

# Exploring the Old Testament

...

## Deuteronomy



**CANAAN**

**AMMON**

**MOAB**

**EDOM**

Mediterranean Sea

Dead Sea

NEGEB

WILDERNESS OF ZIN

WILDERNESS OF PARAN

ARABAH

Possible route of the Israelites' journey to Kadesh-barnea

Possible route of the Israelites' journey to Abel-shittim

0 10 20 30 mi  
0 20 40 km

To Mount Sinai? (Jebel Musa)  
Elath  
Jotbathah?  
Ezion-geber?

Jordan River

PLAINS OF MOAB

Jericho

Jazer? Rabbah

Beth-jeshimoth

Abel-shittim

Jerusalem

Heshbon

Hebron

Bezer? Almon-diblathaim?

Gaza

Medeba

Beersheba

Jahaz? Dibon

Arad

Aroer

Hormah?

Kedemoth? Ar?

Besor Brook

Arnon River

Kir-hareseth

Zoar

Iye-abarim?

Mount Hor?

Zered Brook

Bozrah

Punon

The King's Highway

Timna

Elath

Jotbathah?

Ezion-geber?

Red Sea

# Context and Purpose

- a. Re-establish and reteach the commandments.
- b. Remind the people of the covenant.
- c. Motivate the people to holiness and obedience.
- d. Highlight God's covenant faithfulness.

# Importance of the Book

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- b. The Law, especially the book of Deuteronomy, form the theological matrix for the rest of the Old Testament.
- c. Jesus quoted from Deuteronomy more than any other book. Jesus used the book of Deuteronomy in his own life more than any other book in the Old Testament.

# Importance of the Book

d. We see the Gospel throughout the book of Deuteronomy

Structure:	Ancient Treaty Structure	Deuteronomy
	Preamble	1:1-5
	Historical Prologue	1:6-4:43
	General Stipulations	4:44-11:32
	Specific Stipulations	12:1-26:19
	Blessings and Curses	27:1-28:68
	Document Clause	31:9-29
	Witnesses	32:1-47



# Structure:

- a. Prologue (1:1-5)
- b. Moses' First Speech: Historical Prologue (1:6-4:43)
- c. Moses' Second Speech: General Covenant Stipulations (4:44-11:32)
- d. Moses' Second Speech: Specific Covenant Stipulations (12:1-26:19)
- e. Moses' Third Speech: Blessings and Curses (27:1-28:68)
- f. Moses' Third Speech: Final Exhortation (29:1-30:20)
- g. Succession of Leadership (31:1-34:12)

# Structure:

- a. Historical Prologue (1:1-4:43)
- b. Stipulations (4:44-26:19)
- c. Ten Commandments (4:44-5:33)

# Ten Commandments:

- i. First Commandment: Monotheism (6:1-11:32)
- ii. Second Commandment: Worship (12:1-32)
- iii. Third Commandment: Honoring the Name (13:1-14:21)
- iv. Fourth Commandment: Sabbath (14:22-16:17)
- v. Fifth Commandment: Honoring Authority (16:18-18:22)
- vi. Sixth Commandment: Human Dignity (19:1-22:12)
- vii. Seventh Commandment: Sexual Fidelity (22:13-23:18)
- viii. Eighth Commandment: Personal Property (23:19-24:22)
- ix. Ninth Commandment: Truthfulness (25:1-19)
- x. Tenth Commandment: Contentment (26:1-15)
- xi. Formal Conclusion (26:16-19)

# Structure:

- a. Historical Prologue (1:1-4:43)
- b. Stipulations (4:44-26:19)
- c. Ten Commandments (4:44-5:33)
- d. Ratification Ceremony (27:1-28:68)
- e. Covenant Consequences: Blessings and Curses (29:1-30:20)
- f. Historical Epilogue (31:1-34:12)

## Section 1 - Deuteronomy 4:32-40; 6:1-9

- a. What makes Israel a unique people?
- b. What do His acts in the past highlight about His character and promises?
- c. Why does it matter that God is one? What theological and ethical consequences flow from this reality?
- d. How should we respond to this one God?
- e. What are the people of God to do with the commandments? How is the giving of the law an act of grace?

## Section 2 - Deuteronomy 7:7-11; 10:12-22

- a. What is the chief cause of their redemption?
- b. How does God's election prevent pride among the people of God?
- c. How does this section prevent us from misunderstand the purpose of the law?
- d. How are the people of God supposed to respond to God?
- e. What does this section say about God's character?
- f. How are the people of God to respond to others?
- g. Why hold out and emphasize God's acts and his ways before reminding the people of the obligations?

“If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea.”

-Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

## Section 3 - Deuteronomy 29:2-6; 30:15-20

- a. What problem does Moses see with the people?
- b. What promise does Moses hold out to the people?
- c. What privilege will the people possess after the promise is fulfilled?
- d. How do these movements of the heart reflect the Christian experience?



Section 4 - Deuteronomy 32:48-52; 34:5-12;  
18:17-20; Matthew 17:1-6; Hebrews 3:1-6

- a. Why is the death of Moses such a monumental moment in salvation history?
- b. How do you think the people of God felt? How do you think Moses felt at this moment?
- c. How is Jesus greater than Moses?

# The Law and the Christian

- a. The Law is a **prophetic witness** to Christ
- b. The Law is what made **Christ righteous**
- c. The Law was an expression of the **Great Commandments**
- d. The Law reveals God's **character**
- e. The Law **revealed, defined, and exposed** man's sinfulness

# The Law and the Christian

f. The Law was a **tutor/guardian** until Christ

g. The Law was never intended to **bring** righteousness, but to **demonstrate** one's lack of and need for righteousness

h. The Law has been **satisfied** through the obedience of Christ on behalf of His people

i. The Law can now be **obeyed** through God's Spirit.

# Responses to Deuteronomy

## a. Remember

- i. “Remember the Lord your God”
- ii. “Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt...”

## b. Know

- i. “... know that the Lord your God is God”

## c. Do

- i. “Be careful to do what I commanded you”

## d. Purge

- i. “Purge evil from your midst”

# To Do

Watch Bible Project Videos on Joshua + Judges

Memorize Joshua 1:5 + Judges 21:25

Joshua 1:5 “Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.

Judges 21:25: “In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”