

OT SURVEY: DEUTERONOMY

Week 7: Deuteronomy 1 – 34

I. Introduction (1-4)

Focus	First Sermon		Second Sermon				Third Sermon				
	1:1	4:43	4:44			26:19	27:1			34:12	
Divisions	Review of God's Acts for Israel		The Exposition of the Decalogue		Ceremonial Laws	Civil Laws	Social Laws	Ratification of Covenant		Palestinian Covenant	Transition of Covenant Mediator
	1:1	4:43	4:44	11:32	12:1 16:17	16:18 20:20	21:1 26:19	27:1	28:68	29:1 30:20	31:1 34:12
Topics	What God Has Done		What God Expected of Israel				What God Will Do				
	Historical		Legal				Prophetical				
Place	Plains of Moab										
Time	c. 1 Month										

- **Author and Date**

Written by Moses, approximately 1410 to 1405 B.C.

Moses has generally been accepted as the author of Deuteronomy in large part because the book itself makes that claim (1:1). Both the OT and the NT support the claim of Mosaic authorship. While 32:48-34:12 was added after Moses' death (probably by Joshua), the rest of the book must have originated with Moses shortly before his death in 1405 B.C.

- **Historical Setting (1:1-5)**

i. Moses Addresses Israel (2nd gen.) in accordance with all that the Lord Commanded Him

1. In the wilderness
2. In Kadesh-Barnea, in the land of Moab
3. In the 40th year
4. After they had defeated Sihon, the king of the Amorites and Og, king of Bashan

- **The Purpose of the Book**

To show the Israelites that there is no one like the God of Jeshurun (Israel - 33:26). That they should observe the law in order to prolong their days in the land (5:33). That their depraved nature shall uproot them from the land (31:16-21) but that God's faithfulness to His promises shall restore them back when he has circumcised their heart (30:1-14).

II. The first Address – Historical Prologue (1:5-4:43)

- Recounting the command of the Lord to the 1st generation to take possession of the promised land and their failure to obey the Lord and possess the land (1:6-2:15)
 - Israel's disobedience to God's command to go up (1:21-28)
 - Not willing to go up
 - Rebelled against the command of the Lord
 - Grumbled
 - Accused God of hatred
 - Fearing the nations more than God
 - Israel Encouraged (1:29-31)
 - Not to fear the nations
 - To remember that God fights for them as in Egypt
 - To remember God's fatherly care in the wilderness
 - Israel's Disregard for the Encouragement (1:32-33)
 - God's response to Israel's Disobedience (1:34-46)
 - God rejected them with an oath and prevented them from entering the land
- Setting out with the 2nd generation (2:16-3:29)
 - Defeating Sihon the king of the Amorites (2:16-37)
 - Defeating Og the king of Bashan (3:1-17)
 - East side (before crossing Jordan) of the promised land given to the Tribes of Ruben, Gad, and half-tribe of Manasseh (3:12-13)
 - Commanding these three tribes to cross the Jordan and aid the rest of the tribes, their brothers, in conquering the west side of the promised land (3:18-20)
 - Commanding Joshua not to fear fighting the other nations for the Lord is with them as He was in the case of Sihon and Og (3:21-22)
 - Moses pleads with God to cross over the Jordan but is refused (3:23-29)
- An Exhortation to Obey the Law (4:1-40)
 - So that you may live, go in and possess the land
 - The Lord will not let sin go unpunished
 - The Lord is to be feared
 - The Lord is not like the idols
 - The Lord is a consuming fire and a jealous God
 - The Lord will scatter you when you abandon Him for the idols
 - The Lord will restore you in the latter days
 - Because you will seek Him with all your heart (4:29)
 - Because God is compassionate (4:31a)
 - Because God is faithful to His covenant (4:31b)
 - Because God chose them (4:37)
 - The Lord, He is God in heaven above and on the earth below; there is no other

- So that you may live long in the land the Lord is giving you for all time
 - The Setting Apart of the Three Cities of Refuge (4:41-43)
 - Bezer for the Reubenites
 - Ramoth for the Gadites
 - Golan for the Manassites
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III. The Second Address – The Covenant at Horeb/Sinai (4:44-28:68)

The Exposition of the Decalogue (4:44-11:32)

- The ten commandments (5:1-33)
 - God spoke these words... and added no more (5:22)
 - Implication – the importance of the rigidity of the word of God to take as it is given, at face value. Does this not argue for a literal interpretation of the Scriptures? Of course! Safe is he who takes it literally, as it is written, and precarious is the state of him who by his fanciful interpretive imagination adds or takes away from the strict written word.
 - God's terrifying voice from the midst of the fire (5:24b-33)
 - Israel asking Moses to intercede
 - Correct response – Circumstantial, temporary reaction (see 31:21b) exemplifying true, permanent response of the heart
 - Humble response *“For who is there of all flesh who has heard the voice of the living God speaking from the midst of the fire, as we have, and lived?” (5:26)*
 - Needy response *“Go near and hear all that the Lord our God says; then speak to us all that the LORD our God speaks to you, and we will hear and do it.” (5:27)*
 - Necessary response for the full fulfillment of the promises *“that it may be well with them and their sons forever” 5:29*
 - Observations – Transformation of heart is needed for the complete fulfillment of the promises
 - God's response regarding the fulfillment of promises
 - The statement – *“Oh that they had such a heart in them, that they would fear Me and keep all My commandments always (5:29a)*
 - The effect – *“that it may be well with them and with their sons forever.” (5:29b)*
 - God's response regarding the temporal experience of promises
 - The statement – *“You shall walk in all the way which the LORD your God has commanded you,...” (5:33a) (as long as this is*

done, implying the possibility of termination – dependence on work)

- The effect – *“that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you will possess.” (5:33b)*

- **Chap 6 – commandments to do while in the land**

- The Lord is our God, the Lord is one

This verse does not exclude the concept of the Trinity.

- The word used for “one” in this passage does not mean “singleness” but “unity.”
- The same word is used in Gen. 2:24 where the husband and wife in marriage are said to be “one flesh.”
- In Numbers 13:23 it refers to one cluster of grapes-unity and diversity.

- Love the Lord your God
- Do not forget the Lord after you are satisfied in the land
- Do not test Him as at Massah
- Fear only the Lord and worship Him
- Teach this law to your children

- **Chap 7 – commandments to do while in the land**

- Total destruction of the 7 nations in the promises land so that they would not ensnared and become idolators like them.

- **Chap 8**

- Remember all the way which the LORD led you in the wilderness
- You shall bless the LORD for the good land He has given you
- Do not forget the LORD after you are satisfied in the land by not keeping His commandments
- Remember that God humbled and tested you in the wilderness that He might do good to you in the end
- Remember that God gave you your wealth not your strength
- Forgetting the LORD and going after other gods will bring destruction like the other nations

- **Chap 9**

- The LORD is crossing over before Israel as a consuming fire to destroy those nations
- It is not because of the righteousness of Israel that the Lord is bringing them in, but it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the Lord is dispossessing them in order to confirm the oath which the LORD swore to your fathers (Gen. 15:13-16). Israel has been stubborn from the 1st day until now.

- **Chap 10**

- God’s requirement of Israel
 - To fear God, to walk in His ways, to Love God and serve God with all heart and soul
 - To circumcise their heart and stiffen their neck no longer
- God’s reason for the requirement
 - Because He is the God of gods and the Lord of lords
 - Because He is just and impartial
 - Because He is loving

- Because He has done great things for them
- Because He has multiplied them
- **Chap 11**
 - The command to place the blessing on Mount Gerizim and the curse on Mount Ebal. The blessing if they listen to the commandments of the Lord and the curse if they do not listen but follow other gods.

Ceremonial Laws (12:1-16:17)

- **Chap 12 - commandments to do while in the land**
 - Destroy their idols and their places of worship
 - You shall worship the LORD at the place He chooses to establish His name for His dwelling
 - There you shall bring your offerings, sacrifices, and tithes
 - The blood of the holy offering shall be put on the altar
 - You shall not eat the blood of the meat you eat within your gates but pour it on the ground
 - Do not forsake the Levite
 - Do not inquire after the manner the nations worshiped their gods
 - Do not take away or add anything from what God is commanding
- **Chap 13**
 - Shun Idolatry no matter if a miracle worker, a prophet, a friend, or a family member encourages you for. There must be absolute loyalty to the LORD alone.
- **Chap 14 Reasons for the commands – “*you are the sons of the Lord your God*” (Distinctiveness from other nations)**
 - Laws for mourning the dead
 - Don’t cut yourself for the sake of the dead
 - Don’t have your forehead for the sake of the dead
 - Laws for eating – clean vs unclean animals
 - Tithing all the produce of the field every year before the LORD
 - If the place the LORD chooses is too far, sell your tithe and bring the money and buy with it whatever your heart desires and rejoice before God
 - At the end of every third year, bring out the tithe of your produce in that year and deposit it in your town for the Levite, the alien, the orphan and the widow to eat.
- **Chap 15**
 - Every seventh year is the year of remission of debts, release of a kinsman who is his slave
 - Consecration of every firstborn of the flock, and herd and no work shall be done with them but shall be eaten before the LORD.
 - If it has a defect, don’t sacrifice it to the LORD. You can eat it within your gates, just don’t eat the blood.
- **Chap 16**
 - Command to celebrate the Passover in the month of Abib, the Feast of Weeks, and the Feast of Booths at the place the LORD chooses
 - Appointment of judges and officers in all the towns

Civil Laws (16:18 – 20:20)

- **Chap 17**

- Idolatry punished by death on the evidence of two or three witnesses
- Cases that are too difficult to resolve will be brought to the place the LORD chooses and the judge or the Levitical priest will give the verdict -failure to follow the verdict is punishable by death.
- The LORD will choose the king
 - The king must not multiply horses, wives or silver/gold
 - The king must write a copy of the law and read it all the days of his life
 - So that he may learn to fear the LORD
 - So that his heart may not be lifted up above his countrymen

- **Chap 18**

- No inheritance for the Levites for the LORD is their inheritance – they shall eat from the portions given to God
- No imitation of the detestable things those nations for this is why the LORD is driving them out
- The LORD will raise up a prophet like Moses from their countrymen
- A false prophet is recognized when what he says does not come true. A false prophet must be put to death.

- **Chap 19**

- Three cities of refuge for the manslayer
- Command not to remove the ancestry boundary mark
- A matter shall be confirmed only by two or three witnesses

- **Chap 20**

- Law of war with the cities far from the Israelites
 - Encouragement by the priest before the battle starts
 - Release from war duty under certain circumstances by the officer
 - A newly built house
 - A new vineyard not yet tasted from
 - A newly married man
 - A fearful man
 - Offering terms of peace
 - If yes -they are your servants
 - If no – only the men shall be put to the sword

Social Laws (21:1 – 26:19)

- **Chap 21**

- Laws for a victim whose murderer is not known
- Laws for taking a wife from other defeated (non-Canaanite) nations
- Laws about stubborn and rebellious children - punishable by death

- Law for when a man is hanged for his crime – not to be hanged all night on the tree but bury him the same day for he is accursed and the land will not be defiled.
- **Chap 22**
 - Laws regarding your countrymen's property (ox, donkey, etc.)
 - Laws regarding the dress code
 - Laws regarding building a new house, sowing & plowing, and sexual relations
- **Chap 23**
 - Laws of who can and cannot enter the assembly of the LORD
 - Decent behavior in the camp when at war
 - Refraining from handing over a slave who has run away from his master
 - Prevention from bringing the ungodly wages into the house of the LORD
 - Command to charge no interest to your countrymen – permission to do so with the foreigner
 - Command to keep what you vow to the LORD – not vowing is not a sin
 - Permission to eat from your neighbor's field but not steal from him
- **Chap 24**
 - Laws about divorce – a man who divorces his wife cannot take her back even after she has been divorced widowed from a second marriage
 - Prohibition for a newly married man to go out to war or being charged with a duty at his first year of marriage
 - Kidnapping is condemned by death
 - Fair and compassionate treatment for the poor – justice for the alien, poor, widow and orphan
 - Being characterized by generosity and not parsimonious attitude toward the poor when harvesting your field, olive trees or your vineyard
 - The reason – you shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt
- **Chap 25**
 - Laws about dispute – the wrong doer shall not receive more than 40 stripes
 - Do not muzzle the ox while threshing
 - A man's duty to marry his sister-in-law when his brother dies to perpetuate his brother's name
 - Prohibition of a woman to defend her husband by improperly attacking the other man's reproductive organs
 - Unjust measure is an abomination to the LORD
 - Remember to destroy Amalek for they attacked you when you came out of Egypt
- **Chap 26 – the Declaration between Israel and God – He to be Israel's God and they to be God's people by the command of God to keep his law**
 - The offering of the first fruits before the LORD
 - The tithing at the end of every third year to give to the Levite, stranger, orphan and the widow to eat it in their towns and be satisfied.

Ratification of the Covenant (27:1 -28:68)

- **Chap 27 – 28 - Blessings at Mount Gerizim, Curses at Mount Ebal**
 - 27 – curses for breaking the law
 - 28 –
 - Blessings if they obey – to be established as God’s people, have prosperity, abundance, and victory over other nations
 - Curse if they break the law and failure to fear the honored and awesome name of the LORD God – defeat, exile, extreme suffering
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IV. The Third Address – Another (not different) Covenant in the Land of Moab (29:1-30:20)

- Entering into a covenant with the LORD and into His oath (29:1-29)
 - Israel – to be established as God’s people
 - God – to be Israel’s God
 - That there may not be anyone who turns away from the LORD to serve other gods’
 - The LORD shall never forgive him who stubbornly breaks God’s law and thinks that he will have peace.
 - The LORD shall destroy the land and exile them for idolatry
- The Promised Restoration – The Palestinian Covenant (30:1-14)
 - The Timing of Their Repentance (1)
 - When the curses and blessing have already occurred
 - When you call these blessings and curses to mind while in exile
 - The Nature of Their Repentance (2)
 - Return to the LORD
 - Obey Him with all heart and soul
 - The Effect of Their Repentance (3-10)
 - The LORD will restore you from captivity
 - The LORD will bring you back to the promised land
 - The LORD will curse your enemies
 - The LORD will prosper you in everything and rejoice over you
 - The Assurance of their Obedience (6,11-14)
 - The LORD will circumcise their and their descendant’s heart
 - The obedience to the LORD shall no be difficult to them for the word shall be in their mouth and heart
 - Fulfilled in Christ
 - Presently in the church (except the land)
 - Circumcision of heart (Col. 2:11)

“and in Him you have been circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;”
 - Faith in Christ’s death and resurrection (Rom.10:4-10)

“For Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness to everyone who believes. For Moses writes of the righteousness that is based on the Law, that the person who performs them will live by them. But the righteousness ^{is} based on faith speaks as follows: “DO NOT SAY IN YOUR HEART, ‘WHO WILL GO UP INTO HEAVEN?’ (that is, to bring Christ down), or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).” But what does it say? “THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART”—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. “

- Future for Israel
 - Circumcision of heart (Col. 2:11)
 - Faith in Christ’s death and resurrection (Rom.10:4-10)
 - Return to the land (Deut. 30:5)
- Life and Prosperity/Death and Adversity (30:15-20)
 - Life and Prosperity by
 - Loving the LORD
 - Obeying His commandments
 - Walking in His ways
 - Death and Adversity if
 - Turning away from the LORD
 - Disobeying the LORD
 - Worshipping other gods

V. The Concluding Events (31:1-34:12)

- The Commissioning of Joshua (31:1-8)
 - The Directive
 - You shall go with this people into the land
 - You shall give the land to them as an inheritance
 - The Encouragement
 - The LORD is going ahead of you
 - The LORD will be with you
 - Do not fear or be dismayed
 - The Basis for the Encouragement
 - The LORD will not fail you
 - The LORD will not forsake you
- The Reading of the Law to All Israel (31:9-13)
 - The Timing
 - At the end of every seven years – the year of remission of debts
 - At the Feast of Booths
 - When all Israel come to appear before the LORD
 - The Purpose

- To hear and learn and fear the LORD
 - To observe all the words of this law
 - To teach posterity to do the same
 - The Song God Commanded Moses to Sing to All Isreal (31:14-32:47)
 - The Purpose of the Song
 - To teach it to Isreal
 - To be a witness against them once they have forsaken God and calamity has befallen them
 - The Content of the Song
 - God's caring and prospering of Isreal
 - Israel's Idolatry while in prosperity
 - God's judgement on Israel
 - God's final restoration of Israel
 - The Final Events of Moses' Life (32:48-34:12)
 - God's command to Moses to go up to Mount Nebo (32:48-52)
 - To see the land of Canaan
 - To die there
 - Moses Blesses the Tribes of Isreal (33:1-29)
 - The Death of Moses (34:1-12)
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Implication for Us Today - All the glory of God is displayed in the book of Deuteronomy

- As the Lord has sworn to them – the generation of the men of war perished (2:14)
 - Implication – God's word is true and will certainly come to pass – be that the promised blessing to the believing or the threatening curses on the unbelieving.
 - These words the Lord spoke to all you assembly... and He added no more (5:22)
 - Implication – the importance of the rigidity of the word of God to take as it is given, at face value. Does this not argue for a literal interpretation of the Scriptures? Of course! Safe is he who takes it literally, as it is written, and precarious is the state of him who by his fanciful interpretive imagination adds or takes away from the strict written word.
 - Romans 15:4

“For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus, so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
 - Oh, how good God has been to us! He chose us in time past (Eph. 1:4), He was patient with us while we walked in disobedience to Him (Col. 1:21). He has now reconciled us by the death of His Son who is our Mediator (Col 1:22; 1 Tim: 2:5-6) and will fulfill the good work which He began in us until the day of Jesus Christ (Phil 1:6) until He makes us stand in the presence of His glory blameless and with great joy (Jude 24).
- O believer, live therefore for God, cling to Him and love Him above all things and humbly serve Him