



Deuteronomy – Study Guide



Bible Reading (Other chapters may be read for extra credit/benefit)	Textbook Reading (Other material may be read for extra credit/benefit)
Deuteronomy ☐ 4:1-2, 32-40 ☐ 4:44-5:29 ☐ ch. 6 ☐ 7:1-11 ☐ ch. 8 ☐ 9:1-6 ☐ 10:12-11:32 ☐ 12:29-13:18 ☐ 18:14-22 ☐ 26:1-11, 16-19 ☐ ch. 27 ☐ ch. 28 ☐ ch. 29 ☐ ch. 30 ☐ 31:1-18 ☐ ch. 34	Ch. 9 ☐ Literary Structure ☐ Second Speech ☐ Third Speech ☐ Significance of Deuteronomy

Study Guide for Deuteronomy

Chapter 4:1-2, 32-40

- What did God command Israel in the first verse? What reason was given to do these things? What difference does this make?
- What were the people warned to avoid in the second verse? Why would that be wrong and harmful? What should we learn from this?
- What did God remind the people of in the later part of this chapter? Why was it important for them to remember this? What should they have learned from these things? How were they commanded to respond? What does this teach us about God's character and plans? How should we respond to these things?

Chapter 4:44-Chapter 5:29

- How does Deuteronomy introduce the retelling of the Ten Commandments? What can we learn from this?
- What stood out to you from this restatement of the Ten Commandments? How can we best apply these things today?
- How did Moses describe the aftermath of the giving of the Ten Commandments, which happened a generation before when he spoke in Deuteronomy? What lesson did he want his hearers to learn from the earlier history? How should they have responded in that day? How should we respond today?

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Chapter 6

- What reasons were given for the people to obey the commandments of the Lord? Why is that motivation important and necessary? How can we apply these ideas to help us to live faithfully in our own situations?
- What were the people commanded to hear and understand about God? Why is this important? How were they commanded to respond to this knowledge? How are these two things related?
- How were God's people to receive, retain, and pass on the truth about God and His commands? What difference does this make? How can we apply these strategies in our own times?
- In what situation does this chapter warn it will be easier to forget God? How can we protect against this danger?
- What do you think it means to fear the Lord? Why do you think this was commanded? Why is this an important part of our relationship with God?
- Describe how and why this chapter teaches God's people to only serve the One True God and avoid any false gods. Why is this the right and wise thing to do?
- According to this chapter, how should the parents train their children to obey God and teach them about Him? Why is it important for the children to learn the history and the reasons behind the traditions of obeying His commands? How should we apply these insights today?

Chapter 7:1-11

- How did God command Israel to treat the nations in the land they were being given to inherit? Why? Why were the Israelites warned not to follow the influence of the other nations? What should we learn from this?
- Why does this chapter say that God did NOT choose Israel? Why does it say that He did choose Israel? What does this tell us about God and His relationship with His people? What conclusion about God and His character does this chapter make from this? What difference does this make for us today?

Chapter 8

- What reasons were given for obeying God's commands? How does this motivate God's people?
- What was described about God's past faithfulness to His people? What were they supposed to learn from this? How does that motivate them to remain faithful to Him? How does the Biblical history help us to remain faithful today?
- What promises were given about what God was going to do in their near future? How was that motivating for the people of that day?
- What warnings did God give them? What were they to guard against? Why? How can we guard against this in our own situations?
- What does this chapter teach to those who have wealth? How should we respond to these things? What attitude should we have to these issues based on this chapter?
- What consequences are described at the end of this chapter? How can God's people avoid these unpleasant possibilities? How should we respond to all these things?

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Chapter 9:1-6

- What did God promise His people regarding the people they were going to dispossess from the land? How were they to respond to this promise?
- Describe the attitude and mindset the people were warned NOT to have as a result of their taking the promised land? What attitude and understanding were they to have instead? Describe why the first does not conform to reality while the second attitude does. What can we learn from this to help us conform our own understanding and attitudes to the reality of our situations?

Chapter 10:12-Chapter 11:32

- What were God's people required to do in this section? Why is this important and necessary? What motivation was given to do this? How can we best put this into practice?
- What does this section tell us about God's character and His relationship to His people? How were they commanded to respond to these truths? How can God's people best conform to God's character? What difference does this make for us?
- Describe the history that the Israelites were reminded of in this section. What did God do and why? What did these things tell to the people hearing Moses in the day of Deuteronomy? How were they commanded to respond? What do these things mean for us today? How should we respond?
- What reasons are given why the people should follow God's commands? What should we learn from this?
- How was the promised land described in this section? What promises were given to Israel about the land? What conditions were attached to these promises? What difference does this make?
- What warnings were given about the land? What are the significance of these promises? How should we respond?
- What promises were given about the nations in the land? What does this tell us about God and His plans?
- Describe the nature and significance of the blessings and curses described in this section. How were the people commanded to commemorate these blessings and curses in the land? What is the significance of these things?

Chapter 12:29-Chapter 13:18

- What promises were given regarding the nations? What warnings were given? Why do you think God was so adamant about these things? How should we respond?
- What tests were given for recognizing a false prophet in this section? What is one reason given in this section why a false prophet may come? How were the people to deal with a false prophet? What lessons should we learn from all this? How does this apply today?
- How were the people to deal with close family or friends who were leading them toward unfaithfulness? Why do you think this was so harsh? What were the other possible responses and outcomes? What was the end goal God described as ideal in these situations? What difference does this make for us today?
- How were the people to deal with a town among them that was practicing unfaithfulness? Why do you think this was so harsh? What was the end goal of these things? What can we learn from all this? How does it apply?

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Chapter 18:14-22

- How are the practices of the nations contrasted with the prescribed practices of the Israelites? What does this tell us about the character and plan of God for His people?
- Describe the kind of prophet that God would send. What reasons were given why God would communicate in this way? How were the people commanded to respond to a true prophet from God? What difference does this make?
- What were the requirements for a true prophet from God? How were the people to distinguish between a true and a false prophet? How were they to respond to each? How does this apply today?

Chapter 26:1-11, 16-19

- What were the people commanded to do with the harvest of the promised land? Why? How was this connected with the earlier history of the Pentateuch? What does this teach us about how we should learn from and apply the lessons of history in our own situations? How should this influence our attitudes and actions?
- How does the end of this chapter summarize how God's people are supposed to behave in relationship with Him? What are the reasons and motivations given for doing this? Describe how you can best do this in your own life and ministry.

Chapter 27

- Describe the actions and ceremony the people were commanded to perform when they reached the promised land. Why do you think God commanded these things? What were they intended to accomplish? How can we work toward the same goals in our own lives?
- Describe the things that bring about a curse in your own words. Which of these things is the most danger in your own life? Why? How can we protect ourselves against these things? Why is it worth the cost to protect ourselves from these kinds of curses?

Chapter 28

- Summarize the things that bring about blessings. How can you pursue these things in your own life? Why is this worth the cost?
- Describe the specific ways that God promised to bless His people in that day. How were these things a great benefit and joy to them? What would similar blessings look like in your situation? Do you think this is worth it?
- Describe the specific ways that God promised to curse them if they were disobedient and unfaithful. How were these things a great harm to them? What would similar curses look like in your situation? What are you willing to do to avoid such things?
- What did you notice about the proportion of this chapter given to describing the blessings verses the proportion given to describing the curses? What lesson should we learn from this entire chapter? How should we respond?

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Chapter 29

- What did Moses tell the people about the covenant God was renewing with them?
- What was the historical background of the covenant and how was this relevant to the covenant?
- Who was involved in making the covenant? Why was this important?
- How were the people instructed to protect the covenant and to ensure that they and others remained faithful to it? Why was this necessary? What can we learn from this?
- What did God predict about later history in the Old Testament? How should the people respond to this? What can we learn from all these things? How do they apply in our situation?

Chapter 30

- How does this section give hope of restoration to those who have gone astray and experienced God's punishment? What promises are given? What are the requirements to experience those promises? How should we respond?
- What is the point Moses made about the difficulty of what God was commanding? Why is this significant?
- What were the two general options given in this section? Which option is the obvious better option? Why?
- How does this section specifically describe each of the options? What would His people do in order to experience either option? Which option does God command them to pursue? What reasons are given for this? How is this applicable in your life and ministry?

Chapter 31:1-18

- What did Moses tell the people about his own future? What did he tell them about their future? How did he encourage the people about their future?
- What did Moses tell the people about Joshua and his function in their future? What did he say to Joshua himself? What does this tell us about God's character and plan?
- What does this section tell us about the writing of the Law? What were the people commanded to do with the Law? Why? What was the promised benefit of following these instructions? What difference does this make for us today?
- What did God predict about the future of Israel? What did He promise would be the result of this? What lessons can we learn from this? How should we respond?

Chapter 34

- What did God show to Moses at the beginning of this chapter? How does this demonstrate the fulfillment of God's promises earlier in the Pentateuch?
- What happened to Moses? How did the people respond?
- What does this chapter say about Joshua? Why is this significant?
- How does this chapter summarize the ministry of Moses? How does this summarize the entire exodus story? What is the significance of this for our lives today?

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Study Guide for Textbook chapter 9

Contents of the Book of Deuteronomy

Literary Structure

- Summarize the content of each of the speeches of Moses. What can we learn from each?
- Describe the chiasm pattern of the Book of Deuteronomy. What does this emphasize?

Second Speech

- What is the general content and purpose of this speech? What can we learn from it and how is this applicable today?
- What are the two subsections of this speech? What is the general content of each? Why is this significant?
- How does this section begin? How does the textbook say this functioned in the larger section? What did Moses emphasize about this? Why is this important?
- Define the terms “monotheism” and “shema.” How are these two terms related to each other? Why are these concepts important to the message of Deuteronomy? How are they significant for us?
- What point does the textbook make about monotheism? Why is this an important concept for us to understand? How does it apply?
- What does the textbook say is the purpose of the discourse on the Law?
- What words are repeated used in these chapters? What does this tell us about how God’s people are supposed to respond to Him and our motivations for doing so? How do these two concepts work together to reinforce one another and protect from error?
- What does the textbook say is the “ultimate goal of chapters 5-26”? What does this tell us about the content of Deuteronomy and what we should learn from it? How should we respond?
- What does the textbook say about the structure of chapters 12-26? What does this tell us about the content of Deuteronomy and how we are to apply it?

Third Speech

- Summarize the contents of each of these chapters in Deuteronomy. How do they fit together? How do they all function to prepare the people to live in the land?
- What ceremony was commanded and planned in chapter 27? What was to be done? Why?
- What is contained in chapter 28 of Deuteronomy? Define the term “Deuteronomic theology” and explain how this term summarizes the content of this chapter. What is the significance of this?
- What is the content and function of chapters 29 and 30? What charge is given to the people in the later part of chapter 30? What point does the textbook make about this?
- According to the textbook, how did Moses make provisions for the people after his death? How did each of these carry on the ministry that Moses had begun? Why were each of these things important for God’s continued plan for His people? What lessons can we learn from this?

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Significance of Deuteronomy in Biblical Thought

- How does the book of Deuteronomy connect the Pentateuch with the historical books? What is “the primary history” and how does Deuteronomy function in it?

Role of Deuteronomy in the Pentateuch

- How does the textbook say Deuteronomy functions in the Mosaic covenant? What principle is emphasized? What does this tell us about the relationship between God and His people? What does this tell us about the basis for this relationship? How should we respond?

Deuteronomy and the Historical Books

- What is the “Deuteronomistic History”? How is the book of Deuteronomy connected to this history? What can we learn from this?

Review the Study Questions and Summary at the end of the chapter