

Life-Study of Deuteronomy Summary - Messages 1–30

Introduction

The general sketch of Deuteronomy is the renewed training given to the new generation of the children of Israel after their long wandering, to prepare them to enter in to the good land promised by God and inherit it as their possession. The central thought is that Christ is the Instructor and Leader of the people of God that they may be able to enter into the heavenly territory and participate in His riches. The key words in Deuteronomy are loving God, obeying His commandments (His words), and receiving His blessing. **If we love the Lord our God and obey His commandments, we will receive His blessing.**

A Rehearsal of the Law

The rehearsal of the law is the respeaking of the law. This was **for the training of the new generation after the purging of the old generation**. In chapter 5 we have the rehearsing of the Ten Commandments. In the sight of God, the covenant made at Horeb was actually made with the present new generation of Israel. The Ten Commandments are the base of the entire law and Moses charged the children of Israel to **keep the commandments, statutes, and judgment of God that they may live long, that it may go well with them, and that they may be greatly increased in the land flowing with milk and honey.**

In Deut. 11 we see that if the children of Israel were willing to keep Moses' words of advice and warning, they would receive certain blessings. Today, **if we keep Christ, we will receive blessings from God**. These blessings include being strengthened and encouraged to possess the promised land, extending our days in the land under God's care and in His presence, receiving the heavenly watering, loving the Lord, and holding fast to Him. It is surely a blessing to hold fast to the Lord and to walk in His ways. The greatest of these blessing is the blessing of God's presence. If we have Christ, we will receive the blessing and be on Mount Gerizim. **If we do not have Christ, we will receive the curse and be on Mount Ebal.**

In chapter 12 we have the way concerning worshipping God. In the church life today, **we should give up all the ways and practices of the nations**. We must worship God with Christ and with Christ alone. Our meeting for the worship of God should be in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, in our spirit as the place of God's habitation, and in the place where the cross is. **If we have the name, the habitation, and the cross, there will be no divisions among us**. Chapters 12 through 15 reveal that we need to hate apostasy, avoid division, be discerning in contacting people, protect our spiritual children, and be generous in giving.

Five governing principles of our behaviour are implied in Deuteronomy. Toward God, we should always be sanctified and fearing. Toward ourselves we should be righteous and pure. Toward others, we should be kind and generous. Toward animals we should be sparing and sympathetic. Finally, toward the devil we should be rejecting and separated.

Christ in Deuteronomy

In the universe today there is a wonderful scene unveiling Christ to us. We see Christ as the embodiment of God standing before us with His demands and requirements according to what He is. Second, we see the altar, which signifies the cross of Christ. This wonderful scene is unique in the entire universe. This wonderful scene, with the monument, the altar, and the offerings, is our entry into the good land. This scene reveals that **it is through the requiring God, the cross of Christ, and Christ Himself as the offerings that we enter into the good land**. (Life-Study of Deuteronomy – Messages 1-30).