

Introduction

Deuteronomy takes place during the final months of Moses' life as he restates the laws from Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers to the second generation of Israelites and reminds them of three things—their faith in God, holy living, and the need to conquer the Promise Land. Numbers highlights God's commitment to His promises and His people.

This year we are memorizing Isaiah 40. This week's verse is Isaiah 40:13–14...
"Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, or as His counselor has informed Him?
With whom did He consult and who gave Him understanding? And who taught Him in the path of justice
and taught Him knowledge and informed Him of the way of understanding?"

Day One

*Skim Deuteronomy 1–4; **The History of Covenant Love***

1. Remembering your study of Numbers, choose several key words to summarize the narrative.
 - a. How did Numbers set the stage for Deuteronomy?
2. Deuteronomy 1–3 is a prologue in which Moses recounted Israel's history. How would that recitation have encouraged Israel to face the future then, and how does it encourage believers today?
3. In Deuteronomy 4:1, what exhortation is given?
 - a. From Deuteronomy 4:1 and 5:6–7, on what basis did Moses command obedience?
4. According to Deuteronomy 4:6–8, what were to be the purposes of Israel's covenant love and obedience?
 - a. According to Deuteronomy 4:31–40, what were the purposes of God's covenant love with Israel?

Day Two

*Read Selected Scriptures; **The Heart of the Covenant, Part 1***

1. Yahweh approached Israel as covenant Lord in order to make the people His treasure. From the following verses, in what ways did God set His affection on Israel?
 - a. Deuteronomy 4:20
 - b. Deuteronomy 7:6
 - c. Deuteronomy 7:8
 - d. Deuteronomy 23:5
 - e. Deuteronomy 33:3, 5
2. Deuteronomy 6:4–5 sums up the heart of the Mosaic Covenant. According to these verses, what was Israel called to do in response to God's grace?

- a. How does the language in this passage provide a better understanding of the command?
3. In your own words, rewrite the principles for living given in Deuteronomy 6:6–9.
 - a. In your own life, what should these principles look like practically and specifically?
 - b. How can you implement them this coming week?

Day Three

Read Selected Scriptures; The Heart of the Covenant, Part 2

1. According to Deuteronomy 6:24–25 what was to be the primary result of Israel’s faithfulness and obedience?
 - a. In verse 25, do you think this righteousness was based on faith or obedience? Explain your answer.
2. In Deuteronomy 9:4–5, what warning and what reminder did God give Israel, and why was that significant?
 - a. What can you learn from this text about how to respond to life’s successes as well as its disappointments?
 - b. What practical steps can you take to fight the inclination to take credit for the work of the Lord, or when you compare yourself to others to feel better about yourself?
3. How does Deuteronomy 10:12–22 deepen your understanding of the nature of God’s covenant with Israel?
4. Explain the meaning of the command to “circumcise your heart.” (See also Deuteronomy 30:10 and Romans 2:28–29.)
 - a. For what reason were the Israelites to circumcise their hearts, and how might that have been accomplished practically?

Day Four

Read Deuteronomy 29–30, 34; The Expectation of the Covenant

1. After restating the blessings of obedience and the curses of disobedience, what summary did Moses give in Deuteronomy 29:2–4 regarding Israel?
 - a. Israel saw great miracles and yet their history reveals a recurring lack of faith in God’s character and His promises. As New Testament believers, God has graciously given us eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to understand the works and character of our God, but it is still easy to take God’s grace for granted. How can you cultivate a soft heart to God’s Word and an attitude of thankfulness?

2. After summarizing the Israelites condition as unseeing, unhearing and having uncircumcised hearts, what promises did God give in Deuteronomy 30:1–10? What does this reveal about God’s character?
 - a. How does this contrast with the view that the God of the Old Testament is harsh and different from the God of the New Testament?
3. In what ways did the promises in Deuteronomy 30:1–10 solve Israel's most basic need?
4. How does Deuteronomy move redemptive history forward?

Day Five

*Read Selected Passages; **The Purpose of the Mosaic Covenant***

1. Throughout Scripture it’s taught that the Law was good, but it was preparatory and not permanent, and could not accomplish salvation. From the following verses identify some of the purposes of the Mosaic Covenant.
 - a. Leviticus 19:9–18
 - b. Leviticus 26:12, Exodus 34:6–7
 - c. Romans 7:6–13
 - d. Galatians 3:23–24
 - e. 1 Timothy 1:8–9
 - e. Hebrews 9:22
2. According to Deuteronomy 29:4 and Romans 10:3–4, what need does the Law reveal and how did that relate to Israel?
3. Jesus quoted from Deuteronomy more than any other Old Testament book. How has the Lord taught you and encouraged you during this study?