

Deuteronomy

Background

- What is the meaning of the term “Deuteronomy”? What does this tell us about the content of this book?
- Describe the characteristics of Deuteronomy? What does this tell us about the content and purpose of this book? What does this tell us about How God was dealing with His people at the time this book was written? Why does this matter?

Outline

- What are the two possible ways to outline the book of Deuteronomy? What are the major divisions in each organizing scheme? What do these two organizations tell us about the character of this book? How does this help us to read, understand, and apply Deuteronomy?
- In what way is Deuteronomy like a hinge, according to the Lecture? What does it connect together? How does it connect them? What does this tell us about the larger Old Testament story? How does this apply?

Content

- What are the key verses of Deuteronomy? What does each highlight? What does each tell us about the overall content and message of Deuteronomy? What does each tell us about how God relates to His people?
- What is the “great shema”? Why is important? How does it apply in your life?
- What are the two general possible responses of God’s people? What are the results that come from either choice? How should we respond?
- In his first speech, what did Moses emphasize about the recent history of God’s people? What is the point of this and the lesson we should learn? How does this set up for the rest of Deuteronomy?
- What are the two main sections of the second speech of Moses in Deuteronomy? Describe the general content of each. How does each apply to us?
- Why does Deuteronomy stress the need to pass on God’s truth to the next generation? Why was this important in their time? Why is this still important in our time? How should we respond?
- How is fearing God related to loving God, according to the Lecture? What does Deuteronomy teach about these things? Why do we need both? What difference does this make?
- Why is idolatry forbidden in Deuteronomy? What is so wrong about idolatry? How can we protect ourselves from this?
- What kinds and categories of things are addressed in the specific applications of God’s Law in Deuteronomy? What does this tell us about the all-encompassing scope of God’s rule over our lives? How should we respond?
- According to the Lecture, how are we NOT to use God’s Laws in Deuteronomy? What other misunderstandings should we protect ourselves from? Why? How?
- What is the main focus of the third speech of Moses in Deuteronomy? Why?
- What are the two choices given to God’s people in this section? What reasons are given for choosing rightly?
- What is “advance decision making”? How should you respond to that concept?

- What is the general content and purpose of the last section of Deuteronomy? How does this prepare the people for the later history of the Old Testament after the death of Moses? What principles can we learn from this to prepare for our own future?
- Why does Deuteronomy stress regular reading of the Law? What lesson should we learn from this?
- What is the character and content of the “Song of Moses”? What difference does this make?
- How does Deuteronomy end? Why is that significant? How is this related to the idea of a hinge and what follows after Deuteronomy?

Themes

- Explain each of the theological themes in your own words. What does each say about the content, message and significance of Deuteronomy? How should each idea be applied in current life?
- What is “Deuteronomistic Theology”? Explain it in your own words? What does this tell us about the character of God and what He expects from His people? How does this apply in your life?
- What does the word “Monotheism” mean? Why is this a major theme of Deuteronomy? Why does this matter to us today?
- How is the prohibiting of idolatry related to the idea of monotheism? How does this relate to the way God’s people should relate to Him?
- How is the theme of “Dispossessing Nations” seen in Deuteronomy? What was it preparing God’s people for? Why? How does Deuteronomy typically describe the land? What is significant about this?

Summary of the Pentateuch

Which of the historical epochs have been covered in the Pentateuch?

What are the main events and concepts that have been covered in the Pentateuch? Why is each significant for understanding the Old Testament? Why is each significant for knowing God and understanding how we should live in relationship with Him? How should we respond?

What is the one-word summary for each book in the Pentateuch? Why was each chosen? What does each say about that book? Do you agree with the choice of these words? Why or why not? Would you suggest something better?

Review

Review the two possible ways to organize Deuteronomy and work toward committing this to memory.

Review the key themes of Deuteronomy and work toward committing them to memory.

Review the one-word book summaries for the Pentateuch and work toward committing them to memory.