

Deuteronomy

Moses gives a brief review of Exodus and Numbers and teaches them how to love and obey God in the Promised Land. Note especially that this was not written and read. This was a 4 sermon series that Moses spoke, and was written during and after.

Author: Moses

In Deuteronomy - Jesus is our Leader Greater than Moses

"The Lord your God is God; He is the faithful God, keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love Him and keep His commands."



TEACHER: 34 CHAPTERS

Deuteronomy means 2nd law. It is called that because Moses repeats the 10 commandments and the laws that govern Israel. There are 4 sections.

- 1. A recap of their history from entering Egypt to where they were that day. Chapters 1-4.
- 2. A review of the Covenant. Chapters 4-11.
- 3. A review of the Law, with some additions that would apply now that they would be stationary. Chapters 12-26.
- 4. Chapters 27-34 is an Epilogue.

34 chapters in Deuteronomy, let's get started. In verse 2 we should note the actual journey is only an 11 day walk. But because of their sin in Kadesh, (see Kadesh-Barnea on the map) it took 40 years. Do you remember what the sin was from the last lesson? The 10 spies who gave the bad report.

STUDENT:

In this book are the words that Moses spoke to the people of Israel when they were in the wilderness east of the Jordan River. They were in the Jordan Valley near Suph, between the town of Paran on one side and the towns of Tophel, Laban, Hazeroth, and Dizahab on the other.

(2 It takes eleven days to travel from Mount Sinai to Kadesh Barnea by way of the hill country of Edom.)

³ On the first day of the eleventh month of the fortieth year after they had left Egypt, Moses told the people everything the LORD had commanded him to tell them. ⁴ This was after the LORD had defeated King Sihon of the Amorites, who ruled in the town of Heshbon, and King Og of Bashan, who ruled in the towns of Ashtaroth and Edrei. ⁵ It was while the people were east of the Jordan in the territory of Moab that Moses began to explain God's laws and teachings. (GNT)

STUDENT:

He said, ⁶ "When we were at Mount Sinai, the LORD our God said to us, 'You have stayed long enough at this mountain. ⁷ Break camp and move on. Go to the hill country of the Amorites and to all the surrounding regions—to the Jordan Valley, to the hill country and the lowlands, to the southern region, and to the Mediterranean coast. Go to the land of Canaan and on beyond the Lebanon Mountains as far as the great Euphrates River. ⁸ All of this is the land which I, the LORD, promised to give to your ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and to their descendants. Go and occupy it." (GNT)

TEACHER:

Moses continues to tell of Kadesh Barnea, where the spies gave the evil report, and the Lord punishes them to wander the desert for the 40 years they have just completed. Moses recounts appointing leaders over the 12 tribes.

As we read some parts of chapter 2 notice how God wants them to know how much He loves them.

STUDENT:

CH. 2

We finally turned and went into the desert, on the road to the Gulf of Aqaba, as the LORD had commanded, and we spent a long time wandering about in the hill country of Edom.

² "Then the LORD told me ³ that we had spent enough time wandering about in those hills and that we should go north. ⁴ He told me to give you the following instructions 'You are about to go through the hill country of Edom, the territory of your distant relatives, the descendants of Esau. They will be afraid of you, ⁵ but you must not start a war with them, because I am not going to give you so much as a square foot of their land. I have given Edom to Esau's descendants. ⁶ You may buy food and water from them.'

⁷ "Remember how the LORD your God has blessed you in everything that you have done. He has taken care of you as you wandered through this vast desert. He has been with you these forty years, and you have had everything you needed. (GNT)

STUDENT:

⁹The LORD said to me, 'Don't trouble the people of Moab, the descendants of Lot, or start a war against them. I have given them the city of Ar, and I am not going to give you any of their land.'"

(¹⁰ A mighty race of giants called the Emim used to live in Ar. They were as tall as the Anakim, another race of giants. ¹¹ Like the Anakim they were also known as Rephaim; but the Moabites called them Emim).

¹³ "Then we crossed the Zered River as the LORD told us to do. ¹⁴ This was thirty-eight years after we had left Kadesh Barnea. All the fighting men of that generation had died, as the LORD had said they would. ¹⁵ The LORD kept on opposing them until he had destroyed them all.

STUDENT:

¹⁶ "After they had all died, ¹⁷ the LORD said to us, ¹⁸ 'Today you are to pass through the territory of Moab by way of Ar. ¹⁹ You will then be near the land of the Ammonites, the descendants of Lot. Don't trouble them or start a war against them, because I am not going to give you any of the land that I have given them."

(²⁰ This territory is also known as the land of the Rephaim, the name of the people who used to live there;) the Ammonites called them Zamzummim. ²¹ They were as tall as the Anakim. There were many of them, and they were a mighty race. But the LORD destroyed them, so that the Ammonites took over their land and settled there. ²² The LORD had done the same thing for the Edomites, the descendants of Esau, who live in the hill country of Edom

STUDENT:

²⁴ "After we had passed through Moab, the LORD told us, 'Now, start out and cross the Arnon River. I am placing in your power Sihon, the Amorite king of Heshbon, along with his land. Attack him, and begin occupying his land. ²⁵ From today on I will make people everywhere afraid of you. Everyone will tremble with fear at the mention of your name.' (GNT)

TEACHER:

The Lord did exactly what He said He would do. Listen to the testimony from Sihon.

"God will do, what He says He will do. Always." DH

STUDENT:

³⁴ At the same time we captured and destroyed every town, and put everyone to death, men, women, and children. We left no survivors. ³⁵ We took the livestock and plundered the towns. ³⁶ The LORD our God let us capture all the towns......no town had walls too strong for us. ³⁷ But we did not go near the territory of the Ammonites or to the banks of the Jabbok River or to the towns of the hill country or to any other place where the LORD our God had commanded us not to go. (GNT)

TEACHER:

This happens over and over again. In chapter 3 Israel conquers King Og, all 60 fortified towns with walls and gates. King Og was the last of the Rephaim. One of the races of the giants.

STUDENT

¹¹King Og was the last of the Rephaim. His coffin, made of stone, was six feet wide and almost fourteen feet long, according to standard measurements. It can still be seen in the Ammonite city of Rabbah. (GNT)

TEACHER:

STUDENT

Chapter 4 starts with Moses imploring Israel to obey God. His words still apply today. Chapters 4-11 are the Covenant.

CH. 4

CH. 3

Then Moses said to the people, "Obey all the laws that I am teaching you, and you will live and occupy the land which the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ² Do not add anything to what I command you, and do not take anything away. Obey the commands of the LORD your God that I have given you. ³ You yourselves saw what the LORD did at Mount Peor. He destroyed everyone who worshiped Baal there, ⁴ but those of you who were faithful to the LORD your God are still alive today. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Moses tells them that "no nation has a god like our God." He says "no nation has laws like ours does." He says "no nation has a God so near that he answers when they call like we do." This book is a sermon version of Exodus and Numbers. He encourages them to teach their kids.

STUDENT:

¹¹ "Tell your children how you went and stood at the foot of the mountain which was covered with thick clouds of dark smoke and fire blazing up to the sky. ¹² Tell them how the LORD spoke to you from the fire, how you heard him speaking but did not see him in any form at all. ¹³ He told you what you must do to keep the covenant he made with you—you must obey the Ten Commandments, which he wrote on two stone tablets. ¹⁴ The LORD told me to teach you all the laws that you are to obey in the land that you are about to invade and occupy. (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 5 Moses reviews the 10 commandments. They are somewhat different than the Exodus version. Here they are side by side. Look them over. Why do you think they are different? My thought is mainly that the Exodus version was written to be read, and the Deuteronomy version was preached and written down after. Remember that Deuteronomy is a collection of 4 sermons altogether. Not 1 book.

CH. 5

from Deuteronomy 5: from Exodus 20:

1

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

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

You shall have no other gods before Me.

You shall have no other gods before Me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. "You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. 'You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, and on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

3

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. "Six days you shall labor and do all your work but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your female servant may rest as well as you. 'You shall sojourner who stays with you. "For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and made the LORD your God commanded you to observe the it holy.

Observe the sabbath day to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. 'Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant or your ox or your donkey or any of your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you, so that your male servant and your remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out of there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore sabbath day.

5

Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you.

Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, that your days may be prolonged and that it may go well with you on the land which the LORD your God gives you.

6

You shall not murder.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not commit adultery.

8	You shall not steal
You shall not steal	
9	You shall not bear false witness against your
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.	neighbor.
10	
You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his male servant or	You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, and you shall not desire your neighbor's house, his field or hi
his female servant or his ox or his donkey or anything	male servant or his female servant, his ox or his
that belongs to your neighbor.	donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

CH. 6

STUDENT:

"Israel, remember this! The LORD—and the LORD alone—is our God. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. (Good News Translation)

In chapter 6 we have the "Great Commandment" as Jesus called it. Let's look at it from a few translations.

STUDENT:

"Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one [the only God]! ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart *and* mind and with all your soul and with all your strength [your entire being]. (Amplified)

STUDENT:

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: ⁵ and thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. (King James Version)

STUDENT:

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your strength. (New International Version)

TEACHER:

Matthew 22:36-40

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." (NIV)

Moses tells us in chapter 7 to be sure they clear out all the nations that live in the Promised Land immediately, and totally.

CH. 7

STUDENT:

TEACHER:

How does this apply to us today? Is there a lesson for the modern church here? Paul says everything written of old, was written for our example. How do we apply this example? We are the temple. After Christ rose from the dead, and The Holy Spirit fell, we became God's house. We should police what we offer to God in our temple. We need to be influenced by God, and not the world, any thoughts? If they do this, God promises a blessing.

STUDENT:

¹² "If you listen to these commands and obey them faithfully, then the LORD your God will continue to keep his covenant with you and will show you his constant love, as he promised your ancestors. ¹³ He will love you and bless you, so that you will increase in number and have many children; he will bless your fields, so that you will have grain, wine, and olive oil; and he will bless you by giving you many cattle and sheep. He will give you all these blessings in the land that he promised your ancestors he would give to you. ¹⁴ No people in the world will be as richly blessed as you. None of you nor any of your livestock will be sterile. ¹⁵ The LORD will protect you from all sickness, and he will not bring on you any of the dreadful diseases that you experienced in Egypt, but he will bring them on all your enemies. ¹⁶ Destroy every nation that the LORD your God places in your power, and do not show them any mercy. Do not worship their gods, for that would be fatal. (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 8 we see a verse that Jesus quotes when He is tempted of the devil in the desert. See if you can spot the reference.

STUDENT:

CH. 8

"Obey faithfully all the laws that I have given you today, so that you may live, increase in number, and occupy the land that the LORD promised to your ancestors. ² Remember how the LORD your God led you on this long journey through the desert these past forty years, sending hardships to test you, so that he might know what you intended to do and whether you would obey his commands. ³ He made you go hungry, and then he gave you manna to eat, food that you and your ancestors had never eaten before. He did this to teach you that you must not depend on bread alone to sustain you, but on everything that the LORD says. (GNT)

TEACHER:

What was the quote from the temptation? "Man cannot live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

He reminds us next, that when we have God's richness in our lives, not to forget where we came from.

STUDENT:

¹¹ "Make certain that you do not forget the LORD your God; do not fail to obey any of his laws that I am giving you today. ¹² When you have all you want to eat and have built good houses to live in ¹³ and when your cattle and sheep, your silver and gold, and all your other possessions have increased, ¹⁴ be sure that you do not become proud and forget the LORD your God who rescued you from Egypt, where you were slaves. ¹⁵ He led you through that vast and terrifying desert where there were poisonous snakes and scorpions. In that dry and waterless land he made water flow out of solid rock for you. (GNT)

TEACHER:

There is great debate over the "prosperity gospel." I will never understand this argument. Do people really think we should believe either side of this debates extremes? Does anyone here want their children to live in poverty? Or on the other side of this coin, does anyone here want their children to get wealth that is harmful to them? Of course not. Does anyone think they are a better father than our God is? I'm guessing not. Paul said it well when he said whether to live or die, I am in Christ. The central verse in this topic is found in verse 18 of chapter 8. We will read the verses before and after for context.

STUDENT

¹⁶ In the desert he gave you manna to eat, food that your ancestors had never eaten. He sent hardships on you to test you, so that in the end he could bless you with good things. ¹⁷ So then, you must never think that you have made yourselves wealthy by your own power and strength. ¹⁸ Remember that it is the LORD your God who gives you the power to become rich. He does this because he is still faithful today to the covenant that he made with your ancestors. (GNT)

TEACHER:

In verse 16 we see God's motivation...."so He could bless you..."

Chapter 9 God shows how He works for us and with us. What He will do, and what our response should be.

STUDENT: what He will do

"Listen, people of Israel! Today you are about to cross the Jordan River and occupy the land belonging to nations greater and more powerful than you. Their cities are large, with walls that reach the sky. ² The people themselves are tall and strong; they are giants, and you have heard it said that no one can stand against them. ³ But now you will see for yourselves that the LORD your God will go ahead of you like a raging fire. He will defeat them as you advance, so that you will drive them out and destroy them quickly, as he promised. (GNT)

STUDENT: what we should do

⁴"After the Lord your God has driven them out for you, do not say to yourselves that he brought you in to possess this land because you deserved it. No, the LORD is going to drive these people out for you because they are wicked. ⁵ It is not because you are good and do what is right that the LORD is letting you take their land. He will drive them out because they are wicked and because he intends to keep the promise that he made to your ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. ⁶ You can be sure that the LORD is not giving you this fertile land because you deserve it. No, you are a stubborn people. (GNT)

CH. 9

TEACHER:

Moses finishes the chapter with solemn words. He tells us why God has been so patient with Israel. Many times, as I have taught on Numbers, someone makes the comment, "how could God let them get away with all this?" Some version of that thought. The answer is in verse 25, we will read from verse 22 on.

STUDENT:

²² "You also made the LORD your God angry when you were at Taberah, Massah, and Kibroth Hattaavah. ²³ And when he sent you from Kadesh Barnea with orders to go and take possession of the land that he was giving you, you rebelled against him; you did not trust him or obey him. ²⁴ Ever since I have known you, you have rebelled against the LORD. ²⁵ "So I lay face downward in the LORD's presence those forty days and nights, because I knew that he was determined to destroy you. (GNT)

TEACHER:

40 days and nights in prayer. For someone else. When was the last time you prayed for 40 minutes for someone else? When was the last time we prayed 40 minutes for ourselves, and our calling? When God chose Moses, He chose the right man. There is a reason the whole world knows the name Moses.

In chapter 10 Moses retells the story of God writing the 2nd copy of the 10 commandments. This time He tells Moses to "make a wooden box and put them in the box." Good advice. Then Moses said he spent another 40 days and nights in prayer for them.

STUDENT:

CH. 10

¹⁰ "I stayed on the mountain forty days and nights, as I did the first time. The LORD listened to me once more and agreed not to destroy you. ¹¹ Then he told me to go and lead you, so that you could take possession of the land that he had promised to give to your ancestors. (GNT)

TEACHER:

80 days and 80 nights. In prayer. For someone else. The people he was praying for were the people who were attacking and questioning and challenging him the whole time. Moses ends the chapter with these commands.

STUDENT:

To the LORD belong even the highest heavens; the earth is his also, and everything on it. ¹⁵ But the LORD's love for your ancestors was so strong that he chose you instead of any other people, and you are still his chosen people. ¹⁶ So then, from now on be obedient to the LORD and stop being stubborn. ¹⁷ The LORD your God is supreme over all gods and over all powers. He is great and mighty, and he is to be obeyed. He does not show partiality, and he does not accept bribes. ¹⁸ He makes sure that orphans and widows are treated fairly; he loves the foreigners who live with our people, and gives them food and clothes. ¹⁹ So then, show love for those foreigners, because you were once foreigners in Egypt. ²⁰ Have reverence for the LORD your God and worship only him. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 11, another very famous verse. It opens with God's greatness.

CH. 11

STUDENT:

"Love the LORD your God and always obey all his laws. ² Remember today what you have learned about the LORD through your experiences with him. It was you, not your children, who had these experiences. You saw the LORD's greatness, his power, his might, ³ and his miracles....

You saw what he did to the king of Egypt and to his entire country. ⁴ You saw how the LORD completely wiped out the Egyptian army, along with their horses and chariots, by drowning them in the Red Sea when they were pursuing you.

⁵ You know what the LORD did for you in the desert before you arrived here.....

⁷ Yes, you are the ones who have seen all these great things that the LORD has done. (GNT)

TEACHER:

It ends with His blessings.

STUDENT:

⁸ "Obey everything that I have commanded you today. Then you will be able to cross the river and occupy the land that you are about to enter.

- 1. You will live a long time in the rich and fertile land that the LORD promised to give your ancestors and their descendants.
- 2. ¹⁰The land that you are about to occupy is not like the land of Egypt, where you lived before. ¹¹ but the land that you are about to enter is a land of mountains and valleys, a land watered by rain. ¹²The LORD your God takes care of this land and watches over it throughout the year.
- 3. He will send rain on your land when it is needed, in the autumn and in the spring,
- 4. There will be grain, wine, and olive oil for you, ¹⁵ and grass for your livestock.
- 5. You will have all the food you want.

¹⁸ "Remember these commands and cherish them. Tie them on your arms and wear them on your foreheads as a reminder. ¹⁹ Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you are resting and when you are working. ²⁰ Write them on the doorposts of your houses and on your gates. (GNT edited into a list by the author)

STUDENT:

- 6. ²¹Then you and your children will live a long time in the land that the LORD your God promised to give to your ancestors.
- 7. You will live there as long as there is a sky above the earth.

²² "Obey faithfully everything that I have commanded you: Love the LORD your God, do everything he commands, and be faithful to him.

- 8. He will drive out all those nations as you advance,
- 9. You will occupy the land belonging to nations greater and more powerful than you.
- 10. All the ground that you march over will be yours. Your territory will extend from the desert in the south to the Lebanon Mountains in the north, and from the Euphrates River in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west.
- 11. Wherever you go in that land, the LORD your God will make the people fear you, as he has promised, and no one will be able to stop you. (GNT edited into a list by the Author)

STUDENT:

²⁶ "Today I am giving you the choice between a blessing and a curse— ²⁷ a blessing, if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; ²⁸ but a curse, if you disobey these commands and turn away to worship other gods that you have never worshiped before. ²⁹ When the LORD brings you into the land that you are going to occupy, you are to proclaim the blessing from Mount Gerizim and the curse from Mount Ebal. (³⁰ These two mountains are west of the Jordan River in the territory of the Canaanites who live in the Jordan Valley. They are toward the west, not far from the sacred trees of Moreh near the town of Gilgal.) ³¹ You are about to cross the Jordan River and occupy the land that the LORD your God is giving you. When you take it and settle there, ³² be sure to obey all the laws that I am giving you today. (GNT)

TEACHER:

This next chapter (12) Moses gives us a keen insight to the way God would like us to behave and worship. He wants worship to be centralized. At least for Israel. We will discuss after we read some excerpts.

STUDENT:

CH. 12

"Here are the laws that you are to obey as long as you live in the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. Listen to them! ² In the land that you are taking, destroy all the places where the people worship their gods on high mountains, on hills, and under green trees. ³ Tear down their altars and smash their sacred stone pillars to pieces. Burn their symbols of the goddess Asherah and chop down their idols, so that they will never again be worshiped at those places. (GNT)

STUDENT

⁴"Do not worship the LORD your God in the way that these people worship their gods. ⁵ Out of the territory of all your tribes the LORD will choose the one place where the people are to come into his presence and worship him. ⁶ There you are to offer your sacrifices that are to be burned and your other sacrifices, your tithes and your offerings, the gifts that you promise to the LORD, your freewill offerings, and the first-born of your cattle and sheep. ⁷ There, in the presence of the LORD your God, who has blessed you, you and your families will eat and enjoy the good things that you have worked for. (GNT)

STUDENT:

⁸ "When that time comes, you must not do as you have been doing. Until now you have all been worshiping as you please, ⁹ because you have not yet entered the land that the LORD your God is giving you, where you can live in peace. ¹⁰ When you cross the Jordan River, the LORD will let you occupy the land and live there. He will keep you safe from all your enemies, and you will live in peace. ¹¹ The LORD will choose a single place where he is to be worshiped. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Does this mean we should have one place of worship today? In the 1st verse God tells Moses "in the land you are taking" this refers to Israel. He is specific, "when you cross the Jordan," "He will choose a single place." If "everything written of old" was written for our example, what is this example? The church today is global. We are the church. I don't believe in our covenant, the New Covenant, we all need to worship in the same building. But I do feel the "pattern" applies still today. We need to assemble together, we know this from the New Testament. Hebrews 10:25. I believe the example for myself is not to "church hop," so I can develop accountability to other believers, pay tithes, help others and surround myself with people for counsel. It helps me from getting sloppy. For myself, I can count on 1 hand how many times I have missed church in over 60

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years. Not because they need me, but I need them. It is my conviction though, and only mine, that as we approach closer to God as a church, we will centralize worship together in each city where there are Christians. Anyone who works in evangelical societies is doing God's work. We need each other.

TEACHER:

Another topic touched on here is eating meat. The vegetarian diet is everywhere today. Paul says in 1 Tim. 4:1-9 that "in the later times, some shall abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons." Paul subsequently lists several things, 1 of them being

"commanding to abstain from foods
which God created to be received with thanksgiving
by those who believe and know the truth.

4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused
if it is received with thanksgiving;

5 for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer." (NKJV)

Paul is referring to Genesis chapter 9. God tells Noah "³ every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things." (KJV)

Getting back to Moses sermon in chapter 12.

STUDENT

²⁰ "When the LORD your God enlarges your territory, as he has promised, you may eat meat whenever you want to. ²¹ If the one place of worship is too far away, then, whenever you wish, you may kill any of the cattle or sheep that the LORD has given you, and you may eat the meat at home, as I have told you. ²² Anyone, ritually clean or unclean, may eat that meat, just as he would eat the meat of deer or antelope. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Closing the subject on vegans and carnivores in the church, Paul say's in 1 Cor. 10:31 on this subject, "whether you eat or drink, whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." My conclusion? Mind your own business. In chapter 13 Moses warns against Spiritism in all its forms. He lists prophets who teach you to turn away from God, Dream interpreters who do the same. He says even if what they promise comes true, don't fear them.

CH. 13

STUDENT:

⁵ But put to death any interpreters of dreams or prophets that tell you to rebel against the LORD, who rescued you from Egypt, where you were slaves. Such people are evil and are trying to lead you away from the life that the LORD has commanded you to live. They must be put to death, in order to rid yourselves of this evil......

⁶ "Even your brother or your son or your daughter or the wife you love or your closest friend may secretly encourage you to worship other gods, gods that you and your ancestors have never worshiped. ⁷ Some of them may encourage you to worship the gods of the people who live near you or the gods of those who live far away. ⁸ But do not let any of them persuade you; do not even listen to them. Show them no mercy or pity, and do not protect them. (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 14 Moses talks of the tithe. We will read the highlights.

CH. 14

STUDENT:

²² "Set aside a tithe—a tenth of all that your fields produce each year. ²³ Then go to the one place where the LORD your God has chosen to be worshiped; and there in his presence eat the tithes of your grain, wine, and olive oil, and the first-born of your cattle and sheep. Do this so that you may learn to honor the LORD your God always......

²⁷ "Do not neglect the Levites who live in your towns; they have no property of their own. ²⁸ At the end of every third year bring the tithe of all your crops and store it in your towns. ²⁹ This food is for the Levites, since they own no property, and for the foreigners, orphans, and widows who live in your towns.

They are to come and get all they need. Do this, and the LORD your God will bless you in everything you do. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Have you ever needed a clean slate? A fresh start? Have you ever walked into a project you meant to tackle, and saw the pile and just walked? God knows how you feel. In Deuteronomy 15 God lays out a remedy. For everybody. People in debt, people who lost everything, work, all of it. "The Seventh Year"

.______

STUDENT:

"At the end of every seventh year you are to cancel the debts of those who owe you money. ² This is how it is to be done. Each of you who has lent money to any Israelite is to cancel the debt; you must not try to collect the money; the LORD himself has declared the debt canceled. ³ You may collect what a foreigner owes you, but you must not collect what any of your own people owe you. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 16 covers the Passover. You know this festival if you've been doing this bible study over the past month or so, but what does it mean for us in the church today. Passover and Easter are forever tied together. When Jesus entered Jerusalem on the week He was going to be crucified, He was entering for this feast. He was going to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover Week. It was during the Passover Meal, that Jesus was in the upper room and instituted the Rite of Communion. Moses also refreshes them on the other feasts. Starting with verse 18, Moses sets up a judiciary.

CH. 16

CH. 15

STUDENT:

¹⁸ "Appoint judges and other officials in every town that the LORD your God gives you. These men are to judge the people impartially. ¹⁹ They are not to be unjust or show partiality in their judgments; and they are not to accept bribes, for gifts blind the eyes even of wise and honest men, and cause them to give wrong decisions. ²⁰ Always be fair and just, so that you will occupy the land that the LORD your God is giving you and so that you will continue to live there. (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 17 Moses explains how this judiciary should look once established. Here are the highlights.

CH. 17

STUDENT:

"Suppose you hear that in one of your towns some men or women have sinned against the LORD and broken his covenant ³ by worshiping and serving other gods or the sun or the moon or the stars, contrary to the LORD's command. If you hear such a report, then investigate it thoroughly.

If it is true that this evil thing has happened in Israel, ⁵ then take them outside the town and stone them to death. However, they may be put to death only if two or more witnesses testify against them; they are not to be put to death if there is only one witness. The witnesses are to throw the first stones, and then the rest of the people are to stone them; in this way you will get rid of this evil. (GNT)

TEACHER:

The court of appeals.

STUDENT:

⁸ "It may be that some cases will be too difficult for the local judges to decide, such as certain cases of property rights or of bodily injury or those cases that involve a distinction between murder and manslaughter.

When this happens, go to the one place of worship chosen by the LORD your God, ⁹ and present your case to the Levitical priests and to the judge who is in office at that time, and let them decide the case.

- ¹⁰ They will give their decision, and you are to do exactly as they tell you.
- ¹¹ Accept their verdict and follow their instructions in every detail.
- ¹² Anyone who dares to disobey either the judge or the priest on duty is to be put to death; in this way you will remove this evil from Israel. ¹³ Then everyone will hear of it and be afraid, and no one else will dare to act in such a way. (GNT)

TEACHER:

The Executive Branch.

STUDENT:

- ¹⁴ "After you have taken possession of the land that the LORD your God is going to give you and have settled there, then you will decide you need a king like all the nations around you.
- ¹⁵Be sure that the man you choose to be king is the one whom the LORD has chosen. He must be one of your own people; do not make a foreigner your king.
- ¹⁶The king is not to have a large number of horses for his army, and he is not to send people to Egypt to buy horses, because the LORD has said that his people are never to return there.
- ¹⁷The king is not to have many wives, because this would make him turn away from the LORD; and he is not to make himself rich with silver and gold.
- ¹⁸ When he becomes king, he is to have a copy of the book of God's laws and teachings made from the original copy kept by the Levitical priests.
- ¹⁹ He is to keep this book near him and read from it all his life, so that he will learn to honor the LORD and to obey faithfully everything that is commanded in it.
- ²⁰This will keep him from thinking that he is better than other Israelites and from disobeying the LORD's commands in any way.

Then he will reign for many years, and his descendants will rule Israel for many generations. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 18 talks of the tithes to priests and then pagan practices, and his successor.

CH. 18 STUDENT: Pagan practices

⁹ "When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you, don't follow the disgusting practices of the nations that are there. ¹⁰ Don't sacrifice your children in the fires on your altars; and don't let your people practice divination or look for omens or use spells ¹¹ or charms, and don't let them consult the spirits of the dead. ¹² The LORD your God hates people who do these disgusting things, and that is why he is driving those nations out of the land as you advance. ¹³ Be completely faithful to the LORD." (GNT)

STUDENT: Moses successor a picture of Christ

......He will send you a prophet like me from among your own people, and you are to obey him.

"On the day that you were gathered at Mount Sinai, you begged not to hear the LORD speak again or to see his fiery presence any more, because you were afraid you would die. ¹⁷ So the LORD said to me, 'They have made a wise request. ¹⁸ I will send them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will tell him what to say, and he will tell the people everything I command. ¹⁹ He will speak in my name, and I will punish anyone who refuses to obey him. ²⁰ But if any prophet dares to speak a message in my name when I did not command him to do so, he must die for it, and so must any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods.'

²¹ "You may wonder how you can tell when a prophet's message does not come from the LORD. ²² If a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD and what he says does not come true, then it is not the LORD's message. That prophet has spoken on his own authority, and you are not to fear him. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Among other things in chapter 19, some specifics are mentioned regarding the appellate court.

STUDENT:

¹⁵ "One witness is not enough to convict someone of a crime; at least two witnesses are necessary to prove that someone is guilty.

¹⁶ If any of you try to harm another by false accusations, ¹⁷ both of you are to go to the one place of worship and be judged by the priests and judges who are then in office. ¹⁸ The judges will investigate the case thoroughly; and if you have made a false accusation, ¹⁹ you are to receive the punishment the accused would have received. In this way your nation will get rid of this evil.........

²¹ In such cases show no mercy; the punishment is to be a life for a life, an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, a hand for a hand, and a foot for a foot. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 20 talks of war. They are told to not fear, to take no male prisoners, and leave fruit trees alone.

STUDENT: do not fear, take no male prisoners

"When you go out to fight against your enemies and you see chariots and horses and an army that outnumbers yours, do not be afraid of them.

"The officers will also say to the men, 'Is there any man here who has lost his nerve and is afraid? If so, he is to go home. Otherwise, he will destroy the morale of the others.' (GNT)

CH. 19

CH. 20

STUDENT:

¹⁰ "When you go to attack a city, first give its people a chance to surrender. ¹¹ If they open the gates and surrender, they are all to become your slaves and do forced labor for you. ¹² But if the people of that city will not surrender, but choose to fight, surround it with your army. ¹³ Then, when the LORD your God lets you capture the city, kill every man in it.

¹⁶ "But when you capture cities in the land that the LORD your God is giving you, kill everyone. ¹⁷ Completely destroy all the people: the Hittites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, as the LORD ordered you to do. ¹⁸ Kill them, so that they will not make you sin against the LORD by teaching you to do all the disgusting things that they do in the worship of their gods. (GNT)

STUDENT: trees

¹⁹ "When you are trying to capture a city, do not cut down its fruit trees, even though the siege lasts a long time. Eat the fruit, but do not destroy the trees; the trees are not your enemies. ²⁰ You may cut down the other trees and use them in the siege mounds until the city is captured. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 21 deals with fairness in various areas of personal dealings, but 1 stands out, lets read and discuss.

CH. 21 STUDENT:

¹⁸ "Suppose someone has a son who is stubborn and rebellious, a son who will not obey his parents, even though they punish him. ¹⁹ His parents are to take him before the leaders of the town where he lives and make him stand trial. ²⁰ They are to say to them, 'Our son is stubborn and rebellious and refuses to obey us; he wastes money and is a drunkard.' ²¹ Then the men of the city are to stone him to death, and so you will get rid of this evil. Everyone in Israel will hear what has happened and be afraid. (GNT)

TEACHER:

What do you think of that law? My take away from the passage is that we owe it to God and our community to raise Godly sons. Chapter 22 starts the way 21 ends. Our responsibility to each other. Look out for each other's possessions and property. In verse 6 we are told if we find a birds nest on the ground with chicks in it, we are to leave the mother go, but we may take the chicks. We are forbidden to mix grape vines with other crops, and must put a railing around a 2nd floor so no one can fall. In the middle of all this we find a verse that seems out of place.

CH. 22 STUDENT:

⁵ "Women are not to wear men's clothing, and men are not to wear women's clothing; the LORD your God hates people who do such things. (GNT)

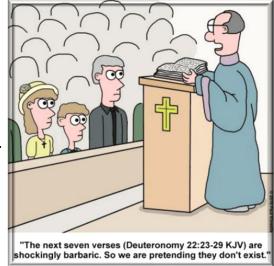
TEACHER:

I have researched this pretty heavily. The more I research, the more confused academia seems to be. I always follow the laws of hermeneutics. Context of the passage, (what came before and after the passage) and context of time and place, (what was going on in culture and law at the time that might give rise to the passage being necessary). The commentaries from Christian theologians run from women can't wear pants in church, all the way to we are not under the law, do what you want. That is a broad margin for error. If you go into Jewish

DEUTERONOMY 18 PENTATEUCH, TORAH

theologians, it almost always ends in encouragement for the transgender community. Among ultra-orthodox

Jews we are back to women can't wear pants, men can't wear dresses. For my opinion on the matter I must also reveal another law of hermeneutics, that we must not interpret a passage to mean the opposite of what it expressly states. The context of Deut. 22 is mixing. Not to mix your possessions with another's, do not mix crops, don't load a yolk with a donkey and an ox, and don't weave wool with linen. This context helps me a bit. The context of culture and law reveals a lot more. Egypt during this time, was sexually deviant. I strongly believe this entire portion of Deuteronomy was intended to make a very large and permanent difference between the way God's people behaved, and the rest of the world. They were not to be an androgynous society on any level. They were to be peculiar. They were to be orderly. They were expected to live up to their God given potential.



In my opinion of this passage, the differences between the sexes are God given, and in order for a man or woman to reach their potential in Christ, denial of who we are becomes the distraction for reaching God's potential in our lives. As you know in society, distractions become epidemic. In society as a Christian, the question is not how mush sin can I commit and still be accepted by the church, but rather how peculiar can I be, to be noticed by the world in a way that reflects positively on God.

TEACHER:

The rest of the chapter deals with marital relations and sex outside of marriage. Chapter 23 starts with racial purity in Israel, with emphasis on children born out of wedlock. They are permanently excluded from citizenship, Even to the 10th generation of their offspring. It gives permission to harbor and protect run-away slaves.

STUDENT:

²⁴ "When you walk along a path in someone else's vineyard, you may eat all the grapes you want, but you must not carry any away in a container. ²⁵ When you walk along a path in someone else's grainfield, you may eat all the grain you can pull off with your hands, but you must not cut any grain with a sickle. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 24 deals with divorce and remarriage, and also various laws protecting livelihood, and mercy.

→ STUDENT: Marriage

"Suppose a man marries a woman and later decides that he doesn't want her, because he finds something about her that he doesn't like. So he writes out divorce papers, gives them to her, and sends her away from his home. ² Then suppose she marries another man, ³ and he also decides that he doesn't want her, so he also writes out divorce papers, gives them to her, and sends her away from his home. Or suppose her second husband dies. ⁴ In either case, her first husband is not to marry her again; he is to consider her defiled. If he married her again, it would be offensive to the LORD. You are not to commit such a terrible sin in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ⁵ "When a man is newly married, he is not to be drafted into military service or any other public duty; he is to be excused from duty for one year, so that he can stay at home and make his wife happy. (GNT)

CH. 23

CH. 24

STUDENT: Mercy

¹⁴"Do not cheat poor and needy hired servants, whether they are Israelites or foreigners living in one of your towns. ¹⁵ Each day before sunset pay them for that day's work; they need the money and have counted on getting it. If you do not pay them, they will cry out against you to the LORD, and you will be guilty of sin. (NKJV)

STUDENT: Responsibility

¹⁶ "Parents are not to be put to death for crimes committed by their children, and children are not to be put to death for crimes committed by their parents; people are to be put to death only for a crime they themselves have committed. (GNT)

TEACHER:

The chapter continues with rules regarding foreigners, orphans and gleaners rights. Gleaner's rights are instituted for the poor, so that after a crop is harvested, one doesn't revisit the field to get what was missed. The leftovers are left on the ground for the poor to eat. Chapter 25 of Deuteronomy shows the origin of 2 New Testament passages. We will read the 2 passages here, and let you guess as to what the New Testament reference was.

CH. 25 STUDENT: verse 4

⁴ "Do not muzzle an ox when you are using it to thresh grain." (GNT)

STUDENT: verses 5-10

⁵ "If two brothers live on the same property and one of them dies, leaving no son, then his widow is not to be married to someone outside the family; it is the duty of the dead man's brother to marry her. ⁶ The first son that they have will be considered the son of the dead man, so that his family line will continue in Israel. ⁷ But if the dead man's brother does not want to marry her, she is to go before the town leaders and say, 'My husband's brother will not do his duty; he refuses to give his brother a descendant among the people of Israel.' ⁸ Then the town leaders are to summon him and speak to him. If he still refuses to marry her, ⁹ his brother's widow is to go up to him in the presence of the town leaders, take off one of his sandals, spit in his face, and say, 'This is what happens to the man who refuses to give his brother a descendant.' ¹⁰ His family will be known in Israel as 'the family of the man who had his sandal pulled off.' (GNT)

STUDENT: 1st reference

"You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain," 1 Timothy 5 18 (ESV)

STUDENT: 2nd reference

"Teacher," they said, "Moses told us that if a man dies without having children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for him. ²⁵ Now there were seven brothers among us. The first one married and died, and since he had no children, he left his wife to his brother. ²⁶ The same thing happened to the second and third brother, right on down to the seventh. ²⁷ Finally, the woman died. ²⁸ Now then, at the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?" (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 26 deals with Harvest offerings and the poor and ends with this.

CH. 26

STUDENT:

¹⁶ "Today the Lord your God commands you to obey all his laws; so obey them faithfully with all your heart. ¹⁷ Today you have acknowledged the Lord as your God; you have promised to obey him, to keep all his laws, and to do all that he commands. ¹⁸ Today the Lord has accepted you as his own people, as he promised you; and he commands you to obey all his laws. ¹⁹ He will make you greater than any other nation that he has created, and you will bring praise and honor to his name. You will be his own people, as he promised." (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Chapter 27 to the end of Deuteronomy is the Epilogue. It begins with a responsive reading for the other side of the Promised Land. Responsive reading is where the pastor reads a sentence, and the congregation reads a response. In this responsive reading the congregation had it easy, they just had to say Amen to everything.

CH. 27

STUDENT:

⁹Then Moses, together with the Levitical priests, said to all the people of Israel, "Give me your attention, people of Israel, and listen to me. Today you have become the people of the LORD your God; ¹⁰ so obey him and keep all his laws that I am giving you today." (GNT)

, TEACHER:

CH. 28 CH. 29

The reading includes 12 curses on people who do 12 different things. They cover idolatry, rebellion, purity and honesty.

Chapter 28 then reveals God's blessings if they perform their vows from chapter 27, and the punishments if they do not.

Chapter 29 restates God's covenant with Israel, and prophesies of a global dispersal.

Chapter 30 lays the standards for restoration.

STUDENT:

CH. 30

"I have now given you a choice between a blessing and a curse. When all these things have happened to you, and you are living among the nations where the LORD your God has scattered you, you will remember the choice I gave you. ² If you and your descendants will turn back to the LORD and with all your heart obey his commands that I am giving you today, ³ then the LORD your God will have mercy on you. He will bring you back from the nations where he has scattered you, and he will make you prosperous again. ⁴ Even if you are scattered to the farthest corners of the earth, the LORD your God will gather you together and bring you back, ⁵ so that you may again take possession of the land where your ancestors once lived. And he will make you more prosperous and more numerous than your ancestors ever were.......(GNT)

STUDENT:

¹⁹I am now giving you the choice between life and death, between God's blessing and God's curse, and I call heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Choose life. ²⁰ Love the LORD your God, obey him and be faithful to him, and then you and your descendants will live long in the land that he promised to give your ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob." (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 31 Moses names Joshua as his successor. Moses is 120 years old and his end is near.

CH. 31

STUDENT:

Moses continued speaking to the people of Israel, ² and said, "I am now a hundred and twenty years old and am no longer able to be your leader. And besides this, the LORD has told me that I will not cross the Jordan. ³ The LORD your God himself will go before you and destroy the nations living there, so that you can occupy their land; and Joshua will be your leader, as the LORD has said. ⁴ The LORD will destroy those people, just as he defeated Sihon and Og, kings of the Amorites, and destroyed their country. ⁵ The LORD will give you victory over them, and you are to treat them exactly as I have told you. ⁶ Be determined and confident. Do not be afraid of them. Your God, the LORD himself, will be with you. He will not fail you or abandon you." (GNT)

STUDENT:

⁷ Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the presence of all the people of Israel, "Be determined and confident; you are the one who will lead these people to occupy the land that the LORD promised to their ancestors. ⁸ The LORD himself will lead you and be with you. He will not fail you or abandon you, so do not lose courage or be afraid." (GNT)

TEACHER:

Moses gives the priests a copy of the law and instructs them to read it every 7 years. God calls Moses and Joshua to the Tabernacle.

STUDENT:

¹⁶The LORD said to Moses, "You will soon die, and after your death the people will become unfaithful to me and break the covenant that I made with them. They will abandon me and worship the pagan gods of the land they are about to enter. ¹⁷ When that happens, I will become angry with them; I will abandon them, and they will be destroyed. Many terrible disasters will come upon them, and then they will realize that these things are happening to them because I, their God, am no longer with them. ¹⁸ And I will refuse to help them then, because they have done evil and worshiped other gods. (GNT)

TEACHER:

CH. 32 CH. 33 God then tell Moses to write down a song and teach it to Israel. Its purpose is to stand as a testimony against them. God prophesies that they will reject Him after they get fat and lazy. Moses taught them the song that day. Chapter 32 the song is included in the end of this lesson for you to study at your leisure.

Chapter 33 Moses blesses each of the 12 tribes.

Chapter 34 is the final chapter in Deuteronomy. Moses passes and is buried by the Lord Himself.

CH. 34

STUDENT:

Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Mount Pisgah east of Jericho, and there the LORD showed him the whole land: the territory of Gilead as far north as the town of Dan; ² the entire territory of Naphtali; the territories of Ephraim and Manasseh; the territory of Judah as far west as the Mediterranean Sea; ³ the southern part of Judah; and the plain that reaches from Zoar to Jericho, the city of palm trees. ⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "This is the land that I promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob I would give to their descendants. I have let you see it, but I will not let you go there." (GNT)

PENTATEUCH, TORAH

STUDENT:

⁵ So Moses, the Lord's servant, died there in the land of Moab, as the LORD had said he would. ⁶ The LORD buried him in a valley in Moab, opposite the town of Bethpeor, but to this day no one knows the exact place of his burial. ⁷ Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died; he was as strong as ever, and his eyesight was still good. ⁸ The people of Israel mourned for him for thirty days in the plains of Moab. (GNT)

STUDENT:

⁹ Joshua son of Nun was filled with wisdom, because Moses had appointed him to be his successor. The people of Israel obeyed Joshua and kept the commands that the LORD had given them through Moses.

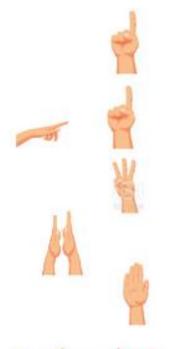
¹⁰There has never been a prophet in Israel like Moses; the LORD spoke with him face-to-face. ¹¹ No other prophet has ever done miracles and wonders like those that the LORD sent Moses to perform against the king of Egypt, his officials, and the entire country. ¹² No other prophet has been able to do the great and terrifying things that Moses did in the sight of all Israel. (GNT)

NEXT LESSON JOSHUA

I have set before you life and death,
blessings and curses.

Now choose life,
so that you and your children
may live

DEUTERONOMY 30:19



There is one God, serve only Himhold up one finger.

Make no idols, to worship them. Hold up one finger from each hand, and make one bow down to the other.

Dont take the Lords name in vainhold up three fingers, they are shaped like a "w." Hold them over your mouth. "watch your tongue."

Honor the Sabbath Day use a finger and thumb from each hand to make a church and steeple. Honor the Lords Day, go to church.

Honor your father and mother.
Use five fingers from one hand, and salute. Yes sir, Yes Ma'am!



You shall not killuse three fingers on each hand to make two guns- bang bang!

Dont commit adultery.

hold up two fingers on one hand and five on the other. there are 2 people
in a marriage, not 5!



Do not steal-Hold up four fingers from each hand over your eyes-If you steal, you will end up behind bars!



Dont bare false witness, (dont lie).

Hold up four fingers on one and five on the otherIf its four, dont lie and say its five!



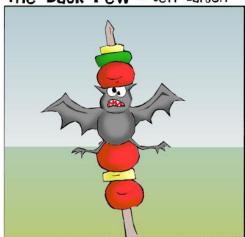
You shall not covet.
(want something that belongs to someone else)
Hold up all ten fingers and motion as if you are
reaching around to grab things that dont belong to you.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



King Og shopping at the Bashan Mattress Superstore and found a truly KING-SIZED bed. 13' x 6'. Deut 3:11

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

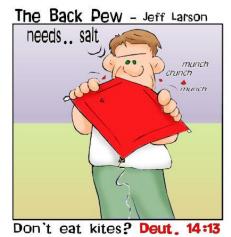


No more BAT-KABOBS! Deut 14:17









The song God wrote for Moses to teach the children of Israel as a testimony against them in chapter 32

"Earth and sky, hear my words, listen closely to what I say. ² My teaching will fall like drops of rain and form on the earth like dew. My words will fall like showers on young plants, like gentle rain on tender grass. ³ I will praise the name of the LORD, and his people will tell of his greatness. ⁴ "The LORD is your mighty defender, perfect and just in all his ways; Your God is faithful and true; he does what is right and fair. ⁵ But you are unfaithful, unworthy to be his people, a sinful and deceitful nation. ⁶ Is this the way you should treat the LORD, you foolish, senseless people? He is your father, your Creator, he made you into a nation. ⁷ "Think of the past, of the time long ago; ask your parents to tell you what happened, ask the old people to tell of the past. ⁸The Most High assigned nations their lands; he determined where peoples should live. He assigned to each nation a heavenly being, ⁹ but Jacob's descendants he chose for himself. ¹⁰ "He found them wandering through the desert, a desolate, wind-swept wilderness. He protected them and cared for them, as he would protect himself. 11 Like an eagle teaching its young to fly catching them safely on its spreading wings, the LORD kept Israel from falling. ¹²The LORD alone led his people without the help of a foreign god. 13 "He let them rule the highlands, and they ate what grew in the fields. They found wild honey among the rocks; their olive trees flourished in stony ground. ¹⁴Their cows and goats gave plenty of milk; they had the best sheep, goats, and cattle, the finest wheat, and the choicest wine.

¹⁵ "The LORD's people grew rich, but rebellious; they were fat and stuffed with food. They abandoned God their Creator and rejected their mighty savior. ¹⁶Their idolatry made the LORD jealous; the evil they did made him angry. ¹⁷ They sacrificed to gods that are not real, new gods their ancestors had never known, gods that Israel had never obeyed. ¹⁸ They forgot their God, their mighty savior, the one who had given them life. ¹⁹ "When the LORD saw this, he was angry and rejected his sons and daughters. ²⁰ 'I will no longer help them,' he said; 'then I will see what happens to them, those stubborn, unfaithful people. ²¹ With their idols they have made me angry, jealous with their so-called gods, gods that are really not gods. So I will use a so-called nation to make them angry; I will make them jealous with a nation of fools. ²² My anger will flame up like fire and burn everything on earth. It will reach to the world below and consume the roots of the mountains. ²³ "I will bring on them endless disasters and use all my arrows against them. ²⁴ They will die from hunger and fever; they will die from terrible diseases. I will send wild animals to attack them, and poisonous snakes to bite them. ²⁵ War will bring death in the streets; terrors will strike in the homes. Young men and young women will die; neither babies nor old people will be spared. ²⁶I would have destroyed them completely, so that no one would remember them. ²⁷ But I could not let their enemies boast that they had defeated my people, when it was I myself who had crushed them.' ²⁸ "Israel is a nation without sense; they have no wisdom at all. ²⁹ They fail to see why they were defeated; they cannot understand what happened. 30 Why were a thousand defeated by one,

and ten thousand by only two? The LORD, their God, had abandoned them; their mighty God had given them up. 31 Their enemies know that their own gods are weak, not mighty like Israel's God. 32 Their enemies, corrupt as Sodom and Gomorrah, are like vines that bear bitter and poisonous grapes, 33 like wine made from the venom of snakes. 34 "The LORD remembers what their enemies have done; he waits for the right time to punish them. 35 The LORD will take revenge and punish them; the time will come when they will fall; the day of their doom is near. ³⁶The LORD will rescue his people when he sees that their strength is gone. He will have mercy on those who serve him, when he sees how helpless they are. ³⁷ Then the LORD will ask his people, 'Where are those mighty gods you trusted? ³⁸ You fed them the fat of your sacrifices and offered them wine to drink. Let them come and help you now; let them run to your rescue. ³⁹ "I, and I alone, am God; no other god is real. I kill and I give life, I wound and I heal, and no one can oppose what I do. ⁴⁰ As surely as I am the living God, I raise my hand and I vow that I will sharpen my flashing sword and see that justice is done. I will take revenge on my enemies and punish those who hate me. ⁴² My arrows will drip with their blood, and my sword will kill all who oppose me. I will spare no one who fights against me; even the wounded and prisoners will die.' 43 "Nations, you must praise the LORD's people he punishes all who kill them. He takes revenge on his enemies and forgives the sins of his people."

⁴⁴ Moses and Joshua son of Nun recited this song, so that the people of Israel could hear it.