.
13. What had caused the Israelite fathers not to go into the promised land?
14. What does "stiffnecked" mean?
15. God is keeping His promise to _____.
16. What terrible thing had they done at Horeb?
17. Why were they without excuse?
18. The LORD would have destroyed them all, had not _____ begged for their lives.
19. How long did Moses fast on the mountain?
20. How were the tables of stone written?
21. Why did God tell Moses to get down quickly to the people?
22. What did God want to do, when He saw the golden calf?
23. What did Moses find, when he came down the mount?
24. What reaction did Moses have?
25. Where did Moses go then?
26. The LORD spared the people, because of Moses' _____ for them.
27. How did God feel toward Aaron?
28. Why did He not kill Aaron?
29. Quote Exodus chapter 32 verse 20.
30. What had happened at Taberah?
31. What had happened at Massah?
32. What had happened at Kibroth-hattaavah?
33. What had they done wrong at Kadesh-barnea?
34. Who were the only two spies, who came back with a good report?
35. When had Moses started having trouble with the people of Israel?
36. What was different about the ten commandments on the tables of stone, the second time Moses got them?
37. Who did Moses tell God to remember?
38. What would the nations around think, if God killed the Israelites?
39. Who do these people really belong to?
40. How are we, Christians, like the Israelites?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 10:1 "At that time the LORD said unto me, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first, and come up unto me into the mount, and make thee an ark of wood."

Notice, in this, that Moses hews the second set of stones. God prepared them the first time. These stones were to be housed in the ark of the covenant. The plans for the ark were given Moses on the mount. The ark was built, and put into the tabernacle in the wilderness at a later time. The ark was to be made of shittim wood and overlaid with gold.

Deuteronomy 10:2 "And I will write on the tables the words that were in the first tables which thou brakest, and thou shalt put them in the ark."

We read in a previous lesson, that the finger of God wrote on the tables of stone. It will be the responsibility of Moses to care for the tables of stone, until the tabernacle is built, and they are placed in the ark in the holy of holies.

Deuteronomy 10:3 "And I made an ark [of] shittim wood, and hewed two tables of stone like unto the first, and went up into the mount, having the two tables in mine hand."

Moses hewing the stones, instead of God, shows that there must be some effort on man's part to renew the covenant with God. Perhaps, there was a short period of time between the time Moses came down with the first tables, and the time he re-enters the mount with the tables for God to write on the second time. Chapter 25 in Exodus reveals a more detailed explanation of this.

Deuteronomy 10:4 "And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments, which the LORD spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly: and the LORD gave them unto me."

You can find the ten commandments in Exodus chapter 20. Their first knowledge of the ten commandments was when God spoke them aloud to the whole camp. Moses went to the mount two separate times, and received two different sets of the same commandments.

Deuteronomy 10:5 "And I turned myself and came down from the mount, and put the tables in the ark which I had made; and there they be, as the LORD commanded me."

The tables were actually put into the ark, after the tabernacle had been dedicated to the LORD. Moses kept the commandments, until that time. In a summary, such as this, sometimes one sentence covers a period of time.

Deuteronomy 10:6 "And the children of Israel took their journey from Beeroth of the children of Jaakan to Mosera: there Aaron died, and there he was buried; and Eleazar his son ministered in the priest's office in his stead."

We see that this has jumped many years forward. God forgave Aaron and the congregation of Israel, for their worship of the golden calf. In the verse above, we see that God continued the office of high priest in the son of Aaron, Eleazar.

Deuteronomy 10:7 "From thence they journeyed unto Gudgodah; and from Gudgodah to Jotbath, a land of rivers of waters."

Gudgodah was associated with the cave of Gilead. Jotbath seemed to be a place, where the water was plentiful in streams. Water had been a major problem with the Israelites on their desert journey. Neither of the places here are well known. They were, probably, mentioned by Moses, because of the abundance of water there.

Deuteronomy 10:8 "At that time the LORD separated the tribe of Levi, to bear the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister unto him, and to bless in his name, unto this day."

This happened back where God had restored the covenant with the two new tables of stone. At the building of the tabernacle in the wilderness, God appointed the Levites for work with the holy things. The tribe of Levi actually substituted for the firstborn of each family. The Levitical tribe was to keep this separated condition, even after they came into the land of promise.

Deuteronomy 10:9 "Wherefore Levi hath no part nor inheritance with his brethren; the LORD [is] his inheritance, according as the LORD thy God promised him."

In the separation of the land of promise, the tribe of Levi did not inherit. They belonged to the LORD. They were to live of the gifts of the altar. The tribe of Joseph got two portions instead of one, and Levi was removed from the land portions. Levites lived and worked in the service of the LORD. They received cities for their families to live in. Numbers 18:24 "But the tithes of the children of Israel, which they offer [as] an heave offering unto the LORD, I have given to the Levites to inherit: therefore I have said unto them, Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance."

Deuteronomy 10:10 "And I stayed in the mount, according to the first time, forty days and forty nights; and the LORD hearkened unto me at that time also, [and] the LORD would not destroy thee."

This reverts back to Moses' second trip up the mount for the second set of the tables of the ten commandments. This is summing up the results of God forgiving them for their transgression.

Deuteronomy 10:11 "And the LORD said unto me, Arise, take [thy] journey before the people, that they may go in and possess the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give unto them."

This is not looking back. Moses is told of God, for the children of Israel to go in and possess the land, that their father's should have gone in and taken.

Deuteronomy 10:12 "And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,"

To retain all that God has given them, requires them to fear the LORD enough that they will obey Him and walk in His ways. He must be first in their hearts, souls, and minds. Jesus says it best in the following Scripture. John 14:15 "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

Deuteronomy 10:13 "To keep the commandments of the LORD, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?"

The commandments and the statutes of God are for the benefit of man. The blessings of God upon them, depend entirely upon them keeping God's commandments.

Deuteronomy 10:14 "Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens [is] the LORD'S thy God, the earth [also], with all that therein [is]."

This is saying, it is not just the earth that belongs to God, but all of the universe, as well. Everything, and everyone in the universe, belong to God. It is amazing to Moses that God would have chosen Israel to be His, out of all the peoples of the world. I Corinthians 10:26 "For the earth [is] the Lord's, and the fullness thereof."

Deuteronomy 10:15 "Only the LORD had a delight in thy fathers to love them, and he chose their seed after them, [even] you above all people, as [it is] this day."

This is actually speaking of Abraham, who greatly pleased God. The blessings that came to this family, were because of God's love for Abraham. Israel was honored above all nations with God's great love for them. They had nothing to give God in return, but their love. Even the long stay in Egypt was a conditioning of these people to receive the blessings of God.

Deuteronomy 10:16 "Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked."

The circumcision was an outward sign of the keeping of the covenant agreement. Moses is explaining to them here, that the cutting away of the worldliness from their hearts was the true circumcision. The condition of the heart is more important to God than the condition of their flesh. We, Christians, must realize that Christianity is a relationship with Christ, and not a form of religion.

Deuteronomy 10:17 "For the LORD your God [is] God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward:"

The nations around them worship false gods. The True God is the only God. He proved that over and over. One of the purposes of the ten plagues on Egypt, was to defame the false gods of Egypt. God showed His supreme power over nature, when He parted the Red Sea at His command. He showed His power over all provisions, when He caused water to flow from the Rock. He needs nothing at all. He wants our love and respect.

Deuteronomy 10:18 "He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment."

He is the Provider of those who trust Him. God cares for those who are unable to care for themselves. He is Father to the fatherless, and takes up the gap for the widow, as well. He provides food for those who are His, even if He has to rain it down from heaven. He provides their robe of righteousness to all who believe.

Deuteronomy 10:19 "Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt."

If a person has experienced the same problem as another person, he can relate to him better. They were strangers. They should love the stranger, because they understand him.

Deuteronomy 10:20 "Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God; him shalt thou serve, and to him shalt thou cleave, and swear by his name."

The greatest fear these Israelites had known, was at the mount when the LORD spoke from the fire to them. The fear, this is speaking of, is a reverence and an awe of someone so great. A person must choose who they will serve in this life. You cannot serve God and man. Joshua 24:15 "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that [were] on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." There is a time when every person must make this decision. Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." The decision of these Israelites is the same as you and I must make. Who do I fear enough to worship? Do I love Him enough to serve Him? Will I remain faithful to Him? Is His name the name I swear by, because there is no greater?

Deuteronomy 10:21 "He [is] thy praise, and he [is] thy God, that hath done for thee these great and terrible things, which thine eyes have seen."

The LORD, He is God. He is the only One to praise. They have seen miracles beyond the capacity of mankind. He had given them all the room in the world to praise Him. Jeremiah 33:11 "The voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of them that shall say, Praise the LORD of hosts: for the LORD [is] good; for his mercy [endureth] for ever: [and] of them that shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. For I will cause to return the captivity of the land, as at the first, saith the LORD." The only thing we have to offer God, for all the wonderful provisions He has made for us, is our love, our obedience, and our praise. Hebrews 13:15 "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of [our] lips giving thanks to his name."

Deuteronomy 10:22 "Thy fathers went down into Egypt with threescore and ten persons; and now the LORD thy God hath made thee as the stars of heaven for multitude."

When the brothers of Joseph found him in Egypt, they brought Jacob and his family into Egypt. Jacob brought 70 people into Egypt and his

descendents came out just over 400 years later with close to 3,000,000 people. God had fulfilled His promise to Abraham, to make his descendents as the stars of heaven for multitude. Genesis 15:5 "And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be."

Deuteronomy 12 Questions

1. Who must prepare the two tables of stone this time?
2. When was the ark built?
3. What was the ark made of?
4. What will go on the tables?
5. What wrote on the tables of stone?
6. What is shown by Moses hewing these stones, instead of God?
7. Where can we read more details on this subject?
8. Where had God first given the ten commandments to these people?
9. Where, in Exodus, is there a list of the ten commandments?
10. Where would the tables be stored?
11. Where did Aaron die?
12. Who ministered in Aaron's place?
13. Gudgodah was associated with what?
14. What was the tribe of Levi separated out to do?
15. Who was the tribe of Levi a substitute for?
16. Why did the tribe of Levi not inherit land?
17. Quote Numbers chapter 18 verse 24.
18. How long did Moses stay on the mountain the second time?
19. Why was God willing to still give them the promised land?
20. What does the LORD require of Israel?
21. Quote John chapter 14 verse 15.
22. The commandments are for whose benefit?
23. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 10 verse 14.
24. For the earth is the _____.
25. What was the long stay in Egypt for?
26. They were to circumcise their _____.
27. Christianity is a _____ with Christ.
28. What was one of the purposes of the ten plagues in Egypt?
29. When did God show His supreme power over nature?
30. Why should they love the stranger?
31. Quote Joshua chapter 24 verse 15.
32. Quote Acts chapter 4 verse 12.
33. What is the sacrifice we can offer to God?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 11:1 "Therefore thou shalt love the LORD thy God, and keep his charge, and his statutes, and his judgments, and his commandments, always."

This is very similar to the last lesson. Perhaps, Moses is repeating this to drive home the lesson of how important it is to obey the LORD. They must first know who the LORD is, before they completely turn their will over to the will of the LORD. It is their love for the LORD that will cause them to keep His statutes, judgements, and commandments.

Deuteronomy 11:2 "And know ye this day: for [I speak] not with your children which have not known, and which have not seen the chastisement of the LORD your God, his greatness, his mighty hand, and his stretched out arm,"

On this 40 year journey through the wilderness, the LORD had revealed to them His love and His care for them, but He had, also, been teaching them the importance of being faithful to Him. He had shown them His great power, His greatness, and the works of His mighty Right Hand continuously. Even the chastisement of them had been for their learning process. Just as a mother spanks a child to teach it not to run in the road, the Lord taught them what they were not to do. The law taught them the things to observe. The chastisement taught them what they were not to do.

Deuteronomy 11:3 "And his miracles, and his acts, which he did in the midst of Egypt unto Pharaoh the king of Egypt, and unto all his land;"

Some of the people had been born on the way to the promised land. They were not in Egypt when God turned the water to blood, or when He sent the plague of frogs, or when darkness filled the land. Moses is repeating these miracles several times, and reminding them of these things. The first few plagues that the LORD sent affected all of Egypt. It even affected the Israelites. The last few plagues had no affect on Israel. They just affected the Egyptians. The last one, of course, killed all the firstborn of Egypt. All of these things were for the benefit of the Israelites.

Deuteronomy 11:4 "And what he did unto the army of Egypt, unto their horses, and to their chariots; how he made the water of the Red sea to overflow them as they pursued after you, and [how] the LORD hath destroyed them unto this day;"

In the last few lessons, we have spoken of the LORD opening the Red Sea for the Israelites to walk over on dry land. This is speaking of the destruction of the Egyptian army, their chariots, and their horses, when the LORD let the water come back into the Red Sea and drown them. God had held off the army of the Pharaoh, until all Israel was passed over. When God removed His fire, and allowed the Egyptians to pursue Israel into the Sea, He let the water go, and it drowned all of them.

Deuteronomy 11:5 "And what he did unto you in the wilderness, until ye came into this place;"

The manna that fed them, the water from the Rock that they drank, and all of the other miraculous happenings must be remembered. He even killed some of the people in the wilderness, when they disobeyed Him, and turned to false gods.

Deuteronomy 11:6 "And what he did unto Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, the son of Reuben: how the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their households, and their tents, and all the substance that [was] in their possession, in the midst of all Israel:"

They had led an uprising against Moses, Aaron, and the LORD. God was swift in punishing them. They, and all they possessed were swallowed into the pit. This was their families, their tents, and all else they possessed.

Deuteronomy 11:7 "But your eyes have seen all the great acts of the LORD which he did."

God has not kept these things secret from His people. He showed them who He is, and what He is capable of doing in all of this. They should fear and obey Him.

Deuteronomy 11:8 "Therefore shall ye keep all the commandments which I command you this day, that ye may be strong, and go in and possess the land, whither ye go to possess it;"

Moses has given them a very good reason why they must do this. If they are to go in and possess the land, they must have the power of God within. God will cause them to be victorious, if they love and obey Him.

Deuteronomy 11:9 "And that ye may prolong [your] days in the land, which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give unto them and to their seed, a land that floweth with milk and honey."

The land will continue to be theirs, as long as they are faithful to God. The LORD will fulfill His promise to their fathers, when they receive the land. To keep the land will be their responsibility. The land will be theirs, as long as they fear and obey the LORD.

Deuteronomy 11:10 "For the land, whither thou goest in to possess it, [is] not as the land of Egypt, from whence ye came out, where thou sowedst thy seed, and wateredst [it] with thy foot, as a garden of herbs:"

In Egypt, the only production of a crop they had was from their own efforts. This land is a gift to them from God. The crops are abundant, because of the blessings of God upon them.

Deuteronomy 11:11 "But the land, whither ye go to possess it, [is] a land of hills and valleys, [and] drinketh water of the rain of heaven:"

Egypt was a desert land that had to be artificially watered. The land of promise is a land that God, Himself, waters. It is a green fertile land. The flatlands of the desert had grudgingly grown anything. This land is made up of hills and valleys.

Deuteronomy 11:12 "A land which the LORD thy God careth for: the eyes of the LORD thy God [are] always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year."

This speaks of the special care of God for this land. God actually dwelled in this land, in the temple in Jerusalem. It is a place He has chosen above all the other lands of the world. It is called the Holy Land, because of the presence of God, here. In the Bible, everything is measured from Jerusalem {the city of God}. This land is always in the view of God.

Deuteronomy 11:13 "And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul,"

The condition of God's covenant with them, is they must hearken diligently unto His commandments. They must love the LORD more than anything or anyone else, and serve Him from a pure heart.

Deuteronomy 11:14 "That I will give [you] the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil."

This is the promise from God. God controls all the elements. He controls the rain. He can send it to whom He wants to, as often as He wants to. The rain is under the command of the LORD. Rain and sunshine at the proper time bring abundant crops. There was an early harvest in the spring, and a later harvest in the fall. To have a really good year, both crops must produce. In other words, they can live, or die, because of the rain. The former and the later rain is, sometimes, speaking spiritually of the out pouring of the Spirit on man. There was a former rain at Pentecost, and there will be an end time pouring of the Spirit in abundance on all flesh.

Deuteronomy 11:15 "And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full."

God will bless them with plenty to eat, if they follow Him. The grass for the animals, in turn, feeds the people.

Deuteronomy 11:16 "Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;"

They must determine in their hearts to stay faithful to their LORD. It is so easy to be deceived, if they just let themselves get the least bit slack. I Peter 1:13 "Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;" They must guard their hearts, as you would a tremendously valuable treasure. The LORD must remain uppermost in their hearts. False gods lead to destruction. It is easy to be deceived.

Deuteronomy 11:17 "And [then] the LORD'S wrath be kindled against you, and he shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and [lest] ye perish quickly from off the good land which the LORD giveth you."

Those who are deceived and follow after false gods, find the LORD'S wrath upon them. The verse above, is the curse that comes, when they follow

false gods. The land will not produce for them, and the land will be taken away from them.

Deuteronomy 11:18 "Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes."

This is just speaking of keeping God's Words ever before them. The Word of God keeps a person from being deceived. We must hide His Word in our hearts and minds to not be deceived. The Word of God {Bible} should be in our hand. We must never be far away from our Bible {God's Word}. It is the Word stamped into our hearts and minds that keeps us believing the right thing.

Deuteronomy 11:19 "And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

All parents, not just these Israelites, should teach the Word of God to their children. God's Word should be the subject of our conversation. It should be read aloud to the family on a regular basis. Diligent study of God's Word will keep you in His will. We should not do this just for a few minutes of our day. It should be part of our being.

Deuteronomy 11:20 "And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates:"

The Word of God on the gates is a constant reminder of God, when they are going out or coming in.

Deuteronomy 11:21 "That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth."

This would bring about a peace that generally is only experienced in heaven. The blessings of God would be so great, that it would be like heaven here on the earth, if they did this.

Deuteronomy 11:22 "For if ye shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cleave unto him;" Deuteronomy 11:23 "Then will the LORD drive out all these nations from before you, and ye shall possess greater nations and mightier than yourselves."

The word "diligently" speaks of them making a special effort upon their part to keep God's commandments, primarily because of the great love in their hearts for Him. To love Him so much that they want to please Him, brings them great rewards. God will drive out their enemies before them, and set them up instead. The nations living in this land now are powerful, but God will remove them for Israel. All He wants in return is their true love, and devotion, causing them to obey His commandments.

Deuteronomy 11:24 "Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be."

These boundaries were set out in a previous lesson. We will not deal with that here. When they stand upon the land of promise {by faith}, it will be their possession. They must stand in faith to receive it.

Deuteronomy 11:25 "There shall no man be able to stand before you: [for] the LORD your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon, as he hath said unto you."

We just read that their enemies had larger and better armies, than they did. Then, what makes them fear the Israelites? It is the God of the Israelites they fear. The enemy has seen and heard how God goes before them in battle. They are afraid of Israel's God.

Deuteronomy 11:26 "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse;"

They can take whichever they choose. God will not overrule their will. They must choose to follow Him and be blessed, or they will automatically have chosen the curse.

Deuteronomy 11:27 "A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day:"

The blessing from the LORD can be theirs, but they must choose the blessings, by obeying His commandments.

Deuteronomy 11:28 "And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known."

To not obey, brings the curse. It is their own choice to make. False gods cannot help anyone. They are nothing. The only thing they can do, is bring a curse upon you from the True God.

Deuteronomy 11:29 "And it shall come to pass, when the LORD thy God hath brought thee in unto the land whither thou goest to possess it, that thou shalt put the blessing upon mount Gerizim, and the curse upon mount Ebal."

Mount Gerizim sits on one side of a valley, and mount Ebal sits on the other. Shechem was in the valley between them. Ebal was, probably, used as the mountain of the curse, because it had nothing growing on it. Gerizim was a fertile land with much growth. The two mountains symbolized life {Gerizim} and death {Ebal}. It is their choice to have life, or death.

Deuteronomy 11:30 "[Are] they not on the other side Jordan, by the way where the sun goeth down, in the land of the Canaanites, which dwell in the champaign over against Gilgal, beside the plains of Moreh?"

The promised land lay on the west side of the Jordan River. This is explaining that the sun comes up in the east. The land of Canaan was on the west side of the Jordan.

Deuteronomy 11:31 "For ye shall pass over Jordan to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God giveth you, and ye shall possess it, and dwell therein."

We remember, the actual promised land will be inhabited of 9 ½ of the tribes. Reuben, Gad, and the 1/2 tribe of Manasseh will possess land on the east of the Jordan. The promised land, itself, lies on the western side of the Jordan.

Deuteronomy 11:32 "And ye shall observe to do all the statutes and judgments which I set before you this day."

We have studied in this lesson, that their possession of the land is dependent upon their faithfulness to God. They must fear Him and keep His commandments, to be blessed with the land. The message was given to them as a remembrance of God's law by Moses.

Deuteronomy 13 Questions

1. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 11 verse 1.
2. Why does the author believe Moses is repeating this?
3. What will cause them to keep His statutes, judgements, and commandments?
4. What was the purpose of the 40 year journey?
5. What had His chastisement of them been for?
6. What were some of the things God had done in Egypt, to get the release of Israel?
7. Who was affected by the plagues?
8. What was the tenth, or last, plague on Egypt?
9. What did the Lord do to the army of Egypt?
10. How had they been fed in the wilderness?
11. What was the sin of Abiram and Dathan?
12. What was their punishment?
13. What must they have within, to possess the land?
14. How long will the land be theirs?
15. How were they assured of a crop to eat in Egypt?
16. How did this land differ from Egypt?
17. What is verse 12 speaking of?
18. The conditions of God's covenant with them were what?
19. What special promise was made to them in verse 14?
20. _____ and _____ at the proper time bring abundant crops.
21. What, spiritually, do the former and latter rains mean?
22. Take heed to yourselves, that your _____ be not deceived.
23. Quote 1 Peter chapter 1 verse 13.
24. The _____ of God keeps a person from being deceived.
25. The Word of God is in our _____.
26. When should we teach God's ways to our children?
27. What will God do to Israel's enemies, if Israel stays faithful to God?
28. What does the word "diligently" mean?
29. If their enemies are larger and greater than Israel, why do they fear Israel?
30. What two things did Moses set before them?
31. How can they choose to be blessed?
32. What two mountains were mentioned in verse 29?
33. Which of them symbolized life?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 12:1 "These [are] the statutes and judgments, which ye shall observe to do in the land, which the LORD God of thy fathers giveth thee to possess it, all the days that ye live upon the earth."

Moses has already given the ten commandments, again, to these people. The chapter, here, is dedicated to giving the Levitical law again. It is a little different from the earlier one in the book of Leviticus, but basically it is the same.

Deuteronomy 12:2 "Ye shall utterly destroy all the places, wherein the nations which ye shall possess served their gods, upon the high mountains, and upon the hills, and under every green tree:"

The purpose in utterly destroying these places is so the worship of false gods will not spring up among the Israelites. The false gods of the Canaanites, and their places of worship, must be totally done away with.

Deuteronomy 12:3 "And ye shall overthrow their altars, and break their pillars, and burn their groves with fire; and ye shall hew down the graven images of their gods, and destroy the names of them out of that place."

This is a detail of just exactly what was to be done to each of these things. The worship in the high places seemed to be a physical effort on their part, to be nearer their false gods.

Deuteronomy 12:4 "Ye shall not do so unto the LORD your God."

This is just another way of saying that, the LORD their God was the only One to be worshipped.

Deuteronomy 12:5 "But unto the place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, [even] unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come:"

God had led them through the wilderness, and each time they stopped was a campsite He had chosen. The LORD, Himself, will choose the spot for His temple to be built. It is interesting when He does choose, it is at the location where Abraham was to offer Isaac in sacrifice.

Deuteronomy 12:6 "And thither ye shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and your freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks:"

Their offerings to God could not be made at a place of their choosing. Their offerings to God had to be made at a place He had chosen for that purpose. The place where the offerings were to be made had to be holy in the sight of God. Burnt offerings and sacrifices were brought to the altar. We remember from a previous lesson, that these were offered in conjunction with the meat offerings and the drink offerings. The meat offering was the makings for bread. The tithe was one tenth of whatever they are tithing. The heave offerings were lifted and offered to God. Then, they belonged to the

priesthood. This and the freewill offerings were not requirements. They were given in loving appreciation. The bloody sacrifices were for sins, and were brought to the temple to sacrifice.

Deuteronomy 12:7 "And there ye shall eat before the LORD your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the LORD thy God hath blessed thee."

They shared with the altar. The priests and the person offering, both, ate of the offering here.

Deuteronomy 12:8 "Ye shall not do after all [the things] that we do here this day, every man whatsoever [is] right in his own eyes."

God has given instructions and laws on how they are to live. They had been living as the rest of the world, doing what was right in their own sight, until now. God wants Moses to inform them, they are to begin this new life in the promised land with the law of God as their law. They will be governed by God's law. In the wilderness, it would have been difficult to establish these laws. Now that they are to enter their promised land, they must establish them and keep them.

Deuteronomy 12:9 "For ye are not as yet come to the rest and to the inheritance, which the LORD your God giveth you."

When Moses is speaking to them, they have not yet crossed over Jordan. This is to be established, when they do go over.

Deuteronomy 12:10 "But [when] ye go over Jordan, and dwell in the land which the LORD your God giveth you to inherit, and [when] he giveth you rest from all your enemies round about, so that ye dwell in safety;"

God will keep His promise to take them into the land of promise first. God will cause their enemies to live at peace with them. It is the presence of God which brings the perfect peace mentioned here.

Deuteronomy 12:11 "Then there shall be a place which the LORD your God shall choose to cause his name to dwell there; thither shall ye bring all that I command you; your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, your tithes, and the heave offering of your hand, and all your choice vows which ye vow unto the LORD:"

These offerings are not to be made, until God establishes a place to make them. The vows made to God are not of obligation, but dedication. The burnt offerings, sacrifices, tithes, and heave offerings are dealt with in detail in Leviticus.

Deuteronomy 12:12 "And ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God, ye, and your sons, and your daughters, and your menservants, and your maidservants, and the Levite that [is] within your gates; forasmuch as he hath no part nor inheritance with you."

We know that the Levites were not counted among the twelve tribes which inherited land in the promised land. They received cities with boundaries to raise their families. The Levites belonged to God in service. They were not herdsmen, or vineyard keepers. Notice, that all were to worship God. The

women, as well as the men, were expected to join in this worship. To rejoice before the LORD was the obligation of the twelve tribes and the Levitical tribe. We must be thankful for the blessings God bestows upon us.

Deuteronomy 12:13 "Take heed to thyself that thou offer not thy burnt offerings in every place that thou seest:"

We see a warning again, about offering places, other than the place God has chosen. Offerings there would not be acceptable to God.

Deuteronomy 12:14 "But in the place which the LORD shall choose in one of thy tribes, there thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings, and there thou shalt do all that I command thee."

The place of offering had to be a place where no earthly activity took place. It must be a place that has been set aside and sanctified for this specific purpose by God.

Deuteronomy 12:15 "Notwithstanding thou mayest kill and eat flesh in all thy gates, whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee: the unclean and the clean may eat thereof, as of the roebuck, and as of the hart."

It appears from this, that they could eat or drink anything God had blessed them with, and they were thankful for. There was only one restriction to this, as we see in the following verse.

Deuteronomy 12:16 "Only ye shall not eat the blood; ye shall pour it upon the earth as water."

Life is in the blood. The LORD specifically forbids the eating, or drinking, of blood. The New Testament commandments given to the Christians forbid the eating and drinking of blood. Acts 21:25 "As touching the Gentiles which believe, we have written [and] concluded that they observe no such thing, save only that they keep themselves from [things] offered to idols, and from blood, and from strangled, and from fornication." The blood of the animal was to be poured upon the ground and covered with the dirt.

Deuteronomy 12:17 "Thou mayest not eat within thy gates the tithe of thy corn, or of thy wine, or of thy oil, or the firstlings of thy herds or of thy flock, nor any of thy vows which thou vowest, nor thy freewill offerings, or heave offering of thine hand:"

These are things dedicated to the LORD, that must be eaten in the tabernacle. These are not to stay as part of the wealth of the person offering. They belong to the altar of God.

Deuteronomy 12:18 "But thou must eat them before the LORD thy God in the place which the LORD thy God shall choose, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite that [is] within thy gates: and thou shalt rejoice before the LORD thy God in all that thou puttest thine hands unto."

Some of the offerings may be shared with the altar and the Levites. They must first be offered in the temple. Then, the priests give back to the

people the portion they are allowed to eat. All things offered to God are holy. They must eat it in the order prescribed by God.

Deuteronomy 12:19 "Take heed to thyself that thou forsake not the Levite as long as thou livest upon the earth."

The Levite lives of the offerings brought to the church. To forsake them, would leave them without food to sustain them.

Deuteronomy 12:20 "When the LORD thy God shall enlarge thy border, as he hath promised thee, and thou shalt say, I will eat flesh, because thy soul longeth to eat flesh; thou mayest eat flesh, whatsoever thy soul lusteth after."

They will be blessed with abundant land. God will allow them to eat flesh, as long as they do not eat the blood.

Deuteronomy 12:21 "If the place which the LORD thy God hath chosen to put his name there be too far from thee, then thou shalt kill of thy herd and of thy flock, which the LORD hath given thee, as I have commanded thee, and thou shalt eat in thy gates whatsoever thy soul lusteth after."

The temple in Jerusalem, perhaps, might be too far for them to come. This is a provision made for that instance. Under no circumstances, are they to eat, or drink, blood.

Deuteronomy 12:22 "Even as the roebuck and the hart is eaten, so thou shalt eat them: the unclean and the clean shall eat [of] them alike."

This seems to allow the eating of the unclean animal, as long as the blood is completely drained, and not eaten.

Deuteronomy 12:23 "Only be sure that thou eat not the blood: for the blood [is] the life; and thou mayest not eat the life with the flesh."

Throughout Scripture, the life is spoken of as being in the blood. Abel's blood cried out from the earth, after Cain slew him. Somehow, the blood atones for sin. Perhaps, it is like a life for a life. It was the blood of Jesus which did away with our sin. His blood atoned for our sin. He was our substitute on the cross.

Deuteronomy 12:24 "Thou shalt not eat it; thou shalt pour it upon the earth as water."

Even blood that is shed for the killing of an animal to eat, should not be eaten. It must soak into the earth as water does.

Deuteronomy 12:25 "Thou shalt not eat it; that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, when thou shalt do [that which is] right in the sight of the LORD."

This is an ordinance that brings blessings to the person who obeys the ordinance. Those, who want to be in the will of the LORD, will observe this.

Deuteronomy 12:26 "Only thy holy things which thou hast, and thy vows, thou shalt take, and go unto the place which the LORD shall choose."

A vow, and the holy things, must not be taken lightly. They must go to the place God has designated for this purpose.

Deuteronomy 12:27 "And thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings, the flesh and the blood, upon the altar of the LORD thy God: and the blood of thy sacrifices shall be poured out upon the altar of the LORD thy God, and thou shalt eat the flesh."

The burnt offerings must be at the brazen altar in the tabernacle, or temple, that God has designated for this purpose. The blood must be poured on the altar of the LORD. The person offering can eat of the flesh of the animal, however.

Deuteronomy 12:28 "Observe and hear all these words which I command thee, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee for ever, when thou doest [that which is] good and right in the sight of the LORD thy God."

To be blessed of God, is conditional. They must be obedient to God, to receive of His blessings. To keep the commandments of God, brings abundant blessings. To break the commandments of God, brings curses.

Deuteronomy 12:29 "When the LORD thy God shall cut off the nations from before thee, whither thou goest to possess them, and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their land;"

When the ark of the covenant went with them into battles that the Lord had sent them into, God blessed them. The enemies fled before them, or were killed. God removes nations before Israel, so that Israel can receive the land promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Deuteronomy 12:30 "Take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them, after that they be destroyed from before thee; and that thou inquire not after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods? even so will I do likewise."

We see Moses is warning the people not to take any interest at all in the false gods of these Canaanites. Usually, it is not good to delve into other religions. It seems, we forget which is real, and pick up some of the false religion, when we inquire. Christianity is like a marriage to one husband. Being interested in someone else, brings problems.

Deuteronomy 12:31 "Thou shalt not do so unto the LORD thy God: for every abomination to the LORD, which he hateth, have they done unto their gods; for even their sons and their daughters they have burnt in the fire to their gods."

It appears, their evil worship had included human sacrifice. The things that were an abomination before God were some of the very things they were involved in. The worship of false gods is spiritual adultery.

Deuteronomy 12:32 "What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it."

One of the terrible mistakes these Israelites made, just before their Babylonian captivity, was the addition of the worship of false gods to their

worship of the One True God. To add to, or take away from God's teachings, is as if we are saying God made a mistake. We, as well as these Isrraelites, must do exactly as God has commanded, if we are to be blessed of God.

Deuteronomy 14 Questions

1. What is this chapter dedicated to?
2. Where are the law and commandments listed the first time?
3. Why should they utterly destroy the places of worship of the false gods?
4. In verse 3, what details of the destruction is given?
5. Why did they worship in high places?
6. What is verse 4 saying?
7. Where had they camped on their wilderness journey?
8. Who will choose the sight for the worship of God?
9. Where were they to bring their burnt offerings and sacrifices?
10. What were all of the people doing, before they received the law?
11. This new life in the promised land is to be governed by _____ law.
12. When is this law to come into being?
13. The vows are not of obligation, but of _____.
14. Who was to rejoice before the LORD?
15. Why did the Levites not inherit land?
16. What was given to the Levites?
17. Where were they to make their offerings?
18. Is it alright for them to kill and eat their animals?
19. What is forbidden to them to eat or drink?
20. Life is in the _____.
21. Quote Acts chapter 21 verse 25.
22. In verse 19, they are warned not to forsake the _____.
23. Abel's _____ cried out from the earth.
24. Blood should be poured upon the earth as _____.
25. Where were the burnt offerings burned?
26. Who cuts off the nations before them?
27. When the _____ of the _____ went with them into battle, they won.
28. What is Israel not to inquire of from these people?
29. What was one of the terrible practices of their worship?
30. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 12 verse 32.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 13:1 "If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder,"

A true prophet brings messages from God to God's people. He, also, explains the meaning for them. There are false prophets who proclaim to the world that they are prophets. Sometimes, signs follow them. It is interesting, to me, that Pharaoh's magicians could turn their staffs into serpents, the same as Moses' staff turned to a serpent. The difference was that Moses' serpent swallowed their serpents. We must beware. Just signs are not enough to let us know for sure they are not false prophets.

Deuteronomy 13:2 "And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them;"

This sign the false prophets gave that came true, was to prove their message was true. We must remember that the Antichrist will show the sign of calling down fire from heaven. We must check everything out by the Word of God. If the Word does not bear witness, we must not believe it. Anyone who tries to cause you to worship anything, or anyone other than the LORD God, is a false prophet.

Deuteronomy 13:3 "Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul."

Do not sit under the teaching of anyone who teaches any other doctrine. Matthew 24:24 "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if [it were] possible, they shall deceive the very elect." There is only One Truth. Matthew 22:37 "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."

Deuteronomy 13:4 "Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him."

Micah 6:8 "He hath shewed thee, O man, what [is] good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" I Thessalonians 4:1 "Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort [you] by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, [so] ye would abound more and more." I Thessalonians 4:2 "For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus." The Christians, as well as these Israelites, must continue to walk in the salvation they have received from God.

Deuteronomy 13:5 "And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn [you] away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee."

The evil among them must be stopped. The way to do that was to kill the one who is leading the evil. They were commanded to kill the false prophets, so the people would continue to follow God.

Deuteronomy 13:6 "If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which [is] as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers;"

These are relatives and friends that you love in the flesh. Sometimes, they lead us into temptation. We must treat them as if they were strangers. They should no longer be thought of as your brother, mother, or friend, if they do not the will of God. Even a wife who leads you astray, should be thought of as a stranger.

Deuteronomy 13:7 "[Namely], of the gods of the people which [are] round about you, nigh unto thee, or far off from thee, from the [one] end of the earth even unto the [other] end of the earth;"

The people mentioned in verse 6, sometimes, have more influence over us, and can lead us to the wrong teaching. This, again, is warning not to let anyone influence you to worship a false God. The Word of God is truth. Every other teaching is false.

Deuteronomy 13:8 "Thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him:"

Even family, or friends that we love so much, should not be spared, if they are leading people to worship of false gods. We would have a tendency to be more lenient on the immediate members of our family and friends. We must treat them as false prophets.

Deuteronomy 13:9 "But thou shalt surely kill him; thine hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people."

To show there is no partiality with you, you must throw the first stone. They shall be killed for bringing false messages.

Deuteronomy 13:10 "And thou shalt stone him with stones, that he die; because he hath sought to thrust thee away from the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage."

There should be nothing more important than your relationship with God. The truly important reason for the killing of such a person, is to keep him from bringing someone else away from God to his false gods.

Deuteronomy 13:11 "And all Israel shall hear, and fear, and shall do no more any such wickedness as this is among you."

When they stone a relative, or friend, to death for leading them to worship a false god, this should cause all of Israel to hear about it, and fear the same thing happening to them. The consequences for this sin is so great, they would not be tempted to do this.

Deuteronomy 13:12 "If thou shalt hear [say] in one of thy cities, which the LORD thy God hath given thee to dwell there, saying,"

The cities that were taken by them had, also, been places of idol worship. They were told to clean all of that influence out, before they took over the city.

Deuteronomy 13:13 "[Certain] men, the children of Belial, are gone out from among you, and have withdrawn the inhabitants of their city, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which ye have not known;"

In a city, sometimes, it is easy for a large group of people to be influenced wrongly at one time. This is what has happened here. One evil leader can take many people with him, if the people listen to the false doctrine. We saw this happen just a few years ago in South America. Literally hundreds committed suicide, because they were following a false teaching. This movement started in California, and then, they all followed the false prophet to South America.

Deuteronomy 13:14 "Then shalt thou inquire, and make search, and ask diligently; and, behold, [if it be] truth, [and] the thing certain, [that] such abomination is wrought among you;" Deuteronomy 13:15 "Thou shalt surely smite the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword, destroying it utterly, and all that [is] therein, and the cattle thereof, with the edge of the sword."

This city must be destroyed, as was Sodom and Gomorrah. This type of sin cannot go unchecked. It will spread to everyone. The only way to stop it, is to destroy the people involved.

Deuteronomy 13:16 "And thou shalt gather all the spoil of it into the midst of the street thereof, and shalt burn with fire the city, and all the spoil thereof every whit, for the LORD thy God: and it shall be an heap for ever; it shall not be built again."

Even all the valuable things they had, must be gathered up and burned with fire, beyond use. The reason for destroying this city was not to get their wealth, but to stamp out the abomination. Anything connected with that, would be evil.

Deuteronomy 13:17 "And there shall cleave nought of the cursed thing to thine hand: that the LORD may turn from the fierceness of his anger, and shew thee mercy, and have compassion upon thee, and multiply thee, as he hath sworn unto thy fathers;"

Even though it is silver or gold, they must not keep anything back from the burning. The burning of all of it will show their desire for following God in His will. It will show total disassociation for the evil thing.

Deuteronomy 13:18 "When thou shalt hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep all his commandments which I command thee this day, to do [that which is] right in the eyes of the LORD thy God."

God will bless you, if you keep His commandments, and do everything of His will, and not your own. We must be willing for the will of God to totally rule our lives. To hearken to the will of God is saying, "I will

conform to your will in my life, LORD". Total obedience to God, brings blessings.

Deuteronomy 15 Questions

1. What does a true prophet do?
2. What does a false prophet do?
3. What was interesting to the author about Pharaoh's magicians?
4. What was the difference in their miracle, and Moses' miracle?
5. What must we remember about the antichrist?
6. How can we tell, if a message is true, or false?
7. Why do these trials arise?
8. Quote Matthew chapter 24 verse 24.
9. There is only One _____.
10. Quote Matthew chapter 22 verse 37.
11. List some of the things you should do in verse 4.
12. In Micah chapter 6 verse 8, what does the LORD require?
13. Quote 1 Thessalonians chapter 4 verses 1 and 2.
14. Verse 5 says, what should happen to the false prophet?
15. Why should this happen?
16. How was the only way to stop the evil among them?
17. Should we make a difference in the punishment, if it is a near relative?
18. Who shall throw the first stone?
19. What will happen to all of Israel, when they see and hear this?
20. One person can lead a whole _____ astray.
21. What should they do to that city?
22. What was a good example of whole cities being destroyed for their sins?
23. He wants them to gather all the spoil, and do what with it?
24. What will this show?
25. God will bless you, if you do what?

We will begin in Deuteronomy 14:1 "Ye [are] the children of the LORD your God: ye shall not cut yourselves, nor make any baldness between your eyes for the dead."

It was the custom of the heathens around them to cut themselves and shave their heads in mourning for the dead. This is strictly forbidden for God's people. The reason it is forbidden is, because their LORD God is the giver of life. To do this, would show no faith in God. Jesus even said, that we should rejoice at one's death, and mourn at one's birth. Christianity believes in life after death.

Deuteronomy 14:2 "For thou [art] an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that [are] upon the earth."

They have been given God's law, and they are to set an example for the rest of the world. The world is to know these are God's chosen. Their lives are to reveal their relationship with the LORD. "Peculiar" is speaking of their being different. They are set aside to show the world the grace of God.

Deuteronomy 14:3 "Thou shalt not eat any abominable thing."

This separation of themselves from things God had forbidden to the Jews to eat, separates them from other people. We see a Scripture in the New Testament, which shows this was just for the Jews. I Timothy 4:4 "For every creature of God [is] good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving:" I Timothy 4:5 "For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer." The separation for the Jews of these things was to teach them holiness in the LORD. Romans 14:14 "I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that [there is] nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him [it is] unclean." The abominable food the Jews eat are abominable, because God forbid them to eat it. They are being disobedient to God, when they eat it.

Deuteronomy 14:4 "These [are] the beasts which ye shall eat: the ox, the sheep, and the goat," Deuteronomy 14:5 "The hart, and the roebuck, and the fallow deer, and the wild goat, and the pygarg, and the wild ox, and the chamois." Deuteronomy 14:6 "And every beast that parteth the hoof, and cleaveth the cleft into two claws, [and] cheweth the cud among the beasts, that ye shall eat."

The three verses above, are a re-stating from Leviticus of the meat that is permitted the Israelite to eat. Perhaps, for health reasons, we would feel better, if we followed these rules ourselves. The above would be classified as clean animals. "Pygarg" is an antelope.

Deuteronomy 14:7 "Nevertheless these ye shall not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the cloven hoof; [as] the camel, and the hare, and the coney: for they chew the cud, but divide not the hoof; [therefore] they [are] unclean unto you."

We see the reason these are forbidden to eat, is that they do not follow both the cloven hoof and chewing the cud.

Deuteronomy 14:8 "And the swine, because it divideth the hoof, yet cheweth not the cud, it [is] unclean unto you: ye shall not eat of their flesh, nor touch their dead carcase."

We went into detail on this in Leviticus. We will just state here, that pork that is not well cooked can make you very sick. This is a law of preservation for the Jews. You might list it as a dietary law. A swine is a scavenger. This is why it is forbidden.

Deuteronomy 14:9 "These ye shall eat of all that [are] in the waters: all that have fins and scales shall ye eat:" Deuteronomy 14:10 "And whatsoever hath not fins and scales ye may not eat; it [is] unclean unto you."

Again, the separation here is of those fish which are scavengers and eat anything. The fish without fins have no discretion about what they eat. They are blood eaters.

Deuteronomy 14:11 "[Of] all clean birds ye shall eat." Deuteronomy 14:12 "But these [are they] of which ye shall not eat: the eagle, and the ossifrage, and the osprey," Deuteronomy 14:13 "And the glede, and the kite, and the vulture after his kind," Deuteronomy 14:14 "And every raven after his kind," Deuteronomy 14:15 "And the owl, and the night hawk, and the cuckoo, and the hawk after his kind," Deuteronomy 14:16 "The little owl, and the great owl, and the swan," Deuteronomy 14:17 "And the pelican, and the gier eagle, and the cormorant," Deuteronomy 14:18 "And the stork, and the heron after her kind, and the lapwing, and the bat." Deuteronomy 14:19 "And every creeping thing that flieth [is] unclean unto you: they shall not be eaten." Deuteronomy 14:20 "[But of] all clean fowls ye may eat."

These regulations, again, are dietary laws. The birds that are forbidden here, on the whole are "scavengers", and live of dead things. They are part of God's system of cleaning up the dead things on the earth. The most important thing about these things, is God's care for His people. We see that God wants them to learn to obey His commands without questioning why.

Deuteronomy 14:21 "Ye shall not eat [of] any thing that dieth of itself: thou shalt give it unto the stranger that [is] in thy gates, that he may eat it; or thou mayest sell it unto an alien: for thou [art] an holy people unto the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not see the a kid in his mother's milk."

We see in this that, the stranger {heathen} has no such ordinance. He can eat whatever is available. He is not a circumcised person, so does not obey the dietary laws. The Hebrew's holiness in the Lord would keep them from eating it. A Hebrew will not serve milk and meat at the same meal. This is, possibly, the extreme of the statement above. "Seething" is a form of boiling. The only reason for this would be sympathy for the animals, I suppose.

Deuteronomy 14:22 "Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year."

A "tithe" is 1/10 of their increase. Seed refers to everything grown by that seed. It appears, they take the 1/10 to the place of worship, and prepare it as food there. The eating of these holy things, in a sense, makes them partakers of holiness.

Deuteronomy 14:23 "And thou shalt eat before the LORD thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear the LORD thy God always."

This meal is to be a holy communion with the LORD. This being brought to the holy place, shows that this no longer belongs to the person bringing it. The fact that he eats of that which is the LORD's, shows he is actually partaking of the LORD. This eating shows obedience to the LORD. Had he eaten this 1/10 at home, it would have been sin. All of this shows he is interested in pleasing the LORD.

Deuteronomy 14:24 "And if the way be too long for thee, so that thou art not able to carry it; [or] if the place be too far from thee, which the LORD thy God shall choose to set his name there, when the LORD thy God hath blessed thee:"

Jerusalem would be chosen as the place of worship. Some of the places are pretty far away from there. This is to cover the inconvenience of going many miles to keep this. There must be an offering, to show their gratitude for the LORD blessing them.

Deuteronomy 14:25 "Then shalt thou turn [it] into money, and bind up the money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose:"

The 1/10 that belongs to the LORD is not to be eaten in regular meals at home. This must be sold for money. He must take the money to the place the Lord has chosen for him to worship. He still makes the trip to the LORD's house, but is not weighted down with the animals.

Deuteronomy 14:26 "And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth: and thou shalt eat there before the LORD thy God, and thou shalt rejoice, thou, and thine household,"

They actually use the money to buy what they are taking to the LORD's house. They carry whatever they have purchased, and eat it in the presence of the LORD. This is the same as before, the only difference is they buy their offering.

Deuteronomy 14:27 "And the Levite that [is] within thy gates; thou shalt not forsake him; for he hath no part nor inheritance with thee."

We have discussed before that, the Levites live of the offerings that are brought to the church.

Deuteronomy 14:28 "At the end of three years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year, and shalt lay [it] up within thy gates:"

This is speaking of that portion which is set aside for the Levite and the stranger. This is separated out from their own food. It is kept for the necessities we see in the next verse.

Deuteronomy 14:29 "And the Levite, (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee,) and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which [are] within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied; that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest."

The portion that is set aside is specifically for the Levite, but is, also, used to feed the hungry stranger, or widow, or orphans. This is for those who have nothing of their own. The Hebrew must always care for those less fortunate than himself. This is one thing that made him like his God. When he does help the helpless, God will abundantly bless him.

Deuteronomy 16 Questions

1. Why were they not to cut themselves for the dead?
2. What did Jesus say about birth and death?
3. Who were they to set an example for?
4. What kind of people were they called in verse 2?
5. What is different about them?
6. Thou shalt not eat any _____ thing.
7. Quote 1 Timothy chapter 4 verses 4 and 5.
8. What are the beasts they can eat?
9. "Pygarg" is an _____.
10. What are some of the animals they cannot eat?
11. Why was pork specifically forbidden?
12. What kind of law is covered here?
13. What fish can be eaten?
14. What fish are forbidden?
15. What are some birds strictly forbidden to eat?
16. "Scavengers" live of _____ things.
17. Who can eat of things that die of themselves?
18. What is "seething"?
19. What is a "tithe"?
20. Where shall they eat the holy things?
21. What is this meal in verse 23?
22. What is the exception in verse 24?
23. Explain what the person far off does to fulfill this?
24. Where must they eat the offering?
25. What do the Levites live of?
26. What is verse 28 speaking of?
27. What is the one thing that makes these Israelites like God?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 15:1 "At the end of [every] seven years thou shalt make a release."

This release seems to be a year that the creditor is to not exact the payment from the borrower. The borrower would, probably, not be able to pay, because of letting the land rest for a year.

Deuteronomy 15:2 "And this [is] the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth [ought] unto his neighbour shall release [it]; he shall not exact [it] of his neighbour, or of his brother; because it is called the LORD'S release."

This is a sabbath for the land, and, also, a sabbath for the borrower. It is a time when labor is to cease. The creditor received his money in payments from the labor of the borrower. If the borrower did not labor that year, he would have nothing to pay with. This is the LORD's requirement. The lender should take this into consideration, when he loans.

Deuteronomy 15:3 "Of a foreigner thou mayest exact [it again]: but [that] which is thine with thy brother thine hand shall release;"

The foreigner would be able to work, and earn money that year. He could, therefore, be required to pay. The release is for those who respect sabbath.

Deuteronomy 15:4 "Save when there shall be no poor among you; for the LORD shall greatly bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee [for] an inheritance to possess it:"

This is saying, that the blessings of God upon them will be so great, that his brother would not need to borrow. This is speaking of there being no poor in the land. In the chance that he loans to his brother, God will bless the lender, if he follows the release of his brother.

Deuteronomy 15:5 "Only if thou carefully hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all these commandments which I command thee this day."

Blessings from God come upon them only, when they keep His commandments.

Deuteronomy 15:6 "For the LORD thy God blesseth thee, as he promised thee: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, but thou shalt not borrow; and thou shalt reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over thee."

If they keep God's commandments, the Israelites will not have need to borrow from anyone. They will be the lender to the rest of the world. They will not have an earthly ruler. Their King is God. They will not be ruled by other nations, but they will rule other nations.

Deuteronomy 15:7 "If there be among you a poor man of one of thy brethren within any of thy gates in thy land which the LORD thy God giveth

thee, thou shalt not harden thine heart, nor shut thine hand from thy poor brother:"

This is an encouragement to lend to their poor brothers, to help them get started. The person who has plenty, and does not need to borrow, must have compassion on those less fortunate, and be willing to lend to them.

Deuteronomy 15:8 "But thou shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need, [in that] which he wanteth."

The person lending must not be tight-fisted. They must be open-handed to lend to those who need. Those who are blessed with wealth, must be quick to lend to those who have needs and wants.

Deuteronomy 15:9 "Beware that there be not a thought in thy wicked heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand; and thine eye be evil against thy poor brother, and thou givest him nought; and he cry unto the LORD against thee, and it be sin unto thee."

This is saying, that just because the year of release is near, is not a reason {in the sight of the LORD} not to lend to the needy. The heart full of greed is, also, a heart full of sin. God judges the heart of man.

Deuteronomy 15:10 "Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou puttest thine hand unto."

To receive blessings of abundance from God, they must bless those in need around them. Let's look at what is said in the New Testament about this very thing. I Timothy 6:17 "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;" I Timothy 6:18 "That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;" I Timothy 6:19 "Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life."

Deuteronomy 15:11 For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.

Look what Jesus said about the poor. Mark 14:7 "For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always." We must always help those who cannot help themselves.

Deuteronomy 15:12 "[And] if thy brother, an Hebrew man, or an Hebrew woman, be sold unto thee, and serve thee six years; then in the seventh year thou shalt let him go free from thee."

Poverty, in the day this was written, was one of the reasons for slavery. If a person could not pay what he owed, he worked the debt out as a slave. Proverbs 22:7 "The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower [is] servant to the lender." The Hebrew slave was to be released on the seventh year. Other slaves were not released, until jubilee.

Deuteronomy 15:13 "And when thou sendest him out free from thee, thou shalt not let him go away empty:"

This is saying, they should give them something to get started with, so they will not be right back in slavery, again.

Deuteronomy 15:14 "Thou shalt furnish him liberally out of thy flock, and out of thy floor, and out of thy winepress: [of that] wherewith the LORD thy God hath blessed thee thou shalt give unto him."

This goes further into detail about what they should give the slave, when he, or she, is released. Remember, they are fellow Hebrews. This means he gave him, or her, enough to start up their own household.

Deuteronomy 15:15 "And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt, and the LORD thy God redeemed thee: therefore I command thee this thing to day."

This should not be difficult for them to do, when they remembered they were slaves in Egypt and God delivered them. He did not deliver them empty handed either. They spoiled the Egyptians, and carried provisions with them into the wilderness. Every time they kept this commandment, they could remember how God helped them get out of bondage.

Deuteronomy 15:16 "And it shall be, if he say unto thee, I will not go away from thee; because he loveth thee and thine house, because he is well with thee;"

The slave may choose to stay, after the master had released him. This may have become home for the slave, and he learned to love the family so much, he does not want to leave. He must not be forced to leave against his will.

Deuteronomy 15:17 "Then thou shalt take an awl, and thrust [it] through his ear unto the door, and he shall be thy servant for ever. And also unto thy maidservant thou shalt do likewise."

This servant has chosen to belong to this family forever. In this case, the he, or she, is marked with an awl. This makes them part of this family forever. They will serve them as they did in the past, but forever.

Deuteronomy 15:18 "It shall not seem hard unto thee, when thou sendest him away free from thee; for he hath been worth a double hired servant [to thee], in serving thee six years: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all that thou doest."

In 6 years time, they should have grown fond of the servant. They would be happy for his release, to start a new life on his own. This is speaking of the servant who wants to be released. The master should not hold a grudge against him.

Deuteronomy 15:19 "All the firstling males that come of thy herd and of thy flock thou shalt sanctify unto the LORD thy God: thou shalt do no work with the firstling of thy bullock, nor shear the firstling of thy sheep."

They are to get no profit from the firstling of the flock, because they belong to God. The first of the flock was to be carried to the temple, or the place of worship, and offered to God.

Deuteronomy 15:20 "Thou shalt eat [it] before the LORD thy God year by year in the place which the LORD shall choose, thou and thy household."

They were first offered in sacrifice, and then eaten, while they were in the sanctuary. Once a year, they were to do this.

Deuteronomy 15:21 "And if there be [any] blemish therein, [as if it be] lame, or blind, [or have] any ill blemish, thou shalt not sacrifice it unto the LORD thy God."

This is stating that any blemish at all on the animal, would make it unacceptable as a sacrifice to God. It symbolized the body of the Lord Jesus, so it had to be without spot, or wrinkle.

Deuteronomy 15:22 "Thou shalt eat it within thy gates: the unclean and the clean [person shall eat it] alike, as the roebuck, and as the hart."

Since it was not sacrificed, all who desired to, could eat of it, as they did with any other meat they cooked.

Deuteronomy 15:23 "Only thou shalt not eat the blood thereof; thou shalt pour it upon the ground as water."

The blood was to be soaked up by the earth, as water is on the ground. They were forbidden to eat blood at all.

Deuteronomy 17 Questions

1. How often were they to make a release?
2. What is the release speaking of?
3. This is the sabbath of rest for the _____.
4. Who requires this release?
5. Why is it alright to require a stranger to pay that year?
6. What time is verse 4 speaking of?
7. Blessings from God come upon them only, when they keep His _____.
8. They shall lend to many _____.
9. How shall they feel about their poor brothers?
10. A person lending must not be _____.
11. What were they warned against thinking in verse 9?
12. God judges the _____ of man.
13. How will they receive abundant blessings from God?
14. Quote 1 Timothy chapter 6 verses 17 and 18.
15. What did Jesus say about the poor in Mark chapter 14 verse 7?
16. If they buy a Hebrew man, or woman, to serve them, how long shall they serve?
17. What shall they do with them in the seventh year?
18. What shall they do for this servant, when they release them?
19. What shall they remember about their bondage in Egypt?
20. What if the servant does not want to go, does he have to leave?
21. What will be done, to show that he is to stay longer than the 6 years?
22. Whose choice is this?
23. How should they feel about the servant that desires to leave?
24. Who do all of the firstling males of the flock belong to?
25. After they are sacrificed, who eats them?
26. What happens to the firstling, that is not perfect?
27. What is the one restriction about eating it?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 16:1 "Observe the month of Abib, and keep the passover unto the LORD thy God: for in the month of Abib the LORD thy God brought thee forth out of Egypt by night."

Abib is the first month of the Hebrew year. It is very similar in time to our April. The Passover is a remembrance of the night that death passed over the Hebrew homes with the blood on their doors. The paschal lamb was to be prepared in memory of that night. The paschal lamb had to be a yearling of the first year from the sheep, or goats. It had to be a male without blemish. It had to be consumed by the family, so the size the family could eat at one sitting had to be taken into consideration when choosing it.

Deuteronomy 16:2 "Thou shalt therefore sacrifice the Passover unto the LORD thy God, of the flock and the herd, in the place which the LORD shall choose to place his name there."

This had to be at the chosen place of the LORD.

Deuteronomy 16:3 "Thou shalt eat no leavened bread with it; seven days shalt thou eat unleavened bread therewith, [even] the bread of affliction; for thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt in haste: that thou mayest remember the day when thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt all the days of thy life."

This is speaking of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It overlapped the time of the Passover. Unleavened bread symbolizes the sinless body of our Lord Jesus Christ. They were to eat this bread without leavening, and remember the bitter affliction of their stay in Egypt. They came out of Egypt quickly, and there was no time for bread to rise. The unleavened bread helps them remember for all generations.

Deuteronomy 16:4 "And there shall be no leavened bread seen with thee in all thy coast seven days; neither shall there [any thing] of the flesh, which thou sacrificedst the first day at even, remain all night until the morning."

The number 7 means spiritually complete. We see that this feast of unleavened bread lasted 7 days. The passover animal that was sacrificed, shall all be eaten up in one night by the family that offered it. Exodus 12:10 "And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire." Exodus 12:15 "Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel."

Deuteronomy 16:5 "Thou mayest not sacrifice the passover within any of thy gates, which the LORD thy God giveth thee:"

This sacrificial lamb was symbolic of the sacrifice that Jesus made for us all at Calvary. He was crucified outside the city wall. The sacrificial animal must, also, be sacrificed outside the gates.

Deuteronomy 16:6 "But at the place which the LORD thy God shall choose to place his name in, there thou shalt sacrifice the Passover at even, at the going down of the sun, at the season that thou camest forth out of Egypt."

The sacrificial lamb must not be sacrificed in the home, it must be done outside the city of the LORD's choosing. The city of God is Jerusalem.

Deuteronomy 16:7 "And thou shalt roast and eat [it] in the place which the LORD thy God shall choose: and thou shalt turn in the morning, and go unto thy tents."

This really is speaking of all sorts of cooking. Many times the meat was boiled. This offering was to be eaten at the place of sacrifice. Then, they were to return home.

Deuteronomy 16:8 "Six days thou shalt eat unleavened bread: and on the seventh day [shall be] a solemn assembly to the LORD thy God: thou shalt do no work [therein]."

The Unleavened Bread Feast overlapped the Passover. It appears at the end of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, they had a holy convocation. They came together and worshipped God.

Deuteronomy 16:9 "Seven weeks shalt thou number unto thee: begin to number the seven weeks from [such time as] thou beginnest [to put] the sickle to the corn."

This is called the Feast of Weeks. They begin counting from the second day of the Passover. They counted it from the beginning of the corn harvest. The 50th day of this feast winds up at Pentecost. Pentecost occurred 50 days after the resurrection of Jesus.

Deuteronomy 16:10 "And thou shalt keep the feast of weeks unto the LORD thy God with a tribute of a freewill offering of thine hand, which thou shalt give [unto the LORD thy God], according as the LORD thy God hath blessed thee:"

This freewill offering was an offering made of love and appreciation, and not of obligation. These were voluntary offerings from the people. They gave as the LORD had blessed them. These were given in addition to the burnt, meat, and drink offerings.

Deuteronomy 16:11 "And thou shalt rejoice before the LORD thy God, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite that [is] within thy gates, and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that [are] among you, in the place which the LORD thy God hath chosen to place his name there."

This rejoicing had to do with praise and thanksgiving. This was, possibly, done by songs and various other types of worship. It seemed, they all entered into this worship. Their rejoicing was at the place the LORD had chosen for worship and praise.

Deuteronomy 16:12 "And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in Egypt: and thou shalt observe and do these statutes."

Some of the thanks and praise should be directed to the fact that they were now free. They must remember, they had been in bondage in Egypt. Now, they are free, and should praise the LORD continually for setting them free. They must obey the will of the LORD to stay free.

Deuteronomy 16:13 "Thou shalt observe the feast of tabernacles seven days, after that thou hast gathered in thy corn and thy wine:"

"Tabernacles" were the same as the booths, in this instance. Feast of Tabernacles occurs after the Day of Atonement. This seven day celebration is, sometimes, thought of as the time the Christians are tabernacled in heaven with God, while the wrath of God falls upon the earth. Others believe it to symbolize the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ on the earth. Seven shows spiritual completeness. It is to last seven days. This is a time of extreme rejoicing. This feast is, sometimes, called the Feast of Ingathering.

Deuteronomy 16:14 "And thou shalt rejoice in thy feast, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite, the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that [are] within thy gates."

We find this special time of rejoicing is for everyone. It is even specifically mentioned that the Levites should rejoice, too. This is everyone who lives in the gates.

Deuteronomy 16:15 "Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the LORD thy God in the place which the LORD shall choose: because the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice."

It seems, there is no time for anything, but rejoicing, during this time. If this is the time of the rapture of the church, this would certainly be reason for rejoicing. If it symbolizes the reign of Jesus on the earth, there would be tremendous reason to rejoice.

Deuteronomy 16:16 "Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty:"

Some of the times of worship are optional. It appears, the three times, mentioned in the verse above, are the times very important to practice feast and sacrifices. Unleavened Bread Feast overlaps the Feast of Tabernacles. There were really three harvests. The first of the harvest was at Passover, or Unleavened Bread. The second harvest was at Pentecost, or Feast of weeks. The fall harvest was Tabernacles. These three must be kept, to remain in good standing with God. We, Christians, will be on that wilderness journey until we find our eternal home in heaven with God.

Deuteronomy 16:17 "Every man [shall give] as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee."

The poor give less and the rich give more, but they all give.

Deuteronomy 16:18 "Judges and officers shalt thou make thee in all thy gates, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, throughout thy tribes: and they shall judge the people with just judgment."

These judges and officers are to decide in civil matters. They must be chosen carefully, and must judge justly among the people. On spiritual matters, the priests and the high priest decide.

Deuteronomy 16:19 "Thou shalt not wrest judgment; thou shalt not respect persons, neither take a gift: for a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous."

They must judge with no outside persuasion. They must be of high character, so they cannot be bribed. They must not give advantage to anyone, because of their station in life. They must judge righteously, because they have a judge in heaven that will judge them someday. They are greatly honored to be made judges. With greatness, goes great responsibility.

Deuteronomy 16:20 "That which is altogether just shalt thou follow, that thou mayest live, and inherit the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."

God wants His people to live righteous lives. They are to live by the law He gave them. If they are to be His then they must be honest and just in all they do. They must set an example for the heathen world around them.

Deuteronomy 16:21 "Thou shalt not plant thee a grove of any trees near unto the altar of the LORD thy God, which thou shalt make thee."

Much worship of false gods took place in groves. The altar of God is never to be associated with anything like that. The groves must not be near the holy altar. The fire of God is near the altar. God would even burn the trees up, if they were near. They must not be near, because they are evil.

Deuteronomy 16:22 "Neither shalt thou set thee up [any] image; which the LORD thy God hateth."

Images are things made with hands. God is Spirit. Things you can see with physical eyes, or touch with physical hands, are forbidden. They are not God. God is the Creator of everything and everyone.

Deuteronomy 18 Questions

1. Observe the month of _____, and keep the Passover unto the LORD God.
2. What month is this on the Hebrew calendar?
3. What is Passover remembering?
4. Describe the paschal lamb.
5. Where will the Passover be sacrificed?
6. What kind of bread is to be eaten with it?
7. How many days is unleavened bread to be eaten?
8. What is this in remembrance of?
9. What does the unleavened bread symbolize?
10. What does the number 7 mean?
11. Quote Exodus chapter 12 verse 10.
12. What happens to those who eat leavend bread during this time?
13. Why must they not sacrifice the passover inside the gate?
14. The city of God is _____.
15. What type of cooking is spoken of in verse 7?
16. On the seventh day of Unleavened Bread, what do they do?
17. What are the seven weeks, in verse 9, called?
18. When do they begin counting the weeks?
19. The 50th day of this feast winds up at _____.
20. The freewill offering is not of _____, but love and appreciation.
21. Who is to rejoice before the LORD God?
22. What must they do to stay free?
23. "Tabernacles", in verse 13, were the same as _____.
24. Feast of Tabernacles occurs after the _____ _ _____.
25. How long is the Feast of Tabernacles to last?
26. How many times a year must all males appear before the LORD God?
27. How much shall each person give?
28. How must the judges and officers judge?
29. How does God want His people to live?
30. Why are groves forbidden to be near the altar?
31. God is _____.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 17:1 "Thou shalt not sacrifice unto the LORD thy God [any] bullock, or sheep, wherein is blemish, [or] any evilfavouredness: for that [is] an abomination unto the LORD thy God."

"Evilfavouredness" means bad, or evil. The reason the sacrifice must not have a blemish is, because it symbolizes the perfect Lamb of God {Jesus Christ}. The Lord Jesus Christ was without spot or blemish. The animal must be a male, which has never been with a female. It must be perfect in its body, just as Jesus was perfect. Anything less than the very best, would defame the Lord Jesus.

Deuteronomy 17:2 "If there be found among you, within any of thy gates which the LORD thy God giveth thee, man or woman, that hath wrought wickedness in the sight of the LORD thy God, in transgressing his covenant,"

The blessings of God came upon them, when they kept covenant with Him. When they did not keep covenant with them, it brought curses. The wickedness, here, is speaking of spiritual adultery. Any worship, aside from the worship of the One True God, was wickedness.

Deuteronomy 17:3 "And hath gone and served other gods, and worshipped them, either the sun, or moon, or any of the host of heaven, which I have not commanded;"

Men and women have, throughout the ages, worshipped the sun. They really are impressed by the light in the sun. The sun and the moon are just containers for the light. They are creations of God. They are not God. The Light of the world is really Jesus Christ our Lord. Again, we must remember, we are not to worship any of God's creation. We are to worship the Creator of it all.

Deuteronomy 17:4 "And it be told thee, and thou hast heard [of it], and inquired diligently, and, behold, [it be] true, [and] the thing certain, [that] such abomination is wrought in Israel:"

This is saying, they did not listen to someone saying they worshipped the moon or sun. They inquired, and found out for themselves. They were absolutely sure of their worship of the sun and moon. Now, they must act upon it.

Deuteronomy 17:5 "Then shalt thou bring forth that man or that woman, which have committed that wicked thing, unto thy gates, [even] that man or that woman, and shalt stone them with stones, till they die."

They must stone them till they die, to keep Israel from getting involved in this type of worship of false gods. Always, the stoning to death took place just outside the city wall. You remember on the wilderness wanderings, they were killed outside the camp.

Deuteronomy 17:6 "At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; [but] at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death."

The number "two" means establish. One person could be telling this for personal reasons. It is not likely that two, or three, would tell the same story to get someone stoned to death. By two, a thing shall be established. One witness is not enough to stone someone. This is a serious offence, and must be proved beyond doubt.

Deuteronomy 17:7 "The hands of the witnesses shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people. So thou shalt put the evil away from among you."

The first stone must be thrown by the accuser. Then, all the people shall stone the person to death. Jesus spoke to the people about to stone a woman to death. The following is what He said. John 8:7 "So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her." This is pretty interesting, because they all turned and walked away. They knew they all had sinned in some way, or another.

Deuteronomy 17:8 "If there arise a matter too hard for thee in judgment, between blood and blood, between plea and plea, and between stroke and stroke, [being] matters of controversy within thy gates: then shalt thou arise, and get thee up into the place which the LORD thy God shall choose;"

There are some situations, where it cannot be determined who is right, and who is wrong. This should not be decided without consulting with the LORD. Disputes sometimes arise, and it is difficult to tell who is right, and who is wrong. This is a matter for God to settle. They must all go to a place chosen of God for this purpose. This chosen place will be the temple, after it is built.

Deuteronomy 17:9 "And thou shalt come unto the priests the Levites, and unto the judge that shall be in those days, and inquire; and they shall show thee the sentence of judgment:"

This is like taking the matter to a higher court. In this instance, it must be decided by the spiritual and civic leader together.

Deuteronomy 17:10 "And thou shalt do according to the sentence, which they of that place which the LORD shall choose shall shew thee; and thou shalt observe to do according to all that they inform thee:"

They must live by the decision the judge and the priest make. There will be no appeal of the matter. Whatever they decide, must be done. A true judge and priest are guided by God in their decisions.

Deuteronomy 17:11 "According to the sentence of the law which they shall teach thee, and according to the judgment which they shall tell thee, thou shalt do: thou shalt not decline from the sentence which they shall shew thee, [to] the right hand, nor [to] the left."

The priest speaks as an oracle of God. Whatever sentence he hands down, must be complied with. They must do exactly as they are sentenced. They must not lean to the right, or the left.

Deuteronomy 17:12 "And the man that will do presumptuously, and will not hearken unto the priest that standeth to minister there before the LORD thy God, or unto the judge, even that man shall die: and thou shalt put away the evil from Israel."

If the person who is being judged does not accept the judgement, he will be put to death. He must learn not to rebel against the authority the LORD has set up. The priest is representing God. To go against his decision, is to go against God.

Deuteronomy 17:13 "And all the people shall hear, and fear, and do no more presumptuously."

The punishment inflicted upon this person is a warning to others. They will think twice, before they commit the same crime.

Deuteronomy 17:14 "When thou art come unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt possess it, and shalt dwell therein, and shalt say, I will set a king over me, like as all the nations that [are] about me;"

We must remember that, God did not want them to be like the nations around them. He was their King. They were not to have an earthly king. Trying to be like others, can cause many problems.

Deuteronomy 17:15 "Thou shalt in any wise set [him] king over thee, whom the LORD thy God shall choose: [one] from among thy brethren shalt thou set king over thee: thou mayest not set a stranger over thee, which [is] not thy brother."

God will finally allow them to choose someone to be their earthly king, because they continually want one. He warns them not to choose someone who is not a Hebrew brother, ruled by God. God will choose their king for them. They must accept the one the Lord chooses.

Deuteronomy 17:16 "But he shall not multiply horses to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, to the end that he should multiply horses: forasmuch as the LORD hath said unto you, Ye shall henceforth return no more that way."

The promised land is to be their everlasting inheritance. They are not to go back to Egypt {symbolic of the world}. They must remain in the land God promised them. God does not want them to have large numbers of horses. They might decide to return to Egypt.

Deuteronomy 17:17 "Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away: neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold."

God intended for one man to marry one woman. Many wives cause jealousy and heartache. The wives, specifically spoken of here, are heathen wives that worship false gods. His heart must stay upon God. Silver and gold are earthly treasures. They, perhaps, would cause a king to have too much pride.

Deuteronomy 17:18 "And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of [that which is] before the priests the Levites:"

God has given all the law they need to live by. His law in Leviticus is sufficient to cover all civil matters. There is no need for another law. He must have a copy of the law God gave, and go by it. He must learn it well, and govern by it. We, Christians, here in the United States, must realize that our constitution was founded upon Bible principles. It is a dangerous thing to live by laws made by man.

Deuteronomy 17:19 "And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:"

To be king, carries with it great responsibility. The king is answerable to God. He must learn well God's law, and live, and rule by those laws.

Deuteronomy 17:20 "That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, [to] the right hand, or [to] the left: to the end that he may prolong [his] days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel."

A man is king, because God chose him to be king. He is not better than anyone else, just chosen. He must continuously realize his power is in God, and not in himself. He must live by the same law as the people. He must set an example. He is not above the law, because of his elevated position. It appears, from this, that the kingship was to go from father to son. The father, who is king, must teach his son of the ways of God, so he will be ready to take over, when the father dies.

Deuteronomy 19 Questions

1. The sheep used in sacrifice must be without _____.
2. Why is this necessary?
3. "Evilfavouredness" means _____, or _____.
4. When did the blessings of God come upon them?
5. When did the curse of God come?
6. Wickedness, in verse 2, is speaking of what?
7. What causes people to worship the sun?
8. The sun and the moon are _____ of God.
9. Who is the Light of the world?
10. What is verse 4 warning against?
11. What should be done to those who worship the sun and the moon?
12. What does the number "two" mean?
13. How many witnesses are necessary, before some one is to be stoned to death?
14. Who throws the first stone?
15. What lesson did Jesus teach about stoning?
16. What do they do, if the matter is too hard for them to decide.
17. What is happening, when they take the matter to the priest?
18. What if they do not like the sentence handed down by the priest?
19. The priest speaks as an _____ of God.
20. Who is truly King of all believers?
21. What earthly king is the only one God will accept for them?
22. Why must their earthly king not multiply horses?
23. What is Egypt symbolic of?
24. Why should the earthly king not multiply wives unto himself?
25. What is wrong with him having much gold and silver?
26. What law shall the king rule by?
27. To be king, carries with it great _____.
28. The king is answerable to _____.
29. Why is a man king?
30. The kingship was to go from _____ to _____.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 18:1 "The priests the Levites, [and] all the tribe of Levi, shall have no part nor inheritance with Israel: they shall eat the offerings of the LORD made by fire, and his inheritance."

The Levitical tribe belongs to God, in place of the firstborn of each family. They do not inherit land with the other tribes, because they live of things offered in the temple. They are to share with the altar. The Levites were not all priests, but were in the service of God in some manner. The meal offering, the sin offering, and the trespass offering are what is meant by the offerings above. The things appropriated to the LORD are, also, to be used by the Levites. This included the tithes and offerings.

Deuteronomy 18:2 "Therefore shall they have no inheritance among their brethren: the LORD [is] their inheritance, as he hath said unto them."

They do not live by raising crops, or animals. Their livelihood comes from God. The things offered to the Lord, in turn, are used to support the Levites.

Deuteronomy 18:3 "And this shall be the priest's due from the people, from them that offer a sacrifice, whether [it be] ox or sheep; and they shall give unto the priest the shoulder, and the two cheeks, and the maw."

These parts, mentioned here, are the shoulder, the two jaw bones {two cheeks} and the paunch, or first stomach {maw}. They bring the animal to sacrifice, and this is the portion of the priest.

Deuteronomy 18:4 "The firstfruit [also] of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the first of the fleece of thy sheep, shalt thou give him."

In the 18th chapter of Numbers, we read of the first of the fruit, corn, wine, and oil. In this, we see the first of the fleece of the sheep added.

Deuteronomy 18:5 "For the LORD thy God hath chosen him out of all thy tribes, to stand to minister in the name of the LORD, him and his sons for ever."

The Levitical tribe was trained in spiritual things. The priest represented the people to God, and God to the people. When he had on the priestly garment, he was speaking in the power and authority of God. He was God's representative on the earth. They were a separate people, because the oil of anointing was upon them.

Deuteronomy 18:6 "And if a Levite come from any of thy gates out of all Israel, where he sojourned, and come with all the desire of his mind unto the place which the LORD shall choose;" Deuteronomy 18:7 "Then he shall minister in the name of the LORD his God, as all his brethren the Levites [do], which stand there before the LORD."

All of the Levites were a separate people to the service of God. They could all minister, when they came to the sanctuary. They all lived of the gifts given in the temple.

Deuteronomy 18:8 "They shall have like portions to eat, beside that which cometh of the sale of his patrimony."

There would have been far too much meat for just the priest's and the high priest's families from the offerings. The foodstuff was to be shared with the entire Levitical tribe. "Patrimony" means his price upon the house of his fathers. This means they were to live of the things of the temple.

Deuteronomy 18:9 "When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations."

One reason God had them to kill, or drive out the people, was so they would not follow the ways of the people of the land. They were to remain a holy people. These people worshipped false gods, which were abominations to God.

Deuteronomy 18:10 "There shall not be found among you [any one] that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, [or] that useth divination, [or] an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch,"

The worship of Molech involved causing the children to walk through fire. This was strictly forbidden. "Divination" is the same as witchcraft. "Observers of times" are people who read their horoscopes. "Enchanters" are people who cast spells, such as a hypnotist. All of these, including a witch, are things or people who the person puts his trust in, rather than in God. Their power comes from the devil, and not God.

Deuteronomy 18:11 "Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer."

Persons, such as palm readers, all sorts of mind control, and even the martial arts fall into this category. A "necromancer" is someone who has sex with a dead body, or someone who is mind conscious. The sad thing is that much of this is a part of our society today.

Deuteronomy 18:12 "For all that do these things [are] an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee."

An "abomination" is not just a sin, but a revolting sin. These are totally unpermissible. God wants your total loyalty. He does not want anyone, or anything else, in control of your will.

Deuteronomy 18:13 "Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God."

To be perfect with the LORD thy God, does not mean that you will be perfect as far as the world is concerned. In fact, if you try to live perfect before the Lord, you will be an outcast of the world.

Deuteronomy 18:14 "For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so [to do]."

The nations being driven out, had placed their faith in these abominable things. You can see what happened to them. God has forbidden this. He requires our total loyalty to Him.

Deuteronomy 18:15 "The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;"

All of the abominations mentioned are pertaining to the spiritual side of mankind. They are not civil matters. The spiritual side will be taken care of by a prophet, whom God will raise up to train them. When Moses dies, we already know that Joshua will be the mouth of God to these people. He will be the next prophet.

Deuteronomy 18:16 "According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not."

It was by their own choice that God not speak directly to them any more. They wanted a prophet, who would tell them God's will for their lives. In Horeb, God had spoken to them the ten commandments from the fire. They were so frightened, they asked Moses to talk to God for them. They were afraid of the presence of God in the fire.

Deuteronomy 18:17 "And the LORD said unto me, They have well [spoken that] which they have spoken."

The LORD was pleased with their decision. He could not look upon sin, and they were a sinful nation. He, possibly, would have destroyed them.

Deuteronomy 18:18 "I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him."

Prophets are like ambassadors. They do not speak their own words, but the Words God places in their mouth. They are, in a sense, a mouthpiece for God. Moses had been a mouthpiece for God to them for over 40 years. Now, God will raise another to take Moses' place.

Deuteronomy 18:19 "And it shall come to pass, [that] whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require [it] of him."

The Words that come from the prophet's mouth are not to be taken lightly. They are Words of God. To not listen to the prophet, would be to refuse to hear from God. The people would be guilty, in this case.

Deuteronomy 18:20 "But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die."

A prophet, who speaks on his own, his own message, and not God's message, is guilty of sin, and God will kill him. Anyone who is a false prophet, will be killed of God, as well. A true prophet speaks the Words God has placed in his, or her, mouth, and nothing else.

Deuteronomy 18:21 "And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken?"

The people are going to say, "How do we know the message is from God"? This is a legitimate question to ask. There are so many false prophets today, we must be careful. The best way to tell today, is if it lines up with the Word of God, or not.

Deuteronomy 18:22 "When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that [is] the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, [but] the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him."

Really, the only way to know if a prophet is a true prophet or not is to see if his prophecies come true, or not. Those who prophesy things that never happen, are not to be listened to?

Deuteronomy 20 Questions

1. What Israelites have no part, or inheritance, with Israel?
2. What do they eat of?
3. The Levitical tribe belongs to God, in place of whom?
4. What offerings do the offerings in verse 1 speak of?
5. Their livelihood comes from _____.
6. What parts of the animals sacrificed belong to the priests?
7. In the 18th chapter of Numbers, we read of the firstfruit that was offered, what did Moses add to that here?
8. What had God chosen the Levites out to do?
9. The priest represented the _____ to _____, and _____ to the _____.
10. By what authority was the priest speaking, when he was in his priestly garment?
11. What did the other Levites, besides the priests, live of?
12. What does "patrimony" mean?
13. What are they warned not to learn, when they come into the land?
14. Why had God had them kill, or run out, the people?
15. What were these people doing, that was an abomination to God?
16. The worship of what false god caused children to walk through fire?
17. "Divination" is the same as _____.
18. What, in our day, is the same as "observers of times"?
19. Who are meant by "enchanters"?
20. Where does this evil power come from?
21. What are modern versions of those mentioned in verse 11?
22. What is a "necromancer"?
23. People who are involved in these evils are an _____ unto the LORD.
24. What is an "abomination"?
25. Does being perfect with God mean you are perfect with the world?
26. All of the sins mentioned, in this lesson, are of a _____ nature.
27. What does a prophet do?
28. Who will take Moses' place as prophet?
29. Why did God not speak directly to the people?
30. A prophet is like an _____.
31. What does a true prophet speak?
32. How long had Moses been a prophet?
33. What happens to false prophets, or prophets who bring their own message, and not God's?
34. What question will the people ask?
35. How can they know a true prophet from a false prophet?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 19:1 "When the LORD thy God hath cut off the nations, whose land the LORD thy God giveth thee, and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their cities, and in their houses;"

This is, of course, speaking of the land after it is taken by Israel. Notice, it is the LORD that cut off the nations and gave the land to the Israelites.

Deuteronomy 19:2 "Thou shalt separate three cities for thee in the midst of thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it."

A few chapters back, we saw the LORD have them cut off three cities on the eastern side of Jordan for the cities of refuge for the manslayer. These are primarily the same instructions for the west side of the Jordan. They must be in the middle of the land, to be quick access to the manslayer.

Deuteronomy 19:3 "Thou shalt prepare thee a way, and divide the coasts of thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to inherit, into three parts, that every slayer may flee thither."

This is a place of safety they can go to, and not fear the revenger, until it is settled whether this was premeditated murder, or just an accident.

Deuteronomy 19:4 "And this [is] the case of the slayer, which shall flee thither, that he may live: Whoso killeth his neighbour ignorantly, whom he hated not in time past;"

This place of safety is for those who have killed someone accidentally. This is not done from hate or anger, but accidentally.

Deuteronomy 19:5 "As when a man goeth into the wood with his neighbour to hew wood, and his hand fetcheth a stroke with the axe to cut down the tree, and the head slippeth from the helve, and lighteth upon his neighbour, that he die; he shall flee unto one of those cities, and live:"

This is just one example of how an accidental death could occur. It could be any other occurrence that was accidental. The end of the axe has come off, and accidentally killed his neighbor here. To be safe from the near relative of the man killing him, he must run to the city of refuge.

Deuteronomy 19:6 "Lest the avenger of the blood pursue the slayer, while his heart is hot, and overtake him, because the way is long, and slay him; whereas he [was] not worthy of death, inasmuch as he hated him not in time past."

Sometimes, in the short time after the death, the near relative might not believe it was an accident. If the manslayer had to go very far to safety, the revenger might catch him and kill him. This would be bad for him and the revenger. If he is not guilty of murder, then he has died for no reason. The revenger has, also, killed without a cause.

Deuteronomy 19:7 "Wherefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt separate three cities for thee."

These three cities will be strategically located, so the manslayer will not have too far to run to safety.

Deuteronomy 19:8 "And if the LORD thy God enlarge thy coast, as he hath sworn unto thy fathers, and give thee all the land which he promised to give unto thy fathers;"

These three cities are actually for the present land the LORD had promised to them. The idea is for them to be placed, where they are easily reached by all the people.

Deuteronomy 19:9 "If thou shalt keep all these commandments to do them, which I command thee this day, to love the LORD thy God, and to walk ever in his ways; then shalt thou add three cities more for thee, beside these three:"

If they keep the commandments of God, He will enlarge their inheritance. In that case, just three cities would not be enough, and they will have to find three more cities to make cities of refuge. The manslayer must have a place of safety close by. The larger the land is, the more cities of refuge that are necessary.

Deuteronomy 19:10 "That innocent blood be not shed in thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee [for] an inheritance, and [so] blood be upon thee."

If the revenger were to catch the manslayer, before he got to the city of refuge and killed him, he might be killing an innocent man. This blood would be on the people's head, because they had not provided a place as God told them.

Deuteronomy 19:11 "But if any man hate his neighbour, and lie in wait for him, and rise up against him, and smite him mortally that he die, and fleeth into one of these cities:"

A person who has committed premeditated murder may run to the city of refuge for safety, but he will be treated differently, as we see in the next verse.

Deuteronomy 19:12 "Then the elders of his city shall send and fetch him thence, and deliver him into the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die."

The elders of the city decide if he is innocent, or guilty of murder. If he is guilty of murder, they let the avenger have him to kill him.

Deuteronomy 19:13 "Thine eye shall not pity him, but thou shalt put away [the guilt of] innocent blood from Israel, that it may go well with thee."

Those who are guilty of premeditated murder, should die by the hand of the avenger. Innocent blood is different. God will not bless Israel, if they do not give protection to those of innocent blood.

Deuteronomy 19:14 "Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it."

The landmarks God established are sacred. It is a terrible sin to move a landmark. Those who move landmarks, are cursed by God.

Deuteronomy 19:15 "One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established."

We saw in an earlier lesson, where the word of one witness was not enough to sentence a person to death. This is the same here. It takes two, or three, witnesses to convict a person. Several witnesses establish the truth of the accusation.

Deuteronomy 19:16 "If a false witness rise up against any man to testify against him [that which is] wrong;"

This just means if a man accuses someone of doing something, and the person accused denies the accusation, it must be proven.

Deuteronomy 19:17 "Then both the men, between whom the controversy [is], shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges, which shall be in those days;"

We remember the judges and priests are operating in the power and authority of God. Whatever they decide, is final in the matter.

Deuteronomy 19:18 "And the judges shall make diligent inquisition: and, behold, [if] the witness [be] a false witness, [and] hath testified falsely against his brother;"

The judges and the priests look for other witnesses to this matter. Diligent inquisition shows that they put out an effort to come to the truth. Perhaps, they will find that the witness is a false witness. We see in the following verses, what happens in that case.

Deuteronomy 19:19 "Then shall ye do unto him, as he had thought to have done unto his brother: so shalt thou put the evil away from among you."

The false witness will receive whatever punishment would have been spoken against the one accused. He will have set a trap for himself. His punishment is what he wished for his neighbor.

Deuteronomy 19:20 "And those which remain shall hear, and fear, and shall henceforth commit no more any such evil among you."

This will be a good lesson for those who hear and see what went on. If they ever desire to speak false accusations against someone, they will remember this punishment, and not do that evil thing.

Deuteronomy 19:21 "And thine eye shall not pity; [but] life [shall go] for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot."

If the punishment the false accuser was trying to get for the person he accused was death, then the accuser shall be killed. If the loss was to be an eye, then the accusers eye will be put out. The same is true, if it was a tooth, or a hand. Whatever punishment he wanted for the person he accused, will be the punishment inflicted upon him.

Deuteronomy 21 Questions

1. When is the time they are to do what the LORD told them?
2. How many cities shall they separate?
3. Where are they to be located?
4. Why must they be in the middle of the land?
5. What are the three cities for?
6. Who, of the manslayers, is to be protected here?
7. What is the example of that type of killing, given here?
8. If the way is long, the revenger might _____ the manslayer.
9. If he killed him, he might be killing an _____ man.
10. Is this a request, or a command, of God to separate the cities?
11. What should they do, if their land size increases?
12. What happens to a person, who commits premeditated murder?
13. Who turns him over to the avenger?
14. Thou shalt not move thy neighbor's _____.
15. The landmarks God established are _____.
16. _____ witness is not enough to cause a person to be stoned to death?
17. _____ witnesses establish the truth of the accusation.
18. What should be done to those who accuse someone falsely?
19. The judges and priests are operating in the _____ and _____ of God.
20. What should be the false accuser's punishment?
21. What does the punishment of the false accuser do for the rest of the people?
22. What are some of the examples of his punishment?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 20:1 "When thou goest out to battle against thine enemies, and seest horses, and chariots, [and] a people more than thou, be not afraid of them: for the LORD thy God [is] with thee, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt."

This would be unusual teaching for a nation who belonged to God, but they are about to go in and take the promised land. God wants them to have faith in Him, and not fear the military of the countries they are to fight. Pharaoh had a large army with horses and chariots, and God destroyed them. They must remember that, and go out in faith to battle. They must not be overwhelmed by the physical strength of their enemies. They must have faith that God will fight for them.

Deuteronomy 20:2 "And it shall be, when ye are come nigh unto the battle, that the priest shall approach and speak unto the people,"

When the priest speaks to the people, it means this is a holy war. This is a war God has sent them to. God will be with them in battle.

Deuteronomy 20:3 "And shall say unto them, Hear, O Israel, ye approach this day unto battle against your enemies: let not your hearts faint, fear not, and do not tremble, neither be ye terrified because of them;"

This speech of the priest is to encourage the heart of Israel. They must place their faith in God, not earthly power.

Deuteronomy 20:4 "For the LORD your God [is] he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you."

It is such a shame that many of our later song books have removed the song, Onward Christian Soldiers. That is exactly what Moses is explaining to them here. They are not fighting out of hate, but as a soldier of God. They are carrying out the will of God on the earth. God is leading the battle. A good soldier of the cross will follow Him into battle.

Deuteronomy 20:5 "And the officers shall speak unto the people, saying, What man [is there] that hath built a new house, and hath not dedicated it? let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man dedicate it."

This is stating that a man who has just built a house could be exempt from the immediate battle, to go and dedicate the home he built. The officers were the ones who took the roles of the soldiers available, and decided who would fight in each battle. This exemption is for a short time, so the person could enjoy dedicating his own house.

Deuteronomy 20:6 "And what man [is he] that hath planted a vineyard, and hath not [yet] eaten of it? let him [also] go and return unto his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man eat of it."

This is the same as the house above. This exemption is for just a short period of time, so he can enjoy his own vineyard.

Deuteronomy 20:7 "And what man [is there] that hath betrothed a wife, and hath not taken her? let him go and return unto his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man take her."

In the case of the wife, he was to be exempt from war for the period of one year. Deuteronomy 24:5 "When a man hath taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war, neither shall he be charged with any business: [but] he shall be free at home one year, and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken."

Deuteronomy 20:8 "And the officers shall speak further unto the people, and they shall say, What man [is there that is] fearful and fainthearted? let him go and return unto his house, lest his brethren's heart faint as well as his heart."

God did not want His army to include the fainthearted, or afraid. Notice, this same situation in the following Scriptures about Gideon. Judges 7:2 "And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that [are] with thee [are] too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me." Judges 7:3 "Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever [is] fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand." If we were to read on in this book of judges, we would find that God used only 300 brave men for the battle against the thousands, and the Israelites won. God and one is a majority.

Deuteronomy 20:9 "And it shall be, when the officers have made an end of speaking unto the people, that they shall make captains of the armies to lead the people."

The officers choose out brave men of each group to lead them in battle. They are made captains.

Deuteronomy 20:10 "When thou comest nigh unto a city to fight against it, then proclaim peace unto it."

The first thing they are to do before they enter a city is offer them a peaceful surrender. If they will surrender, they will not die.

Deuteronomy 20:11 "And it shall be, if it make thee answer of peace, and open unto thee, then it shall be, [that] all the people [that is] found therein shall be tributaries unto thee, and they shall serve thee."

"Tributaries", in this verse means forced labor. They will be servants to the Israelites, if they surrender peaceably.

Deuteronomy 20:12 "And if it will make no peace with thee, but will make war against thee, then thou shalt besiege it:"

If they do not surrender peaceably, then Israel shall fight against them.

Deuteronomy 20:13 "And when the LORD thy God hath delivered it into thine hands, thou shalt smite every male thereof with the edge of the sword:"

Since they did not surrender, but chose to fight, all the men of the city will be killed, when Israel takes the city. The LORD God will deliver everyone of the cities to Israel.

Deuteronomy 20:14 "But the women, and the little ones, and the cattle, and all that is in the city, [even] all the spoil thereof, shalt thou take unto thyself; and thou shalt eat the spoil of thine enemies, which the LORD thy God hath given thee."

The women and the children will be spared. The wealth of the land will go into the hands of Israelite. All the spoil will belong to them.

Deuteronomy 20:15 "Thus shalt thou do unto all the cities [which are] very far off from thee, which [are] not of the cities of these nations."

Now, we see that the sparing of the women and the children, is only if the cities are far away from the place of inheritance of the Israelites. Perhaps, they would be far enough away that the Israelite men would not take them to wife.

Deuteronomy 20:16 "But of the cities of these people, which the LORD thy God doth give thee [for] an inheritance, thou shalt save alive nothing that breatheth:"

The purpose in killing every living thing is to wipe out the false religion in this area. Even the women would bring the worship of false gods to the Israelites, if they were allowed to live. God wants the land of inheritance to be a holy land.

Deuteronomy 20:17 "But thou shalt utterly destroy them; [namely], the Hittites, and the Amorites, the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee:"

This is a list of the people of the promised land who are to be utterly destroyed. We see in the next verse, why God commanded them to do this.

Deuteronomy 20:18 "That they teach you not to do after all their abominations, which they have done unto their gods; so should ye sin against the LORD your God."

We read of their abominations in the last lessons before this one. They practiced things that were worse than sin. The abominations are revolting sins in the sight of God. Israel must stay pure. They must not worship false gods.

Deuteronomy 20:19 When thou shalt besiege a city a long time, in making war against it to take it, thou shalt not destroy the trees thereof by forcing an axe against them: for thou mayest eat of them, and thou shalt not cut them down (for the tree of the field [is] man's [life]) to employ [them] in the siege:"

We see, in this, that the tree produces food to eat. The tree that produces food is a friend to man. To destroy these trees, would not help win the war. They could certainly be useful to Israel, after they have taken the city, and even before they take the city to sustain them. In that sense, they are the man's life.

Deuteronomy 20:20 "Only the trees which thou knowest that they [be] not trees for meat, thou shalt destroy and cut them down; and thou shalt build bulwarks against the city that maketh war with thee, until it be subdued."

Trees that do not produce fruit, or nuts of any kind, could be cut down to build bulwarks against the city they are at war with. "Bulwarks", in this verse, mean hemming in. This just means they have stopped their way of escape.

Deuteronomy 22 Questions

1. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 20 verse 1.
2. Why should they not fear?
3. How does it help to remember Egypt?
4. What does it mean, when the priest speaks to the people?
5. The speech of the priest is to _____ the people.
6. What does the author believe is a shame about our song books?
7. What special privilege does someone, who has just built a house, have?
8. Who decided who would go into battle?
9. How long is a man exempt from war, who has taken a wife?
10. Who else will the officer send home, and not go to war?
11. Quote Judges chapter 7 verses 2 and 3.
12. How many brave men with Gideon won the battle?
13. God and _____ is a majority.
14. Who did the officers set up as leaders?
15. What was the first thing they were to do when they came to a city?
16. What does "tributaries" mean?
17. What is Israel to do, if they do not surrender?
18. Who in the city shall be killed?
19. What is different, if the cities are those of the inheritance?
20. What was the purpose in killing every living thing?
21. Who were some of the people killed?
22. Verse 18 explains why they were utterly destroyed, why was it?
23. Abominations are _____.
24. What must they not destroy, when they besiege a city a long time?
25. Why is this true?
26. What will they do with the trees, which do not produce food?
27. What does "bulwarks" mean?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 21:1 "If [one] be found slain in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it, lying in the field, [and] it be not known who hath slain him:"

These next few verses show us the sacredness of human life to God. It appears, this person has been murdered.

Deuteronomy 21:2 "Then thy elders and thy judges shall come forth, and they shall measure unto the cities which [are] round about him that is slain:"

This measuring of the distances to the cities, is to find out who is responsible to take care of this. Someone has a responsibility for it. The elders and judges are seeing which city is the closest to the dead body.

Deuteronomy 21:3 "And it shall be, [that] the city [which is] next unto the slain man, even the elders of that city shall take an heifer, which hath not been wrought with, [and] which hath not drawn in the yoke;"

This would be a young heifer, which has not been with a bull. The heifer would be young enough that they had never worked her with a yoke either. The heifer must come from the nearest city. The elders will bring the heifer to the sight of the dead body.

Deuteronomy 21:4 "And the elders of that city shall bring down the heifer unto a rough valley, which is neither eared nor sown, and shall strike off the heifer's neck there in the valley:"

This has to be a field that is not in cultivation. The elders will cut off the head of the heifer there.

Deuteronomy 21:5 "And the priests the sons of Levi shall come near; for them the LORD thy God hath chosen to minister unto him, and to bless in the name of the LORD; and by their word shall every controversy and every stroke be [tried]:"

Taking a life is not just criminal, but is a spiritual sin. The priests are to settle this matter. The whole town would be counted guilty of this sin, if it is not settled.

Deuteronomy 21:6 "And all the elders of that city, [that are] next unto the slain [man], shall wash their hands over the heifer that is beheaded in the valley:"

This is like Pilate washing his hands of Jesus' crucifixion. When they wash their hands over the heifer, they are proclaiming their innocence of the shedding of this man's blood.

Deuteronomy 21:7 "And they shall answer and say, Our hands have not shed this blood, neither have our eyes seen [it]."

They are saying, they have no knowledge of this murder.

Deuteronomy 21:8 "Be merciful, O LORD, unto thy people Israel, whom thou hast redeemed, and lay not innocent blood unto thy people of Israel's charge. And the blood shall be forgiven them."

This is a plea for God to forgive them of all blame of this innocent blood. The blood of the heifer causes God to believe them, and forgive them.

Deuteronomy 21:9 "So shalt thou put away the [guilt of] innocent blood from among you, when thou shalt do [that which is] right in the sight of the LORD."

After they have killed the heifer and washed their hands over her, their conscience is clear. They are forgiven of God.

Deuteronomy 21:10 "When thou goest forth to war against thine enemies, and the LORD thy God hath delivered them into thine hands, and thou hast taken them captive,"

This is spoken as if it had already happened. It will happen, because it is the will of God for it to happen. The message they are about to hear is for the time, after they have won the war.

Deuteronomy 21:11 "And seest among the captives a beautiful woman, and hast a desire unto her, that thou wouldest have her to thy wife;"

It is likely that this very thing would happen with all of the young men in the war. This speaks of him falling in love with the woman, and wants her to be his wife. It is not speaking of rape.

Deuteronomy 21:12 "Then thou shalt bring her home to thine house; and she shall shave her head, and pare her nails;"

This is a sign of extreme mourning. It would also make her not quite as desirable to the man, until her time of mourning is up.

Deuteronomy 21:13 "And she shall put the raiment of her captivity from off her, and shall remain in thine house, and bewail her father and her mother a full month: and after that thou shalt go in unto her, and be her husband, and she shall be thy wife."

She shall be permitted a month to mourn her lost loved ones. This month will, also, give her a time to get accustomed to her captor. At the end of the month of mourning, he can take her to wife. She will be treated as a wife, and not a slave.

Deuteronomy 21:14 "And it shall be, if thou have no delight in her, then thou shalt let her go whither she will; but thou shalt not sell her at all for money, thou shalt not make merchandise of her, because thou hast humbled her."

If after a short time, he finds that he does not really love this woman, he shall let her go wherever she wants to go. She was his wife. He must treat her with respect. She was not a slave to be bought or sold, but his wife.

Deuteronomy 21:15 "If a man have two wives, one beloved, and another hated, and they have born him children, [both] the beloved and the hated; and [if] the firstborn son be hers that was hated:"

Jacob found himself in this position with Leah and Rachel. He loved Rachel, his second wife. He did not hate Leah, but he did not choose her as his wife. Both, Rachel and Leah, bore Jacob sons.

Deuteronomy 21:16 "Then it shall be, when he maketh his sons to inherit [that] which he hath, [that] he may not make the son of the beloved firstborn before the son of the hated, [which is indeed] the firstborn:"

This is saying that, even though he hates the woman who bore him a son first, he cannot take the firstborn heritage away from the son, and give it to the son of the woman he loves.

Deuteronomy 21:17 "But he shall acknowledge the son of the hated [for] the firstborn, by giving him a double portion of all that he hath: for he [is] the beginning of his strength; the right of the firstborn [is] his."

He cannot choose who his firstborn is. God does that. He must give to his son, who was born first, the double portion, which is the heritage of the firstborn son. The firstborn inherited twice as much as any of the other sons. This provision for the firstborn to receive a double portion is not mentioned elsewhere.

Deuteronomy 21:18 "If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son, which will not obey the voice of his father, or the voice of his mother, and [that], when they have chastened him, will not hearken unto them:"

Rebellion was thought of as witchcraft. I Samuel 15:23 "For rebellion [is as] the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness [is as] iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from [being] king." To have a rebellious son, was a disgrace with the Hebrews. One of the ten commandments was to obey father and mother. It seemed the parents had chastened him, to no improvement.

Deuteronomy 21:19 "Then shall his father and his mother lay hold on him, and bring him out unto the elders of his city, and unto the gate of his place;"

This is a place of judgement. It seems, his parents forcefully brought him to be judged.

Deuteronomy 21:20 "And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son [is] stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; [he is] a glutton, and a drunkard."

Now, we see more sins added to the fact that he is rebellious. He is a glutton and a drunkard. Glutton, in the verse above, is not just speaking of over-eating, but of him being a prodigal son. He would have to be a very large problem, for his own family to bring him to be judged.

Deuteronomy 21:21 "And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear."

The punishment is severe. He is stoned to death by the men of the city. We see no instances of where a loving Hebrew parent has done this. Perhaps, it was given for a warning to the rebellious. The story of the prodigal son in the Bible, is a story of forgiveness of the rebellious son.

Deuteronomy 21:22 "And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be to be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree:"

Hanging was one form of putting someone to death. At a much later time, crucifying was spoken of as hanging on a tree.

Deuteronomy 21:23 "His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged [is] accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the LORD thy God giveth thee [for] an inheritance."

Man is made in the image of God. Then, it would be a terrible thing to hang man on a tree. This cursed thing must be buried in the ground before dark. Galatians 3:13 "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed [is] every one that hangeth on a tree:"

Deuteronomy 23 Questions

1. What have they found in verse 1?
2. It appears this person has been _____.
3. What shall the judges and the elders do?
4. Who is responsible for this?
5. The heifer they brought had not been with a _____.
6. What was another sign this was a young heifer?
7. This is a field that is not in _____.
8. What do they do with the heifer?
9. Who comes near to bless?
10. Taking a life is not just criminal but a _____ sin.
11. What shall the elders of the city do to show their innocence?
12. Be merciful, O LORD, unto thy people _____.
13. What is verse 8 speaking of?
14. What does the sacrificing of the heifer, and the washing of their hands, do for them?
15. The beautiful woman among the captives, he desired to be his _____.
16. What was he to do to her, when he first got her to his house?
17. How long was she allowed to mourn for her relatives?
18. When shall he take her to his wife?
19. What should he do with her, if he does not love her?
20. Why should he not sell her?
21. What happens to the firstborn son, if he does not love his mother?
22. Who chooses who is the firstborn?
23. Rebellion is thought of as _____.
24. Quote 1 Samuel chapter 15 verse 23.
25. What should his mother and father do with the rebellious son?
26. Was there ever an instance of this?
27. The story of the prodigal son is a story of what?
28. What was another type of death that was classified as hanging?
29. Why should the person who is hung not remain on the tree overnight?
30. Quote Galatians chapter 3 verse 13.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 22:1 "Thou shalt not see thy brother's ox or his sheep go astray, and hide thyself from them: thou shalt in any case bring them again unto thy brother."

"Brother", here, is not speaking of your immediate family, but all those people of your race. This, is saying that he must think enough of his brother, that he will help him get his animal back. An animal that wanders on your place, still belongs to its owner. If you can catch it, the best thing to do is take it back home. This answers that age old question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Yes you are. We must do unto others, as we would want them to do unto us.

Deuteronomy 22:2 "And if thy brother [be] not nigh unto thee, or if thou know him not, then thou shalt bring it unto thine own house, and it shall be with thee until thy brother seek after it, and thou shalt restore it to him again."

Sometimes, the animal is a stranger, and you have no idea who it belongs to. In that case, you should care for it, until the owner comes looking for it. Then, you should give him his animal gladly.

Deuteronomy 22:3 "In like manner shalt thou do with his ass; and so shalt thou do with his raiment; and with all lost thing of thy brother's, which he hath lost, and thou hast found, shalt thou do likewise: thou mayest not hide thyself."

It really makes no difference what the item is, if it is your brothers, you should try to get it back to him. It is not yours, and you should not claim it.

Deuteronomy 22:4 "Thou shalt not see thy brother's ass or his ox fall down by the way, and hide thyself from them: thou shalt surely help him to lift [them] up again."

It really does not matter who the animal belongs to, you must help, if you can. In Leviticus, it says you should even help your enemy.

Deuteronomy 22:5 "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so [are] abomination unto the LORD thy God."

I do not believe this is speaking of women's slacks and that sort of thing, because this was written when men wore long skirts. This is saying, a man should not try to appear as a woman, and a woman should not try to appear as a man. If a woman was the same size as her husband, she should not put on his clothes, and try to be him. Women should be proud they are women, and men should be proud to be men. God made us what He wanted us to be.

Deuteronomy 22:6 "If a bird's nest chance to be before thee in the way in any tree, or on the ground, [whether they be] young ones, or eggs, and the dam sitting upon the young, or upon the eggs, thou shalt not take the dam with the young:"

This is telling us how to be considerate of the animals and birds around us. This would give the dam a chance to have more birds.

Deuteronomy 22:7 "[But] thou shalt in any wise let the dam go, and take the young to thee; that it may be well with thee, and [that] thou mayest prolong [thy] days."

This shows a caring of God's kingdom. A cruel person would kill them all. A kind person would let the mother go, and then, care for the young themselves, until they are old enough to release.

Deuteronomy 22:8 "When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a battlement for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thine house, if any man fall from thence."

In many of their homes, they had celebrations upon the flat roof of their houses. Someone might step off the edge and be hurt. This is speaking of building some sort of stop around the roof of the houses to keep this from happening. It would be like a small fence.

Deuteronomy 22:9 "Thou shalt not sow thy vineyard with divers seeds: lest the fruit of thy seed which thou hast sown, and the fruit of thy vineyard, be defiled."

This is saying, you should not put two different kinds of seed in one planting hole. A row of peas should be peas. It appears, that somehow there might be some sort of crossbreeding, which God forbids.

Deuteronomy 22:10 "Thou shalt not plow with an ox and an ass together."

An ox and an ass are of different sizes and different temperaments. They would not work well together. It really would not be fair to the animals to yoke them up with another so different in size. This refers to the following Scripture. II Corinthians 6:14 "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"

Deuteronomy 22:11 "Thou shalt not wear a garment of divers sorts, [as] of woollen and linen together."

The Hebrews had learned their weaving of various materials from their stay in Egypt. This is symbolic of them being a separate people, not mingled with the world. God allowed them to wear linen, but it must be pure. The same is true of the wool.

Deuteronomy 22:12 "Thou shalt make thee fringes upon the four quarters of thy vesture, wherewith thou coverest [thyself]."

Numbers 15:38 "Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue:" When they walked and saw this blue, it was to remind them of their heavenly calling.

Deuteronomy 22:13 "If any man take a wife, and go in unto her, and hate her,"

This is very strange, in the fact that he had made her his wife, and then hates her. This sounds a bit like lust, and not love.

Deuteronomy 22:14 "And give occasions of speech against her, and bring up an evil name upon her, and say, I took this woman, and when I came to her, I found her not a maid:"

The husband, is forbidden to defame the character of his wife. If this is an untrue statement he is saying, he will be severely punished for it. If it is a true statement, she will be severely punished. God does not want His people involved with sex scandals.

Deuteronomy 22:15 "Then shall the father of the damsel, and her mother, take and bring forth [the tokens of] the damsel's virginity unto the elders of the city in the gate:" Deuteronomy 22:16 "And the damsel's father shall say unto the elders, I gave my daughter unto this man to wife, and he hateth her;"

The father acted in good faith, when he received the money for his daughter. Now, he has come to elders to decide this situation. This is not something that can be decided without the help of the Lord. The father says, she was a virgin, that the man just hates her.

Deuteronomy 22:17 "And, lo, he hath given occasions of speech [against her], saying, I found not thy daughter a maid; and yet these [are the tokens of] my daughter's virginity. And they shall spread the cloth before the elders of the city."

All of this is for keeping the lives of the Israelites pure. The father presents this situation to the elders, along with the tokens of her virginity.

Deuteronomy 22:18 "And the elders of that city shall take that man and chastise him;"

He shall be severely punished for defaming the good name of his wife and her family.

Deuteronomy 22:19 "And they shall amerce him in an hundred [shekels] of silver, and give [them] unto the father of the damsel, because he hath brought up an evil name upon a virgin of Israel: and she shall be his wife; he may not put her away all his days."

"Amerce" is to inflict a penalty. This is like a fine to be paid to her and her family. He has not only defamed the name of the damsel, but of her family, and even of all Israel. He is not allowed to put her away, but must support her as a wife all the days of his life.

Deuteronomy 22:20 "But if this thing be true, [and the tokens of] virginity be not found for the damsel:" Deuteronomy 22:21 "Then they shall bring out the damsel to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her with stones that she die: because she hath wrought

folly in Israel, to play the whore in her father's house: so shalt thou put evil away from among you."

We see the seriousness of the accusation, here. Those who participated in sex, other than in the marriage bed, were stoned to death in those days. These harsh laws caused people to remain pure and clean. They were to uphold marriage. They were strictly forbidden to enter into any other relationship.

Deuteronomy 22:22 "If a man be found lying with a woman married to an husband, then they shall both of them die, [both] the man that lay with the woman, and the woman: so shalt thou put away evil from Israel."

This is adultery. Leviticus 20:10 "And the man that committeth adultery with [another] man's wife, [even he] that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death." Israel was to set a high moral standard for the rest of the world. They were entrusted with God's law. They must uphold that law, as an example to others.

Deuteronomy 22:23 "If a damsel [that is] a virgin be betrothed unto an husband, and a man find her in the city, and lie with her;" Deuteronomy 22:24 "Then ye shall bring them both out unto the gate of that city, and ye shall stone them with stones that they die; the damsel, because she cried not, [being] in the city; and the man, because he hath humbled his neighbour's wife: so thou shalt put away evil from among you."

The woman's sin in this was the fact that she did not cry out for help. This makes her a willing participant. In this case, they should both be stoned to death, to drive this type sin out of Israel.

Deuteronomy 22:25 "But if a man find a betrothed damsel in the field, and the man force her, and lie with her: then the man only that lay with her shall die:" Deuteronomy 22:26 "But unto the damsel thou shalt do nothing; [there is] in the damsel no sin [worthy] of death: for as when a man riseth against his neighbour, and slayeth him, even so [is] this matter:" Deuteronomy 22:27 "For he found her in the field, [and] the betrothed damsel cried, and [there was] none to save her."

The man is still guilty, and must die for that sin. In this case, there was no one to hear her cries, so she is found not guilty of sin. This seems harsh in our society today, but God was trying to keep Israel pure. Thou shalt not commit adultery, is still one of the ten commandments of God. Our society has become immoral.

Deuteronomy 22:28 "If a man find a damsel [that is] a virgin, which is not betrothed, and lay hold on her, and lie with her, and they be found;"

The only difference in this case, is the girl is not spoken for, nor is she married. The man committed an offence, but under different circumstances.

Deuteronomy 22:29 "Then the man that lay with her shall give unto the damsel's father fifty [shekels] of silver, and she shall be his wife; because he hath humbled her, he may not put her away all his days."

Silver symbolizes redemption. Of course, the number 50 has to do with Jubilee, or setting of the captives free. Perhaps, these two people are in love and this is a way for the man to be allowed to marry her. I cannot say for sure. He consummated the marriage, when he lay with her. They two are now one flesh. They are husband and wife. She has all privileges of a wife. He cannot put her away.

Deuteronomy 22:30 "A man shall not take his father's wife, nor discover his father's skirt."

The wife of his father could be his mother, or his step mother. Whichever she is, God forbids incest. The son would not only be defaming her, but his father, as well. She belongs to his father. He should have enough respect for his father, that he would not commit this sin.

Deuteronomy 24 Questions

1. "Brother", in verse 1, is speaking of whom?
2. What should he do with a stray animal, that he knows of?
3. Am I my brother's keeper?
4. What should he do with the stray animal, if he does not know who it belongs to?
5. What if it is not an animal at all but, someone's clothing?
6. In Leviticus, what is added to the statement in verse 4?
7. The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth to a _____.
8. Why does the author believe verse 5 is not speaking of women's slacks?
9. What does the author believe this is saying?
10. What is verse 6 teaching?
11. Why was it necessary to build a battlement for the roof of the house?
12. Thou shalt not sow thy vineyard with _____ kinds of seed.
13. Why should a person not plow with an ox and an ass at the same time?
14. Quote 2 Corinthians chapter 6 verse 14.
15. Where had the Hebrews learned to weave different materials together?
16. What is the message in verse 11 symbolically?
17. Quote Numbers chapter 15 verse 38.
18. When they walked and saw the blue, what did it remind them of?
19. What was the complaint of the husband in verses 13 and 14?
20. What will happen, if this statement is untrue?
21. What does the father of the girl do, when he hears this?
22. Why do they come with this matter to the elders?
23. What is the husband to pay her father?
24. "Amerce" means what?
25. What is done to the girl, if the accusation is true?
26. What happens to a man and another man's wife, if they are found lying together?
27. If the girl is a betrothed virgin, and this happens in the city, what happens to them?
28. What is different, if the virgin is in the country, and this happens?
29. If a man sleeps with a woman, who is not betrothed or married, what happens to them?
30. What amount of silver is paid to her father?
31. A man shall not take his father's _____.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 23:1 "He that is wounded in the stones, or hath his privy member cut off, shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD."

This nation was chosen of God to be a holy nation. They were to preserve their bodies in its entire function as men. This is speaking of this as if it is a mutilation of the body. The person with this injury could no longer function in his manhood and therefore was excluded. All of this was done away with in Jesus. This is not the Christian attitude at all.

Deuteronomy 23:2 "A bastard shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even to his tenth generation shall he not enter into the congregation of the LORD."

This somewhat falls into the same category as above. We saw in the last lesson, how the LORD felt about sex aside from the marriage bed. The severity of killing the two participants would have avoided this situation. The Hebrews were strong on family heritage. The bastard would have no family heritage. This, again, is done away with in the LORD Jesus.

Deuteronomy 23:3 "An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even to their tenth generation shall they not enter into the congregation of the LORD for ever:"

This is an exclusion of the children of incest. The Ammonites and the Moabites were the descendents of the incestuous affair of Lot and his two daughters. Again, we must emphasize the fact that Jesus paid the price for all of these sins, and there is no such restriction in the church today.

Deuteronomy 23:4 "Because they met you not with bread and with water in the way, when ye came forth out of Egypt; and because they hired against thee Balaam the son of Beor of Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse thee."

A more recent sin they had committed, was trying to curse Israel. The Ammonites and the Moabites were enemies of Israel. They wanted to curse Israel, and instead, they were cursed themselves.

Deuteronomy 23:5 "Nevertheless the LORD thy God would not hearken unto Balaam; but the LORD thy God turned the curse into a blessing unto thee, because the LORD thy God loved thee."

There is a detailed discussion of this in the book of Numbers. We remember, that an ass spoke to Balaam to keep him from going to curse Israel.

Deuteronomy 23:6 "Thou shalt not seek their peace nor their prosperity all thy days for ever."

God did not want Israel making a peace treaty with them ever. They were never friends with Israel. Israel was not to help them in any way. They had angered God.

Deuteronomy 23:7 "Thou shalt not abhor an Edomite; for he [is] thy brother: thou shalt not abhor an Egyptian; because thou wast a stranger in his land."

The Edomites descended from Esau, who was the brother of Jacob {Israel}. "Abhor" means loathe, or detest. The Egyptians had befriended Joseph and, in turn, Jacob and his family during the famine. They took Jacob's family in, and they lived there about 400 years. They were not treated as slaves, until the later part of their stay. Egypt is a place of refuge. God will not forget them for that.

Deuteronomy 23:8 "The children that are begotten of them shall enter into the congregation of the LORD in their third generation."

There were many marriages between the Egyptians and the Israelites. It appears, after the third generation, they were considered as Israelites.

Deuteronomy 23:9 "When the host goeth forth against thine enemies, then keep thee from every wicked thing."

The wars that Israel fought were not for carnal reasons. They were thought of as holy wars, directed of God. They must remember this, and not do things contrary to God's will, even in battle.

Deuteronomy 23:10 "If there be among you any man, that is not clean by reason of uncleanness that chanceth him by night, then shall he go abroad out of the camp, he shall not come within the camp:"

This is in connection with the previous verse on going to war. This is speaking of not bringing uncleanness into the camp. There were a number of things that would make them unclean, like coming into contact with a dead body.

Deuteronomy 23:11 "But it shall be, when evening cometh on, he shall wash [himself] with water: and when the sun is down, he shall come into the camp [again]."

The washing was both literal and ceremonial. They must not enter the camp, until they are cleansed. The camp of the LORD was holy. No unclean thing was to enter.

Deuteronomy 23:12 "Thou shalt have a place also without the camp, whither thou shalt go forth abroad:" Deuteronomy 23:13 "And thou shalt have a paddle upon thy weapon; and it shall be, when thou wilt ease thyself abroad, thou shalt dig therewith, and shalt turn back and cover that which cometh from thee:"

This is speaking of going to the bathroom. They must dig a hole in the ground to be used as their bathroom, and then cover it with dirt to keep down contamination.

Deuteronomy 23:14 "For the LORD thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee."

The camp had to be physically and ceremonially clean, because the presence of God with them, made the camp holy.

Deuteronomy 23:15 "Thou shalt not deliver unto his master the servant which is escaped from his master unto thee:"

A slave that had escaped and run to them for safety, should not be turned over to the master he escaped from. Sometimes, these foreign masters were so cruel to their slaves, they would rather die than go back. If the slave has taken such a drastic step, he should be allowed to stay.

Deuteronomy 23:16 "He shall dwell with thee, [even] among you, in that place which he shall choose in one of thy gates, where it liketh him best: thou shalt not oppress him."

The Israelites should be able to relate to this escaped slave. They had been slaves in Egypt, and God had freed them. He should be able to choose a place to live among them, without them oppressing him.

Deuteronomy 23:17 "There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel."

There would be none, because they stoned them to death, if they were found out, to keep the race pure and holy before the LORD. A sodomite is the same as a homosexual. They were named sodomites, because the sin of homosexuality was the reason Sodom was destroyed by fire and brimstone from heaven.

Deuteronomy 23:18 "Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the LORD thy God for any vow: for even both these [are] abomination unto the LORD thy God."

The offerings were to be wholesome, as well. It appears, that prostitution by both sexes was a form of idolatrous worship. The Hebrews were not to associate themselves in any of these practices. The money received from whoredom of either male or female, was not money to be used in service to God. It was unholy. The dog, in the Scripture above, is speaking of a male prostitute.

Deuteronomy 23:19 "Thou shalt not lend upon usury to thy brother; usury of money, usury of victuals, usury of any thing that is lent upon usury:"

"Usury" is unfair interest on anything. The Hebrews were to help each other, not to charge them interest.

Deuteronomy 23:20 "Unto a stranger thou mayest lend upon usury; but unto thy brother thou shalt not lend upon usury: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all that thou settest thine hand to in the land whither thou goest to possess it."

The Hebrew was under no obligation to the stranger, and could charge him interest on anything he loaned him.

Deuteronomy 23:21 "When thou shalt vow a vow unto the LORD thy God, thou shalt not slack to pay it: for the LORD thy God will surely require it of thee; and it would be sin in thee."

We saw an example of this very thing in Ananias and Sapphira. The story is in chapter 5 of Acts. They had promised to give all the money to God, and they held back a portion for themselves. God killed each of them.

Deuteronomy 23:22 "But if thou shalt forbear to vow, it shall be no sin in thee."

Had they not vowed to God they would do this and had held out the money, it would not have been sin. It was lying to God that was sin.

Deuteronomy 23:23 "That which is gone out of thy lips thou shalt keep and perform; [even] a freewill offering, according as thou hast vowed unto the LORD thy God, which thou hast promised with thy mouth."

Our word should be our bond. We should not say anything that we will not do. When we say something, it should be just as binding, as if we had written it down and had it notarized. Whatsoever we promise, that we must do. The 30th chapter of Numbers goes into detail on vows we make.

Deuteronomy 23:24 "When thou comest into thy neighbour's vineyard, then thou mayest eat grapes thy fill at thine own pleasure; but thou shalt not put [any] in thy vessel."

We see that it was not stealing to eat grapes, while you were in the neighbor's vineyard. There were always the gleanings left for this very thing. It is wrong, however, to harvest the neighbor's crop to store away for yourself.

Deuteronomy 23:25 "When thou comest into the standing corn of thy neighbour, then thou mayest pluck the ears with thine hand; but thou shalt not move a sickle unto thy neighbour's standing corn."

This is the same message as the grapes. It is alright to eat some to quench your hunger. Their crop should not be used for you to make a living, however. The crop is your neighbor's to harvest and sell, or do what ever he wants to with it. To take more than you could eat while standing there, would be stealing from your neighbor.

Deuteronomy 25 Questions

1. What is meant by verse 1?
2. When was this restriction done away with?
3. A bastard child should not enter the congregation for _____ generations.
4. The Hebrews were strong on _____ heritage.
5. Who are the Ammonites and Moabites?
6. What were the reasons given, in verse 4, for them not entering the congregation.
7. They wanted to curse Israel, but instead, were _____ themselves.
8. Where do we read more about Balaam?
9. What must Israel not do for them forever?
10. The Edomites descended from _____.
11. What does "abhor" mean?
12. What had Egypt done for Israel?
13. When could an Egyptian join the congregation?
14. What kind of wars did Israel wage?
15. What should they do, if they are unclean?
16. The washing was both _____ and _____.
17. What should they do, when they went to the bathroom?
18. Why did the camp have to be physically and ceremonially clean?
19. What should they do with a slave, that had run to them for safety?
20. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 23 verse 17.
21. What is a sodomite?
22. _____ by both sexes was a form of idolatrous worship.
23. The dog, in verse 18, is speaking of what?
24. What is "usury"?
25. Who could the Hebrew charge usury?
26. Who are two, who lied to God, and were killed for it?
27. Our word should be our _____.
28. Can you eat of your neighbor's vineyard? Explain.
29. Does this apply to other crops?
30. What are they forbidden to do to their neighbor's crop?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 24:1 "When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some unclean in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give [it] in her hand, and send her out of his house."

Jesus spoke of divorce as being for the hardness of men's hearts. There are reasons that make divorce permissible, but divorce is the breaking apart of a family unit that God intended to be forever. Spiritual, or physical, adultery is grounds for divorce. The uncleanness is not revealed to us. Whatever it is, can be assumed a shameful thing. In a marriage, they two become one flesh. In a divorce, they two must be divided. He has removed her from his life, and sent her home.

Deuteronomy 24:2 "And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's [wife]."

The bill of divorcement makes her a free woman. She may re-marry, under these circumstances.

Deuteronomy 24:3 "And [if] the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth [it] in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her [to be] his wife;"

In this case, she would be free to marry again, if she desired. This is the same situation as in the first divorce. She is no longer bound as one with the second husband.

Deuteronomy 24:4 "Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that [is] abomination before the LORD: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the LORD thy God giveth thee [for] an inheritance."

If the first husband truly hated her enough to get the divorce in the first place, why would he want her back now? Her defilement was in sleeping with the second husband, while her first husband was living. God allowed this, however, because her husband had sent her away. He would not allow her to go back to her first husband, after sleeping with her second husband.

Deuteronomy 24:5 "When a man hath taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war, neither shall he be charged with any business: [but] he shall be free at home one year, and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken."

In a previous lesson, we saw the exemption from battle for those who had just married. This year of not being burdened by other obligations, gave the newlyweds a time to get to know each other. Their marriage would be more grounded, if they could have this time to be together and grow closer. His thoughts should be of his bride during this year long honeymoon.

Deuteronomy 24:6 "No man shall take the nether or the upper millstone to pledge: for he taketh [a man's] life to pledge."

This just means that a person should not take in pledge the thing, that the person borrowing uses to make a living. They would not have a way to live, if this were taken.

Deuteronomy 24:7 "If a man be found stealing any of his brethren of the children of Israel, and maketh merchandise of him, or selleth him; then that thief shall die; and thou shalt put evil away from among you."

In our society, that is called kidnapping. In almost every case, the person is held for ransom. We see that God established the punishment for this as death. People are made in the image of God, and should not be treated as merchandise.

Deuteronomy 24:8 "Take heed in the plague of leprosy, that thou observe diligently, and do according to all that the priests the Levites shall teach you: as I commanded them, [so] ye shall observe to do."

The 13th chapter of Leviticus goes into great detail about the way to handle leprosy. We discovered in our study of that, that leprosy symbolizes sin. The real leprosy, or the symbolic leprosy {sin}, is contagious, and must be dealt with carefully.

Deuteronomy 24:9 "Remember what the LORD thy God did unto Miriam by the way, after that ye were come forth out of Egypt."

Miriam became leprous and stayed that way for 7 days, when she spoke out about Moses marrying the Ethiopian woman. Her Leprosy was an outward show of the sin that was within her.

Deuteronomy 24:10 "When thou dost lend thy brother any thing, thou shalt not go into his house to fetch his pledge."

A man's home is his castle. His home should be a very private place for him and his family. It is not a place of merchandise. The debtor must bring the pledge out of the house, and give to the lender.

Deuteronomy 24:11 "Thou shalt stand abroad, and the man to whom thou dost lend shall bring out the pledge abroad unto thee."

The lender must not embarrass the man before his family, by coming in the house to take the pledge.

Deuteronomy 24:12 "And if the man [be] poor, thou shalt not sleep with his pledge:"

The pledge is the same thing we would call collateral. The loan is made, because there is something of value backing up the loan. In this Scripture above, God says the man may need to use it, while it is collateral. Let him keep it in his possession, if he is poor. This is, probably, speaking of the man's garment that he wraps up with at night to keep warm.

Deuteronomy 24:13 "In any case thou shalt deliver him the pledge again when the sun goeth down, that he may sleep in his own raiment, and bless thee: and it shall be righteousness unto thee before the LORD thy God."

To keep his garment, that he must have to keep warm, is extremely cruel. God will see the generosity of the lender, who lets the man wrap up in his garment at night. God will bless that lender abundantly. That man is in right standing with God, because he loved God enough to obey Him and his fellowman enough to have compassion on him.

Deuteronomy 24:14 "Thou shalt not oppress an hired servant [that is] poor and needy, [whether he be] of thy brethren, or of thy strangers that [are] in thy land within thy gates:"

Just because you have the rule over someone, is no reason to be cruel to him. God taught us to care for the poor and needy. This would be especially true, if he worked for you. We are not responsible to help those in need all around the world, but we are responsible to help those who live around us that we know of.

Deuteronomy 24:15 "At his day thou shalt give [him] his hire, neither shall the sun go down upon it; for he [is] poor, and setteth his heart upon it: lest he cry against thee unto the LORD, and it be sin unto thee."

To hold back wages someone has earned, is cruel. That would be especially true, if they were poor. The person working is depending on the money for food and raiment. This is saying, pay him at the end of each day's work. God would punish those who do not pay their laborers.

Deuteronomy 24:16 "The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin."

This speaks of each person being responsible for his own sin. The heathens around them killed whole families for the sins of the father, or the son. This was a break from that. God, on rare occasion perhaps, might inflict the sin of the father on the son. This is forbidding the judges of their land to do this.

Deuteronomy 24:17 "Thou shalt not pervert the judgment of the stranger, [nor] of the fatherless; nor take a widow's raiment to pledge:"

We see in this, that the same rules were for everyone. The specific mention of the widow's raiment not being taken in pledge, is because she would need it to wear. They were instructed, over and over, to help the widow, the orphan, and the stranger.

Deuteronomy 24:18 "But thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in Egypt, and the LORD thy God redeemed thee thence: therefore I command thee to do this thing."

They should remember hardship. That should make them more compassionate for those who had less than they did. If you have walked in the same shoes as someone, you have more sympathy for him. God redeemed them, and they should help these less fortunate.

Deuteronomy 24:19 "When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hands."

The edges of the field were not to be picked. The leftovers in the field, when they harvested, were left for the poor to pick up and live of. This was God's way of providing for the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow. Their generosity to others would bring them blessings from God.

Deuteronomy 24:20 "When thou beatest thine olive tree, thou shalt not go over the boughs again: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow."

This, again, is saying, leave a little for the less fortunate.

Deuteronomy 24:21 "When thou gatherest the grapes of thy vineyard, thou shalt not glean [it] afterward: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow."

We see that the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow would not go hungry. God made provision for them, when He gave Moses the law for the people. The family of Jacob had gone into Egypt, because there was a famine in their land. God provided for them, as He provides here.

Deuteronomy 24:22 "And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt: therefore I command thee to do this thing."

This, in a way, is paying back for the things God had done for them in Egypt. Of course, they could never completely pay Him back. This is their way of thanking God for their deliverance.

Deuteronomy 26 Questions

1. Why does the woman find no favor in her husband's eyes in verse 1?
2. What can he do to get out of this situation?
3. What did Jesus say divorce was for?
4. Divorce is permissible, but it is really what?
5. _____ or _____ adultery is grounds for divorce.
6. Is the woman free to re-marry, after her divorce is final?
7. What would be her condition, after the second husband gave her a divorce, or died?
8. Would it be permissible for her first husband to re-marry her?
9. What was her defilement?
10. How long should a man stay at home with his new wife?
11. Why is it necessary for him to stay home?
12. What is verse 6 speaking of?
13. What, in our society, is the instance, in verse 7, called?
14. People are made in the image of God, and should not be treated as _____.
15. Where do we find detailed information about leprosy?
16. How long was Miriam leprous?
17. What caused her leprosy?
18. What is the restriction on taking a pledge in verse 10?
19. Where shall he wait for the pledge?
20. Why should he not sleep with the poor man's pledge?
21. What would we call the pledge today?
22. What will God do, if he lets the borrower sleep in his pledge?
23. How should you treat people who are working for you?
24. Why should you not hold back a person's wages?
25. The father shall not be put to death for the _____.
26. Why should you not take a widow's garment to pledge?
27. What does verse 18 say, they should remember?
28. What should they do, when they harvest?
29. How had God made provision for the fatherless, the widow, and the stranger not to go hungry?
30. How are the Israelites trying to pay back a little for what God has done for them?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 25:1 "If there be a controversy between men, and they come unto judgment, that [the judges] may judge them; then they shall justify the righteous, and condemn the wicked."

This is simply saying, if they cannot settle it themselves, they come and let the judge decide it. The judges were cautioned to judge with righteousness under the direction of the LORD. The judge should be able to determine who is at fault, and appropriate fair punishment.

Deuteronomy 25:2 "And it shall be, if the wicked man [be] worthy to be beaten, that the judge shall cause him to lie down, and to be beaten before his face, according to his fault, by a certain number."

This whipping would be on the upper part of his back and shoulders. He was to lie down with his face covered. This beating took place in front of the judge, so he could make sure the correct number of blows were administered. Punishment for each crime was different. The number of blows was determined by the seriousness of the crime.

Deuteronomy 25:3 "Forty stripes he may give him, [and] not exceed: lest, [if] he should exceed, and beat him above these with many stripes, then thy brother should seem vile unto thee."

The maximum number of stripes was 40, so the judge would make it 39, or less, to make sure they did not exceed the punishment. To whip someone more than that, might kill him. It would certainly show no regard for his welfare.

Deuteronomy 25:4 "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out [the corn]."

This is the same thing as saying, the man is worthy of his hire. Whatever an animal worked at, he deserved to be fed. This, possibly, has the larger meaning, that whoever works deserves to be paid a fair wage.

Deuteronomy 25:5 "If brethren dwell together, and one of them die, and have no child, the wife of the dead shall not marry without unto a stranger: her husband's brother shall go in unto her, and take her to him to wife, and perform the duty of an husband's brother unto her."

This dwelling together means they live near each other. The main reason for her husband's brother performing the duty of a husband to her, is so there will be a heritage for his brother. The child will bear the name of the deceased brother. This is an example of putting family before your own feelings. The Hebrews felt they were cursed of God, if they did not have a child to carry on the family name. This marriage is to continue the name of the dead brother.

Deuteronomy 25:6 "And it shall be, [that] the firstborn which she beareth shall succeed in the name of his brother [which is] dead, that is name be not put out of Israel."

Not only will this child be named for the deceased brother, but will be registered on the roll as the deceased brother's child.

Deuteronomy 25:7 "And if the man like not to take his brother's wife, then let his brother's wife go up to the gate unto the elders, and say, My husband's brother refuseth to raise up unto his brother a name in Israel, he will not perform the duty of my husband's brother."

He did not have to marry her, if he did not want to, but he must be willing to face the consequences. The wife is allowed to complain to the elders. Her complaint is that he refuses to raise up a child in his brother's name.

Deuteronomy 25:8 "Then the elders of his city shall call him, and speak unto him: and [if] he stand [to it], and say, I like not to take her;"

Before any action is taken against him, the elders talk to him, to get him to change his mind. He still has the option to refuse.

Deuteronomy 25:9 "Then shall his brother's wife come unto him in the presence of the elders, and loose his shoe from off his foot, and spit in his face, and shall answer and say, So shall it be done unto that man that will not build up his brother's house."

"To spit in someone's face" shows utter disgust. The "taking off of his shoe" shows that he is not worthy of standing in his brother's place. This is done in disgust by the wife of the dead brother. The statement is made to cause him to feel shame for not giving his brother a son.

Deuteronomy 25:10 "And his name shall be called in Israel, The house of him that hath his shoe loosed."

All of Israel looks on him in disgust, because he did not perform his duty for his brother.

Deuteronomy 25:11 "When men strive together one with another, and the wife of the one draweth near for to deliver her husband out of the hand of him that smiteth him, and putteth forth her hand, and taketh him by the secrets:"

It appears, the husband of another woman is fighting with a man. It appears, the woman comes to help her husband in this matter, and whether accidental, or on purpose, we are not told, grabs the man in a secret place.

Deuteronomy 25:12 "Then thou shalt cut off her hand, thine eye shall not pity [her]."

Women should not be forward with men. The penalty, in this case, is the cutting off of the woman's hand. This has never been a practice, however. The leaders started fining the woman the value of her hand.

Deuteronomy 25:13 "Thou shalt not have in thy bag divers weights, a great and a small."

In Leviticus, a great deal was said about having honest weights. The person who has two different weights is trying to cheat on the weight.

Leviticus 19:36 "Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin, shall ye have: I [am] the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt." Proverbs 11:1 "A false balance [is] abomination to the LORD: but a just weight [is] his delight."

Deuteronomy 25:14 "Thou shalt not have in thine house divers measures, a great and a small."

We know that the measurements fall into the same category, as the just weights above.

Deuteronomy 25:15 "[But] thou shalt have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and just measure shalt thou have: that thy days may be lengthened in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."

The person, who intends to build a business, must have just weights and measures. People will not trade with a person who cheats on weights and measures. God will bless those who deal fairly.

Deuteronomy 25:16 "For all that do such things, [and] all that do unrighteously, [are] an abomination unto the LORD thy God."

Transgressions against God and your fellow man are abominations to God. God wanted them to be holy, because he is holy. We see in the following Scripture what the Lord requires. Micah 6:8 "He hath shewed thee, O man, what [is] good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

Deuteronomy 25:17 "Remember what Amalek did unto thee by the way, when ye were come forth out of Egypt;" Deuteronomy 25:18 "How he met thee by the way, and smote the hindmost of thee, [even] all [that were] feeble behind thee, when thou [wast] faint and weary; and he feared not God." Deuteronomy 25:19 "Therefore it shall be, when the LORD thy God hath given thee rest from all thine enemies round about, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee [for] an inheritance to possess it, [that] thou shalt blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven; thou shalt not forget [it]."

Amalek was a very evil man. Amalek was an example of the wickedness, they had encountered on their journey to the promised land. He attacked those already weak, who could not help themselves. He had no fear of God, because he did not know God. Wickedness of these heathen people had to be stopped. God would not allow this evil man to live. He wanted even his name removed from all records. He must not be remembered. He is cut off from history.

Deuteronomy 27 Questions

1. Who do they go to, when they cannot settle an argument themselves?
2. How were they to judge?
3. If he is to be beaten, what does the judge have him do?
4. Where would the whipping be done?
5. The number of stripes was determined by the _____ of the crime?
6. What is the maximum number of stripes he could have?
7. Why did the judge make it one less?
8. Thou shalt not _____ the ox when he treadeth out the corn.
9. What is another way of saying the same thing?
10. Who should the wife marry, if her husband dies without children?
11. What is the main reason for her marrying him?
12. Who shall the firstborn be named for?
13. If the brother does not want to marry her, what does she do?
14. What is the first thing the elders do?
15. What does "spitting in someone's face" show?
16. What does the "taking off of the brother's shoe" show?
17. Instead of cutting off her hand as the law speaks of, what does she pay for being personal with a man other than her husband?
18. Quote Leviticus chapter 19 verse 36.
19. Quote Proverbs chapter 11 verse 1.
20. How will God bless them, if they have just weights and measures?
21. Quote Micah chapter 6 verse 8.
22. Who was so evil, even the memory of him should be wiped out?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 26:1 "And it shall be, when thou [art] come in unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee [for] an inheritance, and possessest it, and dwellest therein;"

In this, Moses is speaking of a time, after they have won their battle for the land, and have settled in to live there. There were some things they did not do, until there was a place of worship established in their new land.

Deuteronomy 26:2 "That thou shalt take of the first of all the fruit of the earth, which thou shalt bring of thy land that the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt put [it] in a basket, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose to place his name there."

This basket of fruit would be taken to the place of worship, and handed to the priest. It is as if the person offering is saying, this is truly the land of milk and honey you promised our forefathers. Whichever priest was on duty at the time, is the one it would be given to. This offering is for acknowledgment of God's great deed to them.

Deuteronomy 26:3 "And thou shalt go unto the priest that shall be in those days, and say unto him, I profess this day unto the LORD thy God, that I am come unto the country which the LORD sware unto our fathers for to give us."

This is a way of telling the leader, such as Joshua, that this is, indeed, the land of promise. This profession to the priest is that the person offering is assured this is the land God had promised, and that the person offering is accepting the land. The fact this person has the fruit of the land in his possession shows he is now in possession of the land.

Deuteronomy 26:4 "And the priest shall take the basket out of thine hand, and set it down before the altar of the LORD thy God."

The priest in charge of this has accepted the fruit on the behalf of the LORD, when he places it at the altar. In a sense this is a firstfruits offering.

Deuteronomy 26:5 "And thou shalt speak and say before the LORD thy God, A Syrian ready to perish [was] my father, and he went down into Egypt, and sojourned there with a few, and became there a nation, great, mighty, and populous:"

This is recognizing Jacob {Israel} as their forefather. He went into Egypt just a handful of people, and came out millions. His reason for going to Egypt was the famine in his own land. God blessed him, even in captivity, and he became a mighty nation.

Deuteronomy 26:6 "And the Egyptians evil entreated us, and afflicted us, and laid upon us hard bondage:"

At first, the Egyptians treated them well, because of Joseph. When Joseph died, they forgot why the Hebrews were in their land, and caused them to become slaves to the new Pharaoh.

Deuteronomy 26:7 And when we cried unto the LORD God of our fathers, the LORD heard our voice, and looked on our affliction, and our labour, and our oppression:"

It had become so bad in Egypt for them, that they cried out to God for help. God heard their prayers, and sent Moses to deliver them.

Deuteronomy 26:8 "And the LORD brought us forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with great terribleness, and with signs, and with wonders:"

Pharaoh did not want to lose this mighty army of workers, and he refused to let them go. The 10 plagues God sent on Egypt, such as the water turning to blood, darkness covering the land at noonday, the plague of frogs, and lastly the death of all the firstborn of Egypt, caused Pharaoh to let them go. God had given Moses a staff in the wilderness, before he came back to Egypt. With this staff in his hand and his hand outstretched, God did the miracles.

Deuteronomy 26:9 "And he hath brought us into this place, and hath given us this land, [even] a land that floweth with milk and honey."

On a 40 year journey, the LORD had been with them. He caused them to cross the Red Sea on dry land, and destroyed Pharaoh's army there. He fed them manna, He gave them water when they were thirsty. He gave them His law to live by. Now, He has brought them to their promised land of milk and honey.

Deuteronomy 26:10 "And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land, which thou, O LORD, hast given me. And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God, and worship before the LORD thy God:"

The fruit is not just an acknowledgment that they have received their land of promise, but an appreciation, as well. The worship before the LORD thy God is in the form of a prayer of thanksgiving.

Deuteronomy 26:11 "And thou shalt rejoice in every good [thing] which the LORD thy God hath given unto thee, and unto thine house, thou, and the Levite, and the stranger that [is] among you."

This rejoicing is to be shared with the Levite and the stranger. The interesting part of this, is the fruit is to be shared with all of them, as well. The blessings are for everyone in association with the Israelite. The blessings God promised Abraham included a blessing for nations, plural.

Deuteronomy 26:12 "When thou hast made an end of tithing all the tithes of thine increase the third year, [which is] the year of tithing, and hast given [it] unto the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, and be filled;"

The tithe is not the same as the basket of fruit that was brought earlier in this lesson. It appears, the tithe was gathered over three years,

and then taken to the designated place of worship to tithe. Luke 14:13 "But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind:"

Deuteronomy 26:13 "Then thou shalt say before the LORD thy God, I have brought away the hallowed things out of [mine] house, and also have given them unto the Levite, and unto the stranger, to the fatherless, and to the widow, according to all thy commandments which thou hast commanded me: I have not transgressed thy commandments, neither have I forgotten [them]:"

This is an explanation that the person has done everything he knows to do to keep the Word of the LORD. His desire is to please God in all things. This is in the form of a prayer of thanksgiving and praise. It is, also, a promise to do the things the LORD has set before him.

Deuteronomy 26:14 "I have not eaten thereof in my mourning, neither have I taken away [ought] thereof for [any] unclean [use], nor given [ought] thereof for the dead: [but] I have hearkened to the voice of the LORD my God, [and] have done according to all that thou hast commanded me."

This, is another way of saying, that he has kept the tithe and offering from all pollution. While he was ceremonially unclean for the dead, he has touched none of this. To the best of his ability, he has kept all the things the LORD had commanded.

Deuteronomy 26:15 "Look down from thy holy habitation, from heaven, and bless thy people Israel, and the land which thou hast given us, as thou swarest unto our fathers, a land that floweth with milk and honey."

There is nothing unclean, or evil, in heaven. It is a place of perfect holiness. This statement is saying, that God had fulfilled His promise to them. The land of promise is a land of milk and honey. They are fully aware that God is the Giver. James 1:17 "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

Deuteronomy 26:16 "This day the LORD thy God hath commanded thee to do these statutes and judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and do them with all thine heart, and with all thy soul."

God would not accept them keeping the laws and statutes, just from obligation. They must want to do them in their hearts. The soul of man is what operates his free will. The heart of man is what he really is. When a person's heart is right, it will be his will to keep God's commandments.

Deuteronomy 26:17 "Thou hast avouched the LORD this day to be thy God, and to walk in his ways, and to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and to hearken unto his voice:"

"Avouched" means answered. This means they have stated that the LORD was their God. They have agreed to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, commandments, and judgements. They, also, have agreed to listen carefully to His voice. God had spoken aloud to them, when He first stated the ten commandments to them. Now, He speaks to them through Moses, or Joshua, or perhaps, the high priest.

Deuteronomy 26:18 "And the LORD hath avouched thee this day to be his peculiar people, as he hath promised thee, and that [thou] shouldest keep all his commandments;"

God had separated them out to be His peculiar people. They were not to be like the rest of the world. They were to live by God's commandments. They were the only people who had God's law. Leviticus 20:26 "And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD [am] holy, and have severed you from [other] people, that ye should be mine." I Chronicles 17:22 "For thy people Israel didst thou make thine own people for ever; and thou, LORD, becamest their God."

Deuteronomy 26:19 "And to make thee high above all nations which he hath made, in praise, and in name, and in honour; and that thou mayest be an holy people unto the LORD thy God, as he hath spoken."

No other nation had been so blessed. The LORD had actually been in their midst in the wilderness wanderings. No other nation had been entrusted with God's law. Exodus 19:6 "And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These [are] the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel." They were privileged above all other nations, because of God's great love for them. Isaiah 62:12 "And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the LORD: and thou shalt be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken." I Peter 2:9 "But ye [are] a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"

Deuteronomy 28 Questions

1. Where would the basket of fruit be taken?
2. When was this to happen?
3. What is the person offering saying in doing this?
4. What did they profess to the priest?
5. What are they saying about the land in this act?
6. What does the priest do with the basket of fruit?
7. Who is the priest accepting it for?
8. In verse 5, they recognize _____ as their forefather.
9. Why had he gone to Egypt?
10. What happened, while Jacob and his family were in Egypt?
11. Why did the Egyptians treat them well at first?
12. How bad did it finally get in Egypt?
13. Did Pharaoh willingly let them go?
14. What happened to cause Pharaoh to let them go?
15. How long had God led them to their promised land?
16. What were some of the things the LORD did for them along the way?
17. The worship, in verse 10, is what?
18. Who shares in the rejoicing?
19. When was the tithe paid?
20. Quote Luke chapter 14 verse 13.
21. What is the desire of this person?
22. Where is God's holy habitation?
23. Quote James chapter 1 verse 17.
24. God did not want them to keep the commandments from _____, but they must want to do them in their _____.
25. What does "avouched" mean?
26. Quote Leviticus chapter 20 verse 26.
27. How long will Israel be God's people?
28. Quote Exodus chapter 19 verse 6.
29. Why were they privileged above all other nations?
30. Quote 1 Peter chapter 2 verse 9.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 27:1 "And Moses with the elders of Israel commanded the people, saying, Keep all the commandments which I command you this day."

This is not speaking of just the ten commandments, but of all the statutes and ordinances Moses gave.

Deuteronomy 27:2 And it shall be on the day when ye shall pass over Jordan unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, that thou shalt set thee up great stones, and plaster them with plaster:

The word "great" describing the stones is, probably, an understatement. It is possible that there were many stones, rather than just one huge stone. To have all of these laws and statutes written, would take quite a large area. The plastering them with plaster makes a smooth place to write upon.

Deuteronomy 27:3 "And thou shalt write upon them all the words of this law, when thou art passed over, that thou mayest go in unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, a land that floweth with milk and honey; as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee."

The only civil law these people will have to go by, is the law God had given them. It would be necessary to have them written down, so there will be no confusion about the laws. They will have to set up a government, but it will not be like the lands around them, which have earthly kings. Their only King is the LORD. All spiritual matters were carried to the priests for settlement. Civil laws would be decided by judges appointed for this purpose.

Deuteronomy 27:4 "Therefore it shall be when ye be gone over Jordan, [that] ye shall set up these stones, which I command you this day, in mount Ebal, and thou shalt plaster them with plaster."

The Samaritan Pentateuch has Gerizim, instead of Ebal. The two mountains were across from each other. From Ebal, the law of Moses was recorded, and read by Joshua to the people. Joshua will have to see to all of this, because Moses will not cross over Jordan with them.

Deuteronomy 27:5 "And there shalt thou build an altar unto the LORD thy God, an altar of stones: thou shalt not lift up [any] iron [tool] upon them."

Exodus 20:25 "And if thou wilt make me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it." These stones are carefully chosen and fit together without any chisel being upon them. We find in the following Scripture, the fulfillment of this request. Joshua 8:30 "Then Joshua built an altar unto the LORD God of Israel in mount Ebal,"

Deuteronomy 27:6 "Thou shalt build the altar of the LORD thy God of whole stones: and thou shalt offer burnt offerings thereon unto the LORD thy God:" Deuteronomy 27:7 "And thou shalt offer peace offerings, and shalt eat there, and rejoice before the LORD thy God."

The following Scripture shows where Joshua did the very thing Moses had commanded them to do. Joshua 8:31 "As Moses the servant of the LORD commanded the children of Israel, as it is written in the book of the law of Moses, an altar of whole stones, over which no man hath lift up [any] iron: and they offered thereon burnt offerings unto the LORD, and sacrificed peace offerings." The burnt offerings and the peace offering established the covenant between God and His people in their new land. They ate in celebration of their covenant.

Deuteronomy 27:8 "And thou shalt write upon the stones all the words of this law very plainly."

The main reason for the setting up of the stones with the law written on it, was so the people could know the law themselves. The word "plainly" is added to the writing this time. For people not conducting worship, it might be difficult to understand, if it were not written plainly.

Deuteronomy 27:9 "And Moses and the priests the Levites spake unto all Israel, saying, Take heed, and hearken, O Israel; this day thou art become the people of the LORD thy God."

As we said, the sacrifices at the altar established the covenant relationship with God and His people in their land of promise. The day, spoken of, is after they have crossed Jordan, and fulfilled building the altar.

Deuteronomy 27:10 "Thou shalt therefore obey the voice of the LORD thy God, and do his commandments and his statutes, which I command thee this day."

The LORD has given them their land of promise. What is their obligation in this? Deuteronomy 10:12 "And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul," Deuteronomy 10:13 "To keep the commandments of the LORD, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?"

Deuteronomy 27:11 "And Moses charged the people the same day, saying,"

The "charge", in the verse above, is like a proclamation.

Deuteronomy 27:12 "These shall stand upon mount Gerizim to bless the people, when ye are come over Jordan; Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Joseph, and Benjamin:"

It appears, that Moses set 6 tribes, that are mentioned above, on Mount Gerizim to bless the people. These tribes were all descended from the two wives of Jacob. The following tribes were placed on Mount Ebal to speak curses. They were descended from the maids, except for Reuben and Zebulun, who were descended from Leah.

Deuteronomy 27:13 "And these shall stand upon mount Ebal to curse; Reuben, Gad, and Asher, and Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali."

This really was a symbolic showing of how the blessings would come, if they obeyed God; and just as surely the curses would come, if they disobeyed God.

Deuteronomy 27:14 "And the Levites shall speak, and say unto all the men of Israel with a loud voice,"

The Levites were the protectors of the law. They were the spiritual leaders of the people. This was speaking of more than just the high priest and the priests.

Deuteronomy 27:15 "Cursed [be] the man that maketh [any] graven or molten image, an abomination unto the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and putteth [it] in [a] secret [place]. And all the people shall answer and say, Amen."

These curses are spoken of breaking the law of God. They just go into specifics. The worst offence that can be committed is against God. These sins are covered in the first of the ten commandments. "Amen" means so be it. This would be saying, that they agreed to the curse spoken, if they committed this sin.

Deuteronomy 27:16 "Cursed [be] he that setteth light by his father or his mother. And all the people shall say, Amen."

Set light by their father and mother shows they have no respect for them. It means they have a low opinion of them. Your father and mother are the instruments God used to bring you life, if for no other reason than that, you should honor them.

Deuteronomy 27:17 "Cursed [be] he that removeth his neighbour's landmark. And all the people shall say, Amen."

The only reason a person would remove a landmark, would be to steal the land. Again, this is covered in thou shalt not steal, and also, in thou shalt not covet anything that belongs to thy neighbor.

Deuteronomy 27:18 "Cursed [be] he that maketh the blind to wander out of the way. And all the people shall say, Amen."

There is a physically blind person, and there is a spiritually blind person. To cause either one of them to go out of the way, would be very cruel. In fact, from the spiritual standpoint, we should lead them to the Light.

Deuteronomy 27:19 "Cursed [be] he that perverteth the judgment of the stranger, fatherless, and widow. And all the people shall say, Amen."

This is speaking of someone influencing the judgement against another for personal gain. It would be especially bad to take advantage of the widow, the fatherless, or the stranger.

Deuteronomy 27:20 "Cursed [be] he that lieth with his father's wife; because he uncovereth his father's skirt. And all the people shall say, Amen."

Not only would he sin against his mother, or stepmother, in this, but would bring shame upon his father, as well. This would, also, defame the holiness of the Father in heaven.

Deuteronomy 27:21 "Cursed [be] he that lieth with any manner of beast. And all the people shall say, Amen."

Many of the satanic cults today are committing this very sin. Bestiality, many believe, is what started the A.I.D.S. epidemic. We see, from this, anyone involved in such ungodly practise is cursed of God.

Deuteronomy 27:22 "Cursed [be] he that lieth with his sister, the daughter of his father, or the daughter of his mother. And all the people shall say, Amen."

This covers the terrible sin of incest in our society today. Lot and his two daughters practiced incest. The Moabites and Ammonites that came from that union were evil. They were the enemies of Israel {God's chosen}.

Deuteronomy 27:23 "Cursed [be] he that lieth with his mother in law. And all the people shall say, Amen."

This would shame his wife, as well as being evil in the sight of God.

Deuteronomy 27:24 "Cursed [be] he that smiteth his neighbour secretly. And all the people shall say, Amen."

Jesus said, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Deuteronomy 27:25 "Cursed [be] he that taketh reward to slay an innocent person. And all the people shall say, Amen."

The man that did such a thing would be a murderer. The one who hired him would be a murderer, too. The slang name people call them today is {hit man}. This is premeditated murder.

Deuteronomy 27:26 "Cursed [be] he that confirmeth not [all] the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen."

The ten commandments are actually the basis for the first eleven of these warnings. The one above is grouping them together, and giving one final warning that God's commandments and laws must be kept.

Deuteronomy 29 Questions

1. Is this just the ten commandments that Moses is speaking of in verse 1?
2. Why must they be great stones?
3. Why must they be plastered?
4. What are they to write on them?
5. What was the only civil law these people had?
6. Their only King is the _____.
7. All spiritual matters were carried to the _____.
8. Civil laws would be decided by _____.
9. Where were they to set up the stones?
10. Where was mount Gerizim located?
11. Who read the law to the people?
12. What was one restriction to building the altar of stones?
13. Quote Exodus chapter 20 verse 25.
14. Who built the altar?
15. What should they do, when the altar is finished?
16. Quote Joshua chapter 8 verse 31.
17. Thou shalt write upon the stones all the Words of this law _ _ _ _.
18. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 10 verse 12.
19. What does "charge" mean?
20. What tribes were represented on Mount Gerizim?
21. Who were these tribes descended from?
22. What tribes were represented on Mount Ebal?
23. Who speaks between the mountains?
24. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 27 verse 15.
25. What does "Amen" mean?
26. To set light by their father and mother shows they have no _____ for them.
27. What two kinds of blindness are there?
28. Verse 20 is speaking of a sin against whom?
29. What terrible sin is mentioned in verse 21.
30. Who had sons by their father, and were examples of incest?
31. To take money to kill someone, is _____.
32. What is the basis for these statements Moses made here?
33. Verse 26 is doing what?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 28:1 "And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe [and] to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:"

In the last lesson, we got into the curses, if they did not keep the commandments of God. Now, we see the abundant blessings spoken on them, if they do keep the commandments. The wonderful blessings poured out upon them are conditional. They will receive the blessings, if they keep God's commandment, and if they earnestly listen, and heed God's Word.

Deuteronomy 28:2 "And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God."

"Hearken" is more than just casually listening. It means to hear intelligently. The voice of the LORD thy God is the spoken Word.

Deuteronomy 28:3 "Blessed [shalt] thou [be] in the city, and blessed [shalt] thou [be] in the field."

This just says, wherever you are, if you are obedient to God, God can pour His blessing out on you in the field, or in town. He is "omnipresent" {everywhere all the time}.

Deuteronomy 28:4 "Blessed [shall be] the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep."

The Israelites thought it a great blessing to have children. The fruit of thy body is speaking of just that. This promises their children will come into this world with no defects. It is, also, saying their blessings will be on their children, as well. The land will not withhold from them. If they keep God's commandments, it will not be cursed for them. It will produce abundantly. Their animals will produce greatly, as well. They will be healthy animals, too.

Deuteronomy 28:5 "Blessed [shall be] thy basket and thy store."

This is just saying, they will have an abundance of food. The basket, we remember, is what they brought the fruit in.

Deuteronomy 28:6 "Blessed [shalt] thou [be] when thou comest in, and blessed [shalt] thou [be] when thou goest out."

Every moment of the day, going and coming, will be blessed.

Deuteronomy 28:7 "The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways."

God will fight for them. Though the enemy come against them, they will turn in fear and run away, when they see that God is protecting them.

Deuteronomy 28:8 "The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."

This is just saying, their storehouses will be full to overflowing. There will be no need in the land. Everything they do, will be blessed of God.

Deuteronomy 28:9 "The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways."

One of the main reasons for keeping His commandments, is to be like Him. He tells them just what to do in the following Scripture. Leviticus 20:26 "And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD [am] holy, and have severed you from [other] people, that ye should be mine."

Deuteronomy 28:10 "And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of thee."

We have discussed this before. They are actually afraid of the LORD of Israel, which in turn, makes them afraid of Israel. The people of the earth would realize that the LORD is Israel's protection. To come against Israel, would be very foolish.

Deuteronomy 28:11 "And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers to give thee."

This is saying, again, that everything will be in abundance to them, when they occupy the land of promise. Of course, it depends on their faithfulness to God.

Deuteronomy 28:12 "The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow."

They will have such an abundance, they will have much to sell, and they will become rich. They will not need to borrow. They will have extra to loan other nations. Notice, it is God who controls the rain.

Deuteronomy 28:13 "And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do [them]:"

This is saying, with the help of God, they will be superior to other nations. They had known what it meant to be the tail, when they were slaves in Egypt. Now, they will be the master {head}.

Deuteronomy 28:14 "And thou shalt not go aside from any of the words which I command thee this day, [to] the right hand, or [to] the left, to go after other gods to serve them."

In the book of Hosea, we saw that God thought of them as His wife. He does not want His wife to be unfaithful to Him. They must stay in the path of light, that He has placed before them. They must keep their eyes on the LORD. They must not look from side to side. To go to other gods, is committing spiritual adultery. God will not tolerate that. They must remain faithful to God, to be blessed.

Deuteronomy 28:15 "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:"

If they are disobedient to God, not only will they not receive the wonderful blessings we have read about above, but they will receive curses.

Deuteronomy 28:16 "Cursed [shalt] thou [be] in the city, and cursed [shalt] thou [be] in the field."

It will not matter where they are, nothing will work for them.

Deuteronomy 28:17 "Cursed [shall be] thy basket and thy store."

Their basket for fruit will be empty.

Deuteronomy 28:18 "Cursed [shall be] the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy land, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep."

They will not have children, that are so blessed to them. Even their animals will not produce offspring.

Deuteronomy 28:19 "Cursed [shalt] thou [be] when thou comest in, and cursed [shalt] thou [be] when thou goest out."

Every hour of every day will be the same. It will not matter where they are, nothing will work out for them.

Deuteronomy 28:20 "The LORD shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, until thou be destroyed, and until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me."

"Vexation", here, is saying, they will have confused thoughts and nothing will work right. They will fail at everything they try to do. They will die young in their misery.

Deuteronomy 28:21 "The LORD shall make the pestilence cleave unto thee, until he have consumed thee from off the land, whither thou goest to possess it."

The pestilence, here, is, probably, speaking of some disease that is contagious and sweeps through them, killing them.

Deuteronomy 28:22 "The LORD shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue thee until thou perish."

"Consumption" has to do with lung disease. All of this is speaking of terrible illness. It is just saying, they will die from illness, or from attack from enemies {sword}, or from famine {blasting and mildew}. They have angered God, and He intends to destroy them one way, or another.

Deuteronomy 28:23 "And thy heaven that [is] over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee [shall be] iron."

We know that "brass" symbolizes judgement. This means that God is pouring out this judgement upon them. The earth seems like iron, because they cannot get it to respond.

Deuteronomy 28:24 "The LORD shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust: from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed."

It won't rain, and their crops will die for need of water. Most famines start from a drought. The entire scene is to destroy those unfaithful to God.

Deuteronomy 28:25 "The LORD shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them: and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth."

When they have angered the LORD, He will not be with them in battle. In fact, He will help their enemies. They will be the ones running in fear.

Deuteronomy 28:26 "And thy carcase shall be meat unto all fowls of the air, and unto the beasts of the earth, and no man shall fray [them] away."

This is the very thing that happens, when the Babylonians come against them many years later. There will be so many dead, there will be no time to bury them. The fowls {vultures} and beasts shall eat the flesh off of the dead bodies.

Deuteronomy 28:27 "The LORD will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed."

"Botch" is a kind of leprosy common to Egypt. "Emerods" are tumors. Notice, that the plagues God sends on the people are incurable.

Deuteronomy 28:28 "The LORD shall smite thee with madness, and blindness, and astonishment of heart:"

This is just saying, that God will allow them to go insane. Their blindness will be both physical and spiritual. Their hearts will be constantly troubled.

Deuteronomy 28:29 "And thou shalt grope at noonday, as the blind gropeth in darkness, and thou shalt not prosper in thy ways: and thou shalt be only oppressed and spoiled evermore, and no man shall save [thee]."

When the LORD's judgement is upon you, no one can save you. They will not even be able to walk upright in the daytime. Desperation has set in.

Deuteronomy 28:30 "Thou shalt betroth a wife, and another man shall lie with her: thou shalt build an house, and thou shalt not dwell therein: thou shalt plant a vineyard, and shalt not gather the grapes thereof."

The very things that mean the most to him shall be taken away. Their enemies shall take from him the things that mean the most. His wife to be, will become someone else's wife. All of his work in his vineyard and in his fields, someone else will gather. He will build a house, and someone will take it away from him.

Deuteronomy 28:31 "Thine ox [shall be] slain before thine eyes, and thou shalt not eat thereof: thine ass [shall be] violently taken away from before thy face, and shall not be restored to thee: thy sheep [shall be] given unto thine enemies, and thou shalt have none to rescue [them]."

He will be helpless to retain even the animals the LORD entrusted to him. The reason is, God's protection will be removed, and he is prey for his enemies.

Deuteronomy 28:32 "Thy sons and thy daughters [shall be] given unto another people, and thine eyes shall look, and fail [with longing] for them all the day long: and [there shall be] no might in thine hand."

When his enemies come against him and take his children, he will be helpless to stop them. It will break his heart, longing to see his children.

Deuteronomy 28:33 "The fruit of thy land, and all thy labours, shall a nation which thou knowest not eat up; and thou shalt be only oppressed and crushed alway:"

He will labor without getting any benefit from it. The enemies that come against him shall spoil him, and take all he has.

Deuteronomy 28:34 "So that thou shalt be mad for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see."

His anger will rise, but will not help him.

Deuteronomy 28:35 "The LORD shall smite thee in the knees, and in the legs, with a sore botch that cannot be healed, from the sole of thy foot unto the top of thy head."

We must remember, that the botch is Egyptian leprosy. Egypt is a type of the world, and leprosy symbolizes sin. The sins of the world have covered him from the soles of his feet to the top of his head. Leprosy of different parts of the body symbolize different types of sin. Leprosy on the head symbolizes a perverted mind. This leprosy is, probably, speaking of a literal leprosy brought on by sin.

Deuteronomy 28:36 "The LORD shall bring thee, and thy king which thou shalt set over thee, unto a nation which neither thou nor thy fathers have known; and there shalt thou serve other gods, wood and stone."

This is speaking of a captivity brought on by their sins, such as their Babylonian captivity. All of the things above mentioned, happened in that siege and captivity.

Deuteronomy 28:37 "And thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword, among all nations whither the LORD shall lead thee."

They will be no longer feared and greatly admired, because of their relationship with God. The whole world will know God has turned His back on them. We will continue with these curses in the next lesson.

Deuteronomy 30 Questions

1. What does verse 1 say the LORD will do for them, if they hearken unto the Word of the LORD, and obey His commands?
2. What does "hearken" mean?
3. The voice of the Lord thy God is the _____.
4. Blessed shalt thou be in the _____, and blessed shalt thou be in the _____.
5. What does "omnipresent" mean?
6. What did the promise to bless the fruit of thy body include?
7. What is the basket, in verse 5, speaking of?
8. What will happen to their enemies, if they obey God?
9. What is meant by their storehouses being blessed?
10. Quote Leviticus chapter 20 verse 26.
11. Who are their enemies actually afraid of?
12. What do all of these blessings depend upon?
13. Who controls the rain?
14. They will have so much, they will _____ to other nations.
15. The LORD shall make them the _____, and not the _____.
16. When had they known what it was to be the tail?
17. In the book of Hosea, God thought of Israel as His _____.
18. To go after other gods, is committing _____.
19. If they do not obey God and keep His commandments, what will happen to them?
20. Where will they be cursed?
21. What will happen to their basket?
22. What will happen to their children and their animals?
23. What is "vexation" in verse 20?
24. What is the pestilence in verse 21?
25. What is "consumption"?
26. What will they die from besides illness, if they are unfaithful to the LORD?
27. What does "brass" symbolize?
28. What does verse 23 mean?
29. Famines usually start with a _____.
30. Who will be running in fear, if they do not follow God?
31. Verse 26 speaks of so many of them being killed, they will not be able to _____ their bodies.
32. What happens to their flesh?
33. What is "botch"?
34. What is "Emerods"?
35. The plagues God sends on the people are _____.
36. Verse 28 says, the LORD shall smite them with what?
37. Their blindness will be both _____ and _____.
38. What will happen to his betrothed wife?
39. The person, who turns from God, will even have his sons and daughters given to another _____.
40. What happens to the few crops he does produce?
41. This leprosy on his entire body indicates he is full of _____.
42. Why had they been feared and greatly admired, before they turned to sin?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 28:38 "Thou shalt carry much seed out into the field, and shalt gather [but] little in; for the locust shall consume it."

In the last lesson, we began the long list of terrible curses that came to those who were unfaithful to God. This is saying, even if they try really hard to get a large crop by planting much seed, the crop will not only fail, but the little that comes up, will be eaten of locusts.

Deuteronomy 28:39 "Thou shalt plant vineyards, and dress [them], but shalt neither drink [of] the wine, nor gather [the grapes]; for the worms shall eat them."

They were known for their beautiful vineyards, but they, too, will fail. One thing all of this lets us know is that when the wrath of God is upon a people, nothing works for them.

Deuteronomy 28:40 "Thou shalt have olive trees throughout all thy coasts, but thou shalt not anoint [thyself] with the oil; for thine olive shall cast [his fruit]."

This is saying, that the age old olive trees do not die, but the olives are not usable. Olive oil was used as anointing oil, because it symbolizes the Holy Spirit of God. To look at this Scripture from a spiritual standpoint, we would realize that the Spirit of God was no longer with them.

Deuteronomy 28:41 "Thou shalt beget sons and daughters, but thou shalt not enjoy them; for they shall go into captivity."

This comes true during the attack of Babylon on Israel. They will be carried to Babylon in chains. There is no greater hurt that a parent can have, than to know your sons and daughters are captives of another land.

Deuteronomy 28:42 "All thy trees and fruit of thy land shall the locust consume."

The locust does not leave anything, when they have been through, but perhaps, the roots.

Deuteronomy 28:43 "The stranger that [is] within thee shall get up above thee very high; and thou shalt come down very low."

This is speaking of a time, when the stranger will rule over the natives of the land.

Deuteronomy 28:44 "He shall lend to thee, and thou shalt not lend to him: he shall be the head, and thou shalt be the tail."

They knew what it was to be the tail, because that is exactly what they were during their captivity in Egypt. The Egyptians were the head over them. This, alone, should cause them to stay loyal to God.

Deuteronomy 28:45 "Moreover all these curses shall come upon thee, and shall pursue thee, and overtake thee, till thou be destroyed; because thou hearkenedst not unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which he commanded thee:"

These terrible things do not come on them, because God does not love them, but because they did not keep His commandments and statutes. They were not faithful to the LORD.

Deuteronomy 28:46 "And they shall be upon thee for a sign and for a wonder, and upon thy seed for ever."

Their blessings were only, if they were faithful to God and kept His commandments. The curse will continue on, until a generation turns to God and keeps those commandments.

Deuteronomy 28:47 "Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all [things];"

There could be joy and gladness for the abundance of blessings God wants to shower on them. He will not force them upon them, however. They have the choice to follow Him, and be blessed, or to follow after false gods, and be cursed.

Deuteronomy 28:48 "Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all [things]: and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee."

In most of the Prophetic books, like Jeremiah, we see these very things prophesied that did come true. When God's blessings are removed from Israel, they are vulnerable to attack from all the nations. Their strength lies in the LORD, and when they don't have that, they are weak. They will be slaves to their captives, and will do without things they had taken for granted, like food and drink.

Deuteronomy 28:49 "The LORD shall bring a nation against thee from far, from the end of the earth, [as swift] as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand;"

The Chaldeans and the Assyrians are just two countries that attacked Israel under these very circumstances. Probably, the worst they suffered, was from the Romans. Whenever they turned their backs on God and went to false gods, God chastised them by letting their enemies take them.

Deuteronomy 28:50 "A nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor shew favour to the young:"

As I said, their fiercest attack was by the Romans, and they did show no mercy upon them.

Deuteronomy 28:51 "And he shall eat the fruit of thy cattle, and the fruit of thy land, until thou be destroyed: which [also] shall not leave thee [either] corn, wine, or oil, [or] the increase of thy kine, or flocks of thy sheep, until he have destroyed thee."

Their enemy showed no mercy upon them at all. Israel's rebellion against God, turning away from the One True God, brought all of their troubles upon them. These evil nations, which came against Israel, had no mercy at all on anyone, young or old. They did not care, if they starved to death, or not.

Deuteronomy 28:52 "And he shall besiege thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land: and he shall besiege thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, which the LORD thy God hath given thee."

This, also, happens more than once. It is a perfect description of the Babylonian attack on Israel. Jeremiah chapter 21 verses 4 through 7 tells of such an attack, when God is helping the enemies of Israel.

Deuteronomy 28:53 "And thou shalt eat the fruit of thine own body, the flesh of thy sons and of thy daughters, which the LORD thy God hath given thee, in the siege, and in the straitness, wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee:"

This is saying, things will be so terrible, they will practice cannibalism on their own children. Leviticus 26:29 "And ye shall eat the flesh of your sons, and the flesh of your daughters shall ye eat." Jeremiah 19:9 "And I will cause them to eat the flesh of their sons and the flesh of their daughters, and they shall eat every one the flesh of his friend in the siege and straitness, wherewith their enemies, and they that seek their lives, shall straiten them." As terrible as this warning is, you can see that it did happen.

Deuteronomy 28:54 "[So that] the man [that is] tender among you, and very delicate, his eye shall be evil toward his brother, and toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the remnant of his children which he shall leave:"

Jeremiah 47:3 "At the noise of the stamping of the hoofs of his strong [horses], at the rushing of his chariots, [and at] the rumbling of his wheels, the fathers shall not look back to [their] children for feebleness of hands;"

Deuteronomy 28:55 "So that he will not give to any of them of the flesh of his children whom he shall eat: because he hath nothing left him in the siege, and in the straitness, wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee in all thy gates."

This speaks of a time of such great distress, that the man thinks of nothing, but survival.

Deuteronomy 28:56 "The tender and delicate woman among you, which would not adventure to set the sole of her foot upon the ground for delicateness and tenderness, her eye shall be evil toward the husband of her bosom, and toward her son, and toward her daughter,"

It is an unnatural thing for a woman to turn against her husband and her children. This is speaking of a woman, who had been raised in luxury and with every advantage, turning to not much more than an animal's behavior.

Deuteronomy 28:57 "And toward her young one that cometh out from between her feet, and toward her children which she shall bear: for she shall eat them for want of all [things] secretly in the siege and straitness, wherewith thine enemy shall distress thee in thy gates."

I cannot imagine anything being terrible enough for a mother to eat her young. This had to be something so terrible, it is beyond our comprehension.

Deuteronomy 28:58 "If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD;"

The book of the law is what they are to obey. The fear is a reverence. The warnings He has given them, over and over, are for their good. He encourages them to remember who He Is. "THE LORD THY GOD" is a proclamation of who He Is. All of the above warnings are to open their eyes to the reality of who He is. God, has not, and will not, reject them. He is the Eternal One who exists.

Deuteronomy 28:59 "Then the LORD will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, [even] great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance."

The sad thing is, they reject Him. If they do reject Him, plagues, worse than they have ever imagined, will come. These plagues will be against their crops, but also, against their bodies. The plague will not go away. Plagues that come from God in the form of sickness have no earthly cure. Only God can stop that plague.

Deuteronomy 28:60 "Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee."

In this case, Egypt symbolizes the sinful world. One of the promises, if they kept God's commandments, was they would not have the diseases of Egypt. The reverse is true, if they do not keep His commandments. A.I.D.S. is an example of the type of plague this is speaking of.

Deuteronomy 28:61 "Also every sickness, and every plague, which [is] not written in the book of this law, them will the LORD bring upon thee, until thou be destroyed."

This is speaking of strange new diseases, that they had never heard of before. If they do not repent and turn to God, they will die of these diseases.

Deuteronomy 28:62 "And ye shall be left few in number, whereas ye were as the stars of heaven for multitude; because thou wouldest not obey the voice of the LORD thy God."

God always keeps a remnant. The Babylonian captivity left them few in number. The worst instance of this, is when Noah, his wife, his three sons, and their wives were the only people saved in the flood. God started all over with these 8 people. God will wipe out the masses, if they are unfaithful to Him.

Deuteronomy 28:63 "And it shall come to pass, [that] as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good, and to multiply you; so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to nought; and ye shall be plucked from off the land whither thou goest to possess it."

Jacob took seventy people into Egypt with him, and about three million came out. This is saying, that God can take that three million, and reduce them down to seventy, again. The unfaithful will not remain in the land God had promised them.

Deuteronomy 28:64 "And the LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other; and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, [even] wood and stone."

There are several times in history, when this very thing happened. In fact, the Jews are scattered today all over the world. They are beginning to re-gather in Israel now. In Babylon, they did worship false gods of wood and stone.

Deuteronomy 28:65 "And among these nations shalt thou find no ease, neither shall the sole of thy foot have rest: but the LORD shall give thee there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind:"

It is so sad for a person to be uprooted from his homeland, and live in a strange land, with strange gods. He is never at peace until he is returned home again.

Deuteronomy 28:66 "And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life:"

Hitler is supposed to have killed 1/6 of all the Jews in World War 2. They, certainly, were not safe in the foreign land. This is one of the fulfillments of the verse above.

Deuteronomy 28:67 "In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning! For the fear of thine heart wherewith thou shalt fear, and for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see."

There will be much to fear, day and night. The fear that comes with uncertainty is spoken of here. There are things that are better than death. To have this type of fear, would cause a person to die a thousand deaths.

Deuteronomy 28:68 "And the LORD shall bring thee into Egypt again with ships, by the way whereof I spake unto thee, Thou shalt see it no more again: and there ye shall be sold unto your enemies for bondmen and bondwomen, and no man shall buy [you]."

The Jews have been hated and rejected, even in our land, by some people. Egypt, in the verse above, is speaking of the world, not specifically Egypt. The exodus out of Egypt was the birth of a nation. Such a happening, as the one mentioned above, would be their death. This speaks of slavery, wherever it happens.

Deuteronomy 31 Questions

1. They shall carry much seed out in the field, but shall gather little in; why?
2. What happens to the vineyards?
3. Why is olive oil used for anointing?
4. Why will they not enjoy their sons and daughters?
5. Who will rule over them?
6. Why did they know what it was to be the tail?
7. Why will all of these curses come upon them?
8. What are the two choices of these people?
9. What would be the condition of these people in captivity?
10. When God's blessings are removed, what does that do to Israel?
11. What had they taken for granted before?
12. Who were some of the nations, that came against them?
13. What was a sign of the fierceness of the nation, that came against them?
14. What happens to the walls of their cities?
15. What chapter of Jeremiah tells of this very thing?
16. What terrible practice does verse 53 say, they will do when things are the worst?
17. Quote Jeremiah chapter 19 verse 9.
18. What does Jeremiah chapter 47 verse 3 say, the father does to the children?
19. What is verse 55 speaking of?
20. What is meant by a tender and delicate woman?
21. What had her behavior become?
22. The author finds what hard to believe?
23. Who is their God?
24. He is the Eternal One who _____.
25. What kind of plagues come on them, when they reject God?
26. What are the diseases of Egypt speaking of?
27. What, in our society, is an example of the plague in verse 60?
28. What kind of diseases is verse 61 speaking of?
29. God always kept a _____.
30. The worst instance of God killing nearly everyone, and keeping a remnant is when?
31. What shall God's people do in the nations, where they are scattered?
32. Hitler killed about _____ of the Jews?
33. The exodus out of Egypt was the _____ of a nation.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 29:1 "These [are] the words of the covenant, which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab, beside the covenant which he made with them in Horeb."

In the last lesson, we were told of the difficulty that would come upon the people, if they did not keep covenant with God. The agreement they had made with God was an everlasting covenant. God would bless them, as long as they remained faithful to Him. This is not a new covenant that Moses is giving, here. He is, however, stating a few things not in the earlier covenant. This is just as much a part of the covenant as the original. They were, now, to implement the covenant given them. The main thrust of the entire covenant, is remaining faithful to God, to receive all the blessings. There is a warning, again, of the dangers in seeking after false gods.

Deuteronomy 29:2 "And Moses called unto all Israel, and said unto them, Ye have seen all that the LORD did before your eyes in the land of Egypt unto Pharaoh, and unto all his servants, and unto all his land;"

This, alone, should have made them realize the power of God to do whatever He wanted to do. The power of God was no secret to them. He brought ten plagues on Egypt to get them released from Pharaoh. He destroyed Pharaoh's army at the Red Sea, when He carried the Israelites over on dry land safely. Just His presence with them across the desert should have been enough.

Deuteronomy 29:3 "The great temptations which thine eyes have seen, the signs, and those great miracles:"

The journey for 40 years had been a miracle. Moses reminds them of this, so they will be awakened to the possibilities God offers.

Deuteronomy 29:4 "Yet the LORD hath not given you an heart to perceive, and eyes to see, and ears to hear, unto this day."

It is as if they are blind and deaf. The miracles are soon forgotten. They are a people of little understanding. It seems nothing will cause them to have faith in God, the way they need to. Their hearts are hard, and they have scales over their eyes and ears.

Deuteronomy 29:5 "And I have led you forty years in the wilderness: your clothes are not waxen old upon you, and thy shoe is not waxen old upon thy foot."

Certainly, one of the greatest miracles that happened, was the 40 year journey without their shoes and clothing wearing out. The divine care that God took for their slightest needs, should have awakened their understanding.

Deuteronomy 29:6 "Ye have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink: that ye might know that I [am] the LORD your God."

One of the purposes of the Manna was that they were feeding upon the LORD, instead of earthly food. Even this, they did not comprehend. Instead of being thankful for the heavenly food which sustained them, they complained of it. God showed them over and over on their journey that He was their provider.

Deuteronomy 29:7 "And when ye came unto this place, Sihon the king of Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, came out against us unto battle, and we smote them:"

The greater part of "we" is speaking of God, who went into battle with them. It was God, who drove their enemies out before them. In the 21st chapter of Numbers, we saw how Sihon came against Israel and were defeated. Og, we remember, was a giant, but that did not save him. The LORD was with Israel, and Israel could not lose.

Deuteronomy 29:8 "And we took their land, and gave it for an inheritance unto the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to the half tribe of Manasseh."

We remember, the land they took on the eastern side of the Jordan was such beautiful grazing land that Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh kept that for their inheritance.

Deuteronomy 29:9 "Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do."

Their prosperity is a gift from God. The way to be assured of that prosperity, is if they keep the commandments of God, and worship no false gods.

Deuteronomy 29:10 "Ye stand this day all of you before the LORD your God; your captains of your tribes, your elders, and your officers, [with] all the men of Israel," Deuteronomy 29:11 "Your little ones, your wives, and thy stranger that [is] in thy camp, from the hewer of thy wood unto the drawer of thy water:"

We see this covenant is not just with the leaders, but with all the people. They are from the greatest to the smallest. Each person must, in his heart, make covenant with God. They all stand before Moses for this message from God. They must each one, and all collectively, know what is expected of them.

Deuteronomy 29:12 "That thou shouldest enter into covenant with the LORD thy God, and into his oath, which the LORD thy God maketh with thee this day:"

This covenant was with the LORD and each individual person represented. This covenant must be agreed upon by the entire nation of Israel. It must be unanimous. Even the children must hear and agree for the generations to come.

Deuteronomy 29:13 "That he may establish thee to day for a people unto himself, and [that] he may be unto thee a God, as he hath said unto thee, and as he hath sworn unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

God had chosen them as His people. He wants to bless them, as no other nation has ever been blessed. This is what was said to Abraham. Genesis 17:7 "And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee." This covenant is fulfilled in the Christians. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Deuteronomy 29:14 "Neither with you only do I make this covenant and this oath;" Deuteronomy 29:15 "But with [him] that standeth here with us this day before the LORD our God, and also with [him] that [is] not here with us this day:"

Notice, the covenant is to extend for generations to come, and not just for this generation. God swore by Himself, since there was no greater.

Deuteronomy 29:16 "(For ye know how we have dwelt in the land of Egypt; and how we came through the nations which ye passed by;"

In Egypt, there were many false gods. Even the nations, they encountered on the way to the promised land, were idol worshippers, as well. Part of the reason for the ten plagues on Egypt, was to defame the false gods of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 29:17 "And ye have seen their abominations, and their idols, wood and stone, silver and gold, which [were] among them:)"

"Abominations" are revolting sins in the sight of God. Moses is showing them they are without excuse, if they follow these false gods of stone, silver, and gold. The evidence of God was overwhelming. We, too, are without excuse, if we do not follow the One True God. The Bible should be evidence enough for us. We mentioned several times, that anything made with human hands is not to be worshipped. God is not a God that can be seen with physical eyes, or touched with physical hands. He is the great Creator. He is Spirit.

Deuteronomy 29:18 "Lest there should be among you man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turneth away this day from the LORD our God, to go [and] serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall and wormwood;"

The false gods of these nations could bring nothing, but bitterness and destruction. Anyone who follows after false gods, is headed for destruction.

Deuteronomy 29:19 "And it come to pass, when he heareth the words of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying, I shall have peace, though I walk in the imagination of mine heart, to add drunkenness to thirst:"

To bless one's self in his heart, is to deny the power of God who made him. Romans 1:21 "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified [him] not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened." He cannot bless himself. Blessings come from God. He is trying to make a god of himself. The next verse tells of the fate of so foolish a person.

Deuteronomy 29:20 "The LORD will not spare him, but then the anger of the LORD and his jealousy shall smoke against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him, and the LORD shall blot out his name from under heaven."

The heart of man is what he is. If his heart is evil, he is evil. God will not find him guiltless who has an evil heart to follow after his own desires. He is like Lucifer, who desired to be God. This man is very evil, and will inherit the curses. Just as Lucifer was thrown out of heaven, this man will have his name blotted out of the book of life.

Deuteronomy 29:21 "And the LORD shall separate him unto evil out of all the tribes of Israel, according to all the curses of the covenant that are written in this book of the law:"

This evil man will not inherit with the rest of Israel, who obey God. He will receive curses, instead of blessings.

Deuteronomy 29:22 "So that the generation to come of your children that shall rise up after you, and the stranger that shall come from a far land, shall say, when they see the plagues of that land, and the sicknesses which the LORD hath laid upon it;"

The terrible punishment that comes upon them, will be an astonishment, and a warning to future generations. These plagues are in punishment from God. The illnesses, spoken of here, could be spoken of as a plague, as well. There will be no ready cure for them.

Deuteronomy 29:23 "[And that] the whole land thereof [is] brimstone, and salt, [and] burning, [that] it is not sown, nor beareth, nor any grass groweth therein, like the overthrow of Sodom, and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboim, which the LORD overthrew in his anger, and in his wrath:"

Sodom and Gomorrah have been examples for all of history of what happens, when a society does what is pleasing to its flesh instead of obeying God. They were, not only destroyed with fire and brimstone, but have never been rebuilt. They are a desert area, even until now. There is nothing growing there these thousands of years later. They had been as a garden of God, until they rebelled against God. This is a warning from Moses, that this could happen again, if they disobey God.

Deuteronomy 29:24 "Even all nations shall say, Wherefore hath the LORD done thus unto this land? what [meaneth] the heat of this great anger?"

This area of the world is so desolate even today, it is obvious it was judgement of God that caused this destruction. The heat from the fire and brimstone was so great, that it even killed the roots of plants in the earth.

Deuteronomy 29:25 "Then men shall say, Because they have forsaken the covenant of the LORD God of their fathers, which he made with them when he brought them forth out of the land of Egypt:"

Even the world around them will realize the reason for this destruction. God did not break covenant with them, they broke covenant with God, and brought this upon themselves.

Deuteronomy 29:26 "For they went and served other gods, and worshipped them, gods whom they knew not, and [whom] he had not given unto them:"

This would happen, because they had broken the very first commandment. They had turned their backs upon the One True God, to worship the false gods {creations of men's hands}. God's wrath is kindled against them, because they are unfaithful to Him.

Deuteronomy 29:27 "And the anger of the LORD was kindled against this land, to bring upon it all the curses that are written in this book:"

The curses are automatic, when they turn away from God. It was their option to be blessed, or cursed. They chose the curse.

Deuteronomy 29:28 "And the LORD rooted them out of their land in anger, and in wrath, and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as [it is] this day."

This is, possibly, speaking of the ten tribes of Israel, which just seemed to vanish. They are scattered all over the world. The two tribes saw some of this, too. One of the times they were driven out, was when they were taken captive to Babylon.

Deuteronomy 29:29 "The secret [things belong] unto the LORD our God: but those [things which are] revealed [belong] unto us and to our children for ever, that [we] may do all the words of this law."

God has a few things that He has not revealed to mankind. The things that are necessary for us to live have been revealed to us. God revealed to mankind the perfect life. It is mankind, which has strayed and brought many of the problems upon themselves. The Bible is an instruction book to guide us through life. We will fail, if we do not read and follow the instructions God has left us. The Words of the law are contained in the Bible. The Holy Spirit of God will reveal to each person God's will for his life. We must seek God with all our hearts, and we will find Him. He wants to be our God. Let Him.

Deuteronomy 32 Questions

1. The covenant the LORD made with Israel was an _____ covenant.
2. How long would God bless them?
3. Is this a new covenant?
4. How had God revealed His great power to them?
5. The entire journey for the 40 years had been a _____.
6. It is as if they are _____ and _____.
7. Why do they not understand God?
8. What miracle had occurred with their clothing?
9. What was one of the purposes of the Manna?
10. What is the little word that is so important in verse 7?
11. Where can we read about the defeat of Sihon?
12. Og, we remember, was a _____.
13. Who did God give the land of Og to?
14. How could they prosper?
15. Who is this covenant made with?
16. Who is giving them this covenant agreement?
17. The agreement must be _____.
18. Quote Genesis chapter 17 verse 7.
19. Quote Galatians chapter 3 verse 29.
20. How far reaching is this covenant?
21. What did Egypt have in common with the nations Israel passed through?
22. What were their idols made of?
23. What are "abominations"?
24. Why are Christians without excuse?
25. Anyone who follows after false gods is headed for _____.
26. To bless one's self in his heart, is to _____ the power of God who made him.
27. What is the fate of so foolish a person?
28. A person who has an evil heart and thinks he can bless himself, is like _____.
29. He will inherit _____, not _____.
30. The illnesses, in verse 22, could be spoken of as a _____.
31. What two cities were examples of what happens to a society, when the people do what is right in their own sight?
32. What happened to them later?
33. The world around is aware _____ did this.
34. Why would this terrible judgement come on them?
35. Who was rooted out in verse 28?
36. What has been revealed to mankind by God?
37. What reveals it?
38. What reveals the will of God to each of us.
39. If we seek God with all our heart, we will _____ Him.
40. He wants to be our God. _____.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 30:1 "And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call [them] to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee,"

The LORD will drive them into the foreign lands to chastise them, and cause them to realize the error of following after false gods. Notice, it was the LORD who had driven them to the foreign lands.

Deuteronomy 30:2 "And shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul;"

After they have been driven from their homeland and are captives in another land, they can still repent and turn to God. He will accept them back, if they return to Him with all their hearts. The parents must, also, instruct the children, and they must turn to God, also. It seems, Israel is very much like we, Christians, are. They do not appreciate God until they seem to have lost Him. God is never very far away, however. He loves them, and wants to forgive them. They are just a prayer away from His help.

Deuteronomy 30:3 "That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee."

God had heard their cries, when they were captives in Egypt, and He will hear their prayers again and help them. This has happened with them many times. One of the best remembered is when he freed them from Babylon after 70 years. Even today, God is gathering them home to Israel again. It seems this situation has happened over and over with them.

Deuteronomy 30:4 "If [any] of thine be driven out unto the outmost [parts] of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee:"

This is, possibly, speaking of today, when they are on the other side of the world from Israel. Literally hundreds of thousands of Jews are returning to Israel from all over the world. It is as if there is an irresistible desire for them to come home to Israel.

Deuteronomy 30:5 "And the LORD thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers."

All that is required of them, is that they remain faithful to God. He will pour them out a blessing beyond their imagination, if they will love Him above everyone and everything else. II Chronicles 7:14 "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Deuteronomy 30:6 "And the LORD thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live."

This is speaking of cutting away earthly lust from their hearts. God, Himself, will cut away their evil hearts of unbelief. Hebrews 8:10 "For this [is] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:" Hebrews 8:11 "And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest."

Deuteronomy 30:7 "And the LORD thy God will put all these curses upon thine enemies, and on them that hate thee, which persecuted thee."

This was the promise from the beginning. God would bless those that bless them, and curse those who hate them. Genesis 12:3 "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

Deuteronomy 30:8 "And thou shalt return and obey the voice of the LORD, and do all his commandments which I command thee this day."

Those who truly love God, obey His commandments. Their well-being is dependant upon their obeying the commandments of God. Blessings beyond their imagination will come to them, if they do this.

Deuteronomy 30:9 "And the LORD thy God will make thee plenteous in every work of thine hand, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy land, for good: for the LORD will again rejoice over thee for good, as he rejoiced over thy fathers:"

God loves them, and wants to bless them. He reminds me of the parable that Jesus told of the prodigal son. When the prodigal son repented and came home, his father gave a big party for him in celebration. God will return all the blessings they had, before they went astray. In fact, they will be blessed even above that.

Deuteronomy 30:10 "If thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, [and] if thou turn unto the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul."

There are conditions to receive these blessings, as there had been in the beginning. They cannot plead ignorance. The law God wants them to keep, is written down. The main thing God wants from them is spoken by Jesus in the following verse. Mark 12:30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this [is] the first commandment."

Deuteronomy 30:11 "For this commandment which I command thee this day, it [is] not hidden from thee, neither [is] it far off."

God had revealed His commandments to the people of Israel He gave them His law on the way to the promised land. The rest of the world did not have

God's law. God had made His law, and Himself, real to them on the 40 year journey across the wilderness to the promised land.

Deuteronomy 30:12 "It [is] not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?" Deuteronomy 30:13 "Neither [is] it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?"

The law of God was available to them at all times. Not only were the ten commandments written in stone, but God had spoken them aloud at Mount Horeb {Sinai} to them. They did not have to travel anywhere to find them. The law travelled with them, and settled when they settled. Their people were known as the people with the law.

Deuteronomy 30:14 But the word [is] very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it."

We read earlier, how God had written His law in their hearts. The mouth speaks what is in the heart. Their mouths should speak the law of God because it is in their hearts.

Deuteronomy 30:15 "See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil;"

God has offered them everything good. He has offered them life. They must accept it though. They may decide to leave the good and go to the evil. God has made them a free agent, and it is their choice. They choose life, or death.

Deuteronomy 30:16 "In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it."

This is a description of what they receive, when they choose good over evil. Loving the LORD, and walking in His ways, brings life and blessings. God will continue to bless them, as long as they love Him, and walk in His ways.

Deuteronomy 30:17 "But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them;" Deuteronomy 30:18 "I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, [and that] ye shall not prolong [your] days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it."

If they refuse to love God, and to walk in His ways, there is nothing, but hard times ahead for them. The only thing that would cause them to do this, is following after false gods. God will not share them with false gods. If they insist on following false gods, God will send the curses to them.

Deuteronomy 30:19 "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, [that] I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:"

All of creation is a witness to the promises God has made them. He offers them life, or death. It is each person's choice. If they choose God, they are blessed. If they choose the false gods, they will receive curses. Life is available to them, and their generations who follow them. They must accept it for themselves.

Deuteronomy 30:20 "That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, [and] that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he [is] thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

To love the Lord, and walk in His statutes, is to rise above the filth of the world. It is called living a new life in Him. I John 1:7 "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

Deuteronomy 33 Questions

1. Where will the LORD drive them, if they do not obey Him?
2. What is verse 2 speaking of?
3. How is Israel very much like the Christians?
4. When were some specific times, God heard their cries from captivity?
5. What time is verse 4, probably, speaking of?
6. What is required of them for God to bring them home and bless them?
7. Quote 2 Chronicles chapter 7 verse 14.
8. The LORD thy God will circumcise thine _____.
9. What is meant by this?
10. Quote Hebrews chapter 8 verse 11.
11. When God blesses Israel, what does He do to their enemies?
12. Quote Genesis chapter 12 verse 3.
13. Those who truly love God, _____ His _____.
14. What are the ways verse 9 says, God will bless them?
15. What conditions must they comply with to be blessed?
16. Quote Mark chapter 12 verse 30.
17. Who had God revealed His law to?
18. How had they been made aware of the ten commandments, besides them being written in stone?
19. The mouth speaks what is in the _____.
20. What choices had God given them?
21. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 30 verse 16.
22. What would cause God to denounce them?
23. Who did God call for witnesses?
24. Who had God made His promises to from the beginning?
25. Quote 1 John chapter 1 verse 7.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 31:1 "And Moses went and spake these words unto all Israel."

It really is not important where this message was spoken. It is just important, that Moses spoke it to all the people.

Deuteronomy 31:2 "And he said unto them, I [am] an hundred and twenty years old this day; I can no more go out and come in: also the LORD hath said unto me, Thou shalt not go over this Jordan."

Moses was 40 years old, when he fled Egypt the first time. He was 80 years old, when the wilderness journey began, and now, after the wilderness wanderings, he is 120 years old. He has lived a very full life. It is time for him to go to heaven and receive his reward. In his own sight, Moses is too old to lead them anymore. The LORD had told him he would not go over into the promised land, because of his disobedience, when he struck the Rock the second time to get water. The people had angered Moses so much, that he struck the Rock, instead of speaking to it. The Rock symbolized the Lord Jesus. Moses would see the promised land from the top of the mountain, and then, be buried in the mountain.

Deuteronomy 31:3 "The LORD thy God, he will go over before thee, [and] he will destroy these nations from before thee, and thou shalt possess them: [and] Joshua, he shall go over before thee, as the LORD hath said."

Moses is reminding them, again, that God had anointed Joshua to lead them into the promised land. The LORD will be with them, and go before them. They have nothing to fear. God will destroy the strong nations that lie before them in the way. They shall go in, and possess the land of promise.

Deuteronomy 31:4 "And the LORD shall do unto them as he did to Sihon and to Og, kings of the Amorites, and unto the land of them, whom he destroyed."

This is God's battle. He will destroy the nations occupying the land, and give the land to Israel. He had already shown them an example of what He would do, when He destroyed Og.

Deuteronomy 31:5 "And the LORD shall give them up before your face, that ye may do unto them according unto all the commandments which I have commanded you."

In the earlier chapters, Moses went into great detail about what they were to do with the people before them. They must just carry out those commands now. The LORD will do the same thing with Joshua as leader, that He would have done with Moses as leader.

Deuteronomy 31:6 "Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he [it is] that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."

They should realize by now, that it is not their strong arm that has gotten them this far. The strength they have is in their God. He will

continue to be with them, and they have nothing to fear. He will not forsake them.

Deuteronomy 31:7 "And Moses called unto Joshua, and said unto him in the sight of all Israel, Be strong and of a good courage: for thou must go with this people unto the land which the LORD hath sworn unto their fathers to give them; and thou shalt cause them to inherit it."

Moses is reminding Joshua, that it will be his responsibility to bring the people into the promised land. It takes a person of very strong character to lead these people. He must not shrink back, but must be brave enough to lead them in. He must never weaken, or doubt.

Deuteronomy 31:8 "And the LORD, he [it is] that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed."

Joshua was one of the two spies, who thought they should have taken the promised land before. He and Caleb were the only two, of the twelve spies who had searched the promised land, who thought they could take it. He will not fail, because he places his trust in God, and not his own strength. God will be with them, Joshua will not fail.

Deuteronomy 31:9 "And Moses wrote this law, and delivered it unto the priests the sons of Levi, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and unto all the elders of Israel."

Moses wrote the law down, and sent it to the priests and elders for safe keeping.

Deuteronomy 31:10 "And Moses commanded them, saying, At the end of [every] seven years, in the solemnity of the year of release, in the feast of tabernacles," Deuteronomy 31:11 "When all Israel is come to appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose, thou shalt read this law before all Israel in their hearing."

They are to read the law aloud to the people every seven years to remind them. This is to be done at the Feast of Tabernacles. The seventh year was when they freed their Hebrew brothers. This reading of the law was a reminder to them of the importance of keeping the law of God. The priests and elders were to keep the law safe, until time to read it. They were, also, to see that the people kept the law between the seven years. This was not just the ten commandments, but the law that covered secular life, as well as religious life.

Deuteronomy 31:12 "Gather the people together, men, and women, and children, and thy stranger that [is] within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the LORD your God, and observe to do all the words of this law:"

Not even strangers, or small children, were to be unaware of the law. Everyone, women, children, and the men were all to hear the law. It was the obligation of each person to know and keep the law.

Deuteronomy 31:13 "And [that] their children, which have not known [any thing], may hear, and learn to fear the LORD your God, as long as ye live in the land whither ye go over Jordan to possess it."

The children would soon grow up, so they needed to hear the law, so they would live by it, too. The law, spoken of here, is the law in its entirety. Perhaps, it was the one from Leviticus with the additions here. Some believe they read the entire Pentateuch at that time. It was just every seven years, so that is possible. The reason for it was to remind them of their obligations toward God and man.

Deuteronomy 31:14 "And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, thy days approach that thou must die: call Joshua, and present yourselves in the tabernacle of the congregation, that I may give him a charge. And Moses and Joshua went, and presented themselves in the tabernacle of the congregation."

After Moses had spoken to the people of the law, and then, gave the law for safe keeping to the elders and priests, it was time to meet and turn his anointing over to Joshua. God told Moses to come to the tabernacle with Joshua. God will charge Joshua with the caring for the people. The burden of these people will be removed from Moses. They went to the tabernacle, as God had commanded them.

Deuteronomy 31:15 "And the LORD appeared in the tabernacle in a pillar of a cloud: and the pillar of the cloud stood over the door of the tabernacle."

This is the same pillar of cloud that had travelled across the wilderness with them. God did not show himself in the body of a man. He always was hidden by the smoke that surrounded Him.

Deuteronomy 31:16 "And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers; and this people will rise up, and go a whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go [to be] among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them."

The act of death is many times spoken of as sleep. This just means that Moses' days upon the earth are at an end. These people have been rebellious from the beginning. They will soon forget God's warning, and will begin to worship false gods {go a whoring after the gods of the strangers}. The worship of false gods is spiritual adultery.

Deuteronomy 31:17 "Then my anger shall be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide my face from them, and they shall be devoured, and many evils and troubles shall befall them; so that they will say in that day, Are not these evils come upon us, because our God [is] not among us?"

Just as God had said, He will not stay with those who worship false gods. God leaves them, when they worship false gods, and their enemies devour them. God leaves them to this terrible fate, so they will repent, and turn back to Him.

Deuteronomy 31:18 "And I will surely hide my face in that day for all the evils which they shall have wrought, in that they are turned unto other gods."

God will not immediately turn to them, and answer their cries. They have committed a very serious sin, and God has hidden His face from them. They will have to repent, and have a complete change of heart, before God will listen to their prayer.

Deuteronomy 31:19 "Now therefore write ye this song for you, and teach it the children of Israel: put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for me against the children of Israel."

Moses and Joshua together write this song, that is in the next chapter. It is to remind them of their sins, and the only way to get help. Moses had tried to keep the people true to God for 40 years, now it will be the job of Joshua.

Deuteronomy 31:20 "For when I shall have brought them into the land which I swear unto their fathers, that floweth with milk and honey; and they shall have eaten and filled themselves, and waxen fat; then will they turn unto other gods, and serve them, and provoke me, and break my covenant."

This falling away from the One True God happens, after they are in the promised land, and have been blessed of God to overflowing. Their prosperity is a downfall to them. When they have time on their hands that they do not need to make a living, then they go running after false gods. God does not break covenant with Israel. They break covenant with Him with the false gods. God had warned them what would happen, if they did this, and they did it anyway.

Deuteronomy 31:21 "And it shall come to pass, when many evils and troubles are befallen them, that this song shall testify against them as a witness; for it shall not be forgotten out of the mouths of their seed: for I know their imagination which they go about, even now, before I have brought them into the land which I swear."

God is speaking all of this, as if it had already happened, because he knows their evil hearts. He knows they are rebellious. This song will testify to them, after they have sinned. God knows exactly what they will do, when they get into the land. He sees into the future.

Deuteronomy 31:22 "Moses therefore wrote this song the same day, and taught it the children of Israel."

It appears, that Moses composed the song, and Joshua wrote it down. Israel was to memorize this song, as a reminder to them.

Deuteronomy 31:23 "And he gave Joshua the son of Nun a charge, and said, Be strong and of a good courage: for thou shalt bring the children of Israel into the land which I swear unto them: and I will be with thee."

This charge is in the form of encouragement. God had sworn to give this land to Abraham's descendents.

Deuteronomy 31:24 "And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished,"
Deuteronomy 31:25 "That Moses commanded the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, saying," Deuteronomy 31:26 "Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee."

It appears, that Moses gave these writings to the Levites who were in charge of the ark. They were not to put it inside the ark, but at the side of the ark. It would be moved, when the ark was moved. It was to be kept in safe keeping to remind them. There was no safer place for it, than near the ark.

Deuteronomy 31:27 "For I know thy rebellion, and thy stiff neck: behold, while I am yet alive with you this day, ye have been rebellious against the LORD; and how much more after my death?"

This is Moses speaking, and he does know them well after leading them for 40 years. Moses had kept their rebellion at a minimum, while he was alive. After his death, they will rebel worse.

Deuteronomy 31:28 "Gather unto me all the elders of your tribes, and your officers, that I may speak these words in their ears, and call heaven and earth to record against them."

It was the business of the officers to teach those under them the song Moses has given them. Moses will speak the last minute instructions aloud to the leaders, and they will be without excuse. They cannot say, they did not know.

Deuteronomy 31:29 "For I know that after my death ye will utterly corrupt [yourselves], and turn aside from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in the latter days; because ye will do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger through the work of your hands." Deuteronomy 31:30 And Moses spake in the ears of all the congregation of Israel the words of this song, until they were ended.

"The work of their hands" is speaking of idols. Moses knows they will rebel, because they have been rebelling all the way from Egypt. The latter days could be speaking of the time of Christ. You could pick out most any age, and find it has not gone well with the Hebrew people. The reason being, they have not remained faithful to God. The song is to remind them of their failure toward God.

Deuteronomy 34 Questions

1. Who did Moses speak to in verse 1?
2. How old was Moses, when he spoke these words?
3. He had gotten _____.
4. How old was Moses, when he fled Egypt the first time?
5. How old was Moses, when the wilderness journey began?
6. Why would he not go into the promised land?
7. Who did the Rock symbolize?
8. Who will go before them into the promised land?
9. Whose battle is this?
10. What instructions were given to them in verse 6?
11. What was Joshua to cause these Israelites to do?
12. What kind of person will it take to lead them into the promised land?
13. Who, besides Joshua, had thought they could take the land the first time they spied it out?
14. How many of the spies did not believe they could take it?
15. Who did Moses deliver the law to?
16. When were they to read it aloud to the people?
17. Why were they to read the law aloud?
18. Who kept it safe between the times they read it?
19. Who was brought together to hear the law?
20. Why was it important for the children to hear it?
21. Who did the LORD tell Moses to meet with Him?
22. Where did they meet?
23. What was the appearance of God as?
24. When Moses dies, what will the people do?
25. What will God do, when they go a whoring after false gods?
26. What does God tell Moses to write?
27. What is this for?
28. When will they fall away from God?
29. Why is God speaking, as if this has already happened?
30. Where were the Levites to keep the law?
31. The work of their hands is speaking of _____.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 32:1 "Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth."

This is the beginning of Moses' song. This song was written down, and was to be sung by the people of Israel. Notice, Moses calls the heavens, and earth to make note of this. Moses will stand before the people, and recite this song.

Deuteronomy 32:2 "My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass:"

This is speaking of a gentle rain. This rain would be a welcome sight to plants in need of moisture. This is saying that, the doctrine Moses has given them from God is not to beat them down, but to help them grow.

Deuteronomy 32:3 "Because I will publish the name of the LORD: ascribe ye greatness unto our God."

Moses had never stopped proclaiming the great I AM to the people. We remember, God had revealed Himself to Moses in the burning bush. He, also, told Moses His name was I AM. It is the greatness of God that Moses wants them to realize, and accept. The word "ascribe" means to give. Moses is encouraging them to praise God themselves.

Deuteronomy 32:4 "[He is] the Rock, his work [is] perfect: for all his ways [are] judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right [is] he."

Moses would surely associate the Rock as God. The Rock that brought forth water enough for nearly three million people symbolized the Lord Jesus Christ. I Corinthians 10:4 "And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ." In the book of John, Jesus called Himself the Way, the Truth, and the Life. John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." We find, also, that Jesus is the Judge. John 5:22 "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:" We can see from all of this that, the One you and I call Jesus, is the Rock, He is Judge, He is Truth. We could name a thousand things more that He is. He is our All in all. He is the Doer part of the Godhead.

Deuteronomy 32:5 "They have corrupted themselves, their spot [is] not [the spot] of his children: [they are] a perverse and crooked generation."

Israel was a perverted, rebellious house, which would not be ruled by the God of all the world. They ran after false gods, and made themselves dirty in the sight of God. We, Christians, must remember, Jesus is coming back for a church that is without spot or wrinkle. We should live accordingly.

Deuteronomy 32:6 "Do ye thus requite the LORD, O foolish people and unwise? [is] not he thy father [that] hath bought thee? hath he not made thee, and established thee?"

Moses wants them to realize that, their very existence is because of God. He created them. He, also, purchased them back from the world {Egypt} with the ten plagues. They are His. They would still be in Egypt, had He not delivered them, and brought them to this place. It is the LORD which established them as His people.

Deuteronomy 32:7 "Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee."

The deliverance of Israel from Egypt and their establishment as God's people is to be remembered from generation to generation. The father is to relate this fact to his son for all generations.

Deuteronomy 32:8 "When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel."

Back in the days of Abraham, God had promised this land as an inheritance for the descendents of Abraham. God knew ahead of time here they would live, and how much land would be required. He blessed this land, and prepared it for an inheritance for His chosen family. Genesis 17:8 "And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."

Deuteronomy 32:9 "For the LORD'S portion [is] his people; Jacob [is] the lot of his inheritance."

Exodus 19:5 "Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth [is] mine:" Exodus 19:6 "And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These [are] the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel."

Deuteronomy 32:10 "He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye."

Israel was in a desert land with no food and water. God fed them miraculously the manna, which fell from heaven. The Rock brought forth water, and quenched their thirst. The LORD actually birthed a people of God in this wilderness journey. God, Himself, went with them to lead them in the smoke and fire. He was their protection. The countries around them feared the God of Israel. God wanted Israel to show Him to the world. His eye was on Israel, His people.

Deuteronomy 32:11 "As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings:"

In this case, the eagle's care of her young is symbolic of the care of God for His people. Her wings protect her young from the storm and the rain. She carries them, until they learn to fly. This wilderness wandering was full of the supernatural care of the LORD for His people. He took them places they could not have gone, such as through the Red Sea. During this journey, God taught them His ways.

Deuteronomy 32:12 "[So] the LORD alone did lead him, and [there was] no strange god with him."

When the fire, or smoke, lifted from the tabernacle and moved, the people followed. He was their God, and they were His people. There were no false gods among them.

Deuteronomy 32:13 "He made him ride on the high places of the earth, that he might eat the increase of the fields; and he made him to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock;"

The LORD was their provider. They had no need for food. God fed them. He caused Israel to defeat the nations before them. They received their inheritance of the land of milk and honey.

Deuteronomy 32:14 "Butter of kine, and milk of sheep, with fat of lambs, and rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats, with the fat of kidneys of wheat; and thou didst drink the pure blood of the grape."

It is interesting, to me, that the juice from the grape, here, is spoken of as blood. Perhaps, that is why grape juice symbolizes the blood of Christ in the communion services. The idea, here, is that God provided the desires of their hearts for wonderful food and drink.

Deuteronomy 32:15 "But Jeshurun waxed fat, and kicked: thou art waxen fat, thou art grown thick, thou art covered [with fatness]; then he forsook God [which] made him, and lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation."

Jeshurun is taken from righteousness. This, then, is speaking of the nation of Israel, which had been chosen of God to be righteous. Suddenly, all of their problems are solved. They have food and drink in abundance, their crops are bountiful. This is speaking of a time, when they are no longer in need of any earthly thing. They have grown rich and fat. They suddenly do not feel the need to be dependent on the LORD. They are like many of us. When things are going well, we have a tendency to forget about God. They have forgotten the Rock of their salvation.

Deuteronomy 32:16 "They provoked him to jealousy with strange [gods], with abominations provoked they him to anger."

Idleness, many times, leads to sin. Had they stayed busy trying to make a living, they might not have had time to consider false gods. "Abominations" are revolting sins. Exodus 34:14 "For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name [is] Jealous, [is] a jealous God:" God will not share His people with a false god. To do that, is to commit spiritual adultery. This brings the wrath of God.

Deuteronomy 32:17 "They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not, to new [gods that] came newly up, whom your fathers feared not."

These false gods were from the imaginations of their own evil minds. The fact they were new gods, shows they were figments of people's minds. They were not God. They were treated, as if they were gods. Revelation 9:20 "And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:"

Deuteronomy 32:18 "Of the Rock [that] begat thee thou art unmindful, and hast forgotten God that formed thee."

They soon forgot the God, who created them. God created man from the dust of the earth. This speaks of the physical birth. God, also, gave new life to the family of Jacob, when He brought them out of Egypt. Deuteronomy 6:12 "[Then] beware lest thou forget the LORD, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage." The Rock was their Deliverer. They drank of the Rock of the water of life.

Deuteronomy 32:19 "And when the LORD saw [it], he abhorred [them], because of the provoking of his sons, and of his daughters."

"Abhored" means scorned, in this particular verse. They had left God, and worshipped false gods. God will turn His back on them, even if they are His sons and daughters.

Deuteronomy 32:20 "And he said, I will hide my face from them, I will see what their end [shall be]: for they [are] a very forward generation, children in whom [is] no faith."

In this, God, Himself, is speaking of what He will do. They will be like the heathens around them. His protection of them is gone. God will not look to them and hear their prayers. They are the opposite of Abraham, whose faith made him righteous. They have no faith in God, and are unrighteous.

Deuteronomy 32:21 "They have moved me to jealousy with [that which is] not God; they have provoked me to anger with their vanities: and I will move them to jealousy with [those which are] not a people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation."

This is saying that, God is so moved with jealousy about their worship of false gods, that He will strengthen their enemies to destroy them. Their enemies are not God's people, but God will use them against His rebellious family. The chastisement from God will be brought on Israel by the heathen people around them.

Deuteronomy 32:22 "For a fire is kindled in mine anger, and shall burn unto the lowest hell, and shall consume the earth with her increase, and set on fire the foundations of the mountains."

The lowest hell is speaking of the worst possible hell there is. Perhaps, it speaking of a fire such as came on Sodom and Gomorrah. The wrath of God has started a fire, that cannot be put out by man.

Deuteronomy 32:23 "I will heap mischiefs upon them; I will spend mine arrows upon them."

The terrible mischiefs, that God sends on mankind, hit the mark. The shield of protection is removed from them. They have sinned a great sin.

Deuteronomy 32:24 "[They shall be] burnt with hunger, and devoured with burning heat, and with bitter destruction: I will also send the teeth of beasts upon them, with the poison of serpents of the dust."

When God does not send the rain at the needed time, the crops do not produce, and they starve. If God removes the Ozone layer today, there would be a burning as never in history before. We will have no protection at all. Leviticus 26:22 "I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, and destroy your cattle, and make you few in number; and your [high] ways shall be desolate." Man cannot even imagine the terribleness of God in His wrath.

Deuteronomy 32:25 "The sword without, and terror within, shall destroy both the young man and the virgin, the suckling [also] with the man of gray hairs."

The sword speaks of war. This is one way God judges man. We do know the Word says that, mens' hearts will fail them for fear of things that are coming upon the earth. No one will be spared, when God's wrath descends upon the earth.

Deuteronomy 35 Questions

1. What is this chapter?
2. Who does Moses call to take note of this?
3. Verse 2 is speaking of a _____ rain.
4. The doctrine Moses has given them is not to _____, but to do what?
5. What name of God was revealed to Moses at the burning bush?
6. It is the _____ of God that Moses wants them to realize, and accept.
7. The word "ascribe" means what?
8. Moses would surely associate the Rock as _____.
9. Quote 1 Corinthians chapter 10 verse 4.
10. In John chapter 14 verse 6, Jesus reveals Himself as the _____, the _____, and the _____.
11. Quote John chapter 5 verse 22.
12. Jesus is the _____ part of the Godhead.
13. Describe Israel from verse 5.
14. What kind of church is Jesus coming back for?
15. What were they cautioned to remember?
16. How long are they to remember?
17. When had God set this land aside for Israel?
18. Quote Genesis chapter 17 verse 8.
19. In Exodus chapter 19 verse 6, they were to be to Him a kingdom of _____.
20. The LORD actually _____ a people of God in the wilderness journey.
21. How does the eagle's care of its young symbolize God's care for His people?
22. How had God led them?
23. What is interesting to the author about the juice of the grape in verse 14?
24. Jeshurun is taken from _____.
25. What is this speaking of then?
26. They have forgotten the _____ of their salvation.
27. How had they provoked Him to jealousy?
28. Quote Exodus chapter 34 verse 14.
29. They sacrificed to _____, not to God.
30. Quote Revelation chapter 9 verse 20.
31. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 32 verse 18.
32. What does "abhorred" mean?
33. Who are the Israelites the opposite of?
34. The chastisement from God will be brought on them by the _____ around them.
35. Why do the mischiefs, God sends on the people, hit the mark?
36. What happens, when God withholds the rain?
37. Quote Leviticus chapter 26 verse 22.
38. The sword speaks of _____.
39. What will cause their hearts to fail?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 32:26 "I said, I would scatter them into corners, I would make the remembrance of them to cease from among men:"

This is a continuation of the song of Moses from lesson 35. Moses was encouraging them to realize who God was and worship Him, and no other. We left off in the last lesson telling of the terrible things that would happen to them, if they became unfaithful to God.

Deuteronomy 32:27 "Were it not that I feared the wrath of the enemy, lest their adversaries should behave themselves strangely, [and] lest they should say, Our hand [is] high, and the LORD hath not done all this."

The reason God would not totally destroy them at this point, is because the enemy would not give God credit for the destruction. Israel deserved to be destroyed, but God would not do that, because of the preservation of the name of the LORD, even among the heathen people. The heathen would think it was by their great strength, if God allowed them to totally destroy them.

Deuteronomy 32:28 "For they [are] a nation void of counsel, neither [is there any] understanding in them."

Israel had walked with God, and yet, they did not understand who He is. They were void of good counsel, as well. They would not listen to Moses, now, and certainly, would not listen, when he was gone.

Deuteronomy 32:29 "O that they were wise, [that] they understood this, [that] they would consider their latter end!"

Their understanding was darkened. It is difficult to believe that they could have seen so many miracles, and yet, doubt the God that brought the miracles. They had not considered what might happen to them in the end. It reminds me of people today who are not walking with God. I wonder, if they ever consider that hell awaits them?

Deuteronomy 32:30 "How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?"

If Israel would repent and live for God, there is no limit to what they could do with the LORD leading them. One, and the LORD, are a majority, no matter how large that majority is. Since they had been unfaithful to Him, He has left them helpless. The Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up.

Deuteronomy 32:31 "For their rock [is] not as our Rock, even our enemies themselves [being] judges."

They have traded the Rock {Jesus Christ} for an earthly rock that has no power. They will lose without the Rock.

Deuteronomy 32:32 "For their vine [is] of the vine of Sodom, and of the fields of Gomorrah: their grapes [are] grapes of gall, their clusters [are] bitter:"

Everything they do will fail, without the blessings of the LORD upon them. Even their grape juice will be as bitter as gall. The problem with the things they will produce, is that they are fleshly things.

Deuteronomy 32:33 "Their wine [is] the poison of dragons, and the cruel venom of asps."

The snake mentioned here is one which has a deadly bite. Any of that venom would kill a man. Wine, made for earthly purposes, can cause great grief and, sometimes, death.

Deuteronomy 32:34 "[Is] not this laid up in store with me, [and] sealed up among my treasures?"

We love to share in the blessings of God's treasures. Most of us do not want to admit that God has wrath stored up for the disobedient, as well.

Deuteronomy 32:35 "To me [belongeth] vengeance, and recompence; their foot shall slide in [due] time: for the day of their calamity [is] at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste."

Romans 12:19 "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but [rather] give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance [is] mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." Their evil ways will be their downfall. Unfaithfulness to the LORD will bring calamity upon them from the LORD, Himself. Romans 2:5 "But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;"

Deuteronomy 32:36 "For the LORD shall judge his people, and repent himself for his servants, when he seeth that [their] power is gone, and [there is] none shut up, or left."

If the people will not repent for themselves, then the LORD will repent for them. When He judges His people and they are found wanting, their power is taken away. Perhaps, this is a promise of the Messiah. He will come and pay the penalty for all of sinful mankind.

Deuteronomy 32:37 "And he shall say, Where [are] their gods, [their] rock in whom they trusted,"

This is the LORD showing the utter worthlessness of the false gods.

Deuteronomy 32:38 "Which did eat the fat of their sacrifices, [and] drank the wine of their drink offerings? let them rise up and help you, [and] be your protection."

Idols and false gods are nothings. They have no power to help anyone at any time. They are made by the imaginations of men.

Deuteronomy 32:39 "See now that I, [even] I, [am] he, and [there is] no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither [is there any] that can deliver out of my hand."

The LORD God has the power of life and death. He needs no help from another. He is the Almighty. God may wound them in chastisement to cause them to return to Him. He is, also, their Healer. God holds the power of life and death in His hands. He says who lives and who dies. He has our time numbered, as He has the hairs of our head. Only God has this great control. This shows the utter uselessness of false gods.

Deuteronomy 32:40 "For I lift up my hand to heaven, and say, I live for ever."

God is the great I AM. He is the One who eternally exists. He is Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. "Lifting up the hand to heaven" is a sign of taking an oath. God swore by His own name, because there was no greater.

Deuteronomy 32:41 "If I whet my glittering sword, and mine hand take hold on judgment; I will render vengeance to mine enemies, and will reward them that hate me."

The glittering sword, usually, indicated the sword was polished, and ready for battle. Whet is a form of sharpening the sword for battle, as well. It is God's judgement whether vengeance is to be meted out, or not.

Deuteronomy 32:42 "I will make mine arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh; [and that] with the blood of the slain and of the captives, from the beginning of revengers upon the enemy."

This shows the action of the vengeance.

Deuteronomy 32:43 "Rejoice, O ye nations, [with] his people: for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be merciful unto his land, [and] to his people."

God will not let those go unpunished, who have killed his servants. God will avenge their blood. We see what happens to the people according to their relationship with Israel. Genesis 12:3 "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." God is always merciful to His own. He may punish them, but He will come right back and forgive them, and start them out again.

Deuteronomy 32:44 "And Moses came and spake all the words of this song in the ears of the people, he, and Hoshea the son of Nun."

"Hoshea" is the same as Joshua. Joshua listened to the words of the song along with the people. It is so simple. God will bless them, as long as they are faithful. If they are not faithful, terrible times come to them, until they repent.

Deuteronomy 32:45 "And Moses made an end of speaking all these words to all Israel:" Deuteronomy 32:46 "And he said unto them, Set your hearts unto

all the words which I testify among you this day, which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this law."

One more time, at the end of the song, Moses encourages the people to listen carefully to the message and keep it in their hearts. They must learn it well and teach it to their children, if they are to be blessed of God.

Deuteronomy 32:47 "For it [is] not a vain thing for you; because it [is] your life: and through this thing ye shall prolong [your] days in the land, whither ye go over Jordan to possess it."

This message is not to be taken casually. It is a matter of life and death. God has kept His promise to give them the promised land. It will be up to them, to keep it through their faithfulness to God.

Deuteronomy 32:48 "And the LORD spake unto Moses that selfsame day, saying,"

As soon as the song was over, the LORD spoke to Moses.

Deuteronomy 32:49 "Get thee up into this mountain Abarim, [unto] mount Nebo, which [is] in the land of Moab, that [is] over against Jericho; and behold the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel for a possession:"

The LORD will let Moses see the land of promise from the top of the mountain. This is just over from Jericho, where the children of Israel will enter into the promised land. Mount Nebo is, possibly, the highest point.

Deuteronomy 32:50 "And die in the mount whither thou goest up, and be gathered unto thy people; as Aaron thy brother died in mount Hor, and was gathered unto his people:"

Moses will look at the promised land, and die. He will have finished his task on the earth, and God will call him home. "Being gathered unto thy people" means that he will enter into his heavenly rest. He will die on the mountain top, as Aaron had died on the mountain top.

Deuteronomy 32:51 "Because ye trespassed against me among the children of Israel at the waters of Meribah-Kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin; because ye sanctified me not in the midst of the children of Israel."

This is speaking of the time, when Moses struck the Rock the second time to get water, when God had told him to speak to the Rock. That Rock symbolized the LORD. He was crucified once for the sins of the world. To strike the Rock twice meant that the work Jesus did was not sufficient.

Deuteronomy 32:52 "Yet thou shalt see the land before [thee]; but thou shalt not go thither unto the land which I give the children of Israel."

God rewards him for his leading of the people by allowing him to see the promised land. He will not let him go over in the promised land, because of his trespass of striking the Rock twice. Anger caused the trespass. We do know that God still loved Moses and carried his spirit into heaven, because Moses and Elijah appear with Jesus at the transfiguration. Matthew 17:3 "And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him."

Deuteronomy 36 Questions

1. What is this lesson a continuation of?
2. What was the reason God would not totally destroy them for their unfaithfulness?
3. Israel is a nation void of _____.
4. Their understanding was _____.
5. What was difficult to believe about the Israelites?
6. How do the Israelites remind the author of people today?
7. One, and the LORD, are a _____.
8. Who is the Rock?
9. Who had they traded the Rock for?
10. Their vine is of the vine of _____.
11. The snake, mentioned in verse 33, is one with a _____ bite.
12. Most of us do not want to admit that God has _____ stored up for the disobedient.
13. Quote Romans chapter 12 verse 19.
14. Unfaithfulness to God, will bring _____.
15. Quote Romans chapter 2 verse 5.
16. The _____ shall judge His people.
17. Who will come and pay the penalty for all mankind?
18. What had their worthless false gods done?
19. Idols and false gods are _____.
20. Who has the power of life and death?
21. What are some names that show the eternity of God?
22. "Lifting up the hand to heaven" is a sign of what?
23. What does the glittering sword indicate?
24. What is verse 42 showing?
25. Quote Genesis chapter 12 verse 3.
26. Who is the same as "Hoshea"?
27. What does Moses try to tell them, one more time, at the end of the song?
28. How will they be able to keep the promised land?
29. Where did the LORD tell Moses to go?
30. What will Moses be able to do from here?
31. What does the statement "being gathered to thy people" mean?
32. Why will Moses not enter the promised land?
33. The Rock symbolized the _____.

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 33:1 "And this [is] the blessing, wherewith Moses the man of God blessed the children of Israel before his death."

This is Moses' farewell message to the people, just before his death. He speaks a blessing on the people he had led for forty years.

Deuteronomy 33:2 "And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand [went] a fiery law for them."

This is a show of the magnificence of God, when He came to give His law to Israel. Sinai was where the law was given. Mount Paran and Seir were near, and the glory of God filled them along with Sinai. Moses would know the extent of the glory of the LORD, because he was allowed in close proximity of the LORD. Jesus sits at the right hand of God in heaven. He not only sits at the right hand, but is in fact, the Right Hand of God. He is the Doer part of the Godhead. It was the finger of God that wrote the law on the tables of stone. Whether the ten thousand saints appeared with Him or not, I cannot say. We know that is what this Scripture indicates. The holiness of God is around the saints in heaven.

Deuteronomy 33:3 "Yea, he loved the people; all his saints [are] in thy hand: and they sat down at thy feet; [every one] shall receive of thy words."

In this particular Scripture, the Israelites are spoken of as the saints. God first spoke the ten commandments from a fire and smoke on the mountain. The Israelites were as if they were at His feet. These Words from God were for the entire congregation. God loved the world so much, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him shall receive eternal life.

Deuteronomy 33:4 "Moses commanded us a law, [even] the inheritance of the congregation of Jacob."

The greatest inheritance that Israel had, even above the promised land, was God's law.

Deuteronomy 33:5 "And he was king in Jeshurun, when the heads of the people [and] the tribes of Israel were gathered together."

We remember, from a previous lesson, that Jeshurun has to do with righteousness. The people gathered at the foot of the mountain, and the LORD appeared in the smoke and fire, and gave them the ten commandments. He appeared to them as their King. The law was absolute. God did not want them to have an earthly king. He would be their King.

Deuteronomy 33:6 "Let Reuben live, and not die; and let [not] his men be few."

Moses has begun speaking his blessings with Reuben, the oldest. Reuben had sinned, when he slept with his father's wife, and Jacob had said he

would not excel. The blessing of Moses is a promise that Reuben's tribe will continue.

Deuteronomy 33:7 "And this [is the blessing] of Judah: and he said, Hear, LORD, the voice of Judah, and bring him unto his people: let his hands be sufficient for him; and be thou an help [to him] from his enemies."

Jacob had promised Judah rule over his brothers. Jesus was from the Lion of the tribe of Judah. He would be King of all.

Deuteronomy 33:8 "And of Levi he said, [Let] thy Thummim and thy Urim [be] with thy holy one, whom thou didst prove at Massah, [and with] whom thou didst strive at the waters of Meribah;"

The Levitical tribe was to minister. The Urim and the Thummim were worn by the high priest. God spoke to the people through this. Massah and Meribah were where the Rock was struck by Moses, and brought forth water to satisfy the thirst of the multitude.

Deuteronomy 33:9 "Who said unto his father and to his mother, I have not seen him; neither did he acknowledge his brethren, nor knew his own children: for they have observed thy word, and kept thy covenant."

The Levites had come to Moses, when Moses asked for all on God's side to come to him. The Levites went through the camp, and killed their own relatives at the command of God. Exodus 32:26 "Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who [is] on the LORD'S side? [let him come] unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him." Exodus 32:27 "And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, [and] go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour." Exodus 32:28 "And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men."

Deuteronomy 33:10 "They shall teach Jacob thy judgments, and Israel thy law: they shall put incense before thee, and whole burnt sacrifice upon thine altar."

This is speaking of the Levites teaching the tribes of the law and judgements of God. The Levites were to care for the worship in the tabernacle. They cared for the temple, sacrifices, and kept oil burning in the incense continuously.

Deuteronomy 33:11 "Bless, LORD, his substance, and accept the work of his hands: smite through the loins of them that rise against him, and of them that hate him, that they rise not again."

This is still speaking of the Levites. They would live of the offerings of the people and their work would be dedicated to God. Those who rose against the Levites, were really attacking the God whom the Levites served.

Deuteronomy 33:12 "[And] of Benjamin he said, The beloved of the LORD shall dwell in safety by him; [and the LORD] shall cover him all the day long, and he shall dwell between his shoulders."

God would love and protect Benjamin. He and Joseph were Rachel's children. They were beloved of their father and of God. To be between his shoulders, means that God carried Him on His back, not literally but symbolically.

Deuteronomy 33:13 "And of Joseph he said, Blessed of the LORD [be] his land, for the precious things of heaven, for the dew, and for the deep that coucheth beneath,"

The blessings of God were upon him. He was, also, a favorite son of his father. God would bless him in every endeavor. He, actually, received a double portion in his sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. Moses had, actually, spoken wealth and influence.

Deuteronomy 33:14 "And for the precious fruits [brought forth] by the sun, and for the precious things put forth by the moon,"

This is just saying, the blessings were for night and day.

Deuteronomy 33:15 "And for the chief things of the ancient mountains, and for the precious things of the lasting hills,"

This is speaking of the grapes and wonderful things that came from the mountain area. He was to be blessed, wherever he went. He had suffered much for the LORD, and stayed strong in his faith. He would be doubly blessed.

Deuteronomy 33:16 "And for the precious things of the earth and fulness thereof, and [for] the good will of him that dwelt in the bush: let [the blessing] come upon the head of Joseph, and upon the top of the head of him [that was] separated from his brethren."

Moses remembers his encounter with God in the burning bush. He says, the God he saw in the burning bush blesses the tribe of Joseph. Joseph gets a double portion of blessings, because he was separated from his brothers and taken to Egypt. He won favor in Egypt, and actually saved the lives of Jacob and his brothers during the famine.

Deuteronomy 33:17 "His glory [is like] the firstling of his bullock, and his horns [are like] the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they [are] the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they [are] the thousands of Manasseh."

Ephraim and Manasseh are sons of Joseph. Ephraim received the right hand blessing. "Horns" in the verse above, symbolize strength. Joseph caused the family of Jacob to gather in Egypt for safety from the famine. They multiplied, and the entire mass went to the promised land together.

Deuteronomy 33:18 "And of Zebulun he said, Rejoice, Zebulun, in thy going out; and, Issachar, in thy tents." Deuteronomy 33:19 "They shall call the people unto the mountain; there they shall offer sacrifices of righteousness: for they shall suck [of] the abundance of the seas, and [of] treasures hid in the sand."

The treasures of both, seas and lands, shall be theirs. Their going out and their coming in shall be blessed. These are both sons of Leah.

Deuteronomy 33:20 "And of Gad he said, Blessed [be] he that enlargeth Gad; he dwelleth as a lion, and teareth the arm with the crown of the head."
Deuteronomy 33:21 "And he provided the first part for himself, because there, [in] a portion of the lawgiver, [was he] seated; and he came with the heads of the people, he executed the justice of the LORD, and his judgments with Israel."

It seems, Gad is strategically located on the east of the Jordan to ward off invaders. This speaks of their strength in war. He received the first portion of land on the east side of Jordan, with the tribe of Reuben, and half tribe of Manasseh.

Deuteronomy 33:22 "And of Dan he said, Dan [is] a lion's whelp: he shall leap from Bashan."

Jacob had compared Dan to a serpent. He was fierce in battle. He is compared to a lion, here.

Deuteronomy 33:23 "And of Naphtali he said, O Naphtali, satisfied with favour, and full with the blessing of the LORD: possess thou the west and the south."

Moses is promising the tribe grace and prosperity. The grace of the LORD would be upon him.

Deuteronomy 33:24 "And of Asher he said, [Let] Asher [be] blessed with children; let him be acceptable to his brethren, and let him dip his foot in oil." Deuteronomy 33:25 "Thy shoes [shall be] iron and brass; and as thy days, [so shall] thy strength [be]."

"Dipping his foot in oil" could be olive oil, or any other oil that would make him rich. The Hebrews thought it a great blessing to have many children. This was part of his blessing from Moses. He was to be favored among his brethren. The shoes of iron speak of their solid foundation.

Deuteronomy 33:26 "[There is] none like unto the God of Jeshurun, [who] rideth upon the heaven in thy help, and in his excellency on the sky."

This is speaking of the God of righteousness. Moses has returned to speaking of the majesty of God. God is their very present help. He wants them to be His people, and Him to be their God. God defends Israel, when they are faithful to Him.

Deuteronomy 33:27 "The eternal God [is thy] refuge, and underneath [are] the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy [them]."

God was with them in the fire by night and the smoke by day. He fought their enemies for them. He is their shelter and their protection. He is with Israel, and with all believers in Christ, to help us through the storms of life. He does not always take us out of the storm, but He is in there with us, to protect us.

Deuteronomy 33:28 "Israel then shall dwell in safety alone: the fountain of Jacob [shall be] upon a land of corn and wine; also his heavens shall drop down dew."

Their inheritance of the land of promise is here. It will truly be a land of milk and honey. The blessings of God are upon it. As long as they are faithful to God, their enemies will live at peace with them. They are afraid of Israel's God.

Deuteronomy 33:29 "Happy [art] thou, O Israel: who [is] like unto thee, O people saved by the LORD, the shield of thy help, and who [is] the sword of thy excellency! and thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places."

There has never been a people more blessed. Their happiness should be overwhelming. Their God shall run their enemy away. He will protect them, and prosper them in all they put their hands to. The Christians are blessed like these Israelites. We are the spiritual house of Israel. All the blessings bestowed on physical Israel are ours, as well. We are loved of God, what more could we possibly want?

Deuteronomy 37 Questions

1. This is Moses' _____ message to the people.
2. Verse 2 is speaking of what about God?
3. Where was the law given to Israel?
4. Why would Moses be familiar with the glory of God?
5. Besides sitting at the right hand of the Father, what is Jesus?
6. It was the _____ of God that wrote the law on the stones.
7. Who are the saints in verse 3?
8. How much did God love the world?
9. Where did God speak the ten commandments from?
10. The Israelites were as if they were at His _____.
11. What was Israel's greatest inheritance?
12. Jeshurun has to do with _____.
13. Who was Israel's King?
14. Who did Moses speak the first blessing on?
15. What was His sin?
16. Jesus was from the tribe of _____.
17. What was the job of the Levite?
18. Who wore the Urim and the Thummim?
19. Quote Exodus chapter 32 verse 28.
20. What were some of the day to day tasks of the Levites?
21. When someone came against a Levite, they were coming against whom?
22. Who did Moses call the beloved of the Lord?
23. Why did Joseph receive a double portion of blessings?
24. What were the names of his two sons who headed tribes?
25. What was Moses remembering, when he spoke of him that dwelt in the bush?
26. What do "horns" symbolize?
27. Where was Gad located?
28. What is meant by dipping his foot in oil?
29. Who is verse 26 speaking of?
30. God defends Israel, when they are _____ to Him.
31. Who is God with, to help them through the storms of life?
32. Why will Israel's enemies be at peace with them?
33. We are loved of God, what more could we possibly want?

We will begin this lesson in Deuteronomy 34:1 "And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that [is] over against Jericho. And the LORD shewed him all the land of Gilead, unto Dan,"

God had told Moses to go up to the top of this mountain, so he could see that God had truly brought them to the land of promise. This is God's way of telling Moses, well done. He has led these people 40 years, and now, his work is over. It was a super-natural view of the entire land. He opens the window at one end, and Moses turns his head, and God reveals to him each tribe's land.

Deuteronomy 34:2 "And all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim, and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah, unto the utmost sea,"

The utmost sea is the Mediterranean Sea. Notice, again, the two portions of land for Joseph's son's Ephraim's and Manasseh's tribes.

Deuteronomy 34:3 "And the south, and the plain of the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, unto Zoar."

Jericho will be the first city they enter. This valley extends from the Dead Sea to Jericho. The Jordan river flows through this.

Deuteronomy 34:4 "And the LORD said unto him, This [is] the land which I swore unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed: I have caused thee to see [it] with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither."

No human eye in the natural could see this far. God has greatly increased his sight, so that Moses could see this land of promise. We see the reminder that, this is that land that was first promised to Abraham and his seed. The three patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are mentioned here, because God specifically promised this land to their descendents. Moses will not be allowed to go over, because of striking the Rock, instead of speaking to it, as God had commanded him.

Deuteronomy 34:5 "So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD."

Moses died on the top of the mountain at the age of 120 years. The LORD told him he would die here, and he did.

Deuteronomy 34:6 "And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Beth-peor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day."

It appears, that God buried Moses. There is no evidence of a burying place, that men have found. God, possibly, hid his body, and took Moses home with Him to heaven. Some people believe that Moses did not go the way of the grave, but went directly to heaven, as did Elijah and Enoch. The Scripture, here, says he was buried, however. We do not know for sure what happened, except what the Scriptures say. The main reason God would not let them find the grave of Moses, was because they might begin to worship him.

Deuteronomy 34:7 "And Moses [was] an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated."

Moses had lived in divine health. His eyes were as good as they had been in his youth. It seemed, he was still strong enough to climb this tallest mountain to meet with God. He still had his strength.

Deuteronomy 34:8 "And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days: so the days of weeping [and] mourning for Moses were ended."

This is the same amount of time the people mourned for Aaron. He had been their leader for forty years.

Deuteronomy 34:9 "And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the LORD commanded Moses."

The anointing of Moses had transferred to Joshua, when Moses laid his hands on him. The anointing for the ministry is confirmed by the laying on of hands. Moses had already informed the people, who the choice of the LORD was, to follow him as their leader. At the death of Moses, they accept Joshua to lead them.

Deuteronomy 34:10 "And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,"

Moses was a special prophet of God. He met with God. He was on the mountain two different times 40 days and nights with the presence of God. He asked God to let him see Him, and God passed by and let him see His back side. He was in the presence of the Light of the world, and when he came down the mountain, his head shone so brightly there had to be a veil over his head to keep from blinding the people. He was allowed closer to the presence of God than any other living person.

Deuteronomy 34:11 "In all the signs and the wonders, which the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land,"

The signs and wonders God did at the request of Moses far surpassed any other prophet. Only the miracles of Jesus were greater. God sent ten plagues on Egypt to convince Pharaoh to let the people go. The Red Sea parted at the prayer of Moses. God had given him a staff to do mighty miracles with. Over and over, God wrought mighty miracles through Moses.

Deuteronomy 34:12 "And in all that mighty hand, and in all the great terror which Moses shewed in the sight of all Israel."

God had placed in the hand of Moses, great power. Moses was God's ambassador upon the earth. In fact, Moses was a very meek man. His greatness lay in his fellowship with God. He went to God with everything. The only time he ever disobeyed God was at Meribah. The people had angered him, so that he acted in anger in striking the Rock. God sent Moses to deliver Israel from one of the mightiest armies in the world. God's power operating through Moses, made him one of the most powerful men who ever lived.

The lesson we need to take from this, is the fact that our ability to serve God is not in ourselves. God working through us makes us mighty servants of God. Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Deuteronomy 38 Questions

1. Where did Moses go to see the promised land?
2. This is God's way of telling Moses _____ .
3. Moses led them _____ years.
4. What is the utmost sea spoken of here?
5. Who were Joseph's two sons?
6. What will be the first city they enter?
7. How far does this valley extend?
8. What were the names of the three patriarchs?
9. What had God done to Moses, so he could see the promised land?
10. Why will Moses not be allowed to enter the promised land?
11. Where did Moses die?
12. How old was Moses, when he died?
13. Who buried Moses?
14. What is a possibility, that is not mentioned in the Bible, about Moses' death?
15. Why would God not let them find Moses' grave?
16. What was unusual about Moses at the time of his death?
17. How long did the children of Israel mourn Moses' death?
18. Who took over in Moses' place?
19. What does the Bible say, he was full of, that helped him minister?
20. How had he received this?
21. Did the people accept Joshua as their leader?
22. Quote Deuteronomy chapter 34 verse 10.
23. When were some special times that Moses met with God privately?
24. Only the miracles of _____ were greater than Moses'.
25. The Red Sea parted at the prayer of _____ .

*Thank you for taking the time to study these lessons.
I pray that something in this study has blessed you.*

Your friend in Jesus,

Louise

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