

Deuteronomy: Remember, Obey, and Walk with God

Author, Audience & Date

- **Author:** Moses (traditionally accepted; he delivers his final speeches)
 - **Audience:** The new generation of Israelites about to enter the Promised Land
 - **Date:** Circa 1406 BC, just before Israel crosses into Canaan after 40 years of wilderness wandering
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Main Purpose

To **remind God's people of His covenant**, renew their commitment to obey His commands, and prepare them for faithful life in the Promised Land.

“Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you...” — Deuteronomy 6:1

Moses' Three Speeches

1. Remember God's Faithfulness and the Covenant (Deut. 1–4)

- Moses reviews their journey, God's faithfulness, and calls them to obedience.

2. Obey God's Law in the Promised Land (Deut. 5–26)

- Restates the law with emphasis on covenant faithfulness and blessings for obedience.
- Key focus on **Deuteronomy 28**, which lists blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience — a crucial covenant reminder.

3. Covenant Renewal and Warning (Deut. 27–34)

- Moses urges the people to choose life by loving and obeying God.
- Calls for wholehearted devotion and warns against forgetting God once they settle in the land.

✿ Key Themes to Highlight

1. Heart Transformation — Circumcised Heart

- “*Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, circumcise your hearts...*” — Deut. 10:16
- This calls for **inward, spiritual transformation**, not just external obedience. It points to the deep change God desires—something fully realized in the New Testament (see Jer. 31:33; Rom. 2:29).

2. The Better Prophet to Come

- “*The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you... Listen to him.*” — Deut. 18:15
- Moses points forward to **Jesus**, the ultimate Prophet, who perfectly reveals God’s will.

3. Warning Against Forgetting God

- “*When you have eaten and are satisfied, be careful that you do not forget the LORD...*” — Deut. 6:10–12; 8:11–20
- Moses warns that prosperity can lead to forgetting God, setting the stage for Israel’s future struggles and the ongoing biblical narrative.

📖 Highlight: Deuteronomy 28 — Blessings and Curses

- Lists **blessings for obedience**: prosperity, protection, fruitfulness, God’s presence
- Lists **curses for disobedience**: defeat, famine, exile
- This chapter underscores the covenant relationship and the serious consequences tied to faithfulness.

✝ How Deuteronomy Points to Jesus

- Jesus fulfills the law and prophets Moses speaks about (Deut. 18:15; Matt. 5:17).
 - The call for a **circumcised heart** is fulfilled by the transforming work of the Holy Spirit.
 - Jesus offers the perfect obedience and covenant renewal Israel needs to truly live in God’s blessing.
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Study Tips

- Focus on **Moses' repeated call to remember God** and obey His commands with heart and soul.
 - Notice how the **blessings and curses** reveal God's desire for covenant faithfulness.
 - See how Deuteronomy prepares the people for life in the Promised Land but also anticipates future challenges.
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