

# The Book of Deuteronomy (Chapters 1-5)

Deuteronomy, which means "**second law**" is a retelling by Moses of the teachings and events of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers. It includes an extended review of the **Ten Commandments** (4:44-49; 5:1-33) and Moses' farewell address to a new generation of Israelites as they stand ready to take possession of the Promised Land. Moses reminds them of God's faithfulness and love, but also of God's wrath on the previous generation of Israelites because of their rebellion. Repeatedly he charges Israel to keep the Law. Deuteronomy is a solemn call to love and obey the one true God. There are **blessings** for faithfulness and **curses** for unfaithfulness. The book closes with the selection of Joshua as Israel's new leader and the death of Moses.

Last **month and a half** of Moses life. He's about **120** years old, but he can still see and hear very well. He is addressing the people that were born in the desert. They didn't have a personal experience of what happened in Egypt.

Prior to the crossing into the land, Moses was encouraging them to go and to take the land that God had promised.

**Like we discussed before, the analogy:**

Egypt is **slavery, the old life the bondage before Christ.**

Promise land **is typical is glorious life, victory, overcoming.**

Being delivered from the old life, learning to walk by faith, this experience is the desert. There is a time of **growth and development.** ***But God doesn't want us to spend your whole life in the wilderness.*** The life in the spirit must be started by the death of the old man. God wants us to **die to our flesh**, and be governed by the spirit. In this there is a **spiritual warfare.** This is what **Romans 7:24** talks about, where Paul says "Oh wretched man that I am. Who shall deliver me from this bondage to my flesh?". God's solution is death to the flesh, crucified with Christ.

Now, the wilderness experiences where I am trying to bring my flesh into conformity to the will of God, and **I'm promising God that I'm gonna do better**, that I'm not gonna fail next time. **And I'm making all of these vows** and I'm doing my best to bring my flesh into conformity to God and to God's will, but I find this perverse law that Paul found working. "The good that I would I do not. The evil that I would not, that I do" (Romans 7:19). And I cannot bring my flesh into conformity unto God.

I must stop using these formulas of "I can do it myself", because that ends in **failure**. Instead, recognizing my **weakness**, I'm crying for power **outside** of myself. "Who shall deliver me" and God's answer then comes, "I am delivered by the power the dynamic of the spirit for ye shall receive power when the Holy Ghost comes upon you"(Acts 1:8). ***If you constantly fail to rely on the Spirit of God to live a christian life, you will always live in the wilderness.***

**Now it was God's desire all along to bring them into the land.** It was not God's desire that they perish in the wilderness. That was a tragedy of failure on their part and it was a lack of **faith**. They failed to enter in by faith to that which God had promised to them. God had laid it out and said, "Here it is. It's yours."  
**But they saw the giants in the land and the high-walled cities instead of God. They got their eyes upon the obstacles rather of than the power of God to remove the obstacles.**

And this is the mistake that we so often make as we look at our own lives and we look at the dominion that our flesh has had over us. We, too are prone to look at the **obstacles**. We say, "Oh, but I'm so weak and I've tried so hard and you don't know how long I've been struggling with this thing". And we're looking

at the obstacles rather than the power of God to deliver us from those obstacles. **And so it is important that we not fail where they failed but that we, by faith, take this position of victory, of power, of strength, of walking in the spirit reckoning the old man, the old nature, to be dead with Christ.**

It should have taken them 11 days (From Horeb to Kadeshbarnea), but instead it took them a little more than 40 years, because of their lack of faith.

**Deu 1:6 - 8** - Now, God says: "You've been there long enough, it's time to go in and possess the land! More forward in your spiritual life. Get moving."

**INTERESTING FACT ABOUT THE SPIES NOT FOUND IN NUMBERS:** As Moses goes on, we learn that it was actually a request of the people to send spies to the promise land, because they rebelled against the Lord and started murmuring: ***"[They said] Because the LORD hated us, he has brought us forth out of the land of Egypt, to deliver us into the hands of the Amorites, and to destroy us (Deu 1:27)."***

Deu 1:27 - We prone to do that, when things aren't going right, we make foolish charges against God.

Deu 1:32 - When we don't **Trust** God and what He can do in us, we are the one's putting the **limitations** on God's work. It is by our unbelief, that puts limits on what God wants to do in our lives.

Deu 1:33 - Who went in the way before you, to search you out a place to pitch your tents, in the fire by night, to show you by what way you should go, and the cloud by day ([Deu 1:33](#)).

In **chapter 2**, there's an interesting detail about **Giants**, the children of Lot had a land with giants, which they were not to take, by Moses was affirming here, do not be afraid of them. Now Moses is pointing out, "Look, it is nothing with God. You don't have to worry about the walled cities. You don't have to worry about the giants. If God be for us, who can be against us?" **And God has promised to go before you and to drive out your enemies**, and thus, these things that **caused terror and fear in your hearts that destroyed your faith do not need to stop you now, go in**. And he's seeking to build up their faith in God. Venture out, let God have an opportunity to work. And so he's careful to point out that they'd already conquered walled cities in the areas of the giants.

Og himself was a giant. He had a bed that was thirteen feet long and six feet wide. He was a big guy, needed a big bed. He was the last of the giants in that area. And God delivered him into your hands. And you possessed his land, and it was given to the Reubenites and unto the Gadites.

Deu 3:21: You have seen what God has done, do not be afraid, do not fear.

**In chapter 3**, Moses prays to the Lord, saying please let me go in, I want to see this. Now, when they had come in the wilderness and were needing water, they had said to Moses, "Give us water to drink. We're perishing." But Moses could not go in, because he **misrepresented** God at **Meribah**. Moses had went in before the Lord and said, "Lord, these people are ready to kill me, they want water." And God said, "Go out and speak to the rock and water will come forth". The first time God said "smite the rock and water will come out." The second time God said "speak to the rock". **But Moses was angry with the people and he went out from before the Lord and he said, "Must I smite this rock again to give you water?"** And he took his rod and he smote the rock and water came out. But God said, "Moses, come here son. Moses, you blew it. You did not properly represent me before those people. Moses was God's representative.

We are Jesus' representatives, we are the witnesses of God in the world. What concept are people getting of God from the people of God? Do they really know God cares, and God loves. How do I represent him? It is very important. We have to represent him **faithfully** and **truthfully**.

Moses failed. He represented God as being angry, God wasn't angry. So God punished him, you're not going in Moses. Moses prayed God please let me go in.

[Deu 3:26](#) - God said no. This was a prayer that God did not answer. But this is the case were Moses' request was not granted by God, in order that God might teach the nation the importance of obedience. At the waters of Meribah, God stroke the rock, instead of speaking to the rock. **So God was underlining the importance of obedience, teaching this nation how important it is to be obedient to God.**

Deu 4 - Moses urges the people to be **obedient** to the Word of God. To not make any carved images of God, because God will punish you. **He exhorts them to keep the commandments, to obey the Lord and his law.**

Deu 5 - AND Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and the judgments, these three things; **1: you're to learn them. 2: you're to do them and 3: to keep them.**

God **desires** to take us into the land "O that there were such a heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever ([Deu 5:29](#))!"

**This is God's cry; this is God's lamentation. "Oh that the people would hear Me and obey Me that they might be able to enjoy My blessings forever."** I'm sure that God laments over us. "Oh, if you would only follow me completely so that I can do for you all that I'm wanting to do." We so limit that which God wants to do because He loves you so much. He is wanting to do so much for you.

Jude says, "Keep yourself in the love of God" ([Jude 1:21](#)). What does he mean? **He means keep yourself in that place where God can demonstrate His love for you. God loves you so much. He wants to demonstrate that love but you got to be in harmony with Him.** "Oh, that you would obey his voice. Oh, that you would be in harmony with the plan and purposes of God". "For the eyes of the Lord go to and fro throughout the entire earth to show himself strong on behalf of those whose hearts are perfect towards him" ([2 Chronicles 16:9](#)). If your heart is really completely towards God, Oh, what he wants to do in your life. Things that God longs to do for you. And so God cries over the failure of the people, and thus, His inability to bless them the way He is desiring to bless them.

#### **PRAYER:**

*Great is your faithfulness, Oh God, my Father. Faithful to His word, faithful to His people, faithful to His prophets and help me Lord, to walk in Your path of righteousness, to know the blessings you have for me are a beautiful promise; they will surround me and encompass me like the air that I breathe. Oh, that I would walk with God and follow after him and commit my life fully, totally, to obey His will; to be pleasing unto Him. May that be our commitment this week.*

*Oh God, that my life might be pleasing unto Thee in all that I do and all that I say. "Let the words of my mouth, the meditations of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight Oh Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer" ([Psalms 19:14](#)). When I lie down and when I get up and when I sit and when I am writing or wherever, may there be that consciousness of God and the talking of God and of His ways and of His goodness and*

of His righteousness, that I might live in the continual presence, consciousness of the presence of God, and thus, be pleasing unto Him. In Jesus' Holy Name, Amen.

## WORKSHEET

### God's Desires For The Joshua's Generation (Deuteronomy 1-5)

Deuteronomy means "\_\_\_\_\_"

It includes an extended review of \_\_\_\_\_ (4:44-49; 5:1-33) and Moses' farewell address to a new generation of Israelites as they stand ready to take possession of the Promised Land.

Deuteronomy is a solemn call to love and obey the one true God. Repeatedly he charges Israel to keep the Law. There are \_\_\_\_\_ for faithfulness and \_\_\_\_\_ for unfaithfulness.

This book is an address done in the last \_\_\_\_\_ of Moses life. He's about \_\_\_\_\_ years old, but he can still see and hear very well. He is addressing the people that were born in the desert. They didn't have a personal experience of what happened in Egypt. This is the new generation he's talking to.

### Our Lives: The Analogy.

**Egypt** is \_\_\_\_\_

**Promise land** is \_\_\_\_\_

When we come to Christ, we begin to be delivered from the old life, learning to walk by faith, this experience is **the desert**. There is a time of \_\_\_\_\_. But God doesn't want us to spend your whole life in the wilderness.

God wants us to \_\_\_\_\_, and be governed by the spirit. In this there is a \_\_\_\_\_.

**We must rely on the Spirit of God**, and I must stop using these formulas of "I can do it myself", because that ends in failure. Instead, recognizing my \_\_\_\_\_, I'm crying for power \_\_\_\_\_ of myself. "...For ye shall receive power when the Holy Ghost comes upon you...."(Acts 1:8).

**If you constantly fail to rely on the power of Spirit of God to walk the Christian life, you will always live in the wilderness.**

**Now it was God's desire all along to bring them into the land.** It was not God's desire that they perish in the wilderness. That was a tragedy of failure on their part, and that was a lack of \_\_\_\_\_. They failed to enter in by faith to that which God had promised to them. God had laid it out and said, "Here it is. It's yours." **But they saw the \_\_\_\_\_ in the land and the \_\_\_\_\_ instead of God.**

We, too, are prone to look at the \_\_\_\_\_.

Now, it should have taken them \_\_\_\_\_ (From *Horeb* to *Kadeshbarnea*), but instead it took them

a little more than \_\_\_\_\_, because of their **lack of faith**.

**Deu 1:32** - When we don't \_\_\_\_\_ God and what He can do in us, we are the one's putting the \_\_\_\_\_ on God's work. It is by our unbelief, that puts limits on what God wants to do in our lives.

In **Chapter 2**, Moses encourages the people to go in, to move. That God would drive out the giants, and that he had already done so with King Og. As Og himself was a giant. He had a bed that was \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ wide. He was a big guy, needed a big bed. So God delivered them unto their hands.

**Chapter 3**, Moses gets excited. He sees all that Lord is doing and prays to the Lord, saying please let me go in, I want to see this. But Moses could not go in, because he \_\_\_\_\_ God at \_\_\_\_\_.

We are Jesus' representatives, we are the witnesses of God in the world. We have to represent him \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

What concept is the world seeing of Jesus when they see you?

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Moses urges the people to be \_\_\_\_\_ to the Word of God.

Chapter 5 - AND Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and the judgments, 1: \_\_\_\_\_ 2: \_\_\_\_\_ and 3: \_\_\_\_\_

God \_\_\_\_\_ to take us into the land "*O that there were such a heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever (Deu 5:29)*!" **I'm sure that God laments over us.**

He is wanting to do so much for you.

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"For the eyes of the Lord go to and fro throughout the entire earth to show himself strong on behalf of those whose hearts are perfect towards him"([2 Chronicles 16:9](#))

**And so God cries over the failure of the people, and thus, His inability to bless them the way He is desiring to bless them.**

**PRAY THIS WITH ME:**

*Great is your faithfulness, Oh God, my Father. Faithful to His word, faithful to His people, faithful to His prophets and help me Lord, to walk in Your path of righteousness, to know the blessings you have for me are a beautiful promise; they will surround me and encompass me like the air that I breathe. Oh, that I would walk with God and follow after him and commit my life fully, totally, to obey His will; to be pleasing unto Him. May that be our commitment this week.*

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