

DEUTERONOMY

EXPLAINED: Episode Summary



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PODCAST

1. ESSENTIALS

What Do You Need to Know First to Study Deuteronomy Well?

DATE: 1407-1406 BC: Wilderness Ends

GENRE: *Torah*: Terms of the Covenant

AUTHOR: *Moses*: All 5 Torah Books

SETTING: *Camped*: East of the Jordan River

PURPOSE: *Law Revisited*: Covenant Renewal

AUDIENCE: *Israel*: Second Generation

2. STORYLINE

What Do You Need to Know First to Study Deuteronomy Well?

Moses' Final Address Before Canaan

- Traveled from Kadesh
- Military Victories & Defeats
- God's Authority Stands
- Joshua Appointed Leader
- New Generation Is Ready

KEY VERSES

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.

- Deuteronomy 6:4-8

3. THEMES & IDEAS

What Major Biblical Concepts Do We Find in Deuteronomy?

- God: One (Unique & Supreme)
- Possession of the Land
- Sanctuary Worship as Central
- Resist Any & All Idolatry
- Justice, Fairness, Compassion
- Present & Future Blessings
- God's Covenant Love

4. STRUCTURE

What are the major sections of Deuteronomy?

CH 1-3: 1. Looking Backward

A summary of the key events in the book of Numbers

CH 4-11: 2. The General Law of God

Moses reviews the Ten Commandments and their essence

CH 12-26: 3. Governing God's Community

Specific guidelines for observing God's law

CH 27-34: 4. Covenant Renewed, Looking Forward

Blessings and curses; then Moses dies and Joshua leads



4. STRUCTURE - EXPANDED

4. What are the major sections of Deuteronomy?

5. What do we learn about God from each of these sections?

6. What do these sections offer our Christian life?

CH 1-3: 1. LOOKING BACKWARD

Moses reviews the journey so the new generation remembers God's faithfulness before they go in

CH 1: Remembering God's Providence

Elders appointed, the spies' report, and the unbelief that kept a generation out

CH 2-3: Challenges & Victories

Kings defeated on the way, and Joshua chosen to replace Moses

CH 4-11: 2. THE GENERAL LAW OF GOD

The heart of the law: one unique God, loved above all and never forgotten

CH 4-5: God's Attributes & Covenant

God is unique, supreme, and holy; Moses reviews the Ten Commandments and urges Israel to keep them

CH 6-11: No Other Gods Before Me

Love the Lord above all, follow him and not the nations, do not forget him, fear him, and obey

CH 12-26: 3. GOVERNING GOD'S COMMUNITY

Detailed laws apply love for God and neighbor to worship, leadership, life, and family

CH 12-16: Worship, Foods & Feasts

One place of worship, warnings against false prophets, clean foods, tithes, and the three feasts

CH 17-21: Authority & Human Life

Judges, king, priests, and a coming Prophet like Moses; refuge, warfare, and burial

CH 22-26: Marriage & Neighbors

Purity in marriage, and fair treatment of foreigners, slaves, and the poor; loans, vows, and tithes

CH 27-34: 4. COVENANT RENEWED, LOOKING FORWARD

Israel recommits to the Lord, Moses blesses the tribes, and the Torah closes at Canaan's edge

CH 27-30: Blessings, Curses & Renewal

Blessing for faithfulness, curses for unfaithfulness; the people renew the covenant

CH 31-34: Joshua, Song & Moses' Death

Joshua is appointed, Moses blesses the tribes, and God buries Moses as a new era begins

5. HOW DEUTERONOMY POINTS TO CHRIST

- In Jesus quoting Deuteronomy 8 when tempted, succeeding where Israel failed
- In the coming Prophet like Moses: "it is to him you shall listen" (18:15)
- In Joshua ("God is salvation"), who leads God's people where the law cannot
- In Jesus summing up the law: love God and love your neighbor

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