

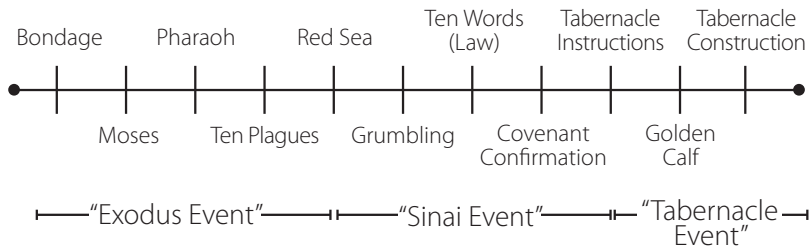
SESSION 6 ("DEUTERONOMY")

- I. PRAYER/REVIEW
- II. PANORAMA OF THE BIBLE
 - A. Twelve Movements/ Biblical Books

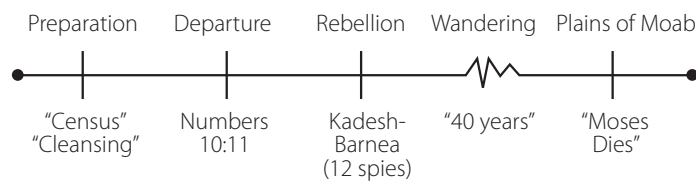
PANORAMA: TWELVE MOVEMENTS	
Movement	Biblical Books
#1 Prologue	Genesis 1-11
#2 Patriarchs	Genesis 12-50; Job
#3 Redemption and Wanderings	Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
#4 Conquest	Joshua
#5 Apostasy	Judges, Ruth
#6 Kingship: United Monarchy	1-2 Samuel; 1 Kings 1-11 (Pss., Prov., Eccl., Song of Solomon)
#7 Kingship: Divided Monarchy	1 Kings 12-22; 2 Kings (Prophets - selected)
#8 Exile	Daniel, Ezekiel (Jeremiah)
#9 Return from Exile and 400 Silent Years	Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther (Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi)
#10 Life of Christ	Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
#11 Church Age	Acts and Epistles
#12 Final Consummation	Revelation (Daniel)

B. Timeline: Movement #3

1. "Redemption"



2. "Wanderings"



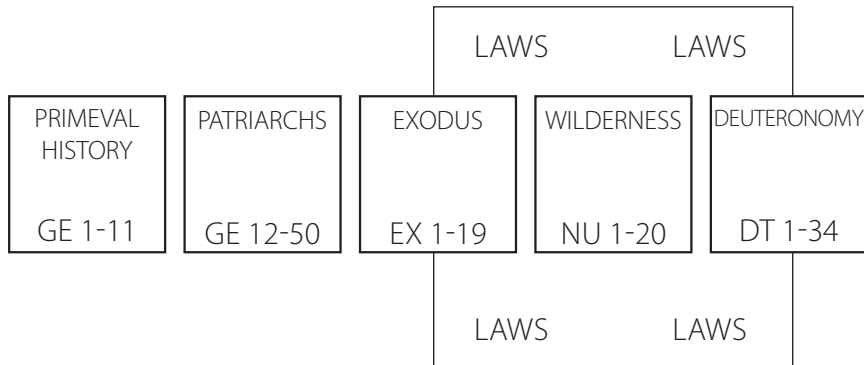
III. Movement #3: "Redemption/Wanderings"
(Broad Overview)

A. Pentateuch (Books of Moses)

1. Charted

PENTATEUCH				
Genesis	Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers	Deuteronomy
Selection	Redemption	Sanctification	Direction	Instruction
Abrahamic Covenant	Mosaic Covenant	Holiness Code	Journey Rebellion	Covenant Reinstruction

2. Chronological flow
(from J. Sailhamer, Pentateuch, 33)



IV. THE BOOK OF DEUTERONOMY

A. Charted

BOOK OF DEUTERONOMY			
Address #1	Address #2	Address #3	Address #4
1 4	4 26	27 28	29 34
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure (1) (Kadesh-Barnea) • Victories (2-3) (East of Jordan) • Lessons (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction (4) • Decalogue (5-11) • Law and Life (12-26) (Canaan) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Altar and Curses (27) • Blessings and Curses (28) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palestinian Covenant (29-30) • Leadership Transition (31-33) • Death of Moses (34)
1:1 4:43	4:44 26:19		
Historical Review	Legal Requirements	Future Responsibilities	
Location: Plains of Moab			
Length of Time: One Month			

B. Purposes

(N. Geisler, Popular Survey of the Old Testament, 78-79)

1. Historical purpose

Deuteronomy reviews the recent history of the Israelites from Mt. Sinai to the Plains of Moab; further, it chronicles the covenant requirements.

2. Doctrinal purpose

“Deuteronomy provides a restatement and reinterpretation of Israel’s national laws and ordinances” (Geisler, 78). The theology of blessing and cursing suggests how to live victoriously in the land.

3. Christological purpose

Deuteronomy 30 speaks of Israel’s scattering and restoration (partially fulfilled in OT – complete fulfillment in Second Coming yet future?); also the Prophet (like Moses) of Deuteronomy 18 is fulfilled in Christ (cf. 18:15 with Acts 7:37).

C. Distinctive Features

1. Deuteronomy is quoted (or alluded to) close to 100 times in the NT. That sets it apart with Genesis, Psalms and Isaiah as most often quoted OT books.
2. Deuteronomy restates the Ten Words (with a different reason given for the Sabbath – Deut. 5:15).
3. Deuteronomy emphasizes God’s love for His people (4:37; 7:7-8; 10:15; 23:5).
4. Deuteronomy “is the most important book in the Old Testament from the standpoint of God’s relation to man” (S. Schultz quoted by Constable, Notes. . . 4).

5. "Be careful not to forget" ("only be careful") is a frequent warning and theme in the book.

Genesis - Numbers	Deuteronomy
Development of Israel's History	Philosophy of Israel's History
Divine Performances	Divine Principles
God Speaks to Moses	Moses Speaks to the People
(Taken from Wilkinson and Boa, <i>Talk Thru the Bible</i> , 39)	

D. Ancient Hittite Treaties and the Structure of Deuteronomy
(from J. Sprinkle in *Baker Illustrated Bible Handbook*, 109)

Hittite Treaty Form	Parallel in Deuteronomy
PREAMBLE Identifies the parties of the treaty	<i>Deuteronomy 1:1-5</i>
HISTORICAL PROLOGUE Review events leading to the treaty	<i>Deuteronomy 1:6-3:29</i>
GENERAL STIPULATIONS States substance concerning the future relationship and summarizes the purpose of the specific stipulations	<i>Deuteronomy 4-11</i> This is a long exhortation of Moses for Israel to obey God.
SPECIFIC STIPULATIONS	<i>Deuteronomy 12-26</i> The sermon continues with a detailed exposition on what the law demands of Israel.
BLESSINGS AND CURSES	<i>Deuteronomy 27-28</i>
DOCUMENT CLAUSE Calls for storage and periodic reading of the treaty	<i>Deuteronomy 27:1-5</i>
DIVINE WITNESSES TO THE COVENANT Various deities are called on to witness the treaty	<i>Deuteronomy 29-33</i> Moses calls on heaven and earth as witnesses of the covenant between God and Israel (30:19; 31:28; 32:1-43).
[No parallel]	<i>Deuteronomy 34</i> Death of Moses

V. BOOK OF DEUTERONOMY: BIBLICAL DEVELOPMENT

The following exposition is outlined to reflect the Book of Deuteronomy chart (p. 157). Major points correspond to the four addresses of Moses.

A. Address #1 (Chapters 1-4)

1. Failure: Kadesh-Barnea (1:1-46)

The “second-law” (the meaning of “Deuteronomy”) was constructed around four addresses of Moses. The first was an historical review of Israel’s history culminating in the momentous rebellion at Kadesh-Barnea.

a. Command to leave Horeb (1-8)

- (1) Where? (from “the desert east of the Jordan... in Moab” – vv. 1,5)
- (2) When? (“fortieth year” after the exodus – v. 3)
- (3) What? (“Moses began to expound this law” – v. 5)

Moses had reminded the people at Horeb (or Mt. Sinai) that due to the Lord’s covenantal promise with father Abraham, that the redeemed Israelites were to go and take possession of the promised land.

Deuteronomy 1:8 (Lord speaking)

See, I have given you this land. Go in and take possession of the land the LORD swore he would give to your fathers—to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—and to their descendants after them.”

b. The appointment of leaders (9-18)

At that time Moses recalled that he had lamented the burden of so many people’s problems (recorded in Ex. 18:13-26; cf. Num. 11:16, 24).

Deuteronomy 1:12-13

*But how can I bear your problems and your burdens and your disputes all by myself?
¹³Choose some wise, understanding and respected men from each of your tribes, and I will set them over you."*

The Lord had blessed and "increased" their numbers. Qualified leadership was needed to handle the task.

Deuteronomy 1:15-17

So I took the leading men of your tribes, wise and respected men, and appointed them to have authority over you—as commanders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties and of tens and as tribal officials. ¹⁶And I charged your judges at that time, "Hear the disputes between your people and judge fairly, whether the case is between two Israelites or between an Israelite and a foreigner residing among you. ¹⁷Do not show partiality in judging; hear both small and great alike. Do not be afraid of anyone, for judgment belongs to God. Bring me any case too hard for you, and I will hear it."

c. Spies sent out (1:19-25)

Following the aside on selecting leaders, the historical review continued. The Kadesh-Barnea incident rivals in importance the golden calf failure (Ex. 32). The causes and consequences were outlined.

Deuteronomy 1:22-25

Then all of you came to me and said, "Let us send men ahead to spy out the land for us and bring back a report about the route we are to take and the towns we will come to." ²³The idea seemed good to me; so I selected twelve of you, one man from each tribe. ²⁴They left and went up into the hill country, and came to the Valley of Eshkol

and explored it. ²⁵Taking with them some of the fruit of the land, they brought it down to us and reported, "It is a good land that the LORD our God is giving us."

d. Rebellion at Kadesh-Barnea (1:26-46)

The sending of spies was not God's command, though in itself, it was not blameworthy. What occurred next was Israel's downfall.

Deuteronomy 1:26-28

But you were unwilling to go up; you rebelled against the command of the LORD your God.

²⁷You grumbled in your tents and said, "The LORD hates us; so he brought us out of Egypt to deliver us into the hands of the Amorites to destroy us.

²⁸Where can we go? Our brothers have made our hearts melt in fear. They say, 'The people are stronger and taller than we are; the cities are large, with walls up to the sky. We even saw the Anakites there.'"

Moses pleaded with the people. He reminded them that as the Lord fought for them in Egypt, He would do so in Canaan (29-31).

Deuteronomy 1:32

In spite of this, you did not trust in the LORD your God...

Rebellion and lack of faith in God's protection and provision brought a judgment-response. The Lord was angry and determined that none of the rebellious generation would enter the promised land (except Caleb – v. 36 and Joshua – v. 38). Following this the people attempted to backtrack by sending soldiers to fight (v. 41) but the Lord indicated, "I will not be with you" (42). Moses then narrated the outcome.

Deuteronomy 1:43-46

So I told you, but you would not listen. You rebelled against the LORD's command and in your arrogance you marched up into the hill country. ⁴⁴The Amorites who lived in those hills came out against you; they chased you like a swarm of bees and beat you down from Seir all the way to Hormah. ⁴⁵You came back and wept before the LORD, but he paid no attention to your weeping and turned a deaf ear to you. ⁴⁶And so you stayed in Kadesh many days—all the time you spent there.

2. Victories (2:1-3:29)

Deuteronomy 2-3 recounted again the departure from Kadesh, encounters with Edomites and Ammonites, as well as the defeat of Sihon (of Heshbon) and Og (of Bashan).

Deuteronomy 2:14-15

Thirty-eight years passed from the time we left Kadesh Barnea until we crossed the Zered Valley. By then, that entire generation of fighting men had perished from the camp, as the LORD had sworn to them. ¹⁵The LORD's hand was against them until he had completely eliminated them from the camp.

Moses allowed the tribes of Gad and Reuben plus one-half of Manasseh to settle east of the Jordan. But these tribes had an obligation to fulfill in the conquest of the land. (Also, the later instructions in Deut. 4:41-43 on cities of refuge in the east of Jordan applied to this section).

Deuteronomy 3:18-20

I commanded you at that time: "The LORD your God has given you this land to take possession of it. But all your able-bodied men, armed for battle, must cross over ahead of the other Israelites.

¹⁹However, your wives, your children and your livestock (I know you have much livestock) may stay in the towns I have given you, ²⁰until the LORD gives rest to your fellow Israelites as he has to you, and they too have taken over the land that the LORD your God is giving them across the Jordan. After that, each of you may go back to the possession I have given you."

Further, as Moses recounted their history, it was at this time that Joshua assumed the reins of leadership from Moses;

- Moses commands Joshua:

Deuteronomy 3:21-22

At that time I commanded Joshua: "You have seen with your own eyes all that the LORD your God has done to these two kings. The LORD will do the same to all the kingdoms over there where you are going. ²²Do not be afraid of them; the LORD your God himself will fight for you."

- Moses pleaded with the Lord:

Deuteronomy 3:23-25

At that time I pleaded with the LORD: ²⁴"Sovereign LORD, you have begun to show to your servant your greatness and your strong hand. For what god is there in heaven or on earth who can do the deeds and mighty works you do? ²⁵Let me go over and see the good land beyond the Jordan—that fine hill country and Lebanon."

- The Lord answered Moses:

Deuteronomy 3:26-27

But because of you the LORD was angry with me and would not listen to me. "That is enough," the LORD said. "Do not speak to me anymore about

this matter. ²⁷Go up to the top of Pisgah and look west and north and south and east. Look at the land with your own eyes, since you are not going to cross this Jordan.

3. Lessons (4:1-43)

“Those who do not learn the lessons of history are bound to repeat them”, or so the adage goes. Deuteronomy 4 outlined several teaching points that should have been ingrained in Israel’s national conscience.

a. The lesson of obedience (1-14)

Deuteronomy 4:1-2

Now, Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you.

Deuteronomy 4:6-7

Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” ⁷What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him?

Deuteronomy 4:9

Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

b. The lesson against idolatry (15-31)

Deuteronomy 4:15-19

You saw no form of any kind the day the LORD spoke to you at Horeb out of the fire. Therefore watch yourselves very carefully, ¹⁶so that you do not become corrupt and make for yourselves an idol, an image of any shape, whether formed like a man or a woman, ¹⁷or like any animal on earth or any bird that flies in the air, ¹⁸or like any creature that moves along the ground or any fish in the waters below. ¹⁹And when you look up to the sky and see the sun, the moon and the stars- all the heavenly array- do not be enticed into bowing down to them and worshiping things the LORD your God has apportioned to all the nations under heaven.

Deuteronomy 4:23-24

Be careful not to forget the covenant of the LORD your God that he made with you; do not make for yourselves an idol in the form of anything the LORD your God has forbidden. ²⁴For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

However, even should the Israelites fail in this regard with idols, even if the Lord scatters the people from the future land in judgment, a promise remained.

Deuteronomy 4:29-31

But if from there you seek the LORD your God, you will find him if you seek him with all your heart and with all your soul. ³⁰When you are in distress and all these things have happened to you, then in later days you will return to the LORD your God and obey him. ³¹For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your ancestors, which he confirmed to them by oath.

c. The lesson about God (32-40)

Deuteronomy 4:35-38

You were shown these things so that you might know that the LORD is God; besides him there is no other. ³⁶From heaven he made you hear his voice to discipline you. On earth he showed you his great fire, and you heard his words from out of the fire. ³⁷Because he loved your ancestors and chose their descendants after them, he brought you out of Egypt by his Presence and his great strength, ³⁸to drive out before you nations greater and stronger than you and to bring you into their land to give it to you for your inheritance, as it is today.

Bottom Line:

“Know, recognize and understand therefore this day, and turn your (mind and) heart to it, that the Lord is God in the heavens above, and upon the earth beneath; there is no other.” (Deut. 4:39 AMP)

B. Address #2 (Chapters 4-26)

1. Introduction (4:44-49)

“This is the law Moses set before the Israelites” (4:44).

The previous Book of Leviticus focused on laws for the priesthood. The Book of Deuteronomy will focus on laws for daily life.

2. Decalogue (5:1-11:22)

The seven chapters of Deuteronomy 5-11 recorded “general stipulations,” while the next section of Chapters 12-26 detailed “specific, applicational stipulations.”

a. Ten Words (5:11-33)

1	5:7	"no other gods before Me"	God
2	5:8-10	"no idols"	God
3	5:11	"not misuse the name of the Lord your God"	God
4	5:12-15	"observe the Sabbath" (recall redemption)	Hinge
5	5:16	"honor your father and mother"	Man
6	5:17	"shall not murder"	Man
7	5:18	"shall not commit adultery"	Man
8	5:19	"shall not steal"	Man
9	5:20	"shall not give false testimony"	Man
10	5:21	"shall not covet"	Man

Deuteronomy 5:32-33

So be careful to do what the LORD your God has commanded you; do not turn aside to the right or to the left. ³³Walk in obedience to all that the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live and prosper and prolong your days in the land that you will possess.

b. Exhortation: love God (6:1-25)

The first commandment was to have no other gods before the Lord (5:7). Here, that command is expanded.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (Shema . . . "hear")

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

- (1) The Lord is one God; there are no others before Him. (Some see the meaning as, “the Lord is one in essence or nature”).
- (2) The Lord, therefore, deserves and demands our full allegiance and love.

Insight:

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”²⁹ “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.’³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’³¹ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” (Mk. 12:28-31)

Deuteronomy 6:6-9

These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

- (1) These truths (“commandments”) were to be passed on to one’s children as a spiritual heritage (6-7).
- (2) These truths were literally followed by subsequent generations of Jewish people.
 - Some orthodox Jews wear leather phylacteries that contain bits of the Torah on their hands and foreheads.

Matthew 23:5

“Everything they do is done for people to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long;

- Even today in Israel, many homes and hotels will have “mezula” on the doorframes with bits of scripture inside.

Deuteronomy 6:20-25

In the future, when your son asks you, “What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees and laws the LORD our God has commanded you?”²¹ tell him: “We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. ²²Before our eyes the LORD sent signs and wonders—great and terrible—on Egypt and Pharaoh and his whole household. ²³But he brought us out from there to bring us in and give us the land he promised on oath to our ancestors. ²⁴The LORD commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear the LORD our God, so that we might always prosper and be kept alive, as is the case today. ²⁵And if we are careful to obey all this law before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness.”

c. Command: drive out the nations (7:1-26)

(1) When entering the land of the Canaanites, “then you must destroy them totally” (2-3). . . (Heb. “herem”)

- No treaty
- No mercy
- No intermarriage

Why? “For (the reason) they will turn your sons away from following me to serve other gods . . .” (4)

(2) What should the Israelites do?

Deuteronomy 7:5-6

This is what you are to do to them: Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones, cut down their Asherah poles and burn their idols in the fire. ⁶For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession.

(3) Why will the Lord do such a thing for Israel?

Deuteronomy 7:7-10

The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. ⁸But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments. ¹⁰But those who hate him he will repay to their face by destruction; he will not be slow to repay to their face those who hate him.

Deuteronomy 7:12-26 outlined a fundamental principle for the nation in covenantal relationship with God. Obedience will bring blessing.

Deuteronomy 7:12-16

If you pay attention to these laws and are careful to follow them, then the LORD your God will keep his covenant of love with you, as he swore to your ancestors. ¹³He will love you and bless you and increase your numbers. He will

bless the fruit of your womb, the crops of your land—your grain, new wine and olive oil—the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks in the land he swore to your ancestors to give you. ¹⁴You will be blessed more than any other people; none of your men or women will be childless, nor will any of your livestock be without young. ¹⁵The LORD will keep you free from every disease. He will not inflict on you the horrible diseases you knew in Egypt, but he will inflict them on all who hate you. ¹⁶You must destroy all the peoples the LORD your God gives over to you. Do not look on them with pity and do not serve their gods, for that will be a snare to you.

d. Caution: do not forget the Lord (8:1-10:11)

Deuteronomy 8 is a chapter of caution to the nation. There was always the fear that in time the people would forget all that God had done for them. Key passages on “being careful” and “remembering” follow.

(1) Be careful

Deuteronomy 8:1

Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors.

Deuteronomy 8:10-11

*When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. ¹¹**Be careful** that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day.*

(2) Remember

Deuteronomy 8:2-3

Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. ³He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

Deuteronomy 8:5

Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God disciplines you.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18

You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." ¹⁸But **remember** the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

Pause and Reflect:

Note again in this extended section the emphasis upon "being careful" and "remembering." The reason for this is quite simple. People of faith are prone to forget God's goodness and grace, to take for granted His presence and strength.

Psalms 103:1-5

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. ²Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits— ³who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, ⁴who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, ⁵who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Heart Check for Israel:

Hear, Israel: You are now about to cross the Jordan to go in and dispossess nations greater and stronger than you, with large cities that have walls up to the sky . . . ⁵It is not because of your righteousness or your integrity that you are going in to take possession of their land; but on account of the wickedness of these nations, the LORD your God will drive them out before you, to accomplish what he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. ⁶Understand, then, that it is not because of your righteousness that the LORD your God is giving you this good land to possess, for you are a stiff-necked people.

(Deut. 9:1, 5-6)

Deuteronomy 9:7 (recall the golden calf idol; cf. 9:15-17)

Remember this and never forget how you aroused the anger of the LORD your God in the wilderness. From the day you left Egypt until you arrived here, you have been rebellious against the LORD.

Deuteronomy 9:25-27

*I lay prostrate before the LORD those forty days and forty nights because the LORD had said he would destroy you. ²⁶I prayed to the LORD and said, "Sovereign LORD, do not destroy your people, your own inheritance that you redeemed by your great power and brought out of Egypt with a mighty hand. ²⁷**Remember** your servants Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Overlook the stubbornness of this people, their wickedness and their sin.*

e. Challenge: fear, love, and obey the Lord (10:12-11:32)

(1) Fear the Lord (10:12-22)

Deuteronomy 10:12-13

And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,¹³ and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

Deuteronomy 10:20-21

*Fear the LORD your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name.
²¹He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes.*

(2) Love the Lord (11:1-7)

Deuteronomy 11:1

Love the LORD your God and keep his requirements, his decrees, his laws and his commands always.

(3) Obey the Lord (11:8-32)

Obedience to God's commands was necessary as the nation was nearing the time of entering the promised land.

Deuteronomy 11:8-12

Observe therefore all the commands I am giving you today, so that you may have the strength to go in and take over the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess,⁹ and so that you may live long in the land the LORD swore to your ancestors to give to them and their descendants,

a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰The land you are entering to take over is not like the land of Egypt, from which you have come, where you planted your seed and irrigated it by foot as in a vegetable garden. ¹¹But the land you are crossing the Jordan to take possession of is a land of mountains and valleys that drinks rain from heaven. ¹²It is a land the LORD your God cares for; the eyes of the LORD your God are continually on it from the beginning of the year to its end.

Obedience out of love for God would provide needed blessings upon living in the land.

Deuteronomy 11:13-15

So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today—to love the LORD your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul— ¹⁴then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and olive oil. ¹⁵I will provide grass in the fields for your cattle, and you will eat and be satisfied.

Close obedience to God's word would also keep the nation safe from false worship. The new land would bring undeniable blessing but also the possibility of idol worship.

Deuteronomy 11:16-20

Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them. ¹⁷Then the LORD's anger will burn against you, and he will shut up the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce, and you will soon perish from the good land the LORD is giving you. ¹⁸Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.

¹⁹Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ²⁰Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates,

3. Law and life (Canaan) (12:1-26:19)

The fifteen chapters of this section of Deuteronomy (so called **Deuteronomic Code**) provided necessary, specific laws required of the nation of Israel. This collection aided the Israelites in ordering their lives before their God while eliminating that which might threaten their devotion to the Lord.

Eugene Merrill (*Deuteronomy*, 218-331) suggests that these laws parallel the Ten Commandments in broad theme. The following chart summarizes this view:

Ten Commandments / Deuteronomic Code			
	Command (Deut. 5)	Deuteronomic Code	Description
1	"no other gods" (5:7)	12:1-31	Fidelity
2	"no idols" (5:8-10)	12:32-13:18	Worship
3	"not misuse the name" (5:11)	14:1-21	Name of God
4	"observe Sabbath" (5:12-15)	14:22-16:17	Sabbath
5	"honor father and mother" (5:16)	16:18-18:22	Authority
6	"no murder" (5:17)	19:1-22:12	Murder
7	"no adultery" (5:18)	22:13-23:18	Adultery
8	"no stealing" (5:19)	23:19-24:7	Theft
9	"no false testimony" (5:20)	24:8-25:4	False Witness
10	"no coveting" (5:21)	25:5-19	Coveting
		26:1-19	Giving

a. Pertaining to the 1st Commandment (12:1-31)
(FIDELITY)

(1) Stated

Deuteronomy 5:7

"You shall have no other gods before me.

(2) Expanded

Deuteronomy 12:4-7

You must not worship the LORD your God in their way. ⁵But you are to seek the place the LORD your God will choose from among all your tribes to put his Name there for his dwelling. To that place you must go; ⁶there bring your burnt offerings and sacrifices, your tithes and special gifts, what you have vowed to give and your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks. ⁷There, in the presence of the LORD your God, you and your families shall eat and shall rejoice in everything you have put your hand to, because the LORD your God has blessed you.

b. Pertaining to the 2nd Commandment (12:32-13:18)
(WORSHIP)

(1) Stated

Deuteronomy 5:8-10

"You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁹You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ¹⁰but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

(2) Expanded

(a) False prophets

Deuteronomy 13:1-5

If a prophet, or one who foretells by dreams, appears among you and announces to you a sign or wonder, ²and if the sign or wonder spoken of takes place, and the prophet says, "Let us follow other gods" (gods you have not known) "and let us worship them," ³you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. The LORD your God is testing you to find out whether you love him with all your heart and with all your soul. ⁴It is the LORD your God you must follow, and him you must revere. Keep his commands and obey him; serve him and hold fast to him. ⁵That prophet or dreamer must be put to death for inciting rebellion against the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. That prophet or dreamer tried to turn you from the way the LORD your God commanded you to follow. You must purge the evil from among you.

(b) Close relatives or friends

If such a one attempted to lure Israel away to false worship of other gods, then that one is to be stoned (13:6-11).

(c) Any town

Should an entire town be led astray into false worship of other gods (idols), that town must be destroyed and never rebuilt (13:12-18).

c. Pertaining to the 3rd Commandment (14:1-21)
(NAME OF GOD)

(1) Stated

Deuteronomy 5:11

“You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

(2) Expanded (14:1-21)

As given above, the third law required Israel to treat God as special, not to be taken lightly. Jesus’ model prayer begins, “Our Father in heaven, hallowed (holy, special) be your name.” (Matt. 6:9). Thus, a holy God must be approached carefully and circumspectly. This extended to certain behaviors (14:1-2) and particularly a set-apart diet (clean and unclean foods). This section parallels previous Levitical instructions (Lev. 11:2-23).

d. Pertaining to the 4th Commandment (14:22-16:17)
(SABBATH)

(1) Stated

Deuteronomy 5:12

“Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the LORD your God has commanded you.

Deuteronomy 5:15

Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the LORD your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.

(2) Expanded

Sabbath observance (in Deuteronomy) was linked to Israel’s redemption from slavery in Egypt. The Sabbath was an expected “holy rhythm” among

other related observances and worship practices.

(a) Worship through tithes (14:22-29)

(b) Provision for cancelling debts (15:1-11)

Deuteronomy 15:1

At the end of every seven years you must cancel debts.

Deuteronomy 15:7-8

***If anyone is poor among your fellow Israelites in any of the towns of the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not be hardhearted or tightfisted toward them.
⁸Rather, be openhanded and freely lend them whatever they need.***

(c) Provision for freeing bondservants (15:12-18)

Deuteronomy 15:12-13

If any of your people—Hebrew men or women—sell themselves to you and serve you six years, in the seventh year you must let them go free. ¹³And when you release them, do not send them away empty-handed.

(d) Worship through dedication (15:19-23)

Deuteronomy 15:19-20

***Set apart for the LORD your God every firstborn male of your herds and flocks. Do not put the firstborn of your cows to work, and do not shear the firstborn of your sheep.
²⁰Each year you and your family are to eat them in the presence of the LORD your God at the place he will choose.***

(e) Worship through “Passover” (16:1-8)

(f) Worship through “Feast of Weeks” (16:9-12)

(g) Worship through “Feast of Tabernacles”
(16:13-17)

e. Pertaining to the 5th Commandment (16:18-18:22)
(AUTHORITY)

(1) Stated

Deuteronomy 5:16

“Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

(2) Expanded

The next section expanded the importance of the principle of authority. The redeemed people of God were to be under the authority of God, the Law, the civic officials, and parents. Besides “honoring your father and mother,” other authority structures were outlined (in brief).

(a) Authority of judges (16:18-20)

Deuteronomy 16:18-19

Appoint judges and officials for each of your tribes in every town the LORD your God is giving you, and they shall judge the people fairly.¹⁹ Do not pervert justice or show partiality. Do not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and twists the words of the innocent.

(b) Authority of God (16:21-17:7)

Deuteronomy 16:21-22

Do not set up any wooden Asherah pole beside the altar you build to the LORD your God,²² and do not erect a sacred stone, for these the LORD your God hates.

Deuteronomy 17:1

Do not sacrifice to the LORD your God an ox or a sheep that has any defect or flaw in it, for that would be detestable to him.

(c) Authority of law courts (17:8-13)

(d) Authority of the King (17:14-20)

Though the kingship reality was still future for Israel, certain stipulations were given:

- The King must be chosen by God.
- The King must not be a foreigner.
- The King must not multiply horses.
- The King must not multiply wives.
- The King must not amass a large fortune.
- The King must inscribe a copy of this law (Deuteronomy).
- The King must read the law continuously throughout his life.

(e) Authority of priests and Levites (18:1-8)

Deuteronomy 18:1-2

The Levitical priests—indeed, the whole tribe of Levi—are to have no allotment or inheritance with Israel. They shall live on the food offerings presented to the LORD, for that is their inheritance.

(f) Authority of God over false worship (18:9-13)

Deuteronomy 18:9, 14

When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the detestable ways of the nations there...

¹⁴The nations you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery or divination. But as for you, the LORD your God has not permitted you to do so.

(g) Authority of the Prophet (18:15-22)

Deuteronomy 18:18-19

I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. ¹⁹I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name.

Deuteronomy 18:20-22

But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death.”²¹ You may say to yourselves, “How can we know when a message has not been spoken by the LORD?”²² If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the LORD does not take place or come true, that is a message the LORD has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously, so do not be alarmed.

f. Pertaining to the 6th Commandment (19:1-22:12)
(MURDER)

(1) Stated

Deuteronomy 5:17

“You shall not murder.”

(2) Expanded

(a) Manslaughter (Cities of Refuge) (19:1-13)

Instructions on “accidental” killings and designated cities of refuge was discussed in Numbers 35:6-34.

Deuteronomy 19:4-5

This is the rule concerning anyone who kills a person and flees there for safety—anyone who kills a neighbor unintentionally, without malice aforethought. ⁵For instance, a man may go into the forest with his neighbor to cut wood, and as he swings his ax to fell a tree, the head may fly off and hit his neighbor and kill him. That man may flee to one of these cities and save his life.

Deuteronomy 19:11-13

But if out of hate someone lies in wait, assaults and kills a neighbor, and then flees to one of these cities, ¹²the killer shall be sent for by the town elders, be brought back from the city, and be handed over to the avenger of blood to die. ¹³Show no pity. You must purge from Israel the guilt of shedding innocent blood, so that it may go well with you.

(b) Witnesses (19:14-21)

- Moving boundary stones could cause hostilities leading to death (14).
- Proper jurisprudence must be followed (15-21).

Deuteronomy 19:15

One witness is not enough to convict anyone accused of any crime or offense they may have committed. A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.

(c) Rules of warfare (20:1-20)

- God would give the victory (1-4).
- Soldier exemptions from warfare were given (5-9).
- Peace would be offered to some (10-15).

Deuteronomy 20:16-18

However, in the cities of the nations the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance, do not leave alive anything that breathes. ¹⁷Completely destroy them—the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites—as the LORD your God has commanded you. ¹⁸Otherwise, they will teach you to follow all the detestable things they do in worshiping their gods, and you will sin against the LORD your God.

(d) Unsolved murders (21:1-9)

The declared provisions underscored the sanctity of human life and the responsibility of local townships.

(e) Marrying a captive woman (21:10-14)

(f) Right of the firstborn (21:15-17)

(g) Rebellious son (21:18-21)

- Guilty of death if he cursed his father and mother (Lev. 20:9)
- Guilty of death if he attacked his father and mother (Ex. 21:15)
- Guilty of death if long-term rebellion/behavior was incorrigible as deemed by the elders (Deut. 21:21)

(h) Miscellaneous laws (21:22-22:12)

A collection of laws which pertain to the 6th commandment (21:22) and the 8th commandment (22:1-4) were instituted.

Also, commands were given for gender distinctions (22:5), respect for creation, life (22:6-7), and others (22:8-12).

g. Pertaining to the 7th Commandment (22:13-23:18)
(ADULTERY)

(1) Stated

Deuteronomy 5:18

"You shall not commit adultery.

(2) Expanded

(a) Marriage

The sanctity and purpose of the marital relationship was to be protected. Sexual offenses were not to be tolerated. Several hypothetical situations were proposed and

severe penalties were to be enacted with the repeated explanation. "You must purge the evil from among you" (22:21, 22, 24).

(b) Exclusions from the Assembly (23:1-8)

(c) Uncleaness (23:9-14)

(d) Other laws (23:15-18)

h. Pertaining to the 8th Commandment (23:19-24:7)
(THEFT)

(1) Stated

Deuteronomy 5:19

"You shall not steal."

(2) Expanded

(a) With respect to charging interest (23:19-20)

(b) With respect to vows to God (23:21-23)

Deuteronomy 23:21-22

If you make a vow to the LORD your God, do not be slow to pay it, for the LORD your God will certainly demand it of you and you will be guilty of sin. ²²But if you refrain from making a vow, you will not be guilty.

(c) With respect to gleaning vs. harvesting your neighbor's fields (23:24-25)

(d) With respect to marital duties and rights (24:1-5)

Moses regulates the practice of the certificate of divorce.

NT Insight:

Large crowds followed him, and he healed them there. ³Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?" ⁴"Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' ⁵and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? ⁶So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." ⁷"Why then," they asked, "did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?" ⁸Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. ⁹I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

(Matt. 19:2-9)

(e) With respect to stealing another's livelihood
(24:6-7)

i. Pertaining to the 9th Commandment (24:8-25:4)
(FALSE WITNESS)

(1) Stated

Deuteronomy 5:20

"You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor."

(2) Expanded

The broad command of not bearing false witness protects the integrity of individuals. Somewhat loosely, the following commands relate to such protection.

(a) Leaders (24:8-9)

Miriam (Num. 12:1-12) spoke against Moses' leadership and suffered a judgment of leprosy. This command charged the people to follow priestly instructions with respect to leprosy.

(b) Debtors (24:10-15)

Creditors owe respect to debtors. Hired laborers are owed respect as well.

(c) Individual responsibility (24:16)

Deuteronomy 24:16

Parents are not to be put to death for their children, nor children put to death for their parents; each will die for their own sin.

(d) Needy (24:17-22)

Deuteronomy 24:17-18

Do not deprive the foreigner or the fatherless of justice, or take the cloak of the widow as a pledge. ¹⁸Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you from there. That is why I command you to do this.

(e) Criminals (25:1-3)

Deuteronomy 25:1

When people have a dispute, they are to take it to court and the judges will decide the case, acquitting the innocent and condemning the guilty.

(f) Animals (25:4)

If even animals were to be treated humanely, then what should be expected of people?

j. Pertaining to the 10th Commandment (25:5-19)
(COVETING)

(1) Stated

Deuteronomy 5:21

“You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife. You shall not set your desire on your neighbor’s house or land, his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

(2) Expanded

The correspondence of this section to the tenth commandment is loosely connected. It is likely based on an individual’s intention or desire as opposed to their deed or obligation.

(a) Levirate marriage (25:5-10)

This command insured that a man who had died childless without an heir could still perpetuate his inheritance and lineage through a brother (who would marry and sire a son). Provision was made for a reluctant brother who would not fulfill his duty/obligation (25:7-10).

(b) Three (unrelated) various laws (25:11-19)

- Immodest behavior in a brawl (25:11-12)
- Inexact (dishonest) weights and measures (25:13-16)
- Impending judgment on Amalekites (25:17-19)

C. Address #3 (Chapters 27-28)

1. Altar and curses (27:1-26)

a. The altar at Mt. Ebal (1-8)

Deuteronomy 27:1-4

Moses and the elders of Israel commanded the people: "Keep all these commands that I give you today. ²When you have crossed the Jordan into the land the LORD your God is giving you, set up some large stones and coat them with plaster. ³Write on them all the words of this law when you have crossed over to enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you. ⁴And when you have crossed the Jordan, set up these stones on Mount Ebal, as I command you today, and coat them with plaster.

b. The twelve curses (9-26)

Deuteronomy 27:9-10

Then Moses and the Levitical priests said to all Israel, "Be silent, Israel, and listen! You have now become the people of the LORD your God. ¹⁰Obey the LORD your God and follow his commands and decrees that I give you today."

The twelve curses against:

- (1) One who crafts an idol (15)
- (2) One who dishonors father or mother (16)
- (3) One who moves neighbor's boundary (17)
- (4) One who leads the blind astray (18)
- (5) One who withholds justice from the alien (19)
- (6) One who sleeps with his father's wife (20)
- (7) One who has sex with an animal (21)
- (8) One who sleeps with his sister, daughter of his father, daughter of his mother (22)
- (9) One who sleeps with his mother-in-law (23)
- (10) One who murders his neighbor secretly (24)
- (11) One who accepts a bribe to commit murder (25)
- (12) One who does not obey the words of this law (26)

In each case, "then all the people shall say, 'Amen.'"

2. Blessings and curses (28:1-68)

a. Blessings due to obedience (1-14)

Deuteronomy 28:1-2

If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. ² All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God:

- (1) Material blessings (3-6, 8)
- (2) Political blessings (7)
- (3) Spiritual blessings (9-11)
- (4) Further blessings (12-14)

b. Curses due to disobedience (15-68)

Deuteronomy 28:15

However, if you do not obey the LORD your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come on you and overtake you:

- (1) Curses instead of aforementioned blessings (16-19; cf. 28:3-14 as opposites)
- (2) Curses as forms of punishment (20-24)
- (3) Curses as seen in defeat before enemies (25-48)
- (4) Curses in being deported and taken captive away from the promised land (49-68)

Deuteronomy 28:49-52

The LORD will bring a nation against you from far away, from the ends of the earth, like an eagle swooping down, a nation whose language you will not understand,⁵⁰ a fierce-looking nation without respect for the old or pity for the young.⁵¹ They will devour the young of your livestock and the crops of your land until you are destroyed. They will leave you no grain, new wine or olive oil, nor any calves of your herds or lambs of your flocks until you are ruined.⁵² They will lay siege to all the cities throughout your land until the high fortified walls in which you trust fall down. They will besiege all the cities throughout the land the LORD your God is giving you.

Deuteronomy 28:64-65

Then the LORD will scatter you among all nations, from one end of the earth to the other. There you will worship other gods—gods of wood and stone, which neither you nor your ancestors have known.⁶⁵ Among those nations you will find no repose, no resting place for the sole of your foot. There the LORD will give you an anxious mind, eyes weary with longing, and a despairing heart.

Insight:

These series of blessings and curses highlight a key principle: God blesses the obedient; He disciplines (curses) the disobedient. This will be restated to Joshua, the successor, on the eve of entering the Promised Land.

Joshua 1:6-8

Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. ⁷“Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. ⁸Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

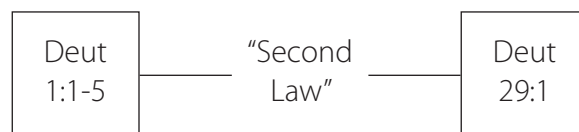
Also, compare this to the law of the harvest (Gal. 6:7)

D. Address #4 (Chapters 29-34)

The final address served to sum up the faithfulness of God to his people (Deut. 29-30). The book ends with the leadership transition to Joshua (Deut. 31-34).

1. Palestinian Covenant (29:1-30:20)

Deuteronomy 29:1 forms a bridge to the instructions previously given in the book of Deuteronomy.



Deuteronomy 29:1

These are the terms of the covenant the LORD commanded Moses to make with the Israelites in Moab, in addition to the covenant he had made with them at Horeb.

The Hebrew Bible considers 29:1 to be the last verse of Deuteronomy 28, placing it as a conclusion to the lengthy restatement of the Covenant stipulations. Beginning with verse 2, Moses recast the covenantal obligations with emphasis upon the land aspect of the Abrahamic Covenant (Deut. 30:1-5); hence the designation, "Palestinian Covenant").

a. Historical review (29:2-8)

Deuteronomy 29:2-4

Moses summoned all the Israelites and said to them: Your eyes have seen all that the LORD did in Egypt to Pharaoh, to all his officials and to all his land. ³With your own eyes you saw those great trials, those signs and great wonders. ⁴But to this day the LORD has not given you a mind that understands or eyes that see or ears that hear.

b. Renewal of the covenant (29:9-29)

Deuteronomy 29:9

Carefully follow the terms of this covenant, so that you may prosper in everything you do.

Deuteronomy 29:12-15

You are standing here in order to enter into a covenant with the LORD your God, a covenant the LORD is making with you this day and sealing with an oath, ¹³to confirm you this day as his people, that he may be your God as he promised you and as he swore to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. ¹⁴I am making this covenant, with its oath,

not only with you ¹⁵who are standing here with us today in the presence of the LORD our God but also with those who are not here today.

The word "covenant" occurs seven times in Deuteronomy 29. To the degree that Israel obeyed this covenant, God would bless. To the degree that Israel would not obey, God would curse/discipline.

Deuteronomy 29:24-25

*All the nations will ask: "Why has the LORD done this to this land? Why this fierce, burning anger?"
²⁵And the answer will be: "It is because this people abandoned the covenant of the LORD, the God of their ancestors, the covenant he made with them when he brought them out of Egypt.*

c. The land promise (30:1-10)

The Abrahamic Covenant had three basic elements: promised land, promised descendants, and promised blessings (Gen. 12:1-3, others). This section expands the "land" aspect (what some call the Palestinian Covenant, though in fact, it only expands and does not introduce a new covenant).

Deuteronomy 30:1-6

When all these blessings and curses I have set before you come on you and you take them to heart wherever the LORD your God disperses you among the nations, ²and when you and your children return to the LORD your God and obey him with all your heart and with all your soul according to everything I command you today, ³then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you and gather you again from all the nations where he scattered you. ⁴Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens, from there the LORD your God will gather you

and bring you back. ⁵He will bring you to the land that belonged to your ancestors, and you will take possession of it. He will make you more prosperous and numerous than your ancestors. ⁶The LORD your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live.

- (1) Disobedience to God's words would bring dispersal (exile) out of the promised land (1).
- (2) Repentance and obedience would bring return to the land (2-5).
- (3) This principle played out in both the Assyrian (722 BC) and Babylonian (586 BC) captivities.

Reflection:

Does this principle apply to national Israel today? Constable ([Notes](#)... 113) notes that Deuteronomy 30:1-9 outlines the past and the future of Israel:

1. Dispersion for disobedience (1)
2. Repentance in dispersion (2)
3. Regathering (3)
4. Restoration to the land (4-5)
5. National conversion (6,8)
6. Judgment of Israel's oppressors (7)
7. National prosperity (9)

d. The offer (30:11-20)

Deuteronomy 30:15-16

See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. ¹⁶For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live²⁰ and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

2. Leadership transition (31:1-33:29)

a. The choice of Joshua (31:1-8)

Deuteronomy 31:1-3, 6

Then Moses went out and spoke these words to all Israel:²“I am now a hundred and twenty years old and I am no longer able to lead you. The LORD has said to me, ‘You shall not cross the Jordan.’³The LORD your God himself will cross over ahead of you. He will destroy these nations before you, and you will take possession of their land. Joshua also will cross over ahead of you, as the LORD said . . .⁶Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”

b. The reading of the law (31:9-13)

c. The rebellion predicted (31:14-29)

The path of Joshua’s leadership would not be easy. The Lord informed them that they would break the covenant (31:16-18).

Deuteronomy 31:24-26

After Moses finished writing in a book the words of this law from beginning to end,²⁵ he gave this

command to the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD: ²⁶“Take this Book of the Law and place it beside the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God. There it will remain as a witness against you.

- d. The song of Moses (31:30-32:47)
 - e. The blessing of the tribes (33:1-29)
3. The death of Moses (34:1-12)

Moses had been informed that he would die on Mt. Nebo in Moab (33:48-52). He would be permitted to see but not enter the land that had been promised by the Abrahamic Covenant (34:4).

Deuteronomy 34:5-7

And Moses the servant of the LORD died there in Moab, as the LORD had said. ⁶He buried him in Moab, in the valley opposite Beth Peor, but to this day no one knows where his grave is. ⁷Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died, yet his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone.

Deuteronomy 34:10-12

Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, ¹¹who did all those signs and wonders the LORD sent him to do in Egypt—to Pharaoh and to all his officials and to his whole land. ¹²For no one has ever shown the mighty power or performed the awesome deeds that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

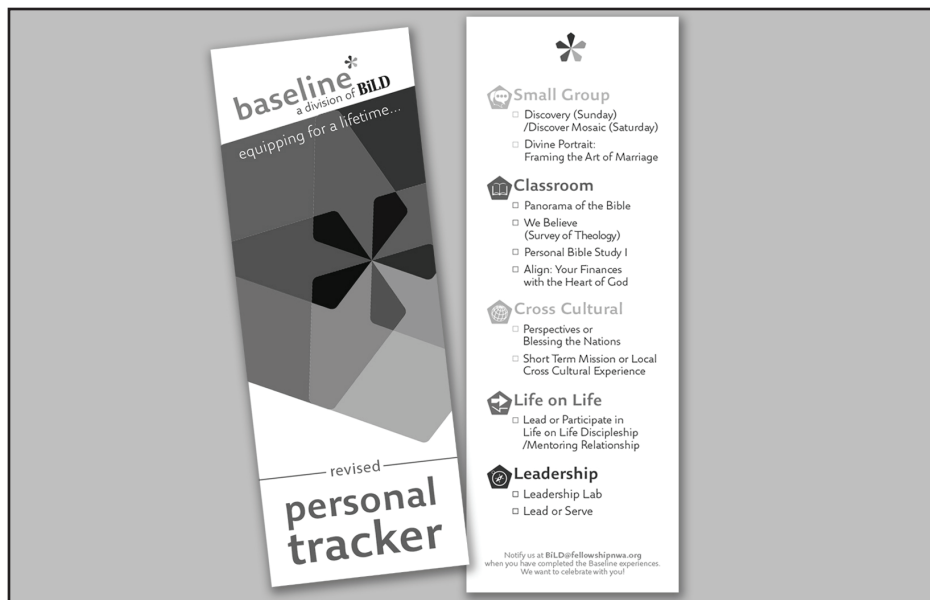
VI. TAKEAWAYS

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baseline*

"Baseline" (a part of the BiLD Training Center) provides a common pathway of leadership development for emerging leaders at Fellowship Bible Church of Northwest Arkansas. This is a foundational expectation for all of Fellowship. Baseline is the starting point for discipleship (as well as leadership development).



REMEMBER:

“Panorama”: a Baseline essential.

“Panorama Plus”: a voluntary elective.

“If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, brought up in the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed... rather, train yourself to be godly.” 1 Timothy 4:6-7